

# THE



MAY - JUNE 2005

# INFORMER

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

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## NEW WORKERS INTO THE HARVEST FIELDS

Rev. Stephen Hyman and Rev. Thad Jacobs were ordained into the Gospel ministry on Wednesday, May 18, 2005 at Mullins-Marion FWB Church. Both of these men are very active in their Church and look forward to finding God's place of service



Pricilla-Thad Jacobs. Stephen-Dessie Hyman



l-r: Rev. Earl Hendrix, Pastor Todd Smith, Rev. Billy Powell, Brother Billy's Family

Rev. William C. (Billy) Powell was ordained into the Gospel ministry on Saturday, May 14, 2005 at Southside FWB Church, Aiken, SC. The service included special music by Mr Jerry Poston (A friend of Brother Billy from Peace FWB Church, Florence, SC) and Mr. Rex Reason. The ordination message was preached by Rev. Earl Hendrix, Chairman of the Beaver Creek Conference Minister's Association. The charge for the ministry was given by Pastor Todd Smith and the prayer of ordination was led by Rev. Mike Jones.

Brother Billy is presently attending seminary and supply preaching at Walker's Chapel FWB Church, Sumter, SC. He gave up a thriving business and a beautiful home in order to prepare to preach the gospel and he looks forward to being used in God's work.



TEAM Church is coming to South Carolina! In an effort to assist churches in effectively communicating God's Word, Randall House Publications presents TEAM Church. Specially designed to train, equip, and mobilize the church, this day of workshops will feature leaders like Jonathan Yandell, Keith Kenemer and others presenting some 20 useful sessions geared to assist busy Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, pastors...anyone who is interested in Christian education in the local church.

Session titles may include, Taming the Media Monster or How To Recruit and Train a Teacher/Helper. Attendees will be able to choose four sessions between 8 AM and 3:30 PM. Lunch will be provided on site.

Individuals who register before September 1 may do so for \$32. Groups of 10 or more from single churches who beat the September 1 pre-registration deadline receive a discounted fee of \$29. After September 1, registration for all attendees is \$36. You can get your registration forms from the State office, Randall House Publications, or on-line at [www.randallhouse.com](http://www.randallhouse.com) and click the 'training' option.

There will be two sessions in South Carolina. The first session will be at the Peace FWB Church in Florence on Saturday, October 1. The second session will be at the Fairview FWB Church in Spartanburg on Saturday, October 15. Mark your calendars now with those dates and plan to attend TEAM Church.

More information will be presented in the next edition of the "Informer" and is available at [www.scfwb.com](http://www.scfwb.com) or [www.randallhouse.com](http://www.randallhouse.com)

# CHURCH NEWS

(If God is doing something good at your church then the rest of our churches need to hear about it. Pictures [in .jpeg or .tiff format] and articles are greatly appreciated)

The First FWB Church of Florence held their "Friends Day" on Sunday, April 24th. This annual event allows the Church to obtain large numbers of visitor cards (around 200) and make many new contacts- they had 114 first time visitors!

It is actually two days of activities. Saturday is the big "Kid's Carnival" where everyone is invited to participate in the free food and games before a Bible Story time (11:00am - 1:30pm). Sunday morning services begin at 10:30am and include special music, numerous activities, and powerful preaching of the Word of God.



New Covenant ministers in music during the Sunday Service.



Pastor Lee Patrick preaches about being "Still Thankful" to the large "Friend's Day" congregation.

This year Pastor Lee Patrick said in spite of cold windy conditions there were 265 present for the Saturday activities and 451 for the Sunday Services. Most wonderful of all, 4 precious souls accepted Christ as Saviour following Brother Lee's Sunday message.

The first Sunday in May is Home Coming Sunday at First FWB Church of Simpsonville. This year's service was extra special because it was also time for people to turn in pledge cards for the new Family Life Center the church hopes to build in the future. After a brief mission presentation by the State Executive Secretary everyone enjoyed a time of Special Music by the "Prince Family" and "Peace Keepers Three" punctuated by many testifying of God's goodness in their life.



Prince Family Singers

After Rev. Mike Jones brought the morning message Pastor Chris Jackson dismissed the congregation to enjoy a wonderful fellowship meal.

All of the "Informers" published since 2000 are now available on our web site- [www.scfwb.com](http://www.scfwb.com)



Here are some things the Executive Secretary notices about this big day that may help others as they seek to do something big for God.

## Planning a big day:

- Set a date well in advance. A big day does not just happen. It takes much prayer and preparation.
- Get people to publicly commit to bring people to the service. Get people involved in the vision. 623 cards of people who had committed to come to this service lined the back wall of the Church!
- Publicize and promote each week.
- Have people in the Parking area to direct Traffic. Make it as easy on visitors as possible.
- Greet people at the door with a bulletin, a gift, and instructions about where they need to go.
- Have several registration tables so you can easily obtain name and address information.
- Make your guests feel welcome. Let them know how to get their children to a well staffed Nursery or Children's Church.
- Have your special music in place so there are no "time gaps".
- Preach the Gospel clearly. Have altar workers standing by to pray with people who respond.



The SCFWB Executive Secretary had the privilege of sharing about the missions and ministry of South Carolina FWB on Sunday, May 22th at Greater Vision FWB Church, Bladenboro, NC- Pastor Davin Johnson



Mrs Pam Hackett

The ladies of Fairview FWB Church did an outstanding job of preparing for, and serving during, the State WAC meeting in March. The Church was beautiful, the food was delicious, and all their hard work was greatly appreciated.

We are extremely thankful for ladies like this who are willing to give of their time and talent in order for the Ladies work in our state to go forward.

On February 18, Pastor Jimmy Sanders of First Free Will Baptist Church in Chester reached another milestone in his life - HE TURNED 50 YEARS OLD. His church family surprised him with a birthday party after church on Sunday night, February 20. He was escorted from the sanctuary to the fellowship building via a wheelchair. Of course he milked this for all it was worth. We couldn't get him out of the chair until it was all over. It was a wonderful time of food, fun and fellowship which was enjoyed by all. He was showered with gifts, money, and best wishes for many more birthdays to come.



He also celebrated another birthday during the month of February - His spiritual birthday. I'm sure that everyone who knows Preacher Jimmy has heard about "February 14 at 8:05 p.m. beside an old bunk bed." Of course, this is the most important birthday of all. Preacher Jimmy, continue proclaiming your victory over Satan. We really don't get tired of hearing you tell about the night of your salvation. (Submitted by Ms. Dian Milwood)

Surrounded by his family- l-r: Grandson: Britton, Son-in-law: Todd Sinclair, Granddaughter: Kaedyn, Daughter: Abrianna Sinclair, Wife: Terry, Son: Jay



Rev. Rudy Woods went to be with the Lord February 8, 2005. He Pastored in Darlington and Hartsville in the late 1970's and early 1980's. His energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Extended coverage of his life and ministry can be found in the May edition of the Georgia FWB State "Bulletin" at [www.gafwb.org](http://www.gafwb.org).

**SCFWB STATE YOUTH CAMP-** July 25-29, 2005 at Pee Dee Church of God Camp grounds. Marion, SC.

Cost is \$94 if registered before July 15th. \$105 after that date. Registration forms, Counsellor Forms, and Waiver Forms are available at the SCFWB State Office or at [www.scfwb.com](http://www.scfwb.com).



The Camp is located half way between Florence and Marion, SC where highway 301 branches off of highway 76 (Just past the Great Pee Dee River if you are coming from Florence). Due to Construction on the Bridge at this intersection you will need to turn onto Shepherd Road (Approximately 2-3 miles past the bridge). Go 2/10th of a mile and turn left onto Blue Brick Road. Go 1.3 miles to Hwy 301 and turn left. Church of God Camp is 3/10th of a mile on the right. A Detour map with instructions is available at the State Office or on the state web site.



Pastor Allen Goodman and the Sunday School teachers of Damascus FWB Church, Conway were burdened about Missionary Carlisle Hanna's mission account so they decided to receive a month of Special Offerings for this special need. Their goal of \$3,000 was surpassed by the third Sunday of the project. On April 10th they presented the SCFWB Executive Secretary a check for nearly \$3,700 for Brother Carlisle's account- Glory!

Pastor Joe Cagle and the congregation of Little Bethel FWB Church, Johnsonville, decided that investing money in God's bank was better than keeping money in an earthly bank so they voted to donate \$30,000 from their general fund to build 2 new church buildings in India- Glory! What a tremendous testimony from a church seeking to reach the unreached multitudes with the Gospel of Christ.



All across our state there are churches in "Maintenance Mode" - All their buildings are bought and paid for and they have no great needs. If they could catch a vision of doing something great for God with their available resources then it would be a tremendous blessing to God's Work and to the Church.



The Choir of the Comunidad Hispana FWB Church of Una (as well as the choir from First FWB, Inman and Parkway FWB) provided special music at the 1st Annual International Bible Conference held at the First FWB Church of Inman (Pastor Earl Hendrix).

This conference provided excellent music and messages in English and in Spanish as it sought to build up people of various nationalities in the word of God. The State Executive Secretary was only able to attend the first service on Sunday afternoon (May 1st) but this large church was completely full (with the congregation being almost equally divided between Hispanic and Americans) for that service.

Next Year's conference is scheduled for May 4-6, 2006 with tremendous speakers already lined up.

#### Tid-bits of Church news:

- 3 Young Men from Fairview FWB Church, Spartanburg have answered the call to preach and are planning to attend FWBBC to prepare themselves.
- Community FWB Church, Florence recently held a donation auction in which they raised over \$2200 to help with their new Family Life Center Project.
- Mt Ariel FWB Church, Conway baptized 7 on May 15th. Pastor Ronald Hewitt will get to know how they felt on June 18th as he makes good on his promise to occupy the dunking booth if the church had 100 in attendance- and they did!
- Mr. Bill Evans, the adult Sunday School teacher at New Prospect FWB Church, was honored as teacher of the year for 2005. What makes this newsworthy is the fact that Brother Bill has been teaching this adult class for 50 years!



Rev. Gerardo Rodriguez began a new Hispanic Ministry in a shopping mall in Greer, SC on Saturday, May 21st. The facility they are using is directly across from a huge flea market where a large number of Hispanics congregate.

SCFWB State Home Mission Board Member, Rev Daggett Duncan led his church (New Vision FWB Church of Rock Hill) to contribute 50 brand new chairs to help this work get off to good start.



Brother Earnest Barnes and the congregation of Midlands FWB Church of Columbia have invited Rev. Fernando Bustamante to use their church to begin a new Hispanic Ministry in Columbia. What a great example of cooperative ministry. The first service was held on Saturday, May 14th.

Please pray for, and continue to support, Brother Rodriguez and Brother Bustamante as they add these new mission works to their established works in Una and Effingham (Both of their accounts continue in the deficit). What a joy to see the energy and effort these men are putting into reaching souls for Jesus.

Converse FWB Church held the ground breaking for their new facility on Sunday, April 17, 2005. Below is an account of that service written by Pastor Todd Black.

We had wonderful services Sunday beginning with Sunday School and Sunday Morning Worship. You could feel the excitement in the air as people arrived at the House of God. All pews were filled and we ran out of parking for worship service. The Sunday Morning message was titled "Is your home on the Rocks or THE ROCK" . Many received help around the altar during the invitation.

At two o'clock we all went over to the "Turning Point" (the new name for the Church) site and broke ground for our new facilities. Preacher John Tidd (from our church) opened up the service in prayer. Pastor Earl Hendrix (First FWB Church, Inman) spoke on stewardship. Pastor Tim Hackett (Fairview FWB Church) gave words of encouragement from the book of Exodus, challenging us to "Stand still and let God Move". Song Writer and gospel singer Dale Wells (from our Church) played and sang a Beautiful rendition of Beulah Land. The ground breaking service was led by Pastor Todd Black. Pastor Mitch Edge (Parkway FWB Church) led in the prayer of dedication. Preacher David Connor (from our Church) closed the service in Prayer.

When we came back to the Church for the evening service a family of four joined our church. That makes 9 new members to join our church in the past few weeks.





## SCFWB CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS:

Did you know?

- That the Monthly budget need for the Children's Home is slightly over \$44,000 (As approved at the 2005 SCFWB State Meeting- \$529,000.00 divided by 12).
- That in 2004 slightly over \$109,000.00 was given to the Children's Home through the SCFWB State Office (around \$9,000.00 per month).
- That over \$69,000.00 has been received during the first 5 months of 2005 for the Children's Home through the State Office (\$13,800.00 per month- Glory!).
- That \$10,000 plus the interest has been paid on the bus loan debt so far this year.
- That Brother Roy Roach (the Children's Home Director) has been able to Renegotiate the Food Supplier's bill to make some serious cuts to this continual expense (think about feeding 17 kids plus 10 adults each day. Can you say 30 dozen eggs each month?).



- That Rev. Shiloh Hackett led the youth of Fairview FWB Church to raise over \$6,300 for the Children's Home (Instead of doing their normal Spring Activities these youth used all the money that would normally have gone to those activities to help the Children's Home- Glory!). They would like to issue a challenge to all youth groups in the state to consider this need for this year's project.

- That Pastor Jason Miles heard about a pressing need at the Children's Home so he asked Lynches River FWB Church to reach into their general

fund and contribute \$5,000 to the Home- Glory! This church gladly agreed and, hopefully, set a standard for other churches. If 106 of our 122 Churches in the State Association were to contribute \$5,000 to the Children's Home then it would meet their budget for this year.



How can you make sure you get the correct amount of Sunday School Literature?:

- Brother Rickey Evans, Manager of the FWB Christian Book Store, sends a Confirmation Sheet to your church contact person the first week in the second month of each quarter (June- August quarter will go out the first week in July). This is simply a copy of your previous quarter's Sunday School order. If everything remains the same then you do nothing and the same quantities will be shipped again (Sometime around the first week in August).

If you wish to make changes then get them to Brother Rickey before the Confirmation date so we will order (and ship to you!) the correct amount of materials.

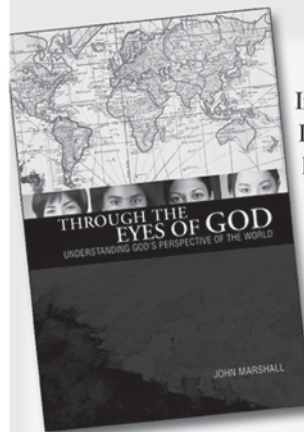
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Hola from the Johnsons! We are now in Michigan (Tim's home state) continuing our stateside assignment.



Our plans were to be here until the end of July, but we have recently found out that we need to return to Spain sooner to comply with residency laws. So we are cutting short our time in the States and will be returning to Spain on June 16.

We look forward to getting back to the work and ministry there and will arrive just in time for a long-awaited event. Carmen, a young lady who studied the Bible for over three years before accepting Christ, will be baptized on June 26. It will be such a joyful day for her and her sister, who prayed for her salvation for many years. It will also be exciting to see a new member of the Villalba Church. Her name is Maria Mateo and she is the newly-adopted daughter of Ruben and Maria. They are a young couple who have been married around 15 years and have been earnestly wanting to have a baby. We can't wait to see her for the first time and experience with them the joy of having a child of their own. Of course, our biggest excitement will be to return to Alpedrete, the town where we are working to plant a church. We look forward to what God is going to do through the ministry there during our next term.

Before we leave for Spain, we must say goodbye to many of you. It is very sad for us and seems to get sadder each time we leave. Please know that we love and appreciate all that you do for us. We couldn't be in Spain without your support. We say a heartfelt, "Gracias!"



Missionary to Japan, Mirial Gainer, continues to battle back problems. The pain is such that she will enter the hospital in Tokyo for a week of bed rest with the possibility of surgery if the problem does not improve. Please remember her in your prayers.

The new school year for her English Language classes began April 1st. Bethany Crowson has moved from the north island (Hokkaido) to assist Miss Mirial in this work.

Antioch, Tenn.—The Board of International Missions of Free Will Baptists met April 11-12, 2005, in Antioch, Tenn.

Following interviews and recommendations by the candidate committee, the Board approved five for overseas service. Chuck Stewart (Madisonville, Tenn.) received a one-year appointment to Spain as an overseas assistant, beginning January 2006. Timothy (Nashville, Tenn.) and Katrina (Batesville, Ark.) Crowson were appointed to a two-year term as professional servants in Japan. He will work as a media specialist and she will teach school. Matthew and Brooke Turnbough, serving a two-year term in Spain, were given preliminary approval for career missionary service.

Four missionaries were reassigned. Clint and Lynette Morgan are transferring from Côte d'Ivoire to France. Clint will continue his role as Regional Director for Europe, Russia and Côte d'Ivoire. He also plans to participate in specific teaching and training ministries within his region and will serve as a mentor to missionaries reaching out to North Africans in France. Shane and Joy Davison were also reassigned from Côte d'Ivoire to France. The Davisons are currently in language school in Albertville, France. They will join the missionary team ministering specifically to North African immigrants.

The Board issued the following commendation to Don Robirds for his work on the commemorative issue of *HeartBeat*: *We, the Board of International Missions of Free Will Baptists, give a special commendation to Don Robirds for his excellent work on the commemorative issue of HeartBeat. The issue is a worthy reflection of the significant impact the magazine has had over the years. We express our great appreciation for producing the issue that will be cherished for years to come.*

Acknowledging his June 30, 2005, retirement, the Board commended Eddie Payne for the years he has served as director of mobilization and recruitment as well as his years of ministry in Ivory Coast.

#### **Missionaries on the Move:**

Missionaries to Brazil- Andy and Andrea Moore - left the states for another term in Brazil on May 29th. Missionaries to Spain- Tim and Kristi Johnson - will leave for another term in Spain on June 16th. Missionary to India- Carlisle Hanna - is due to arrive back in the State on July 4th. Pray for God to bless and guide during these transitions.

Missionary Kristi Johnson and son, Alejandro, spent the day with the 4-K class of New Prospect Christian School



before they left for deputational duties in Michigan. Alejandro took part in classroom activities and shared some things about Spain with the class. He also sang "Jesus

loves the little children" in Spanish. Mrs. Kristi even brought a matador costume and the children had fun trying it on and having their picture taken.

The 4-K class will never forget this day spent with Alejandro. "Gracias" to the Johnsons for all the do for the work of Christ. (Submitted by Ms. Nancy Marlowe).

Chester First Free Will Baptist Church's Hawthorne Christian Academy recently had the opportunity to thank Pastor Kevin Smith of Westgate Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg, South Carolina for his congregation's continued support of the school. Westgate Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC has been a supporter of the school for several years and recently increased its monthly donation. The staff, faculty, and students of Hawthorne Christian Academy as well as the



congregation of First Free Will Baptist Church are very appreciative of the support this congregation as well as the support of the congregations of Freedom Free Will Baptist church in Lancaster and Little Bethel FWB Church in Johnsonville.

Hawthorne Christian Academy is currently in its third year of operation and is meeting the

needs of the community in Chester by providing a private Christian education for the students in the area. Please add Hawthorne Christian Academy to your prayer list and pray for all aspects of the school (students, faculty, staff, finances, leadership, athletics" etc.).

Pictured is Mrs. Michelle Cassady - HCA Administrator, Pastor Kevin Smith - Westgate Free Will Baptist Church, and Pastor James Sanders - Chester First Free Will Baptist Church. (Submitted by Pastor James Sanders)

Little Bethel FWB Church recently donated \$5000 to New Prospect FWB Church School to help them with their ministry of providing a Christian Education to young people. Little Bethel also supports Hawthorne Christian Academy (First FWB Church of Chester), Inman Christian Academy (First FWB Church of Inman), Mullins Marion Christian School (Mullins-Marion FWB Church), and Maranatha Christian School (First FWB Church of Florence).



Pastor Joe Cagle presents a gift to Pastor Phil Tipton for New Prospect FWB Church School

New Prospect Christian School has also received support from Unity FWB Church, Johnsonville, Foothills FWB Church, Spartanburg, Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico, and Williams Hill FWB Church, Hemingway in recent months. (Submitted by Pastor Phil Tipton)

Maranatha Christian School (a ministry of First FWB Church of Florence) was able to collect \$1000.00 for the SCFWB Children's Home during their weekly chapel services- Glory! This ministry project allowed these students to help other less fortunate young people and is a great testimony to what our young people can do if they are given a challenge and a chance.

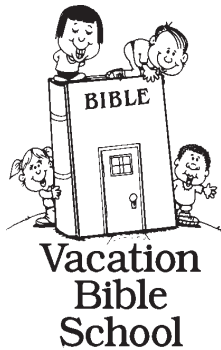


Pictured on the first three rows are Pastor Elro Driggers and the graduates (kindergarten thru college) of Beulah FWB Church, Pamplico after the State Executive Secretary had preached their graduation worship service.



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Pr 22:6 ¶ Train up  
a child in the way  
he should go: and  
when he is old, he  
will not depart  
from it.



**NEW MEMBERS:** If we are going to grow then we need new members. Here are several Keys to make new members feel welcome into the Church.



- 1) Pre-Interview the person. No one should be presented for membership until they have met with the Pastor.
- 2) Give each new member a FWB treatise, a church constitution, a packet of offering envelopes, and a church directory (Names, addresses, phone numbers of other church members).
- 3) Call the new member by Name when presenting them for membership. It sounds very good to the person joining and is very helpful to the people in the congregation.
- 4) Tell everyone how the person is joining: Profession of faith, pending baptism, by letter from.
- 5) If possible, let the person give a brief testimony. It may speak to an unsaved person's heart and it will help cement relationships with other members.
- 6) Read the FWB Church Covenant (this is a good place for a responsive reading. It is in the front of the FWB Hymn Book.)
- 7) Extend the Welcoming Hand of Fellowship by the congregation
- 8) Now that they are part of the Church put them to work in the Church!

Looking for a project for your church to help the work of God?

- \$15,000 will build a church in India
- \$10,000 will build a Sunday School room for the new Church Missionary Andy Moore is constructing in Brazil.
- \$5,000 per church per year will meet the annual budget of the SCFWB Children's Home.
- \$2,000 will pay a loan payment for a month for the mission work in Aiken (Brother Todd Smith).
- \$50 per month is the amount needed from each church in the state in order for the SCFWB State Office to meet its annual budget

There is something everyone can do to help the work of God in our State and around the world.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists will meet July 17-20, 2005 in Louisville, KY. [Pastor, If you were asked to preach at the National Association, what would you preach? Why not prepare that message and preach it to your church this week!]

**State WAC Retreat will be September 23-24, 2005** at White Oak Conference Center, Winnsboro, SC. Registrations are presently full but you can contact Mrs. Patty Newton after August 1st to see if last minute rooms are available. Looking for a great time at this year's retreat.



**WOMEN'S RETREAT**

**Publication Deadlines.** The "Informer" is published 7 times per year- January 1st, March 1st, April 1st, June 1st, August 1st, October 1st, and December 1st. Articles for publication need to be submitted 5 days prior to the publication date. Submit pictures as a separate file (in .jpeg or .tif format). All articles are subject to editing and exclusion based on content and space availabilities.