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The Coffee Baptist Vision
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November 12, 2020

Rev. Bryan Simoneaux
 Moderator
Rev. John Gunter
 Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
 Vineyard Manager



A Visit With Dr. John

I thought you might want to know a little bit more about the state of our association since we did not have an annual meeting this year. For one thing, the various committees of the association were doing notable work until mid-March.

As you know, our association year begins in October. The 2019-2020 year started off pretty much like other years in our recent past. Our committees and workers provided lots of training. They provided acts of service and did lots of ministry to people in need. They provided counseling. They offered several different kinds of events to promote fellowship. Our churches even participated in an "On Mission Celebration" with 42 of our churches having missionaries to preach.

Then came Gov. Ivey's COVID-19 Stay at Home order. For a couple of months, almost all meetings were canceled. Even now, most meetings that would be taking place are not because of the Coronavirus.

Of course, the Association office is open with regular hours. The Vineyard is still fully manned with our leadership there all the time. A few committees have met and still do meet. Our Disaster Relief volunteers have been active. (Some of our churches have been receiving offerings to purchase a bucket truck for them.) Coming up, the WMU still leads in the Christmas Child shoebox collection and in receiving Coffee Cakes for the Alabama Baptist Children's Homes.

I have not been in as many churches as usual, but I have preached in half a dozen or so since the virus began. In two of these churches, I preached multiple times and I am still preaching in one on a weekly basis. I believe it is a great ministry of the association to have the DOM available to help weak churches or churches with specific problems. This has been a blessing to me, and, I believe, to the people of the churches, as well.

For the last two years, we have used the Samford Extension studies as a training and sharing time for bi-vocational pastors. Only a few have taken part, but all we can do is provide this resource for pastors who may not be able to get theological education by going to seminary. I truly enjoy being able to share some of my training with these young (mostly) men.

I am not pushing our committees to have events with large crowds at this time. I believe in following the advice of our health officials because I want to do everything I can to protect our people. We will ease back into these things as we have assurance that our people will be safe.

Several people have inquired about the finances of the association. One church started giving for the first time in a few years just last week. I am thankful that our association was on the best financial footing that we have ever been when the pandemic hit. I believe we will be all right. Michele keeps a close tab on these things and keeps me informed weekly.

I am thankful first of all for God's blessings, but also for your faith in and generosity toward the association. I'm thankful for a great bookkeeper and for a conscientious finance committee, and many committee leaders who have sought to carefully spend as they do their ministry work.

Please know that I appreciate your partnership in the Lords work. I'm thankful for all who prayed for me during my recent bout with COVID. I'm thankful to the Lord that I am much better now. May He bless you richly!

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.

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

Bro. Louie Reynolds, Chair
 History Committee




November 16-23, 2020

Operation Christmas Child drop off will not be at CCBA office. It will be at Ino Baptist Church this year.

- Monday, Nov 16
8:00-10:00am and 12:00-2:00pm
- Tuesday, Nov 17
8:00-10:00am
- Wednesday, Nov 18
8:00-10:00am
- Thursday, Nov 19
8:00-10:00am and 12:00-2:00pm
- Friday, Nov 20
8:00-10:00am
- Saturday, Nov 21
10:00am-Noon
- Sunday, Nov 22
2:00-4:00pm
- Monday, Nov 23
7:00-9:00am

Christmas Carolers Needed
November 21 and November 28
Downtown Enterprise
 If interested please contact Debbie Gaydos at 334-235-2781.

 **Coffee Cakes**
December 7, 2020
 This year please send boxed cake mixes and icing instead of baked cakes.

We will not gather for World Day of Prayer but we encourage everyone to pray for people around the world.

CCBA Disaster Relief Team went to the Mobile area to help those affected by Hurricane Sally. Some are in Citronelle now. In dealing with some of the big trees, they discovered a real need for a bucket truck. If you would like to send a donation to help Disaster Relief acquire this, please mail checks marked for Disaster Relief to our office. We want to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to give to meet this need if they desire. The goal is about \$60,000.