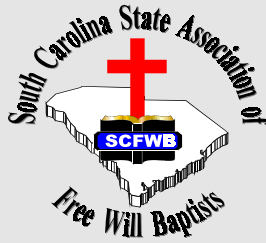


THE



# INFORMER

The Informer is the official bi-monthly publication of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists.

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JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 2002 (843) 662-5010. Email: Mike@scfwb.com

## A MILLION \$\$\$ Glory!

Generous South Carolina Free Will Baptists contributed over a Million Dollars to the work of God in our State and around the World through the South Carolina Plan of Support in 2001. Praise the Lord. **The final figure topped out at \$1,007,556.74** (Excuse me but “Glory” again!). Contributors came from every conference in our State and from almost every Church. Also included were a number of individuals and even several churches of other denominations ( A complete list is found later in this paper). Thank the Lord for each of you who gave, keep up the good work.

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**The 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST will convene FEBRUARY 21-22, 2002 at PEACE FWB CHURCH, Spartanburg, S. C.**

Delegates will decides important issues, hear numerous reports, approve budgets, elect officers, renew old friendships, and hear some great preaching on our Theme this year, “A Call to Holiness”. Rates and Phone numbers of local Hotels are listed on the back page.

**The General Board** (see Page 7 for the members and their duties) **will meet Wednesday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at Peace FWB Church.** All boards and committees present their reports to this board for approval before being presented at the State Meeting. Everyone is invited to attend the General Board Meeting.

HOW THE FUNDS WERE DISPERSED.	
Foreign Missions	\$345,878.91
National Home Missions	\$107,624.54
State Home Missions	\$66,554.46
Woman Active for Christ	\$44,289.18
Children's Home	\$116,849.84
FWB Bible College	\$65,722.96
Southeastern College	\$25,092.60
SCFWB Promotional Office	\$70,571.02
Paula Jones Medical	\$22,963.28
Other Designated Missions	\$34,067.00
TEAM Summer Missionaries	\$13,221.06
Travis Poston Land Fund- India	\$23,433.00
India Food, Bikes	\$12,853.00
S C Conf Mission Conf	\$9,186.24
Other State Ministries	\$13,771.05
Other National Ministries	\$8,353.94
Combs Brazil Children's Home	\$27,124.66
<b>TOTAL GIFTS</b>	<b>\$1,007,556.74</b>

## SOUTH CAROLINA PLAN OF SUPPORT GIVERS - 2001

Thank You for giving so that God's work in South Carolina and around the world could continue to spread the Gospel. **YOU** are a vital link in God's Plan and Program.



Pastor Jackie Creech,  
Horse Branch



Pastor Donnie Miles,  
Peace



Pastor Mike Creech,  
First Florence

		New Town, Lake City 15217	- 6,672.50	WNAC Whitney	- 1,904.32
Horse Branch, Turbeville	64,308.46	Arcadia, Arcadia 15070	- 6,589.00	Olanta, Olanta 22602	- 1,900.00
Peace, Florence 10699	41,939.00	Myrtle Beach First	- 6,495.00	WNAC ED Gilead	- 1,800.00
Florence First 15177	38,751.28	Columbia Original 31968	- 5,800.50	WNAC CD Mt Ariel	- 1,770.00
Westside, Johnsonville 15240	37,840.01	Low Country, Goose Creek	- 5,617.33	Lynches River, Coward	- 1,712.50
Bethany, Timmonsville 15166	32,925.50	Evergreen, Conway 40666	- 5,510.00	WNAC High Point 28601	- 1,642.00
Gilead, Lake City 15206	31,307.10	Jefferson Road, Sumter 15185	- 5,437.50	Victory, Andrews 29787	- 1,610.73
Temple, Darlington 15186	27,820.31	Mt Ariel, Conway 15132	- 5,350.00	Central Association	- 1,497.45
Sand Hill, Coward 15228	27,066.70	Greenville First 9307	- 5,315.00	Landmark, Anderson	- 1,480.00
Lebanon, Effingham 15211	23,409.33	Enoree First FWB	- 5,280.00	New Vision, Rock Hill 24570	- 1,456.08
White Savannah, Conway 15144	23,179.54	Faith, Darlington 15173	- 5,197.24	WNAC SCD BLACK RIVER	- 1,422.00
Fairview, Spartanburg 15083	20,175.73	MEMORIALS	- 4,934.00	WNAC SCD Peace	- 1,370.00
Liberty, Lancaster 50234	19,197.00	S C State Association	- 4,930.00	Greer First, Greer	- 1,339.52
Darlington First 1476	19,024.00	St John, Patrick 29317	- 4,820.71	WNAC SCD Mt Elon	- 1,303.10
Cornerstone, Whiteville 45923	18,911.30	FWB Bible, Darlington 15167	- 4,710.00	Charleston First 15202	- 1,294.07
Parkway, Spartanburg 29057	17,269.25	Freedom, Ladson	- 4,249.80	New Prospect, Pamplico 39675	- 1,280.00
Mill Branch, Johnsonville 15152	16,542.16	Damascus, Conway 40645	- 4,110.00	ELIM BAPTIST CHURCH	- 1,188.00
Inman First 15092	16,249.00	Liberty, Manning 15213	- 3,877.49	Eastside, Florence 15200	- 1,162.00
New Life, Lancaster 28606	15,014.64	WNAC SCD Temple	- 3,542.24	New Life, Conway	- 1,150.00
Victory, PA	14,449.42	Converse, Spartanburg 15079	- 3,509.32	Greenwood First 15237	- 1,115.00
Whitney, Spartanburg 15117	14,127.00	Liberty, Orangeburg 12575	- 3,478.13	Hillside, Florence 15150	- 1,105.00
Southside, Darlington 15114	14,062.49	HM Northgate, Greer	- 3,427.98	Rains, Rains 15141	- 1,096.96
Beulah, Pamplico 15192	13,986.02	Hamlet First 48904	- 3,361.52	EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH	- 1,088.00
High Point, Lancaster 15101	12,940.82	Happy Home, Andrews 15148	- 3,235.00	WNAC Fairview 22553	- 1,060.00
Tabernacle, Coward 15230	12,520.00	Kingtree First 32252	- 3,150.00	Una, Una	- 1,050.00
FREEDOM, LANCASTER	11,861.36	WNAC SCD Darlington First	- 3,113.94	MARANATHA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	- 1,046.98
North Spartanburg, Inman 15096	11,583.38	Little Star, Johnsonville 15130	- 2,870.00	Lesslie, Rock Hill 19090	- 1,029.00
Immanuel, Santee 11019	11,126.79	0 Eastern Conference	- 2,855.36	WNAC Parkway	- 1,005.00
POSTON, TERRY-CYNTHIA	10,900.00	New Vision, Johnsonville 10698	- 2,699.46	Beaver Creek Association	- 1,000.00
Mt Trolly, Galivants Ferry 15134	10,880.00	HM Southside, Aiken 47364	- 2,675.18	HANNA, BRENDA KAY	- 1,000.00
St John, Scranton 50589	10,464.70	WNAC Chester	- 2,663.54	MIRACLE MINISTRY	- 1,000.00
Bay Branch, Timmonsville 15164	10,145.00	Hartsville First 15178	- 2,472.42	SHELLEY, ROBERT	- 1,000.00
Mt Elon, Pamplico 15215	9,856.07	Salem, Scranton	- 2,469.09	WNAC SCD SAND HILL	- 978.00
Grace, Lake City 15209	9,672.85	Valley Falls, Spartanburg 15116	- 2,421.00	Bethesda, Camden 31261	- 845.00
Black River, Andrews 15194	8,883.59	Jones, Mike	- 2,340.00	WNAC CD Oak Grove	- 830.00
Pamplico, Pamplico 15219	7,920.94	Calvary, Georgetown 15196	- 2,330.00	Palmetto Conference	- 804.00
Little Bethel, Johnsonville 15126	7,827.25	Williams, Zellene	- 2,299.40	Prospect Independent Methodist	- 803.00
South Conway, Conway	7,501.72	Wildwood, Nichols 15734	- 2,280.84	WNAC North Spartanburg	- 786.00
WNAC State	7,462.00	Flowers, Sue 2446	- 2,205.00		
Fellowship, Florence 27684	7,145.35	WNAC, National	- 2,159.91		
Chester First 15087	7,115.72	WNAC SCD Faith	- 2,140.00		
Hickory Hill, Gresham	7,031.75	Midlands, Columbia 11082	- 2,031.25		
		Williams Hill, Hemingway	- 1,922.00		

WNAC SCD Southside	782.00	COX, MICHELLE	200.00	Sunday School Convention	62.00
WNAC Liberty, Lancaster	760.00	Elro & Nancy Driggers	200.00	WNAC SCD New Town, Lake City	60.00
Free Welcome, Conway 15124	727.10	Poole, Bobby-Geneva	200.00	HM Harrisonburg FWB Church	50.00
WNAC SCD Liberty	721.92	WNAC Simpsonville	175.00	WNAC Lockhart	50.00
WNAC CD Little Star	700.00	JONES, BRANDON	175.00	WNAC SCD Lebanon	50.00
WNAC Inman 22551	690.00	WNAC SCD Charleston First	167.00	ALLEN, LEANNE	50.00
EVANS, RICKY	660.00	Canaan, Lancaster	155.00	Ferguson, Jay	50.00
WNAC Valley Falls	620.00	Oak Grove, Galivants Ferry 15139	152.06	Moore, Shelby-Pat	50.00
Cypress Fork, Manning 7305	600.00	Sweet Home, Myrtle Beach 15157	150.00	SCOTT, THERON	50.00
Jones, Tracy	600.00	WNAC Hope, Spartanburg	150.00	Trinity, Wilmington	40.00
WNAC SCD Eastside	583.01	WNAC ED Williams Hill	150.00	WNAC SCD LOWCOUNTRY, CHARLESTON	30.00
WNAC SCD GRACE	538.00	Evans, April- Productions	150.00	GUIMARACS, EDUARDO-ROSANA	30.00
WNAC CD Westside	534.64	WNAC SCD Fellowship	146.00	Lawson, Ernest & Frances	30.00
New Covenant, Spartanburg	500.00	Ivy, Herbert	140.00	Great Commission, Lancaster 18816	25.00
Unity, Johnsonville	500.00	Rock Hill Mission Station	130.00	Brown, Jimmy	25.00
Walker's Chapel, Sumter 21991	500.00	Harmony FWB Church	125.00	EDGE, MITCH	25.00
WNAC CD Myrtle Beach First	500.00	Saverance, Louise	125.00	H R & Martha Brace	25.00
REYNOLDS, LOIS	500.00	Maranatha (Florence 1st)	120.19	Hill, Glenville-Rebecca	25.00
Samuel Hucks	500.00	Bethel, Fort Mill	120.00	Jimmy & Theresa Taylor	25.00
Upright. Ken	500.00	WNAC SCD PAMPLICO	113.24	Johnson, JR-Frances	25.00
WNAC SCD Horse Branch	496.00	Smith, Ansel	110.00	LAMBERT, VERLEE-JAMES	25.00
Pine Grove, Jefferson	450.00	TURNER, I BENNIE	110.00	Reed, Thomas	25.00
WNAC Greenwood	450.00	WNAC SCD BAY BRANCH	106.00	Bright Light, Thomasville	20.00
WNAC SCD BEULAH	429.00	Bethel, Florence	100.00	Beckham, Barbara	20.00
Calvary, Union 15077	428.63	Corner Stone, Manning	100.00	HICKS, WILBUR	20.00
WNAC CD New Life	425.00	Camp Branch, Scranton 15198	100.00	KEEN, DANNY	20.00
WNAC Greenville 18392	400.00	Community, Florence 27427	100.00	LOWERY, LEROY	20.00
Nelson, Todd-Paula	400.00	WNAC BC	100.00	Marlowe, Jodi	20.00
Faith, Smyrna 15353	350.00	WNAC Arcadia	100.00	MCALISTER, RETHA	20.00
Poplar Hill, Hemingway, SC	346.00	Bozeman, Gene-Margaret	100.00	SNOW, STUART	20.00
WNAC SCD	317.47	CREECH, JAKIE-BETTY	100.00	SWEAT, Loren-Kathy	20.00
CANNON, JOEY-SHARON	316.00	Driggers, Keith-Judy	100.00	Tucker, George	20.00
WNAC Canaan	315.00	Foster, Kevin-Kimberly	100.00	WELCH, BRIAN-JENNIFER	20.00
WNAC New Life, Lancaster	315.00	Hancock, Mark-Serena	100.00	Mathis, Doug 49881	15.00
Ministers Conference	300.00	HYMAN, HERMAN-PATSY	100.00	MEDIA COMMISSION	14.00
Pee Dee, Conway 15145	300.00	LEE, SHERWOOD-VADA	100.00	Southside, Gaffney 29736	10.00
WNAC ED Mill Branch	300.00	Marotta Dennis & Linda	100.00	BAXLEY, RANAE	10.00
WNAC SCD Immanuel	300.00	Morgan, Arris	100.00	EDGE, MIKELL	10.00
Jones, Ronnie-Bonnie	300.00	OAK GROVE FWB Ch, Atkins, AR	100.00	FORLINES, JAMES	10.00
POSTON, JUANITA	300.00	Serghides, Antonios-Virginia	100.00	KELL, JONATHAN	10.00
POSTLEWAITE, JOEY	285.00	STEELEY, Viva	100.00	STRICKLAND, JACK-CYNTHIA	10.00
True Life Association	250.00	Stewart, Terry/Wanda	100.00	Langston, Patti	5.00
IN ONE ACCORD	250.00	Vause, Terry-Lynn	100.00	Paula Jones Medical Offering	15,452.59
Vause Circle, Bethany FWB Church	250.00	YARBOROUGH, DALE	100.00	S C Conference Mission Conference	24,157.00
Mullins-Marion, Mullins 15136	240.00	AYCOCK, DAVID	90.00	TOTAL	\$1,007,556.74
Dunbar, Galen	220.00	Socastee, Socastee 49481	75.00		
Jones, Paula	215.00	WNAC Lesslie	75.00		
AUSTIN, Terry-Mona	200.00	Peace, Spartanburg	65.00		

**WOMAN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST NEWS:**

- The Central District/ Eastern District WAC will meet Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at Little Star FWB Church, Johnsonville. This year's theme is "Abiding in the Vine- Producing Fruit that will last".
- The South Carolina Conference District WAC will meet Saturday, Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> at Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico.
- The Beaver Creek WAC will meet Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Valley Falls FWB Church, Spartanburg.

**The State WAC will meet Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at Peace FWB Church in Florence.** This year's theme will be "For such a Time as this" (Esther 4:14). Mrs Gwen plans to be at the meetings and she is looking forward to one of the best State Meetings ever. She wants to THANK each of you for your prayers and support during her sickness.

**Dr Christopher Jackson became the Pastor of First FWB Church, Simpsonville in January.** He entered the ministry in November of 1979 and was ordained in 1982. He preached in West Virginia from 1979 -1992 and served as the principal of Beth Haven Christian School from August 1984 until December of 1991. He has also served as pastor in North Carolina and Virginia.



He received his BA degree from Bluefield State College. In January of 1991 he received a D.R.E in Religious Education from Bethany Theological Seminary, Dothan, Ala.

Rev Phillip Tipton assumed the position of Pastor of New Prospect FWB Church, Pamplico on the first Sunday in February. He previously pastored in Florida and Georgia. He has moved into the community already, helped leads some souls to Christ, and looks forward to God continuing to bless this growing Church



Rev Eddie Carter is the new Pastor at New Life FWB Church, Conway. He and his wife did a great job with the special music as the January Central Conference .meeting.



Rev Carl D Barker joined the Central Conference in January. He is beginning a new mission work in Tabor City.



Proud Pastors in India show off the new Motor Bikes purchased by South Carolina Churches

**Central Conference Evangelism Conference will be March 14-15, 2002 at Evergreen FWB Church, Conway (Pastor Billy Poe Jones).** Special Speaker will be Rev Rick Bowling with help from several ministers from the Central Conference. The Conference hopes this will be the beginning of an annual event like this.

**ROLL CALL SUNDAY- EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2002.** Make your Plans for your biggest day ever!



The Mass Choir of First FWB Church, Chester helped make Carolina Camp Meeting another Great success this year.



Temple FWB Church gave the State Promotional Office the funds for a new Digital Camera. GLORY!



The Rainy, Icy Weather hindered many people from attending (including the special singers) but it could not dampen the warmth of affection generated by the congregation of First FWB Church of Greenville as they celebrated the **35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rev Bobby Bowers as their pastor**. Testimonies by Brother Bobby's former Pastor (Rev Jack Millwood), friends in the church, state leaders, and his own family brought tears to eyes and joy to hearts.

The Impromptu special music sounded as if it had been part of the program for months. A special presentation by the Church Board (including a monetary gift for Brother Bobby and wife, Joyce) led into a powerful message by Pastor Bobby. A Fellowship meal followed.



Brother Bobby has served in many conference, state, and national positions while leading the First FWB Church of Greenville from mission status into a full time work. Recent renovations have brought excitement to the congregation and even more room for growth and we look forward to God continuing to bless this church.

As far as we have been able to determine, Brother Bobby has the longest tenure at his church of any Free Will Baptists pastor in South Carolina (35 years).

## HISTORY OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA



Rev John Wilson  
1790 - 1869

S C Historical Commission Chairman,  
National Historical Commission Board Member,  
Rev Joe McKnight



**John T. Wilson** was one of the early leaders of the Free Will Baptist movement in South Carolina. The 1850 Census of Darlington County states that John T. Wilson, son of Augustin Wilson, was born on August 10, 1789, in North Carolina. He moved with his family to Sumter County, South Carolina, in 1808. The area of Sumter County where they lived is now the Hebron community of Williamsburg County. On June 5, 1812, he married Ruth Ellis, who was born in North Carolina in 1795.

The first official record of John Wilson was a sworn affidavit of March 17, 1817, concerning an altercation in which Jesse Wilson's ear was bitten off. Apparently, John Wilson's statement was an affirmation that Jesse Wilson had lost his ear in a fight. At the time, slaves or indentured servants who had escaped and been recaptured sometimes had an ear cut off for punishment and for purposes of identification. Therefore such a statement would vitally important to Jesse Wilson in later years.

On January 4, 1831, John Wilson bought 490 acres of land in Darlington County, from William Y. Fryer, "said land bordered by lands of Thomas J. Flinn and Eliza. E. Flinn, and on Jeffreys Creek." The land is located at what is now Wilson's Cross Roads, in the High Hill section of Darlington County. On March 6, 1837, he received a land grant of 657 acres from the State of South Carolina.

The picture accompanying this article is said to be that of John Wilson. Though it is not clear, it does give an idea of his appearance. **But it also creates a mystery. What is the triangle-shaped medal pinned to his coat?** Where, and how, would he have gotten such a medal? In the next issue, we will examine John T. Wilson's ministry and his reputation as a man whose prayers could end a drought.

Summer Missionary, Lori Bowers (First FWB Greenville) recently shared her burden about ministering in Puerto Rico this Summer with the Beaver Creek Conference. The Conference promptly designated \$300 to her account; which was soon followed by another pledge of \$300 from the Beaver Creek Minister's Fellowship. Glory!



Lori Bowers

**BIBLE READERS:** (Romans 10:17) *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* Many Churches in our State encourage their members to read through the Bible each year. This is a great program and will produce eternal benefits. Below are some Churches that had Special programs to promote Bible Reading.



The **Teens of UNITY FWB CHURCH**, Johnsonville decided to read the entire Bible in 24 hours! They began on Friday Night at 7:00pm and someone continuously read scripture in the sanctuary of the church until they had read the entire Bible (Yes, even all those hard names). Pastor Mikell Edge is excited about the long term positive impact this will have on the teens of the Church



This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year **UNA FWB CHURCH**, Spartanburg had their "Through the Bible Club". Pictured to the left are the group of faithful Believers who followed Pastor Ken Cash's example of reading the Scriptures through in 2001.

The Una church is looking forward this year to a big day on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, when Pastor Ken Cash will celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as pastor of the Church and they will break ground for their new Church Building!

**First FWB Church, Kingstree** sponsors an "All 66 Bible Club" each year to encourage people to read through the entire Bible.



This years readers included Eric Adams, Laura Adams, Violet Davis, Betty Green, Billy Harrelson, Lila Harrelson, Juanita McClary, Lynnette Morris, Jean Ann Mouson, Inez Mouzon, Rev Wayland Owens, Jims Snipes, Jr., and Sara Snipes.



Pastor Wayland Owens presents Laura Adams a Plaque for her first year as member of the "66 Club".

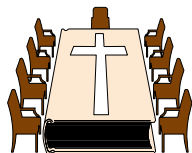


Your State Promotional Director had the privilege of presenting plaques to **the yearly Bible Readers at Immanuel FWB Church, Santee**. Mr Bob King was the first to finishing reading through the Bible, followed 20 minutes later by his wife Sandy King. They then proceeded to read it all the way through 2 more times in 2001. One of those times Brother Bob read it to Mrs Viola Rock (seated) whose eyesight will not allow her to read extensively (Glory!). This year was the first time these 3 ever read the Bible all the way through.

Other Readers were Betty Wilt, Pastor Herman Hyman, Patsy Hyman, Margaret Davis, and Bill Davis.

**GENERAL BOARD:** Several People have asked the question, “Who is on the General Board and what do they do?” Below is the section about the General Board from our State Constitution and a listing of the present members of the Board as listed in the 2001 State Minutes.

**Section 4. General Board**



a. Composition. This board will consist of one member from each conference association, in the State Association, preferably the member would be the current moderator or assistant moderator of the local conference/association, but not limited to him. Each conference/association will select its board member and forward his name to the State Nominating Committee for presentation to the State Body for election. Board members are to serve two year terms. This election will be arranged to coincide with the election of board

directors.

b. Duties. The General Board will meet annually at an appointed time and place the day prior to the beginning of the State Association. The State Moderator will preside over the sessions. The board will be responsible for hearing reports to be given to the State Body, which concern the State Association’s ministry. The board will approve all reports, recommendations and budgets and recommend them to the State Body for its consideration. The board will have the opportunity to make inquires and to offer suggestive helps to any standing committee function or board-supervised ministry. The board member will be the representative of his people to the State Association. He can convey the feelings and wishes of his people to the Executive Committee and the General Board about matters relating to the State Association and its ministries. When needed they can make motions relative to their concerns, and if passed by a majority vote of the General Board and Executive Committee, the matter will be given to the State Body for its consideration. In the event an issue arises, calling for action by the State Association while out of session, the Executive Committee can convene with the General Board for their consultation, input, and recommendation for the decision making of the Executive Committee.

<b>Present General Board Members:</b> (All terms expire this year)		
Danny Keen- Beaver Creek	Billy Baker- Central	Ricky Evans- Eastern
Tony Hargett- Great Commission	Daggett Duncan- Palmetto	Phil Lemmons- True Life
Leroy Lowery- South Carolina		

<b>Executive Committee Members:</b> (All Terms expire this year)		
Sherwood Lee- South Carolina	“Buddy” Seay, Jr- Central	Todd Smith- Eastern
Joe McKnight- South Carolina	James Sanders- Beaver Creek	

<b>Field Directors:</b>		
Home Missions: Earl Hendrix (BC)	Youth Camp: Donnie Miles (SC)	Church Training: Todd Parish (SC)
Poston Baggett : Billy Poe Jones (CA)	Master’s Men: A C Allen (SC)	



**HICKORY HILL FWB Church,** Gresham has made several steps forward recently. A new (to them) 15 passenger bus was recently purchased. A new Sign on busy Hwy 378 was erected. And a new fence and drive way were installed. Pastor Frankie Sedgewick is very excited about what God is doing in this Church for the cause of Christ.



**Pews for Sale**

20 @ 13’6”  
 2 @ 14’6”  
 1 @ 15’6”  
 4 @ 4’

Burgundy fabric / good condition

---

**Contact Ron Moore**  
**843-667-6285**



The Executive Committee voted to recommend 48-year-old Oklahoma moderator **Keith Burden as executive secretary for the National Association of Free Will Baptists.** Reverend Burden pastors First FWB Church in Locust Grove, Oklahoma, and serves as National Association clerk.

Burden was one of three candidates interviewed during the Executive Committee's December 5-6 meeting after the Leadership Conference in Nashville. The four-step procedure to elect the executive secretary now moves to step three as the Executive Committee prepares to recommend the Oklahoma pastor to the General Board at the July 2002 national convention in Memphis.

If the General Board concurs with the Executive Committee's decision, that board will then recommend Burden to convention delegates. The executive secretary will be elected by a majority vote of National Association delegates.

Brother Burden is a 1976 graduate of Hillsdale FWB College. He completed 12 hours at the Free Will Baptist Bible College Graduate School by 1989 when the school closed. He earned a master's degree at Moody Bible Institute Graduate School in 2001.

Burden has pastored for 26 years—22 years in Oklahoma and four in California. He has served five churches: First FWB Church, Holdenville, OK (1975-77), First FWB Church, Locust Grove, OK (1997-80, 1995-present), Harmony FWB Church, Fresno, CA (1980-84), West Tulsa FWB Church, Tulsa, OK (1984-87), First FWB Church, Ada, Oklahoma (1987-99).

He was elected moderator of the Oklahoma State Association in October 2000. He previously served 15 years as clerk of the Oklahoma State Association and 18 years as assistant clerk of the National Association.

Keith and Debbie Burden have two children, Jennie (24) and Katie (17). Debbie, daughter of Rev. Jerry Dudley, also graduated from Hillsdale. She is a church pianist and children's choir director. Debbie served seven years on the Hillsdale College Board of Trustees and is a leader in Oklahoma Women Active for Christ.

**The Sunday School and Church Training Board named 34-year-old Ron Hunter as general director** during their December 2001 board meeting in Nashville. The Florida native comes on staff March 1 and will serve as general director-elect alongside Dr. Alton Loveless until August 15 when Loveless retires.



Reverend Hunter is executive pastor at Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville and creative director for the denomination's Media Commission. He was licensed to preach in 1984 and later ordained by the North Florida Association.

Hunter is completing his MPA (Master of Public Administration) degree at Tennessee State University. He is a 1989 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He also completed a Military Science Program at Vanderbilt University as well as other extensive military training—U.S. Army Jump School, Air-Assault School; Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare School and more.

His denominational experience includes 11 years in the pastorate in Florida and Tennessee, chairman of the Florida C.E. Board, assistant clerk of the Florida State Association, Mission Board Chairman (Indian River Association) and state camp board member. He serves as layout and designer for the Florida state paper (*The Coordinator*).

Brother Hunter brings a broad range of media and marketing skills to his new position. He was an owner-partner in the Advertising Agency, Inc., a full-service advertising agency. He also served as a news print advertising consultant and as an account executive with WTLH FOX 49. Earlier, he served as hub supervisor for United Parcel Service. He was an academic All-American in high school.

Ron and Pam Hunter have been married 14 years. They have two children—Michael (8) and Lauren (6).

<b>MOTELS FOR STATE ASSOCIATION of FREE Will Baptists</b> Feb 21-22, 2002	Motel 6 (I-85- Exit 78)	Single \$29.99, Double \$35.99	864-573-6383
	Holiday Inn Express (Exit 78)	\$59 Special Rate	864-577-9080
	Fairfield Inn (I-85, Exit 75)	\$49 Special Rate	864-699-0000
Tell Motel you are with SCFWB and also mention AARP or AAA if you have them			