



The Informer is the official publication of the South Carolina State Association of Original 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

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THE 62th ANNUAL SESSION OF THE S. C. STATE ASSOCIATION of ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS, INC. will meet February 26-27, 2004 at the First FWB Church, Greenville, SC. (See Map on Back Page)

The **GENERAL BOARD** will meet Wednesday, Feb 25th at 10:00am in the Sanctuary of First FWB Church, Greenville to hear reports from the various departments. Everyone is invited to this meeting.

The Program for the State Meeting is located on Page 3.



Special Speaker: Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.

Motels:

Fairfield Inn (60 Roper Mountain Road)- \$49

Phone (864) 297-9996

Comfort Inn (831 Congaree Road)- \$39

Phone (864) 288-6221

\$1,015,211.41 in 2003 - GLORY!



Princess Paula presents Pastor Jacob Creech a thank you certificate for leading Horse Branch Church to be the number one giver again in 2003

South Carolina Free Will Baptists gave a RECORD amount of money to the Lord's work through the SCFWB State Office in 2003. Over One Million, Fifteen Thousand Dollars was distributed through the State Office to help the work of God in South Carolina and around the world. THANK YOU for your generous heart and your concern for the work of the Lord.

The Number One giving Church for the second year in a row was Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville.

What a great testimony to the ministry and mission of this great church.

I think it is also noteworthy that the number two giving church (Pastor Lee Patrick and the First FWB Church of Florence) over doubled their giving this year- that ought to be worth a "Glory!" also. (Reports about income and distribution can be found throughout this edition.)

What a great

1. Horse Branch, Turbeville	\$75,363.76
2. First, Florence	\$60,588.82
3. Gilead, Lake City	\$39,997.56
4. Peace, Florence	\$38,996.72
5. Westside, Johnsonville	\$37,908.52
6. Liberty, Lancaster	\$32,900.00
7. Sand Hill, Coward	\$31,873.98
8. Bethany, Timmonsville	\$31,854.50
9. Lebanon, Effingham	\$25,200.13
10. Inman First	\$24,746.20
11. Immanuel, Santee	\$21,965.40
12. Parkway, Spartanburg	\$20,240.33
13. Mill Branch, Johnsonville	\$19,392.41
14. Grace, Lake City	\$17,254.74
15. Cornerstone, Whiteville	\$16,400.00



Tears of sorrow mixed with shouts of victory as the funeral services for **Rev. Belton Laws** were held on Saturday, Dec 27, 2003 at Hope FWB Church, Spartanburg. Brother Belton was the founding Pastor of Hope FWB Church. Previous to his work at Hope Brother Belton was pastor of Una FWB Church in Spartanburg.

Brother Belton is survived by wife, Sylvia; son, Rick; daughter, Denise Rothenburg; four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Johnnie Bullman, Rev. Kenneth Cash, and Rev. Kevin Barnette.

Pray for the family during this time of lost and pray for the Church as they seek God's directions about their future leadership.



Hope FWB Church

2003 SCFWB STATE OFFICE INCOME and EXPENSE

INCOME

Book Store Contribution	\$41,000.00
Benevolent Fund Administration	\$72.00
Interest Income	\$17.52
SC State- Informer Allowance	\$4,800.00
Church Gifts to State Office	\$57,048.06
Salary Gifts to Executive Secretary	\$5,583.59
Mission Trip Income	\$185.00
Women's Aux. Gifts to State Office	\$1,020.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$109,726.17

EXPENSES

Bank Service Charges	\$51.69
National/ Leadership Conference Expense	\$1,163.21
Informer Expense	\$9,649.13
Insurance on Building	\$1,367.00
Office Supplies	\$2,394.30
Payroll Taxes	\$390.92
Plaques/ Gifts to Churches	\$122.43
Postage	\$419.10
Paint - Repair Building	\$1,459.93
Equipment Repair	\$261.34
Distribute to Executive Secretary Salary	\$32,728.41
Secretary Pay	\$3,016.00
Telephone, Internet, Toll Free Phone	\$2,573.46
Meals while traveling	\$115.83
Motels	\$1,370.31
Mission Trip Expense	\$3,000.00
Van Gas	\$1,701.07
Van Insurance	\$810.00
Van Maintenance	\$967.59
Van Tags, Taxes	\$54.91
Electricity	\$1,760.63
Heating Gas	\$928.01
Trash Disposal	\$787.73
Water	\$162.99
Yard Maintenance	\$830.00
Transfer to Assistant Director's Salary	\$35,000.00
Transfer to Book Store Help Salary	\$3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$106,085.99

This leaves approximately \$3000 to operate on until money is distributed again at the end of January, 2004
 Beginning in 2004 the Book Store will attempt to pay all utilities. This will ease a burden on the State Office and cut down on paperwork.

2004 Gifts to the SCFWB STATE Office

Westside, Johnsonville	4,007.33
Horse Branch, Turbeville	3,314.63
Liberty, Lancaster	3,290.00
Mill Branch, Johnsonville	2,982.36
Gilead, Lake City	2,749.26
Tabernacle, Coward	2,600.00
Mt Trolly, Galivants Ferry	2,084.28
Lockhart, Lockhart	2,035.79
Bay Branch, Timmons ville	1,605.00
White Savannah, Conway	1,561.65
High Point, Lancaster	1,537.92
Lebanon, Effingham	1,200.00
Grace, Lake City	1,190.57
Evans, Rickey	1,121.25
North Spartanburg, Inman	1,000.00
Peace, Florence	999.97
Chester First	999.96
Freedom, Madison	939.94
FWB Bible, Darlington	916.66
Little Bethel, Johnsonville	900.00
Florence First	900.00
Fairview, Spartanburg	879.00
South Conway, Conway	875.27
Damascus, Conway	871.30
Kingstree First	850.00

New Prospect, Pamplico	780.00
Sand Hill, Coward	750.00
New Town, Lake City	750.00
Lynches River, Coward	720.00
Southside, Darlington	692.23
Hickory Hill, Gresham	690.00
Jones, Mike	650.00
Hamlet First	625.00
Inman First	625.00
Mt Ariel, Conway	600.00
Evergreen, Conway	600.00
Mullins-Marion, Mullins	600.00
Darlington First	600.00
Greenville First	575.00
Immanuel, Santee	546.61
Faith, Darlington	502.69
Heart Land, Lancaster	500.00
Greenwood First	500.00
Fellowship, Florence	496.92
Bethany, Timmons ville	480.00
Wildwood, Nichols	471.10
Low Country, Charleston	465.95
Victory, Andrews	441.89
Parkway, Spartanburg	400.00
Eastern Conference	400.00

Cornerstone, Whiteville	400.00
Temple, Darlington	387.78
Liberty, Manning	386.69
St John, Scranton	368.60
New Vision, Rock Hill	316.34
Landmark, Anderson	300.00
Beulah, Pamplico	300.00
Victory, PA	300.00
WNAC State	300.00
Pamplico, Pamplico	300.00
Little Star, Johnsonville	300.00
Happy Home, Andrews	300.00
Mt Elon, Pamplico	300.00
Hartsville First	281.29
Black River, Andrews	275.00
New Vision, Hemingway	250.00
Camp Branch, Scranton	240.00
St John, Patrick	225.00
Riverside, Conway	210.00
Grace, Loris	175.00
Charleston First	174.86
Williams Hill, Hemingway	160.00
Converse, Spartanburg	150.00
Jacobs, Arlis	150.00

Because of the generous giving of South Carolina Free Will Baptists- and the excellent managerial work of Rev. Rickey Evans at the FWB Christian Book Store- we were able to pay all salaries from gifts. This means that again this year 100% of your gifts were sent to the designated ministry- Glory!

STATE OFFICE SALARY BUDGETS
Rev Mike Jones Salary Budget- 2004

Total Budget	\$36,000.00
Housing	(\$10,800.00)
Retirement	(\$2,400.00)
Medical	(\$6,000.00)
Federal Tax	(\$4,400.00)
State Tax	(\$400)
Christmas Bonus	(\$500.00)
Salary [\$221.15 Weekly]	\$11,500.00

Rev Rickey Evans Salary Budget - 2004

Total Budget	\$35,000.00
Federal Tax	(\$3,000.00)
State Tax	(\$0.00)
Retirement	(\$1,200.00)
Christmas	(\$500.00)
Housing	(\$9,600.00)
Salary (\$398.08 Weekly)	\$20,700.00

State Office Secretary Budget is \$3,000.00
 [\$10 hour with No Benefits]
 Book Store Help Salary Budget is \$3,000.00
 [\$10 per hour with No Benefits]

Continued on Page 7---

SOUTH CAROLINA PLAN OF SUPPORT REPORT- 2003

INCOME

Beaver Creek Conference	\$168,306.54
Central Association	\$134,447.60
Eastern Conference	\$104,328.75
Palmetto Conference	\$18,229.98
South Carolina Conference	\$499,747.44
True Life Conference	\$3,233.75
SCWAC- Women's Auxiliary	\$56,767.80
Various	\$30,149.75
TOTAL	\$1,015,211.61

DISTRIBUTION- 2003

Rev. Roger Johnson- Medical	\$200.00
TEAM Summer Missionaries	\$3,950.06
SC Conference Mission Conference	\$6,069.21
National Board of Retirement	\$966.79
National Co-op Gifts	\$701.17
NAFWB Foreign Missions	\$376,666.85
NAFWB Home Missions	\$145,223.80
NAFWB Executive Secretary	\$3,884.73
NAFWB Master's Men	\$410.06
Rest of the Family	\$936.69
Carlisle Hanna India Direct	\$52,413.39
FWB Bible College	\$65,044.99
Southeastern Bible College	\$10,892.19
Gateway Christian College	\$1,470.00
Southside, Aiken General Fund	\$53.75
Beaver Creek Bible Institute	\$4,614.65
SCFWB Children's Home	\$127,107.18
Northgate Mission- Rev Chad West	\$4,311.13
SCFWB State Office	\$63,316.65
Immanuel, Santee- Rev H. Hyman	\$3,161.64
Liberty, Orangeburg	\$320.00
Low Country, Charleston	\$100.00
Poston Baggett Loan Fund	\$43.27
SCFWB Home Missions	\$47,257.18
Church Training Service	\$43.27
Youth Camp	\$509.04
Fellowship, Manning- Rev Turner	\$2,728.16
Una Help Fund	\$7,448.18
WNAC Distributions	\$55,592.80
Other Ministries	\$29,774.78
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS	\$1,015,211.61

A couple of **E-TEAM** members have contacted the State Office- David Gibson: Japan and Hannah Postlewaite: Brazil. As soon as we get a complete list we will send your church an informational letter. Meanwhile, would you prayerfully consider a gift to the E-Team members from South Carolina (This will be divided among all members according to need). Simply earmark your Gift SC-ETeam. Some of the money must be in my February 1st and the remainder by April so your help is needed NOW.



Program for the State Association- Feb 26-27, 2004

THURSDAY MORNING, February 26, 2004

- 9:00 Registration
- 9:30 Congregational Song / Scripture/ Prayer
- 9:35 Convention Called to Order- Clerk, **Rev Todd Smith**
Welcome: Host Pastor - **Rev. Bobby Bowers**
Response: Assist. Moderator- **Rev Buddy Seay, Jr.**
Seating of Delegates / Approval of Program
Recognition of Visitors
Recognition of National Representatives / Other Representatives
Appointment of Committee on Committees
Business to be Laid on the Table
- 10:00 State Ministry Reports
- 10:50 Recess
- 11:00 Morning Worship Service
Congregational Singing / Prayer / Special Singing
Message: Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.
- Noon Recess for Lunch

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:00 Congregational Song - Prayer
- 1:05 **Seminar- Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.**
- 2:00 Report of the Committee on Committees
- 2:05 Reports of State Boards and Committees
- 4:00 Recess until Thursday Night Service

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

- 7:30 Congregational Song - Prayer
Special Singing/ Offering for Dr. Gibbs Ministry
Message: Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.
Invitation
Benediction / Recess until Friday Morning

FRIDAY MORNING, February 27, 2004

- 9:00 Congregational Song / Scripture/ Prayer
- 9:05 **Question and Answer Time- Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.**
- 9:55 Recess
- 10:00 National Representatives and Other FWB Representatives
- 11:00 Morning Worship Service
Congregation Song - Prayer
Special Singing
Message: Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.

Noon Recess for Lunch

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:00 Moderator's Message: **Rev. Sherwood Lee**
- 1:15 Business Continued: Items off the Table
General Business
Resolutions Committee Report
Nominating Committee Report
Rising Vote of Thanks to the Host Church and Association
Announcements
- 3:00 Adjournment

The Gwen Hendrix Instituto Biblico Hispano (Hispanic Bible Institute) held its dedication services on Saturday, January 10, 2004 at the First FWB Church of Inman. This is a ministry of the National Home Mission Department to train men who have been called of God to minister to the fast growing Hispanic population.



Services began in the Fellowship Building with a delicious “Fiesta” of traditional Mexican food prepared by the members of the Community Hispanic FWB Church of Una. Then everyone adjourned to the church sanctuary for the dedication service. All of the Pastors and their wives were recognized as well as the members of their church who attended. A letter was read from Governor Mark Sanford expressing appreciation for the Hispanic Institute and other local government officials were recognized.



The First 3 Students

Former Home Mission director, Trymon Messer, was honored for his vision in the beginning work of reaching out to the Hispanic population. Then National Home Mission Hispanic Director, Rick Bowling, was honored for his dedicated work before introducing National Home Missions Director, Larry Powell, to bring the dedication message. Special music was provided by the wife and son of S C Hispanic missionary, Gerardo Rodriguez. Following the message the charge to the 3 beginning students was given by Rev. Fernando Bustamante. Then everyone gathered around for a time of dedication prayer.

The services concluded as everyone toured the dorm homes provided by the First FWB Church of Inman. These home are beautifully decorated and furnished with the appliances needed by the students. In order to furnish these home the Home Mission department borrowed \$19,000 counting on the fact that the South Carolina Women Active for Christ have a project this year of raising the needed money for this important ministry.



Hispanic Institute Dorm Homes across the street from the First FWB Church, Inman.

The **10th annual FWB Home Hunt** will be held March 6, 2004 at the Low Country Fox Run in Foreston, SC. (Supper and Bench Show on March 5th.). This is a hunt to benefit the children who reside at the Freewill Baptist Home for Children in Turbeville, SC These are children whose parents are unable to care for them for one reason or another. It is our goal not only to provide financial support for this wonderful home, but also to show these children that they are loved beyond compare.



The FWB Home Hunt was started in 1995 by Mr. Wayne Oxendine. This hunt would not be possible without the support of all of the local (and some not so local) businesses and individuals who provide monetary funds, goods and/or services to be auctioned or raffled make this endeavor a success. (And if you have never attended one of our auctions, you are in for a real treat!!) 100% of the proceeds of this hunt go directly to the Children's Home.

More information can be obtained by contacting Mr. Brian Haas at 803-691-4613 (<http://clix.to/fwbbhomehunt>)



PEE DEE BIBLE INSTITUTE AWARDS BANQUET

Pictured above are the Fall Semester students of the **Pee Dee Bible Institute** at their Awards Banquet and Christmas Supper. They were presented with certificates for completing courses in New Testament Survey and Evangelism.

Pee Dee Bible Institute is located at Southside FWB Church in Darlington. Pastor Leroy Lowery is the Director. For information on courses or class schedules call (843) 395-2054

St. John FWB Ladies Auxilairy and Men's Fellowship choose the FWB Children's Home in Turbeville for their missions project for 2003. The Ladies Auxilairy prepared a donation mission supper once a month and sponsored a Fall Festival with all the proceeds going toward their project. The Men's fellowship used the proceeds from their monthly meeting and a special car wash to raise money for the project.

The Church then invited Director James Wilhide, along with the staff and the children, for a Hot Dog fellowship supper. The Church was able to present the FWB Children's home a check for \$4065.! Glory!



Beaver Creek Conference

Liberty, Lancaster	32,900.00
Inman First	24,746.20
Parkway, Spartanburg	20,240.33
Lockhart, Lockhart	15,839.37
North Spartanburg, Inman	14,884.97
Fairview, Spartanburg	13,973.04
High Point, Lancaster	8,119.62
Southside, Aiken	5,245.01
Greenville First	4,850.00
Converse, Spartanburg	4,200.00
Chester First	4,149.84
Greenwood First	3,456.35
Westgate, Arcadia	3,258.47
Landmark, Anderson	2,700.00
Simpsonville, First	2,350.00
Freedom, Lancaster	2,174.34
Enoree First FWB	1,980.00
Greer First, Greer	1,214.00
Lesslie, Rock Hill	900.00
Northgate, Greer	650.00
BC Ministers Conference	240.00
Whitney, Spartanburg	235.00
TOTAL	168,306.54

Central Association

Westside, Johnsonville	37,908.52
Cornerstone, Whiteville	16,400.00
White Savannah, Conway	15,941.23
Mt Trolly, Galivants Ferry	14,590.08
Little Bethel, Johnsonville	10,500.00
Myrtle Beach First	7,000.00
South Conway, Conway	4,743.81
Hamlet First	4,475.00
Damascus, Conway	3,894.90
Mt Ariel, Conway	3,317.50
Evergreen, Conway	3,300.00
Central Association	2,738.76
Mullins-Marion, Mullins	2,345.00
Wildwood, Nichols	1,966.90
Little Star, Johnsonville	1,720.00
Grace, Loris	725.00
Free Welcome, Conway	699.00
Bethel, Florence	600.00
Riverside, Conway	310.00
Sweet Home, Myrtle Beach	250.00
Pee Dee, Conway	225.00
New Life, Conway	200.00
Socastee, Socastee	163.00
Unity, Johnsonville	131.00
Rains, Rains	127.90
Freedom, Tabor City	100.00
Oak Grove, Galivants Ferry	75.00
TOTAL	134,447.60

Eastern Conference

Gilead, Lake City	39,997.56
Mill Branch, Johnsonville	19,392.41
St John, Scranton	7,372.00
Hickory Hill, Gresham	7,200.00
New Vision, Hemingway	6,529.75
Lighthouse, Florence	4,166.91
Happy Home, Andrews	4,005.00
Freedom, Ladson	3,771.76
Williams Hill, Hemingway	3,498.00
Hillside, Florence	2,756.00
Cypress Fork, Manning	1,671.86
Olanta, Olanta	900.00
New Prospect, Pamplico	821.00
Eastern Conference	800.00
Fellowship, Manning	614.00
Walker's Chapel, Sumter	450.00
Calvary, Georgetown	280.00
EC Sunday School Convention	82.50
NP Christian School	20.00
TOTAL	104,328.75

Palmetto Conference

Victory, PA	16,067.24
New Vision, Rock Hill	1,857.74
Peace, Spartanburg	180.00
Bethel, Fort Mill	115.00
Bright Light, Thomasville	10.00
TOTAL	18,229.98

South Carolina Conference

Horse Branch, Turbeville	75,363.76
Florence First	60,588.82
Peace, Florence	38,996.72
Sand Hill, Coward	31,873.98
Bethany, Timmons ville	31,854.50
Lebanon, Effingham	25,200.13
Immanuel, Santee	21,965.40
Grace, Lake City	17,254.74
Temple, Darlington	16,165.36
Darlington First	15,808.00
Beulah, Pamplico	14,703.79
Bay Branch, Timmons ville	12,930.00
Southside, Darlington	12,692.53
Pamplico, Pamplico	12,111.24
Mt Elon, Pamplico	11,371.84
Tabernacle, Coward	10,250.00
Black River, Andrews	10,164.98
Liberty, Manning	9,148.09
St John, Patrick	6,523.05
New Town, Lake City	6,147.50
FWB Bible, Darlington	6,000.00
Kingtree First	5,450.00
Low Country, N Charleston	5,334.96
Fellowship, Florence	5,200.22
Camp Branch, Scranton	5,200.00
Columbia Original	4,956.00
S C Conference	4,530.21
Faith, Darlington	4,468.81
Lynches River, Coward	3,350.00
Hartsville First	2,655.79
Victory, Andrews	2,209.47
Charleston First	2,173.55
Jefferson Road, Sumter	2,160.00
Salem, Scranton	1,548.17
Poplar Hill, Hemingway	1,000.00
Bethesda, Camden	940.00
Liberty, Orangeburg	764.55
Midlands, Columbia	591.28
Community, Florence	100.00
TOTAL	499,747.44

True Life Conference

Heart Land, Lancaster	1,400.00
Calvary, Lancaster	1,050.00
Faith, Smyrna	400.00
True Life Association	213.25
Mt Carmel, York	170.50
TOTAL	3,233.75

S C Woman Active for Christ

WNAC State	10,452.66
WNAC SCD Darlington First	8,667.91
WNAC SCD Faith	2,500.00
WNAC SCD Temple	2,265.00
WNAC BC Chester	2,237.00
WNAC SCD Immanuel	2,225.00
WNAC SCD Sand Hill	1,930.00
WNAC SCD Liberty, Manning	1,707.76
WNAC CD Oak Grove	1,655.00
WNAC BC Lockhart	1,643.58
WNAC SCD Lowcountry, Charleston	1,552.07
WNAC SCD Lebanon	1,332.00
WNAC CD Little Star	1,310.00
WNAC ED Hillside	1,200.00

WNAC CD Westside	1,192.50
WNAC BC Greenville	1,054.00
WNAC SCD Black River	1,030.37
WNAC SCD Mt Elon	1,000.00
WNAC ED Mill Branch	991.00
WNAC SCD Horse Branch	912.00
WNAC BC Parkway	780.59
WNAC SCD Grace	721.00
WNAC ED Gilead	700.00
WNAC BC North Spartanburg	602.55
WNAC BC Inman	500.00
WNAC SCD Bay Branch	459.00
WNAC CD Mt Ariel	450.00
WNAC CD Myrtle Beach First	450.00
WNAC SCD Beulah	430.00
WNAC SCD Fellowship	357.30
WNAC CD	350.00
WNAC ED Williams Hill	350.00
WNAC SCD Jefferson Road	341.73
WNAC BC Simpsonville	340.00
WNAC SCD Eastside	333.00
WNAC BC Whitney	333.00
WNAC BC Canaan	315.00
WNAC SCD Florence, First	300.00
WNAC SCD Southside, Darlington	300.00
WNAC ED St John, Pamplico	250.00
WNAC BC Hope, Spartanburg	250.00
WNAC SCD Peace, Florence	248.00
WNAC CD Socastee	168.75
WNAC BC	100.00
WNAC BC Fairview	100.00
WNAC SCD Charleston First	96.73
WNAC SCD Kingtree	80.00
WNAC BC Lesslie	50.00
WNAC BC Greenwood	50.00
WNAC SCD Pamplico	48.30
WNAC ED Walkers Chapel	35.00
WNAC BC Southside, Aiken	20.00
TOTAL	56,767.80

Various Givers

Hanna, Carlisle	5,000.00
Evans, Rickey	4,120.00
Ruschky, Mary Dixon	4,000.00
Jones, Mike	3,725.00
Williams, Zellene	2,607.52
Player, Jane Dixon	2,000.00
Flowers, Sue 2446	1,230.00
S C State Association	1,095.00
Union Chapel FWB, Chocowinity, NC ..	1,000.00
Jones, Paula	695.00
CalvaryFWB, Swannanoa, NC	645.05
Ebenezer Methodist Church	500.00
Faith FWB, Goldsboro, NC	375.00
Williams, Leonard	315.00
Jacobs, Arlis	250.00
Samuel Hucks	250.00
Hare, Clyde	225.00
Sandy, Carl-Helena	200.00
Raper, James Earl	200.00
Cartersville Baptist Church	185.00
Smithville FWB Church, TN	181.80
Cash	150.00
Tuscalossa First FWB Church	140.00
Middour, Karl-Jeanette	133.40
Phelps, Edward-Sandra	130.00
Aycock, David	120.00
Sanders, Dorothy	100.00
McCull, First FWB Church	74.00
Venters, Dale/Luann	70.00
Gibson, Molly	60.00
Tilley, Tony-Patricia	50.00
Welch, Brian-Jennifer	50.00

(Continued on Page 7- Various Gifts to SCPS)

New Car for Rev Johnny Evans

Like most Churches in our state, Mill Branch FWB Church, Johnsonville, had their annual Christmas Program on Sunday, December 21, 2003. The program was a well presented drama about how Christmas was for everyone and was enjoyed by the congregation.

The drama really began following the program, however. Without the knowledge of Pastor Johnny Evans, the community and the church had raised over \$11,000 to purchase a new car for him. Following the program the chairman of the Deacon Board, James Poston, called Brother Johnny and wife, Lossie, to the front of the church where he presented them a check for over \$2000. They were estatic, especially since the engine in their car had recently gone bad and they needed to replace it.



Deacon James Poston presents the Check to Lossie and Johnny Evans



After allowing them a few moments to express their thanks the Deacon then asked the Pastor to wait while everyone in the packed church went into the yard. Then he led the Pastor and his wife outside where they saw a 2003 Buick Century with a ribbon on top. What a joyous and needed present.

All of this happened because members of the community saw the hard work and dedication of Pastor Johnny so they approached the Church about his need of a car. Then everyone jumped in on the project and the money needed for the car

PLUS over \$2000 (Remember that check they received at the beginning of this article!) was raised in less than a week. What a testimony to God's work in a community.



According to General Director, Ken Akers, the Master's Men Department of the National Association has several upcoming events that may be of interest to the men in your church.

Deep South Golf Tournament Feb. 26-28, 2004 Dothan, AL

Master's Men Rally March 26-27, 2004 Smithfield, NC

National Master's Men Retreat May 13-15, 2004 Ashland, KY

National Father's Day Offering for the Master's Men Department
June 20, 2004

Annual golf and softball tournaments.

Golf Tournament will be held on August 5th and
our Softball Tournament will be held on August 6th & 7th.

FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORY TOUR: September 9-14, 2004. Join Master's Men for this exciting tour as we discover the rich heritage of our denomination.

See our website for more details, "<http://www.nafwb.org/mm>"



l-r: Back: David Brown and Bill Evans with the FWB Foundation, Ken Akers, General Director, Master's Men. Front: Mike Jones-SCFWB, Randy Bryant- Florida FWB, David Williford- FWB Bible College

The **FWB Foundation** recently sponsored State Executive Secretary, Mike Jones and others to a week long Financial Planning Seminar in St. Pete, Florida. This seminar gave invaluable information about how people can fund much of God's work by planning to give their money to the work of God instead of letting the government get much of it.

The foundation is also an excellent opportunity for Churches and ministries to greatly increase the interest their money earns- which also benefits the work of God.

For instance, a \$15,000 fund I oversee was getting 1% interest until I transferred it to the Foundation. It earned 4% last year and will earn 4.25% this year. And that helps this small ministry do more for the Lord.- Call toll free 1-877-336-7575 for more info.

Funeral Services for **Mrs. Lillian Clayton**, widow of Rev. Paul Clayton, were held in the packed sanctuary of Mill Branch FWB Church on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003. Messages of encouragement were delivered by Rev. Johnny Evans, Rev. Billy Baker, and Rev. Marty Cox.

Mrs. Lillian was well known, and well loved, throughout our state. Even though she did not have a driver's license, it was not unusual for the State Executive Secretary to visit churches across our state and find Mrs. Lillian visiting also.

Surviving are children, Midge, Pam, and Ronnie and sisters, Dorothy Sparks of Johnson City, TN, Naomi Reynolds of Nebo, NC, Helen Buchanan of Reidville, NC, Jo Garland of Valdese, NC, and Jean Usery of Lowell, NC.



Family, friends, and members of First FWB Church of Hamlet, NC joined together on Saturday, January 17, 2004 to honor **Rev. Reddin "Buddy" Hill** on his 21 + 49 birthday

(That's 70 if you are a little slow in the math department!).

Brother Buddy was the pastor of First, Hamlet before turning the duties over to son, Tom. Now he enjoys being able to visit other churches and fill in as necessary. He can be reached at (910) 895-9846 if you need him to fill in- and like most pastors who retire the main thing he misses is the opportunity to preach God's Word on a regular basis!

LOOKING AHEAD as we LOOK BACK

Rev. Joe McKnight, SCFWB State Historian

History never looks like history when you are living through it. It always looks confusing and messy, and it always feels uncomfortable. ~John W. Gardner

Things would be so much simpler had the early Free Will Baptists in South Carolina realized how much the later generations would need to know. They could have left volumes of information and documentation that could be easily accessed. It certainly would have made the historian's job easier. But, as the quotation by John Gardner tells us, they didn't have the luxury of seeing the circumstances of their lives as historical subject matter. They were too busy trying to provide the basic requirements for their families, and trying to build a church centered upon the truth of God, as they understood it. So, it becomes our duty to diligently examine the fragmentary evidence that is available if we are to truly understand our heritage.



During the year of 2003, we have learned much about the people, events, and forces that formed the Free Will Baptist faith in South Carolina. This knowledge is essential if we are to truly have a sense of identity. However, the greatest lesson we've learned is that there is so much more we don't know. So, we will use this upcoming year as a time to dig deeper into the historical record.

We will continue to focus on the pastors and ministers whose labors and sacrifices built the framework of our conferences/associations and the current State Association. We'll also begin to examine the early churches, many of which are still in existence today. At some point in 2004, we'll focus on the theological and doctrinal issues that built, shaped, and threatened our denomination in those early years. But, in the midst of all that, we cannot overlook the humanity of our ancestors. So there will be time for the human-interest stories. One such story will focus on the Civil War-era account of the Free Will Baptist woman whose desperate search for her missing soldier-husband took her on a rugged thousand-mile journey.

If you enjoy these articles, there is a way you can participate in this work. The Historian's Office does not receive regular funding of any kind. At present, there is a deficit balance in our account at the State Executive Office. This greatly inhibits our ability to do research and acquire historical documents. Would you consider making a contribution to this endeavor? If you feel led to do so, please designate your gift, through the Executive Office, for the State Historian. Thank you, and may God bless us in 2004.

The **Ladies Auxiliary of Gilead FWB Church**, Lake City held their annual auction on Friday, November 21, 2003. The record-breaking auction raised over \$4300.00 that benefited nearly 45 different needy families during the holiday season! Auxiliary president, Shelly McKnight stated, "We are truly grateful for anyone that contributed to this year's auction. We have been touched already from the testimonies we've heard about how God used this money to help with a need in their life."



Rev. Buddy Seay, Jr has entered the field of Full Time Evangelism. He is available for Revival Services and Speaking engagements by calling (843) 455-7028 (Cell phone until he gets a permanent number)

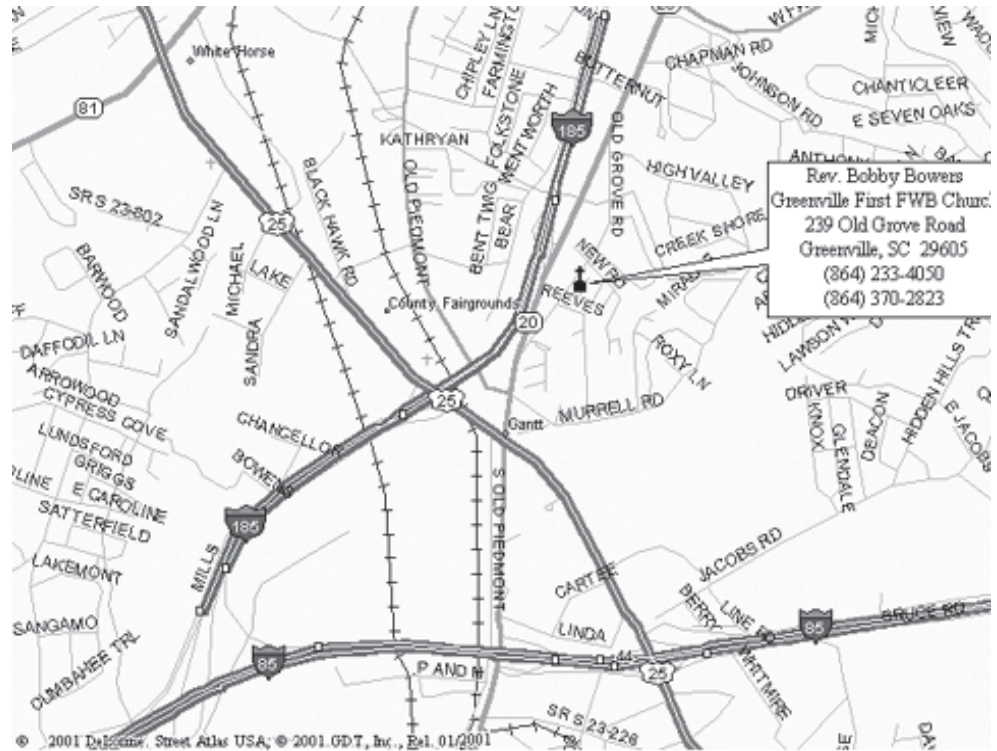


2003 Gifts to the SCFWB State Office- Continued

Greer First, Greer	136.00	WNAC SCD Lebanon	40.00
Unity, Johnsonville	131.00	Rains, Rains	25.60
Liberty, Orangeburg	129.46	WNAC BC North Spartanburg ...	25.00
Aycock, David	120.00	Knight, Jamie-William	25.00
Walker's Chapel, Sumter	120.00	WNAC SCD Black River	25.00
True Life Association	100.00	WNAC BC Canaan	25.00
Faith, Smyrna	100.00	WNAC BC Greenville	20.00
WNAC SCD Sand Hill	100.00	WNAC SCD Temple	20.00
WNAC Beaver Creek Conf ...	100.00	WNAC SCD Liberty, Manning ...	20.00
Free Welcome, Conway	100.00	WNAC SCD Fellowship	20.00
EC Sunday School Convention	82.50	WNAC SCD Eastside	20.00
Socastee, Socastee	57.00	WNAC BC Parkway	10.00
WNAC SCD Immanuel	50.00	WNAC SCD Mt Elon	10.00
WNAC Hope, Spartanburg	50.00	Jones, Paula	10.00
Pee Dee, Conway	50.00	Oak Grove, Galivants Ferry	5.00
WNAC CD Oak Grove	50.00	TOTAL	64,201.65

Various Gifts to the Plan of Support	
Continued from Page 5	
Smith, Todd	50.00
Lee, Michael	47.98
Inman, Benny/Dorothy	35.00
Sizemoore, Jerry	35.00
McCorkle, Charles-Betty	35.00
Knight, Jamie-William	25.00
Wilhide, Carolyn	25.00
Sheffield, Doris	15.00
Carnes, Thelma	5.00
TOTAL	30,149.75

Directions to First FWB Church, Greenville: I-85 South toward Atlanta. Take exit 44 onto Hwy 25 (White Horse Road). Turn right on Old Piedmont/Grove Road. Approximately 1/2 mile the four lanes will change to two lanes; where this happens you will see Old Grove Road veering off to the right. Church is about a mile down Old Grove Road on the Right (Parking is available on both sides of the road).



New Pastors: Rev Pete Minor-
Liberty FWB Church, Manning



Rev David Newton-
First FWB Church,
Greenwood



Rev Larry Monday-
Evergreen FWB
Church, Conway

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)

Camp Meeting in the Carolinas will be held at Mullins-Marion FWB Church March 11-12, 2004. This annual Camp Meeting is sponsored by the Central Conference but an invitation is extended to Everyone. The tentative Schedule at press time:
 Thursday, March 11- 7:00pm: Special music by the Wisnants before special speaker, Rev. Keith Hatton from Van Buren, Arkansas.
 Friday, March 12- Morning Session: Local Singers before Rev. Keith Hatton. The afternoon workshop will be given by Rev. Buddy Seay on “21 Things You Need to Know about 21st Century Teens”
 7:00pm Service- Special Music by the Oxedines before another message by Rev. Keith Hatton.

