



# Bracken Association of Baptists

*Partnering Together for the Kingdom*

5015 Main Street  
Mays Lick, KY 41055

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FLEMINGSBURG, KY 41041

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606.763.6260 | [brackenassoc@kybab.com](mailto:brackenassoc@kybab.com) | [kybab.com](http://kybab.com)

"For we are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9a NKJV).

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Return Service Requested

## A Word from the DOM

This time of year we celebrate Easter. The candy for the kids, sunrise breakfast meals, and special music are always fun. My kids always enjoy getting some candy and a little bit of money as a gift on Easter morning. I enjoy it as well because I get a 10% tithe of all the candy received ☺. However, I hope and pray that we do not lose the reason as to why we celebrate this time of year as Christians in the midst of the celebrations. The reason we celebrate Easter is because of the hope we have in the death, burial and specifically on Easter Sunday the resurrection of Jesus.

In 1 Corinthians 15:14-20 we see the importance of the resurrection as Paul says,

**“14** And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. **15** We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. **16** For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. **17** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. **18** Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. **19** If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. **20** But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

In this passage Paul reminds us of several things that would be true if Christ were not raised from the dead. First, our preaching and proclamation of the gospel would be in vain and ultimately would be a lie. The gospel that Paul preached to the Corinthian church as he states earlier in chapter 15 makes clear the importance of the resurrection and is emphasized when Paul says,

**“1** Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2** and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you

believed in vain.**3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.”

The second reminder that Paul gives is that our faith would be in vain. If Jesus was just another religious teacher who died like all other men then he would be of no value to us regarding salvation. Thirdly, Paul reminds us that if Jesus is not risen we would still be in our sins. Which means the guilt and judgement of our sin would remain upon us. Lastly, Paul also says that if Christ is not risen then those Christians who have died have perished. Meaning they are utterly destroyed and they would never be risen having no hope of eternal life.

Without the resurrection of Jesus there is no gospel (good news). Jesus' death would have been for no purpose. We would still be in our sins and without hope destined for utter destruction. The reality and hope of the gospel is that Jesus did die to pay the price for our sins, he was buried for three days and he did rise victoriously over death! As a result all those who believe in Christ have the debt of their sins paid in full. They also have victory over death and the hope of eternal life with Jesus forever.

So, during this Easter season and every day of your life proclaim the good news of the gospel. Jesus not only died for our sins but also is risen from the dead overcoming death for us! “He is risen from the dead and he is Lord.”

**John 11:25-26 (ESV)** Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

In Christ Alone,  
Rev. Dewayne Slusher  
Director of Missions

## Prayer Concerns

-Churches without a pastor:

Calvary Baptist, Foxport Baptist,  
Irvingville Baptist, Powersville Baptist and  
Stone Lick Baptist.

-The work and mission of Kentucky Changers

-The poverty and drug addiction problems in  
our area.

\*If you have a prayer request you would like to be  
added to this list please notify the association office  
by email at: [brackenassoc@kybab.com](mailto:brackenassoc@kybab.com)

## Monthly Church Prayer List

April:

Ewing Baptist Church  
Flemingsburg Baptist Church  
Foxport Baptist Church

May:

Garrison Baptist  
Germantown Baptist  
Heselton Baptist

June:

Irvingville Baptist  
Lewisburg Baptist  
Locust Grove Baptist

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## Around the Association

Sat. April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Disaster Relief Training at Lancaster Baptist Lancaster, KY
Tues. April 14 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm	Spring Meeting at Flemingsburg Baptist
Tues. April 28 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm	United Day of Prayer Lewisburg Baptist Church
May 8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	Pastors/Wives Conference Blue Licks State Park
Tues. May 19 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting Mays Lick Baptist Church
June 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Southern Baptist Convention Annual Columbus, OH
June 27 <sup>th</sup> -July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kentucky Changers Mason County Area

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### April

7 <sup>th</sup>	Tony Bishop, Pastor, Augusta First
9 <sup>th</sup>	Linda Donovan, Pastor's wife, Locust Grove
12 <sup>th</sup>	Howard & Mary Jo Wilson, Vanceburg First
16 <sup>th</sup>	Truett Cocanougher, Retired DOM
20 <sup>th</sup>	Tony & Christi Liess, Maysville First

### May

10 <sup>th</sup>	Ann Gray, pastor's wife, Minerva
29 <sup>th</sup>	Rusty & Kay Hedrick, Slaty Point

### June

11 <sup>th</sup>	Kay Hedrick, pastor's wife, Slaty Point
16 <sup>th</sup>	Bob & Linda Donovan, Locust Grove
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Truett & Jeanene Cocanougher, Retired DOM
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Jo Wilson, pastor's wife, FBC Vanceburg
29 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Gray, pastor, Minerva

\*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please let us know so we can update our records.