

THE



October 2004

INFORMER

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

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Pastor Marty Cox (Mt Trolly FWB Church) has arranged a special rate at the Sleep Inn of Conway for our State Association Meeting, February 24-25, 2005. This motel is located a little more than a mile from Evergreen FWB Church (Site of the 2005 State Meeting) and is convenient to restaurants and shopping in Conway.

Rates: (Make sure you tell them you are with the South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association) [Available rooms include rooms with a King bed or with 2 queens beds].

1 or 2 people- \$45.00

3 people- \$50.00

4 people- \$55.00



Sleep Inn of Conway
3345 Church Street
(Hwy 501 North)
Conway, SC 29526
Phone: (843) 365-2828
email: sleepinconway@sc.rr.com



Rev. Arley Atchley has been selected as the new Boys Dorm Parent for the Free Will Baptist Home for Children.

Rev. Arley Atchley has been a widow for about 4 years.

Rev. Arley and Ronna were married for 21 years until she passed away on November 19, 2001. He is a native of Oklahoma. He has 2 children: Andy Atchley, who is 24 years old and Dustin Atchley, who is 20 years old. Both boys are currently living in Vinita, OK.

Rev. Atchley is a graduate from Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Moore, OK. He has been a licensed Free Will Baptist minister since 1977 and an ordained Free Will Baptist minister since 1982. He has pastored in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. He was Pastor of Wewoka First Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma before he came to the SCFWB Home for Children.

NEW DIRECTOR for South Carolina Home for Children

The board of the SCFWB Home for Children selected Rev. Roy Roach (and wife, Paula) as Director of the Free Will Baptist Home for Children during their October meeting. The Roaches arrived at the home in mid October and are in the process of working with Rev. James and Carolyn



Wilhide to insure a smooth transition. They are very excited about this new opportunity in their life and look forward to God's continued blessings on the ministry of the SCFWB Home for Children

Rev. Roy and Sister Paula Waddell Roach have been married for 35 years. They are both natives of Ohio. They have 3 children: Carla and Chris Fannin (Pastor of Lebanon FWB in Effingham, SC), Nancy and R. J. Clark (an ordained minister), and Timothy (also an ordained minister) and Brandi Roach. They have 6 grandchildren.

Rev. Roach was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister in 1974. He has pastored in Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee. He was a church planter with National Home Missions for 11 years. Most recently, he was Church Relation Coordinator with Free Will Baptist Family Ministries in Tennessee (The Tennessee Children's Home).

Mrs. Paula is very experienced in working with children and was working as the EFNEP Program Assistant for the University of Tennessee Extension Service in Greenville, TN when they accepted this position.

There are presently 16 children in residence at the SCFWB Home for Children.

**CHILDREN'S HOME DAY IS SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 6TH.** Come help them celebrate 55
years of service for the Lord.

HOME COMING SERVICES.

Peace FWB Church, Florence, SC (Pastor Donnie Miles) celebrated their 20th Anniversary and Home Coming on September 26th. Peace began in September of 1984 from a meeting at the home of Mr and Mrs David Powell. Rev. Danny Keen was called as Pastor and the first service was held at the home of Mr and Mrs. Jerry Poston. The next week they moved into an old restaurant building which they renovated and used until land could be secured and a building built. The Church began with 90 charter members.



Present Pastoral Staff and Charter Members

The Church issued bonds to pay for this first building which was occupied in September of 1985 and included 10 classrooms, a fellowship building, and a sanctuary to seat 200. In June of 1986 an additional 6 classrooms, a nursery, and a large fellowship hall were added. Rev. Keen was the pastor of the Church until 1990. After his departure, the present pastor, Rev. Donnie Miles, came to carry the church to even greater accomplishments; including a modern new spacious sanctuary.

New Town FWB Church, Lake City, SC (Pastor Lamar Smith) held Home Coming services on Sunday, October 3rd with a large turn out, a good service, and an abundance of food and fellowship. Special guest singers, "Mercy River" sang during the Sunday School hour and again just before the preaching service. SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones brought the morning message. Many visitors and friends made for a great day of fellowship.



Lighthouse FWB Church of Florence celebrated Home Coming on Sunday, September 26th with 112 in Sunday School and 152 for the Worship Service. In addition to this good Home Coming Service, Pastor Brian Tolliver baptized 2 new members on Oct 10th.

Liberty FWB Church, Manning (Pastor Walter "Pete" Minor) held their 123rd Home Coming on Sunday, Oct 10th. Highlights included a reading of the Church History, testimonies from older members and previous Pastors, a Memorial Service for those who have departed since last year's Home Coming, and a musical concert by the Bible Tones Quartet.



Charter Members Bill and Darlene Collins burn the note as Lesslie FWB Church rejoices in being Debt Free

When **Lesslie FWB Church, Rock Hill** (Pastor Doug Western) have a Home Coming they make the day as exciting as possible. Sunday, October 10th was just such an occasion. A very good Sunday School lesson was followed by an extremely emotional tribute to those who are serving in the Iraq war by the Rick Cope Family using slides and music. That was followed by the Morning Message by SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones; which was followed by receiving 3 new members into the Church (Glory); which was followed by 2 of the charter members burning the mortgage to celebrate the fact that the church was debt free; which was followed by a wonderful meal; which was followed by an afternoon concert- Whew! I told you the people of Lesslie know how to pack a lot into a special day.



The newest Members of Lesslie FWB Church

Bethany FWB Church, Timmonsville (Pastor Phil Bozeman) had a full house to observe their 186th Anniversary / Home Coming on Sunday, October 17th. "One Focus" ministered in music during the 10:00am service and again just before the morning message. This excellent trio included a "home town girl" who had written many of the songs sung by the trio. The morning message was brought by SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones. The church was beautiful and the meal was organized so that this very large number of people moved through the lines of very excellent home cooking with very little waiting.



One Focus

How do you put 275 people into a church that is packed out at 150? Ask the people of Lebanon FWB Church, they're experts at doing just this. October 24th was **Home Coming at Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham** and the people just kept coming and coming. The church was full when the special music began at 9:30am and it soon turned into putting out chairs everywhere they could find room to put one, the children being dismissed, the members sitting in the choir and in Sunday School rooms, and people standing along the walls!! By the time the SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones stood up to speak it was obvious that the church was about as full as it could get.



The Special Singers were from Ohio. The two on the left are sisters to Pastor Chris Fannin

In spite of all this distraction, the Spirit still moved with several rededications at the end of the Message and a great time of rejoicing as Pastor Chris Fannin baptized 5 people following the service. All of the tables set up in the gym were filled for the morning meal but the food was delicious and everyone seems to really enjoy this special day in the Lord.



The **Eastern Conference** held their quarterly **Youth Rally** at Gilead FWB Church on Saturday, September 18th. A record attendance of 301 raised \$249 from their "penny march" [\$100 of this was donated to the Ben Timmons family (a young man from New Vision FWB Church, Hemingway who had been in a car accident)]. A powerful message was delivered by Rev. Jamie Montgomery, pastor of Hillside FWB Church.



Pastor Frank Sedgwick and the Hickory Hill Youth Group

The Attendance Banner went to Hickory Hill FWB Church (Pastor Frank Sedgwick with 108 in attendance (Glory!). Honorable mention went to Freedom FWB Church, Ladson (Pastor Jimmy Miller) for bringing 50 all the way from Charleston.

2004 STATE OFFICERS

Moderator	Sherwood Lee (SC)
Assistant Moderator	Buddy Seay (CA)
Clerk	Todd Smith (BC)
Assistant Clerk	Carroll Bazen (SC)
Treasurer	Marty Cox (CA)
Assistant Treasurer	Mitch Edge (BC)
Member at Large (Lower State)	Doug Mathis (EC)
Member at Large (Upper State)	James Sanders (BC)

The wife (Teresa) of Home Missionary to Aiken, Rev. Todd Smith, recently underwent several surgeries- One to correct a back problem and one to remove a mass causing her nose to bleed. She is recovering at home. Pray for Mrs. Teresa and Brother Todd as they continue to build a strong FWB Church in Aiken.



PRAISE REPORTS:

Pastor Kevin Smith reports that God has been very good to **Westgate FWB Church, Spartanburg** in the past few months. They have had 18 saved since June and 40 new members to join since June. Because of this rapid growth they have stepped out on faith and extend their church parking lot. They believe that the God who sent the people will send the money!



The Church has also begun a radio program on WAGI 105.3 every Sunday with the hope that many will be saved through this ministry. Their Home Coming Celebration begins Nov. 14 -18. with Rev. James Sanders of Chester FWB as the guest speaker. Special music will be provided by "Heirline" on Sunday Night, the "Down East Boys" on Monday night, the "McRaes" on Tuesday night, Tony Gore on Wednesday night, and "Ricky Atkinson &

Compassion" on Thursday night.

Prayer Item- The Pastor's wife has been battling Health Problems recently and they desire your prayers.

Last year, Pastor Clay Cordell of **Canaan FWB Church, Lancaster** felt the need of a daily prayer meeting. It was not always easy, and, at first, did not seem to be making a difference but after 331 days of Prayer in which thousands of requests were prayed for, suddenly a "whirlwind" of answers began to come as 46 people were saved in just 30 days (Glory!). In addition to this the church has been able to pay a large amount on their building debt. And, by faith, they have begun taking a World Mission Offering each Wednesday Night in order to reach to the regions beyond. This is a good example of the Bible admonition to "Pray and keep on praying".



Converse FWB Church continues its growth by continually reaching out to their community. Their recent Sunday School campaign, "I want that mountain" was a great success. Pastor Todd Black said everyone was excited when they erected a sign on their new property in anticipation of their soon coming new building project.



Sunday School Superintendent, Wayne Leverette with Pastor Todd Black



Missionaries to Brazil, Rev. Andy and Andrea Moore are celebrating the birth of a new Daughter, Lilly, on October 10th. Everyone is doing well and they look forward to continuing their deputational ministry in the US until May of 2005 when they will return to Brazil. [Sorry, no picture of the New Baby yet. Brother Andy did say she was as pretty as her mother!]



The Children of **St. John FWB Church of Patrick** raised over \$300 for church ministry so Pastor Bill Dority made good on his pledge to let them "pie" him.



Mt Carmel FWB Church, York continues their growth by adding a very attractive sign in front of the Church. Pastor John Cody said that many in the community have already commented on the increased activity at the Church.

The following article was submitted by Rev. Phillip Tipton, Pastor of New Prospect FWB Church, Pamplico, SC- Home of New Prospect Christian School.

Christian Education Deserves Our Support

To understand why it is necessary to have and support Free Will Baptist Christian Schools, it is important to understand the time we are living in today. I would be the first to agree that maybe 60 years ago the need would not have been so great for a christian school. I would even say that maybe 50 years ago the demand may not have been so high. But all of that began to change on June 17, 1963 when the Supreme Court of the United States kicked reverential Bible reading and prayer recitation out of the nation's public schools. Since that horrific day the Lord, the Creator and Savior of Life, was made an outcast in public schools, it has been on a decline.



Rev Phillip Tipton

You as parents and churches set back and overlooked it when the public schools taught humans evolved from a monkey. You laughed when they said the human race evolved from a tadpole. And now we as parents and churches are facing the greatest battle we have ever seen in public schools and many are hiding their heads in denial and not looking at the facts that so coldly stair you in the eyes. The facts of the times have changed. The facts that the schools have changed. The facts that many of you are shrugging your shoulders and turning away, mean while you are loosing your children and grandchildren to satan and some are so blindly unaware of what is happening.

We believe in Christianity, Jesus Christ and saving grace and we believe the Holy Bible is error free, Holy Spirit inspired, word of God. The public schools accept neither. Inez Tenenbaum, your South Carolina superintendent of education said, "To say that a homosexual can't teach in a public school is a bad thing and it's first Un-American."

The threat that we face at this time in history cannot be laughed at or overlooked. We are dealing with our children and grandchildren that look to us for guidance. In public schools homosexuals are looked at as an "alternate lifestyle". Your children are taught that humans are born that way. God has already demonstrated his reaction to homosexual behavior (the leading sin in Sodom) before God rained Fire and brimstone from Heaven and burned the city and people up. By the statement of Tenebaum it could be very possible that your children and grandchildren are being taught by a homosexual.

Do you know who is teaching your children? Do you know what is being taught to your children? Do you care? If so, what are you willing to do about it? These are the sad facts, most parents and grandparents work long hours and don't have the time to find out these answers and therefore they live in a fantasy world that public schools are the same today and teach the same today as they did 50 years ago. The destruction that comes because of this wicked sin, we cannot allow this kind of teaching to ruin our children.

God has given us a choice, South Carolina Free Will Baptist Christian Schools, to give our children a Godly quality education where righteousness is exalted and sin is rebuked and reprovved. Children go home every week quoting bible verses and children that don't go to church, get Jesus Christ preached to them. Through these young people we are able to reach the moms and dads that don't attend church. These are just a few reasons why every Free Will Baptist Church in South Carolina should support S.C. F.W.B. Schools with our finances and most of all our children and grandchildren enrollments. It may be the greatest financial support our churches can give to any program in Free Will Baptist. Let's say, "no, no, no, no, satan, you cannot have our children!"



Due to Health reasons, **Rev. Richard Conyers** has resigned as the Free Will Baptist State Youth Ministries Director. Our prayers are with him, his family, and his church (Lockhart FWB Church) during this difficult time. His successor will be nominated and voted on at the 2005 State Association. Questions during this interim stage can be directed to board member, Rev. Marty Cox (843) 358-8790.

Sunday, October 10, 2004 was a great day in the history of **Southside FWB Church of Darlington** as the church presented Missionary Carlisle Hanna a check for \$12,000 to build a much needed church building in India. This fund raising effort was led by the Ladies Auxiliary of Southside FWB Church and included a Church wide yard sale, production of a Fund Raising Cook Book, and numerous other special projects.

Pastor Leroy Lowery said that it was astonishing to see how God had provided the money for this project and he was excited to see the vision that Southside has for a lost world. In addition to normal Church activities and their work for world evangelism, Southside is also home to a day care center and the Pee Dee Bible Institute.



Low Country FWB Church of North Charleston celebrated “Follow the Yellow Brick Road to India on Sunday, August 15th. This event, sponsored by the church Women Active for Christ, was used to raise money to help the account of Missionary Carlisle Hanna. A road was constructed on one wall of the sanctuary and all members brought yellow bricks for \$1.00 each, as well as brown curbs and gutters for \$5.00 each. Pictures of India Pastors and Missionary Carlisle Hanna were placed at the end of the road. WAC members raised \$2,000 and the church matched that for a total of \$4,000 (Glory).



On Sunday, August 15th, Brother Carlisle brought a great message showing much eagerness and love for the people in India. The WAC members presented him a check for the \$2,000 they had raised and Pastor Phillip Jones presented him a plaque from the church for his 52 years of service in India. The entire church was decorated in yellow and everyone enjoyed a luncheon after the service.

Missionary to India, Rev. Carlisle Hanna, underwent a second surgery on his broken wrist in mid-October. He is recovering well and hopes to return to India as soon as possible.

As of October 1, 2005 Brother Carlisle’s account was \$60,000 in the red, in spite of the fact that South Carolina Free Will Baptist have given nearly \$10,000 more this year than they did by this date last year. Numerous individuals and churches are helping to ease this deficit by giving an extra \$75.00 in honor of Brother Carlisle’s recent 75th Birthday.

A program entitled “**Friends of India**” has been instituted to help erase this deficit and keep the work in India going strong. Individuals are asked to trust God for an extra \$50 per month (above their normal tithes) for 5 years. If only 1 person in each Free Will Baptist Church in South Carolina would take this step of Faith then more than enough to cover the deficit would come in each year (125 churches X \$50 per month = \$75,000 per year).

The SCFWB Executive Secretary and the Assistant Director have been members of this program since August and it has been marvelous to see how God has provided the extra \$50.00 each month for this need. Simply make your monthly check to SCFWB and put “Friends of India” on the memo line and send it to: SCFWB, PO Box 13266, Florence, SC, 29504. You can also give through your local church and the treasurer will earmark your gift to “Friends of India” on their report form.

God is doing a great work in India through Free Will Baptist as souls are being saved, churches are being built, and lives are being changed. Won’t you join with God to help reach souls in India for which Jesus died?



Several People have asked about the needs among Florida FWB since the horrible Hurricane season. Florida State Executive Secretary, Rev. Randy Bryant, sent the following information

The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists has established a **Disaster Relief Fund** to assist our churches and church families in their hurricane relief efforts. As you know 4 hurricanes hit the state of Florida in the space of about 6 weeks. Virtually every section of the state was hit by one or more of these storms. Some of our churches (especially in the Central part) were hit by 3 of the 4 and others were hit full force by 2 of the storms. Each storm produced more damage than the previous storm in some of those churches.

At the present time we can not provide information as to the amount of damage in dollars. (Imagine what most people in Florida are going through trying to get insurance adjusters, building supplies, and contractors after these 4 storms and you'll understand why dollar amounts are not available.) However, I can tell you that we have several churches that have received significant damage due to the winds and the rains. Several of these churches can no longer meet in their buildings due to water damage and the mold that developed afterwards. We also have quite a few families that have been displaced due to the storms.

Feet Washing Pamphlet Available- The Free Will Baptist Historical Commission introduced the first in a series of historical pamphlets this summer at the national convention in Kansas City. The 4,000-word document titled "The Washing of the Saints' Feet" was written by William F. Davidson and Robert Picirilli.

Historical Commission chairman Darrell Holley said the occasional pamphlet series is titled The Free Will Baptist Heritage Series: Foundations of Faith and Practice.

The feet washing pamphlet gives readers a deeper understanding of the historical practice, including the biblical basis, historical grounding, objections to feet washing and feet washing in the 21st century.

Dr. Holley said, "Every Christian denomination has distinctive beliefs and practices that give it identity and define its heritage. For Free Will Baptists, this heritage includes washing the saints' feet."

Copies of the feet washing pamphlet may be purchased from your South Carolina FWB Christ Book Store. The pamphlets sell for 25 cents each.

The SCFWB Executive Secretary and the lovely Princess Paula had the great privilege of visiting Japan during the celebration of 50 Years of FWB work in Japan. The fourteen hour flight from Atlanta brought us into the busy international airport at Tokyo where Missionary Mirial Gainer met us and drove us the 3 1/2 hours across Tokyo to her home. Fellowship and food finally had to end so we could get a little rest before flying out of Tokyo to the northern island of Hokkaido where most of our churches are and where the conference was to take place. As Princess Paula descended the stairs in Miss Mirial's home to prepare for bed she missed a step and broke 3 bones in her right foot. Not exactly the way we wanted to start our trip!

When things were at their worst, Miss Mirial was at her best! Early the next morning Miss Mirial carried us to a local doctor who put us "head of the line" so we could still make our flight. Miss Mirial helped with all of the doctor details, the revised transportation details since Princess Paula was now in a wheel chair, and used her influence so that the Japanese bus and airline people treated us like we were royalty! What a great blessing she was to us.



Part of the 50 year Fruit of our FWB Mission Work in Japan

work in Japan. The Japanese people are very good people and extremely nice but many of them will live and die and never hear the name of Jesus unless someone shares the gospel with them. The need is great- I stood on a tower in Tokyo and saw where 27 million people live! And the Gospel is for everyone.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration began on Saturday afternoon and extended through Monday afternoon. Much of what was done was in Japanese (and I don't even speak English well) but the parts we could understand and the sermons by NAFWB Executive Secretary, Rev. Keith Burden, were very good. After the meeting we were able to visit several of the FWB Churches before our flight back to Tokyo (We have 6 FWB Churches on Hokkaido and one church and a mission meeting place in Tokyo).

Continue to pray for Miss Mirial and the



FWB Church in Sapporo



The Japanese are religious but lost



South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists
 Rev Mike Jones, Executive Secretary
 P O Box 13266 Florence, SC 29504
 WWW. SCFWB.Com (843) 662-5010



THANKSGIVING



Pastor Tim Hackett rejoices as he works on the new Computer purchased for him by Fairview FWB Church of Spartanburg.



Pastor Ron Ogle of Happy Home FWB Church, Andrews recently ordained 2 Deacons to assist in their growing work. On the Left is Randy Gamble and on the right is Stacey Altman



Pastor Ron Ogle presents Jimmy Ard his 40th year perfect attendance pin. Glory!

A VERY pleasant surprise arrived in the mail for SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones, and Assistant Director, Rickey Evans in early October. **Black River FWB Church, Andrews** (Pastor Jeff Cockrell) sent each of them a check for \$50 for Pastor Appreciation with a great letter expressing their appreciation for the work done by the State Office and Christian Book Store. Glory! What a thoughtful church.

Attend Bible College Classes At Home—Free Will Baptist Bible College's Lifetime Learning classes are videotaped in the actual classes on campus and are available to anyone who would like study at home, either for college credit or non-credit.

Courses Available for Credit: The cost is \$296 per credit hour, with a \$25 registration fee.

- Old Testament Survey: Law and History—3 hours
- Old Testament Survey: Poetry and Prophecy—3 hours
- New Testament Survey: The Gospels—3 hours
- Marriage and the Family—5 hours
- Systematic Theology I—3 hours
- Systematic Theology II—3 hours
- Psalms—3 hours
- Isaiah—3 hrs.
- Christ in the Old Testament—2 hrs
- Biblical Ethics—2 hrs



Courses Also Available for Non-Credit: Courses can be taken for non-credit at \$150 flat fee, which includes all materials.

All of the above courses are available for non-credit as well as the following:

- Free Will Baptist Doctrines
- Homiletics

The college is offering scholarships to ordained Free Will Baptist ministers that will help them underwrite the cost of Lifetime Learning courses. If you would like more information regarding the Lifetime Learning program please contact Rusty Campbell- 615-844-5269 e-mail: rcampbell@fwbbc.edu
 mail: Free Will Baptist Bible College
 3606 West End Ave.
 Nashville, TN 37205

50 years and Still Pioneering



PLEASE SEND GIFTS TO:
 Free Will Baptist
 Home Missions Department
 P.O. Box 5002
 Antioch, TN 37011-5002



Benjamin Randall Day Offering
 Sunday, November 21, 2004

