



Heb. 6:19

SCFWB Executive Secretary Schedule

- 11/2 Black River FWB 100th Anniversary
- 11/2 Revival New Prospect FWB
- 11/3 Revival New Prospect FWB
- 11/4 Revival New Prospect FWB
- 11/5 Revival New Prospect FWB
- 11/10 Revival Mill Branch FWB
- 11/16 New Prospect FWB
- 11/19 Ground Breaking First Charleston FWB
- 11/21 Palmetto Conference FWB
- 11/22 Eastern Conference FWB
- 11/23 First Simpsonville FWB
- 11/23 Mill Branch FWB
- 11/30 Liberty FWB
- 11/30 Liberty FWB
- 12/7 Horse Branch FWB
- 12/8 National Leadership Conference
- 12/9 National Leadership Conference
- 12/10 National Leadership Conference
- 12/16 Lake City Minister's Luncheon
- 1/10 Central Association
- 1/13 Florence Minister's Breakfast
- 1/17 True Life Conference
- 1/18 First Inman FWB
- 1/20 Airport with Bro. Carlisle Hanna
- 1/22 South Carolina Annual Conference
- 1/23 South Carolina Annual Conference
- 1/29 Beaver Creek Conference

AVAILABLE MINISTER TO SUPPLY PULPIT

For our SC FWB churches, below is a list of available retired ministers to help supply the pulpit in the absence of a pastor:

- Rev. Earl Hanna, Florence - (843) 617-7339
- Rev. James Pierce, Timmonsville - (843) 662-7391
- Rev. Mike Jones, Effingham - (843) 687-4823
- Rev. Leroy Lowery, Darlington - (843) 229-2078
- Rev. James Earl Raper, Turbeville - (843) 659-2366
- Rev. Jacob Creech, Turbeville - (843) 687-2301
- Rev. Galen Dunbar, Florence - (843) 676-9865
- Rev. Bobby Bowers, Greenville - (864) 230-0518
- Rev. Reedy Saverance, Effingham - (843) 601-1924
- Rev. James Skipper, Hartsville - (843) 393-3969
- Rev. W.D. Jones, Johnsonville - 843-472-0444
- Rev. Bennie Turner, Manning - (803)473-0286
- Rev. Paul Childers, Lockhart - (864) 545-6534
- Rev. W.D. Jones - (843) 472-0444

Wanted: Old Church Signs and Memorabilia

Do you or your church have any old and outdated Church signs or Memorabilia? I am looking for nostalgic/vintage church signage and items especially Free Will Baptist. Contact Rev. Chris Todd at chris@scfwb.com or (843) 657-2091
Thanks



THE  **INFORMER**

The **Informer** is the official publication of the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists, Inc.
Address all correspondence to
Chris Todd, P.O. Box 9, Turbeville, SC 29162
(843) 657-2091 Email: chris@scfwb.com
www.scfwb.com

Vol. 45 Num 1
Winter 2015

SCFWB State Meeting

Feb. 26-27, 2015 at White Savannah Free Will Baptist Church. The General Board will meet Wednesday, Feb 25 at 10am. The Dosses will be singing.

Thursday night offering will go to Bro. Todd Smith, former SCFWB Executive Secretary, for several years of faithful service to our state.

The Thursday evening speaker will be Rev. Jim McComas Director of Church Revitalization North American Missions Dept. Information on Registration will be forthcoming. The headquarter hotel will be at the Sleep Inn & Suites Located at 3345 W Highway 501, Conway. (Approximately 7 miles from the church) (843) 365-2828 the rate is \$49.99 per night. Also available is the Mystic Sea Resort located at 2105 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach. (Approximately 23 Miles from church) (843) 448-8446 the rate is \$29.00 per night for ocean side.

2015 Mileage Rate

The Internal Revenue Service recently issued the revised standard mileage rate which is used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business purposes during 2015. Beginning January 1, 2015 the standard mileage rate for the use of a car for business purposes will be 57.5 cents per mile for business miles driven; an increase of 1.5 cents per mile over the 2014 rate.

Evergreen FWB Church (Conway)

On Saturday, September 6th 2014 the Ladies of Evergreen Church hosted their 4th Annual Women's Conference. The theme for the day was "The Storms of Life", with over 80 Ladies from 16 different churches in attendance. Sister Sherry Carter from Whiteville, NC and Sister Julie Edge from Conway, SC were the special speakers for the day. Sister Julie shared how she found a renewed strength and hope during the midst of a storm and Sister Sherry gave us 5 key things to surviving a storm. Between speakers 3 workshops were done breaking down the various things we find in a storm, Sister Denise Edwards spoke on "The Storm" while Sister Kiescha Johnson helped us realize that no matter the size of our boat (Faith) we all face storms and Sister Pam Tyler showed us where to find hope in our storm "The Anchor". The Ladies Auxiliary officers of Evergreen performed a skit reminding the ladies that no matter where their boat may be when the storm hits, that calling on the name of Jesus brings help and hope in even in the scariest storms. The day ended with a wonderful meal prepared by the men of The Evergreen church.

Preparations are being made for the 2015 Women's Conference. If you or your church is interested in attending please contact Sister Kiescha Johnson by email at: evergreenfwb-church@gmail.com.



2014 Leadership Conference Affirms Biblical Marriage



Nashville, TN—One hundred twenty-five pastors and church leaders from 19 states and Canada gathered December 8-9, at Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel, for the 2014 Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference. The conference explored and affirmed biblical marriage; from the scriptural basis and historic Free Will Baptist beliefs and practices. Leaders discussed strategies to strengthen and defend marriage in today's increasingly hostile culture.

Dr. Russell Moore, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, provided the keynote address. He was joined by speakers Matt Pinson, President of Welch College; Eddie Moody, Pastor of Tippett's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, member of the Welch College Board of Trustees, and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education at North Carolina Central University; and Phillip Whiteaker, a judge serving on the Arkansas Board of Appeals and Chairman of the Free Will Baptist Foundation Board.

The meeting featured more than keynote sessions, with plenty of time for conversation and networking during banquet-styled meals. Each service featured music provided by Welch College, including Rejoice ensemble and the 42-voice College Choir directed by Dr. James Stevens. A number of national boards met in conjunction with the conference, including the Executive Committee, Board of Retirement, Free Will Baptist Foundation, Home Missions, International Missions, Randall House, and Welch College.

"In an age where marriage is being attacked from every side," noted Ryan Lewis, conference director, "this conference equipped pastors and churches to stand for biblical marriage while attempting to bridge the gap between churches and the culture in a redemptive way."

Dr. Moore is a widely sought cultural commentator who speaks frequently to issues of theology, culture, and public policy. He has been quoted and published by many of the nation's leading news agencies and periodicals including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, USA Today, and the Associated Press.



He blogs frequently at "Moore to the Point," and has authored or edited five books, including *Tempted and Tried: Temptation and the Triumph of Christ* and *Adopted for Life: The Priority of Adoption for Christian Families and Churches*. In addition, Moore has authored dozens of academic articles and essays on systematic theology and Christian ethics. He is senior editor of *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity*. Dr. Moore earned a B.S. in history and political science from University of Southern Mississippi, a M.Div. in biblical studies from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in systematic theology from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

An ordained Southern Baptist minister, Moore has pastored a number of churches, most recently serving Highview Baptist Church from 2008-2012. He is a four-time member of the SBC Resolutions Committee and a regular columnist for Baptist Press.

"Dr. Moore has made a profound impact on today's church," said Executive Secretary Keith Burden. "He understands the challenges churches face in trying to reach a suspicious and sometimes hostile culture, and he shared practical advice to help Free Will Baptists ministers with compassion while remaining true to the Bible. We were honored to have him at this year's conference."

The 2015 Leadership Conference will return to Nashville Marriott Airport Hotel December 7-8.

Evergreen FWB Church (Conway)

Evergreen Church reached out to the community this year by bringing to life the Birth of our Savior with a Live Nativity on Friday December 19th and Saturday December 20th. When visitors stepped into the church's gymnasium they were taken back in time to what Bethlehem would have been like in the time of Jesus birth, complete with basket weavers, candles makers, sellers of fine linen and spices. Visitors even got to sample some food from that time period, and all visitors had to register with the Roman Tax collector for the census as they entered Bethlehem. As the visitors then began their journey to the stable, along the way they met the shepherds as they were receiving the glorious news of the Saviors birth from the angels. Once they reached the manger they found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus while the story of Christ's birth from Luke chapter 2 was read. The message of that glorious night was shared with over 200 people that weekend. On Saturday night the church served a free supper to those in the community before the trip to Bethlehem. Pastor Kevin Johnson and the Evergreen Church is planning to do the Live Nativity again December 2015 in hopes to share the birth of our Savior with even more people in the area.



Caanan FWB Church (Lancaster) Elects Rev. Jeremy Overstreet as Pastor

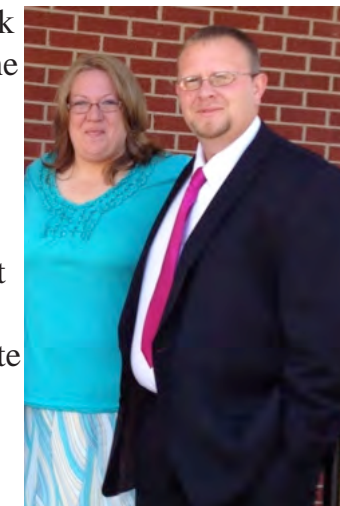


Jeremy Overstreet: born and raised in Dothan Alabama, was saved at the age of 14 and

answered the call to preach at the age of 15. He has been in pastoral ministry for the last 12 years. He graduated from the Baptist College of Florida in Graceville Florida and is currently pursuing a Masters of Divinity in Biblical Studies at Luther Rice University and Seminary in Lithonia Georgia. His wife (Megan) and he were married in August of 2010 and have a precious daughter named Lilly.

St. John's FWB Church (Patrick) Elects Rev. Brad Seaton as Pastor

Rev, Brad Seaton is from Greenville, Tennessee, and is married to Danielle Wilhoit Seaton. His previous pastorates include First FWB Church Waverly, and Open Door Tabernacle. Pastor Seaton shared "I am a God called Pastor with a wonderful Godly wife that I love with all my heart. I am the pastor of St John Free Will Baptist Church located in Patrick South Carolina. I love the job that God has called me to do. I enjoy seeing souls saved and hearts encouraged." He also Studied Auctioneering at Nashville Auctioneering School LLC. His Favorite Verse is Phillipians 4:13





Rev Neil and Mrs. Billie Jean Hinson recently celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Temple FWB Church (Darlington)

France Comes to South Carolina France Comes to South Carolina was a fundraiser



for Matt and Halie Deckard, newly appointed missionaries to France. The ladies of Temple Free Will Baptist Church WAC hosted this event to assist in raising the support needed for this couple to begin their ministry in France. It was a night of good food, good singing, and great Christian fellowship.

First FWB Church Charleston Breaks Ground at New Location

It was a cold afternoon in North Charleston, for the ground breaking ceremony of First FWB Church. Pastor Robbie Hiott, (Pictured Right) State Moderator Sherwood Lee (Pictured Left) and others were on hand for this exciting time. This is a beautiful lot and seems to be a prime location for the New Church Building. The New building will consist of 5 Sunday School classrooms, a Fellowship Hall with Kitchen, a Handicap Accessible Sanctuary, Offices and several other rooms. If you or your church would like to assist in the labor during construction, please



contact Pastor Robbie Hiott at rev rob1@yahoo.com

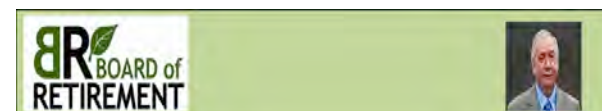
Tax Reporting and the Housing Allowance

Although the IRS instructions for Form W-2 do not require that the “fair rental value” of the parsonage be reported on the W-2, the Board joins the IRS (Instructions for Form W-2) in recommending that Box 14 be used to record this amount. Putting the “parsonage fair rental value” or “parsonage allowance” on the W-2 is a great way of maintaining a record of the amount designated as such.

If the pastor is living in a parsonage, the amount that is reported is the fair rental value of the house, plus any utilities and furnishings that are provided by the church. To get the fair rental value, it is suggested that you ask a local realtor to provide the church with a written estimate of how much a house similar to the parsonage in size and location would rent for on the open market. The church treasurer should then take that amount and add to it a “fair rental amount” for any furnishings that the church provides plus utility costs if the church also provides utilities. This total amount would be reported on the W-2 in Box 14 as, for example, “12000.00 - Ministerial Parsonage Allowance.” If the minister received a housing allowance, Box 14 would report, for example, “12000.00 - Minister’s Housing Allowance.”

It should always be remembered that while the pastor does not have to pay federal income tax on this amount, he is required to pay SECA taxes (Medicare and Social Security taxes) on the housing amount. Further, it should be noted that only licensed or credentialed ministers are entitled to a parsonage allowance or a housing allowance. If a non-minister is given either a housing allowance or allowed to live in the parsonage, the entire value becomes taxable to the non-minister for both federal income tax purposes, as well as Medicare/Social Security tax purposes.

D. Ray Lewis, President and CEO
Board of Retirement & Insurance
(Visit us on the web at boardofretirement.com.)



In September 2015, Randall House will launch D6 2nd Generation Curriculum, the next groundbreaking curriculum for your church.

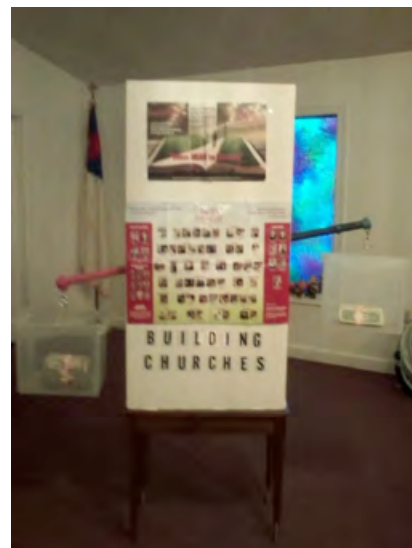
D6 2nd Generation Curriculum features:



- Covers the entire story of the Bible
 - Teach Biblical Worldview to all ages every lesson
 - Each 13 week Study Guide will have three studies
 - o One Month in the New Testament
 - o One Month in the Old Testament
 - o One Month in a Special Topic
 - Special Topics will prepare for life issues and cultural challenges
 - o Apologetics (teach all ages how to defend their faith)
 - o Cultural issues from a Biblical Perspective (homosexuality, gender, marriage, etc.)
 - o Key theological concepts (character of God, origins, inspiration, etc.)
 - Features multiple authors each quarter within their Biblical specialty
 - Timeline in each lesson for Teacher’s Guide
 - Align each age (grade school and above) to connect on the same theme
 - Provide parents with tools to connect with kids
 - Use D6 2nd Generation in either printed or digital platform (or use both)
- You are encouraged to investigate how D6 2nd Generation curriculum can help your church be more effective in discipleship and better equipped to pass the faith along to the next generation.



Immanuel FWB Church (Santee)



Immanuel FWB Church did what they call “N A MISSIONS CHALLENGE”. They have been doing this for several years. The Challenge is the men vs the women, and in order to see visibly who has won, they have constructed a scale to see who brings the most offering by weight. This year the ladies brought in \$650 to the men’s \$350.

THE MINISTRY OF FRIENDS OF INDIA



For over 60 years Missionary Carlisle Hanna and his family have labored in the north eastern part of India to bring help and hope to the people of India. (Brother Carlisle is also in charge of the original Free Will Baptist work in South India begun by Laura Belle Barnard and Viola Wilson. Located 1500 miles from our work in North India in the state of Tamil Nadu this work is home to around 20 FWB churches and a Bible Institute).

God has blessed the work in North India with over 300 churches and an ever growing harvest (We average 2 people coming to Christ each day). Because of our close

proximity, we are also able to build churches in Nepal and increasingly reach the people of Buddhist dominated Bhutan.

God has blessed Missionary Carlisle Hanna with tremendous insight and leadership to continue to oversee the work in India even though he is over 80 years old. Yet, everyone knows that the day will come when God will allow him the rest and reward he so richly desires. The question then becomes, “What will happen to the work in India at that time?”

After prayerful consideration several people who had visited India and had first-hand knowledge of the situation in India felt impressed of the Lord to begin a ministry that would raise funds to expand the present ministry in India and also provide a means of perpetually supporting the work that is already in place.



A Friends of India TRUST FUND was established with the FWB Foundation. This is a perpetual method of support since only the Interest from this account is used to support the ministry. The initial goal for this Trust Fund is three million dollars (which would generate one hundred and fifty thousand dollars interest annually and perpetually).

A GENERAL FUND was also established to be used for presently ongoing projects which include building churches, purchasing motorbikes for Pastors, supporting Evangelist / Church-Planters, and helping with other projects that expand or continue the present ministry in India.

Gifts to either fund are Tax deductible (FOI is incorporated as a non-profit organization in SC) and can be given directly to Friends of India (%Mike Jones, 2434 Allen Road, Effingham, SC 29541) or directed through the SCFWB State Office.

“Friends of India” is a supported partner of the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists and a recognized Partner for the support of the ministry in India by NAFWB International Missions.

The Board of Friends of India is elected annually on a six year rotation and is made up of people with a consistent record for support of missions (Dr. (Rev.) Don Hanna, Chairman of the Board- 2020 {Raised in India and speaks Hindi}, Rev. Mike Jones, Secretary / Treasurer of the Board-2019 {former SCFWB Executive Secretary}, Rev. Sherwood Lee-2018 (SCFWB State Moderator and former Missionary), Rev. Chris Todd-2021 {SCFWB Executive Secretary}, Rev. Buddy Seay, Jr-2016 {Former SCFWB Assistant Moderator, Pastor}, Rev. Jacob Creech-2017 {Former Pastor who consistently led his church to be the state leader in giving to missions}. Additional information can be seen at www.scfriendsofindia.com / www.scfoi.com .

Present Projects that need your help:

- \$75 per month will pay an Evangelist-Church Planter salary
- \$75 will purchase a bike for use by an Evangelist-Church Planter
- \$1,800 will purchase a motorcycle for use in Pastoral Visitation
- \$50,000 will build a block Church as a meeting place for hundreds of people
- Additional help is needed to maintain our Boy’s Home (50 boys), purchase land for future building projects, and assist people directly during times of famines and crisis.

“Friends of India” is providing necessary funding to help reach some of the largest number of unreached people groups in the world. Your help makes a difference as we build God’s Kingdom together.



Central Association Ordains Brother Kenny Haselden

Services were held at Little Star FWB Church. January 28, 2015.

Left to right Bro. Tommy Hill, Bro. Kenny Haselden, Bro. Allen Goodman, Bro. Timmy Locklear, Bro. Kevin Johnson, Bro. Paul Hyman.