

January - February 2000

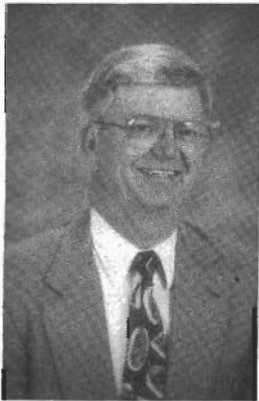


# The Informer

*The Informer* is the official bi-monthly publication of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists. Address all correspondence to Mike Jones, Editor, Post Office Box 13266, Florence, South Carolina, 29504 or call (843) 662-5010.

**The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the  
State Association of Free Will Baptist  
will be held at  
White Savannah FWB Church  
Conway, SC February 24-25, 2000**

The excitement is already building as South Carolina Free Will Baptist begin preparing for our annual gathering to fellowship, hear good gospel preaching, and conduct the Lord's Business. Host pastor, Rev Buddy Seay, his congregation, and the entire Central Conference have been praying and preparing and we anticipate a wonderful meeting.



Our Special Thursday Night guest speaker this year will be Dr. Robert Picirilli, Associate Academic dean of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville. Dr "Pick" is a South Carolina native and we are looking forward to a wonderful service.

**Other speakers:**

Moderator's Message: **Rev. Sherwood Lee**  
Thursday Morning Message: **Rev Johnny Bullman**  
Thursday Afternoon Devotion: **Rev Ricky Evans**  
Friday Morning Devotion: **Rev Larry Bell**  
Friday Morning Message: **Rev James Childers**  
Friday Afternoon Devotion: **Rev Ron Moore**

The **General Board** will meet at 10 A.M. Wednesday morning February 23. This is an open meeting.

Motel reservations may be made at **Days Inn**, (843) 248-3414; **Conway Motor Inn** (843) 248-2285; or **Holiday Inn Express**, 1(843) 347-7254. The Central Conference will be providing the noon meals on Thursday and Friday at White Savannah Church. Glory!!

What a JOY, and a challenge, it has been to step into the position of Promotional Director. My schedule is extremely hectic right now as I learn how everything works but it has been the most exciting experience I can remember as I have visited in different churches and attended conference meetings. Every where I go there is such a wonderful Spirit and I sense an excitement that really encourages me about the future of Free Will Baptist in South Carolina. I am glad God had made me part of such a wonderful group of people and I stand ready to serve our people and our churches in any way possible.

Mike Jones, Promotional Director

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**SOME GOOD NEWS:**

- - Brother Ron Moore did an excellent job of remodeling the Book Store and Promotional office before he left and we are extremely thankful for the fact that now the Promotional office has its own office and everything looks fresh and nice inside.

--The **Master's Men of Temple FWB Church** in Darlington recently volunteered to paint the outside of our Book Store and Promotional office if we could get the paint they would need; so the outside would look as nice as the inside.

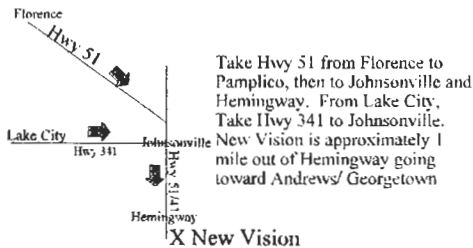
When I announced this at the **Eastern Conference** Annual meeting recently, the Eastern Conference voted to buy the paint for this project. (Glory! Isn't God good!).

*Women  
Nationally  
Active for  
Christ*

## WNAC STATE MEETING

The South Carolina Women Active for Christ will hold their State meeting on Saturday, March 18, 2000 at New Vision Free Will Baptist Church, Hemingway, SC

This year's theme is "A New Vision of Opportunities". The special speaker for this meeting will be **Mrs Marjorie Workman**- Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Women National Active for Christ.



All of our ladies are encouraged to attend. The Central Conference is hosting this meeting. Call Mrs Faye Hanna for Motel Reservations or directions to the Church- (843) 386-3183. Email-mlhanna@juno.com (Numbers for the Motels in Lake City- where many stayed last time are: Holiday Inn Express (843) 394-8400 or Security Inn (843) 394-7666)

### District Auxiliary Meetings:

Eastern District- Saturday, Feb 12, 2000 at Gilead FWB Church, Lake City, SC with the Theme "Serving in Unity". **Mrs Mona Dukes** will be the guest Speaker. Registration at 9:30am

Central District- Saturday, Feb 19, 2000 at New Life FWB Church, Conway, SC. Their theme is a "Time to Work" and the Promotional Director, **Rev Mike Jones** will be the speaker. Services begin at 10am.

South Carolina District- Saturday, Feb 26 at Black River FWB Church in Andrews, SC. Special speakers will be **David and Annette Aycock**, Missionaries to Brazil.

Beaver Creek District- Saturday, March 4, 2000 at Gaffney FWB Church in Gaffney, S C. Services begin at 10am with the theme, "A New Beginning"

### NATIONAL NEWS ITEMS:

—The Free Will Baptist Bible College board of Trustees voted unanimously at a board meeting in December that the name of the college be expanded to "**Palmer College: The Free Will Baptist Bible College**". The process for the change involves presenting the new name to the National Association this year and voting on it the next year.

—**Randall Minister's Fund**: Dr Alton Loveless, president of Randall House Publications and the National Sunday School Department, announces the establishment of a Minister's Trust that will enable Randall House to raise funds in order for the company to print and give FREE of charge at least one book a year to our preachers.

Dr. Loveless stated, "It has been my burden to print and mail a book on our doctrine or Sunday School and Church growth to every preacher in our denomination each year. Since we do not have the funds to do this alone, I am asking churches, ministers, and individuals to contribute to this project. It is my desire that this fund be well established and self-perpetuating from the interest received from the fund."

Send your offering to Randall Minister's Fund, Free Will Baptist Foundation, P O Box 5002, Antioch, TN. 37011

## ROLL CALL SUNDAY

March 26, 2000

The Home Missions Department's Seventeenth Annual ROLL CALL SUNDAY is scheduled for March 26, 2000! **Please Pray to see as many souls saved as possible.**

### NEW MISSIONARIES:

**Andy and Andrea Moore** were appointed as career missionaries to **Brazil** by the Foreign Mission Board in December of 1999. They are presently on itinerary and hope to be with as many of the churches in the state as possible.

Andrea is a member of the First FWB Church of Inman (Pastor Earl Hendrix). She attended and graduated from Inman Christian Academy. Her Sunday School teacher had the privilege of leading her to the Lord. She answered the call to serve God on the Mission field at 16 years old.

Andy attended Pleasant Acres FWB Church in New Bern, NC where Rev Dean Dobbs pastors. He attended Christian school and really got assurance about his salvation at 11 years old. From an early age, God burdened his heart about the lost, and began directing him toward the foreign mission field.

Andy and Andrea were both attending Southeastern College when they met. They were married July 26, 1997 and graduated from Southeastern a year later with mission degrees.

We are excited about this young couple accepting God's call. Pray for them and invite them to your church.

### NEW PASTORS:

-Fellowship FWB Church in Florence, SC welcomed **Rev Joe McKnight** at Pastor in September of 1999. He and his wife, Ettaphine, are excited about this work and are also involved in numerous other denominational works in our state.

-Grace FWB Church in Lake City, SC welcomed **Rev Carroll Bazen** at Pastor in December of 1999. Brother Bazen had previously served as Assistant Pastor of this church. His wife, Susanna, is the daughter of veteran pastor, Sigbee Dilda and is presently employed as secretary by the FWB home for Children. Brother Carroll led his church on the first Sunday he was pastor to raise \$10,040 (!) to build a Church building in India. (Glory!)

-Socastee FWB Church in Socastee, SC welcomed **Rev Darren Squires** as pastor in September of 1999. Since his arrival the church has experienced great revival with many saved and much progress in the Church (Since September they have had 32 people join the church, 25 have been baptized, and 55 have been Saved!) And they recently purchased a van to help expand their ministry.



Rev Darren and Diana Squires

year old son, Darren, Jr, and 4 year old daughter, Danielle are a great help and encouragement to his ministry.

-Free Will Baptist Bible Church in Darlington welcomed new pastor **Rev Jody Wynn** and his wife, Kristy in October of 1999. They have 2 boys, Joseph (4) and Jacob (2). Brother Jody comes to this work from his help with the work at Grace-Fellowship FWB Church in Florence.

-Lockhart FWB Church in Lockhart recently welcomed **Rev Richard Conyers** as their new pastor. Brother Conyers was saved in the Jefferson Road FWB Church in Sumter. He and his wife, Brenda, are excited about this new field of service - Freedom FWB Church in Ladson, S C called **Rev Allen Goodman** as their Pastor the last Sunday in January. Brother Allen and his wife, Tara, are another product of the White Savannah FWB Church and Rev Buddy Seay's ministry.



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Wed. Jan 12, 2000. Brother Sedgwick has been pastor of Hickory Hill FWB Church, Gresham, SC for several months now and the church has made great progress.

### REVIVALS:

- - High Point FWB Church in Lancaster will be in Revival with Dr Jack Lassiter March 19-22. Dr Stuart Snow, Pastor, invites all to attend these special services.

-St John FWB Church, Pamplico will hold revival services Sunday, Feb 27 thru Friday, March 3. Various speakers will be featured. Pastor Ricky Evans has done a wonderful job during his pastorate and he invites you to these special services.

- Southside FWB Church, Darlington, SC will be in Revival with Rev Bobby Jackson, Feb 6-9, 2000 at 7pm nightly. Rev Leroy Lowery, pastor.

-Canaan FWB Church, Lancaster, SC will be in Revival with Rev Randall White, Pastor of Converse FWB Church, March 13-16, 2000. Rev Clay Cordell is pastor.

-FWB Bible Church, Darlington, SC will be in revival March 12-15, 2000 at 7pm nightly with Rev Joe Moore, pastor of New Life FWB Church, Lancaster, SC as Evangelist. Rev Jody Wynn, Pastor



Rev Todd Parrish recently gave a seminar at Southside FWB Church in Darlington on "How to have a Youth Ministry without being a Youth Pastor". This seminar, sponsored by Pee Dee Bible Institute, centered on how lay people can minister to today's teens.



Rev David and Mrs Sherry Carter celebrated twenty years at Valley Falls FWB Church on the first Sunday in November, 1999. To show their love and appreciation, the church gave them a CD in the amount of \$5000 to be used toward the purchase of a home or some land. Also, in June, the church presented them with a 1999 Toyota 4-runner.

Glory! What wonderful people; and what a wonderful way of honoring faithful service by God's man.



Dr Thomas Malone, President of Free Will Baptist Bible College, presenting posthumously to Rev I. Bennie Turner, his son Jason's diploma. Brother Bennie is a veteran pastor in our ranks and we mourn with him the home going of his son: while we celebrate brother Jason's continued influence.



Rev Paul Childers rejoices with Billy D Gibson over the master of Theology Degree he recently received from Andersonville Baptist Seminary. Brother Gibson's wife, Joanna, received an associates degree in Theology from the same institute. Both are members of Lockhart FWB Church.

Below are some of the 102 (!) people who attended the final night of the Youth Revival at the Free Will Baptist Home for Children. Rev Allen Pointer of Russellville, Arkansas was the evangelist and he preached powerful messages that related to the concerns of today's young people while at the same time sharing the old fashion gospel of Christ.



Mrs Amanda Keen, and the North Spartanburg FWB Church WNAC group presenting \$500 to the Carla Fannin (Wife of Chris, missionary to Puerto Rico). This Auxiliary group has recently raised \$2000 for missions. Glory! Rev John Keen is pastor of this mission minded group.



## Quotes That Stuck.

As the Promotional Director travels all over our State to various Church services and Conferences, speakers will sometimes make a statement that is so good until he has to write it down.

Here are a few that "struck" him in the past few months:

"To give a Free Will Baptist preacher the opportunity to preach before a church full of people and then tell him he can only give a devotion is like giving a hungry man a steak and then telling him he can only lick it!" Rev W D Jones before his devotion at the Eastern Conference.

"You don't judge a great church by it's seating capacity but by its sending capacity" Rev Earl Hendrix at Beaver Creek Minister's Meet

"You can never speak to the wrong person about the Lord" Rev Robert Rose in Revival at Temple FWB Church.

"If you put a greasy meat skin in your pocket it will eventually produce a stain" Rev Jack Lassiter in Revival at First FWB Church of Myrtle Beach

"On a scale of 1 to 10, where does Jesus fit in?" Rev Trymon Messer (Talking about Priorities in your life in revival at Peace Church, Florence).

"Preacher, Why can't we just give him \$2000?" A member of Mullins-Marion FWB Church when Pastor Bill Jacobs suggested that the Church give \$1000 to the mission work in Aiken. Brother Bill let him amend the motion! And the \$2000 was invested in God's work in Aiken!

"Lord, fill my mouth with worthwhile stuff, and nudge me when I have said enough." an "anonymous" preacher in the prayer he prayed just before his sermon.

## N C Flood Update:

N C FWB Promotional Director, Rev Jim Marcum wanted to share the following:

"How thankful I am for our Free Will Baptist friends and family! Your compassion and generosity have exceeded everyone's expectations!

On December 28, 1999, I made another deposit into the N C FWB Disaster Relief Fund. To date, I have deposited \$417,555.08!!!. As I look back, the first letter of information that I sent was dated September 21, 1999. That means that we have collected close to ½ a million dollars in just over 3 months!! That is amazing and soul stirring.

The amazing element to me, is how that many of you have not given once, but twice and even three times! You have really seen the need as it is, and have stayed with us. Our people deeply appreciate it. And thanks for \$417,55.08! It brought a smile to many Free Will Baptist faces."

Editor's note- S C FWB channeled \$7,290.00 of their giving to this worthwhile cause through the promotional office. Thanks for sharing with our neighbors in their hour of need.

## CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS:

The Children's Home wishes to thank each of you for praying for us and for your generosity. The year 1999 proved to be the most wonderful year. Having the new dorm completed has given us the room for 7 precious children who really needed this ministry. We had been praying for a "Little People Dorm" and God, in His wisdom, gave us one at just the right time in the old boys dorm. Because of this, we have added a "Nannie" who works 8 hours daily to assist Mrs Valerie Ponder with the care of the little ones.

Another change in our lifestyle is that we will be traveling with an Ensemble instead of all of the

children. The children remaining here will be attending Horse Branch FWB Church with some of the dorm parents. The Staff and children are excited about the change.

We are almost fully booked for this year. If you have not booked the Children's Home for a service, and would like to, contact us soon. The Ensemble will be doing mimes and songs under the direction of Mrs Mindy Poston. They are such a blessing and they feel this is their ministry.

Please continue to support us with your prayers and giving.  
James and Carloyn Wilhide



Pastor Wayland Owens, of the First FWB Church of Kingstree, presents a "Pop Willy Offering" of \$1200 to the Promotional Director. Two primary students, B.J. and Caroline Jones gave \$105.50 each to this special offering by collecting quarters. Praise God for this mission minded church.

## Low Country FWB Mission News:

Pastor Phillip Jones reports that the church has finished framing the classroom walls and almost finished the plumbing and wiring. A contractor is being sought to install siding on the outside. The Church is looking forward to the time when it completes it building and the people can devote their time and energy to building up the real church.



Rev and Mrs Mike Wilson, pastor of Cornerstone FWB Church, Chester, SC. Brother Wilson has had an excellent work at this church since his arrival

several months ago. He was ordained by the True Life Conference on Saturday, Feb 5, 2000.

First FWB Church of Kingstree sponsors an annual "66 Club" among it's members. This encourages them to read



all 66 books of the Bible each year. Pictured here are the individuals who met that challenge in 1999- Juanita McClary, Jean Ann Mouzon, Betty Green, Jim Snipes, Jr, Autry Morris, Sr, Lynnette Morris, Oleta Rogers, Inez Mouzon, Letha Mouzon, Billy Harrelson, Lila Harrelson, Nell Ward, Carolyn Morris, Eric Adams, Violet Davis, and Pastor Wayland Owens. Congratulations!

**Tim and Kristi Johnson**, missionaries to Spain request your prayers as they continue their work. They are presently undergoing exams and everything has to be done in Spanish!! Pray for them as they conduct church services, study for exams and adapt to another culture.

**Brother Carlisle Hanna**, missionary to India, continues to improve after his "accident" (His driver hit a hole in the road so hard until Brother Carlisle hit his head on the top of the Jeep and injured his back). Brother Carlisle is busy preparing for the annual meeting of FWB in India. Rev Sherwood Lee, Rev Buddy Seay, and Mr Robert Shelly are planning to leave March 12<sup>th</sup> for India to be part of this conference.

Continue to pray for **Bobby and Geneva Poole** as they continue to minister while Mrs Geneva battles her sickness.

## REV ANSEL SMITH RETIRES:



Rev Ansel Smith retired after 40 years as a pastor on August 31,1999. He was the pastor of the Great Commission FWB Church, where he had been pastor for 16 years, when he retired.

Brother Smith is a native of Greer, SC and has been married to the former Ruth Turner of Greer for 47 years. They have six children, nine grand children, and one great grand child.

Brother Smith has served five churches as pastor: Beaverdam FWB Church of Greer, Valley Falls FWB Church of Valley Falls, South Ave FWB Church of Lancaster, Faith Temple FWB Church of Rock Hill, and Great Commission FWB Church of Lancaster.

Brother Ansel served as state moderator for three years and as clerk for four years. He served the Great Commission Conference as moderator for ten years and presently serves as their Home Mission Director. He also served on the first board of directors of the Beaver Creek Bible Institute and was one of the first teachers.

He graduated from Piedmont Bible Institute, Cramerton, NC and did graduate work at FWB Bible college, Nashville; North Greenville Jr College, Tryerville, SC; and South Carolina University, Spartanburg, SC.

Brother Ansel said he was not retiring from working and witnessing for the Lord, just from the pastorate. He still wants to preach, work with missions, and teach in the school of the Prophets. But he also wants to travel some with his wife.

## THANK YOU:

Last year Free Will Baptist gave over **\$769,000** to various causes through your state promotional office. Thank you for sharing so generously. Some Highlights:

Children's Home giving	\$ 80,275
State Home Missions	\$ 34,702
National Home Missions	\$142,480
(Includes money designated to our State Missions)	
Foreign Missions	\$312,152
(Including the S C Plan of Support	\$226,044 )
Promotional Office	\$ 46,238
WNAC giving	\$ 32,648