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The Coffee Baptist Vision

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January 28, 2021

Rev. Bryan Simoneaux
 Moderator

Rev. John Gunter
 Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
 Vineyard Manager

A Visit With Dr. John

My principal in high school taught Civics. He said, "In America, you have people pulling for different ideas and different purposes. They fight to get their ideas known and accepted. We have elections based on those things. Then, when the election is over, everybody is supposed to pull for the winner until the next election comes along". I'm not sure that I've ever seen it work out that way. It does seem that what he said was right.

I was preaching from Jeremiah a few weeks ago and he was telling the people of Judah that when they got to their place of captivity, that they were not to spend their time in rebellious thoughts and actions, but were to make the most of their time, being good citizens. He said, "And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace" Jeremiah 29:7. The success of the city would be their success. No matter which side brings about good things, the success and peace of our country is our success and peace.

In a normal year, we would be having Deacon training at the end of January. It is a good time for training, having been established many years ago. It still is a good time for deacons and church leaders to find a book or a small group and try to learn more about the things they are to do. It also is a good time for churches to recognize and honor these leaders.

February 8-14 is a time set aside in our State Convention to focus on WMU. The WMU in our churches do so much! It's too easy to take them for granted. It would be a good idea to have one or two of the WMU leaders in your church talk about some of the things WMU does throughout the year.

Racial Reconciliation Day normally is the Sunday before Valentine's Day. Somewhere during that week is the established time for our Inter-Baptist Committee to host a luncheon, inviting leaders from different racial and ethnic groups.

Throughout my ministry, this was something associations did all across the nation. Leaders from our State Convention have told me for the past few years that Coffee Association is the only one in the state that still has this emphasis. I feel that it is needed as much now as ever. There is no doubt we have made much progress in this area, but much remains to be done. I believe our lives will be enriched by coming to know and appreciate people from other backgrounds. I look forward to doing this again when we can gather safely.

Samford Extension Class**Study of the Four Gospels**

Term A: January 25 - March 15
 Term B: March 29 - May 17

Mondays at 6:00 PM

Coffee Baptist Association

Instructor: Dr. John Granger

Register online at
[www.samford.edu/programs/
 ministry-training-institute/
 extension-classes](http://www.samford.edu/programs/ministry-training-institute/extension-classes)

Call our office at 334-894-6411
 for more information

Request for Church History

A lot of years have passed since we all submitted information about our Church History. We did that for years 1998 thru 2002. We are past due in gathering the events that took place in Coffee Baptist Association for years 2003 thru 2020. Our target date for submitting this information is Jan 2021. If you should need help, try to find your church copy of the Association's History of Churches 1998 -2003. This will give some ideas what to write about. We have these books available for free at our office. We also have 1981-1998 history books available. You also can call the Association Office or Louie Reynolds at 334-406-3095 for help in getting started. Bro. Louie Reynolds, Chair, History Committee

Park Avenue Baptist Church has a position open for a secretary. 16 hours per week. Work schedule is flexible. Call 334-347-9269 for more information.

Disaster Relief Training

Some of you may not be aware that a person who participates with the Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief effort must have training before he can deploy. The training taking place in March is for our entire district. So, let me encourage you to sign up and get involved. It seems like we have to respond to some sort of disaster every year.



Dates: March 12-13, 2021

Location: Vineyard Christian Retreat Center, Ariton, AL

Sign up at sbdr.org/events

Training offered: Chainsaw, Mudout/Cleanup, Shower*, Feeding*, Administration*

*Tentative

For more information call Tim Folds at 850-326-1252.

Counseling Offered

Our office offers counseling through the Alabama Baptist Children's Home. Alisha Lewis has been counseling in our office for over 20 years. You can contact Alisha at 334-677-7856.