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The Coffee Baptist Vision

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Rev. Leon Fortune
Moderator
Rev. John Gunter
Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
Vineyard Manager

March 23, 2023

THE GRAPES VINE

Greetings from your Vineyard,

Happy Spring, y'all! Now understand that I love all four seasons of the year – there are just lots of wonderful, positive things about all of them. Right now, Spring is happening! Everywhere you look you can see life sprouting and blooming – beautiful blooms all over the Vineyard! Life is abundant. Jesus said He came that we may have life and that we could have it more abundantly. That's what I see all around me everyday with the beautiful greenery and flowers. Springtime certainly reminds me of the abundant life we can have through Jesus – the giver of abundant life. There is no greater life than the life He gives as you sprout and bloom right where He has planted you – in your family, at your place of employment, in the places where you shop, and in your church. You can be the one who brings life into otherwise dead and decaying places. Jesus wants you to be His blossom right where you are. Maybe I've gotten ahead of myself because maybe you haven't experienced this wonderful life for yourself yet. Let me tell you that if you don't have this wellspring of life bubbling up inside you, then get it today. Don't wait another moment. Life, especially new life, is too precious to delay. Tell Jesus you want His abundant life right now. He can and will surely change your life, even the very way you look at your circumstances today. And, He will eternally change your destiny. Let me share with you that we know of 57 guests so far this fiscal year who have done just that – they have allowed Jesus to change their lives and eternities right here at your Vineyard. They felt the call of the Holy Spirit, repented of their sins, and received abundant life. What a blessing – to answer God's call into new, abundant life! Life, refreshing and new, better than anything they have ever experienced before. That's what your Vineyard is all about, and why I am so excited to report to you what my Lord is doing here! The Lord works here in the lives of our guests. Of course, He works in your life to help make the Vineyard a reality. It takes a lot of people in unity toward the common goal of seeing souls saved to make a ministry like your Vineyard possible. Thank you for all you do to provide this ministry to a hurting and lost world.

Most people know that I am celebrating being at the Vineyard for 20 years on April 1st. Let me say that I am very humbled by you allowing me to be here and to help in this wonderful ministry. Let me also say that I am very humbled by all the many people who have done so much over the past 20 years to make this ministry thrive as it has. I have seen so many people work so very hard for so such long periods of time to help the Vineyard in so many ways, that it is just incredible and very humbling. I am also very humbled by knowing that the association wants to hold a reception for me on April 23rd in honor of my 20 years. I am very honored and **thankful** just for the thought. Thank you so very much. Allow me to say that many, many people deserve the honor, because many, many people have given so much to make your Vineyard prosper. Over the years, I have seen many of these great folks go on to be with the Lord. We have lost many wonderful friends in the last 20 years. I am so very grateful and thankful for their partnership, and I think of them often. They are gone for now, but certainly not forgotten. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity for 20 years now to be a part of your ministry. Thank you for your continued partnership in this ministry.

As they used to say in the hills of Tennessee – “yuns come visit us.”

Praise God for His bountiful harvest, and thank you for being willing workers in the field.

With a humble heart,

Steve



Calendar of Events

April

6 - Vineyard Work Day - 8:00 am
6 - Vineyard Committee Meeting - 2:00 pm
13 - WMU Banquet - 6:30 pm
25 - Senior Adult Luncheon - 11:00 am
29 - Boys Adventure Camp at the Vineyard

May

16 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm

WMU Banquet

April 13 at 6:30 pm

Ino Baptist Church

Guest Music: Kaye Clark
and Audrey Windham

Guest Speaker: Marcia Tomberlin

Cost - \$10 per person

Please register by Thursday, April 6, 2023.

Scholarships

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama
Applications due March 31, 2023.

Applications must be completed online at
tbfa.org/scholarships.

A.L. Strozier applications can be
picked up at our office.

GA Camp at the Vineyard

May 12-13, 2023

Boys Adventure Camp at the Vineyard

April 29, 2023

Call the Vineyard to register or
for more information.

Call our office with your VBS dates.

Visit our website at ccbacenter.com
to see VBS dates.

IncrediCamp

Build Your Life Hebrews 3:4

July 17-19

\$120 per child if registered by
June 15. \$135 after June 15, 2023.

Find us on Facebook at:
Incredicamp@Vineyard Christian Retreat

Call the Vineyard at 334-762-2256
for more info.

Join us for a reception honoring Mr. Steve Tipton

20 years of faithful service
at the Vineyard Christian Retreat Center

April 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

The reception will be held at
Coffee Baptist Association located at
603 E McKinnon Street,
New Brockton, AL.

Senior Adult Luncheon

April 25 at 11:00 am

New Home Baptist Church

Cost: \$10

Please call our office to RSVP by
April 18.