



## **January 2026 Edition**

*“Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re gonna get.”*

*“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”  
(Romans 5:8)*

Every New Year reminds me of the famous line in the Forrest Gump movie about chocolates... *“Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re gonna get.”* When the New Year begins, you never know what you’re gonna get by the end.

Such was the case near Scottsville KY in 1877, when Mr. Tobias and Mrs. Ollie Ham were expecting a child that year. In April of that same year, **Mordecai Ham** was brought into this world. In 1886, at the age of 9, young Mordecai and his family moved to Bowling Green KY. He stated that... *“From the time I was eight years old, I never thought of myself as anything but a Christian. At the age of nine years old I had definite convictions that the Lord wanted me to preach.”*

Bro. Mordecai always felt the Lord had called him to share the Gospel to a lost world. His career in evangelism would last from 1902 to his death in 1961. In his first year of preaching, more than 33,000 conversions were credited to his ministry. At his first revival, he established a pattern that was to follow him the rest of his days. He went after the biggest sinners in town and often saw them saved. He believed enough personal evangelism would produce mass results. While Ham was holding a meeting at Mount Zion, Kentucky he ran into the type of opposition that was to follow him most of his career. On the second night of the meeting the moonshine crowd surrounded the church and threw rocks at the preachers. The leader threatened Ham with a long knife. Ham said, *“Put up that knife, you coward... Now I’m going to ask the Lord either to convert you and your crowd or kill you.”* The bully died the next morning before Ham could get to his bedside.

It was in the year of 1934, some local pastors and the Christian Men’s Club invited Dr. Mordecai Ham, a traveling evangelist, to hold a series of revival meetings in Charlotte, North Carolina. Thousands flocked to hear Dr. Ham preach inside a “tabernacle,” actually a sprawling, ramshackle building with a sawdust groundcover, built especially for the occasion. Dr. Ham preached six days a week, morning and night, for 11 weeks—and didn’t mince words about sin.

A young teenage boy name Billy Graham, who lived nearby attended. Graham said, *“As a teenager, what I needed to know for certain was that I was right with God. I could not help but admit to myself that I was purposeless and empty-hearted.”* On that night, Dr. Ham finished preaching and gave the Invitation to accept Christ. Graham recounts... *“After all his tirades against sin, he gave us a gentle reminder: ‘But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us’ (Romans 5:8, KJV). His song leader, Mr. Ramsay, led us all in ‘Just As I Am’ – four verses. Then we started another song: ‘Almost Persuaded, Now to Believe.’ On the last verse of that second song, I responded. I walked down to the front, feeling as if I had lead weights attached to my feet, and stood in the space before the platform. That same night, perhaps three or four hundred other people were there at the front making spiritual commitments.*

We do not know what the year 2026 will hold for us, but there could be another Mordecai Ham or another Billy Graham out there just waiting for someone to tell them about Jesus. After all... *“Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re gonna get.”*

In Christ,  
Bro. Bobby

# JANUARY

## JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1- New Year's Day
- 5- Mission Board, 7 p.m.
- 19- Martin Luther King Day (Office Closed)



**Where:** Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa in Lexington, Kentucky  
**When:** January 29-31, 2026, Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. EST and concludes Saturday before noon  
**Who:** Pastors and their wives  
**Cost:** \$300 per couple fee includes lodging, conference materials, and meals except for Friday's "date night." The registration fee covers only a portion of the costs associated with this event. The remainder is provided by the Cooperative Program.

Register @  
<https://kentuckybaptist-ccr.regfox.com/2026-shepherding>

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER

	Regular	Special
Bethany	0	
Blue Spring	3,233.96	
Buffalo	156.18	
Cadiz	1,025.75	
Canton	885.60	250.00
Cerulean	593.00	
Crossroads	288.33	
Delmont	526.05	
Donaldson Creek	789.00	
East Cadiz	663.72	
Hurricane	400.00	
Liberty Point	1,102.23	
Locust Grove	821.00	
Maple Grove	600.00	
New Hope	312.72	
New Jerusalem	0	
New Light	0	
Oak Grove	218.20	
Ponderosa	511.16	
Rock Front	200.00	
Rocky Ridge	262.00	
South Union	369.80	
Wallonia	0	
Misc. Income		
Total	12,953.70	250.00
		13,203.70
Interest NOW Acc.	1.63	
Deaf Ministry		250.00
Mev Fredenburg Mission Fund		
Subtotals	12,955.33	250.00
Total income		\$13,205.33
Monthly expense		\$16,758.58
Regular Fund		
Beginning Balance	22,161.58	
Interest Received	1.63	
Gifts	13,589.68	
Trans- Contingency Fund	(100.00)	
Trans- Van Replacement Fund		
Trans- Building Maintenance Fund	(500.00)	
Trans- Mev Fredenburg Fund		
Expense Checks Written		(15,899.80)
Ending Balance		\$19,253.09

Treasurer: Louise Fuller 12/25/25

Happy Birthday

Pam Mitchell- 1/3  
 Chris Downing 1/15  
 Daniel Colley- 1/19