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*The Coffee Baptist Vision*  
Coffee Baptist Association, 603 E. McKinnon Street, P.O. Box 127 New Brockton, AL 36351  
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Rev. Leon Fortune  
Moderator  
Rev. John Gunter  
Hispanic Missionary  
Steve Tipton  
Vineyard Manager

*December 22, 2022*

## A MOMENT WITH THE MODERATOR

The most wonderful time of the year is upon us; Christmas! I want to begin by thanking the wonderful Coffee County Baptist Association staff and volunteers for their hard work to make our annual Christmas banquet a great success. Decorations and food were great, but the fellowship was the best thing about the meeting.

Christmas is the greatest day of all the year, and all of human history. It is the day when God intervened in the course of human history, became flesh and dwelt among us. We love to celebrate Christmas, but as Christians we celebrate Christ every day of the year. An old pioneer traveling westward came to the edge of the Grand Canyon. He marveled at the vast chasm one mile down, 18 miles across, and over 100 miles long. He shouted, "Something must have happened here!" If someone came to our cities and communities who had never even heard of Christmas, they may look amazed as they take in the decorations, the lights, the busyness of the season, and exclaim "Something must have happened here!"

Personally I love the Christmas season. I love the light in my children's eyes, surprising my wife with unexpected gifts, and I love going back home again and seeing family and good friends. I love to have my family come to my house. I love the special services we have in our churches. I love reflecting on the great love God has for me in sending His Son into the world. The question is, do we know what we are celebrating in all of this festivity?

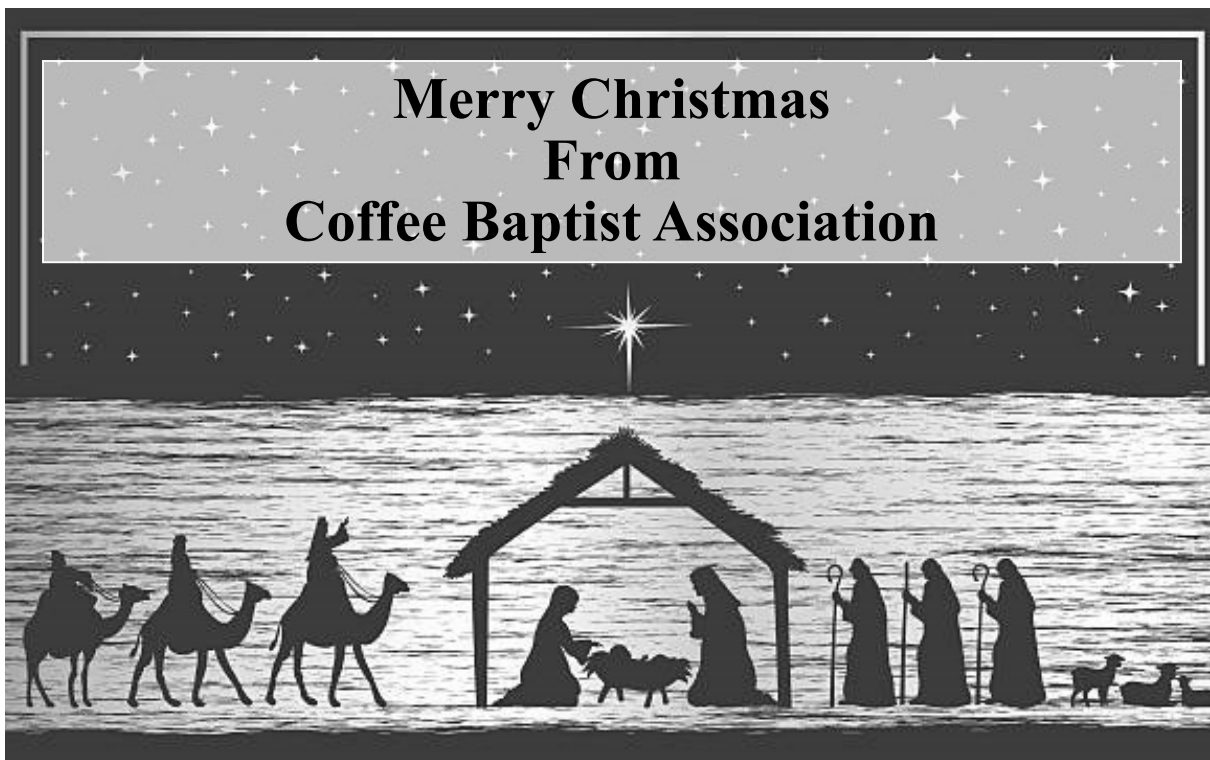
Christmas is not just another excuse to party, shop until you drop, or raising your cholesterol count. Christmas is about **Christ!** Christmas is about salvation! Christmas is about God's grace and forgiveness! It is about eternity, freedom from sin, freedom from death, hell and the grave. Christmas is about **Christ!** I agree that Christmas is about the virgin, the baby, the swaddling clothes, the manger, the shepherds and the angels. But there is so much more to tell.

Have we stopped our busy lives to consider the full extent of our celebration? Somehow, it makes us feel warm inside when we read about shepherds coming to the manger and seeing the **Christ**. The shepherds were important to God and we are important, too. This a story of love and worship and adoration. While Christians are filled with love and happiness, we need to remember that others may be filled with darkness and despair. God can work with anyone, no matter what your status in life, if you are prepared to receive His message.

Christmas day is almost here. Are you prepared? Are your ears sensitive and your heart soft? Do you hear God telling you of His love for you? As Christians, we are on a journey of faith. Christmas is truly the best time of the year because **Christ** has come into the world. But have you let Him in your heart? This Christmas, receive the best Christmas gift ever by receiving Jesus into your heart!

Trusting Jesus,  
Rev. Leon Fortune

Merry Christmas  
From  
Coffee Baptist Association



## Calendar of Events

### December

26 - Office Closed

28-29 - Serv334

### January

2 - Office Closed

10 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 PM

16 - MLK Day - Office Closed

31 - Senior Adult Luncheon at McLin's - 11 AM

## The Coffee Baptist Association is seeking a Director of Missions.

Resumes must be received by  
January 31, 2023.

Please send resumes to  
PO Box 127  
New Brockton, AL 36351.

For more information please call  
(334)894-6411.

# SERV

December 28-29

A call for students to come together  
and serve the "334"

For youth grades 7-12

For more information contact  
servthe334@gmail.com

 Serv334

## Serv334 is looking for missions projects.

If you or your church has a project you would  
like help completing please email  
servthe334@gmail.com or contact Kaleb  
Wimberly @ 334-806-9562.

## Ministers' Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

Goodman Baptist Church  
is in search of a  
Bi-Vocational Youth Minister.

Contact Bro. Bruce Williams  
at 334-389-3621 for more info.