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The Coffee Baptist Vision
 Coffee Baptist Association, 603 E. McKinnon Street, P.O. Box 127 New Brockton, AL 36351
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July 26, 2018

Rev. Randy Walker
 Moderator
Rev. John Gunter
 Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
 Vineyard Manager



A Visit with Dr. John

Brother A. L. Strozier was Director of Missions for Coffee County Baptist Association from 1946–1972. He wrote in his history of our Association called Coffee County Baptists, lots of interesting things regarding our churches and our work together.

The first sentence in his historical account reads: “The Coffee County Baptist Association, in 1980 consists of forty-five Missionary Baptist Churches.” By 1980, not many churches still had the word, “missionary,” in their name. Bro. Strozier packed a lot of meaning into that word.

You see, during the 1800s and much of the 1900s, Baptist churches throughout this whole area identified themselves as Missionary or Anti-Missionary. They would have this designation in their constitution and bylaws. It would appear on the sign in front of their church.

Churches connected with others who believed as they did. The Anti-Missionary group became known as Primitive or Hard Shell Baptists. I once read the minutes to the Clay Bank Primitive Baptist Association. They strongly believed in predestination. They were against doing missionary work. They did not believe in giving invitations after a message. They did not believe in Sunday school. I was amazed that there were so many entries in the minutes where churches were disciplined or “disassociated” because a member witnessed to someone or did some sort of missionary activity.

The Missionary Baptists, on the other hand, believed the church was responsible for sharing the gospel with the whole world. They emphasized the missionary part in their constitutions and on their signs. By the middle of the 20th century, the term “missionary” and “Southern Baptist” were fairly synonymous. Many churches stopped using the description “Missionary” and simply put “Southern Baptist” on their signs. Of course, some Baptist churches not connected with the Southern Baptist Convention used the word, “missionary” to describe their theology.

When the Pea River Baptist Association and the Haw Ridge Association merged in 1908, the first sermon was brought by P. L. Mosley. It was a missionary sermon and emphasized that God invites all people to come to him and whoever believes in Christ could be saved. The text was Revelation 22:17. “And the Spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that hearth say, come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

As Southern Baptists in Coffee County, Alabama, we have a great heritage. It is our challenge to be faithful to the gospel in the 21st-century! People still need the Lord!

Calendar of Events

July

26 - Ministers’ Meeting - 10 a.m.

August

2 - Vineyard Work Day 8 a.m.

2 - Vineyard Meeting 3p.m.

6 - Widows’ Ministry Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

9 - Men’s Ministry Training - 7:00 p.m.

16 - Old School Men’s Ministry- 7:00 p.m.

23 - Ministers’ Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

26 - School Prayer Walk - 4:00 p.m.

CCBA Ministers’ Meeting

**July 26, 2018
 10:00 a.m.**

Coffee Baptist Center

Pastor Straight Talk

Minister/ Spouse Date Night

Date: September 6

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: The Vineyard

Cost: FREE

Please call our office at 334-894-6411 to reserve your spot.

Childcare will be provided. Please let us know if you will need it and ages of children.

Coffee County CERT Training Class

Aug. 3rd - 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Aug. 4th - 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Aug. 11th - 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

For more information and to register call 334-894-5375 or 334-806-1994.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church is currently looking for a part time secretary and a part time nursery worker. For more information contact Hayden Thornton at 334-347-1305.

Widows’ Ministry Meeting

August 6, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Coffee Baptist Center

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALABAMA!
 AN EPIC ADVENTURE
 IMAGES • MUSIC • SPEAKING TABLETS
MAKING ALABAMA
 National Security Conference Center
 Elba
 July 4 - 25
 11:00 - 5:00
 Mon. - Sat.
 A BICENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT
 Groups may call the Chamber 897-3125 to schedule after hour tours.

Prayer Walk

School Prayer Walk - August 26

4:00 p.m.

(Kick off planned for August 13 has been cancelled)

First Baptist Church Elba is currently looking for a part time youth minister. Contact Joan Ward at 334-897-5341 for more information.