

**\*SAVE THE DATE\***

- Important Dates for 2013:
- RABC 79th Annual Session to be held @ Salem MBC, 105 Haven St., Forrest City, AR; (870) 633-2596; Rev. Louis Ford, Pastor
- The Woman's Auxiliary will meet @ Beth Salem MBC, 835 E. Garland Ave., Forrest City, AR; (870) 633-3670; Rev. Rayfield Walker, Pastor
- The Laymen will meet @ Historic First Baptist Church, 306 Cross Avenue, Forrest City, AR 72335; (870) 633-1280; Rev. Sherman Baker, Sr., Pastor
- The Ushers/Nurses will meet @ United Christian Baptist Church 203 W. Franklin Ave., Forrest City, AR 72335; Rev. Lathan, Pastor
- Banquet Night—6:30 p.m. Place-Salem Baptist Church Family Life Center. See District Women's Presidents for tickets.

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# Regular Arkansas Baptist Convention, Inc.

[www.reg-arbaptist.org](http://www.reg-arbaptist.org)

*The convention that bares and shares Jesus Christ  
Through the Power Given to the Church  
Matthew 28:18-20*



Volume 2 Issue 5

Special Edition 2013



Dr. James S. Thrower, Sr.,  
President

## ...FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

This edition of the newsletter is an effort to focus on and spotlight activities that are taking place at our institution, Morris Booker Williams Resource and Development Center in Dermott. I am coming to realize that positive advertisement is the only way for the constituency to benefit. Simply stated, seeing is believing. In this issue, you will hear and witness, firsthand, the activities taking place in the facility. No more ru-

mors and speculation, see for yourselves. Hear from the Program Director, Kattie Gill-Jordan, and know that our investment is in order according to our forefathers' vision and is pleasing to God.



MBW-Save Our Youth Afterschool Program



MBW-Save Our Youth Back to School Bash

**\*REMINDER\***  
THE 79TH ANNUAL SESSION OF  
THE  
REGULAR ARKANSAS BAPTIST  
CONVENTION, INC.  
DR. JAMES S. THROWER, SR., PRESIDENT  
CONVENING WITH  
SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH  
REV. LOUIS FORD, PASTOR  
FORREST CITY, AR  
NOVEMBER 11 - 14, 2013

### Photos from Morris Booker Williams Resource and Development Center



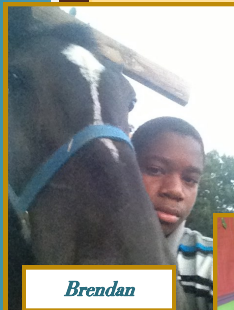
Participants enjoying a delicious meal in the dining area.



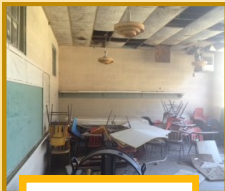
On Saturday, October 19, 2013, the program travelled to Little Rock in support of breast cancer awareness and participated in the 5K Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure". The right-side photo features Kattie Gill-Jordan, Program Director, and her granddaughter with Governor Mike Beebe.



According to the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, the first public school in Dermott was built for black children during Reconstruction. It was replaced by Chicot County High School. In 1899, a boarding school, the Southeast Baptist Academy, opened; it evolved into what is now known as Morris Booker Memorial (MBM) High School and College by 1934. Under the leadership of Dr. York Williams, an alumnus, the school emerged into a first-rate academic institution. Unfortunately, students began leaving for integrated schools in the 70s, and MBM closed. Until the spring of 2009, the building sat unused and in disrepair. It was at that time that Kattie Gill-Jordan, a local high school teacher, pursued her dream to make a difference in the lives of the children she encountered in Dermott. Professional wrestler Rodney Mac, Eric Evans-Chief of Police, and several community volunteers synergized their collective effort and created the afterschool program currently in use. The Morris Booker property was an eyesore; the leaky roof caved in, the gym floors were rotten, and the classrooms could not be utilized for instruction. Kattie, Mr. Mac, and the volunteers provided much needed repairs. New roofing was supported by RABC, along with funds from Ms. Jordan's personal finances. Eventually, the building was painted, broken windows repaired, a new roof was installed, and the gym floor was refurbished. Ms. Jordan created the Save Our Youth, Save Our Community Program. Her crowning achievements are the AfterSchool Program and the 4H Club. Currently, the program serves at least 400 children, monthly. It has served more than 1,000 at one time. The program has expanded to include nine additional locations in Southeast AR who provide tutoring, reading rooms, basketball, kickball, horseback riding, game rooms, swimming, a computer lab, and nutritional snacks/dinner during the year. Two of the more popular activities are the Fun in the Sun and the Back to School Bash. This year, Radio Disney travelled to Dermott to participate. They provided safety information and enjoyed the children with waterslides, swimming pools, bouncers, and a DJ. The Back to School Bash provided free school supplies, food, dancing, and fun for the children. Save Our Youth, Save Our Community has partnered with the Arkansas Department of Health to assist with pregnancy and nutrition clinics. During the holidays, the program assists needy families and partners with Dermott High School's band, cheerleaders, and homecoming committee to be a blessing to others. The After School Program provides certified teaching instruction from local educators to for tutoring and/or homework assistance. A computer lab is available to help students to become familiar with technology, conduct research, and even learn to read with the Hooked on Phonics educational software. The program provides nutritious afterschool snacks/dinner; hungry tummies cannot effectively learn. The 4H Club is a major plus with horses located on the premises. One success story involves Brenden, a young man who exhibited behavioral and learning challenges. Local educators had given up all hope of his academic success; however, program participation has supplied the motivational tool he needed. Brenden has begun to apply himself in school, works hard, and has a much more positive attitude toward his teachers, peers, and himself; he loves working with the horses. The age of the building is challenging, as repairs are continually necessary. Broken and outdated plumbing and electrical fixtures need to be replaced. They are also experiencing repeated problems with rodents and roaches. Although they do have an extermination contract, more needs to be done to abate this concern.



Brendan



Classroom-before...



...AFTER!



Children pose for group pic!



Competitive sports!

\*\*\*SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*

RABC Congress will offer COPP Course #9920 Biblical Study of the Doctrine of the Church for the Minister's Diploma Program during the Annual Session on November 11-13, 2013 @ Salem Baptist Church from 9 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Dean's Office staff will be on-site for registration; tuition-\$25. This course, taught by Dr. Donald Agee, ThD, will provide a thorough examination of relevant Biblical texts, Students will revisit the major doctrines and practices of the church. Questions? Please call: (870) 535-5665. Classes will be held at Salem Baptist Church, 105 South Haven, Forrest City, AR.

\*\*\*SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*

Congratulations are in order for recipients of the Laymen's Scholarship, totaling \$500/each. The recipients are:  
Bro. Darius O. Racey, St. James Baptist Church, Antioch Dist.  
and  
Bro. Christopher M. Elliott, II, Trinity Grove Baptist Church, Middlewestern Dist.  
We wish both of these young men God's richest blessing as they pursue their academic endeavors.

\*\*\*ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*

During the Annual Session, the RABC Usher's will begin on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 @ United Christian Baptist Church (see SAVE THE DATE section for address). Ushers will serve the Parent Body on Thursday 11/14, according to the following schedule:  
Layman - 10:00 a.m.  
Ushers - 1:00 p.m.  
Women - 2:45 p.m.

\*\*\*ANNOUNCEMENT\*\*\*

The Woman's Auxiliary has started a new initiative to begin during the Annual Session. We'd like to invite Moms/Daughters of any age to share with us on Thursday, November 14, 2013 for special activities. Questions? Please email President Glover @ gnglov03@windstream.net or call (903) 244-3398. We look forward to seeing you there. Please check the SAVE THE DATE section on page one for location info. Registration is \$10.  
Remember the Plus \$5 Drive-see District Presidents for info!

Regular AR Missionary Baptist State Convention  
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Little Rock, AR 72209

