

The Informer



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Official Bi-Monthly Publication Of The South Carolina State Association Of Free Will Baptists

YOUTH CAMP ** JULY 31 - AUGUST 11

THE WOMEN'S MEETING

By Rev. Van Powell

For the last several years, my wife has left either Friday afternoon or very early Saturday morning to go to one of those "Women's Meetings". Yet with all the traveling, when she would get home from the meeting, there was something different about her. She seemed so refreshed, so revived, so ready to face more of the battles that life seems to bring one's way.

This year I could stand it no longer. I asked her if I could go with her to the "Women's Meeting" (S.C. State Auxiliary Meeting). I thought if it encouraged, uplifted, and stimulated her, maybe a little would rub off on me.

Boy, was I surprised! It was not just a little. It was down right gigantic. From the time I entered the auditorium until the time I left, I felt as if I was in the presence of holiness. The ladies know how to do it. They gave the facts of and about their work. The liveliness of the singing, speaking, and sharing was great fun. It was fun that reminds one that the Christian is not always the dull, boring person many may think.

The fellowship blended the talents, abilities, and desires of all the women from different areas of the State. These beautiful ladies set forth with sincere determination to accomplish the work God has given to be done.

The meal furnished was delicious. The spiritual food in the singing and speaking was abundant. If you could not get fed there, you need to be on an altar.

As I drove home after the dismissal, I realized blessings that these ladies have and can be to others. I truly realize the S.C. State Auxiliary Meeting is not just a "Women's Meeting", but truly a meeting of God's people. I realized I had

Free Will Baptist Youth Camp Is A Great Summer Activity

THE PLACE:
CAMP BEAVER FORK
PATRICK, SC

THE TIME:
TEEN WEEK-July 31
AUGUST 4

JUNIOR WEEK
AUGUST 7-11

**Consult With Your Pastor Or
Youth Pastor For Applications
And Other needed information.**

**Be Sure To Attend !!! You Will
Meet New Friends, Fellow
Believers, Share Social Events,
Recreation Activities And Reap
Priceless Spiritual Blessings.**

been in a Heavenly place. If I were to try to summarize that day in a word, it would be **FANTASTIC**. May every church thank God for it's dedicated Christian ladies and do every thing it can to provide, promote, and pray for the God-given jewels.

Now I know why my wife came home tired,

but refreshed, revived, and ready to face tomorrow, even with all of it's trials.



Gene Altman With Elderly Mexican Lady

Operation Mexico

(Editors Note) A picture showing the people who participated in the Walk-A-Thon is a color picture and too dark for clarity here. Harry and Barbara Taylor raised the most money. Brother John Hudson conveys thanks to everyone who opened their heart to this ministry.

On April 1st, a survey team from Happy Home and Black River FWB Churches, Andrews, SC flew to McAllen, Texas. The team consisted of Pastor Jerry Franklin, Deacon Gene Altman and Pastor John Hudson. The purpose of the trip was to survey mission works in Mexico that are in need of additional building facilities.

"Operation Mexico" is a joint project between Happy Home and Black River Church with the expectancy of bringing other Free Will Baptist Churches in the area into the project, both now and in the future. When the team arrived they were met by Lee Martinez, a deacon at the First FWB Church in Weslaco, TX. Brother James Munsey is the director of the Mexico work and

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Operation Mexico From Page - 1

pastors the Weslaco Church. The team was housed the first night in an apartment that Brother Muncey provides for mission visitors.

Brother Franklin delivered the message at the Weslaco Church on Sunday morning with Brother Muncey serving as the interpreter. After the evening service the team discussed the work in Mexico with Brother Muncey. It was their purpose to visit as many of the mission works as possible in four days and share in their services. Plans had been arranged and they met with four pastors from the Reynosa Churches. The meeting went well as they met with these pastors on Monday. They visited the churches, met with the pastor's families and talked with them as Muncey translated for them. The team enjoyed a meal with them of Fajitas, grilled onions and Mexican Coca Cola.

Video's and slides were made with interviews of a couple of the pastors and the condition of the living facilities to bring back to their churches to convey the conditions of the area and the needs of the field. Most of the homes do not have running water or inside plumbing. The inflation rate in Mexico is 7500 Mexican dollars to one American dollar. This means the Mexican money has very little value. The people are clean, hard working, but their nation is in poverty.

The team planned to fly into the interior of Mexico and visit the mission churches. However these plans were aborted because a major storm moved into the area. Brother Hudson stated, "that this was in God's will and plan because the Tuesday night service they attended was the highlight of the trip".

They traveled to an area of more than 1000 homes which do not have electricity, running water and were built with whatever material they could find. They were packed into a one room house, 12X18 feet. The floor was made of pallets and covered with mud and the roof was leaking as it rained outside at the rate of 2 inches every 45 minutes. As they worshiped God, the people sang with tears in their eyes. They testified of God's greatness as water ran down their backs. Even the people standing outside in the down pour of rain barefoot, singing and praising God. God did something in the hearts of the team members that night that words cannot fully express.

On Wednesday night the Lord directed them to the church that "Operation Mexico" will help build. Their present building will seat 60 people. The women and elderly sit inside, the men and boys sit on benches outside with the windows open.

The church building will be built in three stages. The first stage, in June, will be to erect the steel frame and metal roofing. The second stage will take place later when the walls go up. This stage will take time and the Mexican Christians will do the work. The third stage will take place in March of 96. A group from Happy

Home and Black River will travel to Mexico to finish out the building and share in the dedication service.

The team expresses thanks to the Home Missions Department and the Muncey's for their direction, kindness and their hospitality in assisting the survey team. All who have been involved with this project, and those who will come in later are to be commended for this great help to our Mexican Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

1995 S.C. State CTS Winners

LEARNERS

Duet Acting, **Bryan Robinson and Grant Cannon**, Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville

HERALDS

Division 3-Keyboard Ensemble Duet, **Katherine Gibson, Dana Sarver**, First FWB Church, Florence.

Division 1-Small Instrument Ensemble, **David Miles, Daniel Miles**, Peace FWB Church, Florence.

Division 1 Chorale, First Florence.

Division 8-Duet Acting, **Meike McDonald and Chad Matthews**, Sand Hill, Coward.

Division 10 Skit-Jeremy Cannon, Carol Ann Morris, Dana Robinson, Justin Driggers, Trey Watts and Pamela Robinson, Horse Branch.

Division 2-Vocal Ensemble, **Katherine Gibson and Dana Sarver**, First Florence.

Division 1-Keyboard Solo, **Emily Gainey**, First Darlington.

CRUSADERS

Division-3, Keyboard Ensemble Duet, **Anna Bazen and Sarah Ange**, First Florence.

Division 1-Keyboard Solo, **Anna Bazen**, First Florence.

Division 5-Creative Arts Textiles, **Shannon Bazen**, Beulah, Pamplico.

Division 2, Vocal Solo, **Matthew Sarver**, First Florence.

Division 2-Vocal Ensemble Duet, **Anna Bazen and Sarah Ange**, First Florence.

Division 8-Duet Acting, **Goudy Cannon, Will Roberson**, Horse Branch.

Division 3-Vocal Solo, **Kristie Coker**, Horse Branch.

AMBASSADORS

Division 3-Keyboard-Ensemble Duet, **Lisa Hickman, Amber Miller**, First Florence.

Division 6- Vocal Ensemble sextet, **Heather Sports, Anna Bazen, Sarah Ange, Jennifer Street, Rachel Creech and Lisa Hickman**, First

Florence.

Division 3-Vocal Solo, **Belva Powell Bell**, Peace FWB Church, Florence.

Division 3-Vocal Ensemble Trio, **Kendi Powell, Belva Bell, Tina Salyer**, Peace, Florence.

Division 2-Small Instrument Ensemble Duet Stringed (Fretted) **Jonathon Poston, Jay Poston**, First Florence.

ANY COMBINATION

Division 1-Youth Chorale, First Florence.

Division 2-Youth Choir, First Florence.

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

1st. Grade, **Kyle Fagan**, First Florence.

3rd. Grade, **Jamie Fagan**, First Florence.

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

4th. Grade, **Jackson Watts**, Horse Branch.

6th. Grade, **Tara Tapp**, First Florence.

BIBLE-TIC-TAC-TOE TEAM,

Mandie Springs, Carol Ann Morris, Jeremy Cannon and Justin Driggers, Horse Branch.



Gibson (Center) Receiving Offering From (L) Jerry Poston (R) Donald Coleman

Mt. Elon Bible School Raises Funds For Aiken Mission SS Furniture

Mt Elon FWB Church, Pamplico, SC held Bible School the week of June 11-16. They held the commencement exercise on

Sunday Night, June 18. At this meeting the funds raised were presented to Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director, in the absence of Mark Barber, the mission church missionary pastor. Before the article continues you should know how the money was raised.

The boys and girls were put in a contest to see which could raise the most money, not in dollars and cents, but in weight. It was told, there was one boy who did not like the idea the girls were beating them, so he brought with him one night a jug of pennies that he had saved. Well, when he dumped his offering in the tin changed in favor of the boys and the girls could not recover the lead. The money when presented to Brother Gibson was all in two

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Mt Elon Continued From Page-2

plastic trash containers and most of the money was unwrapped coins, especially the pennies. However, some of the pennies had been counted and rolled. The containers were so heavy that Brother Gibson could not carry them because of health conditions. The money was kept until later in the week when Brother Barber came down and picked it up. Where did he take it? You guessed it, to Brother Gibson's office. Brother Barber could not stay to count the coins and wrap them because he had a sick child at home.

The question now arises, who will count and roll this money and put our bank account number on it as required by the bank.

The Lord always makes provision for these dilemmas. Brother Gibson has a friend in the vending business, David Lesesne. He was called upon and very graciously agreed to run the coins through his assorting-counting machines. In very short order the transaction was completed. Mr. Lesesne gave us his check for the money. When it was all counted it amounted to \$318.87. The check was sent to Brother Barber to purchase chairs and tables for the children's Sunday School classes. On behalf of the Aiken mission congregation a hearty thank you goes to Mt. Elon. Robert Rose is the pastor of this fine church.

"Project 42" Nets \$66,635 For Hannas

South Carolina Missionaries to India, Carlisle and Marie Hanna, were honored at the February State Association with a banquet, and many other ways. One of the greater ways was through the "Project 42" Fund Raising Campaign. Carlisle and Marie have spent 42 years in India and the emphasis of the campaign was to encourage gifts of \$1 per year of their service. The campaign began in 1994 and culminated at the state meeting. The grand total was \$66,635.54. \$20,000.00 of this was given to Carlisle for building church buildings for the Indian Christians.



(LR) Pastor Buddy Seay Presents Carlisle and Marie with A Certificate of Commendation Signed By South Governor, Carrol Campbell.



(L) Fred Warner Staff Member Of The FWB Foreign Missions Department Presents Carlisle & Marie With a gift And A Plaque In Recognition Of Their Long And Faithful Service To India.



(R) Pastor Marty Cox And His Wife Annette Presents A \$5,000.00 Check To The Hannas From Mill Branch FWB Church. This was included in "Project 42"



(L) Norwood Gibson Presents To The Hannas A Plaque From The SC State Association In Recognition Of Their 42 Years Of Ministry In India. Sherwood Lee, A Former Missionary To Ivory Coast, West Africa Present Them With Two Books Of Remembrance. Picture Not Shown Because Of Poor Quality. (Not The Subjects-They Are Of The Best Quality).

Carlisle Is S.C. Native Son

Carlisle is a native of the Hanna Community of Lake City, SC and Marie is a native of Missouri. This was the first state meeting they have had the opportunity to attend in many years and it was the joy of South Carolina to have them.

Brother Carlisle preached in the Thursday night service and anyone that was there will confess it was a Holy Spirit charged service.

The Hannas will return to the states in August for further treatment and more surgery upon

Carlisle's eye. Marie is in need of dental care.

Maranatha School Raises \$1,314.22 For Cowarts

Maranatha Christian School, a ministry of First FWB Church in Florence, takes on a mission project each year. They usually close the fund raising in December prior to the Christmas holidays.

In the past they have used several means of raising the money in addition to the students gifts. The amount of money mentioned in the heading of this article was all raised by gifts from the staff, faculty and students. No bake sales, walk-a-thons, etc. were used. The project each year is a means of instilling in the students the Bible teaching to support missions, home and foreign. Ms Dale Edwards, school principal stated, "I trust that they will continue to support missions as adults."

Recently the four and five year kindergarten classes gave almost \$150.00 to purchase Tupperware items for the "Missionary Closet" in Nashville. Missionaries before leaving for the field can visit the closet and get any and all of the items they need without charge.

The 1994 Funds was given to Jim and Karen Cowart, Missionaries to Brazil. They are home on furlough after their third term in Brazil.

Ms Edwards led the older students a few years ago into raising money to visit a mission field. They were successful and they visited France. Sister Edwards said, "we have tentative plans to visit Europe next year".

Bible College Briefs

PASTORS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 25-27

The college will host a "PASTORS CONFERENCE" featuring Dr. Stephen Olford and his son, Dr. David Olford. The focus will be on expository preaching and personal renewal. The conference will begin on Monday evening, September 25, and will run through Wednesday evening, September 27. A brochure on the conference is available from the college. Write or call and the material will be mailed to you.

38 GRADUATES IN CLASS OF "95"

The 1994-95 school year closed on May 11 as 38 graduates marked the successful completion of their programs at the college. Evangelist John Gibbs, a graduate of FWB Bible College,

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of Joshua. His son, Darin, is a member of the Class of 95. The graduating class represented 16 states and 2 foreign countries.

South Carolina Student Makes Honor Roll

Kristi Hanna Johnson, a senior, made the spring "B" Honor Roll. Kristi is from Hemingway, SC, and a member of Westside FWB Church in Johnsonville. She is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Marion Hanna of Hemingway. Congratulations, Kristi.

Shannon Bazen Chosen For Truth And Peace

Shannon is a fine Christian young lady, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs Laverne (Pansy) Bazen. She was saved in November 1986, a member of Beulah Free Will Baptist Church, Pamplico, SC and is in the 10th grade at school.

Truth and Peace is an annual camp type program sponsored by Randall House Publications, Free Will Baptists Sunday School Department.

Young people apply for the summer program and the applications are reviewed by the responsible staff. Shannon was chosen out of more than 200 applications.

On July 3 she went to Nashville, TN and the organized program for them ended on July 15. The group went to Charlotte, NC for the National Association; more particularly for the National Youth Conference. The Truth and Peace group will take part in the national program.

Shannon has been very active in the CTS competitive activities for more than five years. Congratulations Shannon!!!

Corrie Coker Chosen For YET Team

Corrie is a member of Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville, SC. She has been involved with the CTS competitive activities for many years. She is a fine Christian young lady and deserving of the honor of being selected to be a part of the Truth and Peace program, but also the YET Team (Youth Evangelistic Team). The YET Team travels during the summer to Free Will Baptist Churches and performs with an evangelistic drama group. She and her group were at her church recently. Congratulations Corrie!!! This writer has not been fully informed about the specific activities of the YET Team this year, so if the statements

included are not exactly accurate this is the reason. (Editor)

not have pictures of these grads, they were not available.



Pastor Norris and Wife Shirley

Pastor And Wife Honored On 25th Wedding Anniversary

Pastor Steward Norris and his wife Shirley were honored by their church, Cornerstone Free Will Baptist, on their "25th Wedding Anniversary", on Sunday May 24, 1995. The Norris' have three sons; Jeff, John, and Josh, and one grandchild, Shonna.

A reception was held for them in the Old Dock Community Building with 75 people attending.

One of the members stated, "We have been blessed in so many ways since the Norris' came to Cornerstone. They have given so much and taken so little."

If Jesus prolongs His coming may they enjoy 25 more years together. However, I'm sure all of us would rather see Jesus come again, but we must remember His command, "Occupy Till I come."

Twelve Graduates In New Prospect Commencement

New Prospect Christian School, Pamplico, SC, held commencement exercises on Friday night, May 26. The commencement speaker was Pastor Douglas Pate, pastor of New Vision FWB Church, Hemingway, SC. The school is a ministry of New Prospect Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Joe Cagle is pastor of the church and administrator of the school. Mrs. Lulu Poston is the school principal.

Twelve students made up the class of 95, which is the largest number of graduates in the history of the school. We are sorry that we do

BRADLEY WADE BAZEN. Bradley spent all of his school years at NPCS. He was an honor student, graduating with a 96. GPA and was the Valedictorian. He will be attending Francis Marion University and then to the University of South Carolina for concentration in Computer Science.

LARRY ISAIAH COOK. Larry began education years at NPCS in grade 3. He will be attending Florence-Darlington Technical College to begin his studies in the Automotive Division.

TERRY LEGRAND CRAWFORD. Terry began his school years at NPCS in the 9th grade. He will be attending Francis Marion University and then to the University of South Carolina for studies in Mass Communications.

JAMIE SUE CROWE. Jamie began her school with NPCS in grade 8. She will be attending Florence-Darlington Technical College, working toward a Dental Hygienist degree.

LAWRENCE WARREN FOX. Lawrence attended NPCS in the 8th and 9th grades. I left the school and returned for his senior year. He plans to attend the Citadel in Charleston, SC.

KENNETH ALAN HASELDEN. Kenneth attended most of his school years at NPCS. He plans to attend Florence-Darlington Technical College for studies in the Automotive Department.

JOHN LESSLIE LEE. John entered NPCS in 1992 As a sophomore. His future training is uncertain at this time, probably he will go into the work force.

BRANDI MARIE McALISTER. Brandi began her school years at NPCS in 1989 in the 7th grade. She plans to attend Florence-Darlington Technical College in their Fashion Merchandising Department.

MICAH DeLEON NETTLES. Micah spent his early years of education at NPCS. He left and returned for his high school years. He plans to go into law enforcement or agriculture.

CLAYTON THOMAS SMITH. Clayton entered NPCS in 1986 for the 4th grade. He graduated as Salutatorian with a 94.2 GPA. He plans to attend Francis-Marion University and then to the University of South Carolina with a concentration in Electrical-Electrical Communications.

TRACY EUGENE STONE. Tracy attended NPCS for all of his school years. He plans to attend Florence-Darlington Technical College

in the Automotive Division.

MELANIE ANN WARD. Melanie entered IPCS as a freshman in 1991. She will attend Florence-Darlington Technical College for studies in their Office Systems Technology Department. **LR-BR Kim Collins, Joey**

BUFFY BOATWRIGHT. Buffy plans to enroll in Francis University, Florence, SC, this fall, majoring in "Special Education". **KIM COLLINS.** Kim plans to be married in June. **ALICE EADDY.** Alice plans to enroll in Francis Marion University this fall, majoring in "Accounting." **JOSEPH MCKNIGHT.** Joey as he is known affectionately, is currently

employed by a new firm to Florence, Office Depot. He plans to take computer courses related to his employment. **JENNIFER O'NEAL.** Jennifer plans to enroll in Francis Marion University, "Majoring in Music." **PATRIS TONEY.** Patris plans to enter Lander University, Greenwood, SC, majoring in "Pre Med."



McKnight, Alice Eaddy. LR-FR Jennifer O'Neal, Buffy Boatwright and Patris Toney.

Maranatha Holds 22nd Commencement

The commencement speaker was Rev. Ed Coker. He was the teacher of these graduates when they were in the sixth grade. Buffy Boatwright and Jennifer O'Neal rendered a special piano duet, "Majestic Name Medley" Five graduates graced the "Class of 95":

of 3.0 or higher.

In her principals address Dale Edwards noted that the graduates spent their entire school years at Maranatha. Patris Toney came when she was six months old, which gives her a total of 18 years.

Maranatha Christian School is a ministry of First FWB Church in Florence, with an excellent record in providing high quality Christian Education for hundreds of young people from day care through the 12th grade. Brother Mike Creech is the pastor.

10 Grads In Pee Dee Bible Institute Class Of 95

Commencement Exercises were held at Pee Dee Bible Institute, a ministry of Southside Free Will Baptist Church, Darlington, SC on Saturday evening, March 25. The 1995 graduating class consisted of 10 students. The institute is a ministry of Southside FWB Church, Darlington, SC.

The commencement address was delivered to the grads, student body and guest by Danny Dwyer, professor of pastoral theology at Southeastern FWB Bible College, Wendell, NC. A reception was held after the service in the church's social hall.

The fall semester will begin on Monday night, September 18. The Winter semester will begin on Monday night, January 1



BR-LR John New, W. Mack Rogers, Cameron Lloyd, Randall Eaddy, John Pickett, FR-LR- Danny Dwyer, Guest Speaker; Vivian O'Neal, Ann Purdue, Tansi Smith, Betty New, Sylvia Eaddy, Leroy Lowery, Institute Director.

Those who would like information on the

Timmonsville Pastor Completes Studies With Earned Degree

George Buie, Pastor of Bay Branch FWB Church, Timmonsville, SC has completed college course of studies. In June 1990 he received a BA degree from Colorado Christian University with a major in Management of Human Resources and a major in Christian Leadership. He was honored with the Distinguished Achievement Award. After 96 hours of studies with Andersonville Baptist College & Seminary, Camilla Georgia he received his Master of Divinity Degree. His most recent achievement was receiving a Doctorate of Theology Degree from Andersonville Baptist Seminary. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.80. This is a great achievement and we congratulate Brother Buie.

Brother Buie assumed the pastorate of Bay Branch FWB Church in early 1994.

Yarborough To Little Bethel

Dale Yarborough, a native of Scranton, SC took the pastorate at Little Bethel FWB Church,



Johnsonville, SC in August 1994. He will soon complete his first full year with this fine church.

Brother Dale was saved in 1997 in a very strange place, his work shop; but then God is not willing for any to perish so He will save anyone to the uttermost who will come to Him by Christ Jesus, regardless of where that coming takes place.

He was licenced and ordained by the Palmetto Conference in 1983 and 84 consecutively. He has taken Bibles courses through

Carolina Bible Institute in Pine Level, NC

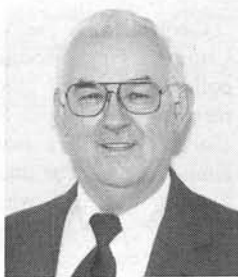
Former pastorates were with Gilead FWB Church, Lake City, and Unity FWB Church, Johnsonville, both in South Carolina. White Oak FWB Church, Bladenboro, Crab Point FWB Church, Morehead City, both in North Carolina.

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He is married to the former Martha Jones, a native of Darlington, SC, but has lived most of her life in Scranton. They have two adult children, Roger and Lisa.

May the Lord give this pastor and the church a long and fruitful ministry together.

Bethany Calls Dunbar As Pastor



Galen Dunbar, a native of Oswald, WV has assumed the pastoral ministry of Bethany FWB Church, Timmonsville, SC. He came to Bethany from a pastorate with Ebenezer FWB Church, Glennville, GA.

He was saved July 23, 1950 at his home church, Kilsyth Free Will Baptist, Kilsyth, West Virginia. He was licenced to preach in December, 1951 and ordained by the Beckley Conference in 1952.

He is a 1955 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN and holds a B. A. Degree from the college. Other colleges attended are Columbia Bible College (now known as Columbia International University) in Columbia, SC where he did his resident work on the M.A. Degree; Appalachian Bible Institute, Oakland University, Pontiac, MI and Old Dominion University, Richmond, VA, studies in counseling.]

Former pastorates are: Price Hill FWB Church, Price Hill, West Virginia; St. John FWB Church, Patrick, SC; Grifton FWB Church, Grifton, NC; First FWB Church, Beaufort, NC; First FWB Church, Hazel Park, MI; Bethany FWB Church, Norfolk, VA; First FWB Church, Salina, Kansas and Ebenezer FWB Church, Glennville, GA. Brother Galen is a member of the FWB Foreign Mission Board.

Pastor Dunbar is married to the former Barbara June Hancock, a native of Tulsa OK. They have three children: Mrs. Joyce D. Little, Rebecca Jean Dunbar and James William Dunbar.

On behalf of the South Carolina State Association and the South Carolina Conference a hearty, sincere welcome is extended to Brother and Sister Dunbar to our state and area. May God give them a long and fruitful ministry.

REMEMBER!!!!

**SC State Woman's Auxiliary
Retreat - September 15-16.
Reservations Are Needed Now**

Childers Takes Pastorate With Damascus



Damascus FWB Church, Conway, SC, called Paul Childers as their pastor. He assumed this position in February, 1995.

Paul is a native of Lockhart, SC and was saved at the Lockhart Church during a revival meeting in March 1966. The late Bob King was preaching revival meetings at the church.

He was called to preach in 1971 and was licenced by the Beaver Creek Association. His ordination service was held at Bethel FWB Church, Fort Mill, SC. He was one of the first graduates of the Beaver Creek Bible Institute.

Former pastorates are: Bethel FWB Church, Fort Mill, SC; Mt. Carmel FWB Church, York, SC. He organized Cornerstone FWB Church in Chester, SC and pastored it for a number of years. Prior to coming to Damascus he was pastor of First FWB Church, Woodruff, SC.

Brother Paul is married to the former Sarah Lawson of Union, SC. They have three children, all adults; Ginger C. Vinson, Paulette Childers and Brian Childers. They are blessed with three grandchildren, Jatania & Kenny Cabaniss and Ivy Vinson.

On behalf of the Central Association we extend a hearty, warm welcome to the Childers. We trust that they will have a long, fruitful ministry with the Damascus Church.

Cornerstone Burns Mortgage

Brother Steward Norris is the pastor of the this growing church. After reading these statistics one will agree that Cornerstone FWB Church, Whiteville, NC, has been blessed of God numerical and with fine facilities.

Cornerstone Church was organized on August 8, 1988. The first service was held on Sunday, August 14, 1988, with 43 people attending. The original meeting place was soon outgrown and they began plans to construct a new permanent facility. On June 20, 1993 they moved into the new 4,000 square foot building.

Brother Steward Norris was called as pastor on October 12, 1993 and God has honored his leadership with a great addition to the church and many other accomplishments, such as paving the parking lot, landscaping the grounds, laying a foundation for the construction of a fellowship building.

June 11, 1995 was a great day in the life of the church; the mortgage on the original building

was burned. Pastor Norris preached the message entitled "What Built And Paid For The Church".

The attendance has grown to an average 125 each Sunday. Brother Norris stated that the church is held together by a strong love for Jesus Christ and one another.

This pastor and his congregation are to be commended for permitting the Lord to use them for this outstanding accomplishment.



Mr. Mack Atkinson of Lebanon FWB Church Presenting Promotional Director, Norwood Gibson With A Check For \$1,000.00 For The Promotional Office Property Fund.

Lebanon Gives Another \$1,000 To Property Fund

Lebanon FWB Church, Effingham, has given very generously To The Promotional Office Property Fund. It is with great joy and gratitude that we receive this very generous gift. To this congregation we say, THANK YOU.

It was an added treat for Brother Gibson to preach for them on the gift Sunday.

In Memory of Sidney Garry Prosser

The Psalmist said under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "Precious In The Sight Of The Lord is the death of His Saints." On Tuesday night, March 28 God sent angels to escort Brother Prosser from his hospital bed to the golden streets of heaven to be with his heavenly Father for ever. He was saved in the mid sixties and served the Lord through Lebanon FWB Church. He was a man that looked for needs of his church family and those of his community. These needs were met by him and many times no one was aware of his service except those he served.

Brother Gary loved his savior, the Lord his church, Lebanon Free Will Baptist Effingham, SC, and his family. He proved his love for these in many

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ways. The greatest manifestation of this was that he was faithful to his commitment to Jesus Christ, his church responsibilities and the care of his family. A father and husband has many obligations to his family, the greatest being spiritual head of his home, which he exercised by personally teaching them the scriptures and directing them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. One evidence of this was their faithfulness in attendance and service to the church.

He gave love in word and deed and for this he begat love from his family and those he knew. In just a few weeks before he went to be with the Lord he took the time, while very sick and in a painful condition, to leave some of his possessions to continue serving the cause of Christ. He gave 182 shares of Dupont stock to the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists. By his instructed conditions, which are in print, the earnings of the stock each year will be given to Free Will Baptist Bible College, Southeastern FWB College, home missions and foreign missions. The state executive committee will be the responsible party to disburse the funds according to the stated conditions.

It is a wonderful thing for a person to faithfully serve the Lord while living and then leave some possessions to continue serving the cause of Christ after death. ON BEHALF OF THE SC STATE ASSOCIATION WE EXTEND OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE PROSSER FAMILY FOR THIS GENEROUS ACT OF LOVE BY GARY.

Funeral services were held at church, Lebanon Free Will Baptist. The over flow crowd was evidence that he had touched many lives and had many friends. His pastor, Reedy Saverance, and a former Pastor, Adam Scott officiated in the service.

He is survived by his wife Elizabeth Turner Prosser, three daughters; Rebecca Prosser Lawrimore, Miriam Prosser Driggers, and Elaine Prosser Stone, and

one granddaughter, Sidney Lawrimore.

To the family these words are shared. For now to this loved one you have said, good night, but soon you can say to him good morning.

Canaan Dedicates New Sanctuary

As many of our readers already know, Canaan FWB Church, Lancaster, SC was formerly South Avenue FWB Church. It was named in its origin after the street it was located on.

A number of years ago the church purchased land facing on US Highway 521, about 4 miles east or maybe better, southeast of Lancaster. They built a family life center building on the property with plans to sell the South Avenue property, hold services in the hwy 521 building while construction of a new sanctuary was underway. They were held up a long time



because the property was difficult to sell. Their plans came to a near halt for a period of time. They called Dale McCoy as pastor a few years ago and they activated their plans and the building got underway. They now occupy a beautiful sanctuary.

Construction began on the almost 5,000 square foot facility in November 1994 and was completed the first of April 1995 at a cost of \$280,000.00. It was constructed by Andy Latham of Sanford, Florida on a turn key basis.

The walls of the building are rather unique for this area. They are constructed of what is called, split faced block. The blocks are about the size of what we know as concrete blocks, but much different in looks. They are a white-white, the same color throughout the block. The interior wall is the same as the exterior wall. They have the appearance of a chipped stone. This product is made only in Florida.

The interior decor of the 263 seating capacity sanctuary is most attractive. As you can see in

the picture the walls are white. The ceiling is a cathedral style covered with 1 X 4 tongue and grooved boards and finished in what appears to be a natural color. Inset spot lights were installed over the pulpit area and brass chandeliers grace the ceiling over the pews. The windows are stained glass and sconce lights garnish the walls between the windows. The church furniture has a harvest oak finish and is upholstered in a blue fabric that blends with the light blue carpet. The building also contains two rest rooms, a nursery, a baptistery, two offices with private rest rooms, a vestibule, decorated with two brass chandeliers and four sconce lights.

A new PA System, a new church sign, and a steeple were installed. The parking lot was paved with 67 parking spaces. Just recently the church purchased a new 1995 15 passenger Dodge Van. It will be used to bring in folks for church services and multi purposes.

Dedication services were held on Sunday, April 2. The church pastor, Dale McCoy preached the dedicatory message and State Promotional Director, Norwood Gibson led the church in a unison reading of dedication and the prayer of dedication. The Providence Gospel Singers from Shelby, NC were the guest singers for the special occasion.

Brother Dale and his fine folks are to be commended for this great accomplishment. They trusted God for these things and He provided it. PRAISE to Him, for great things He hath done!!!!



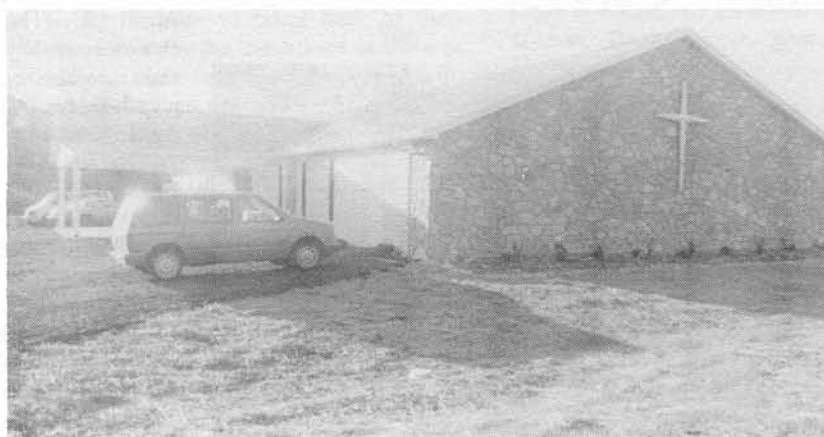
Interior Of New Sanctuary

See Canaan's New Sign On The Next Page

Remember! State Woman's Auxiliary Retreat-September 15-16



No Caption Needed!!!!



Horizon's New Facility

Horizon FWB Church Relocates-Builds New Facilities

New Horizon FWB Church was formerly Laurens FWB Church. The building facilities and location was not the best so the congregation purchased 15 acres of land on Airport Road, about 5 miles south of Laurens. They entered into a building project in April of 1994 and the construction of the 5,000 square foot building was completed in October of 1994.

The dedication service of this beautiful new building was held on Sunday, November 6, 1994. State Promotional Director, Norwood Gibson delivered the message in the Sunday morning worship hour. After a delicious dinner and fellowship together the congregation and those who came for the dedication service met in the sanctuary for the afternoon dedication service.

The dedication service was conducted by the church pastor, Brother Jack Elders. Brother

Elders recognized those who had labored and given to make the new facilities possible. Brother Gibson delivered a brief message and led the congregation in a responsive reading of dedicating the building and the prayer of dedication.

The exterior of the building as seen in the picture is covered with white vinyl siding and sections of stone. The exterior end of the building facing the highway is all stone with a mounted cross. In the center of the building is an inclement weather drive through. It is also the entrance of the building.

Since the day of dedication the parking lot has been paved.

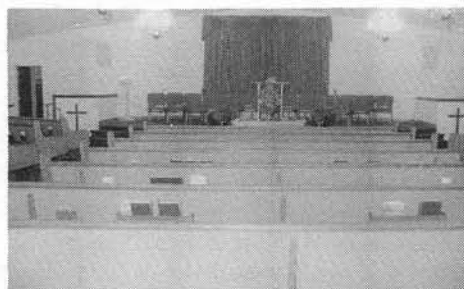
The building consists of space for 8 classrooms, a church office, a social hall, two rest rooms and storage area. The more than 200 seating capacity sanctuary has a cathedral type ceiling with a blown white finish. A number of inset spot lights are over the pulpit and choir loft area.

The ceiling area over the pews are garnished with 24 light brass chandeliers. The walls are enhanced with six (three on each side) two light sconce fixtures. The church furniture has

a fruitwood finish with an upholstered fabric that blends with the teal green carpet. It also contains a baptistery, nursery and a new \$9,000.00 PA system.

Since the day of dedication a regulation size soft ball field has almost been completed, including two dugouts and other needed features. Plans are underway to build a new fellowship building.

The greatest information that can be shared about the church is that the attendance has increased greatly. On the day of dedication seven members were received in the church and since homecoming in April ten more have joined the church.



Interior Of New Sanctuary

Jack Elders, church pastor organized the Laurens Church and led this congregation through this great building program.

Brother Jack and his folks are to be commended for this great accomplishment. Of course God is our provider and to Him be glory for great things He hath done. However, we must remember that God uses people as His channel of blessings.

First Homecoming

The church's first homecoming in their new building was held on Sunday, June 4. Norwood Gibson had the honor of being the guest speaker for the occasion. It was not difficult at all to preach after the church choir sang and the special singing by Claude Morgan, Dennis, Susan and Angel.

The attendance was real good and there was an exceptionally good response to the altar call.

Pastor Elders presented a gift to two graduates who are members of the church. O'Neal O'Sheilds graduated from high school and Kim Amos graduated from nurses training.

The ladies of the church served a great meal for the congregation and those that came in after the service.



Pastor Elders (R) Conveys Congratulations And Presents Gifts To Kim Amos (L) and O'Neal O'Sheilds (R)

Please Note

Many of you in our churches will be looking for your news article to appear in this issue of "The Informer" but you will not find it.

TIME WOULD NOT PERMIT ME TO GET ALL OF THEM IN. I MISSED TWO DAYS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION IN AN EFFORT TO GET "THE INFORMER" UP TO-DATE, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS.

There will be another issue out soon and any articles not in this Issue will be included in it.