


The Strong Blue Line & Make It Clear Ministries present

### 'Pistol In The Pulpit'

**A Church Security Seminar**

- Does a local church have a duty to protect?
- What about having a trained & Armed Security Team?
- What does the Bible say about deadly force protection?
- How do you begin getting a team together?



Pastor and former police officer, Dr. Tim Rupp will answer these questions and many others both biblically and tactically. Tim retired from the San Antonio Police Department and is an evangelical pastor, certified firearm instructor, Idaho police instructor, police chaplain, and author.

**Cost:** \$25 donation (\$35 per couple) to Strong Blue Line Foundation


**Date:** February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Time:** 9am – 1pm (Lunch Is Provided!)

**Register:** [TheStrongBlueLine.org/seminars](https://TheStrongBlueLine.org/seminars)

**Location:** First Baptist Church  
5390 West Ash St  
Pottsville, AR 72858  
479-968-6233

**Register Online or Call The Church Office**



**For more information:**  
visit <https://thestrongblueline.org> or call 208-206-1215

*Church has traditionally been a place where we expect our families to be safe from physical harm.*  
**THINGS HAVE CHANGED...**

# 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, Centerville**

**Welcome Bro. Colby Hankins**  
**Pastor at 1st, Scranton!**



## So What Did The Association Do?


### Look At What The Lord Did With Your 2024 Contributions To Associational Missions!



**Teach 28:20!**  
ARVBA Equipping Ministries

**February, 24-25**


3 other Associations joined us this year. More than 70 Sunday School teachers/leaders from 16 Churches were equipped to better to lead their church's discipleship ministries.



**Block Party Training**

**June & October**


More than 50 ARVBA'ers were trained in all things 'Block Party' this year. From Inflatable safety to Carnival setup and tear-down, no other Association of churches is better prepared to reach her area through Recreation Ministry!



**Church Camp!**

**June 10th- 14th**

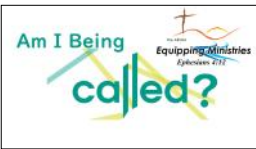
349 ARVBA Campers from 18 churches made their way to Church Camp this year. The Lord moved mightily and 45 young church goer's were born again. Camp attendance is expected to be even higher in 2025 so start praying now!



**ARVBA MISSIONS**  
Our 'Judea and Samaria'  
Are You Ready For The Annual Mission Trip?


**July 15th - 19th**

51 ARVBA missionaries from 11 Association churches traveled to the area around Magnolia and brought the best the ARVBA had to offer. 5 Carnivals, two construction projects, and one VBS resulted in 9 professions of faith and entire communities transformed.



**Am I Being Called?**  
Equipping Ministries

*ARVBA Missions and Ministries are not really Association Missions and Ministries. They are, instead, Kingdom-building events that you and your church make possible. Most church members are not aware that the Association receives no money from the State or National conventions. We are not funded by the Cooperative Program, NAMB, the IMB, or any other missions organization. It is the passion and generosity of your church that drives the ministries listed on this page. It is also your passion and willingness to go the extra mile in volunteering to 'do the work' that made such an extraordinary impact on so many lives this past year.*



**ABUSE PREVENTION + RESPONSE**  
PROTECT REPORT ASSIST

**God used you mightily in 2024.... Here's to even greater things in 2025!**

*“Churches Doing More Together!”*



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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Russellville, AR 72801  
Permit #150



# Missionary's Heart

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It's relatively quiet in the Scantling house as I begin the last News Letter article of 2024. I say 'relatively quiet' because there is the incessant sound of British accents reverberating throughout the downstairs area. It seems that Bluey's imagination is running rampant again and only Mum and Dad can save the day! No doubt, Miss Elouise will be on pins and needles until the crises is averted.

By the times you read this, a brand-new baby girl will have joined the ranks of the Green Family Grands. Miss Margo Scantling arrived on December 18th and Mammaw and PawPaw were tapped to help big sister stay in her own bed while she awaited the arrival of her new best friend. We should be back home in time to lock down the Association Office for the Holiday break and make sure Mrs. Tena takes off when she is supposed to.

I can confidently say 2024 was more event-packed than previous years. Association Missions, Ministries, and Training benefited a lot of churches, both inside and outside the ARVBA. Check out the 'So What Did The Association Do?' article and see how many activities you or your church was involved in!

One good thing (among many) about this time of year is that I get to reflect on the year-gone-by and marvel at what God has done through the efforts of our ARVBA churches. In a single year, fifty-two people were born again as a direct result of the Association Church Camp and Annual Mission Trip. AND, you can add more than five souls to that number who were saved through the witnessing ministry of our Disaster Relief teams!

Another good thing (among many) about this time of year is that I get to reflect on the year to come and marvel at the work yet to be done. Some are going to say that I seem to focus too much on 'the work'. "Don't you trust the Holy Spirit to bring folks in?" they might ask.

I do indeed. I also trust He meant what He said when He instructed us to "Do the work of an evangelist" and/or to "compel them to come in".

The upcoming VBS Clinic will prepare our churches to do that. Camp 2025 will introduce a whole new group of kids to the Gospel of salvation. Mission Trip 2025 will help you take that Gospel to one of the most under-served regions of our state. I hope you have these events on the church calendar already and that you are preparing to dive into 'the work' that each one will require.



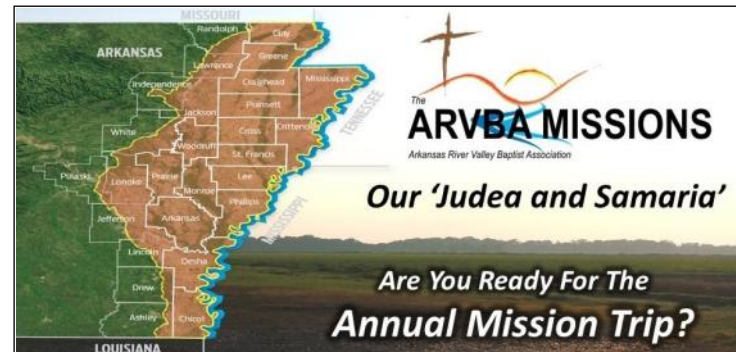
A glance at the calendar reminds me that it has been nearly ten years since I was called to be your Associational Missionary. I have spent a lot of time thinking about all the things we have shared. There were difficult times, to be sure, and you were with us through them all. There were wondrous blessings as well and our ARVBA churches were responsible for almost all of them.

A lot of Association-lead Kingdom building has occurred these past ten years and was only possible because you and your church elected to financially support the ARVBA. In the past ten years, 451 students were born again at Camp and more than 10 others came to know the Lord at Mission Trip locations. Multitudes of Sunday School leaders have been trained and at least 150 folks have been coached in Block Party Ministry. Don't forget VBS Clinics, 'One-Day' adventures, ARVBA Day ministries, etc. It has been an absolute honor to 'do the work of ministry' beside you guys and I hope to do so for many years.

By the way, by this time next year God will have blessed the Green family with ANOTHER grandbaby. (That will make six!) Ya'll pray for Mrs. Teresa and myself. Grandparent duty is not for the weak of heart!

*Merry Christmas!*

*Aka: Danny Claus!*



## 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 headed to Southeast Arkansas on November 11th to scout possible ministry projects for the Annual Mission Trip. Clint Richie, member of the ABSC Missions Team, was our guide as we met 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](http://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

Vacation Bible School



Clinic

## Returning To The ARVBA This Month!

Without question, VBS is still the most effective tool for evangelism in the modern church's arsenal. It is for this reason the ARVBA is so passionate about 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 will have 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.thearvba.com](http://www.thearvba.com) and follow the links.

Below are some of the breakout sessions we are considering:

- Magnify Your Training for Leaders
- Snack & Recreation Rotation Overview
- Music & Motions
- VBS Directors Overview
- Decorating: Make a Big Impression on a Small Budget
- Magnify ALL Learners: Teaching Tips & Tricks
- It's No SMALL Thing: Connecting with Parents
- Outreach & Follow-up