



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!

- ♦ **Jan. 21** - Virtual 'One Day' Ministry
- ♦ **Coordinators ZOOM Meeting**
- ♦ **March 12-14** - ARVBA Missions Fair Weekend!
- ♦ **May 15** - 'One Day: Serve Local'
- ♦ **June 14—18** - CHURCH CAMP!
- ♦ **June 27-July 3** - K.C. Mission Trip
- ♦ **October 2** - 'One Day' 2021



ARVBA/KANSAS CITY Missions Trip 2021 June 27th — July 3rd

The word is out and folks are signing up!

20 plus ARVBA'ers have reserved their place on the KC 2021 Missions Team and there is plenty of room for you! Online viewers can click the link below. Others can find the link on the ARVBA website. Either way, preregistering is the first step to a great summertime adventure!

Online viewers Click the pic



The Good News Letter January, 2021

Church Camp 2021: June 14th - June 18th Spring Lake Camp and Retreat Center

Lonsdale, Arkansas

"Campers need time to goof off, relax, have some fun, and, if you have youth, go as crazy as possible. But if that is what they remember on the way home, we have fallen short of our goal.

Camp attendees, old and young, should leave camp having been given the opportunity to really meet with their Creator and ready to do His work in their communities." copied



No one could predict the impact Covid-19 would have on church services in 2020 much less the impact the pandemic would have on our ability to host 'extra' events like Church Camps and Vacation Bible School. But even more surprising is that no one foresaw (or even suspected) the impact that forbidding such things would have on our children and youth. Young people need interaction with other young people and that statement has now been shown to be indisputable.

With that not-so-new revelation in mind, we can say this year's event is more important than ever! Our kids need to know that 2020's shutdowns were just an interruption and that the Lord has great things planned for ARVBA Church Camp 2021! Friends will be reunited, new friends will be discovered, and eternities will be positively impacted.

At \$145.00 (includes the cost of t-shirt) the cost to send your child to Camp is among the lowest anywhere. The reason we are able to provide so much for so little is that each year a multitude of passionate volunteers accompany the kids to Camp and expertly fill every position. On our website you will find tons of information plus links to all the forms needed to register for Camp. Just download the material, fill it out and return it to YOUR CHURCH by the date listed. (please note and follow any instructions contained in the forms) If you cannot download the material, give us a call and we will mail a set to your church. More information will be provided as it becomes available so check the website often!

Remember, our Camp is actually three camps in the same location and on the same date! The Children (grades 2-4), Middle-Schoolers (grades 5-7) and Youth (grades 8-12) each have separate Worship and Bible study facilities. Lunch and dinner are staggered with the children arriving at the cafeteria first. Swimming, waterslide, and Paddle Boat times are divided by age and swimming and waterslide times are divided by gender as well.

"Churches Doing More Together!"



**The Arkansas River Valley
Baptist Association**
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Missionary's Heart

2021 Baby!

"For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice." —T.S. Eliot

Excerpt from last year's January 2020 Newsletter article:

*"2019 was one of those 'years' but Teresa and I were extraordinarily blessed to live it among the best family and friends on the planet... Thanks to your never-ending prayers, my lovely bride is as strong as ever and continues to 'set the standard' for breast-cancer patients everywhere... We both know that with folks like you continuing to lift her up, 2020 is bound to be **THE BEST YEAR EVER!**"*

Sooo... Maybe 2020 was not really the best year ever but, to be fair, 2021 is not looking all that great either! Most were looking forward to returning to some degree of normalcy after December 31st and some had even begun to chart a course of ministry in a post-Covid culture. "Things are going to settle down" we told ourselves, "and we can start working our 2021 plans". Sadly, that hope was quickly extinguished.

"Stolen" elections, rioters IN the Capitol rotunda, renewed calls for impeachment, and the inevitable delayed (and reduced!) second stimulus checks only served to highlight the festering divide that still exists. Vaccinations are being administered but the infection rate continues to climb. Enhanced protocols have made church attendance the safest it has been in months but attendance continues to remain stagnant. The 'same old, same old,' seems to have set in and messed with our ambitious 2021 plans.

Is it plausible to re-chart a course so early in the year? Perhaps, but a better question might be, "How can I know if doing so is actually necessary?"

Seems to me a smidge of Andy Taylor's deduction methodology might help us figure that out.

First, Did we 'chart' a course to begin with?

Seems to me if we didn't actually chart a course, then re-charting probably won't help much.

Second, where would we end up if we did re-chart?

Seems to me if we didn't chart a course in the first place, we probably had no idea where we wanted to go anyway.

Third, is there any point to Bro. Danny's senseless ramblings?

Well... it seems to me if we want to travel the course God has laid out for His church in 2021, we should at least lay out (chart) a course to travel.

Acts 1:⁶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

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

⁸ but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

I guess Andy's point would be that God had 'charted' our course long before the latest pandemic caught us all by surprise. And, what with Him being God and all, it wouldn't make much sense for us to let a little thing like Covid-19 alter our course even the least little bit.

So I guess Andy might deduce the time had come to quit frettin' and goin on about why we caint and, instead, maybe tap into a little of that Holy Ghost power we're supposed to be filled with and git on about doing what we can.

"Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will succeed." Proverbs 16:3

Happy New Year!



Special Ministry Coordinators ZOOM Meeting

When: January 21st at 6:30

Where: Your House OR the Association Office

How Long: @ 1 Hour

'One Day' 2021 is fast approaching and, because of last year's postponement, we are far ahead of the game in preparations. However, our leadership still needs to meet so that we can all be brought up to speed and to remind ourselves that there are some items to finalize.

ZOOM meeting invitations and instructions Ministry Coordinators are forthcoming but be sure to get this date on your calendar now!



One Day: Serve Local. Prequel or Sequel?

With the similarity in names, it is easy to confuse the annual State Convention sponsored one-day mission trip with its newest spin-off. While both help our churches fulfill their Kingdom mandate, they are not the same thing.

'One Day: Serve Local' might actually be better understood as a hybrid version of ARVBA Day and the traditional one day mission event.

On October 2nd, churches 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.

While this is an entirely church-lead endeavor, both the Association and State Convention will have resources available for the congregations that need them. We've done it once, and done it well. Who knows what the Lord has planned for this year?!

Won't you begin to plan now for 'One Day: Serve Local'?



This year our missions team is adding another multi-day experience to the Association's calendar. On March 12th – 14th, we will be hosting our first ever ARVBA Missions Fair weekend.

The event will begin on Friday Evening with a 'get-to-know-you' banquet for our pastors (and wives!) as well as the Kansas City Church Planters (and wives!). A catered meal will be provided and Bro. Matt Miller (NAMB Send City Representative) will be one of our featured speakers. The idea is to provide a venue where our ministers and KC church planters (and wives) can get to know one another while enjoying a nice meal together. The planters will share their vision for the church in KC as well as their journey onto the church planting scene.

Saturday's activities are for all church members and will begin sometime around noon. The ARVBA will provide a sandwich lunch during which, Matt Miller, the NAMB representative for the Kansas City area, will give a brief presentation about the Send City philosophy and answer any questions we might have. Bro. Danny will then briefly discuss the philosophy behind the annual Association Mission trip so that our folks can know what it is AND what it isn't.

Following the lunch, church members are encouraged to visit the KC church planters at their various tables and/or displays for a more personal look at each ministry area and to discover ways your church might partner with a planter.

The Missions Fair Weekend will conclude with the opportunity to have one of our visiting missionaries preach at your church on Sunday morning!

We are not sure yet just how many speakers will be available on March 14th so if you think your church would be interested you should get your request in early!