



### 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!***

- ◆ **March 7th** - Camp Committee Meeting
- ◆ **June 1st** - ARVBA Block Party Training
- ◆ **June 10th thru 14th** - CHURCH CAMP!
- ◆ **July 14th thru 19th** - ARVBA Mission Trip!
- ◆ **September 14th** - ARVBA DAY 2024!

# PASTOR SEARCH

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

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

*Welcome Pastor Robert Woolsey!*  
*Flat Rock Baptist Church*



## The Good News Letter

March, 2024



**July 14th - 19th**  
**El Dorado . Magnolia . Waldo . Carthage**  
In  
**Liberty Baptist Association**

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

Five Carnivals - Two Light Construction Projects - One Vacation Bible School - As yet undiscovered possibilities!

Several mission projects have already been scheduled and we are only limited by the number of volunteers we take with us. So far, the team is locked in for the following projects: (sites may change but probably not)

#### CARNIVALS

- Monday - Faith Outreach Church, El Dorado,
- Tuesday – Magnolia (Tentative)
- Wednesday - Helm Church, Carthage
- Thursday - Full Faith Community Baptist, Magnolia
- Friday - Faith Outreach Church, Waldo

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Faith Outreach Church, Waldo

#### CONSTRUCTION/CLEANUP PROJECTS

- Faith Outreach Activity Center, Waldo
  - Inside - demo and light remodel
  - Outside - Major grounds cleanup and refuse removal
- Helm Church
  - Roof Repair (Tentative), grounds cleanup

#### BASE OF OPERATION

Central Baptist Church, Magnolia

As you can see, the Kingdom-building potential for this week is extraordinary and the ARVBA would love for our Association churches to join the fun in any way you can. Carnival workers are always in demand and Vacation Bible School help would be awesome. Light construction workers/cleanup teams will find plenty of ways to help as well. The ‘particulars’ of the projects are still developing, and more information will be shared as it becomes available.

#### FAQ

- Q. - I can't commit to the whole week. Is it okay to drive down for a day or two?
- A. - Absolutely! Contact us and we will work out a way for you to pitch in.
- Q. - My church isn't able to send anyone this year. Are there other ways we can be involved in the Mission Trip?
- A. There sure are!
  - 1) The most important need is prayer! Have a dedicated prayer time for the Team, the area, and for the specific churches we will be visiting.
  - 2) Carnival Prizes and non-melting candy are always needed. Oriental Trading, Dollar Tree, etc are great places to shop for give-aways.
  - 3) Financial giving is a big help. We are always finding things we need after we get there!

Lives will be forever changed as we share the Gospel in deed and in word! [Sign up today!](#)

*“Churches Doing More Together!”*



801 Williamson Way  
Russellville, AR 72801

**The Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association**

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# Missionary's Heart

Some may remember that, each Sunday morning, I text our ARVBA pastors to encourage them as they prepare to bring God's Word to the people. Last Sunday's note was typical:

*"Pastors: The first Sunday in March - For some, this month marks the end of the church's first quarter. - For others, it is the halfway point of the church year. - Either way, for you, it is the first chance this month to share the Word with the people who have been placed in your care. - The Lord could do something extraordinary thru the sermon you preach on this first Sunday. - He really could! - Preach well my friend. - You always do!"*

**The first Sunday in March.** It was not until I sat down to write that note that I realized our 2023-2024 Association year will be half over at the end of this month. Half over already! It is true what they say, "The older you get, the faster time seems to move".

I reached a milestone last month. On February 20th I joined the ranks of the Medicare insured. Where has the time gone?!

Oh, I know what you're thinking. "Bro. Danny doesn't look nearly old enough to be on Medicare!" and, were we living on my home planet, you would be correct.

But we are not living on that planet. That planet was destroyed. An evil force invaded, and introduced a virus so deadly that every citizen was infected. Those that survived were, in a sense, cast out and made to exist in a world that is not their own. It is on this world that I was born.

And so I've lived my whole life in a place that is not my home. And even 65 years spent basking in the rays from Earth's yellow sun could not erase the inevitable ravages of that terrible virus... A virus best known by its common name... SIN. It is only my super-human physiology that keeps me looking so young after all those years.

"So" you ask, what has that got to do with the pastor's note you opened with?"

It's simple. The virus is still wreaking havoc on the world in which I live and time is quickly running out!

For many ARVBA churches, half the year has already passed. For others, at least one quarter of 2024 will be gone by the end of this month.

For my part, I am tempted to think, "Oh my goodness! Half the year is over and I have accomplished very little for Jesus." But then, my opportunistic worldview and 'ray of sunshine' personality assert themselves and I think, "Oh my gosh! I still have half a year to do stuff!"

That's half a year to make a difference! Half a year to try new things and strengthen old things. Half a year to figure out what Jesus meant when He said, **"My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."** John 5:17

Your Association has a lot planned for that half year. Church Camp is coming in June and the Annual Association Mission Trip follows in July. ARVBA Day has been rescheduled to September 14th and One Day 2024 is in October.

Those are always awesome endeavors and the Lord blesses greatly so the next half of the Associational year will be extraordinary. But, can I tell you even greater things are possible? Why?

Because you and your church have half, or three-quarters, of a year left to do stuff!

There are months left in the church year to make a difference! Months to try new things and strengthen old things. Months to figure out what Jesus meant when He said, **"My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."**

As God's ambassadors, we have wasted too much time blaming Covid for interfering with our 'church work'. Covid is over and, quite frankly, our 'church work' wasn't doing so great before the shut-downs started.

The Lord wants His Bride to impact her community again! He would love for His church (and the individuals who make up His church!) to realize the potential we have in the remainder of 2024.

*"The Lord could do something extraordinary thru the work you do - He really could!"*

*Bro Danny*

## "Life Is A Series Of Ups & Downs"

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!

Last year's ARVBA Church Camp set the standard for years to come!

Seventy-four campers were born again and a multitude of others committed to a closer walk with the Lord. The passion that was birthed at Camp 2023 carried over to the Annual Mission Trip and God used our revived teens and adults to bring hope and excitement to an area of the state that had long ceased to have any. It was a week that is talked about to this day and it all started at your Associational Church Camp!

Our prayer is that the Lord will do it again this year, and do it even bigger. As each church commits to **'Chase The Unchurched'** again this year, we could see more first-time campers than ever before. We have had a year to prepare our church kids for Camp 2024 and they have had a year to reflect on how the Holy Spirit touched their lives last time. Because of that, we should be more open to the Spirit's leading and more expectant of something extraordinary than ever before. So what do we do in the meantime?

Encourage your campers to begin inviting their unchurched friends to Camp right now. Don't let the invitation wait until other plans have been made. Set aside specific times of individual and corporate Camp-directed prayer times. Consider volunteering as a cabin supervisor for your church or as a teacher or lifeguard at Camp.

**June 10th - 14th, 2024**



### THE DATE HAS CHANGED!

**September 14th, 2024**

**Region 6**

**Clarksville, Scranton, Crestview, Delaware**

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 and 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.

**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!**



June 1st, 2024  
ARVBA Office  
10 am - noon

