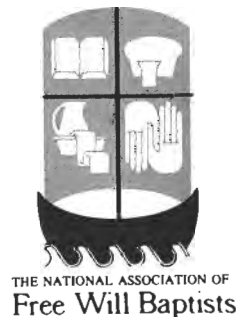


# The Informer



*The Informer* is the official bi-monthly publication of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists. Address all correspondence to Ron Moore, Editor, Post Office Box 13266, Florence, South Carolina, 29504 or call (803) 662-5010.

## South Carolina Roll Call Sunday Breaks Milestones

According to statistical information received on Roll Call Sunday, March 28, 1996, South Carolina Free Will Baptist Church attendance increased by 15% in 1996. One hundred nineteen churches reported a total attendance of 13,179 for an average attendance of 110 people per church. This set a new milestone for South Carolina, marking the first time that this average exceeded 100. The average attendance for 1995 was 98 per church. The greatest blessing of the day, however, was the 133 decisions made for God. This, too, was a new milestone.

Several churches set new highs for Roll Call Sunday. The top five churches in attendance were:

First, Inman .....	749
Mullins-Marion, Mullins .....	523
Valley Falls, Spartanburg .....	503
High Point, Lancaster .....	408
White Savannah, Conway .....	370

About two-thirds of our churches showed growth from 1995 to 1996. The churches with the largest percentage of increase were:

### Category A: 1 to 49

Landmark, Anderson .....	245%
Southside, Aiken .....	235%

### Category B: 50 to 99

Westside, Johnsonville .....	126%
South Conway .....	121%

### Category C: 100-199

Mt. Trolley, Galivants Ferry .....	58%
Fairview, Spartanburg .....	48%

### Category D: 200-299

White Savannah, Conway .....	36%
First, Kingstree .....	18%

### Category E: 300+

First, Inman .....	46%
High Point, Lancaster .....	23%

Churches with the most decisions were:

Valley Falls, Valley Falls .....	33
North Spartanburg, Inman .....	10
Trinity, Spartanburg .....	8
First, Kingstree .....	8
Fairview, Spartanburg .....	7

Praise the Lord for His blessings to our churches and for the 133 decisions made on Roll Call Sunday! Congratulations to the many churches that worked hard to make this the greatest day of attendance in South Carolina Free Will Baptist history!

## "The Oneness He Brings" By Dale Edwards

Catch the excitement as twenty-six people leave Maranatha Christian School. We promenade on the Champs-Elysees, gaze at Paris from the Eiffel Tower, view art at the Louvre, walk through the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles. We travel to the foot of the matthehorn, retrace the steps of John Wesley in London, and view the White Cliffs of Dover.



Maranatha Christian School Tour Group

Moving at 180 miles an hour on the TGV (train), we go to St. Nazaire, France, where Jerry and Barbara Gibbs and people from their church greet us. We go to the church for pizza and fellowship. Students nervously await assignments to home in which they will spend the next three nights. God went ahead of us to place people in the right spots. Soon, French and American youth are having a great time. Come Tuesday, departure time, tears would be shed with the goodbyes.

The Sunday service brings special blessings. There are 125 people present, a far cry from the six or eight that Bro. Jerry remembers being in services over twenty years ago. We participate in communion, using the common cup as is the custom in France. The music is excellent. An elderly lady read an original poem with such meaning that I asked Barb to tell me about her. She and her husband went to St. Nazaire to begin a church. The man died before a work was established. This dear lady prayed two years for God to send someone to start a church. The arrival of Jerry and Barb Gibbs is the answer to her prayers. In a country smaller than Texas where only 1.77% of the 57 million population is Christian, we are blessed to worship and fellowship with some of God's finest servants! (Continued page 2)

### ***The Oneness He Brings, continued***

Three Free Will Baptist Churches meet for fellowship at Pervanchere Chateaux near Nantes on Monday after Easter. There is lots of food, perhaps a characteristic of Free Will Baptists everywhere! Young people divide into teams for "the hunt" after lunch. They search for answers to Bible questions and quote Scripture verses. Each group makes a cross from sticks. Later, we gather around on the ground and on huge stumps. We are touched as we sang such hymns as *Blessed Assurance* and *What a Friend*, some verses in English and some in French. Both French and Americans give testimonies. It is evident that these believers know God; there is a strong sense of unity. "There's a quiet understanding when we're gathered in the Spirit . . . We Know when we're together, sharing love and understanding that our brothers and sisters feel the oneness that He brings," prayed an English pastor. Afterwards, we go back to St. Nazaire where hungry Americans and French eat hamburgers at McDonald's.

I recall Psalms as I view the awe-inspiring Alps. Truly, they are the work of the Lord. God existed before the mountains (Ps. 90:2). God makes us glad through his works (Ps. 92:4). Words don't convey the grandeur, the depth of the valleys, the height of the mountains. God's presence is real as we ride the Glacier Express and walk the streets of Lucerne, Zermat, and Geneva--where we visit the Wall of the Reformation.

All Aboard! It is the ferry across the English Channel going to Dover. We journey to Canterbury Cathedral, made famous by Chaucer. We hear the pipe organ and the choir practicing for Evensong. It is on to London for a traditional fish and chips meal. We attend a service at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, the church founded by Charles Spurgeon. As one man said, "All that remains the same from Spurgeon's time is the message. We don't want icons or memorials."

All that remains for us is a long trip back to Florence. Well, not exactly. Each person who went on this trip is different for having gone. Christ is for the whole world, not just for those who are like us. Little does it matter the language we speak or the color of our skin. Christ died for all; the message has not changed. What are we doing to get the message to others? We can pray for Alain Dupoue, Thierry Boistuand, Brigitte and Gerard Payen, and Harry and Dany Atkisson to be saved. They attend services often at the Eglise Baptiste Libre in St. Nazaire.

## ***Florence First Hosts "Pop" Willey Basketball Tournament***

March 23, 1996 proved to be an exciting day of Free Will Baptist fun and fellowship at the gym of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Florence. The church hosted a basketball tournament designed to raise money for the annual "Pop" Willey Foreign Missions Offering. A total of eight area Free Will Baptist Churches took part in the tournament: Lebanon, Effingham; Peace, Florence; Hillside, Florence; Southside, Darlington; Sandhill, Coward; Bay Branch, Timmonsville; Fellowship, Florence; and First, Florence. By days end two tired teams, Peace and Bay Branch, met to compete in the championship game. They were closely matched, but in the end Peace squeezed out a close victory.



**Peace Basketball Team--First Place**

Congratulations are in order, not only for the champions of the tournament, but for all the teams that participated in the event. Their combined efforts raised \$1,040 toward the "Pop" Willey Offering. The funds were designated for the Carlisle Hanna account.

Brother Melvin Haas organized the event. Plans are for the tournament to become an annual event. Toward that end, **the following challenge is issued to churches in the Spartanburg area:** Hold your own regional basketball tournament next year and send two teams to compete in the "Final Four" against two regional teams from the Pee Dee!

## ***Inman Sends Out Two Summer Missionaries***

Two young women from First Free Will Baptist Church, Inman, SC, will be serving as summer missionaries. Missy Gilbert, daughter of Dr. and Mrs Vance Gilbert, Jr., and Andrea Woodfin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carson Woodfin will both be going out as summer missionaries. Missy will work at

a summer youth camp in Moldova, one of the smallest C.I.S. countries of Eastern Europe.

Andrea will work with Stan and Brenda Bunch in Panama. Both young ladies are graduates of Inman Christian Academy and are currently attending Southeastern Free Will Baptist College. Missy will need \$1,400 and Andrea, \$3,000. The church is helping to underwrite their expenses.

Praise the Lord for parents that have given their children to God. And praise the Lord for churches that train their children to serve God and then sends them into the fields that are ripe unto harvest!

## ***South Conway Mission Organizes Into Church***

On March 24, 1996, the South Conway Free Will Baptist Mission, held its church organizational service. Brother Ron Moore, Promotional Director, preached and led the charter members in the reading of the Church Covenant. Forty-two charter members joined the Church during the service.

The South Conway Mission began its ministry in August 1993, in an old Catholic Church in downtown Conway. In February 1994, the thirty-five member congregation leased another building on the edge of town. In November of that year, the congregation bought five acres of land in south Conway and paid off the mortgage in just six months. In March 1995, they began a building program on the newly acquired property. A lovely sanctuary, educational facility and fellowship hall were completed in December of that year. The congregation held its first service in the new church on Christmas Eve and dedicated the building to the Lord on January 7, 1996.



**South Conway F.W.B. Church**

Since moving to the new location in south Conway, thirty-six people have been saved. The Church's average attendance is in the nineties. Ray Cribb is founder of the mission work and pastor of the newly organized congregation. May God continue to bless this fine congregation!

## ***A New Look At Williams Hill***



Williams Hill F.W.B. Church, Hemingway, has undergone a series of renovation projects over the last year, giving the church a new look. The congregation remodeled the sanctuary by opening up the stage area, installing new chandelier lighting and new carpet, and recovering the pews. A connecting breezeway between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall, complete with restrooms, was added. Through a project of the Woman's Auxiliary, the church was able to cover the fellowship hall's floor with new linoleum. Praise the Lord for this fine congregation and their care of God's house.

## ***Westside Auxiliary Sponsors Auctions***

The Woman's Auxiliary at Westside F.W.B. Church in Johnsonville, SC, sponsored an auction during their February fellowship supper to raise funds for Kristi and Tim Johnson. Kristi and Tim are going to Ivory Coast as summer missionaries. Cakes sold for \$45.00 and up and jelly sold for as much as \$32.00 a jar! Rev. Theron Scott, the pastor, made a cedar swing that was also put on the auction block. The Auxiliary raised \$1,120 toward their trip. The church had provided Kristi's airline fare, so their fundraising was well on the way. Jimmy and Jamie Aldridge were with them that evening. Brother Jimmy shared with them about the Russian ministry.

The church had such a good time that they decided to hold another auction in March to raise funds for Kimberlee Scott. Kimberlee is going as a member of TEAM Brazil this summer. The ladies of the Auxiliary furnished BBQ chicken plates and lots of baked goods for the auction. One cake sold for \$100 this time! Brother Scott made two swings and they were hot items. The second auction raised \$2,610. Since the church had also provided funds for Kimberlee, God has graciously met her needs. The excess funds that were raised

have been designated toward Kimberlee's first year at Bible College in the Fall.

What a special privilege it is for God to call out, not one, but two summer missionaries from the same church! And what a joy it is to see that church so excited about giving their children to God and sending them into the harvest field! God's blessings will surely be on them and their children.

## ***North Spartanburg Sponsors Work Group at Children's Home***

Brother Vernon Wall, a member of North Spartanburg F.W.B. Church, headed a work group at the Children's Home in Turbeville April 12 and 13, 1996. This is the third year that he has led this effort to help the home with various maintenance projects. This year the group took care of several electrical, carpentry and painting needs. One of the group members, Calvin Rhineheart, made and installed cabinet doors for the bathrooms. Past projects have included roofing, renovation of the back porch, and painting.



**Members of the Work Group**

Other group members included Dot Wall, John Morell, Richard Brooks, Melanie Ubanks, Andrea Wall, Janet Bartlett, Darl Hammacher, Wayne and Linda Hopkins, Wendy Hollyfield, Keith Buchannon, Pat Marsham and Bob Meinyer from North Spartanburg F.W.B. Church. Jackie Quick and his son Charlie came down from Liberty F.W.B. Church in Orangeburg on Saturday.

Brother Wall would like for this to become an annual event. One of the home's greatest needs is the replacement of 28 windows in the dorms and recreation rooms. The average monthly winter heating bill is \$3600. By replacing these windows, Brother Wilhide estimates that the home could save at least 20% in energy costs. The total cost of this project will be \$11,000. They have already raised some funds, but they need another \$7,800 by September. Would you

consider helping meet this need? If so, you may send your gift through the Promotional Office or directly to the Children's Home designated "window project."

## ***Beaver Creek Bible Institute Graduates Twenty-one***

The Beaver Creek Bible Institute held its annual commencement exercise on March 29, 1996 at Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church. Twenty-one students received certificates. Seventeen received the Graduate of Theology. They are James Blume, Rev. Jack Cotner, Kathryn Cotner, Rev. Kenneth Cash, Rev. Ron Huddleston, Missie Jones, Doris Rogers, Rev. Richard Suttle, Rev. Tommy Bryson, Jr., Rev. James Sanders, Billy D. Gibson, Vivian B. Vanderford, Curtis R. Haynes, Sandra Haynes, Deborah Parker, Tincy Inman, and Sarah Walker. Five students received the Bachelor of Theology. They are Rev. Kenneth Cash, Rev. Ron Huddleston, Rev. Richard Suttle, Rev. Tommy Bryson, Jr., and Rev. James Sanders. Congratulations to these fine students and their faithful efforts to become more skilled in the Word of God.

The Institute is a ministry of the Beaver Creek Association. The Association has a long tradition of commitment to preparing Christians of its member churches to better serve the Lord. Many years ago, they adopted a rule that all ministers without formal biblical training must attend the Institute before being licensed.

### **Promotional Office Property Fund Report**

**Balance due January 1997**

**\$14,400**

**Balance on hand May 1996**

**\$2,000**

**Funds still needed**

**\$12,400**

We need your help to raise the remaining \$12,400. **This will be the last payment on the property.** Will your church consider making a special gift to the fund?

## **Carroll Bazen Licensed By Eastern Conference**

The Eastern Conference gave Brother Carroll Bazen a license to preach during its Quarterly Conference, March 23, 1996. Brother Carroll is a member of Gilead Free Will Baptist Church and a high school senior at New Prospect Christian Academy. He was saved in 1988 and announced his call to preach during a youth service in November 1995. After graduation, Brother Carroll plans to attend Southeastern FWB College. He is available for supply preaching and you may contact him at 389-2506, Scranton, SC.



## **Mt. Zion Mission Begins in Blacksburg**

Rev. Leroy Sexton began the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Mission in Blacksburg, South Carolina March 3, 1996. The group is meeting on West Pine Street in Blacksburg. The Lord has already blessed the mission work by providing a lot, a house and a new sign--**FREE!** They still have need of 25 song books, however. If your church would like to help meet this need, contact the Promotional Office. Please pray for Brother Sexton and this new ministry.

## **Southoak Calls Norwood Gibson**

Southoak Free Will Baptist Church, Florence, has called Rev. Norwood Gibson as its new pastor. His duties began April 1, 1996. Brother Gibson has served the South Carolina State Association as its Promotional Director for the past 16 years and is currently manager of the FWB Christian Book Store in Florence.

Before becoming Promotional Director, Brother Gibson founded Southoak, formerly called Bible Free Will Baptist Church, and was its pastor for more than fifteen years. The Lord has now blessed him by allowing him to return to where his ministry first began. May the Lord bless him and Sister Molly as they resume their previous ministry.



## **Williams Hill Calls Doug Mathis**

Rev. Doug Mathis began his pastoral duties at Williams Hill FWB Church, Hemingway, Sunday, March 16, 1996. Brother Doug is a native of Morganton, North Carolina and was saved under the ministry of Roy Shehan at Nowlings Chapel FWB Church in Morganton. The Lord called him to preach in 1976 and the Blue Ridge Association licensed him that same year. In 1986 he became pastor of the Way of the Cross FWB Church, Shelby, NC, where he pastored until coming to Williams Hill. The Foothills Association ordained him in 1986. Brother Mathis is married to the former Debbie Tallent, also a native of Morganton. They have two children: Misty, 14, and Andy, 12. We welcome this fine family to South Carolina and pray that God would bless their ministry.



## **Lockhart Has Two Special Days**

### **52/66 Club Members Honored**



Twenty-one members of the 52/66 Bible Readers Club were recognized during a special service at Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church. Each one read all sixty-six books of the Bible during the fifty-two weeks of 1995. Congratulations to these faithful readers of God's Word. They are: Vivian Vanderford, Nellie Brannon, Pearl Cook, Vernie Vanderford, Addie Burgess, Lois Murphy, Sally Horne, Ruth Dabbs, Betty Stepp, Peggy Walker, Pam Wilbanks, Billy D. Gibson, Buster Dabbs, Nettie Sealy, Margie Cannupp, Jimmy Cannupp, Sonny Fowler, Jim Cook, J.T. Vinson, Shirley Brannon and Pastor Tommy Bryson, Jr.

### **Bill Adams Honored As A Teacher**

The Men's Bible Class honored Bill Adams, a veteran Sunday School teacher in the Lockhart FWB Church, December 16, 1995. They presented their former teacher a Certificate of Award, a coat, shirt and tie. The certificate read, "Certificate of Award, presented to Bill Adams, In Appreciation For His Consecutive Twenty-Five Years Of Faithful And Effective Teaching The Word Of God To Various Age Groups At Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church." Pictured below are Tommy Bryson (Pastor), Bill Adams, Clifton Brannon (SS Superintendent), and the members of the Men's Bible Class. Praise God for faithful workers!



## **Lonnie Taylor New Pastor At Salem**

Rev. Lonnie Taylor became the pastor of Salem Free Will Baptist Church, Scranton, South Carolina, the first Sunday in December 1996. Brother Taylor is a native of Murphy, North Carolina. He is married to the former Linda Cook, a native of Walnut Grove, Tennessee. They have two children and four grandchildren. Brother Taylor came to know the Lord in 1961. He moved to Woodruff, South Carolina in 1966 and joined the Free Will Baptist Church in Woodruff. He is a graduate of the Beaver Creek Association and was ordained by the Beaver Creek Association in 1981. He has pastored in the Free Will Baptist Church, Una, SC, and New Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Grove, SC. May the Lord bless the Taylor's at Salem.



**Due to illness in his family, Bro. Taylor has resigned Salem and returned to Woodruff. Please pray for him and his family.**



## **Rev. James Pierce Goes to Beulah**



Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico, called Rev. James Pierce, a native of the Vause Town community, Florence County, as its supply pastor. Brother Pierce was saved in 1965 and the Eastern Conference ordained him to preach in 1970. Former pastorates include Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward, High Hill FWB Church and Lynches River FWB Church, Lake City, First FWB Church, Sumter, and Eastside FWB Church, Florence.

Brother Pierce is married to the former Ruth Bullard, a native of the Oak Grove community in Dillon County. They have four children who are all married.

The Pierces are delighted to be at Beulah. May God richly bless their ministry.

## **Bible College Completes Land Drive**

Free Will Baptist Bible College has completed its "Claim The Land" drive ahead of schedule, according to Roy Harris, Stewardship Director. The drive, to raise \$3,400 per acre for the 123 acres to which the college plans to relocate, was scheduled to be completed May 31. "There are still many things that must happen if we are to move our campus," notes Mr. Harris, "but we have the assurance that the God 'who hath begun a good work' will see it through to completion."

## **Pamplico Church Has New Sign**



Pamplico Free Will Baptist Church, Pamplico, South Carolina, purchased and installed a new sign in February 1995. The highly visible sign includes the name of the church, the Free Will Baptist emblem, and a place for messages. They ordered the sign out of Florida for \$4,600 and the men of the church installed it. Brother Sigbee Dilda is pastor.

## **Shirley Martin Goes To Be With The Lord**

Shirley Elliott Martin, age 51, wife of Rev. Tommy Martin of Booth Circle, died Tuesday, May 7, 1996, in Conway Hospital following an illness.

Mrs. Martin was born in Mullins, a daughter of Earline Brown Elliott and the late Marvin Woodrow Elliott. She faithfully assisted her husband with his ministry at Cypress Creek FWB Church in Whiteville, NC.

Surviving in addition to her husband and her mother are: one son, Thomas Lee Martin; three daughters, Jayne E. Register and Melissa Martin and Teresa M. Kaszowski; one sister, Sheila K. Hite; and, four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 10 in Pee Dee FWB Church. Reverends Leroy Larrimore, Buddy Seay and Billy Poe Jones officiated the services.

On behalf of all South Carolina Free Will Baptists, we extend our condolences to Brother Martin and his family.

## **The Jim Cowarts On Leave of Absence**

Effective June 1, 1996 the Jim Cowarts will begin a one year Leave of Absence from the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Brother Jim explains, "For the past two and half years, Camila, our youngest daughter, has suffered from migraine headaches. This caused her to have a very difficult time during our last term in Brazil . . . (which) caused her to develop some depression as well. Along with Camila's difficulties, both Mark and Missy are in a stage of their lives when they need Karen and me here with them for a while. Missy will be starting Bible College in the Fall of 1996 and Mark will be getting married in September . . . I feel that my family should come before my ministry; therefore, I asked for the Leave of Absence. I hope that we can continue to count on your prayers and financial support during this interval from the field. It is my hope as well, that you will continue to support our account so that when we are able to return to the field, our account will have sufficient funds to immediately return us to Brazil instead of returning to the deputational routes. Thank you so much for your brotherly love and understanding. Thank you too for supporting us through this short time while we tend to our family's needs."

## **Three Churches Join Central Association**

During its 209th Session, the Central Association of Free Will Baptists, held at Oak Grove Church January 13, 1996, received two North Carolina churches and their pastors into fellowship. We welcome First FWB Church (Hamlet) and their pastor, Rev. Reddin F. "Buddy" Hill, and Jesus First FWB Church (Rockingham) and their pastor, Rev. Jerry Smith.

The Association also received South Conway Free Will Baptist Mission (Conway, South Carolina) into fellowship pending their organizational service, which was held March 24, 1996. Rev. Ray Cribb is the pastor.



Picture above are Pastor Jerry Smith, Jesus First (Rockingham) Pastor Buddy Hill, Hamlet First, and Pastor Ray Cribb, South Conway.

## **Pee Dee Bible Institute Graduates Three**

Pee Dee Bible Institute, sponsored by Southside FWB Church, Darlington, South Carolina, presented three students with Bible Diplomas during its commencement exercise Sunday evening, March 24, 1996. The students also received the Advanced church Ministries Certificate from Evangelical Training Association, Wheaton, Illinois. Rev. Ralph Byars, pastor of Tabernacle FWB Church, Conway, preached the commencement address. Rev. Leroy Lowey is pastor of Southside FWB Church and director of the Institute.



The three graduates are pictured above with Pastors Lowery and Byars. They are Essie Hatchell (Southside), Gloria O'Neal and Ed O'Neal (Florence First).

# State CTS Competition Held at First Greenville

The 1996 Free Will Baptist State C.T.S. Convention was held May 18 at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina. Nine churches represented with thirty-two young people participating in the competition. There was a total of eighty-one attendees who watched and prayed as these young people used their talents for the Lord.



1996 CTS Contestants



Rev. Bobby Bowers

The Greenville Church did a tremendous job hosting the annual convention. They served chilly dogs with all the trimmings for lunch. This is always a favorite with young and old alike. Brother Bobby Bowers, pastor of the host church, brought a challenging devotional message to open the convention. He used II Timothy 4:12 as his theme, "Let no man despise thy youth."

## Bible Winners

Pictured to the right are the **SWORD DRILL** winners. Bryan Robinson (on left) won the fourth grade sword drill competition and Jackson Watts won the fifth grade competition. Both are from Horse Branch FWB Church in Turbeville.



Pictured to the left are the **BIBLE TIC TAC TOE** winners, grades 7-9. From left to right, they are: Jeremy Cannon, Carol Ann Morris, Pamela Robinson and Justin Driggers (Horse Branch).



The **BIBLE BOWL** winners, grades 10-12, are also from Horse Branch FWB Church. Members of the team, pictured from left to right, are Gowdy Cannon, Mandi Springs and Will Robinson.



Did you notice that all the winners in the Bible competition are from Horse Branch? Congratulations to the youth and their leaders for a job well done!

## Music and Arts Winners

Jill Wiggins, First FWB Church, Darlington, won the **VOCAL SOLO** in the Adventurer category (grades 4-6).



Jill Wiggins



Grant, Bryan and Jason

Grant Cannon, Bryan Robinson and Jason Barrineau won the **SKIT** competition in the Adventurer category. They are also part of the Horse Branch youth group. Ashley Coker, another Adventurer from Horse Branch, won the **DRAMATIC SELECTION** competition.



Ashley Coker



Emily Gainy, pictured to the left, won the **KEYBOARD SOLO** in the Herald division (grades 7-9). Emily is from the First FWB Church in Darlington.

Young People from Horse Branch won the **SKIT** competition in the Herald division. Picture on the back row from left to right are Carol Ann Morris, Dana Robinson and Pamela Robinson. On the front row are Justin Driggers, Troy Watts and Jeremy Cannon.



Amanda Cassady, a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Chester, South Carolina, won the **VOCAL SOLO** in the Herald division. Amanda is pictured on the left holding her winner's certificate.

Congratulations are in order for all those who participated in the Adventurer and Herald division competitions.

In the Crusader division (grades 10-12), Mike McDonald, Roxanne Matthews, Bradley Morgan, Neil Morgan and Chad Matthews (pictured from left to right) won the **SKIT** competition. They are from Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward, South Carolina.



Shannon Bazem won the **DRAMATIC SELECTION** with a presentation titled, "Mary's Way of the Cross." Shannon, pictured on the left, is from Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico, South Carolina.




Gowdy Cannon and Will Robinson, from Horse Branch, won the **DUET ACTING** competition in the Crusader division.



Congratulations to not only all the winners, but to all the participants, their sponsors, and churches. We will be praying for our youth as they represent our State, their church and the Lord during national competition in Fort Worth, Texas. Win or lose, we are proud of you! May you always use your talents for God's glory.


**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR, AGAIN!**

**South Carolina Free Will Baptist Youth Camp**



TEEN WEEK: JULY 29 - AUGUST 2  
EVANGELIST DOUG PATE, HEMINGWAY, SC

JUNIOR WEEK: AUGUST 5 - 9  
EVANGELIST JOE WALLIS, GREENVILLE, TN



## *Reunion Sunday*

by  
Rev. Phil Ange

What a glorious day it will be when Jesus comes and all the saved rise to meet Him in the air! God's children have nothing greater to look forward to than being in the presence of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ! Even so, Lord Jesus, come!

Another aspect of that glorious day will be the grand reunion between saved loved ones and friends, and the saints of all the ages. It is exciting just thinking about it! We had the privilege to have a little taste of heaven's reunion at Jefferson Road FWB Church the weekend of April 19-21, 1996.

Since the founding of the church in 1971, God has graciously called out of this congregation six men to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One of them, Bro. Bennie Wadford, answered God's call under the ministry of Bro. Fred Kirby, the founding pastor of the church.

During the past fourteen years, five other men have surrendered to the call of God to preach, two of whom grew up in the church: Richard Conyers, whose parents were charter members, is presently pastoring St. John's FWB Church in Patrick, South Carolina and Steve Dowless, who is pastor of the Deep Creek FWB Church in Midville, Georgia.

The three other men were brought into the ministry with the help of the US Air Force and the Jefferson Road ministry at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter. Tim Baumgarten and his wife Rosey were won to Christ through the witness of Walter Powell. Tim answered the call to preach and is now pastor of the First FWB Church in Fayette, Alabama. Tim Reynolds and his wife Patty faithfully served the Lord while they were stationed in Sumter. While at Jefferson Road, God began to deal with Tim about the ministry. Tim is now pastoring a small church in Indiana. God also dealt with Chuck and Rhonda Gardner while Chuck was stationed at Shaw and they were attending Jefferson Road. Today, they are on deputation raising support to return to Germany as missionaries with BIMl.



**Preachers and families out of Jefferson Road**

As a part of the Spring Sunday School Enlargement Campaign, we designated Sunday, April 21 as Faithful Worker's Sunday. We called and invited these preachers and their families to come as our special guests. What a glad day it was when all of these, and several other former members who had moved away, gathered for a grand reunion over the weekend. Bro. Tim Baumgarten preached a weekend revival. Richard Conyers preached to all the adults in Sunday School. Chuck Gardner shared his missionary burden Sunday night. Tim Reynolds closed out the weekend with a rousing message Sunday night on "The desires of the Heart."

**"Reunion Sunday" continued**

Another part of the weekend activities was the "reunion choir" (pictured below) of present and former choir members, which sang some of the old favorites of the past. Many shared testimonies and God blessed with many decisions at the altars and with one lady accepting Christ as her personal Savior. Surely, the Lord is good!



**Reunion Choir**

The church presented each of the preachers with a plaque as one of our "Timothies" and gave each preacher's wife a dozen roses, and each couple an honorarium for coming.

The above blessings could not have been possible had it not been for the faithful service of the members of Jefferson Road Church. On Sunday night, we presented each present worker with a "Faithful Worker's Certificate." Thanks be unto God for the faithfulness, love and service of many workers over these many years.

It was a blessed reunion weekend, and one of the most memorable events in the church's history. God has been so good to us and has caused His face to shine upon us. To Him be all the glory, honor and praise. Great things He has done!

*Rev. Phil Ange has pastored the Jefferson Road FWB Church for more than fourteen years. He has recently announced his resignation and will soon become the new pastor of the Belvoir FWB Church, Greenville, North Carolina.*

**Rev. Ron Moore,**

**your State Promotional Director,  
is available for a limited number  
of revivals, special services,  
and pulpit supply.**

**You may contact him at  
the Promotional Office (803-662-5010)  
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