



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

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“Birds” bring in over \$10,000

The Ladies have done it again! Around 225 ladies gathered at Look-up Lodge on Friday, September 5th for their annual WAC Retreat. Friday night was a time of fun and fellowship as ladies came dressed in Bird attire to go with this year’s theme of “Believers In Christ Rejoicing Daily”. Games, songs, and a time to “Rock the Robin” showed



These “Birds” flew in from Low Country FWB Church

that these ladies could really let their hair down (and that is all I am allowed to say about Friday night!).



Saturday morning brought reports of very little sleep- and very great success. This year’s project was to raise \$8000 to furnish 4 rooms at the

Missionary in Residence home on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in memory of Mrs. Gwen Hendrix. When all the money was turned in these wonderful ladies had raised \$10,387.66 (Is there a Glory! anywhere out there?).

Since only \$8000 was needed to complete the MIR project the ladies voted to use the \$2387.66 extra to get their 2004 project off to a good start. **The 2004 project is to raise \$10,000 to help in the Gwen Hendrix Hispanic Institute.** This National Home Mission project, located on the campus of First FWB Church, Inman, will officially be launched on Saturday, January 10, 2004 and will enable FWB to train pastors and workers for Hispanic ministries all over the USA.



Mrs. Maria Rodriguez

Maria Rodriguez (wife of Hispanic Missionary, Rev. Gerardo Rodriguez) gave a very moving testimony at the beginning of the Saturday Morning Service and Missionary to Brazil, Annette Aycock, delivered a powerful message on how to pray for missionaries during the main message (and the ladies received a special offering of

\$800 for the Aycock account in addition to their other gifts!!).



The Aycock Children warn the ladies not to be “Canaanites”. They didn’t listen!

Mrs. Faye Hanna, president of the SCWAC, praised everyone for their hard work in making this year’s retreat another great success.



David Aycock Family

Mid Year Financial Report

Generous Free Will Baptist gave \$451,901.92 thru the South Carolina Plan of Support January-June, 2003 (Compared to \$425,262,75 during the same period in 2002). It was distributed as follows:

Board of Retirement	466.25
Co-op	245.94
Bobby Aycock	466.25
Dale Bishop	50.00
Stan Bunch	972.82
John Chang	3,228.99
Doropo Hospital	500.00
E-Team	200.00
Fred Hersey	12.00
Tom Hughes	13.00
Ivory Coast Fund	288.57
Darla Kirby (China)	505.00
Don McDonald	120.00
Sam McVay	1,591.00
Jerry Pinkerton	1,097.23
Russia	50.00
David Aycock	7,572.79
Tim Johnson	15,403.58
Mirial Gainer	34,148.81
Carlisle Hanna	57,094.14
Andy Moore	13,165.67
Bobby Poole	13,515.64
Barbacena land Fund (Aycock)	600.00
Vision- India	518.30
Sean Warren	445.60
Robert West	1,663.61
World Mission Offering	7,046.09
Foreign Mission General Fund	5,193.11
National Executive Office	1,733.82
Master’s Men	160.79
Media Commission	300.00
Glen Clementi	466.66

(Continued on Page 6)

CHURCH NEWS

The **Eastern Conference** grew from 15 member churches to 17 churches at their August Meeting. Lighthouse FWB Church, Florence (Pastor Brian Tolliver) affiliated with the Conference and Calvary FWB Church, Georgetown (Pastor Chris Todd) moved from the South Carolina Conference to the Eastern Conference.

NEW PASTORS: Rev. Royce Horne is the new Pastor of Pamplico FWB Church. Rev Bill Dority had been filling in at St. John FWB Church, Patrick as interim Pastor but the Church has now called him as Pastor.

Rev. Johnny Bullman has moved to the position of Senior Pastor of Peace FWB Church, Spartanburg and **Rev. Chuck Thornton** has accepted the position as Pastor of this fine church.

\$5000 gift- Pastor Larry Bell, **Grace FWB Church, Lorris** opened the door to the church recently and found a card had been slide under the front door. The card (delivered on the Pastor's birthday!) contained a check for \$5000.00 (Is there a Glory anywhere in the house?) to help the church with its building program. Also, about this time, a visitor to the Church decided to donate a very nice refrigerator so the church could more easily prepared and preserve food on big days such as homecoming. God just continues to bless.

VBS Project- Pastor Jody Wynn and the congregation of **FWB Bible Church, Darlington** raised \$500 during their VBS to help Missionary David Aycock buy land for a new church in Barbacena, Brazil.

Working Members- Pastor Rusty Conyers, **Jefferson Road FWB Church**, reports that the Church recently installed Chandeliers in the Church sanctuary. A new member donated some wall decor and another couple waxed and polished all the tile floors in the church recently. And the people of the Church still cut the grass and clean the church each week.. He also reports taht 16 people have made professions of faith during his first year at the Church- Glory!

Mt. Carmel News by Pastor John Cody.

Mt. Carmel Free Will Baptist Church at York (True Life Conference, Rev John Cody Pastor) presented Minister's license to Rev. Stanley DeGraw, who is now serving under the watchcare of the church leadership. He can be contacted for speaking engagement at (803) 684-0547 or by contacting Pastor Cody at (803) 927-7860.

Brother Stanley and wife Kerri are presently serving at youth leaders at Mt. Carmel. He has also been named Youth Pastor for the Church and is doing a great job as the High Teen SS Teacher. He is very active in the Church visitation and mission program.

Rev Leroy Sexton of Mt. Carmel began a weekly nursing home ministry at Rosewood Nursing home on August 16th. The home has 48 residents and about 20 staff members. Mt. Carmel FWB Church recently held a benefit for one of the residents who had no family and raised \$1300 at a gospel singing and bake sale. The money was used to pay on the resident's funeral expenses. 4 souls were brought to Christ as a result of this work to which we say "Praise God" for making this event a success in more ways than one.

Please remember to pray for PFC Steven Helton (Army special ops) who was recently deployed to Iraq. We praise the Lord for His protection for Sp 4 Michael Decker who is returning from deployment there and for Seaman James Decker who has recently returned from service off Afghanistan. All of these are associated with Mt. Carmel FWB Church.

Una Free Will Baptist Church held their Dedication Service on Sunday, Aug 3rd at 2:00pm. Special speaker was Spartanburg County Sheriff, bill Coffey. Special singing was by Beverly Johnson from the Spartanburg County Warrent Office. Several other officers were also present. Pastor Kenneth Cash is a Chaplain with the Warrent Office of the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office.

Pastor Kenneth Cash said they also ordained Alvin Henry as a Deacon on Sunday, August 17th. and held their first Communion and Feet Washing services on Sunday, September 7th (With several visitors attending the service because it was publicized on the church Sign!). And, most wonderful of all, He is happy to report that 19 people have been baptized so far this year- Glory!



Rev. Royce Horne



Rev. Stanley DeGraw



Rev. Lifus “Buck” Riffe, pastor of Victory FWB Church of Hanover, PA (Palmetto Conference) went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 19th. Brother Buck was founder of two churches: Truth FWB Church in New Oxford, PA and Victory FWB Church, Hanover, PA (begun in 1981). He is survived by wife, Barbara, son, Ronald, daughters, Mardella and Melissa, and one sister, Essie Anderson.



Brother Buck was born in Hanover, West Virginia on May 28, 1933 and spent most of his life in Hanover, PA. He was very active in mission work and led Victory FWB Church to be the

number one giver in the nation to the annual Benjamin Randall Offering for the past four years. His funeral was held on the day of the annual Benjamin Randall appreciation tour and Brother Richard Adams flew down from Boston on Sunday to help conduct the funeral service (along with Assistant Pastor, Jason Myers). The church was packed and the overflow rooms were filled as multitudes came to bear witness of the impact this pastor had on their lives.



Rev Carl Ward, Sr. died at home on Wednesday, August 27th. Brother Carl was the former pastor of Sweet Home FWB Church and Evergreen FWB Church, both in Conway. He also was pastor of a church in NC for a short time. Surviving are wife, Lucile, sons: Andy, David, Randy, Rev. Carl Ward, Jr. and daughters: Della and Teresa.



The Funeral Services were held at Sweet Home FWB Church on Friday, August 29th. Tears of anguish mingled with shouts of Victory as a completely packed church came together to celebrate the home going of this man of God. The service began with Rev. Carl Ward, Jr. sharing the word of God about the hope we have in Christ as Pastor of Sweet Home FWB Church and as a son. Also sharing words of comfort were Rev. Paul Hyman and Rev. Larry Greenwood.



Sweet Home FWB Church

Rev. Jamie Montgomery was ordained into the gospel ministry during special services at Riverside FWB Church on Wednesday, August 20th. After the preliminary services led by Pastor Mike Gerald, a powerful ordination message was given by Central Conference Ordination Counsel member, Rev. Richard Huggins (Damascus FWB Church, Conway) from First Timothy three about the duties of a man of God. Then Rev. Tony Miles (Little Star FWB Church, Johnsonville) gave an enthusiastic Charge from Second Timothy four about preaching the word of God. After the ordination prayer the Bible was presented to Brother Jamie by SCFWB Executive Secretary, Rev. Mike Jones (the other member of the Ordaining Counsel, Brother Steward Norris, was unable to attend due to sickness in his family). Brother Jamie is actively seeking a place to serve the Lord and can be reached at (843) 488-1303.



Rev. Mike Gerald, Rev. Jamie Montgomery and family, Rev. Tony Miles, Rev. Richard Huggins.

As you enter Hartsville on busy Highway 151, a new sign gleams with announcements and messages from the **First FWB Church of Hartsville**.

The first message on the new sign announced the 39th Home Coming of the Church. Pastor James Skipper said the new sign installation was completed late on Saturday night, just in time for Home Coming- which turned out to be a great service enjoyed by all. Another way for Free Will Baptists to make a mark in this community.

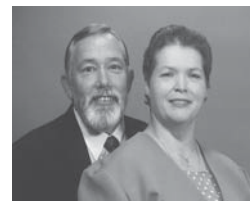


Pastor Roger Tripp and wife, Sybil, are happy to announce the birth of “**Gracie Wrenn Tripp**” on August 17, 2003. Proud parents are Tim and Tanya Tripp. Miss Gracie weighed it at 7lb 1oz and was 19 inches long. Many of you remember that Tim and Tanya’s previous daughter died at 6 months old after much sickness. This baby seems to be fine and the Tripps want to thank everyone for their prayers.



West's Resign After 21 Years in Côte d'Ivoire: Robert and Pam West, who were appointed to Côte d'Ivoire in 1982 as maintenance missionaries for the hospital in Doropo, have submitted their resignation from service as general church-planting missionaries in Kafolo in northern Ivory Coast.

The Wests returned to Côte d'Ivoire in June after having been forced to leave the country during the coup d'etat near the end of 2002. They joined Jerry and Carol Pinkerton who had returned a few days earlier. The two couples remained in Abidjan, but recently Robert and Jerry made a trip to the north to assess the works in rebel-controlled areas.



Finding unstable conditions in the Kafolo area, sensing the inability to physically handle the stress of those conditions, and feeling unsuited for working in the mega-city of Abidjan, Robert and Pam determined they are better equipped for a stateside ministry of some kind.

"God has blessed these 21 years," declare the Wests. "We praise God for the privilege and opportunity to have been involved in reaching the world for Christ. We will continue to be missionaries in our hearts."

The Board of Foreign Missions accepted the couple's resignation and expressed gratitude and appreciation for their years of fruitful ministry. Their official date of resignation is September 30. They are scheduled to return to the States late in September.

The Women Active for Christ of Faith FWB Church, Darlington raised \$2500 for the Poole Account with their 14th Annual Yard and Bake Sale on Saturday, September 6th. They chose to support the Pooles this year because the Pooles are nearly \$8000 in the Red and greatly in need of support. This annual yard sale of donated items is well publicized in Darlington and serves as a means of making people aware of the mission minded heart of Free Will Baptists as well as raising funds for needed projects. Mrs. Dorothy Skinner is president of the Faith WAC and Rev. Cyrus Shoffner is the Pastor. (Last year this same group raised almost \$2000 for the Mirial Gainer account).



One of the great ministries sponsored by individual Churches in our state is the Christian School Ministry. This ministry promotes Christian values and standards while, at the same time, educating the minds of our young people so they can be productive citizens in our country and great workers in the kingdom of God. Below are the two church related Schools that replied to a letter sent to every church in the state asking for information about any school ministry at their Church.

New Prospect Christian School, a ministry of New Prospect FWB Church, was established on September 7, 1976. Pastor Joe Cagle was the founder and Mrs. Lula Mims was the principal. The first class was K-5 and it consisted of 3 students. A day care was also provided. Through the years the school had grown and added grades until this year they are K-5 through the 12th grade with an enrollment of 183. Mrs Gwen Ard is the present principal and Rev. Phillip Tipton is the Pastor.



Southside FWB Kindergarten/Day Care. A ministry of Southside FWB Church, Darlington. This school began in January of 1998 with one teacher and grades 3-K through 5-K in one room. The next year they divided the classes with a teacher for each class. The first year started with 6 students and attendance has grown each year with 35 in attendance last year.



The Students from this school have scored very highly when they go on to public or private schools and the ministry of the school has had a very good effect on the families of the community. Mrs. Peggy Lowery is the Director. The School is located at 134 E. McIver Road, Darlington, SC. Phone: 843-395-1981.

THE CAPE FEAR MYSTERY

History can be like the rolling tide of the ocean, allowing us to catch a glimpse of treasure long ago buried in the sands, but covering it again before we can truly understand or appreciate it. Such is the case when considering the origins of the Cape Fear Conference of North Carolina, and its relationship with the South Carolina General Conference. On the surface it appears to be a relatively simple matter, but it quickly becomes a murky situation that raises more questions than it answers.

The oddity of the matter becomes quickly apparent when it is understood that there are no references in the minutes of the South Carolina General Conference to indicate that any official relationship ever existed between the two bodies. There are only occasional references to delegates from each conference visiting the other and extending greetings. The pertinent facts of this puzzling series of events are largely found in the records of the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist General Conference in North Carolina. By 1855, there were eight Free Will Baptist Churches in the area of Fayetteville and Dunn, in North Carolina. These churches were Stoney Run, Long Branch, Free Union, Fayetteville, Bethsaida, Shady Grove, Prospect and Elbethel. Dr. Herbert Carter, historian for the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church, says these churches "...were a part of Redding Moore's conference in South Carolina." Carter records that, "In 1855, Elder James Turnage and Elder William Harris took a journey on horseback to petition the General Conference in South Carolina for permission to start a conference with their churches in North Carolina near and around Fayetteville and Dunn. Permission was granted and the churches met at Stoney Run on November 1, 1855, and organized the Cape Fear Conference named after the Cape Fear River that flows through that part of the state." Carter also notes that, "Three ministers from other Free Will Baptist connections were present in this first conference of the Cape Fear. One of them was Redding Moore, the founder of the South Carolina Conference which gave permission for the organization of the Cape Fear."

The documentation to support these claims consists of the Minutes of the Cape Fear Conference from its founding in 1855 until a temporary cessation of activity caused by the Civil War, and references in the history of the Stoney Run Church. Several points of interest raised by these claims must be addressed.

One of the three ministers from "Free Will Baptist connections" in attendance at the organizational meeting was Elder J. S. Carrow, representing the "Original Free Will Baptist Conference". This was presumably the North Carolina General Conference, and would seem to indicate some sort of dialogue and relationship between it and the Cape Fear Conference. By the late 1860's, it appears the Cape Fear Conference had aligned with the North Carolina General Conference. Why would churches located in North Carolina feel led to seek permission from the South Carolina General Conference in order to organize as a local conference? Perhaps it was the geographical location of the Cape Fear churches and the churches in South Carolina. It should be noted that there is no official mention of the request to the South Carolina General Conference in the Cape Fear minutes. That assertion is contained in the history of the Stoney Run Church, the first of the Cape Fear churches to be organized.

But, above and beyond that issue, how could Elders Turnage and Harris have contacted Redding Moore, and how could Moore have been at that first meeting, when he had died six years earlier? The record of evidence is convincing that Redding Moore had died in 1849. One answer would be that the records and recollections of the North Carolina churches are in error, and the events occurred prior to Moore's death in 1849. That, however, seems unlikely. Another more likely answer is that contact was made with a Rev. Moore seeking permission to organize the conference, but it was Samuel Moore, son of Redding Moore. Interestingly, every minister listed in the minutes of the first session is identified by first and last name, except the motion that "...Bro. Moore from South Carolina be invited to a seat with us." It is entirely possible then, and probable, that it was the younger Moore, and not his father, whom the brethren of the Cape Fear region held in such high esteem. Samuel Moore, by this time, was likely the pastor of Sand Hill Church, this being the only pastorate to which he can be connected, and the place of his burial. It is not a stretch of logic to assume that he had assumed the leadership mantle of his father.

Thus, the official minutes of the Cape Fear Conference must be weighed against the oral tradition of the Stoney Run Church, and both must be weighed against that which is known about Redding Moore. The result is a series of facts that must be acknowledged but cannot be fully understood.

The fates of Free Union and Fayetteville churches are not known. Shady Grove, Prospect and Elbethel "... went with the faction that rejected the holiness and Pentecostal experience that came to the Cape Fear Conference at the turn of this century." Long Branch, Bethsaida and Stoney Run remain prominent churches in the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist movement.



A History Article about S. C. Free Will Baptists written by Rev. Joe McKnight- S. C. Historian and member of the NAFWB Historical Commission

Halloween Candy promotes Tooth Decay and Truth Decay- Order your tracts from the FWB Christian Book Store today to share during this time.



FWBBC Alumni Association	934.00
Paul Kettelman Memorial	815.00
FWBBC Student Help	1,451.00
FWBBC General Fund	27,072.77
California Christian College	500.00
Gateway Christian College	50.00
Southeastern Bible College	5,748.95
Todd Smith- Aiken	21,032.13
Gerardo Rodriguez	9,782.87
Don Bailey	1,338.80
Keith Bartlett	461.65
Benjamin Randall Offering	6,220.28
Rick Bowling	878.34
Build My Church	1,004.14
David Carlson	5.00
Tim Coats	25.00
Paul Collins	3,283.15
Cliff Donoho	350.00
Greg Floars	563.49
Gwen Hendrix Hispanic Instit	200.00
Highway Helpers	70.00
Ray Hollifield	1,792.00
Carlie Lloyd	65.00
Joel Nason	2,626.60
Dr. Paul Parks	3,074.38
David Potete	1,114.46
Bill Reynolds	1,021.65
David Roy	614.50
Vandevort	6.00
Ron Wallace	374.00
Home Mission Generald Fund	4,401.19
Mark Riggs	1,034.66
Noel Sparks	851.66
Candy Bruce	561.13
Hemant Patel	899.11
Local Church Missions (NC)	360.00
Chip Maye	40.00
Personal for Missionary	2,280.20
Bud Biven	300.00
Gerald Hayes	855.25
Hebron Colony	855.25
Eddy Hicks	100.00
Herman Hyman	1,114.65
Jack Lassiter	45.00
Lighthouse Ministries (Florence)	200.00
Low Country FWB Church	100.00
Minister Mnistry	1,005.00
Tressi Hyman	399.39
Una Help Fund	7,272.18

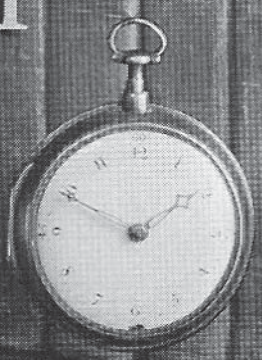
Beaver Creek Bible Institutte	2,245.05
Children's Home	55,562.22
Northgate Mission (Greer)	2,261.13
SCFWB State Office	30,827.81
SCFWB Home Missions	26,976.45
Poston Baggett Loan Fund	19.54
Church Training Service	19.54
SCFWB Youth Camp	256.12
I. Bennie Turner (Manning)	1,126.98
Liberty FWB Church, Orangeburg	20.00
Summer Missionaries	3,950.06
Famine Relief, India	5,748.00
Travis Poston Memorial Fund	500.00
India- direct	1,050.00
SC Conference Mission Conference	4,730.21
WAC designated Gifts	30,895.84
Special Designated Gifts	1,989.00

Foreign Mission Plan of Support Report

	2003 Need	Gifts Thru 6-30-03
David Aycock	24,316.98	8,689.85
Mirial Gainer	72,919.70	47,825.20
Carlisle Hanna	135,617.85	58,190.93
Tim Johnson	47,154.13	16,500.35
Andy Moore	38,748.49	13,601.95
Bobby Poole	40,063.52	14,001.11

"Redeeming the time..."
Ephesians 5:16

Time is passing quickly.



BENJAMIN RANDALL DAY OFFERING
NOVEMBER 23, 2003

Please help us meet the challenge of reaching North America and territories with the gospel through:

- CHURCH PLANTING
- CHURCH EXTENSION
- LOAN FUND
- EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH
- CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY
- CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY

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

It is reported that Benjamin Randall purchased this watch in 1785 and carried it until his death in 1808. He preached the gospel as if time would soon end. He wanted to reach as many souls for the Lord as possible.

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BEGINS

Pastor Karl Sexton and Gateway Free Will Baptist Church announce the opening of **Gateway Christian College** in August of 2003 in Virginia Beach. GCC will provide a local-church structure maintaining a clear, unified purpose and direction as well as a fervent, revival type atmosphere. It is the commitment of Gateway, as a multi-ministry church, that the students will receive practical hands-on training in Christian service within a local-church setting.

Because the primary focus is to train and to produce faithful pastors, youth pastors, missionaries, Christian School teachers and administrators, GCC will begin the first year by offering undergraduate degrees in Bible, Missions, Sacred Music, Music Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Religious Arts, Biblical Studies, as well as Certificate and Diploma Studies. Gateway's commitment is to provide a place where people will feel confident that they are receiving a quality and practical education properly preparing them for the ministry to which God has called them.

Dr. Bruce Barnes (Ph.D.) will serve as the college president. Serving with him in teaching ministry are seven professors who have either a M.A. or M.S. degree, three who are pursuing masters-level degrees, and three who are in the planning stages for doctorates.

Dr. Barnes states, "Students training for Christian ministry at Gateway College will be encouraged to have a personal walk with Christ and to fulfill the purpose of 2 Timothy 2:15, 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.'" Anyone interested in finding out more about the college can go to www.gatewayfwb.org.

Free Will Baptist Bible College enrolled 339 students from 24 state (including 5 from South Carolina) and 8 foreign countries (Albania, Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Japan, Russia, Spain, and Zimbabwe) for the 2003 fall semester. This is an increase of 5% over last year and a 21% increase since the fall of 2001. These 339 students are divided into 64 seniors, 61 juniors, 73 sophomores, 134 freshmen, and 7 special students.



Pastor Buddy Seay was recently honored by White Savannah FWB Church for completion of 10 years as their Pastor with 196 in attendance, special gifts from the Church, and a fellowship meal.



Pastor Sherwood Lee rejoices with **Missionary John Weaver** at a recent service that filled Sand Hill FWB Church to capacity and allowed Missionary Weaver to share about the need of God's work in unreached parts of the world.



A rainy, stormy, Sunday night with an unexpected visit by the SCFWB Executive Secretary to present **Mullins-Marion FWB Church** with the attendance trophy for number one attendance on Roll Call Sunday found Pastor Neil Hinson with a large attendance and a good Spirit anointed service.



Sunday, August 17th was a red letter day in the life of **Northgate FWB Church**, Greer. Pastor Chad West and home Church Pastor, Earl Hendrix joined with friends and members to break ground for the new Church Sanctuary.

Northgate has been meeting in a temporary site in a mall since its beginning and the Congregation looks forward to finally having their own building.



The Fall Quarterly **Eastern Conference Youth Rally** was held at Gilead FWB Church on Saturday, September 13th with around 225 in attendance. Here they join in a time of singing and sharing the word before they took part in the many fun activities prepared for them.



Pastor Frank Sedgwick thought August 10th was going to be a special day at Hickory Hill FWB Church because Missionary Carlisle Hanna was going to attend. He found it was also a special day because his members realized it was also his birthday. So they surprised him with gifts and testimonies

The Students Bill of Rights

(From the August 2003 edition of "The Legal Alert" of the Christian Law Association. Used by permission)

Understanding what religious activities are allowed on public school campuses today can go a long way toward a more effective student witness. This summary should help you to be aware of your or your students' rights at school The Right to meet with other Religious Students. The Equal Access Act allows students the freedom to meet on campus for the purpose of discussing religious issues.

The Right to identify your Religious Beliefs through Signs and Symbols. Students are free to express their religious beliefs through signs and symbols.

The Right to talk about your Religious Beliefs on Campus. Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated in the Constitution and does not exclude the school yard.

The Right to Distribute Religious literature on Campus. Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated in the Constitution and does not exclude the school.

The Right to Pray on Campus. Students may pray alone or with others so long as it does not disrupt school activities or is not forced on others.

The Right to carry or study your Bible on campus. The Supreme Court has said that only state directed Bible reading is unconstitutional.

The Right to do research papers, speeches, and creative projects with Religious Themes. The First Amendment does not forbid all mention of religion in public school.

The Right to be exempt. Students may be exempt from activities and class content that contradict their Religious beliefs.

The Right to Celebrate or to study Religious Holidays on Campus. Music, Art, Literature, and drama that have religious themes are permitted as part of the curriculum for school activities if presented in an objective manner as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage of the particular holiday.

The Right to meet with School Officials. The First Amendment to the Constitution forbids Congress to make any law that would restrict the right of the people to petition the Government (school officials).

The Equal Access Act specifically provides that if a public school receives federal funds and permits one or more non-Curriculum-related clubs to meet, student-initiated and student-led student Bible clubs must be permitted to meet in exactly the same manner, and with all of the same privileges. (Aug 03 Legal Alert).

2003 STATE OFFICERS

Moderator	Sherwood Lee (SC)
Assistant Moderator	Buddy Seay (CA)
Clerk	Todd Smith(BC)
Assistant Clerk	Marty Cox (CA)
Treasurer	Joe McKnight (SC)
Assistant Treasurer	Wayne Snipes (EC)
Member at Large (Lower State)	Doug Mathis (EC)
Member at Large (Upper State)	James Sanders (BC)

SCFWB STATE ASSOCIATION will meet February 26-27, 2004 with the Beaver Creek Conference at First FWB Church, Greenville (Pastor Bobby Bowers). Dr. David Gibbs, Jr. will be our special Guest. **If you have questions about legal issues or taxes that you would like for him to answer please submit them to the State Executive Office** (See Banner on Page 1) as soon as possible so they can be forwarded to Brother Gibbs.

