

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!

- ♦ **December 5th & 6th** - Marriage Tuneup Workshop
- ♦ **December 12th** - ARVBA Minister's Christmas Party
- ♦ **February 7th** - Abuse Prevention & Reporting Conference
- ♦ **March 6th & 7th** - Heart & 4 Fields Evangelism Training Event!

Check the Association Website for more dates and events!

PASTOR SEARCH

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

Rover Baptist Church
First Baptist, Centerville
First Baptist, Plainview
First Baptist, Clarksville
Welcome Bro. Gene Tanner!
Pastor, 1st, Dardanelle
Welcome Bro. Stephen Walker
Pastor, 1st, Hector

The Good News Letter

November, 2025

ABUSE PREVENTION + RESPONSE CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 7th, 2026
Fair Park Baptist Church
615 Knoxville Ave.
Russellville, AR

Presented by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's Abuse Prevention + Response Team

“There’s A Reason You Hear Of Wolves In Sheep’s Clothing!”

As Arkansas Baptists, we are continually working to expand abuse prevention, implement safety practices, policies and procedures, and show compassion and care for survivors of abuse. We grieve for anyone who suffers abuse and we desire for all Arkansas Baptist churches to be safe places. This conference, brought to you in partnership with your local Baptist Association, is another powerful tool to help your church safeguard the most vulnerable among us.

Emily Smith and Craig Jenkins from the ABSC will lead the conference team and the event will resemble the format below. Legal issues such as “Church Safety Policies” and “How to Respond if a Registered Sex Offender (RSO) desires to attend your services will also be discussed.

Tentative Schedule

- 10:00-10:15
The Essentials: APR Overview Craig Jenkins
- 10:15-11:00 Session 1: Train/Screen - Emily Smith
- 11:00-11:45 Session 2: Protect - Guest Speaker
- 11:45-12:30 Lunch: Panel Discussion
- 12:30-1:15 Session 3: Report - Guest Speaker
- 1:15-1:50 Session 4: Care - Guest Speaker
- 1:50-2:00 Closing - Craig Jenkins

The cost for this event is only \$10.00 which covers lunch and all printed materials.
Pre-registration is very helpful!
(Click the logo below)

“Churches Doing More Together!”

www.thearvba.com

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

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Russellville, AR 72801
Permit #150



Missionary's Heart

Good Thanksgiving morrow ye people of the ARVBA! *(Full disclosure, I loudly uttered that greeting in my mind on Thanksgiving morning knowing full well that the holiday would have come and gone before you read this latest GoodNews Letter).* By now, you have burped your last burp, unloaded your last Black Friday treasure and almost forgiven the siblings for bringing up those embarrassing childhood (teen years?) episodes of auld lang syne. And so, we must needs move forward to other, yea, greater things.

While I do not remember sharing ‘Thanksgiving declarations’ around the table while growing up, it seems the tradition is firmly ensconced in the American psyche. Not being one to ‘thumb the nose’ at tradition, I thought I would share some of the many things for which I am Thankful this year.

First, of course, is the Salvation that was gifted me when I came to faith in Jesus, the Christ. ***“While I was still a sinner, Christ died for me”*** is one of those scriptural assertions that will always fill me with wonder.

Second, of course, is the ‘woman God gave me’. Adam tried to use his ‘gifted wife’ as an excuse for all the bad that happened to him. Every day, I look at the awesome beauty God gave me and know that ‘gift’ is directly or indirectly responsible for all the good that has come to me on this earth.

Third, of course, is the family God gave me. The scripture declares that “Children are a gift from the Lord!” Almost every Sunday evening, I quietly move from the dinner table to “PawPaw’s chair” (recliner) and wonder at His gift. Statistical data suggests the scene that plays out almost every Sunday in my house, should not play out at all in my house. From that recliner, I marvel at the three children God ‘gifted’ me. I rejoice in the ‘helpmates’ He brought to each of them, and I gaze in awe at the grandchildren He sent so I would always have people who need PawPaw to “fix it”!

Fourth, I am thankful for the extended family God gave me. From supporting us while I was at seminary, praying without ceasing that God would bless my ‘ministry’ to surrounding us with the ‘Green’ and Lee

family love and strength during our health crises’, our ‘Tribe’ has never been far away. A phone call is all that was ever been needed to ‘bring the troops running!’

Fifth, I am thankful for the ministry God gave me. I often brag that, as a pastor, I had the longest ‘honeymoon’ in Southern Baptist history. For almost 23 years we loved, and were loved on by the greatest church family on the planet! The Lord did some extraordinary things during those years. He did so with the wholehearted help of church folks who were determined to keep their pastor from making a fool of himself! (not saying they were always successful!) For almost 23 years we worked together, played together, cried together, and laughed together while the Lord ‘built His church’. It was awesome AND, it was only the beginning!

For the past ten years, it has been my privilege to serve the greatest Association of churches on the planet! God has exponentially increased the ministries that flow from the ARVBA and that is because the folks of the ARVBA are determined to keep their A.M. from making a fool of himself! (not saying they are always successful!) You work hard, play hard, laugh hard, and do missions like you love it, because YOU DO!

I confess, when I started this article, I had no idea where it was headed. Would it be just another “I am thankful for...” paragraph no one would remember? Would it go on forever, taking up space with meaningless observations that only I would appreciate? Would it be just another opportunity to impress you with my astounding command of the English language?

I have no idea in which direction my thoughts may have led you, but let me share where they have taken me (honestly, in just the last minute or so!) My thoughts have revealed the one singular truth that should not have been a surprise, but was...

Beginning a list of ‘Things for which I am thankful’ is a task that has no ending! I am one of the smartest people I have ever met but I must say I was completely surprised at how quickly I ran out of article space. Believe it or not, there are many, many, more things for which I am thankful!

Bro Danny

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP WORKSHOP

December 5th & 6th
A Two-Session Event
Hosted by
Danville’s First Baptist Church

Married?
Considering Marriage?
Engaged?

Is your marriage strong?
God can help deepen that bond.
Is your marriage struggling?
God can restore hope and renew your relationship!

Do you want to start well?
God can show you how!

***Make plans to attend this year’s
‘Marriage Tune-Up Workshop’***
*“A weekend dedicated to strengthening,
revitalizing, and refocusing your
relationship.”*

Itinerary

Friday Evening: 6-8 pm with dinner provided

Saturday Morning: 9 - 11 am with Coffee,
donuts & breakfast finger foods

The Healthy Family Initiative Team from Arkansas Baptist Children & Family Ministries will lead us through “The Way of Grace” - a powerful, practical look at grace-filled marriage.

The event is free and open to everyone who is married or planning to be.

Please pre-register, if possible, to help us plan the menu!

<https://www.fbcdan.com/tuneup>



Date: December, 12th

Time: 6 o’clock

Place: ARVBA Office

Menu: Pasta Grill

(Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Spaghetti)

Great fellowship with our peers, Awesome food, (Maybe a gift card or two, Dirty Santa game, etc)

Pre-registration is very helpful but not required. Online viewers, click the pic above.

OR

call the Assoc. Office, 479-280-1739

Email: arvba@suddenlink.net

OR

<https://forms.gle/cMfC6qeSzEGGWgzt6>

The expanded event now includes our supply ministers and their spouses as well and more info can be found here:



March 6-7 2026

Presented by

**The Conway-Perry Baptist Association and
First Baptist Church, Oppelo.
304 Hwy 9 Oppelo, AR 72110**

Are you ready to take your evangelism and disciple-making efforts to the next level? Whether you're a church leader, church planter, or everyday believer, *Heart & Four Fields* will provide you with the practical tools and strategies you need to make a lasting impact on your community.