

THE



Vol. 40 Num 4
July/August/September 2010

INFORMER

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

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50 Years of Grace

In 1960, when gas was 25 cents a gallon, Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Lake City was organized under the leadership of their first pastor, Reverend Roger Tripp. Fifty years later, on Sunday, September 12, 2010, the church celebrated their 50 year anniversary honoring previous pastors and spouses, charter members, current deacons, and trustees and spouses. The morning started out with Missionary Bobby Poole sharing a message about their ministry in Brazil. During the second portion of the service, Reverend Roger Tripp and former pastor Reverend Robert Rose shared remarks about the early history of the church. During the morning worship service, special music was provided by Mrs. Lenore Coker and Mr. Sam Taylor. Reverend Mike Jones, who served as the pastor of Grace FWB Church for 21 years through various years, shared the morning message regarding "God's Record Book." Current pastor Reverend Carroll Bazen and his wife Susanna have served at Grace FWB Church since 1999. God took the \$24 from the very first offering at Grace Church while others added to it and multiplied it into many souls for the kingdom of God.



Pictured L to R
Charter Members:
Dot Sullivan, Betty
Lou Thompson,
Genny Rogers, and
Althea and Marion
Coker

Pictured L to R:
Sybil and Roger
Tripp, Mike and
Paula Jones, Kay
and Robert Rose
Geneva



and Bobby Poole, Missionary Carlisle Hanna, and Pastor Carroll Bazen



Deacons and Trustees and spouses pictured L to R: Don Lewis, Charlie Purvis, Marion and Althea Coker, Joel and Glenda Jones, Ralph and Miriam McAlister, Tom and Wanda Smith, Tommy Sullivan, and Pastor Carroll Bazen

75 Years of Missions

The 2010 conference theme, "Who Will Go?" seemed appropriate as Free Will Baptists from every corner of the globe poured into Oklahoma City July 18-21 for the 74th annual meeting of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. At 6,545, the number of attendees was unusually high, nearing record marks set by conventions in Nashville (TN) in 1985, and Little Rock (AR) in 1994.

Convention attendees joined Free Will Baptist International Missions in celebrating the 75th year of the department's rich history. This year marks the anniversary of Laura Belle Barnard's journey to India. Seventy-five years later, 250 career missionaries have followed her lead, planting more than 1,000 churches across the globe. National pastors and representatives from many of these churches joined in Oklahoma City to honor God's faithfulness. The celebration included several landmark events.

On Monday, a meeting titled, "Seventy-Five Years of Faithfulness," recalled the rich missionary heritage of the denomination and highlighted the personal sacrifice, accomplishments, and faithfulness of men and women who gave their lives for the gospel. "We now call them international missionaries," said longtime Contact magazine editor Jack Williams, during an address to spellbound listeners, "but they were more than that. They were our heroes, our teachers, our friends—the spiritual conscience of a denomination."

On Tuesday, "World Celebration 2010" honored more than 50 international guests who, in turn, shared greetings and congratulations from congregations worldwide.

Throughout the week, a museum-style exhibit took visitors on a journey through missions history with artifacts, personal items, documents, and more. The fascinating displays included Dr. LaVerne Miley's medical bag, Laura Belle Barnard's Bible and handwritten notes, and Pop Willey's holster, journal, and keepsake box.

Perhaps the most visible portion of the International Missions celebration was the culmination of the 2,500-mile Go10 Walk for the World. For 84 days, nearly 2,000 walkers retraced Laura Belle Barnard's steps across 14 states, carrying a Tamil (traditional Indian dialect) Bible and passing a well-worn baton from group to group to raise funds for missions. The walk ended at the Tuesday evening

75 Years of FWB Missions - NAFWB Convention Continued

National Youth Conference service. A throng of walkers joined the final leg of the journey through downtown Oklahoma City. They flooded the streets in brightly colored tee shirts and carried large banners. When the final group of walkers reached the stage, Missionary Carlisle Hanna, pioneer missionary to India, symbolically by “passing the baton” to recently appointed missionaries, marked the beginning of a new era in Free Will Baptist missions.

During Wednesday evening’s worship service, convention attendees rejoiced together when Director Joe Wilson announced the effort had surpassed its \$1 million goal, making the Go10 Walk the largest short-term fundraising effort in the history of the Free Will Baptist movement, due in part to a \$500,000 planned estate gift of “matching funds” from an anonymous donor.

Convention speakers addressed the theme, “Who Will Go?” based on the prophet’s calling in Isaiah 6:1-8. After Sunday School taught by Thomas Marberry (OK), Bert Tippet (TN) took the pulpit, preaching powerfully in spite of an ongoing battle with an aggressive form of bone cancer. The theme of his message was appropriately, “The Crisis We Must Face.” Sunday evening, after dedicating the sermon to his grandfather Mac Kinsey, Oklahoma Pastor Jeff Blair spoke on “The Concept We Must Grasp.” Charles Murphy (OK) addressed “The Condition We Must Correct” on Monday night, challenging listeners to eradicate the power of sin in their lives in simple, direct terms. Karl Sexton, fiery preacher from Virginia, took the pulpit Tuesday night speaking on, “The Call We Must Consider.” He urged listeners to accept the call of God to share the gospel with the world around them. “I do not fear that the church will not succeed,” Sexton said. “I fear that the church will succeed in things that do not matter.”

The unforgettable Wednesday evening service featured a parade of nations including scores of current and former missionaries and international guests. They were greeted by a thunderous standing ovation. The mass choir, under the direction of Vernon Whaley, performed a unique musical score that incorporated ethnic instruments and musical sounds from around the world before Stan Bunch, Arkansas native and missionary to Panama, spoke on the subject, “The Commitment We Must Make.” Altars filled as the convention came to a close, a fitting conclusion to a week that challenged all attendees to reply to God’s call with, “Here am I, send me.”

This year, for the first time, almost 2,000 viewers watched convention services streamed live over the Internet. The Media Commission, which spearheaded the effort, reported that 1,703 viewers from 16 countries tuned in to one or more of the seven services that were broadcast. At least a dozen local churches and state associations syndicated the live feed on their own websites.

On Saturday, July 17, 72 participants from Arkansas, Kentucky, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia arrived at the convention a day early. They took to the streets, going door-to-door to distribute thousands of flyers to homes in neighborhoods near ONE FWB Church in Moore, Oklahoma, and Epic FWB Church in Piedmont, Oklahoma. Their efforts marked the fifth year for the annual one-day evangelism and service campaign dubbed Impact.

More than 500 registrants from 42 churches participated in the 16th year of Reach That Guy service projects, sponsored by the National Youth Conference. Volunteers logged 2,905 hours of work that benefitted 21 ministries and service organizations across Greater Oklahoma City. On Wednesday, Reach That Guy sponsored a blood drive to benefit the Oklahoma City chapter of the Red Cross, collecting 94 units of blood from 111 participants.

The General Board adjourned just before noon on Monday, June 19, after a four-hour, 43-minute session in the Sheraton OKC Hotel. Nine national boards and four commissions rolled out their reports and proposals for General Board members to review, and when Moderator Tim York’s gavel fell the last time, members had voted to recommend a 2011 denominational budget of just over \$25 million. They recommended a Treatise change from the Tennessee State Association that would add a 10th “Standing Rule” (Treatise, page 71) limiting reports by national departments to 30 minutes and commission reports to 15 minutes. Another proposal recommended raising representation fees from \$100 to \$150 in 2012 to offset increasing convention expenses. A third recommendation asked the National Association to approve a change in the by-laws of Free Will Baptist Bible College and authorize the Board of Trustees to “approve and review the mission of the college.” A request from the Executive Committee to meet with the Randall House Board and the WNAC Executive Committee to discuss future convention funding was approved.

Other interesting points of the convention include:

- A total of 6,545 registered attendees for three concurrent conventions (including 686 ordained ministers, 153 ordained deacons, and 63 licensed ministers).
- Home Missions director Larry Powell stated, “The fastest-growing aspect of the Free Will Baptist work is among Hispanics.”
- Elizabeth Hodges, pastor’s wife and professional educator, was welcomed as WNAC executive director.
- Thanking the Oklahoma State Association for hosting the 2010 national convention. This marked the eighth time Oklahoma Free Will Baptists have hosted the convention. Executive Director Mike Wade led Oklahoma to give more than \$50,000 to defray convention expenses.

Women Nationally Active By Sarah Fletcher

The 75th annual convention of Women Nationally Active for Christ brought 986 women together to celebrate the past and effect changes for the future. Oklahoma women welcomed attendees by serenading the early Tuesday morning audience with their state song and tossing cowboy hats into the crowd. Pastor's wife, educator, and longtime WAC leader Elizabeth Hodges (TN), was unanimously elected WNAC executive director. Hodges challenged women to act as "Aaron and Hur" by supporting her and praying for the success of the ministry. She made a plea for 12 prayer partners from each state who will intercede for her and the ministry of WNAC.

A Monday afternoon presentation, "Shine! Celebrating 75 years of WNAC," honored several little known women active for Christ (hidden jewels) and highlighted the history of the organization by recalling shining moments from three-quarters of a century. During the business session, the Executive Committee unveiled a new national project. "Shine 75" offers women an opportunity to support Free Will Baptist Hispanic educational ministries. With a goal of \$75,000, the 2010-2011 project will split funds equally between the Seminary of the Cross, the Altimira Bible Institute, and the Gwen Hendrix Hispanic Bible Institute. Four women studying at the Free Will Baptist Bible Institute in Campinas, Brazil, will receive funding from the Cleo Pursell Foreign Student Scholarship. In an effort to assist more young women, delegates voted to change the Mary R. Wisheart Student Loan Fund to the Mary R. Wisheart Student Scholarship Fund. A committee will formulate guidelines and report to the 2011 convention.

Women amended the WNAC purpose statement to define its scope more clearly to better resonate with today's women. Women Nationally Active for Christ now exists to help women fulfill the Great Commission through their God-designed roles in the home, church, community, and world. In other business, women retained a delegate system of convention representation and adjusted the deadline for receipt of annual fees and reports in order to coincide with the WNAC office fiscal year.

Delegates reaffirmed the organization's emphasis on missions, prayer, Bible study, and service. Women were challenged to focus on building membership by revitalizing local WAC groups. Resolutions were passed to encourage prayer for local, state, and national leaders and for those who stand against Free Will Baptists.

Worship leader Gina Myers led women in song and Scripture during Tuesday's sessions. Melissa Alvis, daughter of Darin and Joy Alvis, home missionary appointees to Buffalo, New York, shared a musical medley that included "This Little Light of Mine." Jennifer Altom offered a unique perspective on light.

NAFWB 2010 Convention Memories



Pictured Left: Youth Pastor Brian Seargent (Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville) and his son Will patiently waiting.

Pictured Below: Pastor Bruce Kimbrel (Temple FWB Church, Darlington) singing at a convention service.



Pictured Left: SC WAC State Coordinator, Mrs. Pam Hackett at the WNAC Convention Business.

Pictured Right: Missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole receive special recognition for 50 years as missionaries in Brazil.



Pictured Left: State Moderator Sherwood Lee honored for serving 12 years on the FWB International Missions Board

Pictured Right: Missionary Carlisle Hanna, Pastor Saifal, Pastor Ronen, and Dr. Don Hanna



South Carolina National Youth Conference Winners



Connor Morgan (Horse Branch, Turbeville) - 2nd Place, Grade One - Bible Memorization



Jessica Hyman (Bay Branch, Timmons ville) - 2nd Place, Grade Eight - Bible Memorization



Denise Wiggins (Peace, Florence) - 2nd Place, Grade Four - Bible Sword Drill

Denise Wiggins
(Peace,
Florence) - 1st
Place, Age Group B
- Narrative Poem



Kaylynn Wells (Temple, Darlington) - 1st Place, Grade Ten - Bible Memorization

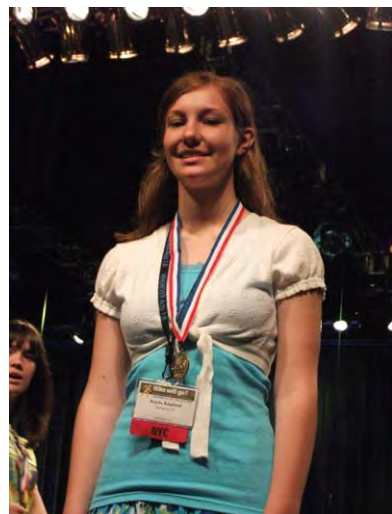


Dusty Hancock (Horse Branch, Turbeville) - 1st Place, Age Group A - Individual Drama

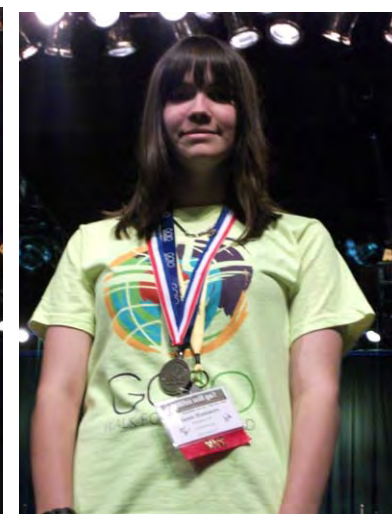


Alexis Inman (Temple, Darlington) - 1st Place, Age Group B - Fabric Art

We are proud of all of our South Carolina youth that competed on District, State, and National levels. Even if a young person did not place, they are winners in God's eyes. They each learned things that will go with them for a life time as they learn to use their talents for the Lord! We are proud of you!!!



Kayla Kimbrell (Temple, Darlington) - 1st Place, Age Group C - Thematic Collection



Jamie Hammers (Peace, Florence) - 1st Place, Age Group D - Computer Generated Comic Book

Additional Winners Include:

- *Emily Parrish - Horse Branch, Turbeville - Female Vocal Solo Category D - 2nd Place
- *Andrew Estes - Whitney, Spartanburg - Male Vocal Solo Category D - 3rd Place
- *Madison Coker - Horse Branch, Turbeville - Illustrated Storytelling - Category B - 2nd Place / Also Vocal Solo Category B - 2nd Place
- *PFC Trio - Horse Branch, Turbeville - Trios - Category C - 2nd Place
- *C & E - Horse Branch, Turbeville - Dramatic Duos - Category C - 3rd Place
- *Hunter Langston - Temple, Darlington - Photo Essay - Category B - 2nd Place
- *Phoebie Singletary - Bay Branch, Timmons ville - Keyboard Category D - 2nd Place

New Prospect Free Will Baptist Christian School Graduates, by Nancy Marlowe



Seniors L to R: Spencer DuBose, Ryan Poston, Cory Roberts(Valedictorian), Morgan Langston, Dustin Renfroe, and Trent Gore (Salutatorian)



5K Graduates L to R: Back Row - Luke, Mrs. Rose Marie Stone, Mattison, Madison, Annsley, Devin, Jalen / Front Row - Jacob, Charlie, Andrew



4K Graduates - Pictured L to R: Back Row - Landen, Delaina, Allison, Mrs. Gina Tanner, Jared / Front Row: Weston, Paige, Lane

Mullins Marion Vacation Bible School

Mullins-Marion FWB Church held their Vacation Bible School on June 21-25, 2010. They had an average attendance of 190. The title of this year's VBS was "Survivor Island." There were 22 individuals who accepted Christ as their personal Savior. The girls and boys held a contest every night with the offering. This year the boys won. They took up money for the Janet Stroud Memorial Fund. A total of \$1,540.00 was received. Pastor Neil Hinson said, "As usual, everyone had a great time in the Lord."

Greater Vision, Bladenboro Vacation Bible School



Greater Vision Free Will Baptist Church in Bladenboro, North Carolina held its Vacation Bible School August 2-6, 2010. The theme was "Planet Zoom: Zip, Zap, Zoom for Jesus!" The children learned to "bee" doers and workers for Jesus through lessons

from the Bible and puppet presentations by Aaron Brisson, Stephen Schepf, and Taylor Stephens. The children raised \$530.13 for missions from offerings which was ultimately split between Misisonary Carlisle Hanna (India) and Bobby and Geneva Poole (Brazil). Mascot "Sparky," the missionary dog who brought fun and laughter, helped collect the money each night. There were approximately 16-20 "Bee" doers and 12-15 "Bee" workers each night in attendance. Mrs. Faye Storm said, "This year's Vacation Bible School was a great success because all the family of God came together and had fun to make this year's Vacation Bible School a success!"

South Carolina Free Will Baptist Youth Retreat October 29-30, 2010

Cost: \$60 per person

Register by: October 15, 2010

*The cost will be \$70 after October 15, 2010

Guest Speaker: Reverend Ken Cash, pastor at Belvoir FWB Church, Greenville, NC

Lodging: LaQuinta Inn, 7333 Garners Ferry Road
Columbia, SC

*Check-in will be from 4:00 - 6:00 PM

*Please mail the \$35 non-refunable deposit to:

Reverend Cyrus Shoffner

1237 Vance Drive

Darlington, SC 29540

*Make Check Payable to
"SC FWB Youth Ministries"



*For further details, feel free to contact
Reverend Cyrus Shoffner at 843-378-9917
or Reverend Jonathan Postlewaite at 843-
601-4072. Please download the
registration form at

www.scfwb.org/youth_ministries.htm

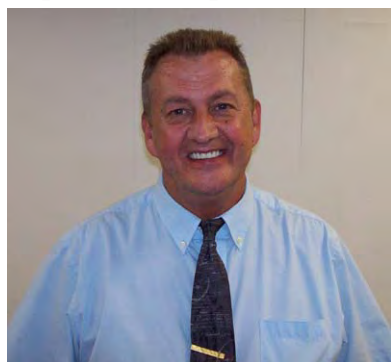
Lambert Accepted Pastorate at Cornerstone, Whiteville



Reverend Paul Lambert accepted the pastorate at Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church in Whiteville, North Carolina. He and his wife most recently came from South Conway Free Will Baptist Church, where they served from July 1, 2003 to August 1, 2010. God blessed the South Conway Church with many things being accomplished under their

ministry. Reverend Lambert was saved on January 20, 1980, and he accepted the call to preach on August 9, 1985. He came into the Central Association in July 2003. He currently serves as a member of the Central Association Ordaining Council. Reverend Lambert is looking forward to God using him in a mighty way to build his church at Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church in Whiteville, NC. Please be in prayer for him and his wife, Mrs. Terry, as they endeavor to do the work of the Lord!

Upchurch Accepted Pastorate at Cornerstone, Chester



Reverend Tommy Upchurch accepted the pastorate at Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church in Chester on May 30, 2010. Reverend Upchurch and his wife Cindy were saved in 1995 at Gloryland Free Will Baptist Church in Rock Hill. They have two

children, Misty Allen of Kershaw and Thomas Upchurch of York, and they have been blessed with six grandchildren. Tommy was first ordained as a deacon of Morningstar Free Will Baptist Church under Pastor Bruce Kiser in 1998, and he was later ordained into the Gospel ministry under the leadership of Pastor Phil Lemmons at Gloryland Free Will Baptist Church in June 2008. Reverend Tommy Upchurch is a member of the True Life Association. Please remember them in prayer as they continue in the work of the Lord at Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church in Chester.

Don't Forget

October is "Pastor Appreciation" Month!
Be sure to show your pastor appreciation in a very special way!

Wilson Accepted Pastorate at Low Country, Charleston



Low Country Free Will Baptist Church in North Charleston accepted Reverend Rodney Wilson as their pastor on Sunday, August 15, 2010. Reverend Wilson most recently served in

the Eastern Conference at New Vision Free Will Baptist Church in Hemingway. Pictured left, Deacon Sam Lewis and Trustee David Miller, of the Low Country Church, ceremonially presented Pastor Rodney Wilson with the key to the church. After some time without a pastor, the Low Country Church is pleased to have Pastor Wilson and his wife Linda as a part of their church family. Reverend Wilson has been an active pastor for 40 years, serving in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. He and his wife have been married for 46 years. They have two children, a son who is a professor at the University of Georgia and a daughter who lives in Kinston, NC. Reverend Wilson and his wife are originally from New Bern, North Carolina. Please pray for Pastor Wilson and his wife as they minister at the Low Country FWB Church.



2011 SCFWB STATE MEETING

February 24-25, 2011

**Hosted by the Eastern Conference
At Gilead FWB Church, Scranton**

THEME: "Importance of a Watchman"

Scripture: "For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth." (Is. 21:6)

Purpose of Offering- SCFWB Youth Camp Ministry

THURSDAY SPEAKERS:

9am Devotion - Elro Driggers (SCC)

10am Devotion - Joe Cagle (EC)

11am Message - Chris Jackson (BC)

1pm Devotion - Daggett Duncan (PC)

7pm Message - Bruce Kimbrel (SCC)

FRIDAY SPEAKERS:

9am Devotion - Sean Fortner (BC)

10am Devotion - John Cody (TL)

11am Message - Wayne Snipes (CA)

*The General Board will meet on Wednesday, February 23, 2010 at 10:00 AM at Gilead Church

Lemmons and Hinson Retiring

Reverend Phil Lemmons was saved in 1964, and in 1965 became a deacon under Reverend Howard Broom at the First FWB Church in Clover, SC. In the fall of 1978, he started attending Mt. Carmel FWB Church in York. On January 18, 1988, he answered the call to preach the Gospel after 19 years of running from the call of ministry. After being ordained on November 22, 1991, into the True Life Conference, he started a cottage prayer meeting ministry which ultimately led to the opening of a mission church in York in January 1992. In January 1993, the mission church purchased land just outside of Rock Hill and opened as Gloryland Free Will Baptist Church on the fourth Sunday in June 1993. Pastor Phil, remembering the early days of the church, said that he told the people if they had 100 people for church, he would preach from the roof of the church. During the Easter service on April 20, 2003, 103 people attended the morning service, and the *Rock Hill Herald* reported the story of him preaching from the roof top. Reverend Phil and his wife Sally have four children, and they have been an example of faithfulness in the Lord's work.



Pictured Left to Right: Reverend Phil Lemmons and Reverend Eddie Hinson, both members of the True Life Conference

Reverend Eddie Hinson was saved at the age of 29 in 1970. He was ordained through the Beaver Creek Association in 1974 at Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church in Lockhart. Reverend Earl Hendrix, Reverend Paul Clayton, and Reverend J.B. White were serving on the Beaver Creek Ordaining Council at the time of his ordination. Reverend Hinson's home church was South Avenue (now known as Canaan) Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster where Reverend Ansel Smith served as his pastor. Reverend Hinson has served in pastorates across the state of South Carolina in Columbia, Sumter, Ft. Lawn, Greer, and Lancaster. He most recently served as the pastor at Heartland Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster for 10 years. He has been a true and faithful servant of the Lord and has touched many lives in his ministry.

Don't Forget

Children's Home Day, Turbeville, SC

Saturday, November 6, 2010, 10 AM

Open House / Tours / Singing / Preaching / Lunch

www.homeforchildren.org

Everyone's Invited to Attend!

Morgans Commissioned for Uruguay

Neil Morgan graduated from Hannah Pamplico in 1998 where he served as Student Body President. He was saved at the age of five and attended Pamplico Free Will Baptist Church and later Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church. He served as an E-Team member to Panama in 1997 and Cuba in 1998 and graduated from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in 2004. He has served as the Associate pastor at Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church and also spent ten weeks in India as an interim missionary. He spent a year in St. Croix teaching at the FWB Christian School. He later served as interim pastor at Richland Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, and he also served as the pastor at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in Timmonsville.

Mandi Morgan grew up just outside of Lake City in Barrineau. At the age of 3, she had a near death drowning experience due to a seizure. Her parents, Thurman and Cathy Springs, believe that God gave her back to them for Mandi's life to be used for God's glory in a very special way. Mandi grew up at Horse Branch FWB Church where she was saved at the age of 5. After graduating from East Clarendon High School, Mandi attended Presbyterian College and later Free Will Baptist Bible College where she graduated in May 2003. She spent ten weeks in Brazil as an interim missionary with Jim and Shirley Combs. She also taught English at Hillwood High School in Nashville and at East Clarendon High School in Turbeville. She received her Masters of Education Degree in January 2007.

Neil and Mandi were married in June 2003 and spent two weeks together in India and Nepal as missionaries during the summer of 2005. They have spent the last two years traveling and raising funds to go to the mission field. They have two precious daughters, Emma and Aubrey.

On Sunday, August 8, 2010, they were commissioned as missionaries at Horse Branch Free Will Baptist Church. Reverend Sherwood Lee gave the commissioning message, and Reverend Mike Edwards and Missionary Carlisle Hanna dedicated the Morgans in prayer to the Lord. Horse Branch choir and Reverend Stan Coker provided special music. Reverend Todd Parrish led in worship, and FWB IM Director James Forlines gave the mission charge. Neil and Mandi are currently in language school in Costa



Rica, and will eventually be going to Uruguay.

Pictured Left: Missionary Carlisle Hanna prays their family prayer of dedication at the commissioning service.

Eastern Conference Meeting

The Eastern Conference met on Saturday, August 21, 2010, at Hillside Free Will Baptist Church in Florence. The meeting was opened with a congregational hymn. After the roll call of ministers, various reports were heard from state and conference representatives. Reverend Teddy Rabon announced that the next EC Youth Rally will take place on November 13, 2010. The 2011 SC FWB State meeting will be hosted by the Eastern Conference, and it was voted to allow Gilead Free Will Baptist Church to host the meeting. The body voted to accept the Ordaining Council report which included sending a letter of good standing to the Blue Ridge Association on behalf of Reverend Allen Goodman and to continue allowing Michael Calder to remain a member of the Eastern Conference while serving as the pastor at Piney Grove Baptist Church. The Ordination service of Reverend La Wayne Poston was also held as a part of the morning worship service. Reverend Doug Mathis preached the ordination message, and Ordaining Council members, Reverend Tony Lynch, Reverend W.D. Jones, along with Reverend Mathis presented Reverend Poston with his ordination Bible. The next Eastern Conference meeting will take place on October 23, 2010 at Lighthouse FWB Church in Florence.



Pictured L to R:
Moderator Rev.
Danny Stone, Rev.
W. D. Jones, Rev.
La Wayne and Rhea
Poston, Rev. Tony
Lynch, and Rev.
Doug Mathis

True Life Conference

The True Life Conference met on Saturday, September 18, 2010, at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster. After the roll call of ministers, special singing, a devotion, and testimonies, Missionary Bobby Poole (Brazil) brought the morning message. Various reports were heard from state and conference representatives, and the body voted for the True Life Conference to meet four times a year beginning in 2011. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal in the fellowship hall following the meeting. The next True Life Conference meeting will take place at Calvary FWB Church in Gastonia on Saturday, January 15, 2011.



Pictured Left:
Pastors and
missionaries in
attendance at the
True Life
Conference
meeting.

Beaver Creek Association Meeting

The Beaver Creek Association met on Saturday, July 31, 2010, at First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville. Assistant Moderator James Sanders welcomed everyone to the meeting after a congregational hymn. Scripture reading was provided by Reverend Paul Reid. The host church pastor, Reverend Hal Jones, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Pastor Ronen and Pastor Saifal, two of our pastors from North India, preached during the worship service through the interpretation of Dr. Don Hanna. Missionary Carlisle Hanna brought greetings to everyone. A wonderful meal was provided for everyone in the fellowship hall following the meeting. The next Beaver Creek Association meeting will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2010, at First FWB Church in Greenwood.

Area Wide Manning Mission Service



On Sunday evening, September 5, 2010, Manning area wide Free Will Baptist churches came together at Liberty FWB Church for a combined mission service

with Missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole. Churches that attended included Cypress Fork FWB Church and Cornerstone-Fellowship FWB Church. The Pooles shared how God has blessed their ministry of 50 years in Brazil. After the evening service, everyone surprised the Pooles by having a 50 year anniversary celebration for the Pooles. The reception was not only for their 50 years in Brazil, but also for their 50 year wedding anniversary which was on September 4, 2010. It turned out to be a great service!

SC WAC Retreat

October 8-9, 2010

at Camp Bob Cooper

Registration will begin at 4 PM in the Walter Cox Building. Come dressed in 50's attire on Friday.

Special guest will be Joanne King and also Missionary Geneva Poole. The cost of the retreat is \$70 per person. For more information, contact Mrs. Pam Hackett at 864-680-3150 / hackettp71@bellsouth.net or Sandra Dail at 843-731-6313 / sandradail@msn.com, or you may visit www.scwac.org.

SC FWB Junior Camp



South Carolina Free Will Baptist Junior Camp took place the week of August 2-6, 2010, at Camp Pee Dee in Marion. There were almost 100 juniors in attendance with 15 works. Nine salvations and many

other decisions were made during the week of camp. Ministry Artist Vince Tharpe (pictured above) from Art Alive Ministry presented art in Bible messages each evening to the young people. At the Thursday evening service, while he was drawing the bridge of the cross that covered the great gulf between God and man, there was an outpouring of young people at the altar. Many of our SC FWB Youth Ministries board members and other volunteers from churches across our state worked and prayed hard to make this year's Jr. Camp a great success!

Pastor Appreciation Liberty Church, Lancaster

Liberty Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster planned for the past year to honor their pastor and his wife Reverend Tim and Mrs. Jowand Larrimore for their 10 years of service. On Sunday, September 19, 2010, the church was full of people who had been touched by Pastor Larrimore. Reverend Timmy Snipes, Reverend Charles Moseley, and Reverend Kevin Johnson were all called into the Gospel ministry under Pastor Larrimore's ministry. During the morning worship service, Reverend Kevin Johnson brought a message regarding the pastor being an ox goad in the training of his people. After special singing, Reverend Buddy Seay preached a message regarding individuals that surround the minister's life. Pastor Tim and his wife Mrs. Jowand were honored with a special love gift from the church at the end of the service.

On September 1, 2000, there were 184 active members at Liberty Church, and now there are 274 active members. In 2003, the church borrowed \$750,000 to construct a new sanctuary, which now has a debt of less than \$130,000. Over the past ten years, 67 individuals have been baptized under Pastor Larrimore's ministry, and many have come to know the



Lord as their personal Saviour.

Pictured: Rev. Budd Seay (left), Deacons Wayne Snipes, Benny Adams, Tony Snipes, Robert Lloyd, David Sellers (back row), Rev. Tim and Mrs. Jowand Larrimore (middle), and Rev. Charles Moseley and Rev. Kevin Johnson (right).

Westgate Church Outreach



Westgate Free Will Baptist Church in Arcadia has been experiencing the blessings of the Lord through various

outreach ministries at their church. Youth Pastor Darren Canupp reported that the church just finished their inaugural softball season which began in May. Westgate sponsored a men and women's softball league with eleven teams from area churches participating. Each team was required to have two "outreach players" for the purpose of witnessing to unchurched people in attendance at games.

Westgate also hosted a youth retreat in which young people were treated to a weekend packed full of activities, devotion, and prayer. Some of the recreational activities included roller skating, go cart riding, putt-putt, and batting cages. Speakers included Reverend Joey Mills, Reverend Conterrace Green, Reverend David "Boo" Casper, and Reverend Kevin Smith.

On July 24, Westgate "Missions and Outreach" team sponsored a fish fry for those in need. There were an estimated 250 people that came through during the three hour event. For more information about Westgate Church and upcoming events, feel free to visit www.westgatefwb.com.

Institute for Christian Education - ICE

Institute for Christian Education (ICE) announces the opening of a new Training Center in the Florence/Darlington area. ICE is an adult educational program offering churches and individuals Christian education that will equip them in serving the Lord in and through their local church (Ephesians 4:12). ICE is a member of the Bible Institute Nurture Program of the Evangelical Training Association in Wheaton, Ill. It is a highly regarded association of Adult Education with a membership of more than 200 institutes, colleges, and graduate schools. ETA offers a Church Ministry Certificate with four levels of certification and 16 continuing education units of credits (one CEU credit for each course completed). It is possible, upon completion of this program, to receive up to eight hours of college credit. There is a one time application fee of \$25, and a registration fee of \$55 for each course. For more information, feel free to contact the Florence/Darlington Training Center Staff: Coordinator Bruce Kimbrel (brcrka@aol.com or 843-307-4016), Dean Royce Horne (roycehorne@aol.com or 843-687-2686), or Registrar Todd Parrish (tpmw8490@aol.com or 843-598-6321). Each of these men are Free Will Baptist ministers in good standing with the SC FWB State Association.

Greetings from the Johnsons in Spain



ALOHA everyone! Guess what? The Vacation Bible School "tropical storm" hit Alpedrete the week of September 6-10, 2010. And it was a HUGE success! Each day as

we opened the doors to the church, we watched children come running in, all excited about the "Isla Canoa" VBS program. They sang in island languages during music time, ate flip-flop cookie creations during snack time, surfed through the Scriptures during Bible class, and made crafts each day. Throughout the week, we saw 51 different children come into our island-themed church, with an average of 34 children each night. Along with our church kids, we know that children who attended came from at least eight families that do not profess Christ as their Savior.

Sunday, September 12, 2010 was truly a celebration for all that God did during the week in our VBS. We know there are fifty-one children whose lives will be changed forever because of their time in the Word at "Isla Canoa". Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Tim, Kristi, Alejandro, and Ana

Missionary Carlisle Hanna



In 1951, Missionary Carlisle and Marie Hanna were commissioned to the mission field. In 1952, they left the states to go to the mission field in North India. Shortly after being there, their daughter Sheila Marie Hanna passed away, and there now stands a

church in her memory. Mrs. Marie Hanna went on to be with the Lord in 1998, and Missionary Carlisle Hanna continues to serve in India. For the past couple of months he has been stateside and is due to return to India on November 9, 2010. Two of our pastors from North India, Pastor Ronen and Pastor Saifal, had the privilege to come to the states in July for the 75th Anniversary celebration at the National Association of Free Will Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City. After leaving the convention, they traveled across South Carolina for area wide mission rally services and returned to India in August. God continues to bless the work in India with 5-6,000 attending the annual Free Will Baptist conference in North India and many becoming believers on a regular basis. Please pray for Missionary Hanna as he continues to serve the Lord.

Ridge Church Phase IV

For the past couple of years, the National Association of Free Will Baptist Master's Men Department has been spearheading the restoration of the First Free Will Baptist Church in New Durham, New Hampshire, as it is a landmark of the rich history of Free Will Baptist. A lot of hard work and labor has been put into the project by various men across our denomination. The most recent phase was the painting of the pews on the inside of the sanctuary. This was completed after much work had been done on the exterior and structure of the church building. For more information on how to get involved, feel free to visit www.fwbmastersmen.org.



Greetings from the Moores in Brazil



July marks the nine months that our congregation in Juiz de Fora, Brazil has been meeting. In this short time, there have been over 120 different people come through the church doors, many who are hearing the Gospel for the very first time. It has been exciting to see what prayer and preaching can still do. We are currently giving several Bible studies at our house and have found our home to be a great place to evangelize the lost and

disciple new believers. Last month, we were privileged to participate in a pastor's retreat in Barbacena. There were ten preachers present, two licensed and eight ordained, and there are still more "preacher boys" in the seminary preparing for the ministry. Including their families, there were around thirty that gathered together. As prayers were offered and testimonies were given, I was reminded of how blessed I am to be a part of this movement of God-fearing, Brazilian Free Will Baptist churches that have a heart for God and a desire to reach the world for Christ! Feel free to check out our web site at www.brazilandbeyond.org. Taking the Gospel to Brazil and Beyond, Andy, Andrea, Levi, and Lily Moore

South Carolina Free Will Baptist Summer of Memories



Bethany FWB Church Family Day



Gilead FWB Church VBS



Liberty, Manning VBS



High Point, Lancaster VBS



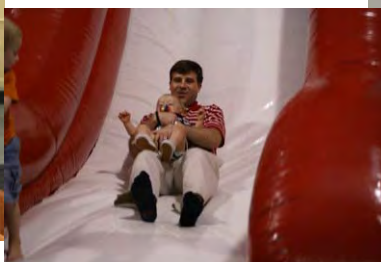
White Savannah VBS



Junior Camp



Southside Darlington India Mission Rally



Grace, Lake City VBS



Mill Branch VBS

Pastor
Larry and
Mrs.
Reatha
McAlister



Pastor Ronen, Reverend Sean and Mrs. Dawn Fortner, and Pastor Saifal First FWB Church, Inman Mission Service



Pictured Left: SC Renewal Project Pastor's Briefing Meeting, Columbia - Mike and Karen Edwards, Leroy and Peggy Lowery, and Ron and Linda Moore



SC FWB Bookstore Manager, Matt and Halie Deckard's Wedding - Temple, Darlington



Heb. 6:19

Pastor Appreciation by Reverend Mike Jones



Recently, as part of the 75th anniversary of Free Will Baptist International Missions, two of the pastors from India came to the United States for their first visit. Pastor Ronen Guhas and Pastor Saifal Das were early converts of Missionary Carlisle Hanna, and they are part of the pastoral leadership of the Free Will Baptist work in Northern India. These men, along with

nineteen other pastors and 125 evangelist and church planters, carry the burden of ministering in over 300 churches we now have in India and Nepal.

Budget restraints and the ever increasing need of money for building churches due to the glorious growth of the work in India (nearly 500 people baptized so far in 2010) have made it impossible to give these pastors and workers raises or an annual bonus.

This led to the idea of having four mission rally services in various areas of South Carolina in order to raise money to show our appreciation for the faithfulness of these pastors and workers. It was wonderful to see the zeal and interest displayed by churches and individuals as these pastors shared the story of their conversion and some of the details of their ministry. Generous hearts gave over forty thousand dollars to be shared among the pastors and workers as a way of showing their appreciation for the hard work and dedication of these men.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if congregations in America could display the same zeal and interest in showing appreciation for their local pastor? Most Free Will Baptist pastors have labored for years with little recognition or appreciation. Almost all of them could have gotten a position with less work and more pay in the marketplace of the world, but they sacrificed in order to be shepherd to a flock given to them by God.

Paul wrote: "The elders that rule well should be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the Word and doctrine" (1 Timothy 5:17). The word "honor" in Greek means something of value or something that demonstrates high regard. This should give you some ideas about ways you can show proper appreciation to your pastor -- money (a bonus, a raise, an increase in retirement), words of encouragement and praise (plaque, email, text, phone, letter, testimonies), and even a full paid vacation for him and his family.

I have a friend in another denomination who told me they call their pastors and missionaries "Heaven's Heroes." The most important job in the entire world is preaching the Gospel and ministering to God's People. May we give those who do this great work the honor, respect, and appreciation they deserve.

Executive Secretary Todd Smith's Schedule

September

- 3 Friends of India Board Meeting, Charleston, SC
- 4 Bookstore Manager, Matt Deckard's Wedding
- 5 Liberty FWB Church, Manning
- 5 Manning Area Wide Mission Service with Missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole
- 12 Grace FWB Church – 50th Homecoming
- 14 Florence/Darlington Minister's Breakfast
- 15 Gilead FWB Church, Lake City
- 16-17 SC Renewal Project Event, Columbia, SC
- 18 True Life Conference Meeting-Calvary, Lancaster
- 19 Liberty FWB Church, Lancaster
- 21 Lake City Minister's Breakfast
- 26 Williams Hill FWB Church—100th Year Anniversary
- 30 SC Conference Mission Luncheon

October

- 1 SC Conference - Horse Branch FWB Church
- 3 Homecoming – Horse Branch FWB Church
- 9 Central Association Meeting—Free Welcome FWBC
- 10 Canaan FWB Church, Lancaster, SC
- 10 Jefferson Road FWB Church, Sumter
- 12 Florence/Darlington Minister's Breakfast
- 16-17 Parkway FWB Church, Spartanburg
- 17 Westgate FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC
- 19 Lake City Minister's Breakfast
- 23 Eastern Conference Meeting - Lighthouse, Florence
- 24 Black River FWB Church, Andrews
- 30 Beaver Creek Association – First, Greenwood
- 31 First FWB Church, Greenwood

November

- 6 Children's Home Day – Turbeville, SC
- 7 Mill Branch FWB Church, Johnsonville
- 7 Mt. Elon FWB Church, Pamplico
- 9 Florence/Darlington Minister's Breakfast
- 14 Mt. Carmel FWB Church, York
- 16 Lake City Minister's Breakfast
- 20 Palmetto Conference Meeting - Peace, Spartanburg
- 21 Peace FWB Church, Spartanburg
- 24-27 Thanksgiving with Family

Due to schedule constraints over the past couple of months, this issue of *The Informer* is being published as a quarterly issue. This issue contains four extra pages from the normal bi-monthly issue of 8 pages. Thank you for your understanding. What a joy it is to report on all the great things God is doing in our churches and conferences. To God be the Glory!