

# THE



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# INFORMER

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

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## SC FWB Teen Retreat

The South Carolina Youth Ministries Fall Youth Retreat was held October 26-27, 2012, at the Landmark Resort in Myrtle Beach. The retreat was a great success with a total of 211 in attendance (160 youth and 51 adults) with one salvation and five rededication decisions. The attendance increased this year compared to 135 in attendance last year. Reverend Kevin Smith, the pastor at Westgate Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg was the guest speaker. The theme for this year's retreat was "Stay Out of the Woods." The theme verse was 2 Samuel 18:8 which states, "For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country: and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured." The messages challenged the youth and many came to the altar throughout the retreat. Even with the rain from hurricane Sandy, which was off the Atlantic Coast, the weekend of the retreat, everyone had a great time and enjoyed the retreat. During the retreat, activities included bowling, arcade, Ripley's Aquarium, and the Wonderworks Museum. Fifteen churches participated in this year's retreat. SC FWB Youth Ministries Director Reverend Teddy Rabon extends his gratitude to all the parents, adult workers, pastors, youth leaders, and youth that made this year's retreat a great success. He also indicated that the Youth Ministries Board is currently making plans for 2013 summer camps. Reverend Rabon concluded, "Thanks be to God and thanks for all the prayers for our youth and our youth board as we serve the Lord together."



### The Next *Informer* Issue

The next issue of *The Informer* will include the South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Office 2012 fiscal year financial report of all designated giving and distributions. Every gift, whether great or small, from every church, conference, and individual is important and helps missionaries stay on the field in order that the work of God might go forward. **THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD IN 2012!**

## SC WAC Retreat



The South Carolina Women Active for Christ Retreat was held at the White Oaks Conference Center this year. A "Round-Up" theme was used to encourage women to come dressed in their best western or Indian outfits for the Friday night fun time. Sherry Carter from North Carolina was the guest speaker. She chal-

lenged the women on Friday evening to be "encouragers" of one another. On Saturday, she spoke on "Resting in the Lord" using Mark 6:31 as her primary scripture. She ministered to the women during the retreat in song accompanied by her husband, Reverend Eddie Carter (pictured above), on the piano. Sandra Dail led the women in the "Roping and Branding Fun Time" on Friday evening. The women participated in "pig calling contests," cow milking contests, and a horse roping contest. The singing and testimonies around the campfire was also one of the highlights again this year, following the time of spiritual enrichment and fun time. Many shared prayer requests and testified of God's goodness in their lives as they sang praises to His name. On Saturday, the ladies participated in prayer break-away sessions by dividing into groups of four. The main emphasis of each prayer group focused on the needs of our world (John 3:16), the needs of our nation (II Chronicles 7:14), the needs of our missionaries and churches (Luke 24:47), and the needs of our families (Joshua 24:15). SC WAC President Pam Hackett (pictured below) said, "We are thankful for the many new faces we had attending the retreat this year but missed many of



our Women Active for Christ Retreat "veterans" that were unable to attend because of family or health issues or previous engagements. There was a sweet Spirit that permeated in the hearts and souls of all those who were able to attend. We thank God for His presence and all those that worked hard to make the retreat a great success."

## Lees Honored by Sand Hill Church

On Sunday, November 18, 2012, Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church celebrated the ministry of Sherwood and Vada Lee. The ministry of Sherwood and Vada began a long time before they became a part of the Sand Hill family. After meeting at FWB Bible College, they were married on August 25, 1962, in Arkansas. Four short years later, they were appointed as missionaries to Africa. After attending language school, they reported to Ivory Coast, West Africa in 1968 where they faithfully served for 20 years. Sherwood served as a medical missionary, and Vada worked in the women's ministries. Due to health issues, they returned to the states where they diligently continued their ministry for the Lord. Sand Hill was blessed to have them come be a part of their church in 1992 when the current pastor had to retire. Sherwood not only was able to be the full time pastor at Sand Hill but was able to continue his medical ministry working as a nurse at McLeod's Regional Medical Center. During this twenty year period Sherwood continued to not only serve Free Will Baptists at the local level but also at the state and national level. Sherwood is serving in his 18th year as SC FWB State Moderator. During this time, he has led the state during growth of its mission work, the development of a Spanish ministry, and the transitional times at the Children's Home. Sherwood also made his impact at the national level by being a member of the National Foreign Mission Board for many years. He has also been an avid supporter of our Mission work in India by making numerous visits to help Missionary Carlisle Hanna and by being a board member of the Friends of India, which is responsible for helping to build churches in India. This is only a small synopsis of the impact Sherwood and Vada Lee have had in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The biggest ministry they have had is in the hearts of the many people they have touched across our state, nation, and world. Their impact was recognized by a plaque and gift from the church and by the many church members, colleagues, family, and friends that attended the celebration. Missionary Carlisle Hanna and his son Dr. Don Hanna attended along with many other pastors in our denomination, including Elro Driggers, Joey Postlewaite, Scott Ard, Jacob Creech, Mike Jones, Larry Monday, and Larry Hughes. Sand Hill Church and Free Will Baptists across our state and nation have a great example of how to faithfully serve our Lord and Savior through the example of Sherwood and Vada Lee.



Pictured Back Row L to R: Dr. Don Hanna, Mike Jones, Scott Ard, Carlisle Hanna, Elro Driggers, and Jake Creech. Pictured Front: Sherwood and Vada Lee.

## Mill Branch Honors Pastor and Family

Mill Branch Free Will Baptist Church honored Pastor Scott Ard and his family with a special "Pastor Appreciation Candlelight Service" on Sunday, October 14, 2012. A candle was lit to represent the light of Jesus and to represent the testimony of Pastor Scott and his wife Jenny as they continuously share the light of Jesus with others through their ministry. The entire congregation then lit their individual candles from the lighted candle of Pastor Scott and Mrs. Jenny as they each shared their light with others. Many kind words were shared from church members regarding the love expressed by Pastor Scott and Mrs. Jenny Ard. Everyone enjoyed food and fellowship in the fellowship hall following the service. In addition to the candle light service, every day during the month of December, members of the church did something special for the Ard family which included meals, phone calls, gift cards, monetary gifts, candy, cakes, and much more. Pastor Scott and Mrs. Jenny Ard express their sincere appreciation and thanks to their Mill Branch Church family.

## Evergreen Pastor Appreciation

Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church in Conway held a "Pastor Appreciation" service on Sunday, October 14, 2012. During the service, the youth of the church walked down the aisle carrying long stem roses and singing "Thank God for the Preacher." They placed the long stem roses in a vase upon reaching the front of the church, and afterwards, special singing was provided by the youth. Poems and testimonies were shared by the youth, leaders, and others. Reverend Timmy Larrimore, the pastor at Liberty Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster, shared the morning message. The church honored Pastor Kevin Johnson and his family with goody baskets, gifts, and a week's paid vacation to a place of their choice. Pastor Kevin and his family extend their gratitude to the Evergreen Free Will Baptist Church family and youth for their love and support.

## Fellowship Church Honors Pastor

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Florence honored Pastor Bruce Jones and his family during a special "Pastor Appreciation Sunday" on October 28, 2012. Church members shared poems, testimonies, and stories during the service. Afterwards, Pastor Bruce, his wife Joane, and their two daughters Amber and Sarah (all pictured below), were presented with gift cards. The week prior, church members made calls and sent appreciation cards to their family. Reverend Elro Driggers, retired Free Will Baptist minister and former pastor, preached the morning message. After a wonderful meal following the service, members were handed a questionnaire to find out who knew their pastor



the best. The service turned out to be a great time of joy, laughter, and love.

## Westside Pastor "Makes a Deal"



Westside Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville held a "Pastor Appreciation Day" for Reverend Joey and Mrs. Katie Postlewaite on Sunday, October 21, 2012. The special service was a complete surprise to them. After the opening preliminaries

and before Pastor Joey was to go to the pulpit to preach, he and Mrs. Katy were instructed to sit on the front row, at which time church member Shannon Prosser shared in a humorous way some "helpful examples" of how to succeed as a pastor at Westside. Afterwards, Melanie Poston and Julie Rogers had Pastor Joey and Mrs. Katie to sit in the choir facing the congregation for a Westside version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." The answers were all multiple choice and involved questions about various church members. At the end, the prize was offered for them to "Let's Make a Deal" in which they could choose an envelope potentially full of monopoly or real money, or they could choose to trade it in for a gift box. They chose the gift box, and inside was a "money shirt" made by Betty Hanna and her sister Jessie Mae Garnett. The money to make the shirt was given by church members and totaled \$750.00. Tammy Stewart then sang a song about love and appreciation for their pastor. The service turned out to be a wonderful pastor appreciation event. Reverend Joey Postlewaite arrived at Westside Free Will Baptist Church in late March after serving as a youth pastor in Arkansas for seven years. He also previously served as a youth/music minister in Mississippi and as the Assistant Pastor at Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Coward. Westside Church is his first senior pastorate. Joey and his wife Katie have been married for four years. He is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College (now Welch College) and the Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. We welcome them to Westside Church and to South Carolina.

**23rd Annual Couples Retreat Sponsored by Peace, Florence**  
February 8-9, 2012

Beach Cove Resort  
4800 South Ocean Blvd.

North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

\$180.00 per couple

**Guest Speaker: Reverend Theron Scott, pastor at Horse Branch  
FWB Church (Turbeville, SC)**

**Comedian/Musician: Aaron Wilburn**

**Begins Friday at checkin at 4 PM and ends Saturday at Noon.**

**For more details, call Pastor Donnie or Mrs. Trudy Miles  
at 843-667-6285 (office) or 843-667-8798 (home).**

## Calcutt Honored for 50 Years as Deacon and Teacher

Mt. Elon Free Will Baptist Church in Pamplico held a special service on Sunday evening, November 4, 2012, to honor the birthday and life of Mr. James "Buddy" Calcutt for his faithful service of more than 50 years as a deacon and Sunday School teacher at Mt. Elon. After a congregational hymn, Pastor Mark Leonard welcomed everyone in attendance. Letters of thanks were collected in an album and presented to Mr. Buddy Calcutt. The presentation included letters from NAFWB Executive Secretary Keith Burden, Randall House CEO Ron Hunter, Executive Secretary Todd Smith, SC Lieutenant Governor Glenn McConnell, Pamplico Mayor Gene Ganey, and others. Testimonies were shared by friends and family members about the impact of the life of Mr. Buddy. Mr. Buddy has four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. We commend Mr. Buddy Calcutt for his many years of faithful service.



Pictured Left: Mr. Buddy Calcutt with his wife, son, and his family and Pastor Mark Leonard (far left)



Pictured Left: Mr. Buddy Calcutt and siblings.

## Damascus Church Honors Pastor

Damascus Free Will Baptist Church in Conway honored Pastor Allen and Mrs. Tara Goodman on Sunday, September 16, 2012. The Crystal River singing group provided special music, and Reverend Buddy Seay, the pastor at Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church in Chadbourn, NC, preached the message. Damascus Church provided Pastor Allen and Mrs. Tara with a special love gift. A little over a month later, Pastor Allen Goodman was honored to baptize 16 on Sunday, October 21, 2012. We commend Pastor Allen and Mrs. Tara for their wonderful work in the Lord at Damascus Church.



Pictured L to R: Rev. Buddy and Mrs. Vicky Seay and Rev. Allen Goodman and Mrs. Tara Goodman.

### Bay Branch Baptism

Pastor Bobby Timmons, the pastor at Bay Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Timmonsville, performed his first baptismal service on Sunday, August 19, 2012, with 12 young people getting baptized. It was a wonderful service. We are proud of these young people and their commitment to the Lord!



Pictured Front Row Left to Right: Tyler Galloway, Emily Hyman, Jesse Timmons, Matthew Huggins, and Stormy Singletary. Pictured Back Row Left to Right: Grace Kelli Thomas, Hudson Thomas, Kaitlyn Huggins, Wyatt Parnell, Randy Lawhorn, Kristy Pate, and Katelyn White.

### Whitney Church Harvest Festival

Whitney Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg held a "Harvest Festival Day" on Saturday, October 27, 2012, with activities for all ages. Games and events included beanbag toss, horseshoes, hayrides, and much more. They also had a "Whitney Jail" in which Reverend David Connor was the highest official, and next in line were Deacon Jimmy Rowe and others. There were over 300 guests in attendance at the event. It was a great day of good food, fun, and fellowship.



### Liberty Ladies Tea Party and Craft Show

The ladies of Liberty Free Will Baptist Church in Lancaster held a "Tea Party and Craft Show" Saturday, November 3, 2012. They raised just over \$1,000.00 for Missionary Fernando Bustamante's account. We commend them for a job well done! Missionary Fernando Bustamante serves in Effingham, SC and also over- sees the Hispanic mission works in Conway and Columbia.

### Immanuel in Santee Weighs in on Missions

Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in Santee held its annual drive for the North America Mission Offering. Since the ladies offering this year out weighed the men's offering, the men have to serve the ladies a meal. Even after winning, the men were talking about serving the ladies possum stew or fried raccoon. All in all, it turned out to be a fun competition raising \$635.00 for this year's National Association of Free Will Baptist Home Mission's North American Missions Offering. We commend the Immanuel Church for the great job on raising money for missions.



### Lockhart Family Day

Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church in Lockhart had "Family Day" on Saturday, July 14, 2012, with over 120 in attendance. Two singing groups provided special music, one group providing music for the youth and one group providing music for the senior adults. Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church also reached out to their community this year by having a "Couples Night Out," which allowed parents to go out together while volunteer members at Lockhart Church watched their children. The church also had "Outside Movie Nights," showing family movies on a large screen. Pastor Brian Bishop said, "When people see that a church cares, that's when you can reach them. We must show them in deed and not in word only." Lockhart Church has baptized several in 2012. To God be the glory for the great things He has done!



Pictured Above: Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church Youth providing special music at a recent service.

## Lebanon in Effingham Celebrates 100 Years

Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church in Effingham celebrated their "100 Year Anniversary" service on Sunday, October 21, 2012. The celebration weekend began with renown speaker and author Reverend Voddie Baucham speaking on Saturday at workshop sessions on the topics of "Multi generational Vision" and "Family Worship." Reverend Baucham also preached the message at Lebanon's "100 Year Anniversary" service on Sunday morning, in which there were 583 in attendance. Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church was organized and dedicated in September 1912. Elder (a title once used instead of "pastor") H. V. Oliver helped organize the Church. M. L. Stone is listed as church Clerk. The first official mention of Lebanon FWB Church was their acceptance into the South Carolina Conference meeting at Mt. Elon FWB Church on Thursday, October 23, 1913. The statistical report for that meeting listed M. Matthews and J.N. Haines as delegates, with the church having a membership of 33. From its beginning, Lebanon has emphasized evangelism and growth. The 1914 minutes listed an increase to 51 members with 9 baptisms, and the 1915 report listed 71 members with 17 baptisms. By the 1930 report the membership had increased to 105. As Lebanon celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2012, they now have over 400 members!

Little was written about the activities of the church during the first 50 years of its existence. However, below are some interesting highlights from available church minutes:

- Oct. 6, 1916 - Called H.V. Oliver to return as pastor for the coming year with a salary of \$100 per year. Male members were to pay \$2.00 per year, and female members 5 cents on the pastor's salary.
- April 2, 1920 - Motion that we have services the first Saturday of each month (before Church Conference) and that any member who failed to be present for this meeting three times in succession be "looked after."
- July 22, 1933 - Mrs. W.J. Haynes and Mrs. H.D. Allen were elected as Deaconesses.
- June 22, 1935 - M.L. Stone, H.D. Allen, and W.J. Haynes were elected to a Building Committee.
- Jan. 22, 1938- P.J. Kirby is elected Clerk and L.L. Powell is listed as Pastor

Lebanon has impacted the Free Will Baptist denomination as well as the local community. For many years Lebanon was considered a "must stop" for any denominational leaders who was visiting in the area and this continually exposed the congregation to a denominational view as well as a local view of God's work. This world view information led to many areas of denominational influence: The Prosser Trust Fund (consisting of 200 shares of DuPont Stock given by Lebanon members Gary and Lizzie Prosser) uses its earning to help Free Will Baptist missionary and educational efforts. The Free Will Baptist Bible College (now Welch College) was impacted by Lebanon member A. C. Allen, serving as board member for twelve years. Also, the "A. C. Allen Scholarship Fund" was started which assists members of Lebanon to attend Welch College. Lebanon Church has allowed National Hispanic Home Missionary Fernando Bustamante to use its facilities for church services for ten years and has given thousands of dollars in support to this ministry. Lebanon Church has greatly assisted the FWB Children's Home in Turbeville with consistent giving, and members of the church helped with the annual

golf tournaments which raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Home. Lebanon was also the first Church to include the FWB Children's Home in India in their monthly budgeted giving.

Lebanon continues to impact youth throughout the denomination with the "One" program, designed by Youth Pastor Chris Edwards, which expands beyond Lebanon Church and is used by numerous other churches.

Spurts of growth and excitement were experienced numerous times in its history but the present miraculous growth began when Lebanon Church called Mac Atkinson Jr. as their pastor in January 2007. During Pastor Mac's ministry, the church has exploded in growth and has undergone the transformation from a small community church into a bustling high energy Kingdom Church where "God is at Work" has become the constant theme of people's conversations. To God be the glory

-Submitted by Rev. Mike Jones



Pictured Above: Lebanon's 100 Year Anniversary Service  
Pictured Below Left: Mrs. Dicy Prosser, Lebanon Church's oldest church member, recognized during the anniversary service.  
Pictured Below Right: Pastor Mac Atkinson Jr. Welcomes Reverend Voddie Baucham to speak at the Saturday Conference

### South Carolina

#### Free Will Baptist State Association Meeting

February 21-22, 2013

Hosted by the South Carolina Conference

at Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church

7001 Friendfield Road, Effingham, SC

Rev. Mac Atkinson Jr., Pastor

(843) 665-7605

Theme: "Faithful to the Call" - 1 Thessalonians 5:24

General Board Meeting - Wed., Feb. 20th at 10 AM

For lodging information, pre-register, download a program, or other information, visit

[www.scfwb.org/state\\_meet.html](http://www.scfwb.org/state_meet.html)

## Temple Member Excels in Academics



Kaylynn Wells, a member at Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Darlington, was presented with the Free Will Baptist National "Youth of the Year" award

for 2012. She never missed a day of school in 12 years and is now attending The Citadel Honors College on a full academic scholarship. Kaylynn spent the summers of 2010 and 2012 on mission trips to Brazil and Cuba. While there, she and others visited different churches singing songs and giving their testimonies. Kaylynn competed 12 years in the Bible memorization aspect of the FWB National Youth Conference. She has been a winner in the National Youth Conference for the past five years. Two weeks after applying at The Citadel, Wells was accepted. She plans to major in math and computer science. Upon graduation, she aims to join the Navy as an officer. She wants to travel and see the world. She has set goals for herself nearly her entire life. Among them was to attend elementary and high school without missing a day. "There were plenty of days during those 12 years that I felt like staying out of school," she said. "But I got up and went anyway." We congratulate Wells on her accomplishments, and we are very proud that she is a part of our the South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association. (Portions of this article were taken from the Morning News - www.scnow.com - Saturday, August 4, 2012)

## Temple Upward Sports Ministry

Temple Free Will Church in Darlington started an "Upward Sports" ministry at their church. Back in the summer of 2012, they hosted a "Cheerleading Day Camp," in which students came and learned cheers and had daily devotions. The week of Cheerleading Camp was concluded on Saturday with an awards ceremony with family and friends. Then from October until the beginning of December 2012, Temple Church hosted an "Upward Soccer" ministry with approximately 40 children participating. The ministry included children from 3 years old to the sixth grade. There were six different teams. Practices were held on Thursdays, and games were held on Saturdays.



At the end of the season, Temple Church hosted a big cookout for family and friends and had an awards ceremony for those who participated. It turned out to be a great outreach ministry to the community.

## Hispanic Institute Graduates Serving in Georgia

Gwen Hendrix Hispanic Institute graduates Edher and Stephani Jimenez are now serving at a new Hispanic church in Cordele, Georgia. The church started the last week of October 2012. They have one new family and a young man who just started assisting in the church. Pastor Edher is the son of Antonio Jimenez, the pastor of the Columbia Free Will Baptist Hispanic Church (previously Midland FWB Church in West Columbia). The Columbia Hispanic Church property is owned by the South Carolina Free Will Baptist Mission Board and is a ministry under the leadership of Missionary Fernando



Bustamante. The influence of our South Carolina Hispanic mission work extends beyond our state and even beyond our country.

## Retired Ministers Tour of SC FWB History

On Thursday, September 27, 2012, several retired ministers met at Grace FWB Church in Lake City for the purpose of going on a tour of the history of South Carolina Free Will Baptist. Grace Church graciously offered their church van for the tour. Pastor Carroll Bazen drove the bus while Reverend Elro Driggers served as the tour guide and shared about our rich Free Will Baptist heritage. The tour began at Salem Free Will Baptist Church in Coward, which was organized in 1876 as "Little Salem" Free Will Baptist Church. It was noted that the "Little Sister" Church is now known as the Camp Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Scranton. The "Little Sister" Church (Camp Branch) gave 50 of their members in order to organize the "Little Salem" Church. Reverend Miller Millette was the pastor for 40 years at the "Little Salem" Church from 1920-1960. Salem FWB Church was rebuilt in 1960 due to a fire. The site of the previous Ebenezer FWB Church property in Greelyville (Williamsburg County) was not visited on the tour, but it was noted that the Ebenezer FWB Church was the place of the first meeting of the South Carolina Conference in 1858 of which we have a record. South Carolina Free Will Baptist had met since 1818, but the 1858 South Carolina Conference gathering was the first recorded meeting. The tour continued through various cemeteries and property around the Florence County area, and more information from these tours will be shared in future issues of the Informer. Knowing where we came from can help us better understand where we need to go. -To Be Continued in a Future Issue of *The Informer*.



Pictured Above L to R: Rev. Leroy Lowery, Rev. Jacob Creech, Rev. Elro Driggers, Rev. Reedy Saverance, Rev. Galen Dunbar, Rev. James Earl Raper, Rev. Harry Cooper, and Rev. Mike Jones. Not pictured but also in attendance - Rev. Larry McAlister, Rev. Carroll Bazen, Rev. Allan Austin and son Jaron, and Rev. Todd Smith

### Father and Grandfather of IM Missionaries Dies

Reverend John J. Postlewaite, 86 year old father of Reverend Joe Postlewaite (First FWB Church, Darlington, SC) and father of FWB IM Missionary Ruth McDonald (Japan) and grandfather of Reverend Joey Postlewaite (Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC) and grandfather of FWB IM Missionary Jonathan Postlewaite (leaving in February with wife Amy to go to Bulgaria), passed away Sunday, October 21, 2012. Reverend John J. Postlewaite was one of our first National Association of Free Will Baptist Home Missionaries, planting 7 churches in Washington and Oregon. Throughout his 53 years of ministry, he also served pastorates in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Illinois, and Missouri. John, or Johnnie to many, was saved at the age of 12, called to preach at the age of 19, and was ordained in 1947 after having attended Free Will Baptist Bible College (now Welch College). He married Leah Mae Scott on September 21, 1948, and they had four children: Joseph ("Joe"), Mary Susan ("Sue"), Samuel ("Sam"), and Leah Ruth ("Ruth"). John, along with serving in the ministry, was a skilled carpenter, real estate agent, and entrepreneur. He loved restoring antique furniture, gardening, and taking his grandchildren fishing. John and his wife Leah lived with their son Sam in Virginia Beach, VA for the past two years and with their daughter Sue in Nashville for the previous five years. "Brother Postlewaite and his family have played a significant role in the Free Will Baptist movement over the years," stated Clint Morgan, general director of FWBIM. "He was a successful church planter whose children and grandchildren have taken up the torch and are carrying it successfully. We grieve with the family at the loss of their beloved father and grandfather while rejoicing with them in the assurance of his arrival in his eternal home." Only eternity will reveal how many spiritual children were saved because of Rev. John J. Postlewaite's faithful witness.

### True Life Conference Meeting

The True Life Conference met on Saturday, October 20, 2012, at Pine Grove FWB Church in Jefferson, SC. Rev. David Sellers preached the devotion from John 14, and Rev. Mitch Gullege shared the morning message. The True Life Conference voted to receive Crowder View FWB Church in Kings Mountain, NC into their conference. It was recommended to encourage all ministers to attend at least two of the four quarterly meetings per year.



Pictured Left: Rev. John Cody moderating the meeting.

### Palmetto Conference Meeting

The Palmetto Conference held their bi-annual meeting on Saturday, November 17, 2012, at Peace FWB Church in Spartanburg. Rev. Darrell Morgan, the pastor at Harvest FWB Church in Tradesville, SC, preached the devotion, and Rev. Henry King, the pastor at Bright Light FWB Church in Thomasville, NC, preached the morning message. Peace Church provided a meal for everyone after the meeting. The next Palmetto Conference meeting will be held Saturday, May 18, 2013, at Bright Light FWB Church in Thomasville, NC.

### Ralph Hampton, FWB Educator and Leader Dies



Reverend Ralph Hampton, former chairman of the Biblical and Ministry Studies Department at Welch College and a member of the college faculty for 50 years, died September 7, 2012, after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 77. The Oklahoma native was converted at age

12 during a youth camp and ordained to preach in 1960. Hampton's ministry to the broader denomination included six pastorates in Tennessee and Missouri, articles for *Contact* and *ONE Magazine*, and curriculum writing for Randall House Publications. His signature leadership role came during a 15-year span when the National Association of Free Will Baptists elected him moderator nine times (1987-1996) and assistant moderator six times (1981-1987). Ralph began his 50-year tenure at Welch College in 1958 at age 23. Like most young educators, he wore several hats, which meant that he taught 15 hours per semester, served as Christian Service director, and was the dormitory supervisor. The son of a Free Will Baptist preacher and oldest of four brothers, he spent half a century changing the landscape of denominational education, preparing students for ministry in a world-wide community, and raising a family of three children with his wife Margaret—all three children graduated from Welch College. He pushed himself hard as an educator, earning five degrees—A.A. degree from East Contra Costa Junior College (1955), B.A. degree from Welch College (1958), M.A. degree from Winona Lake School of Theology (1961), M.Div. from Covenant Theological Seminary (1970), and the D.Min. (ABD) from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Dr. Robert Picirilli, Professor Emeritus and retired academic dean at Welch College, said, "Ralph graced the campus with a lifetime of quiet, dependable service. We could always count on him to be there, to do what was needed, and to do it without making a fuss. He was dedicated to keeping the school true to its founding mission, and he never swerved in his thinking from that ideal." Ralph Hampton is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mrs. Margaret Evans Hampton, who served 37 years at Welch College as manager of the Welch Library.

### 2013 FWB ANNUAL CONVENTION

July 21-24, 2013 - Tampa, FL

IMPACT TAMPA - Saturday, July 20, 2013

\*IMPACT is a one day event where Free Will Baptist across the denomination come together on Saturday before the National Convention begins to help area churches with service projects, door to door evangelism, and help with other areas of need. For more information on this, and also if you would like to help serve as an usher at the convention, visit [fwbmastersmen.org](http://fwbmastersmen.org) for details.

## Beaver Creek Association Meeting



The Beaver Creek Association meeting was held on Thursday evening, October 25, 2012, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Inman. During the business session, the Beaver Creek Association voted to give

Brazil Missionary Andy Moore a love gift in the amount of \$2,000.00. The First, Inman Church provided a meal for everyone in attendance. After the meal, area churches came together for a mission service, and Missionary Andy Moore preached the evening message. Prior to his message, his children, Lily and Levi (pictured above), shared special music. With the offering that was taken up during the worship service and with what the Beaver Creek voted to give, the Moores were given a total of \$3,914.56.

## Central Association Meeting

The Central Association met for their quarterly meeting on October 13, 2012, at the Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Conway. Moderator Reverend Stephen Hyman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The devotion was shared by Reverend Tony Miles, the pastor at Little Star Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville. After various reports were heard, the Central Association voted to send a letter of good standing for the Freedom Free Will Baptist Church in Tabor City to join the Pee Dee Association in North Carolina. Reverend Tommy Bryson and Reverend Clifford Strickland were also given letters of good standing for transferring to the Pee Dee Association. Reverend Wayne Snipes, the pastor at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Myrtle Beach shared the morning message. The offering for the day in the amount of \$257.17 went to the FWB Home for Children.

### WELCH COLLEGE EMPHASIS

**The month of February is the new emphasis month for the Welch College (FWBBC) Paul Kettelman Offering. We encourage each church to receive an offering for this fund which will provide scholarships for students to attend Welch College.**

### World Mission Offering (WMO)

**Sunday, April 28, 2013, is "World Mission Offering Sunday." In 2012, the WMO exceeded \$1 million. Let's have another great WMO in 2013 with every church participating in the 2013 WMO Offering!**

## Eastern Conference Meeting



The Eastern Conference met on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at St. John Free Will Baptist Church in Pamplico. Moderator Reverend Danny Stone welcomed everyone to the meeting. Reverend Doug Mathis (pictured left), the pastor at Williams Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Hemingway, preached the devotion,

and Reverend Danny Stone, the pastor at Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church in Coward, preached the morning message. Reports were heard from various conference and state representatives, and afterwards, everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal provided by St. John Free Will Baptist Church.

## South Carolina Conference Meeting



The South Carolina Conference met for their quarterly meeting at Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Darlington

on Friday, October 5, 2012. Prior to the meeting, Temple Church provided a wonderful meal for everyone in the fellowship hall. Earlier that day, ministers met for a missions luncheon at Horne's Restaurant in Florence. Friday evening, Moderator Reverend Bruce Kimbrel welcomed everyone to the meeting. The missions emphasis was on the South Carolina Hispanic Mission work and the ministry of Missionary Fernando Bustamante. Special music was provided by members of the South Carolina Hispanic Church in Effingham. Missionary Fernando Bustamante preached the evening message through interpreter Reverend Rick Bowling, NAFWB Hispanic Ministries Director (pictured above). A love gift was given by the South Carolina Conference in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Fernando Bustamante mission account. During the business session, each church was encouraged to send \$50 each to Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church in Effingham for help with hosting the state meeting in February 2013. The Presbytery Board presented their report, and the conference voted to ordain Joe Postlewaie, the pastor at First Free Will Baptist Church in Darlington. The conference also voted to license Jonathan Huff into the Gospel ministry. The next meeting of the South Carolina Conference takes place January 24-25, 2013, at Community Free Will Baptist Church in Florence, and Reverend David Crowe will be the guest speaker.



### Andy Moore Update (Brazil)

We were busy over the past few months traveling stateside and returned to Brazil in December. Though our time in the states was enjoyable, we were already thinking about getting back home as there is a great work that remains to be done in Brazil. I would like to make a special request of our supporting pastors. The coming year is going to be a very challenging year for our ministry financially as we begin the construction of our new church building. We would like to ask you for special consideration in your budgetary giving to our ministry this next calendar year. We are a local church ministry, and we depend on churches like yours for monthly support. Please do all you can to help us in 2013. I would also like to challenge each one individually. To reach our goal of \$200,000, we need:

1,000 people.....to give a one-time gift of \$200.00 or

200 people .....to give a one-time gift of \$1,000.00.

We would like to thank those of you who have already given sacrificially toward the building fund. Please continue to give to our account regularly as we are still very much in need of your financial support to stay on the field. As you pray, please take our names and the work of God in Brazil before the Father. Taking the Gospel to Brazil and Beyond, Andy, Andrea, Levi, and Lily Moore

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### Postlewaite Update (Bulgaria)

Over a decade ago, we responded to God's call to missions. We have sensed God's hand of guidance throughout every step we have taken since then. In the past year of our raising support to serve in Bulgaria, we have experienced an even deeper sense of the Lord's provision and grace in our lives. Among the Free Will Baptists in South Carolina, we have found not only financial supporters, but also dear friends, true partners, and prayer warriors.

We are thrilled that, because of your faithful support, Lord willing, we will be able to depart for Bulgaria in February 2013! We plan to immediately dive into language and culture learning while attending and assisting with the New Life Church in Svishtov. Please pray that God will help our minds to quickly grasp the language and culture so that we can communicate the hope of Christ to many Bulgarian people who have never heard the gospel. Please pray that there will be no complications in our visa applications. Pray that we will be able to adapt to the cold weather in Bulgaria. Pray that God's peace will surround us, our families, and our two daughters as we prepare for many good byes and transitions.

We cannot praise and thank God enough for the way He is using you to contribute to the work He has called us to the work of bringing hope to Bulgaria. The Lord has been so faithful to us in this season of preparation, and we know that His faithfulness will continue as we take the huge step of stepping onto Bulgarian soil. He will faithfully bring to salvation those who have never heard! "He hath made every thing beautiful in his time. . . " -Ecc. 3:11"

Grace and Peace, Jonathan Postlewaite

### Tim and Kristi Johnson Update (Spain)

¡Hola everyone! A while back, we saw a Groupon deal online to see "The Nutcracker" ballet in Madrid. We bought tickets for Kristi and Ana to go. They took the train into Madrid, had a quick dinner overlooking a main plaza, and arrived at the theater. They had really good seats on the seventh row. As they were waiting for the curtain to rise, they turned around and saw the Prince and Princess of Spain and their two little girls coming toward them. They ended up sitting just two rows back. This is the Prince who met and became engaged to a "commoner", who was a news reporter for a national television channel. We watched their wedding from the comfort of our living room when Ana was a toddler. She doesn't remember that historic wedding day, but when she realized that she was sitting just a few feet from the Spanish royal family, she got really excited. How would you have felt knowing that you were sitting two rows in front of the royal family? We actually had better seats than they did. We're pretty sure they didn't get discount Groupon tickets like us. This is definitely not an everyday occurrence here in Spain. It certainly made us think about our own royal status as followers of Christ. Revelation 17:14 says, "...for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." While it was neat to know that they were seated near famous royalty in a theater, one day, we will be seated in a heavenly place where the King of kings will be enthroned before us. What a day that will be when we see people from all tribes and nations, who are "called, and chosen, and faithful".

-Tim, Kristi, Alejandro, and Ana

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### Friends of India News

- Funds were provided by Friends of India for 19 families to rebuild their homes, which were destroyed in a violent cyclone earlier this year.
- Fourteen people were baptized in September in the Mainaguri Church. Six were baptized at the Kasibari Church. Eight were baptized at another church and numerous others have almost finished pre-baptismal training.
- An Indian Christian recently donated land for a church building. It will cost about 1 lac Rupees (slightly less than \$2,000) for fill dirt in order to be able to build.
- We are still waiting on a resolution of the Panasi Church situation where our church was destroyed and the material taken away. Your prayers are needed in this situation and in numerous other areas of persecution.
- Numerous Churches report being filled to capacity for services with no more sitting room. Each month pastors list new areas where churches need to be built to accommodate new believers who have no church in which to worship.
- Missionary Carlisle Hanna plans to return to India in January of 2013, with Reverend Mike Jones accompanying him. Your prayers for strength for him and for needed resources to continue God's great work in India are appreciated.

## Mirial Gainer Update (Japan)

Many of you may wonder what it means to minister in Japan. What exactly is it that I do every week? I would like to share with you some of what my ministry looks like here. I work in the Koinonia FWB Church in partnership with Pastor Hirabuki and his wife Mayumi. My main ministry is in the area of discipleship of Christians and modeling personal evangelism in the church. One outreach the Koinonia Church has begun under my leading is the Kayou (Tuesday) Friends Café. The outreach began last year in the discussion stage. Once the Cafe opened in May 2012, my ministry involved cooking cakes and cookies to serve, making tea and coffee, serving guests, and talking with them. The outreach is from 2:00 - 5:00 every Tuesday afternoon. What an incredible time to share with a variety of people, most of whom have never been inside a church before! One of our first guests, Mrs. M, sat on the bench outside, refusing to come in because she belongs to a militant Buddhist sect. One of our Christian workers sat on the bench with her each time she came, giving her a glass of water and some cookies. How exciting it was the day Mrs. M decided to come inside and sit with us! She has rarely missed a Tuesday since we began the outreach. She listens to everything that goes on, sings to us on occasion, and learns Scripture verses. Her favorite verse so far is "Come unto me all ye who are weary and heavy laden.." She says this verse describes her. In June, part of my ministry involved meeting the high school Eteam group at the airport and being with them while they were here. Sometimes, I cooked for them, and at other times I drove them to events or interpreted for them. I even helped with their laundry. While they were here, they helped with a local carnival for one of our churches and distributed tracts and flyers for all of our churches in the greater Sapporo area. After they returned to the states, I continued to minister in the Café, and I met Mr. S. He received one of the flyers the Eteam handed out and decided to come to the Café. When he came, he stated that he knew nothing about Jesus or Christianity but wanted to learn. I and other Café workers answered his questions and shared our faith with him. On December 23 during our Christmas worship service, Mr. S. followed his profession of faith through public baptism. While I was hospitalized recently, the other workers ran the Café completely by themselves. They have been encouraged by the salvation of Mr. S. and by the folks who have come seeking something more than coffee or tea and sweets. Another part of my ministry is furnishing music for the Koinonia church and combined women's meetings, and I also lead an English Bible study. Much of my work is making and developing contacts. "Ministry" means different things to different people, but to me it means being available to the Holy Spirit to be used as He directs. Thank you for all you do to make it possible for me



to minister here in Japan. God is changing hearts here in Japan as well as around the world. Thank you again for your part in the building of God's Kingdom.  
- Mirial Gainer

## Morgan Update (Uruguay)



Several months back a tragic accident occurred only a few blocks from our home in Montevideo. A young mom was driving her car when a tree fell across the car crushing and tragically

killing her, while critically injuring her two small children. Approximately a week later, the same type of tree fell in a vacant parking lot. The city sprang into action and began cutting down many of these trees. The problem is that these trees are so large they can no longer be sustained by the sandy soil in which they are planted. In many ways, this is a perfect description of Montevideo, Uruguay. The people have grown in a country that doesn't recognize God. Those that believe God exists, only believe that. They do not believe a person could know or have a growing, loving relationship with Him. The massive revivals that have taken place throughout Latin American countries have not been seen or felt here. We have recently completed our first year in this beautiful country, and its darkness has become very much a reality to us. We have had people say that "God is only for the poor" or "There are lots of different gods." We have seen advertisements in the local paper for people willing to place voodoo type curses on their enemies. We have witnessed those who worship the goddess of the sea, sending off their small, hand-made boats with sacrifices to appease their god. The country and its youth are in desperate need of Jesus. We are currently working with Emanuel Church in order to reach the lost in the community known as North Malvin. The Sunday school program of the church is growing, and recently Neil and a Uruguayan named Alexander began teaching a new Sunday school class for adolescents. This is the age when many quit coming to church; yet, since the class has begun, the attendance has grown each Sunday. We are also leading youth nights in our home on Friday nights. One unsaved teenager has been coming regularly and is beginning to ask questions about God and His will. We desire for the entire nation of Uruguay to be firmly planted in the good soil of the Lord Jesus. We want them to not only see external dangers, but to also see the danger that their souls are in. Please pray with us for God to move in the hearts of the Uruguayans. - Neil and Mandi Morgan

**Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**

**January 20, 2013**

[www.heartlink.org/beavoice/resources.cfm](http://www.heartlink.org/beavoice/resources.cfm)

## Difficulties and Blessings - Pooles



Everyone faces difficult situations. Bobby and I have faced a few during these during 52 years of service in Brazil, in our ministry as well as in our personal lives. It is not easy to work with a person who has accepted the Lord, stopped his vices, enters Bible College, only to see that person turn his back on the Lord. We have seen this happen too many times. It is not easy to sit in front of a doctor

who says, "Cancer has returned. It is the same kind you had 13 years ago." Then he continued, "I know you desire to know about everything, so do you want the good or bad news first?" After I said the bad, he continued by telling us that when cancer returns, there is no cure unless there is divine intervention. The good news is that it has not spread to any vital organ. Tumors are in the bone, lungs and pleura." A number of Bible verses flooded my mind. "We know that all things work together for them who love God." (Romans 8:28). "The Lord of peace himself give you peace in all circumstances. (II Thess. 3:16). I am not taking aggressive treatment but am only taking a hormone blocker, which can give me some more quality time. Even though I do not have my normal strength, I have continued with my responsibilities. We also have an extended ministry. A couple of months ago when we were in to see the doctor, he asked if we had a few minutes to talk to him. He opened up the conversation about spiritual things, which lasted about 30 minutes. He also wanted one of my books. As he reads it, I trust more questions will come. Others have asked me about death. It has been a blessing to explain to them that it is the natural end of the circle of life. Death is our passage into heaven. Let me end by saying; "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints," Psalm 116:15. God has given me peace. Whenever He calls, I am ready! - Mrs. Geneva Poole

## The Inspiration & Preservation of God's Word



One free book and DVD will be provided for each pastor at upcoming conference meetings. Additional copies are available through the **FWB Christian Book & Supply** by calling **800-319-2346**. The DVD is \$14.99. The Book is \$10.

The book and DVD combo is \$20 while supplies last.

## Leadership Conference Reaffirms the Inspiration, Inerrancy, and Preservation of Scripture

Free Will Baptist leaders from 18 states and Canada gathered at Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel December 3-4, for the 2012 Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference. The annual event, which provides a meeting venue for denominational boards and agencies, is open to every Free Will Baptist minister and leader. The meeting features nightly worship services, practical instruction, and plenty of time for conversation and networking. The 2012 conference addressed the theme, "How Firm a Foundation." From the opening hymn (of the same name) to closing statements, every moment explored and reaffirmed the Free Will Baptist doctrines of the inspiration, authority, and preservation of the Scriptures. North Carolina pastor Dr. Danny Dwyer and Dr. Robert E. Picirilli, longtime professor at Welch College, delivered powerful messages each evening as they defined and defended the importance of these vital doctrines. "To use a football analogy," Dwyer said during his Monday evening sermon, "there are some 'Red Zone' issues worth defending at all costs, and inspiration, authority, and the sufficiency of the Scriptures are certainly included." On Tuesday morning, a six-member panel of Free Will Baptist Bible scholars continued the discussion, answering 17 common questions about the Word of God such as: "How did we get the Bible?" "How has God preserved His Word throughout Scripture?" and "How do we respond to the existence of so many different English versions? Does it make any difference which one we use?" The panel included Danny Dwyer, Leroy Forlines, Paul Harrison, Thomas Marberry, Stanley Outlaw, and Robert E. Picirilli. Their answers are available in both DVD and booklet format. Following their discussion, the panel answered questions from the audience during an hour-long dialogue. The Monday night service featured music provided by Rejoice Ministry Team of Welch College, under the direction of Susan Forlines. The Tuesday evening service featured the Cofer's Quartet from Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville. The group includes Executive Secretary Keith Burden, Russell Cooper, Dan Erickson, and Jerrod Pilgrim. In addition to plenary sessions and worship services, denominational officers and board members handled a lengthy slate of business. The Nominating Committee of the National Association of Free Will Baptists met to make recommendations for board and commission vacancies to be filled at the 2013 convention in Tampa, Florida. Mike Wade (OK) chairs the seven-person committee. Other national boards and committees met in conjunction with the conference, including the Executive Committee, Board of Retirement, Home Missions Board, International Missions Board, Welch College Board of Trustees, Board of the Free Will Baptist Foundation, Randall House Publications Board, and the Master's Men Board.

The 2013 Leadership Conference will meet December 9-10, at the Nashville Marriott Airport Hotel.



### Annual FWB Children's Home Day

The annual Free Will Baptist Children's Home Day was held on Saturday, November 3, 2012, at the FWB Home for Children in Turbeville. Tours began at 9:00 AM, and special singing was provided by the Peirce Choir at 10:00 AM. Mrs. Leah Broach, daughter of Director Doug Chamberlain, provided special music prior to Rev. Joey Postlewaite, the pastor at Westside FWB Church in Johnsonville, preaching the message. An offering in the amount of \$1,605.00 was taken up for the Children's Home, and lunch was provided afterwards for everyone in attendance. Many churches and individuals also donated needed supplies for the Children's Home as well. Children's Home Director Doug Chamberlin would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who attended, gave, and made the special day a success.



Pictured Above - SC FWB Home for Children Board with the Director - Left to Right: Reverend Byron Scherer (True Life Conference), Reverend Tim Hackett (Beaver Creek), Director Doug Chamberlin, Mr. Larry Hawkins (SC Conference), Reverend I. Bennie Turner (Eastern Conference), and Reverend Allen Goodman (Central Association)

### Eastern Conference Youth Rally

The Eastern Conference hosted a youth rally on August 25, 2012, at Mill Branch Free Will Baptist Church. Reverend Scott Ard and the members at Mill Branch did a great job hosting the event. The total number in attendance was 172, including youth and church members. A total of nine churches were represented, which was an increase from their usual four to five churches. The attendance banner, which is presented to the church with the highest number in attendance, is always a highlight of the youth rally event. Mill Branch Church won the attendance banner with 75 in attendance. The speaker for the rally was Reverend Gerald Mcgaha. He challenged the youth to take a stand for the Lord as they start back to school. The worship service involved various youth groups singing. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal in the fellowship hall following the service. Calvary Free Will Baptist Church pastor Reverend Teddy Rabon said, "We thank the Lord for a great youth rally and for all the churches and youth that participated. We look forward to another great youth rally in the future."

### Executive Secretary Todd Smith's Schedule

#### October

- 1 Close out books for September
- 2 Turbeville Area Minister Breakfast
- 5 SC Conference Missions Luncheon
- 5 SC Conference Quarterly Meeting
- 7 Landmark FWB Church, Anderson
- 9 Florence/Darlington Area Minister Breakfast
- 13 Central Association Meeting
- 14 Bay Branch FWB Church, Timmonsville
- 14 Jefferson Road FWB Church, Sumter
- 16 Lake City Area Minister Luncheon
- 18 Funeral Mickey Evans, mother of Rickey Evans
- 19 Rev. Jake Creech surgery - McLeod Hospital
- 20 True Life Conference Meeting
- 21 Lebanon FWB Church - 100 Year Anniversary
- 24 Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward - Attend Revival
- 25 Beaver Creek Association Meeting - First, Inman
- 28 Southside FWB Church, Darlington
- 28 First FWB Church, Florence
- 31 Rev. Larry Hughes surgery - McLeod Hospital

#### November

- 1 Close out books for October
- 3 Annual FWB Children's Home Day
- 4 Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville
- 4 Mt. Elon FWB Church, Pamplico
- 6 SC Home Mission Board Meeting - Columbia
- 9 Sugarloaf Mt. Men/Boys Camping Peace FWBC
- 11 Grace FWB Church, Lake City
- 11-14 Revival - Mill Branch FWB Church
- 13 Florence/Darlington Area Minister Breakfast
- 16 McLeod Regional Medical-Rev. David Hutchinson
- 17 Palmetto Conference Meeting
- 18 First FWB Church, Enoree
- 18 First FWB Church, Greenville
- 20 Lake City Area Minister Luncheon

#### December

- 2 New Vision FWB Church, Hemingway
- 3-6 NAFWB Leadership Conference - Nashville, TN
- 7 Close out Financial Books for November
- 9 Liberty FWB Church, Lancaster
- 13 Minister's/Wives' Christmas Fellowship Supper
- 15 Eastern Conference Meeting
- 16 Wildwood FWB Church, Nichols
- 19-26 FWB State Office Closed for Christmas Week
- 30 Grace FWB Church, Lake City
- 30 Early Service and 11 AM Worship
- 30 Community FWB Church, Florence - Note Burning Service - 6 PM