

THE



JAN - FEB
2003

INFORMER

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

Address all correspondence to

Rev Mike Jones P O Box 13266, Florence, SC 29504

(843) 662-5010 Email: Mike@scfwb.com

STATE ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING PRODUCES SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Good Preaching, good singing, good fellowship, good food, and a good spirit of cooperation. All of these describe the 61st annual session of the State Association of Original Free Will Baptists, Inc.. In fact, everything went so well until all of the Constitutional changes were presented and passed, all of the state reports were given, and several of the National Reports were all given by dismissal time on Thursday- Glory! God is doing a great work among South Carolina Free Will Baptists and it is wonderful to be part of a denomination on the move for God.

A special word of THANKS to the South Carolina Conference; and especially to Peace FWB Church, for providing the Noon Meals each day as well as refreshments after the Thursday Night Service. Pastor Donnie Miles and his staff are to be commended for their work. Next year's meeting (Feb 26-27, 2004) is scheduled to be with the Beaver Creek Conference and we are already anticipating God's Blessings.

Here are some **HIGHLIGHTS** of this year's State Meeting:

>Members of the State seemed happy with the work of the present leadership as they reelected most officers to succeed themselves (They are listed on Page 2).

>Annual Church Dues to the State Association beginning in 2004 were increased to **\$165 per church** due to the \$50 per church increase mandated by the National Association. Local Conferences will need to address this at their next meeting so they will have the funds available by the next State Meeting.



National Executive Secretary, Rev. Keith Burden, chats with Bruce Kimbrel during a break

>State Field Directors will now serve a Five Year term instead of Two year terms and will be allowed to serve successive terms. Partial terms will no longer count toward the term limit of a person serving on the various boards.

>An Extra Member at Large was added to the Executive Committee. Now the Executive Committee will have a Member at Large representative from the Upper Part of the State and one from the Lower part of the State.

>CTS is now called the State Youth Conference (to conform to the name used by the National Association). They will now elect and install their officers at their annual convention without having to wait for approval of their choices some 9 months later at the State Associational Meeting. The State Youth Conference Director will still give a report to the Annual State Meeting to keep everyone informed of the activities and successes of the State Youth Conference.

[Continued on Page 2]



National Home Mission Director, Rev Larry Powell, challenges delegates during the Thursday Night Service



State Moderator, Rev Sherwood Lee, watches at the "Music Ministers" bless hearts with their special music [l-r: Rev Jeremy Riggs, Rev Todd Parrish, Rev Darin Miles, Rev Jonathan Kell]



Pastor Larry McAlister prepares to "Tame the Lion" during the Friday Morning Message.

Attendance:
Ministers...96
Delegates...30
Visitors.....31
Total:.....157

(Continued from Front Page)

>The temporary Historical Commission was dissolved and replaced by a State Historian. Rev. Joe McKnight will serve the first five year term in this position.

>Each Conference is now asked to nominate a delegate to the annual National Associational Meeting to serve as the Delegates from the South Carolina State Association of Originak Free Will Baptists, Inc.. The name of this delegate needs to be sent to State Clerk, Rev. Todd Smith, no later than June 1st of each year.

>The General Board Member to the National Association will now be the State Executive Secretary.

>The Constitution and By-laws will now be printed annually as part of the printing of the state minutes.

>The Poston-Baggett Student Loan Fund board was dissolved and the fund was transfered to the Free Will Baptist Bible College. The FWBBC will administer the fund with the State Treasurer acting as Liaison between the State Association and the Bible College. The State Treasurer will report on this fund annually at the State Associational Meeting. Guidelines for the use of this fund will be published later and churches will be encouraged to actively participate in contributing to this fund in order to help students from South Carolina obtain a quality Christian Education.

>The Postition of Master's Men Field Director was eliminated.

>The Terms of all members of the State Home Mission Board were extended until 2004 when they will begin a rotation schedule alphabetically according to Conference.

>In order to maintain an odd number on the Children's Home Board a member at large was added. Rev Eddie Hinson was elected to serve in this position.



Ministers and Delegates enjoy the new Sanctuary at Peace FWB Church, Florence, SC.

SC HOME MISSION Board

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Earl Hendrix ----- | Director |
| Tim Hackett ----- | BC |
| Theron Scott ----- | CA |
| Larry McAlister ----- | EC |
| Daggett Duncan ----- | PC |
| Robert Rose ----- | SC |



Bill Evans
FWB Retirement



Ron Hunter
Director, Randall
House Publishing



James Forlines
Director, FWB
Foreign Missions



Matt Pinson
President, FWB
Bible College

It was a great joy this year to have almost all of the leaders from the various departments in Nashville to attend our State Meeting. We appreciate the reports they gave and the help they rendered during our meeting (Executive Secretary, Keith Burden and Home Mission Director, Larry Powell are pictured on Front Page).

2003 STATE OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Moderator | Sherwood Lee (SC) |
| Assistant Moderator | Buddy Seay (CA) |
| Clerk | Todd Smith(BC) |
| Assistant Clerk | Marty Cox (CA) |
| Treasurer | Joe McKnight (SC) |
| Assistant Treasurer | Wayne Snipes (EC) |
| Member at Large (Lower State) ... | Doug Mathis (EC) |
| Member at Large (Upper State) | James Sanders (BC) |

FIELD DIRECTORS

Home Missions:
Earl Hendrix (BC)

State Youth Board:
Richard Conyers (BC)

SPECIAL NEED:

Una FWB Church (Pastor Kenneth Cash) recently built a new sanctuary. As the project came to a close the builder declared bankruptcy and Una Church is unable to occupy their new building although it is almost completed.

South Carolina Free Will Baptists decided to help with this great need by:

1) Receiving a Special Offering at the Thursday Night service to assist this need—\$1095 (Glory!)

2) Ask our churches all across the state to receive a special offering for this need and send it to the State Office designated for the Una Fund.



Tim and Kristi Johnson, Missionaries to Spain, are happy to report that **Hanna Grace Johnson** (“Ana”) was born on January 29th. She weighed 8 pounds and was 20.5 inches long at birth. Everyone is doing fine and “Ana” is already learning how to appreciate spoiling from her Dad and her grandparents!

WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING

Supporting those who support our Missionaries.

Please encourage your church to receive a special offering on Sunday, April 27th for this needed cause.

Who would arrange to pay the taxes and insurance for the missionaries if it were not for the support staff?

Who would help obtain passports and visa and arrange travel schedules if not for the support staff?

Who would provide information for prayer and promotion if it were not for the support staff?

Supporting those who support our missionaries is not taking from the Missionary; it is helping the Missionary to be better able to perform their duties.

Will YOU help this great need?

Help your pastor and his wife visit the growing Free Will Baptist work in CUBA!

Pop and Mom Willey

Just give to the World Missions Offering

Churches giving (undesignated)

\$10,000 or more—The pastor and his wife receive an all-expense-paid trip to Cuba where “Mom” and “Pop” Willey labored and where the work is flourishing. The church receives a beautiful framed picture.

\$5,000 or more—The church receives a beautiful framed gemstone wall map (left) and the pastor receives a nice framed picture of pioneer missionaries.

\$1,000 or more—The church receives a nice framed picture of pioneer missionaries.

Goal: \$200,000

Laura Belle Barnard
World Missions Offering
April 27, 2003

Pastors of churches giving \$1,000 or more and individuals giving \$1,000 or more will be recognized during a special dinner at the 2003 National Association in Tampa, Fla.

Offerings must be received by Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-9998 before June 30 to ensure a reservation for the recognition dinner on Wednesday evening.

NOTE: Individuals may receive recognition gifts and the dinner on the same basis as churches but the offering must be counted apart from the church offering.



NEW PASTORS:

New Vision FWB Church, Hemingway, welcomed Rev Rodney Wilson as their new Pastor on March 9. He comes from a pastorate at Emmanuel FWB Church, Washington, NC

Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham called Rev Chris Fannin as their Pastor on March 2nd. Brother Chris comes from a home mission work in Puerto Rico.



YEARLY BIBLE READERS



Low Country FWB Church "Through the Bible Club" in 2002: (l-r) Becky Kluttz, Dessie Jones, Richard Deshaies, Shirly Granger, Jean Hanna.

This new church has been well accepted and supported by neighbors since its organization. Pastor Phillip Jones wanted to thank each one so it was decided that the best way to do what that was to display a big "Thanks" on the church sign. The "Thanks Neighbors for Supporting Low Country FWB" was displayed during the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.

First FWB Church of Kingstree continued their annual reading of the Bible with these members of their "66 Club" - Doris Brown, Rose Evans, Jim Snipes, Rev Wayland Owens, Oleta Rogers, Eric Adams, Inez Mouzon, Juanita McClary, Ruby George, Lynnette Morris, Siah Mouzon and Jean Ann Mouzon.



l-r: Brenda Cash, Rev Kenneth Cash, Essie Lawter, Judy Lawter, Judy Fowler, Jean Wyatt, Emma Dellinger, Helen Gosnell, Don Rollins



Lila Mae/Vernon Jackson



Betty Revels

Una FWB Church again had a large number of people to join their "Through the Bible Club" in 2002.



True Life Conference News- From Clerk, Rev. John Cody Calvary FWB Church of Gastonia hosted the True Life Youth Conference on Saturday, March 1st with 83 in attendance. Churches represented were Calvary, Gastonia; Mt. Carmel; Gloryland; Cornerstone, Chester; and Heartland. Activities included Sword Drill, Bible games, special song times and outside activities.

Mt. Carmel FWB Church welcomed Missionary Mirial Gainer to speak during their Sunday School hour and provide a special song during their Worship Service on Sunday, March 2nd. Several young people have shown a special interest in the work in Japan and they are raising fund and buying supplies to help the work there.

Missionary Mirial Gainer had eye surgery on March 4th. She is recovering well.

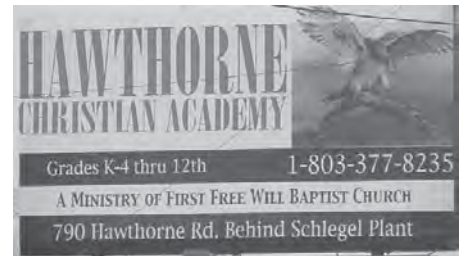


Her March 18th scheduled departure has been postponed until later in the year pending securing of monthly pledges to her account- Presently she needs about \$3000 more in monthly support before she can return to Japan.

Your Prayers and support are appreciated.

Offering for the SCFWB State Office. The State Constitution requires that the Executive Secretary promote a special offering each year for the support and expenses of the State Office. If your church does not regularly support the State Office then you are encouraged to designate a time and receive an offering for the State Office.

Money given to the State Office allows us to publish the "Informer", maintain our website, promote Home and Foreign Missions, operate the many activities of the State Office, visit our churches and conferences, serve as a liaison between South Carolina Free Will Baptists and State and National organizations, and provide Princess Paula with a place to stay and something to eat!



First FWB Church of Chester joined the growing ranks of Free Will Baptist Churches across our state who have Christian Schools when they opened Hawthorne Christian Academy in the Fall of 2002.

Pastor Steward Norris and the congregation of **Cornerstone FWB Church** enjoy worshipping in their newly remodeled Church so much until the Sunday I was there the Sunday School turned into a praise and worship service! The Sanctuary is very attractive with more choir room and beautiful colors. The additional Sunday School rooms added to the rear of the building are also a big help. Just another example of how God is blessing Free Will Baptists with wonderful facilities to help us reach the world for Christ.



What a joy it was to visit in the new facilities of **Fairview FWB Church**. It is so big until you need a map to find your way around (!) but an excellent Sunday School lesson, a professional quality choir, and a great message by pastor Tim



Hackett made it worth the effort. Located on a busy 4 lane road, this church should make a big impact for Christ in the Spartanburg Area.



Socastee FWB Church sponsored a King and Queen election during February in order to raise money for their building fund. Pastor Darren Squires awarded plaques and trophies to everyone who participated and gave special recognition to the winners- Darren Squires, Jr (\$556) and Danielle Squires (\$598). This campaign raised over \$2800 toward the building of some much needed Sunday School Rooms for the Church.

SCFWB Assistant Director, Rickey Evans, has put together; and the State Office has published, a great **Soul Winning Tract** entitled "Are You Ready?". This Tract leads a person step by step through the Plan of Salvation, giving them an opportunity to accept Christ right then, tells them what happens as soon as they accept Christ as Savior, and then tells them the steps that should be taken by a new Christian. Space is also provided for a personal or church stamp.

This could be just what you need to kick your soul winning efforts into high gear- \$10 per hundred, \$9.00 per hundred if ordering as many as 500, \$8.00 per hundred if ordering a thousand or more. Contact your SCFWB Christian Book Store today at (843) 662-8682 or 1-800-319-2346 to place an order.





The **Central Association WAC** held their annual meeting on Saturday, Feb 15th at Oak Grove FWB Church. Guest Speaker was Missionary to Japan, Mirial Gainer. They had an excellent meeting and the new officers (Pictured at left) are excited about continuing their work for the Lord.

Lebanon FWB Church hosted the **South Carolina Conference WAC Meeting** on Saturday, Feb 22. Guest speaker, Mirial Gainer challenged the delegates before installing the new officers (at Right). Lebanon Church had gone all out to prepare for this meeting and the ladies appreciated all the extra attention they received.



The **Beaver Creek Conference WAC** met in the new facilities of Westgate FWB Church on Saturday, March 1st for their annual meeting. They remembered the leadership of Mrs. Gwen Hendrix but determined to continue going forward for the Lord.



Mrs Pam Hackett installs the New BC WAC Officers by telling them to "Build God's Work"

New Officers are- Coordinator: Joyce Bowers, Asst. Coordinator: Sherry Carter, Secretary: Mary Reid, Treasurer: Patty Newton, Mission Action: Brenda Conyers, Mission Prayer: Pam Hackett, Mission Study: Tonya Smith, Field Worker: Donna Putman

**20th Annual ROLL CALL SUNDAY
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2003**

[Call your Conference or Association Moderator AS SOON AS POSSIBLE following the Sunday Morning Service. If you are unable to reach your contact person then phone the SCFWB Executive Secretary (843-661-5395 (Home) or 843-687-4823 (Cell) or email: Mike@SCFWB.Com]. You will need to report:

- 1) Total Attendance
- 2) Total number of First Time Salvation Decisions
- 3) Number of First Time Visitors

Results will be sent to the National Home Mission Department and published on our Website- WWW.SCFWB.Com as soon as possible after receiving the information.

Pastor Mike Gerald and the congregation of **Riverside FWB Church**, Conway are looking forward with great anticipation to begin building their Sanctuary later this year. They are presently meeting in a metal building which has been beautifully remodeled to give them a sanctuary, Sunday School class rooms, and a fellowship building but they are looking forward to having a "real" church in which to worship in the near future.



The land they have purchased is a beautiful lot with nearly 500 feet of frontage located on busy Highway 90. They plan to incorporate the beautiful live oak trees that presently dot the land into the landscape of the new Church so that this should be a beautiful symbol of Free Will Baptists on the Northeastern side of Conway.



Bible College Offers Student Aid

If a young person you know is considering attending Free Will Baptist Bible College, here are two awards they should know about.

The Legacy Award

The Legacy Award at Free Will Baptist Bible College is available for children of Free Will Baptist pastors. This \$2,500-award is paid at \$1,250 per semester. Students who meet the following criteria may apply:

1. Child of primary pastor of a Free Will Baptist church in the U.S.
2. Lives at home and receives at least 50% of their support from parent(s).
3. Under 24 years of age
4. Will live in one of FWBBC's dormitories.
5. Will enroll for 12 hours or more per semester.

The deadline to receive applications is August 1 for the fall semester and December 1 for the spring semester. To request an application, contact the Financial Aid Office at 1-615-844-5250 or jcaudill@fwbbc.edu.

The Crowell Missions Scholarship

The Crowell Foundation Missions Scholarship is now available for freshman missions students at Free Will Baptist Bible College. This is a \$5,200 scholarship payable at \$650 per semester.

Qualified students must meet the following criteria:

1. Have at least a 3.5 high school GPA.
2. Have a minimum 25 on the ACT.
3. Must be a declared missions major or minor and remain so throughout the duration of the scholarship.
4. Maintain a 3.0 GPA while enrolled at FWBBC.

To apply:

1. Apply for federal aid using the FAFSA.
2. Have your pastor send in a letter of recommendation based on character and leadership skills.
3. Submit a short essay of less than 50 words entitled, "Why I want to be a missionary?"

For more information please contact The FWBBC Financial Aid Office at 1-615-844-5250 or jcaudill@fwbbc.edu.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
ANNUAL MEETING
July 20-24, 2003
Tampa, Florida
**SECURITY REQUIRES
THAT YOU MUST REGIS-
TER AND HAVE A BADGE
TO ATTEND ANY ACTIVI-
TIES THIS YEAR.**

Hotel information and registration forms will be available April 1st. You can also Register online at: www.NAFWB.org

Mrs. Grace Johnson, a member of Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico, left on January 9th for a 2 week mission trip to give out Bibles and minister in south India. She went under the ministry of Revival Fires and planned to work in a Hospital, School, and Orphanage in Trivandrum and

Valacom, South India. Nine other people from various parts of the United States were to meet her in Chicago where they would fly together to India. This is Mrs. Grace's 20th mission trip of this nature and she looks forward to continuing as long as possible.



Pastor Wayland Owens presents Princess Paula the annual Pop Willy Offering check from the First FWB Church, Kingstree to help spread God's word all over the world.

Spring Retreat

**SOUTH CAROLINA
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
STATE YOUTH
RETREAT**
April 4-6, 2003

Age- 12up

Location: Wave Rider Resort (1600 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. Phone (843) 448-1591). Youth Rally and Worship services will be held at the First FWB Church of Myrtle Beach.

Cost- \$89 per Participate \$45 per Sponsor (At least One Adult Sponsor per seven Youth needed)

Youth Retreat Schedule:

Friday, April 4

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Registration at Motel ----- | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. |
| Youth Rally at First F.W.B Church ----- | 8:00 - 9:00p.m. |
| Return to Motel / Change ----- | 9:00 - 10:30 p.m. |
| Laser Tag ----- | 11:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. |
| Return to Motel Rooms ----- | Lights out by 2:00 a.m. |

Saturday, April 5

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Fast Food Breakfast ----- | 8:00 -9:15a.m. |
| Rally at First F.W.B Church ----- | 9:30 -11:00 a.m. |
| Nascar Speedpark (Lunch Provided) ----- | 11:00-2:00 p.m. |
| Free Time / A Walk on Boardwalk ----- | 2:00 -5:00 p.m. |
| Pizza Bash and Rally at First F.W.B. Church | 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. |
| Bowling ----- | 8:00 -10:00 p.m. |
| Return to Motel, Devotions and Lights Out By | 12:00 a.m. |

Sunday, April 6

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Rise / Check out ----- | 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. |
| Breakfast at First F.W.B. Church ----- | 8:30 -9:45 a.m. |
| S.S. and Worship at First F.W.B. Church-- | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. |


Return Home After Worship

Note: Meals are provided from Saturday Breakfast Through Sunday breakfast.

Registration Form available on the Web- WWW.SCFWB.Com, from the SCFWB State Office, or by contacting Retreat Director, Rev Richard Conyers (127 Armory Road, Union, SC 29379) Church: (864) 545-6860, Home: (864) 545-6347

SCFWB YOUTH CAMP BOARD

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Director: ----- | Richard Conyers |
| Todd Parrish -- SC ----- | 2003 |
| B.L. Effird ---- BC ----- | 2004 |
| Cyrus Shoffner SC ----- | 2006 |
| Carroll Bazen -- SC ----- | 2007 |
| Marty Cox ---- BC ----- | 2008 |



Pray for Peace. Pray for protection for those who go into Harm's Way in order that we might dwell in Peace. Pray for the President that he would have peace about the decisions he must make. Pray that many would come to know the peace of God before it is eternally too late.

Prayer works when we work at praying.

