



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 29th - April 4th** - One Day: Serve Local
- ◆ **April 5th** - EASTER SUNDAY!
- ◆ **April 14th** - ARVBA Executive Board Meeting
- ◆ **April 25th** - Block Party Training!
- ◆ **May 30th** - Rec. Ministry to Chaffee Crossing!
- ◆ **June 15th—19th** - CHURCH CAMP!
- ◆ **July 12th—17th** - Delta Mission Trip

Check the Association Website for more dates and events!

“Churches Doing More Together!”

# PASTOR SEARCH

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

**First Baptist, Plainview**

**Rover Baptist Church**

*Ephesians 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastor-teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;*

**Welcome Bro. Keith Collins!**  
(Pastor, 1st Centerville)

[www.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com)

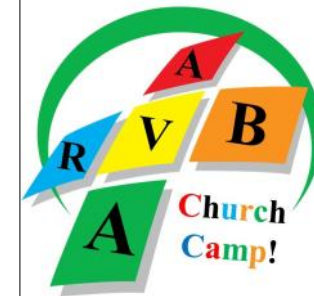


**The Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association**  
801 Williamson Way  
Russellville, AR 72801

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Permit #150



## Four Big Ministry Events in Four Ministry-filled Months! (Read the NewsLetter to Find the Other Two!)



**June 15th - 19th**

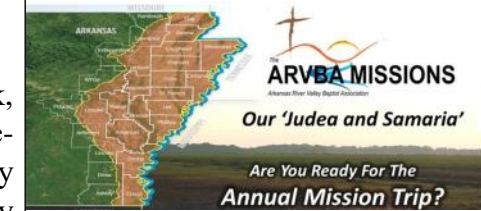
For one amazing week, ARVBA children, middle-schoolers and youth will enjoy one of the most extraordinary Church Camps in the State. Even though we host a diverse range of ages, our Camp is amazingly age-graded. The Children (grades 1-4), Middle-Schoolers (grades 5-7) and Youth (grades 8-12) each have separate Worship and Bible study facilities. Lunch and dinner are staggered with the children arriving at the cafeteria first. Swimming and waterslide, times are divided by age and gender.

For all intents and purposes, we host three separate camps in one awesome week! And, since our Camp caters to every age group in that one week, churches are not saddled with the problem of finding cabin supervisors for two different events.

Spring Lake Camp and Retreat Center is an amazing place. The campus boasts a small lake with fishing and paddle boats as well as an awesome prayer garden and 'Missions Village'. Campers can take advantage of both the swimming pool AND full-sized waterslide. Volleyball, Basketball, Disc Golf, GaGa Ball, and other activities are available as well.

**Start inviting the unchurched students in your area now!**

More info here: <https://www.thearvba.com/camp.htm>



**July 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Mississippi County & Surrounding Area**

**Blytheville... Lake City... Oceola... Manila**

The date has been set and the itinerary is all but complete. The Mississippi County Baptist Association is soon to be invaded by one of the hardest-working missions teams in the known universe!

Each year, The annual Mission Trip brings multiple people from multiple ARVBA churches to one of the most needful areas in our state. We work with church planters, revitalizers, and struggling congregations who want to make a Kingdom difference in their communities. Vacation Bible Schools, carnivals, and light construction/repair projects are our missions strengths, but we are also able to adapt our ministries to help the church in other ways as well. The need for ministries such as ours is as great in the Delta as it is anywhere in the world and God has blessed the efforts of your ARVBA Mission Team in extraordinary ways.

**AND HE WANTS TO DO MORE!**

Go to the ARVBA website for more information. And, while your there, why not go ahead and sign up for the adventure?!

<https://www.thearvba.com/deltamissions.htm>



# Missionary's Heart

## Hey ARVBA!

I just recently noticed that “Hey ARVBA!” has become the salutation for almost all of our digital Association-wide correspondence. I didn’t mean for that to happen any more than I meant for A-R-V-B-A to become “Arv-Buh” but there it is. From Facebook to our texting service, if something of importance is coming to the Association and/or our churches, your heads-up will probably begin with “Hey ARVBA!”, so keep that in mind when something pops up on your phone or social media. (By-the-way, if you are not receiving the occasional Association text messages but would like to, contact the ARVBA, myself, or Mrs. Tena and we will get you on the list.)

My intent is to keep this article brief in order to leave room for the really “Hey ARVBA!” worthy information, but I do want to share a couple of opportunities I had since the GoodNews Letter last went out.

First, The Heart & 4 Fields evangelism at 1st, Oppelo was awesome and it did my heart good to see folks from my home church in attendance. The energy and passion in the room reminded me of two important truths. Truth #1. It is not difficult to learn how to share the Gospel effectively. Truth #2. Many of our church folks really want to know how.

With that being said, you should probably not be surprised if a similar training event comes to your Association soon. Until that time, I have asked Dr. Clint Richie to join us at our next Block Party Training on April 25th. Bro. Clint is Assistant Missions Team leader at the State Convention and he will talk about how to initiate a ‘Gospel conversation’ during your outreach events using the ‘witnessing bracelets’ you are familiar with. In addition, we will be looking at ways to follow-up with those who make decisions during your block parties and other large-crowd functions.

Another opportunity that blessed my heart was the latest eight-week SmartStart Interim at 1st Plainview. It was wonderful to see folks excited about learning (learning again) church things that were once common knowledge. More than just doctrine and theology

(though the importance of these two cannot be overstressed!), the church spent time looking at Sunday School, Missions and how their Cooperative Program giving actually makes a difference in the world. They learned that ‘church’ doesn’t just happen while, at the same time, they began to understand that ‘doing church’ is not all that hard. I even shared a quote from the Heart & Four Fields training: “There is nothing God can’t do through a fully committed church”.

Your Association has several resources available to help churches and church folks ‘rediscover’ the lost art of being Southern Baptists. And, of course, myself or other gifted ARVBA teachers would love to lead in a short-term Wednesday evening study over these or other topics.

Looking forward to enjoying all that the Lord has in store for the ARVBA in 2026!

*Bro Danny*



The Association Recreation Ministry has been asked to bring our world-famous Carnival to the Ft. Smith area on May 30th. This one-day partnership with First, Ft. Smith will be our way of helping them introduce a brand-new church plant in Chaffee Crossing and will signal the official start of ARVBA Missions, 2026. What an opportunity to help a sister church reach out to her community as only a block party can do!

Maybe you can’t join the Delta Mission Trip this year and would love to get together with the Team for a day. Or perhaps you have been thinking about doing something with the ARVBA Missions Team and would like a chance to ‘get your feet wet’ before deciding where to serve. OR maybe you or your church just want another chance to help a sister congregation reach her community with the love of Jesus.

*“Celebrate a festival  
in My honor three  
times a year.”  
Exodus 23:14*



Presented by the ARVBA  
April 25<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 a.m. – noon ‘ish  
London’s First Baptist Church  
17 Southern Baptist Road

## Block Party Training & Certification

Our training consists of classroom instruction on various Block Party elements and is followed by outside activities (weather permitting) such as setting up and tearing down one or more inflatables, determining power sources, carnival layouts, etc.

### INFLATABLES:

Certified Inflation operators will oversee the setup and teardown of our ‘bouncy houses’ as well as how to repack and return them to their respective trailers. Training will also cover topics such as:

- Safe Generator operation
- Inflation positioning (it really does matter where the sun will be!)
- Inflation tie-down requirements and practices
- and more

### FOOD COURT:

At present, your city/county may not require specialized training in food service before you can include ‘dogs & drinks’ at your event but that day is almost certainly coming. Our training will help you be prepared as well as help ensure you do not place any block party attendees in unnecessary danger.

#### *Food Service Training will cover topics such as:*

- Proper food handling, preparation & storage
- Setting up a cleaning station
- How to operate the Associational Popcorn, Cotton Candy, & Sno-cone Machines
- Returning the machines (and food products) to the trailers and securing for travel

*NOTE: The ARVBA does not offer certification for food service. Our training is only for the purpose of helping participants be as safe and responsible as possible.*

### OTHER THINGS ‘CARNIVAL’:

Setting up games is easy. Setting them up correctly... not so much! We will learn about and observe ways to anticipate traffic flow, game placement in relation to food service and/or inflatables, proper ‘tossing’ distances when needed, etc. How about Music/announcements/security/prizes/etc? We will cover as much as we can and learn how to adapt on the fly.

*Click the logo above or go to [www.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com) and follow the links to register!*