

# THE



Vol. 43 Num 3  
Winter 2013

# INFORMER

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

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## 2014 SC FWB State Meeting

The 2014 South Carolina Free Will Baptist state meeting will be hosted by the Beaver Creek Association on February 27-28, 2014, at Turning Point Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg. The General Board will be meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2014, at 10 AM. Dr. David Gibbs Jr., Founder of the Christian Law Association, will be the main guest speaker. The Comfort Inn and Suites located at 154 Candlenut Lane in Spartanburg will be the headquarter hotel. A rate of \$59.95 is being provided for a room with two full beds, and a rate of \$69.95 is being provided for a room with two queen beds and a pull out sofa. In order to get these special rates, reservations must be made by February 5, 2014. Free breakfast and wifi are included in these rates. To make your reservations, call the Comfort Inn and Suites at 864-814-2001. The state meeting starts with registration at 8:30 AM on Thursday, February 27, 2014. The meeting continues throughout the day on Thursday with lunch being provided by the host church. The meeting will recess around 4:00 PM on Thursday and continue with an evening worship service at 7:00 PM. The meeting will resume at 9:00 AM on Friday morning and is set to adjournment at 3:00 PM or possibly sooner. Dr. David Gibbs will be speaking on Thursday morning, afternoon, and evening, as well as Friday morning. The option to pre-register is available online where you will also find additional information at [www.scfwb.com](http://www.scfwb.com).

On Wednesday evening after the General Board meeting, Turning Point FWB Church will be hosting a Camp Meeting Service which will start at 7:00 PM. Reverend David Crowe, National Free Will Baptist Home Missions Director, will be preaching the evening message, and special singing will be provided by the Parsons from Goshen, Indiana. Area churches are encouraged to combine their mid-week service with Turning Point Church for this special service, and everyone is invited to attend.

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## SC/NC Combined WAC Retreat

History was made as the ladies of North and South Carolina were involved in some friendly competition at a combined retreat on September 13-14, 2013, at the White Oaks Conference Center in Winnsboro, SC. Almost 250 women from the two states came together for a time to "Restore and Renew" as Terri Roberts challenged the women to have "Joy Through Adversity." She shared her personal battle with breast cancer and her personal struggle with the true story of what the Amish call, "The Happening" involving her son and his untimely death. WNAC Director Elizabeth Hodges had asked the women to supply bras for the women of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan as a much needed project. NC WAC President Diane Bridgman and SC WAC President Pam Hackett presented the challenge to the women of their states as a competitive effort to see which state could bring the most bras. The women were able to bring almost 1,000 bras to the retreat and SC was in the lead at last count with the Liberty FWB Church WAC in Lancaster bringing the most. Sandra Dail was the emcee for games on Friday evening. A special guest appearance was made by "Ms. Prim Rose" (Vada Lee) during the Friday evening events, and reporter Diane Bridgman was able to interview her as a part of a special skit. Voices were lifted in song during the retreat as the women sang praises together directed by Carolyn Riddick (NC) with Myra Leonard (SC) pianist. Special music provided by Dawn Fortner (SC), Megan Hurt (NC), Sandra Dail (SC), Kim Splawn (SC), and the Carolinian Ensemble blessed the hearts of the women throughout the retreat. The women also participated in special times of prayers. Amanda Sutton (SC) prayed for the home and family. Jackie Gasperson (NC) lead a time of prayer for church and pastors. Elfrieda Monday (SC) prayed for America. Pam West (NC) and Molly Barker (Uruguay) directed the hearts of the women to the needs of the missionaries. The teen girls had an opportunity of time together in a separate prayer room lead by Brittany Hendrix (SC). Elizabeth Hodges (TN) focused on the needs of the WNAC ministry. A sweet spirit was felt as the women left after forging many new relationships and sharing fellowship with one another.



### Duncan Baby Dedication

(L to R: Karen and Damon Duncan with Lilly Sophia and Pastor Todd Black)



Lilly Sophia Duncan, daughter of Rev. Damon and Kara Duncan, was dedicated to the Lord in a special service conducted by Pastor Todd Black at Turning Point Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg on July 28th. Rev. Damon Duncan recently accepted an interim pastorate position at Hope Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg. We congratulate Damon and Kara on the birth of their beautiful baby girl Lilly.

### Daniel Jackson Ordination

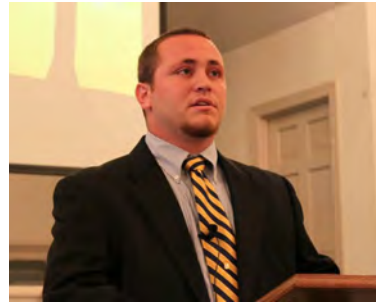


(L to R: Rev. Terry Dennis, Rev. Kevin Smith, Rev. Daniel and Mrs. Taylor Jackson, and Rev. Larry McAlister”

Reverend Daniel Jackson, a native

of Inman, South Carolina, was ordained into the Gospel ministry on Sunday, August 11, 2013, at Happy Home Free Will Baptist Church. Daniel was saved in 1997 and answered the call to preach in July 2010. He and his wife Taylor are from Westgate Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg. Daniel earned an Associate Degree from Foothills Theological Seminary in Landrum, South Carolina and is currently working on a Bachelor Degree through Andersonville Theological Seminary. During the ordination service, Reverend Larry McAlister, Eastern Conference Ordaining Council member and pastor at Gilead Free Will Baptist Church in Scranton, welcomed everyone to the service and shared opening remarks. Reverend Kevin Smith, the pastor at Westgate Free Will Baptist Church, preached the ordination message. Reverend Terry Dennis, Eastern Conference Ordaining Council member and the pastor at Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville, gave the ordination charge. At the end of the ordination service, Reverend Larry McAlister presented Daniel with his ordination Bible and certificate. Daniel accepted the pastorate at Happy Home Free Will Baptist Church toward the end of June 2013. We welcome him and his wife Taylor to the Eastern Conference and to Happy Home Free Will Baptist Church.

### Grace Youth Service



Griffin Sullivan Preaching

Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Lake City held a “Back to School Youth Service” on Sunday, August 25, 2013.

Several youth from toddlers to age 16 were involved by reciting Scriptures, the ten commandments, and the books of the New Testament. The youth also sang, performed skits, made the announcements, and took up the offering. Having driven from Coker College that morning, it was a big surprise for the church to hear Griffin Sullivan bring the morning message. It was an especially pleasant surprise for his parents Robert “Sully” and Donna Sullivan. At the end of the service “Mr. Sully,” who is also Florence School District 2 (Pamplico) Superintendent, shared back-to-school remarks.

Afterwards, five of Grace’s youth were baptized.



Sofie Purvis Baptism

### Deacons and Trustees Added

Pictured Left to Right: Tom Smith, Marion Coker, Charlie Purvis, Rodney Gibbs, Troy Bingham, Robert “Sully”



Sullivan, Tommy Sullivan, and Joel Jones.

On Sunday, August 4, 2013, Grace Free Will Baptist Church held a deacon ordination service and added four new deacons: Charlie Purvis, Rodney Gibbs, Troy Bingham, and Robert “Sully” Sullivan. They also added four new Trustees: Harry Poston, Tony Woodberry, Jayson Poston, and Thomas Welch. Grace Church extends their great appreciation to all of these men for stepping forward in leadership and in serving others through the ministry of their church.



## North Spartanburg 90th Anniversary



(Pastor Sammy Sutton welcomes everyone)

North Spartanburg Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg celebrated their 90th anniversary on Sunday, September 8, 2013, with an “Old Fashioned Sunday”. The church was organized in 1923 with founding pastor, Reverend Jim Stafford. In the beginning the church was known as Saxson Avenue Free Will Baptist Church. Years later the church moved to Farley Avenue in Spartanburg and became known as First Free Will Baptist Church of Spartanburg, under the leadership of Pastor Jack Millwood. On April 9, 1978 the church, with Pastor Robert Rose, moved to the current location on Belcher Road and became known as North Spartanburg Free Will Baptist Church. During the special 90th anniversary homecoming service, Reverend Sammy Sutton welcomed everyone to the service. Reverend Monte Guffey opened the service in prayer. Special singing was led by “2nd String,” a Bluegrass Gospel group from the upstate area. After intermission Reverend Bobby Bowers led in prayer. North Spartanburg Choir sang two songs. Josh Miller and Jerry McKelvey sang a special. Before Reverend Doyle Pruitt preached, his wife Linda Pruitt sang a special. Reverend Pruitt began with some fond memories of his pastorate at North Spartanburg and then preached on the “Jubilees” in the Bible. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal and fellowship after the service. The current pastor, Reverend Sammy Sutton began serving as pastor on September 18, 2011.

## Owen’s 30th Anniversary

The congregation of First Free Will Baptist Church of Kingstree celebrated “Pastor Appreciation Day” and Pastor Wayland Owen’s thirtieth anniversary as pastor of their church on Sunday, October 20, 2013. Reverend Wayland Owen’s officially became the pastor at First, Kingstree on September 18, 1983 after supplying the pulpit for several weeks. The service featured an eight minute video (prepared by his son, Daniel) showing pictures from the life and ministry of Reverend Wayland. A great testimonial by Mrs. Laura Burgess was shared regarding the ministry and work of Reverend Owens at the church. Before preaching a message about the importance of hearing the voice of God, Reverend Mike Jones led in a general church-wide “popcorn” testimony about Reverend Owens life and ministry. Reverend Wayland Owens quoted: “Thirty years ago my wife Susie and I came to Kingstree with our three children: Brandon, Laura, and Daniel, who was only six months old at the time. Our family has grown to seventeen, which includes nine grandchildren. God has been good, and I am thankful every day for my Savior, my church, and my family.” A church fellowship dinner completed the activities of the service. We congratulate Reverend Wayland Owens and his family for a wonderful ministry of many years at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kingstree.



(First, Kingstree, Rev. Wayland Owen’s Family)

### \*SC FWB Summer Youth Camps

Theme: “Soul Survivor”

Teen Camp - July 14-18, 2014 -

Camp Pee Dee, Marion, SC

Junior Camp - July 21-25, 2014 -

Camp Pee Dee, Marion, SC

### \*SC STATE CTS/NYC COMPETITION

The SC FWB State NYC Convention will be held on March 21-22, 2014, at Horse Branch FWB Church in Turbeville. Registration Friday - 6:30 PM and Saturday - 8:30 AM.

### Evergreen Note Burning



(Evergreen Note Burning)

On Sunday, November 10, 2013, Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church in Conway celebrated its 65th Homecoming. The events for the day began with special singing from “The Samuel Atkinson Trio” from Sylvester, GA. The morning message “A Homecoming Celebration” from Luke 15:11-32 was brought by Pastor Kevin Johnson. After the message, Pastor Kevin called the Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacons to the platform. It was explained that when Pastor Kevin came to Evergreen in 2010 the church debt was \$163,000. Pastor Kevin was able to announce to the church body that the church note was now paid in full as of October 2013. With a standing ovation from the body of the church, Pastor Kevin, the Trustees and Deacons proceeded to burn the church note. Doshia Bodenhamer, an original member of Evergreen since its beginning 1947, stated that it had always been her prayer to see the church debt-free. God has been and is continuing to pour out His blessings on the congregation of Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church. It was truly a blessed 65th Homecoming Service for the members of Evergreen Church.

### Evergreen Pastor Appreciation

On Sunday October 13, 2013, Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church in Conway honored Pastor Kevin Johnson and his family with a special service. The day started with Jackie Bussa leading the 4-7 year olds singing “We All Love Preacher Kevin”, and then Denise Edwards read pages from a book that children’s church had made entitled “All About Preacher Kevin” in which the children had answered various questions about Pastor Kevin. The morning message “Follow the Leader” was brought by Reverend Wesley Campbell. After the service, lunch was provided for all in the fellowship hall. Pastor Kevin and his family were given many gifts from the church members.

(Pastor Kevin Johnson with Evergreen Children)



### Fellowship Pastor Appreciation



“Pastor Bruce and Mrs. Joane Jones and family”)

Fellowship Free Will Baptist

Church in Florence enjoyed a day of fun and fellowship as they honored Pastor Bruce Jones and his family on October 27, 2013, with poems, a skit, cards, gifts and money. A special gift, a throw with a photograph of the church on it, was presented to them. After a sermon from Monroe Harrell, a meal was enjoyed by all in the fellowship hall.

### Pine Grove Pastor Appreciation

Pine Grove Free Will Baptist Church held “Pastor Appreciation” on Sunday, October 20, 2013, for Pastor George and Mrs. Joyce Brasington. The church provided them with a love offering. After the appreciation service, lunch was provided for everyone in attendance in the fellowship hall.



(“Pastor George and Mrs. Joyce Brasington”)

### Church Competes for Missions

Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in Santee had a competition between the ladies and men to see who could raise the most funds for the North America Missions Offering. Whoever won would have to serve the other group a meal. The men ended up winning, and the ladies had to serve them a delicious meal. The total offering raised was \$1,005.00 for National Home Missions.



## 50th Wedding Anniversary

(Jennings and Caroline Inman)

On June 21, 2013, Mr. Jennings and Mrs. Caroline Inman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They are members at Mt. Ariel Free Will Baptist Church in Conway. Mrs. Caroline is very active in our South Carolina Women Active for Christ serving as the Central Association Women Active for Christ Coordinator. We congratulate this wonderful couple on 50 years of marriage.



## Landmark Honored Keens



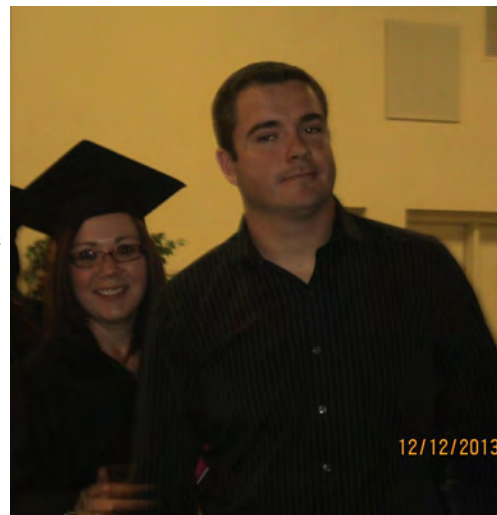
(Left to Right: Rev. Chad and Mrs. Sherrie West, Rev. Danny and Mrs. Jane Keen and Chairman Keith Erickson)

Landmark Free Will Baptist Church recently honored retiring Pastor Danny Keen with a special day. He was awarded a special title of "Pastor Emeritus" for the outstanding work he has done for the work of the Lord in Anderson. Reverend Keen came to Landmark when it only had a few members, and God allowed the attendance to gradually increase and quickly move into a building campaign. A new sanctuary with several class rooms was built. Reverend Danny and Mrs. Jane Keen faithfully served at Landmark Free Will Baptist Church for twenty years. He continues to remain faithful assisting the church even after his retirement. Landmark Free Will Baptist Church voted in Reverend Chad West, and he officially became their pastor on June 30, 2013. Landmark Church extends their best and all their love and appreciation to Reverend Danny and Mrs. Jane Keen for their love and ministry over the years.

## Pastor and Wife Receive Associates

("Rev. Chris and Mrs. Misty Todd")

Reverend Chris Todd, the pastor at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenwood, and his wife Misty both received their



Associates degree in December 2013. Reverend Chris Todd, a member of the South Carolina Home Mission Board, graduated from Andersonville Theological Seminary with a degree in "Biblical Studies." Mrs. Misty Todd received her degree from Piedmont Technical College in "Early Child Care Education" and graduated with a 4.0 GPA. Pastor Chris and Mrs. Misty Todd came to First, Greenwood in 2006 from Georgetown. They have two children, Gloria and Emmitt Todd. In addition to serving as a pastor, Reverend Chris Todd also owns his own business, "Covenant Contractors." In addition to being a mom, pastors' wife, and Children's Church teacher, Misty works a full time job as a day care manager. Although Misty had to overcome an eye disease from birth, she did not allow that to prevent her from getting a degree. With the support and love of her family and church, she chose to be an overcomer. We congratulate both Reverend Chris and Mrs. Misty Todd on their accomplishments and for their faithful ministry at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenwood.

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**\*St. John FWB Church in Patrick is seeking a pastor.** Please email resumes to shelbybailley49@yahoo.com, or contact Deacon Cecil McLain at 843-498-6254 for information.

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**\*Memorial Service for Missionary Geneva Poole** – Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham – Saturday, March 8, 2015 – 2:00 p.m.

## Rev. Carroll Alexander Memorial

Reverend Carroll Alexander passed away on Saturday, December 28, 2013. Born in Bethel, North Carolina, he was a son of the late Reverend D.W. and Margaret Alexander. He was a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College where he served as president of his senior class in 1954. He also received a master's degree from Columbia Bible College. He was ordained into the Gospel ministry in Winterville, North Carolina in 1954 and then became the pastor at Westside Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville. He later served as the pastor at Faith Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina, and served for many years as the pastor at Columbia Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina, where he served as pastor up until his retirement. Within the Free Will Baptist denomination, he held many offices including: Free Will Baptist Board of Trustees (Welch College), Clerk of the South Carolina Conference, Moderator of the South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association, Member of the Presbytery Board, and Conference Home Mission Board member. Surviving are his wife of 57 years, Anna Lee Alexander; daughter Martha Jane Drake (Paul) of Columbia; grandchildren, K.C. Alexander of Columbia, Kimberly Carol Alexander of Nashville, TN, Kyle Christopher Alexander of Columbia, Martha Diane Drake of Columbia; sister, Nancy Hart of Roanoke Rapids, NC; former daughter-in-law, Laura Alexander of West Columbia. Memorials may be made to Gideon International, 50 Century Blvd, Nashville, TN 37214; Welch College, 3603 West End Ave, Nashville, TN 37205; or Free Will Baptist International Missions, PO Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011. His life and ministry made a great impact for Christ, and he will be greatly missed.



## 2014 IRS STANDARD MILEAGE RATE

On behalf of those who may receive mileage reimbursements throughout the year, the 2014 IRS Standard Mileage Rate for business miles driven is 56 cents per mile, down a half a cent per mile from 2013.

## Memorial to Mrs. Leona Riffe

Leona Mae Rife, 50, the wife of Reverend Kevin Rife (True Life Conference), passed away Tuesday, July 23, 2013, at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. The funeral was held at Bratton Funeral Home on Saturday, July 27, 2013, with Reverend John Cody and Reverend Robert Wallace officiating. She was buried at Forest Hills Cemetery in Rock Hill. Leona was a daughter of George Jr. Walker and the late Lottie Ann Lester Walker. She was a member at Faith Free Will Baptist Church in Blacksburg. She is survived by her husband Reverend Kevin Rife of Sharon, South Carolina, son Wesley Rife of York, father George Jr. Walker of Panther, WV, brothers and sisters, Harold Walker (Zell) of Bland, VA, Linda Coleman (Arnold) of Bland, VA, Glenna Jones (Ronnie) of Raliegh, NC, Burgess Walker of Bland, VA, and Clint Walker (Pam) of Max Meadows, VA. She will be greatly missed.

## Memorial to Rev. Robert Baker

Reverend Robert Baker, 70, member of the Central Association, passed away August 4, 2013 at Conway Medical Center surrounded by his family. Reverend Robert Baker was born February 5, 1943, a son of the late Willie Franklin Baker and the late Lellia Shannon Hucks. He was a member of the Damascus Free Will Baptist Church in Conway. He was predeceased by his late wife Audra Johnson Baker and infant daughter Polly Ann Baker. Surviving Reverend Robert Baker are three daughters, Lynn Strickland, Melissa Ann Baker, Jessica Ruggiero and her husband Rikki, all of Conway. He is also survived by two brothers, Willie C. Baker, Holiday Baker both of Conway, six sisters, Bonnie Todd, Dorothy Todd, Carrie Larrimore, Linda Hardee, Rosie Cannon, all of Conway, Sheila Faye Hucks of Florence, three grandchildren, Kimberly Strickland, Joshua Branton, Brooklyn Ruggiero, and a special nephew, Steve Singleton of Conway. The funeral for Reverend Robert Baker was held at Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church in Conway on Wednesday, August 7, 2013, with Reverend Bobby Johnson and Reverend Allen Brown officiating. Burial took place in the Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church cemetery.





## Memorial Missionary Geneva Poole



Geneva Poole, veteran missionary to Brazil, entered her heavenly home November 20, 2013. Diagnosed with lung cancer in April 2012, Mrs. Poole began an aggressive regimen of treatment. However, eventually the cancer spread to other parts of her body. Even as cancer raged, her trust in the Lord and His plan for

her remained firm as did her determination to continue to serve Him as He provided strength. Bobby and Geneva were appointed to missionary service in Brazil in April 1960. They were married in September and entered Brazil as newlyweds in December 1960. The couple has served faithfully through the tenures of all six of the Mission's general directors. When the Pooles entered Brazil, less than 2% of the people claimed to be Protestant Christians. Today, that number has risen to approximately 23%. Ribeirão Preto, an educational center in the state of São Paulo, has been the Pooles' place of service since February 1962. They started four churches in the area. Geneva continued to plan, develop, and prepare vacation Bible school materials and teach in the seminary over the last year. Geneva accepted Christ when she was 13 years old in 1950 at Lebanon FWB Church in Effingham, South Carolina. At a young age, she developed a conviction that God wanted her on the mission field. That conviction was confirmed while at Welch College. Bobby and Geneva have garnered 53 years of faithful missionary service and spent much of 2013 in transition in preparation to retire on December 31, 2013. Over the years, they engaged in prison ministry, prepared Bible studies, established a long-running radio ministry and telephone answering service that shared Scripture 24/7, sponsored vacation Bible schools, began and promoted camps and retreats to foster spiritual growth and encourage community, and founded a Bible institute/seminary that has trained men and women for more than 40 years. Geneva Poole leaves behind her husband Bobby and sons Robert and John, both born in Brazil, and their families. There will be a memorial service to honor her life at Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church located at 7001 Friendfield Road in Effingham, South Carolina on Saturday, March 8, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Her life and ministry has left a great legacy, and she will be greatly missed.

## SC 2014 ETEAM Members

There are six teens from South Carolina that are participating in 2014 Summer ETEAM mission trips. Half of their funds are due to FWB International Missions by February 15, 2014, and the remaining funds are needed by May 1, 2014. Gifts for ETEAM members can be sent through the SC FWB State Office, PO Box 9, Turbeville, SC 29162. The following are a list of 2014 South Carolina Free Will Baptist ETEAM members and where they will be going on their mission trips: 1) Thomas Smith (New Prospect FWB Church, Pamplico) - Japan; 2) Jessica Bell (Peace FWB Church, Florence) - Panama; 3) Austin Barrett (First FWB Church, Greenwood) - Brazil; 4) Victoria Baker (Damascus FWB Church, Conway) - Brazil; 5) Hannah Reid (First FWB Church, Greenwood) - Japan; and 6) Brianna Coker (Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville) - France. In advance, thank you for considering to help the 2014 SC ETEAM members. To learn more about Free Will Baptist International Missions summer ETEAM mission trips, visit <http://fwbgo.com/go/student-missions/e-team>.

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## SC WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST (SC WAC) NEWS

\*Central Annual District WAC Meeting - Saturday, February 15, 2014 - Little Star FWB Church, Johnsonville - 9:15 a.m.

\*South Carolina Conference District Annual WAC Meeting - Saturday, February 22, 2014, at Horse Branch FWB Church in Turbeville - 9:00 a.m.

\*Beaver Creek District Annual WAC Meeting - Saturday, March 1, 2014, at Fairview FWB Church, Spartanburg - 9:00 a.m.

\*SC Women Active for Christ Annual STATEWIDE meeting - Saturday, March 15, 2014, at Mr. Ariel FWB Church, Conway - 8:30 a.m.

\*SC WAC State Retreat - September 12-13, 2014, at the White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, SC.

## Does My Church Have to Pay Sales Tax?

The following are good questions and ones that are often asked: “Does my church have to pay sales tax on items purchased?” or “What is the sales tax exemption number?”. Certain nonprofit organizations in South Carolina may be exempt from sales and use tax on items sold by the organization for charitable purposes. The exemption applies ONLY to items purchased for RESALE and does NOT apply to items purchased by an organization for its own use. For example, if a church has an exemption certificate granted to them by the SC Department of Revenue and has a meal fund raiser for missions, then the supplies purchased for the resale of items might be exempt. However, if a church purchases office equipment, worship equipment, or other items that are going to be used or consumed for ministry purposes, sales tax would need to be paid on those items. Retailers may not understand this and might request a sales tax exemption number from a church. A church must meet ALL three of the following criteria to be granted a SC sales tax exemption certificate: 1) The goods are being sold, 2) The organization qualifies for property tax exemption under SC code, and 3) The church is a 501(c)(3) organization exempt from Federal tax under the IRS. The South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association Federal ID number and the National Association of Free Will Baptist federal exemption numbers should not be used for South Carolina sales tax exemption purposes. The exemption number would come from the certificate granted by the South Carolina Department of Revenue when the church applies for a sales tax exemption certificate. The following guide to “SC Sales Tax Exemption for Non Profits” will help in answering questions and give instructions on how a church might apply for a sales tax exemption certificate: <http://www.sctax.org/nr/rdonlyres/2e4fc39d-bbe2-4b26-8344-5f5ad80cf37b/0/pub4.pdf>.

### Cornerstone, Whiteville Seeks Pastor

Cornerstone FWB Church in Whiteville, North Carolina (Central Association) is currently seeking a pastor. For more information or to send a resume, contact:

Harry Lee, Deacon  
7160 New Britton Hwy E  
Whiteville NC 28472  
Phone: (910) 770-2951  
Email: [hdl9453@yahoo.com](mailto:hdl9453@yahoo.com)

## Welch College Emphasis Month

Free Will Baptist International Missions Director Clint Morgan: “In 1968, I graduated from Person County High School in Roxboro, North Carolina. In the fall I was off to Free Will Baptist Bible College [now Welch College]. In all honesty I did not want to go there because I had wandered away from the Lord and going to a Bible College was not high on my list. However, my Dad, Rev. A.C. Morgan, a Free Will Baptist pastor, was of a different opinion. He said very clearly, ‘You can go to any college you want to, but you will go to Free Will Baptist Bible College one year’. Just let me say that was non-negotiable, so off I went to start my educational venture. I had very clear intentions of leaving after my obligatory one year. Little did I know that it was at this wonderful college I would meet my future wife; develop life time friendships; get a solid Bible-based education that prepared me for future ministry; and see my personal life move from hypocrisy to whole hearted commitment to obeying His direction. I would not trade anything for the years I spent at Welch College. My love for Welch is deep and enduring. I have had the privilege over the past few years of teaching several mission courses at Welch. Few things give me the joy that I sense when I am with the students at the college. I feel as if I am giving back a bit to the institution that so profoundly shaped my life. As you may know, February is the emphasis month for Welch College. Let’s join in the efforts of Welch with our time, talents and treasures during this month and in the future to help ensure its ongoing ministry of forming future leaders.” We encourage our South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches to receive a love offering in February for Welch College to help educate leaders to serve Christ, His Church, and His world through Biblical thought and life. Please feel free to forward gifts through the SC FWB State Office, PO Box 9, Turbeville, SC 29162. Designate your gift as “February Welch College Emphasis Month” or “Paul Ketteman Emphasis.” Thank you for what you have done and what you will do for Welch College. For more information, visit [www.welch.edu/kssd](http://www.welch.edu/kssd).





## Donald Davis Ordination

(Pastor Chris Todd presenting ordination certificate to Rev. Donald Davis)



Donald Davis became a believer in Christ at a youth revival in 1969. He was a member at the Canton Free Will Baptist Church in Canton, North Carolina. He married Vickie Rathbone in 1973. They have two children. Their family moved to Greenwood, South Carolina in 1977 and became part of what was the First Free Will Baptist, Greenwood mission church at that time. Donald served as a Sunday school teacher, deacon, treasurer, clerk, and served on various committees. He currently teaches the adult Sunday school class at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenwood. Two years ago he announced his call into the ministry and was ordained on December 1, 2013.

## First Aid for Your Health

**FIRST AID**  
for YOUR Health

Edward E. Moody, Jr., Ph.D.



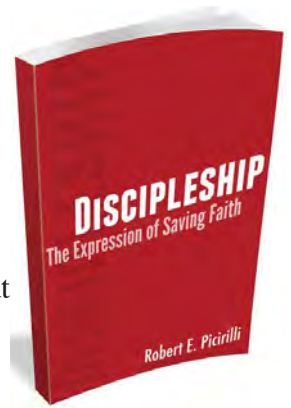
Are you tired of feeling tired? Thinking about taking a run, but feel like you will not last two seconds? If you don't take care of yourself, you will find yourself overwhelmed and burned out. "But where do I start? The gym? More sleep?" Yes and yes. But have you ever thought of the significance your spiritual health plays in obtaining good physical health? What if you could be healthier by making some slight changes in your life? Dr. Edward Moody gives 10 therapeutic life changes that will lead not only to better physical health, but also better spiritual health. Through solid research and the teachings of Scripture, Dr. Moody will help you to look at your life holistically and make those changes you need to make to lead you to a healthier life. To order this new addition to Dr. Edward Moody's First Aid series for \$4.99 each (plus shipping and handling), call the FWB Christian Book and Supply at 800-319-2346, or email us your order at [bookstore@scfwb.com](mailto:bookstore@scfwb.com).



++ MAKING 10 THERAPEUTIC LIFE CHANGES

## Discipleship by Dr. Picirilli

Dr. Robert Picirilli has recently published a new book entitled *Discipleship* through Randal House Publications. *Discipleship* is a great read for those who have grappled with questions like: What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? Is being a disciple of Jesus the same thing as being a Christian? What does a life of discipleship look like? Dr. Picirilli provides practical answers and applications for the reader through an exhaustive study of what the New Testament writers said about the requirements for salvation. He offers sound, comprehensive exegesis demonstrating that repentance, obedience, and discipleship are biblical expressions of saving faith. To order your copy of the book *Discipleship* for \$14.99 each (plus shipping and handling), call the FWB Christian Book and Supply at 800-319-2346, or email us your order at [bookstore@scfwb.com](mailto:bookstore@scfwb.com).



## Morgans Welcome Sofia



Neil and Mandi Morgan, missionaries to Uruguay, welcomed their newest missionary child, Sofia Noel, into their family.

Sofia was born on July 25, 2013 and weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces. Neil and Mandi have two other children, Emma Catherine and Aubrey. Neil and Mandi are currently on their year stateside assignment. If you would like to schedule a mission service with them, please email Neil at [nmorgan@fwbgo.com](mailto:nmorgan@fwbgo.com). Please pray for them as they travel this year.

## 2014 WMO

The World Missions Offering (WMO) is one means of funding the purpose of the FWB International Missions to help plant churches overseas. The National Association of Free Will Baptists has designated the last Sunday in April for churches across the denomination to receive a love offering for International Missions. The 2014 WMO Sunday is April 27, 2014. We encourage all our South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches to participate in this year's WMO.

## News From Spain



(Tim & Kristi Johnson)

When we first left for Spain, we were commissioned as missionaries and sent out to “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” We took that

call seriously. We have gone to many places we would never had dreamed. We have taught the Bible to people from several different nations. And, following God’s command, we have been privileged to be a part of many different baptisms. But none compare with the baptism we celebrated recently. Not only did Alejandro become a teenager on June 9th, but on that same day he also took the all-important step of being baptized. He, along with two other people in the Alpedrete Church, first gave testimonies of God’s work in their lives. Then we all watched as they were submersed in the water, signifying their death to their old life and their birth to a new life. As each one of them came up from under the water, we began to sing different verses of “He Decido Seguir a Cristo...” (I have Decided to Follow Jesus) It was a beautiful moment for us as parents to see our child choosing to follow Christ. But also as missionaries, we were thrilled to see some of our “spiritual children”, who have been in classes and Bible studies with us, make a public profession of their faith. It was truly a gratifying day for us! Over the years, you have been a huge part of sending us to Spain. You have prayed for us. You have supported us. You have encouraged us. Because of that, people in Spain have been taught and baptized “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

-Tim, Kristi, Alejandro, and Ana

## Brazil Mission Trip



(Left to Right: Rev. Sean Fortner, Charles Tapp, and Rev. Todd Black)

Reverend Sean Fortner, the pastor at First Free Will Baptist Church in Inman along with Charles Tapp,

Steve Brown, and Reverend Todd Black, the pastor at Turning Point Free Will Baptist Church, went to Brazil to visit the mission work of Missionary Andy Moore in Juiz de Fora Brazil. The trip took place October 1-8, 2013. They helped pass out over 1,200 gospel tracts the Saturday before their fourth anniversary service, which had a record attendance of 111 people. They were also able to do some maintenance work on their current building. The Moores are currently in the middle of a building program which will help double their current seating capacity. Regarding the trip, Reverend Todd Black said, “I was very impressed with this ministry and its leadership. They are truly sold out for Christ and 100% dedicated to this work in Brazil. It is certainly worthy of support.”

## Powell Retires

After twelve years of faithful service to the Home Missions Department, Reverend Larry Powell has tendered his resignation. Ordained to the ministry in 1960 in his home state of Georgia, he is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College (Welch) and Bob Jones University. Larry and wife Wanda were missionary church planters for several years establishing churches and Christian schools in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, and McAllen, Texas. Continuing his passion for missions, Brother Powell came in 2001 to head up the Home Missions Department in Nashville, Tennessee. Under his direction, seventy-five new church planters have benefited from his experience. Brother Larry emphasized and expanded the team approach to planting churches. It is a major help to the missionaries to have co-workers with them as they follow the Lord’s leading to their individual fields of service. The Church Extension Loan Fund (CELFL) grew to \$50 million dollars in investments during that time. Thirty-five new Free Will Baptist churches were established all across the United States as a part of the Hispanic Ministry under the umbrella of the Home Missions Department. The department wishes to thank Brother Larry and Wanda for their service and wish them well as they enjoy being with family and time of retirement. He will not slow down but will continue to find places of ministry for the Lord.



## Home Missions New Director



(David Crowe)

David Crowe has been selected by the Home Mission Board to be the new general director of the National Association

of Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department. He officially began his duties on December 1, 2013. David has been working diligently in Home Missions for the past eighteen years. During that time, he spent six years as the director of missionary assistance, working solely with the missionaries on an individual basis. He then devoted his time to six years as director of evangelism, preaching and encouraging pastors and people throughout the nation. For the past six years, he has worked with the Church Extension Loan Fund (CELF) helping the missionaries acquire meeting places, as well as working with loans and investments. David was converted at the age of nine and began preaching at age 19 at First FWB Church in Winfield, Alabama. His multifaceted ministry has taken him to places of service in Alabama and Tennessee. He has conducted numerous revivals and youth camps with multitudes of decisions made for Christ. David is credited with establishing the Upper Cumberland Bible Institute which has already trained over 400 men and women for the ministry. David's burden is to help our home missionaries in their quest to plant Free Will Baptist churches through all areas of ministry in Home Missions. The Home Missions Department welcomes David into this new task for the Lord. David and wife, Kathey, labor together in the Lord's work. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

## Welch College ITF Dinner

Left to Right: Gary Frye, David Brown (FWB Foundation), Mike Edwards, and Debbie Mouser



On Friday, September 20, 2013, Welch College Representatives Mike Edwards, Debbie Mouser, and Gary Frye, along with FWB Foundation Director David Brown came to South Carolina for the Welch College Ignite the Flame Dinner hosted at Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church in Effingham. During the meeting, Mrs. Mouser met with prospective high school students while Mike Edwards and Gary Frye gave an update on the needs at Welch College. The steak dinner meal for everyone was provided by Lebanon Church. The meal proved to be a great fund raiser event for Welch College. Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do in supporting Welch College.

## St. John Baby Dedication

On Sunday, November 17, 2013, St. John Free Will Baptist Church held a baby dedication service. Pastor Tommy and Mrs. Jill Haseden's three youngest children, Jacob Thomas Haseden, Joel Riley Haseden, and Emma Faith Haseden, were all dedicated to the Lord. Also, Jamie and Amy Gaskin's two children, Jamie Warren Gaskins and Annagail Winter Gaskins, were dedicated. In addition, Iyama Lay, the daughter of Angel Lay, was dedicated to the Lord. The message and dedication was brought by SC FWB Executive Secretary Todd Smith. Please pray for these and all Christian parents as they rear their children in the admonition of the Lord Jesus.





**Heb. 6:19**

**IS YOUR CHURCH INCORPORATED?**

We encourage all churches that are a part of our South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association to be incorporated. When a church is incorporated, it legally protects the assets of individual members in the case of a law suit. If you are unsure if your church is incorporated, you can search the name of your church on the South Carolina Secretary of State’s website (www.scsos.com). Click on “Corporation Search” in the right column, and then enter the full or partial name of your church in the “Corporation Name” box and click search. If your church is not incorporated, a Non-Profit Domestic application must be completed and submitted to the Secretary of State’s Office with a \$25 application fee. You can download the Non-Profit Domestic Incorporation Application on our SC FWB website (www.scfwb.com). Click on “Helpful Links” at the top of the page and then click on “Helpful Forms.” Then click on “Application for Non-profit Domestic Incorporation” to download and print the form. If you have questions on how to complete the form or to gain further information, you can reach the Corporation Department at the Secretary of State’s Office by calling 803-734-2158. They are willing to assist with any questions that you might have. With respect to taxes, zoning regulations, building regulations, fire regulations, health regulations, and employment regulations, an unincorporated church is subject to governmental laws to the same extent as incorporated churches.

**Dr. Pinson’s Blog**

Dr. Matt Pinson, president of Welch College, launched a blog on January 24 entitled MatthewPinson.com. “I’ve finally decided to start a blog,” Pinson said. “For years people have suggested that I start blogging. Many of them have used the argument that the president of our nationally sponsored denominational college needs to be blogging. I suppose this is what finally got me thinking about it.” The blog, with the three descriptors, “Christianity, Leadership, Culture,” will primarily discuss matters of how Christian faith affects believers’ lives, families, and churches as they interact with culture. President Pinson’s blog may be accessed at MatthewPinson.com.

**Executive Secretary Schedule**

**January**

- 8 Gilead FWB Church, Scranton
- 10 SC Home Mission Board Meeting
- 11 Central Association Meeting
- 12 Bay Branch FWB Church
- 16 Cornerstone Estate Planning Meeting
- 18 True Life Conference
- 19 Calvary FWB Church, Gastonia
- 21 Lake City Minister Luncheon
- 21 Dorn VA Hospital – Visitation
- 24 SC Conference Annual Meeting
- 26 First FWB Church, N. Charleston
- 30 Beaver Creek Association

**February**

- 2 Cypress Fork FWB Church, Manning
- 9 First FWB Church, Hartsville
- 11 SC FWB Executive Committee Meeting
- 11 Funeral – Rev. David Hutchinson
- 15 Central District Annual WAC Meeting
- 16 Evergreen FWB Church, Conway
- 18 Lake City Minister Luncheon
- 22 SC Conference District Annual WAC
- 23 Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham
- 26 SC FWB General Board Meeting
- 27-28 SC FWB State Meeting

**Deckard Approved for Missions**

Matt Deckard, one of our SC FWB Christian Book & Supply previous bookstore managers and his wife Halie received approval for a two-year assignment as interns with The Hanna Project in Southern France. Matt grew up in Missouri. After two years, and an associate’s degree, at a local college, Matt transferred to Welch College in Nashville, Tennessee, where he obtained a B. A. in English. Halie grew up in South Carolina, attended Welch College, and earned a B.A. Matt and Halie married a few months after graduation in 2010. The couple has lived, worked, and served in South Carolina and Tennessee. They plan to reach the immigrant community among whom they will live in France through teaching English.