

THE INFORMER

Vol 2 -- No. 3
May, 1973

OFFICIAL BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF S. C.

From Capernaum To Tiberias



Pictured above, from left to right: Rev. Ansel Smith, Rev. Bobby Bowers, Rev. J. B. Smith, Mrs. Earl Hendrix, and Rev. Earl Hendrix. This is the group from South Carolina that toured Israel during the month of March. This picture was taken while on a boat ride, on the Sea of Galilee, from Capernaum to Tiberias.

To tour the Holy Land and walk where Jesus walked is a thrill and blessing beyond words. It is a trip that one would have to take himself to really understand what a blessing it is, and to know how it makes the Bible come alive.

We toured four countries: Cyprus, Turkey, Jordan, and Israel. The plane landed in Cyprus where we visited the places where Paul and Barnabas preached on their first Missionary Journey. We then went to Turkey and visited Tarsus where Paul was born, and Antioch where the first Christian Church was organized.

We then went to Israel and visited many of the places so frequently mentioned in the Bible. I think the night and day we spent in Jerusalem, the Holy City, was the greatest blessing of the whole trip. When you visit Mt. Calvary, the empty tomb, and the Garden of Gethsemane, your life can never be the same any more.

The trip was such a wonderful blessing. We were blessed, thrilled, revived, and challenged to be a better Christian and preacher. Since it was such a blessing to us, we have decided to go back next year.

If we can get as many as 40 to go, we will be on a big bus together. We can start a revival among Free Will Baptists in South Carolina that will help win more souls and start more churches than anything we can do.

We want it to be a State Association project, and get people from all four Conferences to go. It will draw us closer together, and help us work together better than anything I know of that we could do.

I would like to encourage all the churches in our state to invite one of the preachers that made the trip into your church to show his slides and explain the trip. It will help everyone that goes to be a better Christian. It would pay the churches to send their pastor and pay his way. He will come back fired up, revived and challenged to work for the Lord more than anything.

Our addresses are in the State Association Minutes, so if you would like to see the slides contact one of the

(Continued on Page 4)



Pamplico Church Parsonage Completed

October 22, 1972, marked the second of two important dates for the members of the Pamplico Free Will Baptist Church.

First: The parsonage was started November 19, 1971, and completed and occupied by Pastor Billy Poteat and family on July 5, 1972.

Second: Homecoming and formal dedication of the parsonage was observed October 22, 1972. Guest speaker for homecoming service was a former pastor, Rev. Ralph Osborne.

The pastor, Rev. Poteat, in the dedication message, had this to say concerning the parsonage: "This parsonage will provide living quarters for your pastor for many, many years. It will also serve as a testimony in this community of God's goodness to us, here at Pamplico Church. We give thanks to God for His guiding wisdom, abounding strength, and divine aid in this building. We thank Him for those who, by their gifts and service, have made this building a reality."

Willis Resigns; Shockey New Director

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — On February 27, Rev. Homer E. Willis gave his resignation as General Director for the Department of Home Missions. The Board in called session accepted the resignation to be effective May 31. However, the Board requested him to stay through June 30, and he agreed to do so.

Mr. Willis came to the Department September 1, 1956, and has served as Director since that time.

He will continue to live in Nashville, and continue his ministry in evangelism and related work.

The National Home Missions Board has elected Robert L. Shockey as its new Director to become effective June 1, 1973.

Rev. Shockey is originally from the State of Kentucky and is a graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.

He has pastored churches in Tennes-

see, Alabama and Kentucky where he established a mission church which he pastored for 10 years.

He served as promotional secretary for the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension for three years and traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands promoting Home Missions and evangelism.

The Rev. Shockey has served as a member of the Board of Home Missions for seven years and comes to the Board well qualified to assume the responsibilities of Director-Treasurer.

SOUTH CAROLINA PLACES SECOND IN NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

Lockhart Free Will Baptist Church, Lockhart, S. C., won second place in "E" Division. Their average was 178. During the campaign they averaged 263, for an increase of 47.75 per cent.

Beaver Creek Lay-Woman Of The Year



Mrs. Betty Vise of Spartanburg has been chosen as the Lay-Woman in the Beaver Creek Association. Mrs. Vise was chosen by a Selection Committee appointed by the Association. As a member of the Valley Falls Free Will Baptist Church, she has been active in

many church activities, and because of her faithfulness to her church and the work of the Lord her church and pastor, Rev. Carl Shook, submitted her name to the committee. Our prayers are that she will continue to be active in God's work.

CHURCH NEWS

JOHNSONVILLE, S. C.:

The Lord has been blessing the Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church. An unknown donor gave enough money to complete the new auditorium, after which a wonderful increase was experienced. Last year's Sunday School attendance averaged 64, but for the last two months they have averaged 100. Last year's C. T. S. average was 40, now it is 92. This is a wonderful increase. The church just had a good revival with Rev. J. C. Lynn from Asheville, N. C., doing the preaching. The Lord blessed so good that the revival was extended three more nights. The church is real thankful for all God's blessings toward them.

Rev. Tommy Godly, Pastor.

CHURCH TAKES ON NEW LOOK

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, has taken on a new look by remodeling the church with new carpet, new ceiling, and new pews. They will be able to double their seating capacity. The men of the church did practically all the work.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.:

Fairview has recently dedicated a new \$45,000 auditorium. Several things were placed in the church as memorial gifts. Among them were flowers by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Turbyfill in memory of her mother, Mrs. Jones; a U. S. Flag by Mrs. B. Kimbrell in memory of her son who was killed while serving in the Navy; a Christian Flag was given by the senior class; carpet was placed in the church by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Eleven souls were saved the first Sunday in the new building. For all these things we say, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done."

Rev. L. H. Clayton, Pastor.

Mrs. Christine Nash, Reporter.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.:

Converse Free Will Baptist Church is still enjoying God's blessings. They now have their new carpet down and almost paid for. They reported that during the month of March they had the opportunity to see over 30 souls saved and rededications. A revival is planned soon and everyone is looking forward to it very much. The church requests that everyone remember them in prayer as they go forward in Christ.

Rev. Troy Baldwin, Pastor.

Mrs. Georgia Foy, Reporter.

STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The S. C. State Auxiliary met with the Mill Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville, S. C., Saturday, March 17, 1973; Rev. Paul Clayton, pastor.



A good day in the Lord was the report from the meeting. Total attendance was 103.



During the morning session a memorial tribute was given in memory of Mrs. Emma Ruth Willey, missionary wife of Thomas Willey, Jr., who went to be with the Lord in December, 1972. Mrs. Paul Sheehan, state president, did the tribute.



Mrs. Norma Harrington did a wonderful job directing the singing during the day.

STATE OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

President - - - - Mrs. Mae Sheehan, Turbeville, S. C.
 Vice President - - Mrs. Evis Poston, Johnsonville, S. C.
 Secretary - - - - Mrs. Judy Strickland, Florence, S. C.
 Treasurer - - - - Mrs. Mary Reid, Johnsonville, S. C.
 Field Worker - - Mrs. Julius Vause, Timmonsville, S. C.



A memorial tribute for Mrs. Wilbur Beasley, one of our S. C. pastor's wife, was also presented by Mrs. Lillian Evans. Both ladies were active in all our Auxiliary work and are greatly missed by all.



Keynote speaker for the meeting was Sherwood Lee, Missionary to Africa. Bro. Lee's subject was "Lights in Dark Places." Scripture taken from Phil. 2:15; other scriptures Eph. 6:12, John 12:35; Christians must be that light to penetrate the darkness with the gospel, we must go to share a new life, we are ambassadors for Christ, people are sitting in spiritual darkness, so let's reach them.

Members At Large:

Mrs. Gwen Hendrix, Mrs. Betty Smith, Mrs. Jessie Stone

The meeting will convene at the Mt. Ariel Free Will Baptist Church at Conway, S. C., next year.

—Mrs. Mary Ann Smith, Reporter.

CHURCH NEWS

MANNING, S. C.:

On May 23, 1972, a new Free Will Baptist Church was organized in Manning and named Grace Free Will Baptist Church. The enrollment consisted of 35 members. Rev. Hoyt Powell was elected pastor. A wonderful revival was experienced December 10-16 with the Rev. Robert L. Edwards from New Bern, N. C., as evangelist. It is the request of the entire church that they be remembered in everyone's prayers.

Rev. Hoyt Powell, Pastor.

Linda Stephens, Reporter.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF McCOLL LOSES TWO MEMBERS

Mr. J. H. (Bill) Slaughter and Mrs. Gladys Norris, both members of the First Free Will Baptist Church of McColl, died February 19, 1973.

Mr. Slaughter came to McColl in 1947. He had been a member of the church since it was organized about 15 years ago. He served on the Board of Trustees and the Building Committee for a number of years. He was elected to a second term as Sunday School Superintendent. He always served as the janitor, a job which he said he loved.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dorothy Lane Slaughter of McColl; three daughters; one son, and one brother, all of Georgia.

Mrs. Gladys Norris was one of the newest members of the church. She served as assistant Sunday School teacher as long as her health permitted. She became an invalid about six months prior to her death.

She is survived by three daughters and two sons. One daughter of Matthews, N. C., one son of Charlotte, N. C., two daughters and one son of McColl.

Funeral services for both Mr. Slaughter and Mrs. Norris were held Wednesday afternoon at the church.

We are a small church and it was a heartbreaking experience to lose two members in one day. We are asking all Christians to pray for us.

Rev. Woodrow Richardson, Pastor.

Recently the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, S. C., crowned a Sunday School King and Queen.

The King and Queen were chosen by the largest number of votes. The votes

were one cent each. The campaign netted a total of \$378.00.

Picture below is the King, Todd Welch, and the Queen, Ann Reynolds.



PAMPLICO, S. C.:

Mt. Elon Free Will Baptist Church experienced the blessings of God on March 25 when the Free Will Baptist Bible College Choir sang to a packed auditorium and those who had to be seated in the educational building. Several pastors and members of churches in the surrounding community attended.

Our pastor, Rev. Bobby Glenn Smith,

prayed a dedicatory prayer and read Psalm 150 on February 18 as our Hamlin Pew Seat Cushions were used for the first time. Rev. Smith said that he hoped the cushions would make the services more comfortable for the elderly and younger parishioners and thereby aid in edifying the saints and winning the lost to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. Bobby Glenn Smith, Pastor.
Mrs. A. J. Turner, Jr., Reporter.

THE INFORMER

REV. J. B. SMITH, Editor

208½ WEST ELLIOTT STREET

CHESTER, S. C. 29706

Holy Land -

(Continued From Page 1)

preachers and set a date to see them.

If you would like to contact one of the preachers and cannot find his address, my address is: Rev. Ansel Smith, 78 Brooklyn Ave., Lancaster, S. C. 29720.