



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!

- ◆ **August** - Back To School (Pray for Students)
 - ◆ Dates Vary per School District
- ◆ **August 30th** - ARVBA Ministry Retreat
- ◆ **September 14th** - ARVBA Day!
- ◆ **September 28th** - KidSafe Conference (Tentative)
- ◆ **October 13th** - ARVBA Annual Meeting
- ◆ **October 28th** - KidSafe Conference (Tentative)

“Churches Doing More Together!”

PASTOR SEARCH

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

- First Baptist, Hector*
- First Baptist, Centerville*
- First Baptist, Knoxville*
- Rover Baptist Church*
- First Baptist, Scranton*



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

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



September 14th 2024!
 Delaware
 Crestview
 Scranton
 Clarksville

\$611.82!

That's how much our ARVBA churches raised for VBS & Children's Ministry by ordering their Vacation Bible School materials through the Association this year!

Each year, Lifeway returns a percentage of VBS material costs to local Associations in appreciation for our support of its annual Vacation Bible School Theme. The cost to the church is exactly the same and the 'bonus' from Lifeway is used by the ARVBA to help fund the Annual VBS Clinic (Yes, it's returning next year!) and other kid's ministry stuff like carnival toys, Recreation Ministry supplies, and more.

Thank you ARVBA churches for supporting your local Association by ordering VBS materials through the ARVBA Office!



Next Year's VBS Theme!

"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."

Acts 1:8

We are working diligently to make ARVBA Day 2024 a reality in Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association's, Region 6! A registration page will be uploaded soon and ministry projects are in the works.

At just three weeks before the State Convention's 'One Day' mission's emphasis, ARVBA Day is the perfect tool to help you hone our mission ministry tools, gain valuable, real-life missions experience, and make an honest-to-goodness difference in the lives of people who live in shadow of our own steeples.

Be looking for more info soon!

ARVBA Men's Retreat Fall of 2024

- What does it mean to be called to pastor?
- Is it different than being called into 'the ministry'?
- How can I know if I am being called to pastor?

Tentative Date: August 30-31

We will begin with fellowship meal on Friday evening and conclude by noon on Saturday.





Missionary's Heart

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

I used to kid myself that the summer months were a time to slow down and catch the proverbial 'breath'. I no longer fall prey to such faulty theology. Even after Teach 28:20, Church Camp, and Delta Missions 2024, I know that we have 'miles to go' before we put Association Missions, 2024 to sleep.

349 souls attended this year's ARVBA Church Camp and 45 new brothers and sisters were added to the Kingdom. It was an extraordinary event but, since the angel has not tooted the bugle, I know there are "miles to go before we sleep".

Fifty-ish missionaries from the ARVBA traveled to Magnolia and the surrounding area for the annual ARVBA Delta Missions Adventure. We worked very hard and touched the lives of many people. In fact, nine people surrendered to the lordship of Christ Jesus at various carnivals and we rejoice with the angels at their conversion but, since the Lord has not descended with a shout, I know there are still "miles to go before we sleep".

A great Kingdom need has become obvious in recent years. There are way more pastorless churches across the land than there are pastors to lead them. At the end

of August, the ARVBA will host our first 'Understanding the Call' men's retreat. This meeting will focus on God's specific call to the pastorate rather than a general call to ministry. The dates are tentatively set for August 30-31. We will arrive at Spring Lake on Friday afternoon/evening and depart no later than noon on Saturday. Unless we hear the voice of the Archangel before the 31st, I know there will be "miles to go before we sleep".

Further along in the newsletter, you will read about the return of ARVBA Day. With a post-Covid return to normalcy for most of our congregations, it is time to reintroduce the Association's local missions partnership. As is true with all worthwhile ministry endeavors, ARVBA Day doesn't 'just happen'. Of course, that means Bro. Brady Ramsey, the ARVBA Missions Team, and our churches in Clarksville, Scranton, Delaware and the Crestview area have a lot of work to do and a short time to do it. In other words, there are "miles to go before they sleep."

The ARVBA Annual Meeting is coming up.

Recreation Trailers are still making the rounds.

'One Day 2024' is just around the corner

An ARVBA MinistrySafe type conference is being planned and will be lead by Mrs. Emily Smith of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Oh, and our churches have VBS's to complete, Back-to-School outreach to begin, Fall Festivals to plan, food pantries to stock, and all the other community outreach and service projects needed to build God's Kingdom in the River Valley. Indeed, there are "miles to go before we sleep!"

Bro Danny



**Pray For Our Students,
Teachers,
and Administrators!**

*The Date May Vary By School
District This Year. Check*



Delta Missions 2024!

. El Dorado

. Magnolia

. Carthage

. Waldo

The Team has returned from the Delta and the Lord used them mightily again this year!

Five Carnivals - Two Construction Projects - One Vacation Bible School - At least nine professions of faith - and congregations and communities energized and excited about the possibilities!

Fifty one (or fifty or fifty two) missionaries from the ARVBA traveled to Magnolia and the surrounding area for the annual ARVBA Delta Missions Adventure. That is the largest number we have ever taken and the group was made up of folks from eleven Association churches. Even more of our churches supported the mission trip with carnival prizes, financial giving and powerful prayer cover. Nine people prayed to receive the Lord's forgiveness at various carnivals and we rejoice with the angels at their conversion.

Shelves were built at Helm Church in Carthage by some of the construction team. But these weren't just any old shelves! These will be stocked with canned goods and non-perishable food items. Baby diapers will sit on one shelf and toiletries will occupy another. Maybe one shelf will hold children's shoes while another features school supplies. The Food Pantry at Helm Church is better able to meet the needs of the Carthage community because of the effort of a few dedicated Construction Team members. A Carnival? Of course there was a Carnival. And it was a good 'un too!

Faith Outreach Church in Waldo saw some major changes during the week. Vacation Bible School was front and center all week and the VBS Team leaders did a fantastic job! The numbers were not what we were expecting (The mailouts never left the Post Office!) but the kids enjoyed themselves a lot!

In another part of the building, classrooms were being painted while the children sang their songs and, in the adjacent Family Life Center (gym), walls were being torn out in preparation for new drywall. The building had been abandoned for years, so the Construction Team had to treat the area for mold as they went along. (a few wasps and a fire-ant or two may have met their demise as well!)

A Great VBS; Multiple classrooms painted and refreshed; A community center one step closer to completion; and a partial Carnival (rain-out!) Your Mission Team outdid themselves in Waldo, Arkansas!

Carnivals in El Dorado and at two different parks in Magnolia completed this year's mission projects. That leaves The Team with only one job left to do... Lose the weight we gained during the week! The Kitchen Crew were amazing this year (except when they tried their hand at Karaoke!)

The Delta Missions 2024 video will be uploaded soon so keep checking the ARVBA Website.

Bro. Danny will be talking with our State Convention Mission Team leaders and pastors from the Delta region in the very near future in hopes of identifying next year's mission adventure before the Annual Meeting. (Crow Mountain Baptist on October 13th!)

Acts 1:⁸ 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."