

THE INFORMER



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

SEPTEMBER /
OCTOBER
1993

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

CHILDREN'S HOME DAY

South Avenue Changes Name On 40th. Anniversary

South Avenue FWB Church, Lancaster, SC celebrated their 40th anniversary on Sunday, August 8. Special guest speakers were two former pastors; Rev. Ansel Smith and Rev. Mitchell Davis. Brother Ansel holds the record of having the longest pastorate with the church and Brother Davis is the oldest of pastors who served the church.

They also had a gospel singing with the Chapelette Gospel Group from Gaffney, SC as the featured singers. After the morning service the congregation enjoyed a delicious dinner meal and fellowship together in the church's fellowship building.

This was a very special day in the life of the church. For forty years the church has been known as South Avenue Free Will Baptist Church. It was named after the street that the church is located on. Since they have plans to relocate the church the current name would not be appropriate, so they named it CANAAN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH. They dissolved the membership of South Avenue Church and established a charter membership of 77 in Canaan FWB Church. Recently the church pastor, Dale McCoy, baptized 8 people and has 3 more awaiting baptism.

Some years ago the church purchased a tract of land with frontage on US Highway 521 Southeast of Lancaster and constructed a multipurpose building. In recent years they have purchased another tract of land with frontage on US 521 by-pass and connects on the backside with the first tract of land purchased.

The church has elected a building committee and they are working toward constructing a new church facility on the new property.

**10 - AM
Saturday, November 6
Open House**

**11 - AM
Welcome-Special Guest,
Board Members,
Visitors, And Preaching**

**12 - Noon
Dinner And Fellowship**

**Afternoon Gospel
Singing**

***New Covenant, Florence, SC
Malloy Brothers, Cheraw, SC***

Pastor McCoy stated, "The church has regained a spirit of enthusiasm about growing and working toward relocating and building a new facility".

Pastor To People

**By Leroy Lowery, Pastor
Southside FWB Church
Darlington, SC 29532**

In Psalms 27:14 the Bible says, "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait I say on the Lord". You know, God is never too early nor too late. He has everything under control. When the time was just right, He brought the Jews out of Egypt. When the time was just right, He rescued Jonah from the whale. When the time was just right, He sent His Son. And when the time is just right, He will send Jesus to come again and take us home to heaven. We must learn to be patient and

wait on God to answer our prayers. Of course, there are times when we could "put legs" on some prayers and take care of our own needs. But what this verse is talking about are those things that only God can do. He says first of all to wait on the Lord. That means to confidently trust Him, expecting Him to answer your prayer. Then He says to be of good courage. God is constantly encouraging us in His Word to fear not, to be of good courage. We are so full of fear and doubt that God must constantly remind us to not be afraid. Then He says that God will strengthen thine heart. That is where the struggle is really taking place, deep down inside where no one else knows about it but you and God. And that is the very place God will come with His great strength and do a work that only He can do. Fear not dear ones, you that are struggling today. Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart.

An Open Letter To Free Will Baptists From The Hackett Family

We want to thank each of you for all you have, are and will be doing in raising funds for the "Pam Hackett Medical Fund." As you know, Pam has Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis - a rare liver disease. It is a hardening/scarring of the bile ducts, veins, etc. in the liver. It is a progressive terminal liver disease. The symptoms include itching, nausea, pain, fever, and fatigue. There is no treatment available outside of a liver transplant.

The criterion for a liver transplant has to be met physically, mentally, and financially. Pam has been going through extensive pre-liver transplant diagnostic testing. As of now, she will have to have a liver transplant, but the doctors want to wait as long as possible due

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Aiken, SC To Get Free Will Baptist Church



Rev. and Mrs Mark (Karon) Barber

The South Carolina Free Will Baptist Home Mission Board has selected Aiken, SC for the next home mission work. The actual church planting will begin as soon as the missionary raises his support.

Mark Barber, a native of Alabama, has been hired by the board as the missionary. He came with the missions board from a pastorate with First FWB Church, Blakeley GA. He with his wife, Karon and their two children Daniel and Lauren moved to Aiken in late July.

This is a joint effort between the South Carolina Home Mission Board and the National Home Mission Department. There are many advantages to a joint project with the National Department. One is that the missionary has a broader area of support.

Brother Mark's itinerant for the months of August through November will be in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and other states. Hopefully he will be available in South Carolina in December and the early months of 1994. South Carolina pastors will receive more detailed information by mail.

This is the second project for the SC State Board. The first one was in Orangeburg, SC. The Lord used Brother Earl Hanna and his wife, Bernice, to establish a fine church there; the only Free Will Baptist Church in Orangeburg County. The church is in an excellent location, with very fine facilities, and it is debt free.

SC Free Will Baptist are encouraged to cooperate, pray, give and work so the Lord can perform a miracle in Aiken, SC. The state home mission board is reaching out to areas untouched by Free Will Baptists. This will be the only Free Will Baptist Church in all of Aiken County. However, let's pray that

the Lord will raise up other churches in Orangeburg and Aiken.

Chesnee Mission News James Childers, Missionary

The Chesnee FWB Mission work is progressing well. Given here are some quotes from a recent news letter from Brother Childers.

"Our attendance was a little lower than last month, but the results of the past months are being seen. For instance, we had 5 to join with us as new members, 6 souls saved and 7 to rededicate thier lives to the Lord. Isn't that GREAT! We are seeing some tremendous spiritual growth in the lives of our members...tithing, witnessing, faithfulness, involvement in the choir, special music, cleaning the church, and nursery workers. This is a good sign of spiritual growth.

We averaged 41 in Sunday School, 53 in the Sunday morning worship hour, 50 on Sunday evening and 33 in the Wednesday night service." Remember these fine folks in your prayers and if you are in the area visit with them.

South Carolina Foreign Missionary News

BOBBY AND GENEVA POOLE-BRAZIL

The Pooles recent newsletter had a very interesting title, "Building The Church Through Visitation". Why is this title interesting? For two reasons. 1) It contains words that are not used much anymore and states a method that is not practiced very much. 2) It is a method that works when it is worked. It works because it is God's method. The first words in the Great Commissions are "Go Ye". Here are a few quotes from their newsletter. "During the month of May the church had a special visitation campaign cooperating with "Eternity-One Million" of Word of Life in which a questionnaire was filled out and an especially prepared tract used". "Four class hours were given to prepare the group of sixteen who desired to learn how to witness. During the break the group had a lunch of delicious American hot dogs and coconut cream pie. Brazilians really like these American foods". "Twelve people, along with the pastor, have been knocking on doors. One hundred sixty plus contacts have been made. There have been 23 salvation decisions and 3 decisions to return to church." "It is interesting that in the first one hundred contacts only one Christian answered the door. These were made going from door

to door around the Second FWB Church. All total not more than a half dozen Christians have been found". Other news reveal discipleship classes, tract distribution, baptisms, etc. It is good to hear this good news from the Pooles. Pray for them, their people and their ministry.

RON AND LINDA MOORE - IVORY COAST, WEST AFRICA. Ron and Linda are in the states on their first furlough. They will be returning to Africa on September 28 for their second term of service. They expressed their thanks for your faithful prayer and financial support. This has enabled them to return to the field.

MIRIAL GAINER-JAPAN. Mirial is currently on itinerant raising her needed funds to return to Japan in January 1994. She would like to visit in your church and share with you the ministry she expects to have. If you would like to have her visit your church call the Promotional Office. 803/662-8682.

JIM AND KAREN COWART. This is a quote from Jim's recent news letter. "This time we follow the truck to the First FWB Church in Uberlandia, Brazil. For almost year now we've prayed for the Lord direction as to where He wants us to serve Him in Brazil. The Lord was not ready for us to go to Uberlandia when we first arrived back in Brazil. In His time, the Lord opened all the right doors to move us to this new place of service. In the mean time, the Lord kept us busy helping the little congregation in Bandeirantes. The Lord blessed abundantly there, helping us to readjust back to a Brazilian ministry after a five year absence from Brazil. Brethren, Romans 8:28 is still true and working in the lives of those who are called according to His Purpose" The Cowarts request that you pray for them as they enter this new ministry. (New Address) Missionary Jim Cowart, C.P. 3023, 38421-970 Uberlandia, MG, Brazil, SA.

CARLISLE AND MARIE HANNA-INDIA. Carlisle and Marie have set a goal to establish 100 Free Will Baptist Churches in India by the year 2000. They have given their lives and resources for this ministry. Can we do less than to pray and give of our finances so that the Lord can bless it and accomplish this goal. In a recent letter from Carlisle he expressed that his current plans are to return to the states in the summer of 1994 and remain through Christmas. He will return to India in early 1995 and remain until April 1996. They convey their love and sincere appreciation for your prayers and support.



Sherwood And Vada Lee

Missionaries Sherwood And Vada Lee Resign

Veteran Missionaries Sherwood and Vada Lee have resigned from the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Department. This was one of the most difficult decisions Sherwood and Vada have ever had to make. In a letter to his supporters he stated, "When we went out as your missionaries we had no intention of resigning. We went to the mission field with a life time commitment".

The reason for their resignation is best described in a paragraph from his news letter. "Many of you have heard that Vada was diagnosed as having Lupus in 1991. We have prayed and hoped it would go in remission but the symptoms persist and have increased. She has been teaching school even though she has suffered from much fatigue. However, she will not be teaching in the 93-94 school year. After talking to her physician, we decided that being out a year might help her physical condition to improve". Vada and Sherwood are very hopeful that her health will improve so they can return to the mission field.

Sherwood is a native South Carolinian from the Bethany Community of Timmonsville, SC and Vada is a native of Searcy, Arkansas. They left for the field of Ivory Coast, West Africa in 1968. Sherwood is a registered nurse with extensive experience and training in that profession. He served in Africa as a medical and general missionary. He and Vada were stationed at Doropo, Ivory Coast, West Africa. The medical services he performed at the Free Will Baptist Hospital in Doropo were in the capacity of doctor and nurse. Sherwood and Vada were privileged to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the patients, the people in Doropo and those in the bush villages.

Brother Lee is pastor of Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward, SC and Vada is actively involved in the ministry with him.

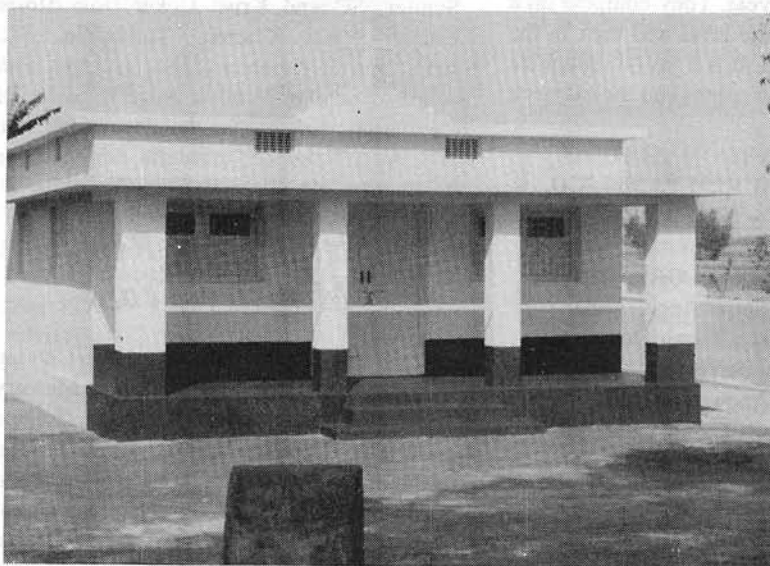
Sherwood is also employed at McLeod Regional Medical Center in the department of cardiology as a patient care supervisor.

Sand Hill FWB Contributes \$5,519.00 For India Church

Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Coward, SC gave \$5,519.62 to build a church building in India. When Carlisle and Marie Hanna, our missionaries to India, were home on their last brief furlough Carlisle made known a need for church buildings and motorcycles. The motorcycles are used by the Indian pastors for evangelism efforts and travel to their congregations. South Carolina churches have given about \$35,000.00 to Brother Carlisle for these needs.

Sand Hill FWB Church was the first church to raise the amount needed to construct a church building.

The picture of the building below was constructed by Carlisle for the congregation at Puthia with the funds sent by Sand Hill. Pastor Sherwood Lee stated that he would like to raise funds to purchase a mat (rug) for the floor. The churches do not have pews, chairs or other means of seating. The people sit on the mat or rug covering the concrete floor. They sit through the entire service without complaining, looking at their watches, or rushing out to get involved in some other activity. They enjoy and rejoice in the opportunity to worship God through singing, testimonies and prayer. They not only rejoice in fellowship with God their redeemer, but also with one another. Thank God for those who have given to provide them with a place more conducive and comfortable for worship. A great big thank you is extended to all of the churches that gave to meet this need.



Free Will Baptist Church At Puthia, North India



Pastor Lee Presents Plaque From Carlisle To Deacon Board Chairman Ronald Matthews. In Appreciation For Church Bldg.



Bible College News Briefs

CAMPUS REVIVAL-
SEPTEMBER 6-9 Dr.

Tom Farrell, internationally known evangelist will conduct the campus revival. Dr Farrell has been associated for 16 years with The Wilds Christian Youth Camp and Conference Center. For 11 years he led The Wilds Evangelistic Team. The Bible College graduate has preached on college campuses, in churches, at camps and on mission fields. He describes his style as "scriptural, simple and straight-forward." He adds, " My goals are to exalt the Savior, evangelize the sinner and encourage the saint."

FALL SEMESTER BEGAN AUGUST 25.

At this printing the total number of students enrolled for the fall semester is not known, nor the number of South Carolina students included in the student body. This information will be given in the next Informer.

FALL WELCOME DAYS-NOVEMBER 18-20.

Last year the college experienced a record number for this event and they expect even a larger number this November. It would be wise to get your reservation in early. Churches should endeavor to get each of their junior and senior high school students to attend this event. It provides an opportunity for them to sample Christian college life and learn what they NEXT PAGE

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have to offer in training. Most important is that the spiritual atmosphere provides an opportunity for God to speak to them about His will for their life.

Southeastern FWB College News

FALL SEMESTER BEGINS. Classes for the fall semester of the 1993-94 school year began on August 25. The total enrollment and the number of South Carolina students included in the student body is not known at this time. This information will be given in the November-December edition of The Informer.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE. The college's annual missionary conference will be held October 21-22, 1993. Speakers will be Dr. M. A. Thomas, founder of Christ for India; the Howard Guartney Family, missionaries to Pheonix, AZ; Hament Patel, and Professor Danny Baer.

GET ACQUAINTED DAYS. This event is scheduled for Thursday-Friday, November 4-6. Pastors and youth leaders are encouraged to bring your junior high and high school students to the college and share in the activities of this three day event. They will experience college life and learn what the college has to offer in educational opportunities.

SC Contestants Win Big In NYC

Four South Carolina Churches had winners in the National Youth Conference competition in Louisville KY, July 18-22. These contestants and their coaches work hard in practice during the year. They compete on a conference level, state level and then in the national competition. It is a joy to recognize them by printing their names and the category in which they won.

BEULAH FWB CHURCH-PAMPLICO.
**MUSIC AND ARTS-TEXTILES,CROSS
STITCH.** Shannon Bazen.

FIRST FWB CHURCH-FLORENCE.
VOCAL SEXTET. Sarah Ange, Anna Bazen, Jeannie Broach, Sarah Donica, Lisa Hickman, and Michelle Howell. **TEEN CHORALE.** Sarah Ange, Anna Bazen, Jeannie Broach, Sarah Donica, Lisa Hickman, Michelle Howell, Sherri Howell, Heather Sports, Jennifer Street, Jay Poston, Jonathon Poston, Matthew Sarver and Forrest Stanley. **TEEN CHOIR (3rd YEAR WINNERS).** Names are the same as above with these additions; Chad Munn, Josh Poston, Timmy Wright, and Tommy

Wright. **STRING ENSEMBLE-Mandolin & Guitar (3rd YEAR WINNERS).** Jay Poston and Forrest Stanley. **ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD (2ND YEAR WINNER).** Anna Bazen. **KEYBOARD SEXTET (Piano).** Sarah Ange, Anna Bazen, Lisa Hickman, Michelle Howell, Sherri Howell and Amber Miller. Two pianos are used with three girls on each and all playing at the same time.

JEFFERSON ROAD FWB CHURCH-SUMTER. **KEYBOARD SOLO (Piano).** Jennifer Ange.

HORSE BRANCH FWB CHURCH-TURBEVILLE. **DUET ACTING.** Kullen Welch and Gowdy Cannon. **DRAMA TEAM.** Corrie Coker, Gowdy Cannon, Ashley Cannon, Monte McKensie and Stacy Driggers.

PEACE FWB CHURCH-FLORENCE. **INSTRUMENTAL SOLO (Violin).** Daniel Miles. **INSTRUMENTAL DUET (Violin).** Daniel and David Miles.

SAND HILL FWB CHURCH-COWARD. **KEYBOARD SOLO (Piano).** Denton Matthews.

Two SC Youth Selected For 94 YET Team

Each Year at the National Youth Conference twelve high school students are selected to serve on the National Youth Evangelistic Team. The selection is based on the youth scoring the highest in their Church Training Service competition. The two selected from South Carolina are Jennifer Ange from Jefferson Road FWB Church, Sumter, SC and Kristi Coker from Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville, SC. Jennifer is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Phil Ange of Sumter. Brother Ange is pastor of the church. Kristi is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Coker of Turbeville, SC. They are members of the Horse Branch Church.

Westside Host Rejoice Ministry Team

Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Johnsonville, SC hosted The Rejoice Ministry Team from Free Will Baptist Bible College on Friday night, August 6. Kristi Hanna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Hanna, and a member of Westside Church is a member of this team. Kristi is a fine, dedicated Christian young lady and I'm sure her presence on the team made this an extra

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special occasion for her parents and the folks at Westside.

A number of churches in the area supported this event by taking their young people to the service. They packed out Westside Church with standing room only. It is estimated that more than 350 people attended.

The 15-voice Rejoice Team under the direction of Dr. Vernon Whaley, director of the music department at the college, blessed and challenged those present with singing and testimonies.

The team traveled and conducted services in fourteen midwestern and eastern states throughout the summer.



LR-Phillip Sean Fortner, Harriet Melissa Ann Gilbert and David Eugene Seay

Three Graduates In ICA Class Of 93

Inman Christian Academy, Inman, SC held its commencement exercises on Friday night, May 29. The 1993 graduating class consisted of three seniors, Phillip Sean Fortner, Harriet Melissa Ann Gilbert and David Eugene Seay. Rick Jagers, pastor of First FWB Church, Charleston, SC and a former principal of the school, delivered the commencement message.

The auditorium was filled to capacity with many family members, relatives and friends of the graduates who came to support them on this landmark day in their lives.

Sean will be attending Bob Jones University, in Greenville, SC. Melissa will be attending Southeastern FWB College, Wendell, NC. At graduation David was undecided about his future plans.

ICA is a ministry of First FWB Church in Inman. Earl Hendrix is pastor of the church and Jeff Cochran is principal of the school.

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Lee Takes Pastorate At Sand Hill

Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward, SC has called Sherwood Lee as their pastor. Brother Sherwood is a former missionary to Ivory Coast, West Africa and a native of the Bethany Community of Timmonsville, SC. Bethany Free Will Baptist was his home church. He was ordained by the South Carolina Conference October 28, 1962 and has been a member of the conference from his ordination.

Prior to going to the mission field in 1968 he pastored Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward, SC. During furlough time he served Hillside FWB Church, Florence, SC as interim pastor and Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham, SC on two occasions as interim pastor. Before his official call on June 19, 1993 to pastor the Sand Hill Church, he served the church in the absence of their former pastor, Brother Charles Brown, due to an extended illness. Brother Brown resigned at the end of December 1992 and Sherwood continued serving the church as interim pastor.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Bible and missions from Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN and an Associate Degree in nursing from Florence-Charlton Technical College in Florence, SC. He has also attended Francis Marion University in Florence.

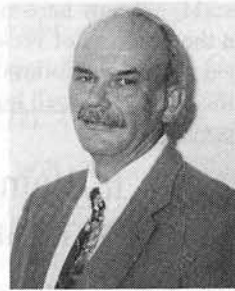
Pastor Lee is married to the former Vada Wilson of Searcy Arkansas. Vada served as a missionary in Ivory Coast, West Africa with Sherwood. She is actively involved in the church, serving as an adult teacher, in the music program and working with the youth activities.

Vada attended Free Will Baptist Bible College and the University of South Carolina. She is an honor graduate (Magna Cum Laude) of Francis Marion University holding a Bachelor of Science Degree in elementary education. She has also completed the requirements for a Master's Degree in elementary education and will graduate in December. Vada has served as a teacher in Florence School District one for six years.

They have two children; Robert Lee, an attorney with the law firm of Wright, Powers and McIntosh in Florence and Kathryn Lee, a secretary with McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence.

We certainly would prefer that they were serving in Ivory Coast, West Africa, but since that is not possible at this time it is a joy to have them serving the Lord at Sand Hill, in the South Carolina Conference and our state.

Barker New Pastor At Sweet Home



Brother Carl Barker, a native of Chatmanville, West Virginia assumed the pastorate of Sweet Home FWB Church, Socastee, SC in June of this year. He was saved as a young person in another Baptist group. He later joined Guyan FWB Church in Harts, West Virginia. While there he served the church as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher for junior age children and adults. It was here that he surrendered to the call to preach and was ordained in 1983 by the Logan Conference of West Virginia FWB Churches.

He moved to Myrtle Beach, SC in 1986 and joined with the Socastee FWB Church; serving there as associate pastor, assistant Sunday School Superintendent, adult Sunday School and CTS teacher.

Under his leadership at Sweet Home the church has undertaken a Sunday morning radio ministry, established a CTS program and reinstated the Woman's Auxiliary. The radio program airs each Sunday morning at 7-AM over station WJXY.

Pastor Barker is married to the former Lois Jean Frye, a native of Harts, West Virginia. They have one daughter, Ladonna Barker of Myrtle Beach.

McCoy Called To Canaan



Dale McCoy, a native of Franklin, NC was called as pastor of Canaan FWB Church (formerly known as South Avenue FWB Church) in May 1993.

Pastor McCoy attended Free Will Baptist Bible College from 1980 to 1982. He was ordained by the Beaver Creek Association in 1984.

He served Fairview FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC as Youth Pastor for five years. He also served as pastor for Homers Chapel FWB Church, Black Mountain, NC, Oak Grove FWB Church, Granville, NC and Fellowship FWB Church, Dunn, NC.

Brother McCoy is married to the former Julie Cooper, a native of Melton, West Virginia.



Rev. And Mrs. Kenneth Upright

Liberty Manning Honors Pastor And Wife

Liberty FWB Church, Manning, SC held a surprise "Pastor Appreciation Day" for their pastor, Kenneth Upright and his wife Evelyn on Fathers Day, June 20. Their children and grandchildren were contacted and invited to share in the joyful occasion.

Brother Butch Baggett presented Brother Upright with a gift wrapped box which he thought was a gift. As he began to open it tense excitement arose. When the first box was opened he only found another wrapped box. When he opened the second box it contain a third box. The third box was opened and in it was a bell and instructions to ring it five times for his surprise. On the fifth ring Brother John Richburg came down the church isle with a box that contained a Panasonic color printer for brother Upright's IBM computer. The church also gave Brother Kenneth and Sister Evelyn a check for over \$400.00. Both were speechless momentarily and with tear filled eyes thanked the church for their generosity.

It is a great thing for a church to show its love and appreciation for their pastor.

Quote Worth Noting

"There is no limit to the amount of good a man can do if he doesn't care who gets the credit for it".

NOTICE

The two listed ministers are no longer affiliated with The Palmetto Conference of Free Will Baptist.
Rev. Perry Faile & Rev. Joe Wilks

HACKETT CONTINUED FROM PAGE - 1
to the risk involved at this stage of the disease. However, this does not eliminate the need to raise the \$160,000.00. It must be available at the time of the surgery. This will give us more time to prepare for the surgery, both physically and financially.

If you have any questions concerning this please feel free to call us at 803/585-6167 - 803/5838924. Much prayer has gone up in behalf of Pam. Specific answers to prayer have come because of this. Please continue to pray for Pam. We serve a God who is able. Once again, thank you for all you do. Tim and Pam Hackett.

In Memory Of Jesse Raleigh Norris

Mr. Jesse Raleigh Norris, a native of Conway, SC went to be with the Lord on Thursday, June 17, 1993, at age 77.

Funeral services were held at 4:30 PM on Saturday, June 19 at his home church, Mt. Ariel Free Will Baptist, Conway, SC. Officiating were his pastor, Larry Bell and his son-in-law, Earl Johnson, pastor of Poplar Hill FWB Church, Hemingway, SC. Burial was in the church cemetery conducted by Goldfinch Funeral Home of Conway.

He is survived by his wife, Winnie Lee Jenkins Norris of Conway; four sons, Jesse Norris, Jr., Lendale Norris, Joel Dean Norris and DeWayne Norris all of Conway; Buelah Ann Johnson of Hemingway, SC, Linda Lawson of Florence, SC, Ada Turner of Conway, Debbie Manganello of Upland Indiana, Wanza Alford of Aynor, SC and Donna Bell of Loris; three brothers, twenty grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Prior to his retirement he was a farmer, carpenter, a foreman with Conway Furniture Industries for many years and the founder and owner of J & N Cabinet Shop.

Brother Norris was saved about 1947, was baptized and joined Mt. Ariel FWB Church, where he served the Lord until his death. He was a deacon for about 45 years, a Sunday School teacher, clerk and treasurer of the church. He also served a period of time as treasurer of the Central Association of FWB Churches. He displayed an humble spirit and was known as a man of God that was fully dedicated, committed and faithful to the Lord, his family and his church. His life exemplified a true Christian gentleman. We owe a debt of gratitude to Brother Norris, and other men and women like him, who were faithful servants of the Lord and blazed the trail for Christ as Free Will Baptist. They have left us a rich heritage.

One of his favorite scripture passages was Psalms chapter 23. He experienced the blessings of verses 1-5 while living in this

world, but now he is enjoying and rejoicing in the blessings of verse 6, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever".

In Memory Of Mrs. Edna Purvis

Mrs. Edna Brown Purvis, a native of the Sand Hill Community in Florence County, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, June 30, 1993, at age 74. Death resulted from being hit by a car on Irby Street in Florence.

Funeral services were held at 11-AM in Waters-Powell Funeral Home on Friday July 2. Officiating were her pastor, David Aycock and Sherwood Lee, a long time friend of Mrs. Purvis and Pastor of Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward, SC. Special singing consisted of a solo by Vada Lee and a duet consisting of Pastor Aycock and his wife Annette. They were accompanied by Mrs. Edra Saverance at the organ.

Interment was in Gause Cemetery conducted by Waters-Powell Funeral Home.

Surviving are three sons, Edward Dale Purvis, Paul Layton Purvis and Jesse Keith Purvis, III, all of Florence; three grandchildren, four sisters and one brother.

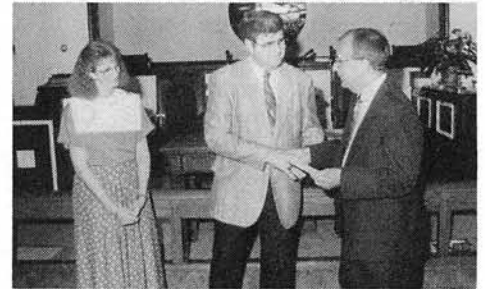
Sister Purvis was saved at about the age of 16. She was baptized and joined Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church. Some time after her marriage the family moved to Pee Dee, SC and resided there until moving to Florence in 1960.

At age 30 she became extremely concerned about her relationship with God and dedicated her life fully to Jesus Christ. She was a charter member of First FWB Church in Florence, which was the first Free Will Baptist Church in the city. In the early 1970's she became a charter member of Fellowship FWB Church in Florence.

The words "meekness and faithfulness" best describe the life of this dear saint of God. She manifested a quite, meek personality. She was faithful in the attendance to the services of her church, faithful in serving the Lord in her church and a faithful mother, working hard and raising her children alone, always trusting the Lord to provide for them. A favorite means for her to serve the Lord was with the Woman's Auxiliary, where she held the office of secretary. She also served as a Sunday School teacher and was the church historian.

John 16:33 was a special scripture verse to her where Jesus says, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulations: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" Sister Purvis experienced the

tribulations of this world, but also victory in Christ and His peace that passeth all understanding. By the power of the Spirit of God that indwelt her she exemplified the Christian lady. She left a testimony that her family and friends can rejoice in. She is now in heaven having been released from the limitations of the earthly body and free to fully rejoice in the presence of the Christ she loved and served.



LR-Pam Hackett, Tim Hackett, Pastor
McAlister Presenting Check

Gilead Contributes \$1,200 For Hackett Medical Fund

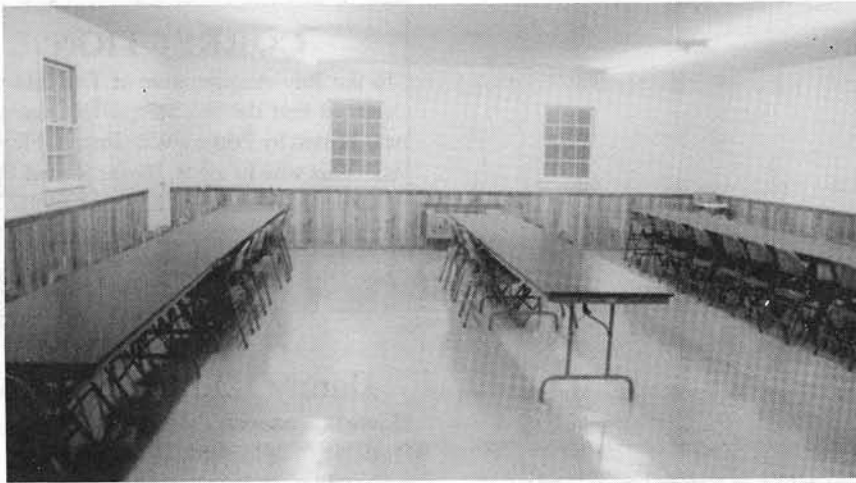
Gilead Free Will Baptist Church, Lake City, SC held a special service on Wednesday night, August 25 in recognition of the tremendous medical financial need of Pam Hackett, wife of Tim Hackett, pastor of Fairview FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC. Pam has a terminal liver disease and must have a liver transplant, which will cost in excess of \$160,000.00. Their medical insurance will only pay up to \$100,000.00. She is on the waiting list for a liver donor.

Tim and Pam were present in the service. Brother Tim delivered the evening message and Pam gave a testimony of God's sustaining grace during her illness.

The church gift, their Bible School offering and the offering received at the service totaled \$1,214.93.

Many of our churches have given generously to this need. As of August 28 South Carolina FWB Churches and individuals have contributed \$6,809.84 to this need. The Hacketts are very grateful for this financial help and for your prayers.

(Editors note: There have been a number of emergency needs in recent years. The flood victims in Missouri and Illinois, Pam Hackett, Hurricane Andrew, ect. South Carolina Free Will Baptists have responded generously to these needs. At the end of August more than \$4,000.00 has come in for the flood victims. Your Promotional Director extends to you his sincere gratitude for your generosity.



Interior View Of New Fellowship Hall

Pamplico Adds Fellowship Building

Pamplico FWB Church, Pamplico, SC had "Children's Home Day" on Sunday, July 30. It was the first opportunity for the congregation to enjoy the comfort of their new fellowship building.

Construction on the 900 square foot facility addition began in November 1992 and was completed in May 1993 at a cost of 15,000.00. Mr. W. C. Edwards, a retired contractor, supervised the work with the labor being donated by himself and other members of the congregation. This accounts for the low construction cost. A \$10,000.00 gift was given toward the construction by one individual.

The addition consist of two rest rooms, a large fully equipped kitchen and a dining area that will seat 85 people. A portion of the former fellowship hall can be used as an

overflow seating area. It is a very attractive addition to the church facility.

Pastor Sigbee Dilda and his folks are to be commended for this outstanding accomplishment.

This is Brother Dilda's second tenure with the church as pastor. His first pastorate was for three years, 1967-70. He has entered his fourth year in his current pastorate.



View Of Kitchen Area

maintenance free.

The home consist of a large combination kitchen and dining area, a large living room with a beautiful fire place, three bedrooms, two full bathrooms, pastor's study, closets, utility room and a one car garage. The interior decor is beautiful and gives it a homey atmosphere.

Due to the strict building codes in the area the congregation was limited on the labor they could contribute. Most of the construction was sub-contracted.

Pastor Franklin, a native of Spartanburg, is beginning his fifth year with the church. He and his wife, the former Valerie Covil, also a native of Spartanburg, have one daughter, Nikki, age 13 and one son, James, age 8.

The former parsonage was a single wide trailer home. It is always gratifying to see churches doing things to make life for the pastor and his family more pleasant and comfortable.



Having A Ball At Youth Camp

Youth Camp At Camp Beaver Lake

As you can see in the above picture Free Will Baptist Young People had a great time at Youth Camp. Yes, the volleyball you see is the actual size; no trick photograph. Youth Camp provides a well rounded program; Bible study, preaching, recreation and social activities. All reports indicate a good camp was had this year. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND NEXT YEAR.

Call For Special Prayer

For our Free will Baptist people and others in the Charleston, SC area who will be loosing their jobs due to the closing of the Navy Ship Yard, Naval Base and other defense facilities. When all of these facilities are closed Charleston will be hit hard economically. God can enable these folks to overcome this difficult situation. PLEASE PRAY TO THAT END. Our people will be effected directly and indirectly who belong to First FWB Church in Charleston. Riggers is the pastor. And Freedom FWB Church in nearby Ladson. Johnny Evans is the pastor.

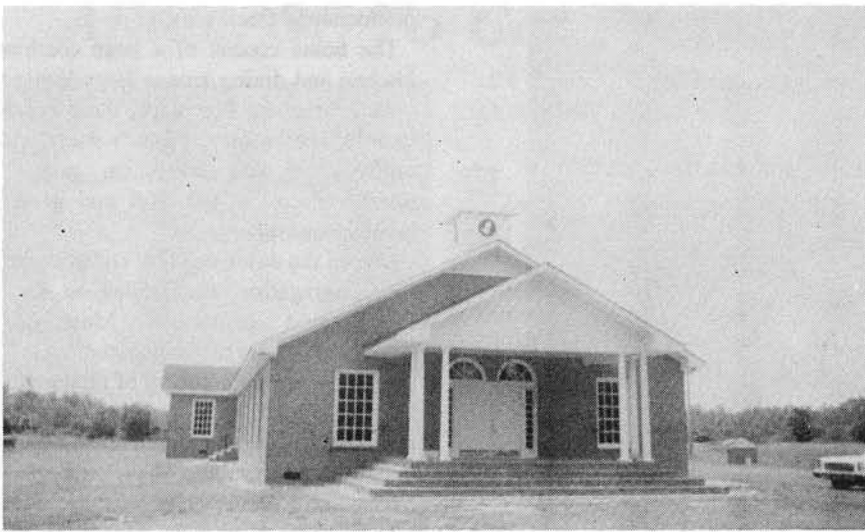


Happy Home's New Parsonage Pastor And Family Enjoying New Parsonage

Happy Home FWB Church, Andrews, SC has constructed a new parsonage. Pastor Jerry Franklin and his family occupied

it in July.

Construction on the 1,820 square foot building began in February of this year and was completed in July at a cost of about \$77,000.00. The exterior walls are brick veneer and the exterior wood work has a vinyl covering, which makes it almost



New Building - Cornerstone FWB Church

Cornerstone Dedicates New Building

Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church, Whiteville, NC was organized August 3, 1988 in the home of Harold and Deborah Ward. They secured a building on highway 130 about 11 miles south of Whiteville. The building previously housed a store, a garage, a pool hall, etc. It took a lot of hard work on the part of the congregation to get it in order for services. The first service in the building was held on Sunday, August 14, with 43 charter members. Previous pastors of the church are Robert Travis, Joe Faircloth and Tony Hargett. The church now averages about 100 in attendance.

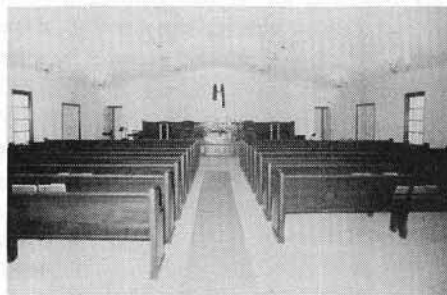
Construction on a new 4,400 square foot facility began in April 1992 and was completed about mid June of 1993. The building consist of 2,680 foot sanctuary with a seating capacity of 250 and a choir loft; four classrooms, a nursery, a church office, four rest rooms, storage area, a foyer and a porch.

The sanctuary has a cathedral type ceiling with a blown white finish. Lighting is furnished by inset spot lights over the pulpit and choir loft and 10 light brass chandeliers over the pew area. The church furniture and the wood trim in the building has a walnut finish. The walls have a white paint finish and the floors are covered with a rose mauve carpet. The windows in the building are very attractive. The Presbyterian church in Whiteville donated six windows from the building they were renovating. The windows were very large, containing 40 panes of glass in each one. The problem was, Cornerstone needed twelve windows. One of the men of the church came up with the idea to cut them in half, which they did. This gave them twelve 20 pane windows which met their need and added to the attractiveness of

the building. The interior design and decor of the building is beautiful and conducive to an atmosphere of worship.

Dedication services were held on Sunday afternoon, July 11. Pastor Hargett recognized and expressed their sincere appreciation to everyone that had given of their time, labor, and resources to make the project a reality. Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director, delivered the dedicatory message and led the congregation in a unison reading of a statement of dedication and prayer.

This was a faith project undertaken by this young church and the Lord honored their efforts. They have a beautiful building on a two acre tract of land that is adequate for future growth and stands as a testimony to God's faithfulness. TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOR GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!!



Interior View Of Cornerstone's Sanctuary

Promotional Office
SC State Association Of Free Will Baptists
PO Box 13266
Florence, SC 29504

CORRECTION

In the July-August issue of The Informer it stated that the SC State CTS Convention was hosted by Peace FWB Church, Florence SC. This was in error. It was hosted by Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC.

Two South Carolina Ministers With The Lord

Danny Howell. Dr. Danny Howell, pastor of First Free Will Baptist, Florence, SC died on Saturday, September 4. Death resulted from injuries sustained when a latter he was climbing accidentally fell.

Funeral services were held on Monday, September, 6 at First Free Will Baptist Church in Florence.

James B. Rice. Rev. James B. Rice died on Friday afternoon, September 10 after a long illness.

Funeral services were held on Monday, September 13 at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greer, SC.

Brother Rice was Superintendent of South Carolina Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Turbeville, SC for many years. Most recently he was pastor of Oates Free Will Baptist Church, Lamar, SC.

Benjamin Randall Day Sunday

November 21, 1993

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