

Come Together..... Right Now..... Over ME.

Simmons 1st Annual Moderator's Day was a success

by Sherrolyn G. Duffy, Simmons College of Kentucky

Do you remember the lyrics to the old song "Come Together", by The Beatles? If you're not afraid of revealing your age and answer, "yes", you'll also remember how strange and incomprehensible they were.

"He roller-coaster he got early warning
He got muddy water he one mojo filter
He say one and one and one is three
Got to be good-looking 'cause he's so hard to see
Come together right now over me"

The only part of the song that made any sense, at least to me, was the last line of each verse, "come together, right now, over me". In a world full of divisions, factions, sects, parties, camps, and denominations, it's a message that we can't hear enough.

The General Association of Baptists in Kentucky District Moderators, know the importance of coming together as a unified body for Christ, and they exhibited it on Monday, April 24th, by accepting Simmons College of Kentucky's president, Dr. Kevin W. Cosby's invitation to commune there. The 1st Annual Moderator's Day, which will be held by Simmons every fourth Monday of April, was initiated by President Cosby as a means of information sharing and partnership fostering. "I want to keep the leadership of the state informed of Simmons' progress and the opportunities available for networking with Simmons", he noted. "I want them to help Simmons, help them."

Before hearing a powerful message from Dr. H. D. Cockerham in the chapel service, Dr. Cosby described some of the benefits of partnering with Simmons:

- Simmons will assist in certifying classes offered by member districts/churches.
- The "Simmons Without Walls" program will offer 16 workshops throughout the year for member districts/churches.
- Simmons will provide access to valuable resource materials- "The Simmonade", a quarterly subscription based newsletter designed for pastors, sermon tapes and books by leading ministers, etc. – Moderators will receive free sermon tapes and a free subscription to "The Simmonade".

- Simmons will host an annual church growth conference- P.H.A.T. (Promoting High Achieving Tabernacles). Moderators will attend at no cost.
- Simmons will be open as a fully accredited institution, equal to Georgetown University, or Campbellsville University.
- Simmons will provide the most affordable faith-based college education in Kentucky that will be sensitive to the African-American Baptist church experience
- Simmons will train workers to build healthy vibrant churches through the teachings of some of America's premier experts in church growth; the African-American Baptist church experience; youth, men, women, music and Christian education ministries.

After chapel service, the moderators and their wives were treated to lunch in Simmons' Garden of Eatin Café, and were presented parting gifts. "I think the meeting was quite successful and will yield positive results. ", Dr. Cosby optimistically stated.

Rev. Lincoln Bingham, senior pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville, addressed the Kentucky Baptist Convention in February of this year and gave them these relevant and timeless words of wisdom. "We need to understand God's plan of both vertical and horizontal reconciliation. The vertical level involves all of the body of Christ recognizing that we're all one in Christ and Christ is not divided. Then we can network to bring this lost world to Jesus Christ."

This is exactly what Dr. Cosby hopes to do with God's help. Simmons plans to continue to develop mutually beneficial partnership and networking opportunities for all who desire to come together.....right now.....over Christ!

For information on how you can partner with Simmons College of Kentucky, please contact Joseph R. Sams: Phone - 502-776-1443 Ext. 47 or Email - jsams@simmonscollegeky.com.