

C. FROM EVENT TO MOVEMENT

Momentum is building across Arkansas as hundreds of churches are planning to meet needs and share Jesus in their local communities on the same day, Saturday, October 3. Serve Local is going to be an incredible day! We are praying for God to do “immeasurably more” all across Arkansas.

For many churches, local community missions is nothing new. Serving on the same day with hundreds of other Arkansas Baptist churches is something new for them. However, for some churches, Serve Local will be their first step into local community missions.

How do we keep this momentum and build on it? Here are two suggestions.

First, view Serve Local as a movement, not an event. If Serve Local is allowed to only become an event your church participated in, your members may view evangelism as event driven. Build on your Serve Local experience to remind members that they are missionaries to your local community. Remind them to identify people with whom

they live, work, and play who are lost and need Jesus. Remind them that evangelism is a lifestyle. Encourage members, families, and Sunday School/ Small Groups to identify and meet needs while sharing Jesus. Plan similar days like Serve Local to mobilize members for local missions. Schedule a week or even a month of outreach in the local community or among a particular group of people in the community. Often, a member’s experience during a mission event can lead them to develop a lifestyle focused on missions. Then, let’s do this again. Yes, let’s continue to serve our local communities throughout the year while sharing the Gospel. But, let’s also commit to join hundreds of Arkansas Baptist churches meeting needs and sharing Jesus in our own local communities once a year on the same day!

**Serve Local: ALL ACROSS ARKANSAS
Saturday, May 15, 2021**