

# THE INFORMER

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

## State Association—Nov. 15 & 16



Rev. Ansel Smith

### MISSION GOAL \$1,500.00

On Thursday and Friday, November 15th and 16th, our annual State Association will be held with the Eastern Conference at the Millbranch Church between Kingsburg and Lake City just off Highway 378. Going from Lake City toward Kingsburg you turn right at Irvin Poston's Shell Station, and go two miles on the paved country road to the church.

We are making plans for the biggest and best state meeting we have ever had. We have a wonderful program planned, but unless we attend and pray for God's will to be done, it will all be in vain. We have 83 churches and

eight missions that are members of our State Association. Every pastor should do his best to be present. Every church should put forth a special effort to get at least one delegate to attend if possible. It is your State Association and it will only be as good as you make it. Let's pray and work to make this a God honoring meeting.

Also, remember that the church fee has gone up to \$20.00, and the conference fee per church has gone up to \$3.00. Our mission goal will have to come through the Thursday night missions offering. To reach this goal each church attending will need to bring a special offering with you, and the churches that mail their reports could help us by sending a mission offering along with the report.

## Pastor Of The Year

Rev. J. B. Smith, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Chester, has been selected as Pastor of the Year in the Beaver Creek Association. He was chosen for his outstanding work with his church, as well as work in the Association and in the state.

Rev. Smith is married to the former Mary Ann Trull from Canton, N. C. They are the parents of five children. He attended North Greenville Junior College, and graduated from the Piedmont Bible Institute in Cramerton, N. C.

He started his ministry in 1963 in mission work in Greenville. In October, 1965, he became pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Chester, where he has served for the past eight years.

We feel he has done an outstanding job and merits the honor as Pastor of the Year in the Beaver Creek Association.

He led his church last year in breaking every previous record the church held. This includes: receiving 46 new members, baptizing 37 new converts, and setting a new high attendance record for one Sunday of 227.

In the Beaver Creek Association he served as the Moderator, Clerk of the



Rev. J. B. Smith

Minister's Conference and Chairman of the Ordaining Council, and teacher at the Bible Institute. In the State Association he served as the Promotional Secretary and Editor of the state paper, *The Informer*. (Submitted by the Beaver Creek Selection Committee.)

I am going to fix us a mission poster showing the theme: "Where There Is No Vision People Perish." It will have a thermometer to register the gifts. We will call for the offerings by conferences, and make the mercury rise. Our state is not being evangelized, so let's pray for a vision of our state's needs. Souls are crying, souls are dying, let us win them whatever the cost.

By Moderator,  
Ansel Smith

### BEAVER CREEK BIBLE INSTITUTE:

The Beaver Creek Bible Institute reports record gains. The opening of the 1973-1974 school year showed 147 registered for classes. This is a 33 per cent increase over last year. The Institute has proved to be a great help to students, and to the churches they attend. The students are helped by earning a better knowledge of the Bible. The churches they attend are helped by being supplied with better officers and teachers. It has proved to be a great blessing to be able to fill our classrooms with teachers that have attended the Bible Institute. The evidence of the Bible Institute can be seen through our churches that are growing, building new buildings, renovating old buildings, and organizing missions.

# New Church Letter Forms

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — New multi-copy church letter forms have been approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptists and recommended for use by our local churches as a replacement for all previous forms. Sample copies of this new form were mailed to all quarterly meeting clerks in August.

The local church clerk will complete this letter once a year, retain one copy for church records and send three copies to the quarterly or district meeting. The district clerk will . . .

- (1) keep a copy for the district's records
- (2) mail one copy to the state clerk
- (3) send the other copy to the National Office

These new forms should be ordered before the next quarterly meeting from your state bookstore or Randall Bookstore, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. They sell for 75c per dozen (plus 10% shipping charge).

If these reports are distributed at the next quarterly meeting, or before the end of December, the church clerk can compile the statistical information which will coincide with the church records for the fiscal year of 1972.

The church will keep one copy and

send the completed letter to the first quarterly meeting after January 1, 1974 — and each year thereafter. This will allow adequate time for the information to be forwarded to the State Association and the National Association.

Rather than sending one copy at a time, the National Office requests that the quarterly meeting clerk secure all the letters from every church and then mail a copy of all the letter forms in one large envelope at one time to the state clerk and likewise to the National Association.

Although these new forms request more comprehensive information, the data is very essential to better evaluate our denominational work. The additional information will especially help the National Departments serve our churches more effectively.

In addition to the annual report forms, a shorter report (Number EX202) has been prepared for the church to use in reporting to the other three quarterly meetings during the year. These short forms may be ordered in quantity lots (30c per dozen), or an association may make necessary changes for their particular needs and mimeograph their own copies.

However, it is vital that associa-

tions cooperate in using the annual uniform letters in order to secure accurate statistical information at every level of our denominational work. We are counting on each association cooperating in this endeavor in order to advance our beloved denomination.

Rufus Coffey,  
Executive Secretary

## HEMINGWAY, S. C.:

Poplar Hill reports they held an old-fashioned Sunday, September 23rd. Long dresses, bonnets, overalls, etc. Had dinner on the ground. Lemonade in old-fashioned barrels. Chicken pileau from an old washpot. Plus a variety of other dishes. Had a record breaking crowd of 184 for Sunday School. A large family Bible was given to the one who brought the most. Mrs. Alice Fay Young won the Bible. She had 18 visitors. Rev. G. C. Jones brought the message. His text was taken from Philippians 4:12-13. His message was, "We Can Do Anything We Really Want To." Had a singing convention in the afternoon. The day was enjoyed by all.

We are planning to have our revival, beginning November 5, if the Lord willing. Everyone is invited. We are also planning to be in our new church in the near future, if the Lord willing.

Rev. Earl Johnson, Pastor  
Mrs. W. R. Calcutt, Reporter

## FOREIGN MISSIONS GIVING DOWN

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Department of Foreign Missions has announced a serious drop in missions giving over the past few months, making the annual budget considerably low for this time of year.

Mr. Harold Critcher, director of finance for the department, announced that receipts through September were \$27,519.00 below that projected in the budget for this time of year. With expenditures being heavy especially during the months of August and September due to rising costs, devaluation of the dollar on the fields and necessary field expenditures, mission funds reached a considerable low.

Many state quotas are down considerably. South Carolina presently stands at \$40,910.53 given out of a proposed amount of \$60,000.00 for 1973. Churches are urged to rally immediately to the cause to help lift the burden of the current monetary crisis.



Miss Rose Turner receives a family Bible from Rev. Bobby Glenn Smith, pastor of Mt. Elon Free Will Baptist Church, Pamplico. Rev. W. Glenn Hill was the evangelist. Miss Turner had 78 visitors in church during the week of revival (September 16-21). Three

other ladies entered the contest for the Bible and had the following number of visitors present: Mrs. Lade Evans, 55; Mrs. Linda Smith, 44; and Mrs. Margaret Poston, 38.

Mr. A. Z. Turner, chairman of the Deacon Board, said that the revival was the best attended in over 10 years.



CHURCH



NEW PARSONAGE



NEW FELLOWSHIP BUILDING

## Growing And Building

The Valley Falls Church has been blessed by the Lord so much we just don't know how to praise Him for it. We began our ministry here about three years ago and since then many souls have been saved and many have rededicated their lives to God. About 180 have united with the church. Our church membership is 335 and we have averaged in Sunday School for the last year about 200 in attendance.

Besides all these blessings, we have built a new parsonage and fellowship building.

Our church tithes of its income and supports foreign missions, home missions, Children's Home, Beaver Creek Bible Institute, Camp Ground and The Informer. We feel this has been one of the fastest growing churches in our state and it is dedicated to winning the lost to Christ. Pray that God's

blessings will continue to be with this fine church.

Rev. Carl Shook, Pastor

Note: This is another example of God's blessings on the Free Will Baptist Churches in the state of South Carolina. This seems to be a pattern over all the state. New buildings, people being saved, membership increasing and new missions being organized. To God be the glory, great things He hath done.

## Home Mission Board News

New appointees now doing itinerant work to raise support to go to the fields are:

**Rev. and Mrs. Ed Green**, Clovis, New Mexico; **Rev. and Mrs. Leland Horton**, Des Moines, Iowa; and **Rev. and Mrs. Gary Watson**, Hawaii. The Greens were involved in a car accident September 7 while driving to an itinerant service in Texas. The car was totally demolished but Ed and Linda were not seriously hurt. Pray for these missionaries as they continue to raise their finances.

**Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Barron**, missionaries to Mexico, announce the birth of their new son, **Timothy**, August 19, 1973. They are praying that since the birth of a child in Mexico, that the Lord may use this as a means to help them get their permanent residence papers in that country. The Barrons and missionary **Dave Cochrane** report

classes have begun for this school year in the Institute of Mexico. They have nine students this year, six of them from the church pastored by **Felix Zuniga** at El Higo, Veracruz.

Joint projects in several states are reporting progress with their works. **Rev. James Rice**, Greer, S. C., reports his group has outgrown the mobile chapel and is in need for a building. We praise God for the progress made in the work in Crossville, Tenn., pastored by **Joe England**. They have acquired eight acres of land and are selling \$40,000.00 worth of bonds to build their first unit. The **Jason Salyers** have begun conducting services in Shelby, N. C. Pray that they will be able to find people who will be interested in forming a nucleus for a Free Will Baptist Church. Missionaries **Rev. and Mrs. Ken Walker**, Mobile, Ala., report a consistent growth of the

church there. The church has acquired property in a good location and will pay off its indebtedness by the end of the year. We also praise God for a good revival meeting just concluded in Jackson, Tenn., with Joint Project worker, **Rev. Norlin Jones**. **Rev. Roy Thomas** was the evangelist and reports that souls were saved and the church there gave \$300.00 for National Home Missions.

**Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Dunn**, missionaries to Boise, Idaho, report an attendance of 83 in Sunday School for September 2nd. The church is growing but is in great need to find property where they can locate permanently.

Pray for **Rev. and Mrs. Larry Russell** as they locate a house to live in in the city of Baton Rouge, La., and also as they look for a place to conduct services.

E. B. Ledlow  
Director of Field Personnel



# Special Report Of The Executive Committee And Moderators Of Each District Conference State Assoc.

Meeting was held September 7-8 at Lancaster. Those attending were: Rev. Ansel Smith, State Moderator; Rev. Sam Truett, Assistant State Moderator and Moderator South Carolina Conference; Rev. J. B. Smith, State Promotional Secretary and Moderator Beaver Creek Association; Rev. Hoyt Powell, Assistant Moderator Eastern Conference; Rev. Earl Hendrix, State Clerk.

Why does the State Association need a State Promotional Secretary? Listed are some of the reasons we feel why our State needs a Promotional Secretary:

1. His office will unify, correlate,

## Home Mission News

Dear Prayer Partners:

Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord!

Since the last of May we have traveled 25,000 miles, preached over 100 sermons, seen many decisions for Christ, traveled in 14 states, and have been marveled at the mighty working hand of God.

Linda and I really do appreciate the support you have given to us and especially the prayer support. While traveling in the state I was able to raise \$1,000.37 in cash and \$287.00 in faith promises or in better terms \$3,444.00 will be given by the South Carolina state people to the Clovis account.

We have just come from the state of New Mexico and while there we did some survey work. The field looks real promising. We have as of now two families going with us — one family has five, the other three. There are five Bible College students making preparations to work with us for some-time there. We have figured there will be about 30 people to start our church there. So God is moving in our lives.

May God bless you all is our prayer!  
For Calvary's Cause,  
Ed and Linda Green

II Timothy 1:36 — "... that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day."

and organize our state work to better evangelize the entire state.

2. Set goals and lead the direction of our state toward those goals.

3. Keep the state informed as to the needs and accomplishments of our state work.

4. More effectively use the news media to publicize Free Will Baptist denominational work in this state.

5. To plan and promote the State Associational Meeting and make it the SPIRITUAL HIGHLIGHT of the year.

6. Provide a Christian Book Store. Through its operation to aid and assist our churches and people in securing supplies and services needed to help them do a better job for the Lord. Listed are some of the services in mind:

- A. Church Insurance
- B. Church Financing (Bond Program)
- C. Bus Insurance
- D. Church Furnishings (Pews, Pulpit, Steeples, Baptismal Pools, etc.)
- E. Teachers Training and Material
- F. Bible School Supplies
- G. Christian Films
- H. Books and Bibles . . . and many other items.

7. Publish the State Newspaper, "The Informer."

8. Assist churches when they are without a pastor.

9. Assist pastors when they are without a church.

10. And many other things that we are sure you can think of.

We feel that you now have a general

idea why we need a State Promotional Secretary. Now, here is a three-year program that could assist us in hiring a full-time Promotional Secretary. This is for your study and prayerful consideration:

1. **FIRST YEAR** — The Promotional Secretary will visit each Conference twice. Start a traveling Book Store. Promote a three-year plan to make the office a full-time ministry. Have a newspaper every other month (as it is being done now). Salary \$500.00 plus mileage.

2. **SECOND YEAR** — Visit each Conference three times. Continue the Book Store (increase if possible). Continue to promote towards a full-time ministry. Continue the newspaper (same as first year). Salary \$800.00 plus mileage.

3. **THIRD YEAR** — Full-time State Promotional Secretary with walk-in Christian Book Store. Newspaper every month. Visit local churches and District Meetings.

Note: Full-time salary, duties, location of book store, and clerical help will be recommended to the State Association for their approval in the future by the Executive Committee **BEFORE** the full-time Promotional Secretary is hired.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Ansel Smith,  
State Moderator

Rev. Sam Truett,  
Assistant State Moderator

Rev. Earl Hendrix,  
State Clerk

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