



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!

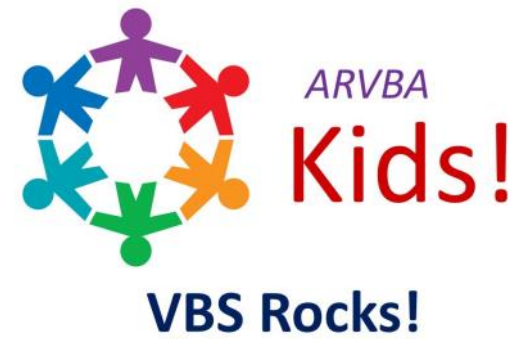
- ◆ **November 11th** - Delta Missions Vision Trip
- ◆ **November 12th** - Minister's Breakfast
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- ◆ **Nov. 27-29** - Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closed
- ◆ **December 6th** - Minister's Christmas Party
- ◆ **December 23rd-Jan 6th** - ARVBA Office Closed

PASTOR SEARCH

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

- First Baptist, Hector*
- Calvary Baptist Church*
- Rover Baptist Church*
- First Baptist, Scranton*

*Welcome Bro. Gary Chadwick
Pastor at 1st, Centerville!*



VBS CLINIC
RETURNS TO THE ARVBA IN 2025!
Tentative date: March 1st
Time & Location: TBA


Without question, VBS is still the most effective tool for evangelism in the modern church's arsenal. It is for this very reason the ARVBA commits so much passion and energy to the VBS Equipping Ministry. Each year we host one of the few Associational Vacation Bible School Clinics in the state.

By the time the clinic rolls around, our team has already been to the annual 'sneak-peek' hosted by Lifeway Christian Resources. They have studied the material, noted any changes to style and/format, pre-ordered samples of the current year's resources and constructed VBS 'props' for our churches to share.

Although the event will highlight the current Lifeway VBS theme, we will focus on Vacation Bible School principles that can be incorporated into whichever curriculum you choose to use.

The clinic is still a few months away but we wanted to give plenty of time to get it on the church calendar. More information (and a link to preregister) will be available on the Association website soon. For those reading the online version, just click the ARVBA Kids logo above. The rest can go to www.hearvba.com and follow the links.

Important



Dates

- **March 1st - VBS Clinic**
- **June 16 thru 20 - Church Camp**
- **July 13 thru 18 - Delta Mission Trip**

"Churches Doing More Together!"



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

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Missionary's Heart

By the time you get this Newsletter, the election will be over. Some of you will be happy at the results, some will be not so happy, and some may even be indifferent.

Whatever our emotional response to the election might be, our spiritual response should never be in question. In God's Word we have our explanation AND our instructions.

Romans 13:1 *Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.*

1 Timothy 2:1 *First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,*

²*for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.*

³*This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.*

⁴*who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

It seems this would be an excellent time to develop, or strengthen, some good habits.

- Pray positive things for the recently elected. They have, after all, been instituted by God.
- Actively seek things for which to be thankful. "All people" (1 Tim 2:1) includes 'kings and **all** who are in high places'".
- Lift up the efforts of the newly elected (or re-elected) to find pathways to cultural stability.
- Meditate on the revelation of 1 Tim 2:3.

And to echo the words of another great theologian, "That's all I have to say about that".

The next couple of months promise to be a little less action-packed than the previous ten. 'Church life' is winding down from the usual summertime frenzy and the same can be said of the Association. That does not, of course, mean that we will be resting on our laurels!

Members of the **Missions Team** will be traveling to the Delta on November 11th. We will visit the region

around Lake Village (think Lake Chicot) and talk to pastors and church planters about how the ARVBA might best serve the under-served in the area.

The annual **Vacation Bible School Clinic** is returning to the ARVBA in 2025 and we are pretty excited about the possibilities. Taylor Reynolds is serving as director this year with Brianna Green as assistant. The format will be both familiar AND innovative as we look at ways to help our churches regardless of which curriculum they use.

The date for **Church Camp** will move back a week due to the school calendar. This is something that occurs periodically and hasn't really affected attendance. Camp will begin on June 16th this year and we are expecting great things to take place at Spring Lake Camp and Retreat Center.

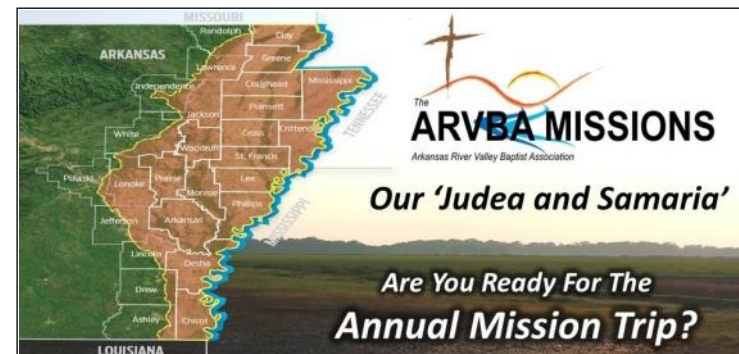
Several significant changes occurred around the ARVBA in 2024 and I hesitate to mention particular events because, as sure as I do, I will leave out something of consequence. But there are a few that can be, and should be, shared.

First, three ARVBA Churches welcomed new pastors for their congregations! Bro. Robert Woolsey was called to Flatrock Baptist Church, Bro. Jonathan Whitlock answered the summons to 1st, Knoxville and Bro. Gary Chadwick was welcomed into the 1st, Centerville family.

On the other side of that coin, Rover Baptist Church, 1st Scranton, and Calvary Baptist Church in Dardanelle all experienced the departure of a beloved under-shepherd this year. They have now joined 1st Hector in the pastor search process and covet your prayers as each begins or continues the quest to discover the man God has ordained to lead them into the future.

My lovely bride continues to kick the big 'C' down the road and I thank you for your unceasing prayers on her behalf. As you have heard me say on many occasions, "I ain't done with her yet!"

2025 is gonna be AWESOME!



THE DATE HAS BEEN SET!

July 13th - 18th

THE LOCATION IS LOCKED IN!

**Southeast Arkansas
(Lake Village area near Lake Chicot)**

Members of the ARVBA Delta Missions Team will be heading to Southeast Arkansas on November 11th to scout possible ministry projects for the Annual Mission Trip. Clint Richie, member of the ABSC Missions Team, will be our guide as we meet with several church planters and struggling Arkansas Baptist pastors.

Please be in prayer for the Delta Missions ministry and consider registering early if you plan to join The Team this year. Click the picture above to pre-register or go to www.thearvba.com/deltamissions.htm and follow the links.

What can I or my church do to help prepare for the Mission Trip?

- Encourage church members to come along!
- Start collecting carnival prizes to donate
- Consider a 'Delta Missions' offering
- Pray for The Team to be used in a God-honoring ways while on the mission field
- Schedule Bro. Danny for a Mission Trip presentation in your church
- Take a day trip to the Delta and let God speak to your heart



Returning To The ARVBA This Month!

Chaplain Paul Northcut will be heading up the Minister's Breakfast this year and wants to make sure all ARVBA Ministers are aware of the time and days.

Start Date: November 12th

Time: 6 or 7 a.m. (TBA)

Location: ARVBA Office

Fellowship is important to the man of God and this special time will be all about that. One day may feature a topical discussion. (Eschatology-What is it and why we don't preach it much will be the first topic!) Another day might include a guest speaker. On yet another we may highlight meaningful prayer times. Each week will be different and sometimes we will meet at a favorite restaurant.

Bring yourselves, your staff, and any other ministers you think might be interested.

Don't forget, retired and/or supply ministers are encouraged to join the group!