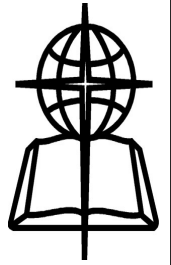




Ohio River Baptist Beacon



Volume XXI, Issue 7

December 2024



UNTIL THE GOSPEL HAS REACHED
EVERY PEOPLE, IN EVERY PLACE
AND EVERY LANGUAGE
- WE HAVE WORK TO DO.

Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 1-8, 2024

National Goal: \$ 205 million

100% of your gift supports missionary presence.

imb.org/weekofprayer

Prayer guides, posters & envelopes are available at the association office.

Associational Planning Meeting

For all Associational Leaders, Department Officers, and Committee Chairman you are invited to a planning and fellowship breakfast from 9:00am to 10:30am on Saturday, January 25th at the associational office. We will discuss the vision and direction of our association, along with some goals for the year. We will also be planning the associational calendar and "brainstorming" some ideas for future events. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 19, 2025

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well." Psalm 139:14

[REFOCUS]

REACHING THE NOW GENERATION

January 28, 29 and 30 Simulcast Available

kybaptist.org/refocus

Marriott Griffin Gate Resort
2025
SHEPHERDING

Lexington

FEBRUARY 13-15

Registration opens October 1.

For Pastors and their Wives - Register at kybaptist.org/shepherding/



Associational Information

A Word from Bro. Mark

If you missed the “Hope for West KY Crusade” November 10th you missed a great blessing. Ken Freeman preached a powerful gospel message, and many spiritual decisions were made. I truly enjoyed the KBC Pastors Conference and Annual Meeting at FBC, Paducah. It was great to fellowship with other AMS’s from across the state at the KFAL dinner.

I want to share about some events coming in 2025. On Saturday, January 25th at the associational office, all Associational Leaders, Department Officers, and Committee Chairman are invited to a planning and fellowship breakfast from 9:00am to 10:30am. We will discuss the vision and direction of our association, along with some goals for the year. We will also be planning the associational calendar and “brainstorming” some ideas for future events.

Another event I hope our churches will participate in is the “**Church Security Team Training**” on **March 1st at Marion Baptist Church.** It will begin at **8:30am with donuts and coffee and will end at 12 noon.** Your church does not have to have a security team in place to attend this training. Jim Wilcox, a retired worship pastor at FBC in Russel, Kentucky and a certified firearms instructor, will lead the seminar. Jim travels across the country training church security teams. He offers a comprehensive active shooter awareness program that equips congregations, safety teams, volunteers, and pastoral staff with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively and survive in the event of an active attacker incident or even someone potentially making threats inside the church building. This training introduces the idea that churches need to formulate a plan in order to create security teams and teaches them to be aware of dangerous things that are not normal. Even though we’ve not had any active shooters in churches for a while- thank the Lord- we still know how easy we are to be targets. It’s an awareness that’s not going away.

We will need churches to **register by February 15** by calling the associational office. This training is for pastors, staff, and members interested in church security.

One other event I’m working on, is a “hand’s on” workshop with your church audio and video team. We will cover church sound systems, video systems, and live streaming. Be watching for a date and time for this workshop.

Continue to pray for God’s guidance to lead the search committee as they seek a new AMS to lead our association.

I’m excited about what God has in store for ORBA in 2025 !

To God be the glory,
Bro. Mark

FINANCIAL RECEIPTS FOR OCTOBER FROM THE CHURCHES

Church	Missions
Birdsville	60.00
Caldwell Springs	166.56
Calvary	100.00
Cave Springs	
Central	
Corinth	50.00
Crooked Creek	300.00
Deer Creek	449.60
Dycusburg	200.00
Dyer Hill	160.26
Emmanuel	395.75
Emmaus	
Friendship	400.00
Good Hope	308.55
Grand Rivers	250.00
Iuka	152.00
Lake City	1,222.72
Lola	274.25
Marion Baptist	1,444.36
Marion Second	
Mexico	1,640.83
North Livingston	198.00
Ohio Valley	534.66
Old Salem	367.89
Pinckneyville	
Potter's House	
Repton	120.00
Salem	571.71
Shady Grove	
Smithland First	150.00
Smithland Second	127.89
Sugar Creek	438.40
Sulphur Springs	
Tiline	
Union	
Miscellaneous	<u>1,258.90</u>
Total	\$ 11,342.33



News From The Pews



Cave Springs will host a Community Christmas Dinner on December 22 from 12 noon-2:00 pm, following the 11 a.m. service.

Deer Creek Live Nativity, a walk thru Bethlehem, will be December 14-17 from 6-8 pm. As you enter, the Tax Collector will accept your non-perishable food items for the local food bank.

Sugar Creek is having Homecoming December 8th. Service starts at 11 a.m. and there will be a meal after. Everyone is welcome.



Thanksgiving Offering for Sunrise Children's Services

Every Child Deserves a
Home

Sunrise.org/thanksgiving/

Christmas Benefit

A Christmas benefit supporting Cumberland River Homes will be held on December 13, 6:00 pm at Salem Baptist Church. Holiday market opens at 5 pm. Guests include Cumberland River Homes Choir featuring Julie Wedding, Cutter & Cash and the Kentucky Grass, Jamey Ragle (Christian Comedian) and Chris Golden (Recording Artist).

Merry Christmas

May the blessings of the Lord be with you and your family as you celebrate Christmas. It is truly our joy to serve the Lord by serving you through the Ohio River Baptist Association. Thank you for the Christmas bonus and your prayers.

*Bro. Mark Gill
Debbie Padgett*

“What Does God Want From You This Christmas?”

When you love someone, you want to give them something they really want. You want to give them the perfect gift. I believe the same is true with God. We want to give Him what He really wants. We want to give Him the perfect gift. “What does God really want from each one of us this year? The good news is we don’t have to wonder about the answer to this question, because God has clearly told us what He wants MOST from each one of us. In Micah 6:8 God tells us three things He wants most from us. First, He wants us to do what is right and fair in our relationship with others. That simply means to act with fairness, honesty, and integrity. The old saying is “Honesty is the best policy”, but for the Christian, honesty should be the only policy. Second, God wants us to love mercy. The Hebrew word for “mercy” means loyal or patient love. In other words, if you’ve been blessed, then bless others; if you’ve been forgiven, forgive others; if God has overlooked your faults, so you overlook another’s faults. Finally, God wants us to walk humbly with Him. Notice, the first two things God wants from us has to do with us having a right relationship with others, and the last thing has to do with us having a right relationship with Him. A right relationship with God always begins with humility. Our hearts desire must be to glorify God in everything we do. “What does God really want from us this Christmas?” Three simple things, do what is right; love mercy; and walk humbly with God. The perfect gift to give God this year is to make sure you are right with others and make sure you are right with God.

Mission Opportunities



Thank You!

Thank you ladies for participating in the World Day of Prayer. We received an offering of \$1,411.00. Praise the Lord! A special thank you to our host, Ohio Valley Baptist Church.

January Bible Study 2025

JOSHUA: THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

Thank You!

The Association collected Christmas Backpacks to help minister to impoverished children in Kentucky. This is a project of our association’s WMU. We received 187 backpacks from 6 churches. There were taken to Dexter Baptist Church, Dexter, the regional drop off site.

Disaster Relief Training

March 22, 2025

Southside Baptist, Princeton

Registration opens 7:30 am & fee \$30
Training 8:30 am-4:00 pm (lunch included)

Register @ kybaptist.org/dr or call

502-489-3527

The graphic features the word 'YES!' in large, bold, orange letters on a dark blue background. Below the text is a white silhouette of a mountain range. To the right, the text 'YOUTH EVANGELISM SUMMIT 2025' is written in white. Below that, 'NEW! LOCATION: SEVERNS VALLEY ELIZABETHTOWN' is written in orange and white. At the bottom right, 'FEBRUARY 7-8, 2025' is written in white on an orange background.

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www.orbassociation.com

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**1-8th Week of Prayer for
International Missions &
Lottie Moon Christmas
Offering
25th Christmas (Association
Office Closed Dec. 24-Jan.
1st)**

Jesus
IS THE
reason
FOR THE
Season

Retriever Hunt Test Ministry

Upon retiring in August and having the freedom to now travel, we have logged thirteen hunt test this year. From Florida to Indiana and everywhere in between. I have met lots of new people and made new friends. The response to the message and ministry of the Retriever Hunt Test Ministry and the service it provides has been very well received, and the growing number of followers continues with each event I attend. People at the test are beginning to refer to me as "Preacher" as they ask questions about when and where church will be. Some are even apologizing for their colorful language. Praise the Lord for the wonderful impact he is making.

In one encounter, I met a man from Louisiana while at a test in Mississippi. Upon returning home the RHTM Facebook page lit up with people from Louisiana wanting to follow the ministry. I attended another test where I saw this same individual and ask him if he had shared with others back home about this ministry, and he said yes.

On Sunday September 29, 2024, at 6 AM on the porch of the West Kentucky WMA headquarters building I had the privilege of preaching to those at the AKC Master National. I was also asked to do the invocation and blessing on the food to start the event. I had made the comment years early, that I would like to, one day, be invited to speak at this event. God answered the desire of my heart. In one instance I gave away a RHTM devotional book, that individual upon returning home to South Carolina ordered ten more to share with friends. Amen!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

RHTM wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas!
Tim Burdon