

The Servant Heart

Independence Baptist Association's
Monthly Publication



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Ronnie Toon
Association Missionary

Missionary Moments

Welcome to the Adams family. Our family inheritance is our earth suit with its sinful nature. We are simply vessels of clay. Clay, as it ages, cracks, crumbles and disintegrates. We have inherited a world that is cracking, disintegrating, and falling apart. We inhabit a world that is moving in a completely different direction from what God has planned. This world has a magnetic-like influence on us. If you are not making a conscious effort to stay out of an earthly sphere of influence, you will be pulled in and, before you realize it, stuck to the magnet. Because of this downward pull, we need to constantly look to God's Word to keep us focused.

The well-known author of *The Robe*, Lloyd C. Douglas, was a university student who lived in a boarding house. Downstairs, on the first floor, was an elderly, retired music teacher who was infirmed and unable to leave his apartment. Douglas said that every morning they had a ritual. Douglas went down the steps, opened the old man's door, and asked, **"What's the good news?"** The old man picked up his tuning fork, tapped it on the side of the wheelchair, and said, **"That's middle C! It was middle C yesterday, and it will be middle C a thousand years from now. The tenor upstairs sings flat, the piano across the hall is out of tune, but, my friend, that is middle C!"** We need a standard that never changes.



I am told that a compass needs calibration. Over time, the hull of a ship builds up a magnetism that interferes with the ship's compass. True north is no longer true north. To remove this influence, the captain takes the ship over special coils. The Bible is your special coil for life. It will keep you on true north and keep you calibrated so that you are headed in the right direction. Without it, we maneuver our own way, and it seems like the harder we try, the further off true north we veer.

I read about a man in a county jail in Australia. He concocted a scheme to escape. Each day he watched as a delivery truck arrived at the loading dock. There was a time during each delivery in which the truck was left alone while deliveries were taken inside the jail. At

"Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you. If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life." Psalm 119:89-93

that very moment, he walked down the loading ramp, crawled under the truck, and held on to the underpinnings of the truck. As the truck drove away, he held on in fear for his life until it finally came to a stop. As he quietly crept from under the truck, he realized in utter dejection that he was now in the State Penitentiary five miles down the road, still surrounded by walls!

When we rely on ourselves, we find that we go from one prison of discontent to the next. We search and search for answers to our problems without the compass to guide us through the waters of life.

Because of heredity and our environment, we are all dominated by something—none of us is free. You might say that you want to be free from brushing your teeth. You can be free from the toothbrush, but you will be dominated by cavities. We are all dependent on something. That is why we need discipline. Discipline without dependence is arrogance; but dependence without discipline is laziness. We play a great part in the successfulness of our lives. Some Christians live with the idea, **"Whatever will be, will be."** That is not in the Bible—that was Doris Day.

Practicing spiritual disciplines keeps our compass on true north. A thousand monkeys pounding on a thousand pianos in the same way will never result in a piece by Beethoven. It takes disciplined learning, not random pounding, to produce good music. If we don't discipline ourselves we won't be successful. We will only produce random pounding on the pavement of life.

Choosing Christ as your Savior will give you eternal life, but your earthly suit is shaped by the choices you make each day. Many of us live life like one old farmer. When lightning struck his old barn, it saved him from having to tear it down. The rain washed off his car, and it saved him from that chore, too. When asked what he was doing on the porch during the harvest, he replied that he was waiting for an earthquake to shake the potatoes out of the ground. That is the way a lot of us are. We are waiting for God to do the miracle. I have discovered that when we do the mundane down here, then miracles flow from up there.

The bottom line: If you are trying to take a bone away from a dog, he will put up a fight. However, you can take a bone away from even the meanest of dogs by offering a steak. The only way people give up the old bones of this world is for them to see that God is offering them a steak. He offers abundant life—the best life.

BE ENCOURAGED!

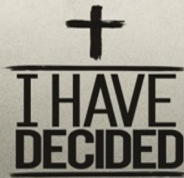
Ronnie Toon
22 May 2017

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IBA Summer Camps

Day Camp

Completed 1st-3rd Grades

June 5-8, 2017

\$40.00 per student (t-shirts are included)

Bring a sack lunch each day

Please register by June 1st



Children's Camp

Completed 4th-6th Grades

June 19-22, 2017

\$70.00 per student (all meals & t-shirt included)

Registration Deadline June 14th



COLLISION Youth Camp

Completed 7th-12th Grades

July 10-14, 2017

\$90.00 per student (all meals & t-shirt included)

Registration Deadline is July 3rd



All registration forms, schedules and information are on the website or available at the association office.

If you are interested in being a staffer for Day or Children's Camp you must be 15 or older and fill out a Personal Information Sheet and Background Check Authorization. It must be returned to the IBA office no later than May 26th.

Camp Dates

2nd-4th Yates Reunion

5th-8th Day Camp

10th Harmon Reunion

11th Pilgrims Rest Fellowship

12th-15th North Arkansas College

16th-18th Dugger Reunion

19th-22nd Children's Camp

24th Cushman Swim Day & Picnic

25th Ruddell Hill Swim Day/Cookout

30th-July 1st Talley Reunion

2017-2018 Associational Scholarships for Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College are available through the association.

OBU - One scholarship each year is available for a new student (entering freshman or transfer) in the amount of \$250 per year, renewable for four years.

WBC - A scholarship is provided for a high school graduate in the amount of \$250.00 per semester for one year.

If you know of a student that would be interested in either of these scholarships, please contact the IBA office for eligibility requirements, to pick up a submission form or for more information. Nominations for the 2018-2019 scholarships are open at this time also.

2017 VBS Dates

June

4-7 Mt. Zion Sunday 4-7pm, M-W 6-8:30pm
4-9 Desha 6-8pm "A Heroes Journey"
5-9 West 5:30pm Meal, 6pm to 8:30pm VBS
11-14 Fellowship 6pm to 8:30pm
12-16 Batesville FBC 9am to Noon
12-16 Mountain View FBC 9am to Noon
25-29 Calvary, Batesville 5:15 Meal, 6pm to 8:30pm VBS

July

10-13 Ruddell Hill 6pm to 8pm
24-28 Emmanuel 6pm to 8pm
31-August 4 Cord 5:30 Meal, 6:15pm to 8:30pm VBS
31-August 4 Cushman 5:30pm to 8pm

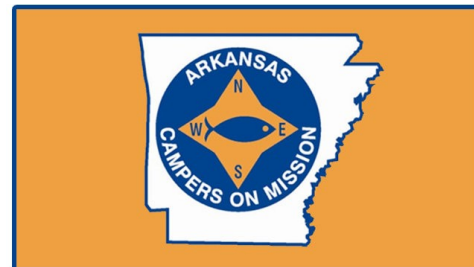


If your church would like to have your VBS dates published please contact Kathy by email or phone.

ABSC June Events

5th - 16th Master Singers Ukraine Mission Trip

Campers on
Mission
National Rally
June 20th



JUNE 23-26, 2017 - CAMP PARON



DID YOU KNOW GOD DESIGNED YOU
TO BE A SUPER KID?
JOIN US THIS SUMMER TO LEARN MORE

above
every
name

SBC PASTORS'
CONFERENCE
JUNE 11-12, 2017

Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting
June 13-14, 2017

For Registration, Schedule, Speakers and all
other information visit the SBC website at:

www.sbc.org

Hotel Reservations must be made by May 17th
to be guaranteed the convention rate. Online
reservation information is also on the SBC web-
site or you can call 1.800.967.8852.

SBC Annual Meeting Location:

Phoenix Convention Center 100 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004 Tel. 602.262.6225

24th - 27th
Super Summer
JV, Ouachita
27th - July 1st
Super Summer,
Ouachita



For all of ABSC's events and online registrations,
go to www.ABSC.org or call 800-838-2272



The IBA staff
would like to
wish you a
happy, safe, fun
and restful
SUMMER!



INDEPENDENCE
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Birthdays

3rd Tracy Medley

Ruddell Hill

5th Linda Campbell

Strawberry

8th Josh Swinea - Desha

14th Jim Tirey - Retired

16th Ron Taylor

IBA Treasurer

16th Randy Scott

Calvary, Batesville

25th Kerrie Sullivan

Compass

Anniversaries

1st Bob & Patsey Dailey - Mt. Zion

2nd DL and Connie Spurlin - Parkview

5th Cory & Sherry Majors - West

6th Bob & Janet Womack - Rehobeth

6th Jeff & Nikki Childers - Cord

6th Jim & Joan Tirey - Retired

17th Mickey & Betty Gail Jones - Compass

22nd Ron & Glenda Taylor

IBA Treasurer

27th Barrett & Jennifer Beyer - Salado