

March

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!

- ◆ **March 3rd** - VBS Prop Construction Begins!
... Each Tuesday Thereafter ...
- ◆ **March 3rd** - Pastor's Prayer Breakfast
... Each Tuesday Thereafter ...
- ◆ **March 10th** - Camp Committee Meets
- ◆ **March 12th** - Mandatory Reporting Meeting
- ◆ **March 19th** - 'One Day' Team Meeting

Please Pray For Our Pastor-less Churches

Jeremiah 3:15 (KJV)

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

- Ard Community Baptist Church
- Calvary Baptist Church
- Crestview Baptist Church
- 1st Baptist Church, Centerville
- 1st Baptist Church, Scranton
- 1st Baptist Church, Plainview
- 1st Baptist Church, Ola



ARVBA 'One Day' Interest Banquet Set A New Standard!

More than 225 ARVBA church members came together on February 20th to celebrate Bro. Danny's birthday and learn about all things 'One Day'. (Well, not really to celebrate Bro. Danny's birthday but we did learn about all things 'One Day'!) We ate well, fellowshiped well, and were well informed about the scope and purpose of this year's Arkansas Baptist State Convention sponsored one-day mission adventure. The excitement continues to build as our Associational churches discover an ever-growing number of ways to reach their communities with the Gospel.

A lot of 'One Day' information will be coming in the days ahead so be sure to check all of our media outlets often. (Website, Facebook, News Letter, group texts, etc.)

Save The Date!

“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



May is Our Associational Missions Month!

(Bro. Danny got the date wrong in the last Newsletter!)

How Can My Church Participate?

- Pray daily for the ministries of your ARVBA
- Donate materials for ARVBA missions
 - ⇒ Carnival prizes for K.C. Mission Trip
 - ⇒ Materials for VBS Prop Construction
- Consider Donations for 'One Day' expenses
- Consider Special Missions Month Offering
- Schedule an Association Missions presentation
- Consider Donations for New Rec Trailers



Missionary's Heart

"Okay, give me your phone," Mrs. Tena said. "You are scheduling way too much stuff!"

I, of course, pointed out that Moses would say one could not schedule too much stuff when engaged in Kingdom work.

"Moses is dead." was her terse response. "He scheduled too much stuff!"

I confess there is some truth in that fictional conversation. We have been scheduling a lot of stuff lately. But, in our defense, it has been really good stuff. Teach 28:20 is still having a profound effect on many ARVBA churches and participation in our 'One Day' Interest Banquet exceeded everyone's expectations. The annual VBS clinic was well attended and excitement for this greatest of all annual evangelistic events is growing by leaps and bounds.

My flesh wants to slow down but my spirit says there is still work to be done. Church Camp is coming soon and the annual Kansas City Mission Trip follows at the end of that same month. Our Association of churches is partnering together in more ways than ever to reach our area (and beyond!) with Christ's Gospel of love and that is a good thing.

As I watch those churches respond to the events and opportunities offered through Association and State Convention ministries, I am reminded of the old, but still relevant, poem "No Man Is An Island". The poem was written in the 17th century by John Donne during a time of grave illness. As a Christian, his meditation on death during this time reaffirmed his belief that that all beings are, in a sense, one with God. What happens to one man affects all men he would say *"because I am involved in mankind"*.

I find this to be true in 'Kingdom work' as well. For this article, I spent about five minutes adapting the old poem to the ministry partnership concept, changing as few words as possible. I leave it up to you find the original and determine if the adaptation is acceptable. (see the text box)

The point I make is it is always a good thing to partner with other churches in doing 'Kingdom work'.

Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.

10 For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up.

11 Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone?

12 And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.

There will be great opportunities in the coming months for you and your church to engage in Kingdom building ministries. VBS, Church Camp, K.C. Missions and 'One Day' are just a few.

Your church field is ripe with opportunities to impact lostness in big and small ways. Why not your your Sunday School class to join you on a quest to discover new 'Kingdom work'? Or maybe team up with another ARVBA church to coordinate joint outreach ministries. How about joining the ARVBA Missions Team or Disaster Relief Team or the Association WMU?

For years I watched as churches in our area became increasingly isolated in their ministries. Kingdom growth suffered greatly. It's time to turn things around.

No Church Is An Island

No Church is an island entire of itself; every church is a piece of the Body, a part of the Kingdom;

if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if any congregation of thy friends or of thine own were;

any church's death diminishes me, because I am involved in building Christ's Church.

And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

Adapted from MEDITATION XVII- Devotions upon Emergent Occasions John Donne [1572-1631]



The ARVBA presents CHURCH CAMP 2020!

June 8th - 12th

Cost: \$140.00

Even though we host a diverse range of ages, our Camp is amazingly age-graded. The Children (grades 1-4), 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. It can actually be said that for all intents and purposes, we host three separate camps in one awesome week!

At \$140.00 (includes Camp t-shirt!) the cost to send your child to Camp is among the lowest anywhere. The reason we can 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. From teachers to lifeguards, Worship Leaders to preachers, no camper is without the adult supervision and compassion each one deserves.

More information, downloadable documents, and t-shirt order forms are all available on the ARVBA website (www.thearvba.com/camp.htm)

Camp will be here before you know it. Start making plans now!



Rocky Railway Children's Camp



A Life On Track Middle-School Camp



No Train, No Gain Youth Camp

VBS Props Production Is Well Underway!

All we lack is 'finishing up'!

The next two or three Tuesdays are important to all our churches as we work to put the finishing touches on the Vacation Bible School props. There is cardboard to cut, stuff to paint, food to eat and fun to be had at the Association office. Everyone is invited to join in and help get this done as we partner together to reach more kids than ever before with Christ's Gospel.

Work begins at 10 o'clock and concludes with lunch furnished by the Association. Props are available for use at your church and are reserved on a first-come-first-served basis so call early to make sure you get on the list.

Without question, VBS is still the most effective tool for evangelism in the modern church's arsenal. Studies show that as many as 80% of those who ever accept Christ's salvation do so BEFORE the age of 13. Vacation Bible School just happens to be designed to appeal to that very demographic!

