

THE



**OCTOBER-NOVEMBER
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INFORMER

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

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GENERAL BOARD APPROVES CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Following two days of intense efforts by the SCFWB General Board; and many hours of behind the scene work by the various boards and committees, a revised SCFWB Constitution is being presented to the state for its approval. As soon as the latest corrections and revisions can be incorporated and the revised document can be returned from the printer then it will begin to be distributed to the churches and pastors. Hopefully, this will be before the next round of Conference meetings so people will be able to raise any questions they may have with their General Board representative from their conference.



State Executive Committee at Work

The old Constitution contained many grammatical and sentence structural errors that needed to be corrected. Since this was the year for the publication of the Constitution then it was thought best to bring the Constitution into line with today's need for legal correctness as well as correct obvious errors. Overall it appears that this will end up making the Constitution a smaller document as well as being more easily understood.

Some highlights in the revised addition:

- The Poston-Baggett Student Loan Fund will be administered by the Free Will Baptist Bible College and much of the constitution concerning this Fund will be deleted, as well as the Poston-Baggett Board being dissolved.
- The SCFWB Children's Home Constitution will be greatly shortened as they begin use of a procedural manual to define operational procedures. The SCFWB Home Mission Board's report was not completed at the time of this publication but they have also indicated that such a procedural manual will be put in place to help this board.
- Several name changes have been made to the State CTS Board's Constitution- including their name being changed to the State Youth Conference Board in order to come in line with the name changes at the National level.
- Several procedural changes were made in the State Youth Camp Board Constitution that will allow them to more effectively deal with changing situations--For example, the old Constitution stated that Youth Camp must be the first two weeks in August. Due to School starting earlier and difficulties with arranging camp schedules it is no longer wise to limit the board to these two weeks.
- The Historical Commission expires in 2003. The General Board recommended that a State Historian be elected to replace this commission.

- A constitutional amendment was introduced to increase the Executive Committee from one member at large to two members at large: One from the lower part of the State and one from the upper part of the state. It was also recommended that the constitution be revised so that the General Board Member to the National Association be the State Executive Secretary.

The SCFWB General Board is to be commended for the hard work and diligent effort they have put in so that Free Will Baptist in South Carolina can continue to go forward for Christ.



Merry CHRISTmas

Thank God for the privilege of being a Free Will Baptist in South Carolina. May His praise be on your lips, may His love be in your heart, and may His Character show in your Conduct. Seasons Greetings from your SCFWB Executive Office and Book Store



L-R: The Bruce Jones Family, Pastor Elro Driggers (Beulah), Pastor Wayland Owens (Kingstree), SCFWB Assistant Director Rickey Evans, Pastor Jason Miles (Lynches River)

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L-R: Pastor Leroy Lowery (Southside, Darlington), Rev and Mrs Stevie McCutcheon, Pastor Jason Miles (Lynches River), Pastor David Young (Tabernacle).



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Sunday School rooms, Rest Rooms, and office space surround the Sanctuary and let everyone know that the Center of their work



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is the worship and preaching of God's word.

The fellowship building occupies the space behind the sanctuary and gives ample room for all those meals FWB are famous for.



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Praise the Lord for this new facility on a main road, only a few short blocks from one of the main malls in Spartanburg. What an opportunity they have to make a mark for Christ in this community.



The Praise and Worship Team lead in Dedication of their new facility.



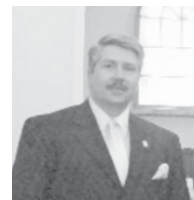
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Continue to pray for David, Wanda, and the rest of the family as they seek God's direction and Thank you again for your prayers and support.

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History of FREE WILL BAPTISTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

WRIGHT WILSON - THE ENIGMA (Part I)

The word “enigma” has several definitions, one of which is “an inscrutable or mysterious person.” It is in this sense that, of all the early Free Will Baptist ministers, Wright Wilson is possibly the most enigmatic. Relatively speaking, there is not a lack of available information about him. The difficulty is to reconcile that information in such a way that a clear and distinguishable pattern is established. That which is known about Wright Wilson raises more questions than it gives answers. This task is further complicated by the existence of another Wright Wilson, a native of Marlboro County, SC, who was a circuit riding Methodist minister. When the records of the two men are compared, it would almost seem that one man lived two nearly identical lives. Yet, there are enough distinctions to rule out the possibility that they are the same person. This article will set forth the facts that are known about Wright Wilson. The next article will examine his activities in the early days of Free Will Baptist history in South Carolina, and attempt to address some of the unresolved issues that linger about him.

Wright Wilson was born on March 24, 1804, on a farm near what is now Andrews, South Carolina. He and his wife, Mary E., who was six years younger than him, were likely married sometime in the early 1830's. Between 1833 and 1849, a span of sixteen years, a total of sixteen children were born. Mary died on July 24, 1865. Wright died on April 20, 1881. Both are buried in Wilson Cemetery, near Andrews.

Twelve of the children are shown as having been born on the farm near Andrews, which is to be expected. However, the children born in 1837, 1843, 1845 and the first child born in 1848 are listed as having been born in York, South Carolina. Thus, the first unsolved mystery about Wright Wilson is his link to the upstate of South Carolina. The distance between Andrews and York, combined with the difficulties of travel in those days, makes it highly unlikely that his connection to the upstate was casual or coincidental. The Wilson family's journeys to York seem to have been frequent and intentional. The two most likely scenarios would be that either Wright or Mary had family connections in York. Neither possibility can be proven at this time. Another possible scenario is that he maintained a second home in the upstate. It was not unusual for those in the higher economic classes to have a summer home in the upstate, and a winter home in the lower state. But all indications, in the case of Wright Wilson, are contrary to the view that he was one of the landed gentry of that day.

Somewhere around the age of 54, Wright Wilson was recognized as a minister by the General Conference of South Carolina. This took place at the 1858 Session, meeting at Ebenezer Free Will Baptist Church. But how and when was he exposed to Free Will Baptist doctrine? Redding Moore had died in 1848. Was Wright Wilson a protege of Redding Moore, who took several years to acknowledge a call to the ministry? Or was he related to John Wilson, who was raised at the other end of Williamsburg County? Which of the three churches that existed in the area of Andrews did he attend? These, and other questions, will be the subject of future articles.



SCFWB Historical Commission Chairman
NAFWB Historical Commission Member
Rev Joe McKnight

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church is seeking someone to help with their music ministry. If God has gifted you with the talent to play the piano or lead congregational music, and you are looking for a place to serve, please contact Pastor Joe McKnight at (843) 662-1303

Did you know that if all 121 Free Will Baptists Churches that belonged to the State Association of Original Free Will Baptists, Inc. would give \$50 per month to the State Executive Office that it would completely pay for printing the “Informer”, pay for the Executive Secretary to travel to all the churches and conferences, pay for the Office expenses and postage, and pay the Executive Secretary’s Salary?

Mrs. Lillie Mae P. Sheehan went home to be with the Lord Oct. 25, 2002, after an extended illness. She was a native of Gaffney, S.C. She was the widow of the Rev. Paul Jones Sheehan and the daughter of the late Charles Lester and Etta Philbeck. She was a member of the Whitney Free Will Baptist Church. Mrs. Sheehan devoted her life to doing God's work. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a pastor's wife, working along side her husband in North and South Carolina churches for 48 years. She was the director of finance for the The Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Turbeville, S.C., working for 15 years with her husband, who was superintendent. She held numerous offices within her church denomination for 54 years. She was a Sunday school teacher, served nine years as state president of the Women's Auxiliary, and six years as vice president of the National Association of the Free Will Baptist Women's Auxiliary.



When she retired she attended Whitney Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg, where for the past 20 years, she taught the Senior Ladies' Sunday school class, which was her joy and mainstay. During her time back in Spartanburg, she was honored for significant services to the community as senior volunteer for seven years at Doctor's Memorial Hospital.

Mrs Mae is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Yvonne Tipton of Spartanburg and Mrs. Vickie Watts of Inman; a son, Leon Sheehan of Greer; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.



10 years ago it was a building barely standing. In fact, the inside ceiling had fallen to the floor. Many questioned if anything of value could be built there. But Pastor Daggett Duncan and the people of **New Vision FWB Church of Rock Hill** had a "new vision" and the rest is a testimony of the work and grace of God.

The most recent remodeling work has raised the ceiling of the sanctuary, added new pews and carpet, put in a choir loft and a new sound system, remodeled the rest rooms, and raised the baptistry so it can be seen well from the congregation. Future plans call for remodeling the fellowship building, adding a youth area, adding Sunday School rooms, and, eventually, constructing a new and much bigger sanctuary.

Members and friends met on Sunday, September 29th to dedicate the newly remodeled sanctuary, enjoy Home Coming and a singing service, and have a baptismal service. Before the message by the SCFWB Executive Secretary, Plaques of appreciation were also given to many for their contribution of money, materials, and many hours of hard work. One plaque was even given to Pastor Daggett Duncan dedicating the church Sanctuary in his honor. All in all it was a great day of celebrating the continued progress of God's work.



Pastor Daggett Duncan counsels candidates before the first baptismal in the



Rev Gerardo Rodriguez and the Comunidad Hispana FWB Church of Una are off to a good start. They have put up their new sign to let the community know that they are meeting in the old First FWB Church of Una Sanctuary and they are having a good number of people to attend the services.



Continue to pray for this work and remember that Brother Rodriguez is supported by South Carolina Free Will Baptists through our State Home Mission Board.



Bethany FWB Church (Pastor Phil Bozeman) recently awarded plaques of recognition to Dick Granger for 50 years of service as a Deacon and to Major Tedder for 30 year as a trustee. What an encouragement of faithful service



Pastor Donnie Miles invited the Executive Secretary to preach the beginning message of Revival Services at Peace FWB Church in Florence. What he did not know was that it was also going to be Pastor Appreciation day with special gifts being given to he and his wife, Assistant Pastor Ron Moore and his wife, and Youth Pastor Darin Miles.

And what the Executive Secretary did not know was how God would use this church to answer a prayer. Three months worth of Health Insurance were due and the \$1000 needed was not available to pay the bill. With no knowledge of this, Peace Church decided to give the SCFWB Executive Office a special gift of \$1000 at this service- Is there a Glory anywhere in the House!



Rev Raymond Riggs

Pastor Sherwood Lee and Sand Hill FWB Church welcomed Rev Raymond Riggs (Former Director of FWB Foreign Missions) and the Riggs Family Singers to Home Coming Services. The Music was great, the Preaching was powerful,



The Riggs Family singers- L-R: Jeremy, Raymond, Jacob,

The Church was packed, and the meal was delicious. What more can you ask for!



Pastor Lee Patrick was excited to see Home Coming services at the First FWB Church in Florence "Pack the house" with the need of seats being put out as members and friends gathered to celebrate God's blessings on the Church. Special guest were the Reggie Saddle Family.



The Rev Billy Baker Family

What a way to celebrate an anniversary! Pastor Buddy Seay felt that the best way to celebrate a preacher's special time was to allow him to preach! So



Pastor Buddy Seay presents Rev Billy and Marie Baker a Plaque in honor of their anniversary

a revival was held at White Savannah FWB Church with Rev Billy Baker as Evangelist. This week long meet was especially used of God to minister to hearts and souls. The

Friday night service included many of Brother Billy's family and friends among the congregation as they came to celebrate the **50th Wedding Anniversary of Rev. Billy and Marie Baker**. This fine couple has been greatly used of God among Free Will Baptists in South Carolina and we appreciate God allowing them to celebrate this milestone of matrimony.



The family presented this fine couple a quilt with stitched pictures of family events from by gone days. What a great treasure.



Recently constructed playground equipment at Horse Branch FWB Church is modeled after Noah's Ark. Surprisingly, when it was constructed the first child to play on it was a child named Noah!



Liberty FWB Church, Orangeburg had a special mission day on August 11th for missionary **Darla Kirby**. This young lady from South Carolina is serving under the English Language Institute in China. The Church received a special offering (\$315) for Darla by using 2 tubs on the arms of "Clarence the Clown"- one for the men and one for the women. The tub with the least money had to treat the other side to a meal.

Pastor Roger Tripp said the ladies really enjoyed their Meal!

SODOMITES Target Children; Your Children

Rev. Joseph L. Cagle



NAMBLA members march in a "Gay Pride" parade. They are campaigning to legalize pedophilia and remove other laws prohibiting adult-child sex.

Sodomites are gaining entrance and control of children's clubs. I mentioned in my first article that over 30% of Girl Scout leaders are outspoken lesbians. As of July 1, 2002, Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization of America decided to mandate that volunteers cannot be excluded because of sexual orientation. Therefore another youth organization has collapsed to follow the way of Sodom (need information? Call 215-655-7770 and talk to Clay Brewer or Judy Breedingberg).

Remember that homosexuals and lesbians cannot reproduce so they must recruit. Their pool to recruit from is the largest children's organization in America -the public school. Why? The public school system has designed special policies to protect homosexual and lesbian students and staff. The public school system says to all the children that homosexuality is acceptable and OK; it's just an alternate life-style. Children don't have the defenses to deal with the issue, and they are naked and helpless unless we come to their rescue. (For parental help and information call 1-800-232-6459 and talk to Dr. James Dobson a longtime defender of Christian rights, or Dick Carpenter, a Christian specialist on education.) They would love for you to care enough to call and share your concerns. Should you consider other forms of education for your children, ask them and let them share what is available and desirable in education on a much higher level.

If godly, decent people continue to look the other way and do nothing, how long can God hold back a similar judgment such as he reigned on Sodom and Gomorrah? So much time is spent in schools protecting the rights of Sodomites and promoting satanic evils (books, etc.) there is very little time to teach the basics. The result -60% of children in America's public schools are reading below the basic levels and many hardly read at all. America's 12th graders came in 19th out of 21 countries in mathematics and science studies. This is very sad for a country that used to lead the way in all studies when God was honored as creator and keeper.

I believe that parents are exhausted, running at full-speed trying to get ahead or just to keep up. They don't know what is going on or what to do. They are hoping Johnny will somehow learn to do right. Pastors, the responsibility may be ours to make parents aware of what is going on. The Roman Catholic scandal should be sickening enough to motivate every man of God to rise up and cry aloud against this wicked sin of Sodom and all sin. If Lot had cried aloud against sin, the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah may have been spared. After all, what a difference it would have made if Abraham could have found just 10 righteous people! Genesis 8:32 (Will you be one?)

Three books among many in the public library to watch out for that exalt paganism, witchcraft, spirits from the dead, and earth worshippers: *A Child's Book of Blessings*, *The Family Wiccan Book*, and *Celebrating the Great Mother*. Protect your children.



Pastor Joe Cagle presents Mrs Ruby Altman a plaque for 45 years of faithful service as church Pianist at Little Bethel FWB Church. Pastor Cagle said she may have missed 5-10 Sundays in those 45 years when her children were born but he thought he would forgive her for that!



Pastor Mike Wilson

The **True Life Conference** had a very productive meeting during their fall session. Calvary FWB Church of Gastonia, NC (Pastor Mike Wilson) joined the Conference and Heartland FWB Church of Lancaster (Pastor Eddie Hinson) petitioned to become a member. This will increase the conference to 7 churches.

The speaker was unable to attend due to a death so new Assistant Director, Rickey Evans delivered the morning message and then we all enjoyed a great meal hosted by Pastor Marshall Nichols and the Faith FWB Church.



The **53rd Anniversary/Home Coming at the SCFWB Children's Home** was held on the first Saturday in November (as usual- mark it on your calendar) in the newly renovated dining room of the home (Beautifully renovated by M.A. and Gail Floyd, Richie Dennis, and Tony Chandler). Guests were welcomed by Director James and Carolyn Wilhide (celebrating their 10th year at leaders of the home). Music was provided by Forrest Stanley and the message was preached by new Children's Home Promotional Director, Rev Shiloh Hackett. \$3500 and some much needed supplies were received on this special day.



Children's Home Superintendent, James Wilhide introduces the Children

There are presently 33 children at the home with 3 more expected by the 1st of December (Bringing the home to its maximum capacity of 36).



L-r: Reba Owens, Margaret Lynch, Rev. Murrell Young, Stella Young, Connie Haselden, Harriett Young.

Pastor Murrell Young, Olanta FWB Church, looked out at his congregation on Sunday, Nov 3rd and found it full of family and friends. Soon he learned that a surprise Pastor Appreciation day was being given for he and wife, Stella. New Assistant Pastor, Tony Lynch had contacted numerous people and invited them to this special service to honor the life and ministry of Brother Murrell. The Morning service was followed by a fellowship meal and numerous testimonies and gifts for Brother Murrell and His wife.

Brother Murrell is celebrating 24 years of ministry which have included being pastor of St. John, Gilead, Manning, Rains, and Olanta FWB Churches.

The Annual Bike-A-Thon was held by **New Prospect FWB Church** on Saturday, Oct 19th in order to help support the Church's Christian School. 43 riders and 38 walkers participated ranging in age from 2 to 87. Mrs Everett Ard (Walker) at 87 and Mr Carlisle Jones (Bike) at 81 were the oldest participates. The overall winner for riders was Justin Timmons (1hr 4 minutes) and Lewy Cooper for walkers (1hr 21 minutes).



The Church has also recently purchased a mobile Home and moved it beside the Church for a parsonage. Rev Phillip Tipton is the Pastor of this active Church.

Rev Todd Black is the new Pastor of Converse FWB Church. Brother Todd comes to Converse from his recent work as Pastor of St John FWB Church of Patrick.

Rev Mikell Edge is the new Pastor of New Covenant FWB Church. Brother Mike comes from recent duties at Unity FWB Church of Johnsonville.



The Bus Ministry of First FWB Church of Myrtle Beach is booming. Since its inception a couple of months ago it has grown to the place that some days it must make two trips in order to pick up all the riders- and many of the riders are accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior (Glory!). Rev. Jimmy Brown is the Pastor of this growing church and ministry. This church also has a tremendous choir which will soon release their first CD in order to expand their music ministry (An excellent idea, by the way.).



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