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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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September 11, 2014

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



A Visit With Dr. John

I became a Christian in 1966. My introduction into Southern Baptist life impacted my life. The church was eager to reach out to people with the good news of Jesus Christ. They prayed and longed to see people “saved” and come into the fellowship of the church. They rejoiced with people who were turning their lives around.

When I left home, the Air Force sent me to places where I saw the same frame of mind in the people of those churches. When I went to college and seminary, I was part of churches with this same evangelistic zeal.

The colleges and seminaries I attended emphasized evangelism and missions.

The professors were active in leading churches and evangelistic events.

These men and women saw the value of cooperation and sought to instill this awareness to their students. They were “sold” on the cooperative program. They promoted missions and challenged the folk they taught to shoulder the Great Commission.

People could and did say back then that missions /evangelism was the glue that held our convention together. The important thing was getting the good news of salvation through faith in Christ to all people. We were growing as churches and as a denomination.

Then, some of our leaders told us we needed to argue about secondary issues of our faith. They maintained that once the wrong thinkers were out, evangelism would blossom.

The problem with that is : it did not happen. Eighty-five percent of our churches in America are either plateaued or declining. Our convention has been losing ground. Many of our churches in Coffee County are having difficulty, regarding growth.

Secondary doctrinal issues are important, but strict uniformity is not to be had in a denomination that values the autonomy of each local church. Beyond the cardinal tenets of our faith, we may have to agree to disagree.

My point is this: Somewhere along the way, we swapped the glue that holds us together. No longer is it the Great Commission.

The key to Southern Baptist growth was commitment to reach people for Christ. If we want our churches to be vibrant today, we have to care about the people around us and “share our faith” with them. We must tell them, love them, and encourage them.

One pastor said “They won’t come unless we go!”

Let us commit ourselves to be obedient to the last words of Christ! Let us go and make disciples!

Your partner in His work, Dr. John

Calendar of Events

September

- 14 - Single Adult Luncheon - Hillcrest - 12:15
- 21 - Anti-Gambling Sunday
- 23 - Bi-vocation Ministers’ Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 25 - Ministers’ Meeting—10 a.m.

October

- 09 - Pastor/Staff/Spouse Banquet—6:00 p.m.
- 12 - World Hunger Day
- 28 - Senior Adult Luncheon

**CCBA Ministers’ Meeting
 September 25, 2014**

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Baptist Center

Daniel Edmonds will speak on
 How To Increase Your Attendance

Bi-Vocation Ministers’ Meeting

Coffee Baptist Center

Tuesday, September 23, 2014

6:30 p.m.

**CCBA Annual
 Meeting**

Basin Baptist Church

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

(NOTE Corrected Time)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ronnie Smith

Lee Street Baptist Church

630 E. Lee Street, Enterprise

will host.....

Ladies & Girls Luncheon

Saturday, September 20, 2014

11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Guest Speaker will be Mrs. Kelly

Owens

Please RSVP to Peggy Clinansmith

Dr. Roger Richards of Baptist College of Florida will present a study about **Calvinism and the Southern Baptist Convention** at the Coffee Baptist Center
 October 1, 2014
 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Joe McKeever
 Will be at Coffee Baptist Center
 October 06, 2014 at 10 a.m. He is an illustrator for *The Alabama Baptist*. He enjoys sketching portraits of folk. Join us and get your likeness sketched.

**Single Adult
 Appreciation Luncheon**
 Sunday, September 14, 2014
 12:15 until 2:00 p.m.
 Hillcrest Baptist Church
Guest Speaker is John Riley
 RSVP at 894-6411 no later than September 11

September 15th at 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Enterprise
 (Fellowship Hall)
 Presents: Rosalee Hunt in a portrayal of Kathleen Mallory. **This will also be a celebration of 125 years of WMU.**
 All Baptist women are encouraged to attend.

**ATTENTION CHURCH
 CLERKS:**
 Please remember to complete and return your church profiles by September 15.
 Also, please ask your VBS Director for total VBS enrollment that is to be included in your annual profile.