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The Coffee Baptist Vision
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June 26, 2014

Dr. Danny Wiggins
 Moderator
Rev. John Gunter
 Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
 Vineyard Manager



A Visit With Dr. John

Messengers to Southern Baptist Convention last week voted on new messenger qualifications. Among the recommendations that were made available for all of us to see in our state papers, the SBC website and other publications was a requirement for all churches to be in compliance with The Baptist Faith and Message.

People outside Baptist life have a hard time seeing what the problem is with such a requirement. Historically, Baptists have resisted any authority beyond that of God leading a local church. Every one of our churches is autonomous.

That leaves a lot of room for diversity among our churches. There is great unity in our theology in spite of this freedom. The Baptist Faith & Message has been viewed as generally held views and not as a doctrinal standard.

In earlier years, dissenters from a predominate religious view or state church were punished for not believing like everyone else. Baptists and others who felt one should not sign a creed he did not believe on every point were under constant duress. It was because of centuries of such persecution that our forefathers came to such ideas as liberty of conscience and freedom of religion.

These ideas have been characteristic of Baptist life now for centuries. Even the first amendment of our constitution owes its existence to a Baptist named John Leland.

So, over the last few weeks Baptists have written, called, "tweeted", etc., regarding this departure from our heritage. The responsible committee heard these voices and changed the wording to be more "Baptist Friendly."

The Alabama Baptist reported that the Executive Committee "amended its recommendation by dropping wording that would have ultimately required churches to comply with every point of the document and replaced it with a call for cooperating churches to have a faith and practice "which closely identifies" with the Baptist Faith & Message.

Spokesmen said they never intended to "impose a confession of faith upon a church," but there has been a segment of our convention who have pushed that agenda for 25 years. A growing number of our leaders, who have not had to study Baptist history, call for more control.

I am glad the messengers got to vote a better worded article. I pray that we always will be a people who appreciate freedom of religion and freedom of conscience.

Calendar of Events

June

- 26 - Golf Outing for Ministers & Staff
- 21-28 - SW AL Mission Trip
- 26-28 -Lad/Dad/or Mom Camp Grades 1-6
- 29 - Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sun.

July

- 03 - Vineyard Work Day—8 a.m.
 - 04 - Independence Day—Office Closed
 - 07-09 - Children's Camp at Vineyard
 - 08 - Executive Committee Meeting—7p.m.
 - 20-23 - Youth Camp at Vineyard
 - 22—Senior Adult Luncheon—11 a.m.
 - 24—Ministers' Meeting - 10 a.m. CBC
 - 27 - READ THE AL BAPTIST SUNDAY
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Sr. Adult Trip to Branson

CCBSA trip to Branson will be Nov. 10-15. Five nights motels, 8 meals, top-of-the-line motor coach transportation, driver's tip, and 7 shows are included in the cost of \$690 per person (Double Occupancy). A non-refundable deposit of \$100 per person is due ASAP. The balance is due NLT Oct. 10. Cost is based on 35 people; if we should have more, cost will be less. Send check to CCBA and put for Branson trip. Call Shirley at 347-2874 for more information.

VBS Directors.....Remember VBS Reports
Please send your report to Kaye at CCBA Office.
You can key it in online. If you do, let Kaye know.



Ministers' Golf Outing
June 26, 2014
 Tartan Pines at 8:00 a.m.
 Call Bro. Bruce Williams
 389-3621 for more info.

This will be the monthly meeting for June.



Senior Adult Luncheon
 First Baptist Enterprise
 July 22 at 11:00 a.m.

Cost of meal—\$8 per person

Make reservations by calling CCBA office at 894-6411 no later than July 17, 2014.

First Baptist Elba is going to JUBILEE Conference in Gatlinburg, TN Sept. 29 - Oct. 01, 2014. They have seats available on their bus. If you are interested, call First Baptist Elba at 897-2246

Upcoming Training from ALSBOM
Sunday School
 Leader Summit—August 9
 FBC Andalusia, AL
 More details later.

Children's Camp at The Vineyard - July 07-09 This camp is filled. No vacancies.

Youth Camp at The Vineyard - July 20-23

Lad, Dad, or Mom Camp - June 26-28 for Grades 1-6

