

THE



Vol. 35 Num. 3
APRIL, 2006

INFORMER

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

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MISSIONARIES IN NEED

Rev. Carlisle Hanna, our Missionary to India, is presently **over \$15,000 in the red**. This faithful man of God has worked many years, at great personal sacrifice, in order to get the gospel to the people of India. Right now the work is thriving as never before as more souls are being saved, more people are being baptized, and more churches are being built and Brother Carlisle needs your help so that the work will not stall because of lack of funds.



Brother Carlisle's son Don, is presently accepting Sunday Morning engagements to share about the work in India and help during this time of need. Brother Don recently returned from India where he (and a male nurse from Alabama) went into the villages and ministered to the physical, as well as the spiritual, needs of the people. Contact the SCFWB State Office for appointment dates.



Funds can be sent to the SCFWB State Office designated for Carlisle Hanna Account- and remember, every penny you send to the SCFWB State Office is given to the cause it is designated for.



These Pastors, Evangelists, and Church Planters are part of the fruit of our labor in India. Their dedication and zeal for God is part of the reason we have over 200 FWB Churches in India and Nepal today. Part of Brother Carlisle's expense is to provide bikes and motor-bikes so that these men can carry on their work for the Lord. Motor Bikes are \$1500 and Bikes are \$100 each. Great project ideas for VBS, Youth Groups, Ladies groups, etc.

Missionaries to Brazil, **Bobby and Geneva Poole**, are presently nearly \$3000.00 in the



Red. This faithful couple has labored in Brazil for over 40 years, started numerous churches, and trained many young men and women at their Bible Institute in order to build a FWB work for God in Brazil.

They are presently attempting to build an auditorium at the Marincek Church (Where Brother Bobby is pastor). They need \$15,000 in order to complete the project (They have received nearly \$10,000 of the \$25,000 cost so far).

Send your gifts to the SCFWB State Office designated for the Poole account (Gifts for the Marincek project should be clearly marked to avoid confusion with gifts to their account need).

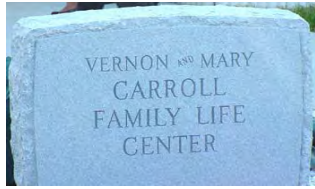


Tim and Kristi Johnson have begun a new Church in Alpedrete, Spain (A city without an evangelical

church in its 500 year history). Several Christian families in the town have attended faithfully since the church began and one couple is even helping with the music.

The Johnson's account is in the black but it has been dropping recently. Your prayerful consideration is appreciated.

A full Church greeted Pastor Mitch Edge and the congregation of Parkway FWB Church on Saturday, April 1, 2006 as they gathered to dedicate the new **Vernon and Mary Carroll Family Life Center**. Completed at a cost of over \$600,000 dollars this multi-purpose building (Fellowship Building, Youth Center, Storage Space, and full size Gym) will be a tremendous benefit to the ministry of this church.



Pastor Mitch Edge is entering his 10th year as Pastor of Parkway and he had nothing but praise for the vision and work of Parkway People as they continue to step out on faith and look at ways to reach their part of the world for Christ. The Church is in a fast growing area of Boiling Springs and the potential for growth is great.



L-R: Pastor and Mrs. Mitch Edge, Mrs. Mary Carroll, and Assistant Pastor and Mrs. Wes Murray prepare to cut the ribbon as the new Family Life Center is dedicated.

The New Vernon and Mary Carroll Family Life Center is located directly behind Parkway FWB Church.



Rev. Todd Black, pastor of Turning Point FWB Church delivered the dedication message



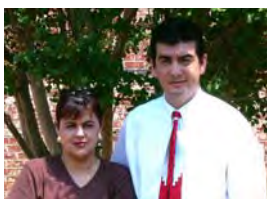
The first anniversary of the **Hispanic Church meeting at Lebanon FWB Church** in Effingham (Rock of Salvation Hispanic FWB Church) was held on Sunday, March 12, 2006 with over 135 in attendance- Glory! The Service began with a number of prayer and praise songs as the people worshipped the Lord and praised Him for His blessings in their first year of operation. Missionary Fernando Bustamante has done a great job of building this church while at the same time leading in the establishment of Hispanic Churches in Columbia (Using Midland FWB Church facilities) and Darlington (Using Faith FWB Church facilities).



The large turn out of Hispanic people and numerous visitors from other Churches in the area also included special guests, Rev Rick Bowling (Hispanic Director of FWB National Home Missions), Rev. Earl Hendrix (Director of SCFWB Home Missions), and Pastor and Mrs. Earnest Barnes (Pastor of Midland FWB Church).

Following the celebration worship service everyone adjourned to the family life center of Lebanon FWB Church for a Hispanic "Fiesta" with authentic Mexican foods prepared by member of Rock of Salvation Hispanic FWB Church.

God is doing a great work among our Hispanic brethren. Your prayers and continued financial support are much appreciated and greatly needed.



Mrs. Maria Rodriguez, wife of Spartanburg Hispanic Missionary, Gerardo Rodriguez, has been invited to speak at the University of South Carolina about life, culture, and customs in Brazil (Her home country) as well as sharing the ministry she and her husband have in Spartanburg. Please pray for wisdom and the ability to communicate well.

Brother Gerardo also request prayer for a man in his church who drank heavily before he accepted Christ (Glory!) and now this man's brothers beat him badly because he will not drink with them.

The National Home Mission Department has decided to **NOT SPONSOR ROLL CALL SUNDAY** for several years. In order to continue to have a measure of the growth of our SCFWB Churches the SCFWB Executive Secretary is asking that Pastors plan a big day in October this year (2006) and report to the SCFWB State Office the largest attendance you have at a single Sunday Morning Service in October (Any one of the 5 Sunday Morning Services in October will be acceptable). Report forms will be provided by the SCFWB State Office.

Several Churches had already planned their big day before word was received about Roll Call Sunday. Here are several reports. If your church has had a BIG DAY then send your report to the State Office so it can be shared with others. Remember, Big Days help us reach souls for Christ and every church should plan several big days each year in order to stir the church to greater efforts for the Lord.

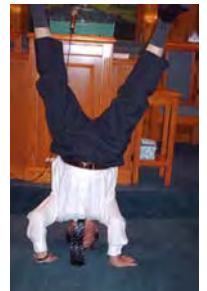


What a thrill it was for all of those attending **First FWB Church of Florence** on March 25 & 26th. These days marked the 3rd Annual Big Day for the church. It began on Saturday with 260 young people (that's not counting those who came back on Sunday) who attended a special service that was followed by a free meal and fun time. The weekend was capped off on Sunday with a record drive-in crowd of 582!!! That makes a total of 842 people who attended these services! Extra chairs had to be put out to seat everyone.

The church fed everyone BBQ and chicken bog and all the trimmings afterwards. Counting Saturday and Sunday, there were over 200 first time visitors. Best of all was when people began to move during the invitation. When all was said and done, 4 people had given their hearts to Christ and 2 came to rededicate their lives back to God. First FWB Church gives the Lord all the glory. (Submitted by Pastor Lee Patrick).

Big Day at St. John FWB Church of Patrick- We began promotion of our big day before we knew the National would not have one this year. We set a goal of 150 and I said that I would stand on my head if we got that many. Excitement grew as our big day in March finally arrived and people began flowing into the building. A total of 275 were counted, and our people said some were missed in the count.

We had people “wall to wall” with one young man having over 50 present that he had invited. Another had 38, another 20, and so on. As you can see from the picture, I am a man of my word, even if I am upside down sometimes! (Submitted by Pastor Jerry Johnson).



Pastor William Justice and the congregation of **Community FWB Church, Florence** decided to have their Big day centered around the story of Jesus. They presented a great musical drama (54 Church members were involved in the drama!) depicting the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus to a packed house on Saturday night, April 8th. Then they presented the same drama again on Easter Sunday morning with 207 in attendance and 3 precious souls saved.

Pastor Rickey Evans reports that they had 159 in attendance on Easter Sunday at Evergreen FWB Church of Conway and 149 of them came back the next Sunday! The Church is showing constant growth due in a large part to the fact that Brother Rickey is constantly pushing visitation. In order to encourage the church to visit he has challenged them to distribute 2500 visitor packets- he said he would distribute 1250 of the packets if the entire rest of the church would distribute the other 1250! (It is an old saying but a true one- “People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care”- and a personal visit is one way of showing that concern).



Mrs. Roxie Belle Vause Gibbons recently celebrated her 100th birthday (Born March 11, 1906). On Sunday, March 12, 2006 over 300 friends, family members, and neighbors came together to celebrate her 100th birthday with many special gifts including 100 pink roses from her home church.

Mrs. Gibbons is the oldest member of Horse Branch FWB Church (Pastor Jacob Creech) of Turbeville, SC. She faithfully attended church and was actively involved as a Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, and regular member of the Church's Woman's Auxiliary as long as her health permitted.

Mrs. Roxie Belle is the daughter of the late Rev. George and Winnie Cox Vause. Brother Vause was the Pastor of Horse Branch FWB Church for 36 years. She is the sister of Rev. Julius Vause, a pastor in the South Carolina Conference for many years. She taught school in the Clarendon County School system for 36 years. (Submitted by Pastor Jacob Creech).



Pastor Roger Tripp (and wife Sybil) retired as Pastor of Liberty FWB Church of Orangeburg on Sunday, April 9, and moved to Ayden, NC where Brother Roger will serve as Senior Citizen Pastor at Ormondsville FWB Church. His new address is 957 Tripp-Grimsley Road, Ayden, NC 28513. Brother Roger has been a faithful worker in our state for many years and will be greatly missed.

2nd Annual International Bible Conference

~ May 4-6, 2006 ~

Come join us for three days of Bible preaching, soul-stirring songs, and international fellowship!

Conference Speakers



Rev. Karl Sexton
Virginia Beach, VA



Rev. Gerardo Rodriguez
Una, SC



Dr. Lorenzo Stox
Greenville, NC



Rev. Shane Wilson
Johnson City, TN



Dr. Fernando Bustamante
Effingham, SC



Rev. VanDale Hudson
Amory, MS

"That all the earth may know..."

Learning the Ropes: Confessions of a Young Preacher

Submitted by Jackson Watts

One thing was certain on July 27, 2003: I was supposed to be at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Without knowing exactly what to major in, I packed my bags and made the 500-mile journey to a place that has become a second home to me. Within my first semester, I felt the Lord's gentle tugging on my heart to preach and I readily accepted that call. Almost immediately, I began receiving opportunities to preach (a few more times than I was ready for).



In these past two-plus years I have probably learned more of what not to do from the pulpit than what to do. But after preaching about 50 times, taking courses on preaching, and being exposed to a lot of great preaching, there are a four facts I can say are true of preaching.

1) It is by the Holy Spirit that men are convicted. Believe it or not, it is not about us. That may come as a bit of a surprise. After all, some preachers are so gifted that they can wax eloquently about any topic and people will listen. However, will they hear the man or the message? Apart from the power of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, we as preachers and witnesses for Christ cannot bring about the heartfelt conviction needed to change lives – but Christ can! John 12:32 is the instruction we need: “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.” With all the discussion and empty rhetoric today about materials and methods, our preaching must be founded in this verse. Lift up Christ and lives will be changed.

2) It is by my preparation that God sees me as faithful. What a terrible a feeling it is to enter the pulpit unprepared! It is dishonoring to God, a disappointment to a congregation, and a discouragement to the preacher himself. Though the apostle Paul does not include in any of his epistles the number of hours a preacher should spend toiling over an outline or manuscript, he does instruct a young preacher named Timothy to study to show himself approved unto God. Whether that ends up being 5, 10, or 20 hours put into one message, the Holy Spirit will convict me if I am unprepared, and encourage me if I am prepared.

3) It is by Christ's finished work that I have something to preach. Everyone has an opinion. It would be all too easy to mount the pulpit, read passage of scripture, and then jump on a hobby-horse and preach my opinions and personal convictions. However, the Spirit of God compels me to preach of a Christ who died for all. If my willingness or desire to communicate this truth abates, then I fail to do what I am called to do.

Paul confessed to his readers in 1 Corinthians that he did not preach with words of wisdom, but he preached the cross of Christ which has the power to save men. It is a sobering thought to realize that your vocabulary, oratorical ability, and spiritual platitudes pale in comparison with a man who prepares and disciplines himself to preach solely about the suffering servant who is Jesus. Preach Christ and this will honor God.

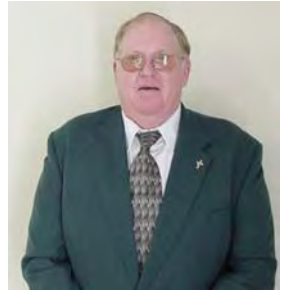
4) It is because of my calling that I must preach. Parents often go to great lengths to coerce their children to try eating vegetables. The parents consider it a noteworthy success when their child finally eats a spoonful of whatever new item has been prepared. Though it is encouraging to witness an accomplishment like this, wouldn't it be a happier occasion if they ate the vegetables because they wanted to? We should naturally feel a compelling desire to preach. There must be a sense of duty within our hearts that says “Woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!” Free Will Baptist Home Missions Director Larry Powell reminded me once that his personal battle cry for ministry is “Souls for Jesus!” What is your personal battle cry?

If we preachers wish to bring about change in the lives of those who hear us, we must first realize the Holy Spirit is who changes lives. Thus, we must prepare faithfully, preach Christ and not opinion, and remember that our calling means that we ought to do nothing except be focused on the Kingdom. Let us thank God daily for the opportunity to do His noble work.

[About the Writer: Jackson Watts is a senior at Free Will Baptist Bible College. He is a member of the Horse Branch FWB Church of Turbeville. He is majoring in Pastoral Ministry and Biblical Studies, with a minor in English. His emphasis is in Church Planting. He will be working this Summer with Home Missionary to Louisiana, Rev. Rue Dell Smith in Monroe, LA]

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. Revelation 14:13

Funeral services for **Rev. Neil J. Harrelson** (58) were held on Sunday, March 19, 2006 at Inman Funeral Home of Tabor City, NC. Rev Tommy Bryson, Jr. and Rev Steward Norris conducted the services. Brother Neil had battled health problems for many months and he is now enjoying rest and rewards. He is survived by his wife, Eunice; a daughter, Mandy (Michael) Hewett; and a son, Joshua.



Brother Neil was an active member of the Central Conference and will long be remembered for his jovial spirit and his friendly manner. Brother Neil (and his family) wanted everyone to know that he loved them and that God loves them even more.

Funeral services for **Rev. Cornelius F. "Neal" Harting Sr.** (68) were conducted Saturday, March 25, 2006 at Southside FWB Church of Aiken, with the Rev. Todd Smith and Rev. William Powell officiating.



Brother Harting was a native of Detroit, Mich. but he had made North Augusta his home for the past five years. He was a member of Southside FWB Church, a retired Freewill Baptist minister after pastoral work in Georgia, and a U.S. Navy veteran, where he served in the Submarine Service. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Brown Harting, and several children who lived out of the home.

Brother Neal was a member of the Beaver Creek Conference and served in several positions at Southside FWB Church of Aiken until his sickness. He was also a member of the SCFWB Minister's Benevolent Fund and it was a great joy for the SCFWB Executive Secretary to be able to deliver a check to Mrs. Shirley for \$1300.00 on the morning of Brother Neal's Funeral. All ministers in the state are encouraged to join the Minister's Benevolent Fund so that you too can be a part of helping the families of fellow ministers during their time of bereavement.

Funeral services for **Rev. Johnnie G. Bullman** (79) were conducted on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at Peace FWB Church of Spartanburg with the Rev. Chuck Thornton officiating. Special music was presented by daughter, Libby Thornton, and nephew, Scott Bullman. Words of testimony were given by daughter, Kathy Murphy, and son, Ronnie Bullman. Over 20 ministers from several different denominations acted as honorary pallbearers



Brother Johnnie was a graduate of Piedmont Bible Institute and Beaver Creek Bible Institute. He founded and served as Pastor or Senior Pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church of Spartanburg for over thirty-one years. He was also the founder and former pastor of Hearon Circle Free Will Baptist Church of Spartanburg and the former pastor of First Free Will Baptist of Wilson, NC. He was a well known evangelist who preached revivals throughout the eastern United States. Brother Johnnie also founded the Palmetto Conference where he served in many positions and was the former state president of the Citizens for Decency. He was also a U.S. Navy Veteran.



Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Doris Downey Bullman; two daughters, Kathy Murphy and her husband Jim Murphy of Duncan, and Libby Thornton and her husband, the Rev. Chuck Thornton of Spartanburg; two sons, Ronnie Bullman and his wife Susan Bullman of Union, and Johnnie Bullman, Jr. of Spartanburg.

SCFWB Women Active for Christ News



(SCFWB Executive Secretary, Mike Jones, was attending a Leadership Conference in Missouri at the time of the SCFWB WAC Annual Meeting so the state WAC Coordinator, Mrs. Faye Hanna filed the following report)

South Carolina Women Active for Christ were out in full force on March 18th at their annual convention held at First Free Will Baptist Church in Inman. Almost 200 women (and a few men) joined in worship at the beautifully decorated “garden” setting as the day centered around planting and nurturing souls for God’s Kingdom. Three beautiful special songs and congregational singing set the tone for a day the women look forward to all year long. The Inman WAC made everyone feel especially welcome and prepared a delightful lunch.

Paula Roach, who works with her husband at our Children’s Home in Turbeville, shared the Word with us and gave us some insight into her seed planting through children. She also humorously shared with us the “19” words Bro. Roach speaks to her each night! You will have to see her for more information on that!

We received reports from our various works at home and around the world; including a special report from Mrs. Marjorie Workman of National WNAC. God is doing a mighty work and the SC WAC is right in the middle of it – willing to be used by Him as Co-Laborers.

Two SPECIAL ITEMS to Note:

PROJECT- The 2006 SC WAC project is to raise funds to defray the indebtedness of the Children’s Home. A goal of \$25,000.00 has been set.

RETREAT- It was decided by the delegates to support the WNAC Retreat at Ridgecrest on September 21, 22 and 23 instead of having a separate State Retreat this year. The women are encouraged to register as soon as possible. [The Following Information about the Retreat was supplied by the National WNAC- Restore your body, your soul, your vision and your heart for the world. Attend the WNAC National Retreat at Ridgecrest, September 21-23, 2006. The Thursday evening through Saturday noon retreat includes times of worship, fellowship, and relaxation in the mountainous, pastoral setting of the LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center near Black Mountain, North Carolina. FWB missionary, Lynette Morgan is this year’s speaker. All women are welcome to attend, regardless of WNAC affiliation. Cost is per person and includes two nights’ lodging, five meals and conference fees. Call 1-800-588-7222 to reserve your spot or contact WNAC (1-877-767-7662 or info@wnac.org) for pricing and/or information.]



SEND CHRISTMAS JOY TO CENTRAL ASIA

Women Nationally Active for Christ, an auxiliary arm of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, announces its 2006 national project. Christmas Joy for Central Asia will supply Christmas gift boxes for needy children in the far eastern region of the former Soviet Union. Each box will contain a children’s Bible, t-shirt, warm socks, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, pencils and notebook, instant chocolate drink, fruit tea, cookies, chocolate and other candies, and a stuffed animal. Cost for each box is only \$15.

WNAC is currently accepting money donations for this project, hoping to supply 5000 boxes for Central Asian children living in orphanages or on the streets as well as those with special needs. Send funds designated CA Christmas Joy to WNAC, P. O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. One hundred percent of monies received will benefit Central Asian children.



WNAC is also recruiting volunteers who will travel to Central Asia in January 2007 to assemble and actually distribute the boxes onsite. Persons interested in going to Central Asia should email: catrip@wnac.org or call 1-877-767-7662 for more information.





South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists
Rev. Mike Jones, Executive Secretary
P O Box 13266 Florence, S C 29504
WWW.SCFWB.Com (843) 662-5010

MAY THE
GRACE
OF THE LORD
BE UPON
YOU



New Home Missionary to Arizona- Rev. Chris Fannin has resigned as pastor of Lebanon FWB Church in order to become a Home Missionary to Prescott, Arizona. He is beginning his itinerate work to raise his support so he can get to the field and begin winning souls for Jesus. If you would like to contact Brother Chris about a service then call him on his cell phone- (843) 319-8013 or contact the SCFWB State Office.



Pastor Darren Squires of Socastee FWB Church is happy to report that the church recently gave he and his family a new Truck! They also recently completed the educational wing of the Church and continue with their program to feed the homeless each Saturday at a local rescue mission (A program that has allowed them to win many souls for Jesus).



YOUTH CAMP NEWS

TEEN CAMP: (Age 13-18) will meet June 5-9, 2006 at "The Anchorage" in Lake Waccamaw, NC. Cost is \$165 per camper. Enjoy great preaching (Special Speaker is Rev. Charles Cook), great fellowship, exciting activities, fishing, tubing, etc. in Air Conditioned facilities! DVD of the camp is available from Rev. Cyrus Shoffner (address below). Additional information about the camp can be found on the web at "theanchor.org/missions.htm"

JUNIOR CAMP: (Age 8-12) will meet July 24-28, 2006 at Camp Pee Dee between Florence and Marion, SC. Cost is \$105 per camper. Special Speaker will be James "Zany the Clown" Sadler.

Application forms and Waiver of Liability forms (must be included) are available at www.scfwb.com or by contacting Rev Cyrus Shoffner (1237 Vance Drive, Darlington, SC 29540).



The SCFWB Executive Secretary recently visited the **McColl FWB Church**. Rev. Lenoard Williams is pastor of this non affiliated Church (We have numerous such churches scattered across our state). This church desires your prayers as it struggles with declining membership due to a changing neighborhood. They also recently lost their parsonage due to fire.