



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:<sup>7</sup>

*But it is perfectly okay to know what's coming up in the Association!*

- ◆ **November 24-26 - Thanksgiving Holiday!**  
*Office closed*
- ◆ **December 10th - Pastors Christmas Party!**
- ◆ **December 11th—Disaster Relief Training!**
- ◆ **December 22-Jan 3 - Christmas/New Year Holiday - Office closed**
- ◆ **January 8th - Association Work Day!**



Pastor S  
**Christmas Party**  
**December 10th @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Association Office**  
 rsvp arvba@suddenlink

**Menu:**  
*Smoked Chicken & Pulled Pork*  
*Baked Beans*  
*Cole Slaw*  
*Dessert*



**1100 + registered Missionaries!**  
**80 + Churches From Around The State**  
**112 Known Professions of Faith!**

**‘One Day’ was a Great Day!**

It may have been the most Kingdom-focused single-day missions event on record. More than 100 souls were added to the Kingdom through the combined efforts of Arkansas Baptists from around the state. And those are just the ones we know about!

Thank you ARVBA churches for passionately praying for, prepping for , and ‘paving the way’ for a great harvest on ‘One Day’ 2021. The Lord did “... exceedingly, abundantly, above all we could ask or think”.

Let’s make plans to be the best represented Association of churches at next year’s event in Hot Springs on October 1st, 2022!

*“Truly, truly I say to you, the one who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I am going to the Father.”*



**Coming in 2022!**  
**March 5th & 6th**

**It’s a three-Association Event this time!**

Allan Taylor will kick off our annual training again this year with all-new presentations and relevant insight into post-COVID Sunday School and Small Group Revitalization. As in years past, Teach 28:20 will feature a focused time of teacher/leader training on Saturday and will include breakout sessions, large group instruction, and question/answer time. Lunch is included and will be followed by the remaining training sessions. We will conclude no later than 2 o’clock. More info can be found on the ARVBA website at [www.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com).

Churches from all three Association will move their Sunday Evening service to 1st Morrilton for a joint Celebration/preaching event where we will be motivated to implement all that we learned on Saturday.

*“Churches Doing More Together!”*



**The Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association**  
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 Russellville, AR 72801  
[www.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com)

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# Missionary's Heart

It doesn't seem possible that next week we will be celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday. I mean, wasn't it only yesterday that we were gathered at Cyclone Stadium for 'One Day' 2021? And wasn't it just last week that we returned from Church Camp and Kansas City? It seems as though the present year is determined to make up for time lost during the last.

I think we are all grateful to enjoy a degree of post-covid normalcy. It is awesome to be able to gather together for worship again. It is rewarding to minister to the masses and to see the masses respond to the ministry. And, for my part, it is encouraging to watch the passion for gospel missions reassert itself in the ARVBA.

We knew something was 'in the air' during 'One Day: Serve Local'. Your Association registered more local church involvement than any other in the state. You 'ministered' and 'missioned' as though the pandemic had never occurred.

Church Camp arrived and you sent 314 souls to Spring Lake where the Holy Spirit did what He does resulting in more than 34 students coming to know Christ's Salvation. The Kansas City Mission Trip tied the record for the number of missionaries sent and number of projects/events provided.

And then... There was 'One Day'! More than 1100 kingdom warriors gathered from all over Arkansas to battle lostness in the ARVBA. More than 112 souls were saved that day. More souls than ever before at a 'One Day' event.

There are many theories as to why that was so. There are equally as many explanations as to why Camp was so well attended or why so many were excited to return to K.C. to be about the business of missions. And, to be honest, each theory and /or explanation is probably correct to one degree or another.

Having said that, I would like to posit my own (no doubt, more spiritual) theory as to why so many good things happened during so many ministry endeavors across the ARVBA missions spectrum. My theory is

that all these good things happened because so many good people decided to get involved!

In a recent 'One Day' evaluation, the question was asked about Association vs. across the state participation. A brief 'numbers crunch' revealed an interesting (and possibly significant) figure.

**The 2019 'One Day' participation breakdown:**

- Batesville/Mtn View 2019 – 67% state, 33% IBA

**The 2021 'One Day' participation breakdown:**

- Russellville 2021 – 58% state, 42% ARVBA

There are many other factors to consider when formulating a working theory (including the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit!) but the one that becomes immediately obvious is the evidence of 'intentionality'. I believe the Lord honored, more than anything else, your determined intention to do the work of kingdom building. (i.e. 2 Tim. 4:5 & James 1:22)

2021 was a good year for the Kingdom and my theory is that it was a good year because you and your church were intentional in making it so. You determined to do your 'stuff' so that the Lord could do His.

The same intentionality is needed when planning and praying for God's work in 2022. You, your church, and the ARVBA are each tasked with doing the work of the Kingdom to the best of our ability. There are still lives to be changed, souls to be saved, and disciples to be made. It is up to us to be intentional in accomplishing those goals.

With that in mind, please begin now to pray for the Spirit to anoint the ministries and mission of your church. Pray that your leaders, your fellow church members, and yourself will be used to bring others to Jesus.

Look at the Association events and embrace those that will strengthen the work of your church. Join the missions/ministries of the ASRVBA that enhance your own. Do so 'intentionally' and I believe we will experience an Ephesian 3:20 year in 2022!



## Vacation Bible School Is Just Around The Corner!

*In summer 2022, kids will learn that God's creativity didn't stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us—His creation—to the design He planned for us. Kids will see the beautiful truth that they are God's workmanship as they learn to use their talents to bring glory to Him.*

We are not yet sure what form this year's VBS Clinic will take but we are planning to make it something special. We may focus on Lifeway's VBS as we have in the past, or incorporate elements of other mainline curriculums into the mix. The direction we choose to go will determine which, if any, VBS props we build/provide this year. You can help us make that decision by letting us know as quickly as possible which Vacation Bible School material your church will use.

Remember, VBS is still the most effective evangelism tool the modern church has in its arsenal. It would be a shame (and a sin!) if we didn't put all of our effort into making the first post-Covid VBS the best ever!

More info will be coming very soon. Check the website often.



## First Ever MID-WINTER Association Work Day January 8th, 2022 At the Association Office!

There are lots of projects/repairs to catch up on around the ARVBA Office and we hope you can help. January 8th is the TENTATIVE date (snow?) for our first ever mid-winter Work Day and we will furnish both breakfast and lunch. Barn repair, door lock replacement, exhaust fan replacement, paint touchup and general cleanup are just a few of the projects we hope to tackle. Come when you can, bring a crew with you, work hard for the Lord and enjoy some of the best fellowship this side of Heaven. Let us know if you are coming so we can plan our projects and meals! See you then unless plans change.

Disaster Relief Training  
December 11th  
Russellville's  
Second Baptist Church  
Click the pic to register



*Many have asked for local training and/or certification and now is your chance!*

On December 11th, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention will provide Disaster Relief education at our own Second Baptist Church. This specialized training will focus on the chainsaw and storm damage removal ministry. Classroom instruction will be combined with practical 'hands-on' learning to prepare members for the hard work of helping folks 'dig out' after a devastating storm.

Please register by clicking the logo above (if reading this online) or go to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Website asap so that we can plan for your attendance.

Most ARVBA'ers know that our Disaster Relief team ministers all over the country but some may not be aware that the Team works all over our Association and does so all year long! Removing dead/dying trees, cutting overhanging limbs, identifying ministry opportunities, 'tarping' damaged roofs, etc. are just some of the services provided by the Team throughout the year. We would love to have you join the Team and need for you to sign up for training ASAP.

Gotta have 25 enrolled by Dec. 3rd or the training will be canceled.