



He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; Acts 1:7

But it is perfectly okay to know what's coming up in the Association!

- ◆ **April 5th-6th - KC Missions Project Evaluations**
- ◆ **April 13th- ARVBA Executive Board Meeting**
- ◆ **April 22nd - 'One Day' Ministry Coordinators Meeting**
- ◆ **May 15th - 'One Day: Serve Local**
- ◆ **June 14—18 - CHURCH CAMP!**
- ◆ **June 27-July 3 - K.C. Mission Trip**
- ◆ **October 2 - 'One Day' 2021**



One Day: Serve Local The Next Big Thing In The ARVBA And Across The State

May 15th, 2021

On May 15th, churches from all over the state will engage in their own local missions projects. These will be designed to impact the individual church's community and introduce, or re-introduce, the church and her ministries to any who might need such.

Our Arkansas Baptist State Convention has posted a plethora of information and resources for your church to use on this important date. Just click the link for all the free stuff. (And don't forget to register while you're there!)

Last year's event made a huge impact in the ARVBA and we expect even greater things in 2021.

<https://www.absc.org/events/one-day-serve-local-2021/>



Sexual Abuse: Reducing the Risk

Please join the ABSC Church Health Team for a Sexual Abuse Awareness Training Webinar Online presented by MinistrySafe, the nation's foremost leader in sexual abuse prevention.

April 20, 2021

***9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Please note the time change. This event was originally scheduled for 10-11:30 AM*

This training will be invaluable for Church administrators, Pastors, Church Staff, Safety and Security, Screening Personnel, Lay Leaders and Human Resources Representatives of your church.

MinistrySafe Director and attorney, Greg Love, will address safeguarding children from abuse as ministries prepare for summer activities and changes to insurance policies every ministry should know and understand.

"We cannot reduce a risk that we don't understand."

[REGISTER HERE](https://www.absc.org/events) (absc.org/events)

Registration is required to receive webinar link.



Healthy Relationships-Healthy Homes-Healthy Churches

NEW: MinistrySafe is now offering their Church Safety Workshop training videos to ABSC churches **for FREE!** (Does not include certification) To watch, go to ministrysafe.com/absc

The ABSC Evangelism and Church Health Team helps churches think through basic steps in developing plans and procedures to protect minors. Our focus is on the potentials risks regarding safety and security within your ministries. The team also regularly consults with pastors, staff, and lay leaders through phone calls, emails, and face-to-face meetings to address church health and growth issues related to church safety and security.

As most of you know, your Association passionately endorses the work of the MinistrySafe organization and our own State Convention in promoting child safety awareness in our churches. We hope all ARVBA churches will take advantage of these free resources AND register for the online training mentioned in the article to the left!

For additional information and resources provided by MinistrySafe to aid churches in protecting minors visit ministrysafe.com/absc



"Churches Doing More Together!"



**The Arkansas River Valley
Baptist Association**
801 East 16th Street
Russellville, AR 72801

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Russellville, AR 72801
Permit #150



Missionary's Heart

It is April in the River Valley and that means I have another opportunity, through the monthly newsletter, to 'wax eloquent' about various and sundry Association-related topics. (plus it give me the chance to use phrases such as 'wax eloquent' and 'various and sundry')!

The advent of Spring, coupled with the speedy removal of almost all long-standing Covid-19 restrictions, means churches across the nation are preparing for the most fruitful ministry 'season' in a generation. Having been effectively shut down for more than a year, the need for missions and ministry has grown tremendously as has the desire in Christian hearts to get back to the business of meeting those needs. To that end, I believe many of our ARVBA churches will be much more 'busy' than in years past. Furthermore, I believe that is a good thing!

In almost every church we visit, Teresa and I hear some variation of this statement: *"We were so focused on what we couldn't/shouldn't do, that we neglected to look for the things we could"*. The consensus across ARVBA congregations seems to be that there is a lot of ground to be made up, a lot of ministries to be restarted, and a lot of new ministries to be discovered.

The same can be said of Association ministries as well. We all know that the purpose of YOUR Association is to be a resource that YOU can tap into to help YOU effectively implement YOUR Kingdom focused ministries. Our job as an Association is to do whatever YOU need us to do to help YOU get YOUR job done.

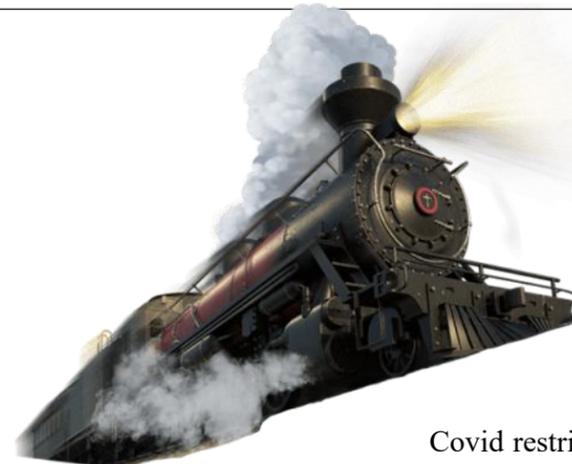
Like most of the churches in our Association, we also have a lot of catching up to do and this month's newsletter will help you assess how we are doing! Please read it carefully and take note of items, events and opportunities that can be of aid to you and your church. In addition, I hope you will be diligent to let us know what we can do on the Associational level to make YOUR ministry more effective.

There is a good chance that I will be in Kansas City when most of you receive this newsletter. Bro. Ferrel

Duffel and I are going to down to meet with some church planters and evaluate one or more remodeling projects planned for this year's annual ARVBA/KC Mission Trip. One particular project involves repairs and upgrades to a church building that was lovingly donated to our church planters by a dying congregation as a way to help a new generation carry the Gospel ministry to a changing neighborhood demographic.

In addition, I will be following up on the other missions projects we have scheduled. At Least five block parties are scheduled to take place during the five days we are in KC. Some are in Kansas City proper and others are in surrounding towns. One will be held in a large city park to help celebrate the work our NAMB church planting families do every year. Another will be held in Bonner Springs to aid the outreach of Bent Knee Cowboy Church. Yet another will be set up in an inner-city neighborhood to help strengthen Hispanic ministries in the area. One will highlight the multi-national outreach of a church in Shawnee while another will reach into an area that looks amazingly like our own. Other mission/ministry opportunities will become available as more ARVBA'ers sign up for the trip so jump on board soon and let us know how you would like to serve! Just go to the website, click on the KC Missions button and the registration link is at the bottom of the page. www.thearvba.com/kcmisions

It has been exciting to see how quickly your ARVBA Ministry Teams are getting up to speed. You know about the mission trip plans and some of you were able to attend the Mission Fair but you may not realize how hard our other Teams have been working. The Camp Committee has got this year's event ready to go except for a few lifeguards and a teacher or two. (If you're interested, shoot us a text or email). **'One Day' 2021** is coming together nicely and we are, so far, staying ahead of the game. Plans for the next Teach 28:20 conference are beginning to bear fruit. Check out all this stuff in the accompanying articles!



"DRIVING THE TRAIN DOESN'T SET ITS COURSE, THE REAL JOB IS LAYING THE TRACK."

ED CAYMULL

CHURCH CAMP 2021 IS ON!

JUNE 14TH * 18TH

**SPRING LAKE CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER
LONSDALE ARKANSAS**

The day we have been waiting for has finally arrived! Almost all Covid restrictions regarding Camps and Events have been lifted which means kids across the nation can, once again, attend Church Camp with their friends. The ARVBA will be returning to Lonsdale this year and your Camp Committee is more excited than ever. The price for camp remains the same and this year even includes the cost of the T-shirt!

As you can see, the theme for each of our age-graded Camps is some variation of "A Life On Track" and the Committee has had two years to think it through. They were able to 'keep on track' (sorry, I couldn't resist!) and are convinced this may be the best Camp ever. All relevant documents are on the Association webpage (www.thearvba.com/camp.htm) and are downloadable or you can contact Mrs. Tena for paper copies.

Remember, T-shirt orders (sizes and quantities) need to be placed with Mrs. Tena by no later than June 1st.



ARVBA/KC Mission Trip Is Almost Upon Us! *Have you signed up yet?*

The Mission Fair and Pastor's Dinner were both better attended than expected and that bodes well for this year's mission trip. A full slate of Block Parties, at least one request for a Backyard Bible Club event, and

a week-long remodeling project are already on the books and more projects are sure to be forthcoming as we get closer to the date.

With that in mind, Bro. Danny has 're-worked' the online sign-up form to include a list of ministries from which to choose. Of course everyone will still be available/expected to help out where needed and no one will be limited to only the choices on the form but the list will help us identify those ministries and projects we are able to offer when we get there. So please go to www.thearvba.com, click on the Kansas City Missions page, and click on the pre-register link at the bottom. (Those who have already signed up should be able to edit but, if not, just let Bro. Zack Phillips or Bro. Danny know your preferences)

The time is growing short! Make sure you are signed up (even if you told someone you are going!)



We are Closer Than Ever!



Thanks to a very generous donation from one of our awesome ARVBA churches, we are closer than ever to being able to purchase a new(er) Recreation Ministry trailer. The two we have served us well but with the addition of our inflatables, generators, and carnival games, we desperately need to upgrade. With block-party season approaching and the KC Mission trip upon us, any donations toward helping us 'get that trailer' would be much appreciated. Call us for more info.