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The Coffee Baptist Vision

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July 09, 2020

Rev. Bryan Simoneaux

Moderator

Rev. John Gunter

Hispanic Missionary

Steve Tipton

Vineyard Manager



A Visit With Dr. John

Bro. Louie Reynolds was chair of the History Committee for the association in 2002, when they prepared a history of the association from 1998 to 2002. Last year, Bro. Louie said he would like to have our churches pull together their histories since 2002 to compile a new history book of the churches of Coffee County Baptist Association.

Brother Louie's request that each church compose its history is in this issue of our newsletter. I believe this is a great idea. There are so many good things to remember that it would be a shame for people in generations down the line not to know.

It is a good idea for each church to have its own historian or perhaps a history committee. It is a good exercise for churches to compile and celebrate their history with some frequency.

The church can be encouraged by recognizing some of the advances it has made over a period of time. A good history will relate the names of individuals who were instrumental in making those advances. Sometimes great human interest stories can be incorporated into the historical narrative.

Remembering one's history can help a person to recognize God's faithfulness and his goodness in our lives and in our churches. Thinking of such high and holy times can cause us to rejoice and celebrate.

Bro. Louie may be available to help your church historian, if need be. Dr. Lonette Berg, of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission, also is available. She has pamphlets about what you might want to include in your history.

For this history, I will attempt to do something of a history of our association as an entity of itself. Coffee County Baptist Association is a parachurch organization developed by the churches who compose it.

As such, it has specific duties assigned to it which a lone church could not do and others where we can pull together the strength of the churches to accomplish things we could not do on our own, or at least not do nearly as well. So, when a history of the association is done, things that happened through the association itself and not only that which has happened in the churches, should be reported.

The really tough thing for this work will be how to cut out so much that has taken place because the history doesn't need to be two or three reams of paper.

The COVID-19 pandemic is taking its toll on our church life as well as it is hampering the rest of society. Many of our churches have re-opened with 1/4 to 1/2 of normal capacity. Some are doing drive up church. Most are doing some kind of online worship or Bible study. Some simply are not meeting.

Quite a few churches and associations are continuing to use the Vineyard. Most of the groups are a fraction of the normal occupancy.

Most of the association's meetings are not happening. The many things that we have put on the calendar have been canceled. We did have a Ministers' Meeting last week.

Since society has opened up somewhat, I had felt that we would meet for the July Executive Committee meeting. Today, I am inclined not to meet because of the spike in Coronavirus cases in so many places after the reopening of the economy. I saw on the local news last night where Coffee County was at high risk for COVID-19.

It would be easy enough for us to do a zoom meeting for the Executive Committee, but we have quite a few of our pastors who cannot take part in that. At this time, I know of no pressing business. The quorum for an Executive Committee is 10 churches represented. I do not think we would have that many, unless we had something serious to consider. Therefore, I will ask Emily or Michele to send financial reports and any other reports to the Executive Committee members.

The association office continues to remain open. We are here doing the routine work. We are available to talk to people about challenges they or their churches face. Some people seem to be surprised that churches can have problems during these days with hardly any meetings. We do have congregations whose problems are more pronounced than ever right now. Please pray for your sister churches and for your own church.

Please pray that the pandemic would be short-lived. Please do all you can to make sure the virus is not passed along.

May our Lord richly bless you during this unusual time!

CCBA Ministers' Meeting

July 23 at 11:00 AM

Hook's BBQ

Calendar of Events

July

23 - Ministers' Meeting - 11:00 AM

August

6 - Vineyard Work Day - 8:00 AM

6 - Vineyard Meeting - 3:00 PM

27 - Ministers' Meeting - 11:010 AM

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. Churches have experienced staff changes, built buildings, celebrated Homecomings, Anniversaries, had Revivals and the list goes on and on. We need to remember these and other important events that took place during this time. We start with selecting a Church Historian and a Committee who will work with the Historian. It is a lot of information to gather....17 years....but it can be done. It's important that the church and the Association have a record to preserve for future generations to know what happened in our churches.

Out 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 can also call the Association Office or Louie Reynolds at 334-406-3095 for help in getting started.

Bro. Louie Reynolds, Chair
 History Committee

Please let us know what your church plans to do for VBS this summer. You can call our office or email emily@ccbacenter.com.

Vacation Bible School

New Home Baptist Church – Drive In/Take Home VBS. 5 Wednesday nights beginning June 17 at 6:00 PM.

Church on Boll Weevil Circle – VBS In a Bag – July 12-14. Drive In and Facebook Live July 12. Facebook Live July 13-14. 7:00 PM.

Lee Street Baptist Church – July 20-22 6:00-8:00 PM – 4 years old – 2nd grade. July 23-25 6:00-8:00 PM – 3rd grade – youth. Adult classes available July 20-25.