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The Coffee Baptist Vision

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December 12, 2019

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



A Visit With Dr. John

A lot of things are going on this time of year. The WMU just finished a very successful OCC Shoebox collection. They also lead us to collect nearly 850 "Coffee" Cakes for the Children's Homes. Some of the senior adults are on a trip with a Christmas emphasis. The Pastor/Staff/Spouse Banquet is December 5. The Widows Ministry meeting is December 9. Men's Ministry Training and the Military Support Group meet December 10. The Singles will have a Christmas gathering at PoFolks December 16. Besides this, most of us have lots of exciting things going on in our churches.

For now, let me put those aside and talk about something that may be lost under all the activity of the season.

Several years ago, Dr. Paul Kendrick spoke with me about wanting to give one of his houses to the association to be used as a missionary home. If a furloughing missionary needed a place, it would be available. If there were no missionaries needing it at the time, it could be used to house pastors who may have been pushed out of their church or have other pressing needs.

You need to know that Brother Paul and Mrs. Mavis did not have lots of money. They had little money, but they had a desire to do something for the kingdom of God that would outlive their physical lives here. They were willing to sacrifice and work hard to make it happen. So they bought a house beside their home and did most of the work themselves to maximize its value.

After a lot of discussion with me and with others, Dr. Paul decided that he would let the Baptist Foundation of Alabama handle all the legalities, and, upon his death, they would sell the house and give the proceeds to Coffee County Baptist Association. The association would use those funds to build a house at the Vineyard, where a missionary would likely have more groups to relate to and share with than in Zion Chapel.

We presented that idea to the Executive Committee of the association. The committee voted unanimously to accept Brother Paul's proposal. All of us understood that the association would have to bear some of the load to make this happen. I might add that we believe it is a sacred trust to partner with someone like this to help his aspirations become reality.

After Brother Paul died, the foundation sold his house, verified what was in the paperwork with me, and sent a check to the association for \$50,000 and a notation that the rest of the money had been put in a fund so that its interest would be given to the association to help with maintenance, etc. of course, we probably will have to add to this and use volunteer help to build the house, but I anticipate seeing a new place at the Vineyard that will remind me of Dr. Paul and Mrs. Mavis every time I see it or think about it. And I believe that many people will be blessed because of what this couple has done.

I hope you can rejoice with me that a man and his wife had a desire to do something so noble! I am glad they followed through with their desire.

Brother Paul had a long life as a preacher: 70 years. His influence will live on through those to whom he ministered. It also will live on through this final gift, which he was loving enough, wise enough, and spiritual enough to set aside years before he passed.

His act is a good example for all of us. We want to leave things for our children and grandchildren. I know there are many who would like to leave something of what they had acquired to help people come to know Christ, to disciple others, and to minister to people in the name of the Lord.

You might say, it's the spirit of Christmas.



On December 2nd Coffee Baptist Association collected "Coffee" Cakes for the AL Baptist Children's Home. This year our churches collected 850 cakes. Thanks to everyone who took part in this ministry.



Singles Christmas Gathering

December 16th at 6:30 PM

PoFolks in Enterprise

Bring a \$10 white elephant gift if you would like to play.

January Bible Study

January 5-12

Jeremiah - Faithful to the Mission

Samford Extension classes will begin January 20th.

Call our office for more information.

Calendar of Events

December

16 - Singles Christmas Gathering - 6:30 PM
 24 - Christmas Eve - Office Closed
 25 - Christmas Day - Office Closed

January

1 - New Year's Day - Office Closed
 2 - Vineyard Work Day
 5-12 - January Bible Study
 14 - Executive Committee Meeting
 14 - Men's Ministry Training - 7:00 PM
 20 - Martin Luther King Day - office closed
 23 - Ministers' Meeting - 11:00 AM
 28 - Senior Adult Luncheon - 11:00 AM
 31 - Deacon Training - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

February

3 - Widows' Ministry Meeting—6:30 PM
 6 - Chaplain Appreciation Supper- 6:30 PM

CCBA Ministers' Meeting

January 23, 2020

CCBA office

Jim Swedenburg
 Cooperative Program Update

Men's Ministry Meeting

January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Deacon Training

January 31, 2020

Goodman Baptist Church

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Missions Fair, Rally and Missionaries in Churches

March 7 & 8, 2020

Call our office if your church would like to participate.

Mobile Food Pantry

December Giveaway will be on the 17th due to Christmas.

Call our office if you are interested in volunteering or to become a sponsor.

Enterprise Military Support Group

December 17th and January 14 at 7:00 PM

Meeting will be at ESCC in room #130 in Talmadge Hall.

Call our office at 894-6411 for more information.