

John Granger, Th.D.
 Director of Missions
Kaye Clark
 Public Relations Coordinator
Cynthia Whittaker
 Treasurer

The Coffee Baptist Vision
Coffee Baptist Association, 603 E. McKinnon Street, P.O. Box 127 New Brockton, AL 36351
 (334) 894-6411/5166 Email: info@ccbacenter.com/ Web: www.ccbacenter.com
January 14, 2016

Rev. Nathan Sims
 Moderator
Rev. John Gunter
 Hispanic Missionary
Steve Tipton
 Vineyard Manager



A Visit With Dr. John

The Christmas Flood of 2015

The so-called Christmas flood of 2015 caused a lot of problems for the people of Elba and the surrounding areas. It took two lives. It disrupted normal activity. It left a lot of devastation in its wake.

I'm thankful that it was not worse than it was. I'm grateful that the levee held and that the city of Elba did not have that problem.

We are blessed to have people in leadership who worked to ensure the safety of the citizens here. Larry Walker and the EMA, Mayor Murdock, along with city workers, law-enforcement personnel, highway workers, and others put their lives on hold trying to make this flood have as little impact as possible. City, county, and state workers devoted themselves to this task. Volunteers also worked.

Without these people filling sandbags, inspecting the levee, closing highways, inspecting bridges, and a hundred other things, The death toll would have been higher, and damage to property greater.

My hat is off to all who have been working, who have taken responsibility, and who continue to work.

People now are receiving and dispensing food, evaluating problems and directing volunteers.

I'm thankful for the Recovery Organization of Coffee County. They are receiving donations to help with the recovery from the flood.

You will be happy to know that our folk have been involved in one way or another from the very start. People from our churches responded to calls to fill sandbags and anything else they could do.

Rick Lance, Director of the Alabama Baptist State convention, called early on to pledge support and prayer. Mel Johnson, State Director for Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief, also was in touch quickly. I passed along to the Mayor and all the local Disaster Relief Council, his offer to provide a feeding van and trained workers for cleanup and recovery if we desired them.

It was decided not to use the feeding van but to invite the recovery workers. Trained Southern Baptist disaster relief workers came from several counties. They have been doing an excellent job. Otis Corbitt, DOM in Covington county, has been the leader (white hat) for the first two weeks. Dennis Mason, from Linden, is taking his place today.

About 25 or 30 of these dedicated people were working New Year's eve and New Year's day, trying to help our local folk.

First Baptist Church, Elba, with pastor Michael Woodham, has hosted these workers during the daytime, providing office space and a dining area. Cathy, George and the people of Elba First fed this group for the first few days. Kaye has enlisted others to provide the noon meal for them since then. They are being housed at the Vineyard, where our vineyard staff provides them a nice place to sleep and hot morning and evening meals. They started work while the water was still going down and while the rain was still falling.

Eanon, to my knowledge, is the only church within our association that was flooded. As soon as this congregation could get to their church, they got busy and tore out the carpet and wall board. They have been meeting at the Vineyard's chapel.

Our Association Disaster Relief Committee met and talked about things that we should do. Kaye sent an email to all pastors in their behalf, about receiving an offering to help Eanon recover and to use overage money for other things they deemed necessary. This group wanted to support ROCC, help this church, and enable some of our local workers in their relief efforts. They are Dean Craig, Chair, Jimmy Clark, William Griffin, Ray Helms, Lynda Berry, and Ricky Snellgrove. They urged volunteers to go through the volunteer reception site in Elba unless they had been trained to work with our Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.

The number of people's homes actually flooded turned out not to be nearly as many as we feared. Thank God and thank all of the people who helped!

Recovery for some will be a long, drawn out process. How good it is to have people committed to the recovery!
 How wonderful to have so many volunteers wanting to help.

I thank the Lord for the blessings!

Let us continue to pray for our friends and neighbors in distress and help in whatever ways we are able.

Calendar of Events

January

- 26 - Bi-Vocation Ministers' Meeting—6:30 p.m.
- 26 - Senior Adult Luncheon—11:00 a.m.
- 28 - Ministers' Meeting—10 a.m.
- 29 - Deacon Training - 6:30 p.m.
- 30 - Single Adult Bowling 6:30—9:00 p.m.

February

- 04 - Vineyard Work Day - 8 a.m. Mtg.-3 pm
- 08-14 - Focus on WMU
- 10 - Inter-Baptist Lunch—12 noon at CCBA
- 23 - Bi-Vocation Ministers' Meeting—6:30 pm
- 25- Ministers' Meeting - 10 a.m. at CCBA
- 29 - March 01 - State Evangelism Conf. at First Baptist Montgomery

Scholarships Available

It is time to apply for the **Bernard/ Lee Scholarship**. Go online to Alabama Baptist Foundation to find the application form. **The A.L. Strozier Scholarship** application can be picked up at the CCBA office. If you need more information, call our office. Your MUST be going into Christian Ministry or Nursing to apply.

MINISTERS' MEETING is January 28 at 10 a.m. Rick Barnhart will discuss church legal issues regarding Homosexual Marriage. Make plans to attend.

Senior Adult Luncheon
 January 26 at 11:00 a.m.
 Meet at McLins Restaurant

Samford Extension Schedule
Spring Semester Term A:
January 18—March 07

Course of Study:

Revelation

Instructor: Rev. Nathan Sims
 Pastor of First Baptist
 New Brockton

Term B:

March 21—May 09

Course of Study:

Biblical Foundations

Instructor: TBA

For more information call:

Dr. James Preachers
 334-489-4101

Deacon Training
January 29, 2016

6:30 p.m. at

Basin Baptist

Please mark your calendar, let all deacons know of this very important time of training. It will be well worth the time invested in attending.

Please RSVP by calling
 894-6411

No later than
January 25th.

Mark your calendar for.....

Inter-Baptist Luncheon

February 10 at 12 noon
 CCBA Center

Bi-vocation Ministers' Meeting

January 26 at 6:30 p.m.
 Coffee Baptist Center
 Come join us!



Coffee Cakes

Nan and Ken Roth of New Hope Baptist Church are shown with some of the delicious cakes and other goodies collected on December 07 for the Alabama Baptist Children's Home. This is a ministry that has spanned 88 years beginning in 1927 with a group of ladies in Mt. Pleasant Baptist. Total items collected this year for Group Homes and Foster Care were 572. THANKS SO MUCH to all who gave!