



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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!

- ◆ **February 24th & 25th**
TEACH 28:20!
- ◆ **March 7th** - Camp Committee Meeting
- ◆ **March 30th** - ARVBA DAY 2024!
- ◆ **June 1st** - ARVBA Block Party Training
- ◆ **June 10th thru 14th** - CHURCH CAMP!
- ◆ **July 14th thru 19th** - ARVBA Mission Trip!

PASTOR SEARCH

Please pray for the following churches as they seek their next Pastor

- First Baptist, Hector*
- First Baptist, Centerville*
- Flat Rock Baptist*
- First Baptist, Knoxville*



The Good News Letter February, 2024



February 24th & 25th at 1st, Pottsville!

- **Saturday** - Sunday School/Small Group Training
 - 7:45 - 8:20 -Donuts & Juice
 - 8:30 - Training begins
- **Sunday Evening** - 4-Association Joint Worship
 - Service begins at 5 o'clock!

As in years past, Teach 28:20 will feature a focused time of teacher/leader training on Saturday and will include breakout sessions, large group instruction, and question/answer time. Breakfast pastries will be available until 8:20 and the conference will start at 8:30. Lunch is provided by the four Associations and will be followed by the remaining training sessions. We will conclude no later than 2 o'clock but the leaders will hang around a bit in case you have any questions.

Letters and flyers have been sent to our pastors and Sunday School Directors but there is always the chance we missed someone. Should that be the case, contact the Association and we will get you all the copies you need.

This is going to be an extraordinary training event and is needed now, more than ever. Please encourage your fellow Sunday School/Small Group/VBS/ teachers to join you at this year's conference.

In addition to large group instruction, the Saturday event will feature the following breakout sessions:

- **Children** **Youth** **Adults**
- **Sr. Adults** **Pastors & General Officers**
- **Starting (Re-Starting?) New Sunday School Classes**
- **Outreach Methods For Sunday School (old & new)**
- **Leveraging Social Media For Sunday School**

plan on taking advantage enclosed flyer includes

Good News!

Online viewers can click the pic to register!




"Churches Doing More Together!"



The Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association
801 Williamson Way
Russellville, AR 72801

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Permit #150



The ARVBA Presents
Church Camp 2024!
June 10th - 14th

"Colossal Coaster"

In 2013, Lifeway introduced "Colossal Coaster World" to the VBS universe. "Facing Fear, Trusting God" was the theme that year and we have made it our own for this year's Associational Camp.

In today's uncertain 'roller-coaster' culture, our kids and teens need to know there is a safe place to be during the ride!



Missionary's Heart

I had forgotten how incredibly busy the first of the year has become. Most will remember that, back in the day, the VBS Clinic and Church Camp preparations were the main focus and it seemed like we had all the time in the world to get those planned out.

But, over time, other ministries and events were added to the ARVBA calendar as our churches became more and more involved in local missions and outreach projects. ARVBA Day was added to the calendar and shortly after that, Teach 28:20 was born.

With the acquisition of the four large inflatables and the purchase of two new Rec trailers, the ARVBA Recreation Ministry morphed into the behemoth it is today. That, of course, meant our folks needed instructions on how to set up all of that cool stuff and thus was born the ARVBA Block Party Training. Last but not least was the birth of the world-famous ARVBA Annual Mission Trip!

It has been extraordinarily gratifying to watch the Lord increase the ministries and activities of the ARVBA. It is even more gratifying to note that those 'increases' are actually a reflection of the ministries and activities of our local churches! As the sister churches of the Association have re-embraced a passion for local outreach, the need for Associational resources and training has increased as well. As the need for resources has increased, the Lord, through the contributions of His churches, has continued to provide for whatever need His church and Association might have! I serve the best group of churches on the planet!

Back to my original thought. We are almost ready for this year's Teach 28:20 Sunday School Conference. Scheduled at 1st, Pottsville on February 24th, this one promises to be the best one yet (and that is saying something!). Every teacher/leader of every small group in your church (even VBS teachers) will benefit from this conference. And don't forget the Big Celebration Service on Sunday night, February 25th! Our own Caleb Reynolds will lead in worship and our newly elected State Convention executive director, Dr. Rex Horn will bring the message. Check out all the info on the Association website.

ARVBA Day returns to the Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association on March 30th. (The Saturday before Easter!) We will all band together to do real missions with our sister churches in Clarksville, Scranton, Crestview area, and Delaware. A sign up sheet is being designed and mission projects are being lined up. Start talking to your church about ARVBA Day, 2024 now!

The Camp committee has met and plans are already well underway for the best Association Church Camp ever. The theme has been chosen and leaders are being contacted. Check the Camp page for more info as it becomes available.

We are only 5 months away from The Annual Association Mission Trip! Bro. Zach & Bro. Jonathan already have the block parties, mission projects, and Vacation Bible School site nailed down. The Sign-up sheet is accessible from the 'Delta Missions' page on the Association website. Check it out and sign up soon!

As I said, it's been incredibly busy during the first months of 2024 and I suspect the same can be said about your church and your own personal ministries. That is a good thing and I hope it stays that way.

Interestingly, there was a time, not so long ago, when the more 'spiritual' among us would have 'pooh-pooed' that assertion. They were the more enlightened, who would quote Henry Blackaby and say, "Don't just do something, stand there!" (Implying that all busyness is/was busyness for busyness' sake).

Or they would proclaim, "We don't need another program, we need a deeper relationship!", without realizing that their Sunday School program is a program or their discipleship program and children and youth programs are, in fact programs.

You have to admit, nay-saying 'busyness' and 'programs' can be spiritual sounding but I would caution against listening to such blather.

"We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work"

Have you ever read a more 'rambling' article in your life?!
Bro. Danny

Cool Stuff Coming Up!

It's been a couple of years since we held our last Block Party Training so we have some catching up to do.

We will begin at 10 o'clock with inside instruction on Block Party fundamentals. Once completed, we will head outside where learn how to set up the event, inflate, deflate, and store the inflatables, operate the generators, arrange the food court, and much more.

We will discover the importance of properly 'directing' the flow of traffic at your carnival as well the need to anticipate the sun's position at the time of the event. We will share food safety tips, Game set-up and take-down, and other useful info. The event is free and each attendee will receive a certificate of completion.



June 1st, 2024
ARVBA Office
10 am - noon



Training is required for those using the ARVBA Rec. trailers.

Our hope is to have enough ARVBA participants to allow for an actual Block Party on The Association Grounds!



The ARVBA
presents

"The Delta"

Mission Trip 2024

July 15th - 19th

The Team is returning to the Delta this year and you and your church are invited!

5 Block Parties - Two Light Construction Projects - One Vacation Bible School -

Lives will be forever changed as we share the Gospel in deed and in word! Sign up today!

[Click the pic or goto www.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com)

ARVBA Day Returns To The ARVBA on March 30th!

This one-day mission adventure is all about our association churches partnering together with one another to do 'missions' right where we are.

This year we will focus on 'Region 6' with mission events possible in Clarksville, Scranton, Crestview, and Delaware. Bro. Brady Ramsey at 1st, Clarksville is serving the Association as **Local Missions Coordinator** this year and will have more information for you soon.



WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE? (Tentative)

ARVBA DAY will begin with everyone meeting at a designated church, at 8:00 where we will have a brief, guided time of prayer and receive any instructions or assignments that may be needed. Each team, group, or individual will leave the church as close to 8:30 as possible and head to their respective ministry areas.

Mission project(s) will finish no later than 2 o'clock so that we can all return to our starting point and be seated in the auditorium by 2:30 for a report and celebration time before we all head home by 3 o'clock.

WHAT IS THE COST?

The price for this One-Day Mission adventure is only \$10 per person and will help us keep the cost of food and project materials to a manageable level.

WHO CAN BE A ONE-DAY MISSIONARY?

We want ARVBA Day to be a family friendly event where everyone can experience the joy of doing ministry together. To that end we encourage parents/guardians to bring their children and teens with them when they come. (please use your best judgment when considering very small children!)

Click the ARVBA Day Logo for more information or to pre-register! OR goto www.thearvba.com