

The Informer



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

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

Land Purchased For Aiken Mission Church

Land for the Aiken Free Will Baptist Mission Church has been purchased. The five acre tract of land is in an excellent location, with promise of great development. A new highway is scheduled to be constructed on the land frontage.

Southside Mission Church began about a year ago. The first facilities were in a local school building. In these days it is not the ideal place to begin a work. The rent is extremely high with limited time for services; and the buildings are not arranged for the best church setting.

When the time of the lease was up the Lord had provided a new meeting place. It is the facilities of the American Legion and it is ideal for a mission work. It has a large auditorium for the services, classroom space and rest rooms.

The remarkable thing about the facility is that it is in the area of Aiken that

Brother Mark will establish the church. The Lord is to be praised.

This is the first Free Will Baptist Church in all of Aiken County. Our State Mission Board has done a good job in planting new churches in the southern area of South Carolina.

Pastor To People

By Leroy Lowery, Pastor
Southside FWB Church
Darlington, SC

We need to be constantly reminded of the truth of Romans 14:12, "so then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." Ultimately our final responsibility is to God. That is why sin, in the final analysis, is not against men but against God. God has set bounds. God has determined what is right and what is wrong. Therefore, He has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Christ Jesus. We are told in the Holy Scriptures that God is going to open some books and reveal the total lives of men as they stand before Him. I am afraid that most people have forgotten this truth, if they ever knew it at all.

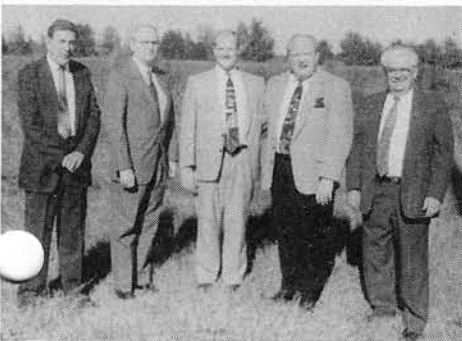
William Biederwolf wrote, "Listen to me! Man, you can live a profligate and dissolute life, debauch your being, and disgrace your loved ones; but you will have to give an account to God. You can squander your wages

in a poker joint, rob your wife and child of what ought to go to them; you can live in lust and like a beast, debauch your body and poison your offspring with your own contaminated blood; but God will settle your account some day." Yes my dear friends, God is going to balance the books against sin. He will have the final word and there will be no recourse to a higher court. The

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CLOSING THE LAND PURCHASE. The five people on the right are the land owners. The four men on the back row are: (LR) Richard Adams, Board Members Billy Vanderford and Robert Rose. Fred Kirby, Board Director, signing the sale documents while Missionary Pastor Mark Barber and the attorney looks on. The lady at the end of the table is the reality representative.



Standing on the land site. LR Vanderford, Rose, Barber, Adams and Kirby.



Spacious Auditorium

door of mercy and forgiveness will be forever shut and eternity without hope will be your final end.

I urge you today, if you do not know Jesus as your savior, please come to Him, confess your sin and accept Him before it is too late.

S. C. Foreign Missionary News

MIRIAL GAINER-JAPAN. Mirial is back in Japan and the news that we have received is that she is doing well. She has a new address and it is given here for your convenience. Caution!!! Keep her address in four lines and in the order as you see it here.

Mirial Gainer

Higashi 2 job Kit 4 come 7

Bihoro Cho Abashiri Gun 092

Hokkaido, Japan

BOBBY AND GENEVA POOLE-BRAZIL. The last news letter we received from the Poole's they shared with us that many of the people at their mission work of six years have left them. They asked for our prayers. PRAY FOR THOSE LEAVING THE CHURCH, BUT MOST OF ALL PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE THEM ENCOURAGEMENT, WHICH THEY SO DESPERATELY NEED.

JIM AND KAREN COWART-BRAZIL. The latest news from the Cowart's implied that their ministry was doing well. One of the great concerns about their ministry is financial. Their account has been deep in deficit. Before this paper goes to press we hope that we can give you an up-to-date condition of their account. They are in need and we request that you remember them in prayer for their finances and other needs. (At this time no new information)

RON AND LINDA MOORE-IVORY COAST, WEST AFRICA. The latest news from the Moore's was that their training ministry is still producing good results. They request your prayers for their health and ministry. Their plans are to return to the states in mid July for a brief furlough.

CARLISLE AND MARIE HANNA-INDIA. Carlisle and Marie departed Charleston, SC on Wednesday, March 1 for their return trip home to India. While in the states their account was deep in deficit. Project "42" was launched to raise funds for them. They have spent 42 years in India and the purpose of the project was to encourage our people to give \$1 for each year they have served there.

THE OFFICIAL TOTAL OF PROJECT "42" FUNDS RAISED HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED. WE ARE STILL RECEIVING SOME SMALL GIFTS. HOPEFULLY WE WILL HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT BEFORE THIS

PAPER GOES TO PRESS. WE HAVE EVIDENCE TO BELIEVE THAT IT WILL EXCEED \$60,000.00.

Bible College Announces Graduation Speakers

Rev. John Hollis and Rev. John Gibbs will address graduating seniors, family, and friends at Free Will Baptist Bible College's graduation events in May.

Rev. Hollis will bring the Baccalaureate Message on Sunday evening, May 7, at 7:00 PM. He pastors Crossroads Free Will Baptist Church in Effingham, Illinois. He is a 1973 graduate of the college and, in addition to his pastorates, has served as Moderator and Assistant Moderator of the Illinois State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Rev. John Gibbs will deliver the graduation address at the Commencement Exercise on Thursday, May 11, at 10:00 AM. He and his wife, Doris, have a son, Darin, in the graduating class. Rev. Gibbs has pastored for 20 years, served as Promotional Director for Tennessee Free Will Baptists, and was Director of Development for National Free Will Baptist Home Missions. He is currently engaged in a national ministry of conferences, retreats, and revivals. He is a member of FWBCC's Class of 1964.

Both services will be held in the college's Memorial Auditorium and are open to the public.

College Needs English Teacher

Free Will Baptist Bible College is looking for a full-time English teacher to join the FWBCC faculty this fall, according to Dr. Robert Picirilli, Academic Dean.

The applicants should have a Master's degree (a doctorate is preferred). The college hopes to find someone with experience teaching literature at the collegiate level and with some background in Biblical education.

Candidates may send a resume to: Dr. Robert Picirilli, FWB Bible College, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205.

Revival-Soul Winning Conference At Southeastern

April 17-19, 1995 are the dates set for the annual Revival and Soul Winning Conference at Southeastern FWB College. The meeting will be held on campus under the "BIG TOP".

The slate of speakers are: JACK LASITER, Director of Promotions for the college;

ROGER DUNCAN, Camp meeting and revival preacher from Tampa FL; JOHN GIBBS, Free Will Baptist Evangelist, Nashville TN; CURTIS LINTON, Pastor from Tulsa, OK and DALE McCOY, pastor of Canaan FV Church, Lancaster, SC.

GADUATION SERVICE, May 11, 1995.

Former Foreign Missions Director and Pastor With The Lord

Rev. J. Reford Wilson, a former General Director of the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Department went to be with the Lord on January 5, 1995, at age 70. His death resulted from heart disease and other physical complications. He was residing in Oklahoma City, OK at his death.

He served the foreign missions department for more than 30 years; 13-1/2 years as general director and 17 years as a board member. Brother Wilson also served four years at Hillsdale FWB College in Moore OK as professor of missions.



Rev. Pat Minihane Tommy Barron

Children's Home Day Very Special

The annual November Free Will Baptist "Children's Home Day" was the best. About thirty five churches participated in it, even though some could not attend the service. Those that could not attend on this special day, sent in their monies and goods later. According to James Wilhide, home superintendent, they received \$750.00 in cash and about \$3,500.00 in commodities.

The home served those attending a "Chicken Bog" dinner with all the trimmings. Laverne Bazen, from Pamplico, donated the chicken bog and the Compass Restaurant of Turbeville donated two food items.

Brother Wilhide had a large tent erected in the yard and the morning service was held in it.

There were two very special guest for the service; Rev. Pat Minihane, pastor of Beth Baptist Church, Bethune, SC. and Tommy Barron, a detective with the Sumter, SC Sheriff's Department. Brother Barron gave his

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testimony in the service and Pastor Minihane rendered a special in song and delivered the morning message.

What is so special about these two guest? Both are former residents of the home for about 12 years each. They gave testimony that the home had a great influence on their lives as teens, for salvation in Jesus Christ and in other areas.

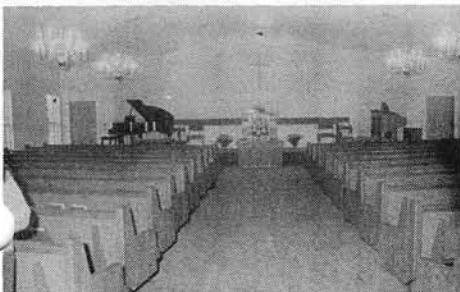
Brother Barron wanted to do something special for the home in return for all it had done for him. He organized a gospel singing benefit for the home in Sumter with the Gold City Gospel Group. The concert was held in Patriot Hall, Sumter, SC on December 8, 1994. Brother Barron had a goal of \$10,000.00. When the service was over and the funds counted, he had \$18,000.00. He gave the entire amount to the home.



Tabernacle's New Church Building

Tabernacle Dedicates New Facility

The pastor and congregation at Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward, SC were filled with joy and gratitude on Sunday, November 27. It was dedication day for the new building facilities that the Lord had provided for them. It was a cool, rainy day, but it did not dampen their



Tabernacles New Sanctuary

radiant spirit. Pastor Byars shared with the congregation remarks regarding the building project, and recognized the building committee for the outstanding job they had done throughout the building process. The "Building Committee" consisted of the deacons; Lester Adams, Wade Adams, Calvin Grooms, Jason Miles, and Dale Caraway. Other members were: Becky Evans, Addie Crawford, Lee Filyaw, Wesley Benton, Boyd Conner and the pastor, Ralph Byars.

Pastor Ralph Byars, who has led the congregation in tremendous growth, delivered the morning message. Special music for the morning and evening service was rendered by the church choir, a soloist, Merry Grooms and a quartet consisting of Ralph Byars, Jr., Connie Byars, Gregg and Dana Browder.

State Promotional Director, Norwood Gibson, shared

some remarks about the physical building and how it would be a constant reminder of God to those who pass by. He also shared that our bodies are the real temple of God and the testimony of a local church for

Jesus Christ will never be any greater than the Christ like lives of those who make up the congregation. Only people can manifest the redeeming-transforming life in Jesus Christ.

Construction of the 5,140 square feet facility began in April 1994 and was completed in November 1994 at a cost of \$256,250.00. It was constructed by Temple Construction Co. of Greenville, SC. The building consist of a 255 seating capacity sanctuary, three classrooms, a nursery, secretary's office, pastors study and two rest rooms.

The sanctuary has a cathedral type ceiling with a blown white finish and graced with large brass chandeliers. The church furniture is made of oak wood. The pews and pulpit benches are upholstered with a mauve-green fabric that blends with the teal green carpet. The floor throughout the building is covered with carpet except the rest rooms. They are covered with tile

The interior walls have a white paint finish. The exterior walls are brick veneer.

A baby grand piano was donated to the church

and it was completely refurbished by Carol Hanna Music Co. The ladies auxiliary raised funds and purchased the organ.

The parking lot has an asphalt surface with a 50 car parking capacity and a concrete walk way was constructed, joining the previous building. This building is now being used for classrooms, fellowship hall and rest rooms.

Brother Byars and his folks are to be commended for permitting the Lord to use them to accomplish this great task. "TO GOD BE THE GLORY GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE!!!!

Walk & Bike-A-Thon Nets New Prospect Christian School \$9,000.

New Prospect Christian School, a Ministry of New Prospect Free Will Baptist Church, Pamplico, SC, held a Walk-A-Thon and a Bike-A-Thon on Saturday, October 15, 1994. The purpose of the event was to raise funds to supplement the operation of the school.

The walkers and bikers enlisted people to sponsor them by giving a dollar for each mile they walked or peddled the bikes. The 131 participants generated \$9,405.00. New Prospect's pastor and school administrator raised \$1,995.00 and the other participants raised \$7,405.00.

Winners in the 20 mile "Bike-A-Thon" are: Scott Cagle, 1st. Place. Time; 1 hour, 8 minutes and 15 seconds. Sloan Evans, 2nd place. Time; 1 hour, 8 minutes and 17 seconds. Kenny Haseldon, 3rd place; 1 hour, 22 minutes and 43 seconds.

The winners in the 5 mile "Walk-A-Thon" are: Jill Ard 1st place. Time; 1 hour, 17 minutes and 15 seconds. Salyn Timmons, 2nd place; 1 hour, 17 minutes and 48 seconds. Kandice Eaddy, 3rd place. 1 hour, 20 minutes and 43 seconds.

There were winners in other categories of the "Bike and Walk-a-Thon". School classes from K-4 through grade 12 competed in raising the greatest amount of money.

Excluding pastor Cagle, those who raised the most money are: Adult category, Mrs. Kate Altman, \$1,035.00. Family, category, Mr. McRocky Wall, Catherine Wall, Shane Wall, and Nathan Wall, \$525.00. Child category, Four year old Abby Prosser, \$326.00.

The church organized the school in 1976. Even though many hindrances were encountered through the 19 years of the ministry, God has greatly blessed the efforts and sacrifices of the people. The school stands stronger today than ever before. It has grown in land, building facilities, staff, faculty, student body, and the quality of education. Many of the graduates continued their education in schools of higher education and have done well.

Turner Available For Ministry

Jason Turner is an ordained minister in good standing with the Eastern Conference of South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches.

Brother Jason is looking for a ministry as youth pastor and music director. He has served in this capacity with two Free Will Baptist Churches, Franklin FWB Church in Tennessee and Mt. Pleasant Free Will Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant, TN. while in college. He is also available for supply preaching. Jason has attended Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN, and Southeastern Free Will Baptist College in Wendell, NC.

He is currently a member of Fellowship FWB Mission Church, Manning, SC. His father, I Bennie Turner is the mission pastor.

Brother Jason can be contacted by writing to him at 25 North Barfield Street, Manning, SC 29102 or by telephone at 803/435-8979.

Anders Available For Ministry

David Anders, an ordained minister with many years of experience as a pastor and in good standing with the Beaver Creek Association is available for a pastorate, supply preaching, revivals, etc.

He can be contacted by writing to him at 1526 Summit Avenue, Lancaster, SC 29720, or call him at (803) 285-7661.

Christian School Needs Principal- Administrator

Bethel Christian Academy, a ministry of Bethel FWB Church, South Roxana, Illinois, is in need of a Principal-Administrator for the school. The position will begin in August 1995. All resumes should be sent to Bethel Christian Academy, 1417 Herbert Avenue, Box 535, South Roxana, Illinois 62087. Attention Mr. Mike McClintock. Telephone (618) 254-1308 254-0188.

S.C. Conference Annual Meeting Host Evangelism Conference

The South Carolina Conference held its annual meeting on Friday, January 20. The session was hosted by Peace Free Will Baptist Church in Florence, SC. The Moderator, Sigbee Dilda, presided over the day long event.

This was the second occasion in which they included an evangelism conference with the conference meeting.

The guest speaker for the conference was Dr. Tom Malone, President of Free Will Baptist

Bible College in Nashville, TN. He had a tight schedule of preaching, but he delivered outstanding messages, which were a blessing to the people. He preached in the Friday morning worship hour, the Friday night service, and two times on Saturday morning. All the comments from those attending the services is evidence that the evangelism conference was a tremendous spiritual blessing.

Officers elected to serve the conference for the year 1995 are: Lamar Smith, Moderator; Mike Creech, Assistant Moderator, Joe Mcknight, Clerk, Rick Jaggars, Treasurer and Melvin Haas, Assistant Treasurer.

The body approved the mission boards recommendation that they receive the Orangeburg FWB Church under their supervision until it gains self supporting status.

In a previous meeting the body voted to limit a members service to one office position at a time. This includes board members and elected committee members.

Youth Inspiration Night At Oates

Oates Free Will Baptist Church, Lamar, SC held their first "Youth Inspiration Service" on Saturday night, March 4. Their plans call for many more of like services in the future.

Pastor Shane Sims organized and incorporated this program as a part of the church's outreach ministries to help the youth of their community. Pastor Sims and Tansi Smith, Youth Director, are both very concerned over the negative and bad influence that youth have in our present society. The "Youth Inspiration Night" program is about the youth, for the youth and of the youth.

The first service was a tremendous success with 52 in attendance. The night began with a chicken bog supper provided by the church.

Donald Gilbert, a 15 year old preacher, delivered the message. Donald gave his testimony concerning his family background and how Christ had made a difference in his life. He stated, "It does not matter who your family is or how bad your home life may be; your spiritual life can be different if you accept Jesus Christ".

Special singing was rendered by Tansi Smith; youth director, Betsy Pope and Patience Sansbury, two of the church's youth.

Many of the youth responded when the alter call was given.

The next "Youth Inspiration Night" is scheduled for April 8. Pastor Sims is working hard to help the young people of the Oates Community to realize that the world has nothing to offer them, but God does.

Brother Sims and the church are very appreciative to those who worked to make this possible and successful.

Liberty Celebrates 108th Anniversary

The congregation of Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, Manning, SC had their 108th. "Homecoming" on Sunday, October 9, 1994. Kenneth Upright is the pastor of this fine church.

The folks in the congregation who were in their seventies and eighties received a special award. The Day Break Singers from Gilbert, SC were the guest singers for the occasion. The pastor, Brother Kenneth Upright delivered the morning message.

After the morning service the congregation shared in a time of fellowship and was served a delicious dinner.

This is one of our older churches and it would be interesting to know how many people this church has won to Jesus Christ. I'm sure the number is great, but I suppose we must wait until we get to heaven to learn that good news.

Matthews Licenced By Eastern Conference



John E.

Matthews, a native of Manning, SC was licenced to preach the gospel by the Eastern Conference of South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches on October 22, 1994.

He was saved on June 19, 1976 at Liberty FWB Church, Manning, SC. He served Liberty Church as Sunday School teacher for the Primaries, Junior's, and Teens. Brother Matthews has been a member of Fellowship FWB Church in Manning for three years and he is currently assisting the pastor, I. Bennie Turner. He has served as supply preacher for churches, also.

He is married to the former Cynthia Morris, also a native of Manning. They have three boys; John, III, Age 10; Joel, age 8 and Josh, age 7.

Rev. Matthews is available for supply preaching and can be contacted by calling 1/803/435-2145. His address is 437 Toccoa Drive, Manning, SC 29102.

YOUTH CAMP

Make Plans Now To Attend



Buddy Seay (C) Presents Sarvis (R) and Cook (L) With Bibles.

Central Association Ordains Sarvis and Cook

The ordination service for these two men was held at Wildwood Free Will Baptist Church, Nichols, SC. Four members of the ordaining council attended the service; Brothers Buddy Seay, Mike Haynes, Roger Johnson and Billy Jones.

Mike Haynes, pastor of Mt Trolly FWB Church, delivered the ordination message.

The two men and their wives gathered at the altar and the prayer of dedication was offered.

Brother Cook and Brother Sarvis request that you pray for them as they enter the ministry that God has called them too.

James Sarvis

Brother Sarvis is a native of Marion, SC. He was saved in 1976 at a prayer meeting. He was baptized and joined Rains FWB Church and served there as the Teen Sunday school teacher. In 1984 he moved to Nichols, SC and joined Wildwood FWB Church. He served here as a deacon and adult Sunday school teacher.

He yielded to God's call to preach in 1992 and was licensed by the Central Association of South Carolina Free Will Baptist. After serving under the watch care of the association and his church for one year he was approved for ordination.

Pastor Sarvis is married to the former Linda McClellan. She was born in California. At age three her family moved to Florida and later to Dillon, SC. James and Linda have two

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children; Terry, age 17 and Leslie, age 12.

Brother Sarvis is now pastor of Wildwood Free Will Baptist Church.

Gordon Cook

Brother Gordon Cook is a native of Conway, SC. He was saved in a revival meeting at Rains FWB Church, Rains,

SC. in 1988. He was a member of Wildwood FWB Church, Nichols, SC and while there he served as the teen Sunday School teacher and was a part of the visitation program.

He yielded to Gods call to preach in 1991 and in May of 1992 he was licensed by the Central Association. In 1994 he was approved by the association for ordination.

Brother Cook is now pastor of Sweet Home FWB Church at Socastee, SC.

He is married to the former Tena Sarvis, a native of Marion, SC, but lived most of her young life in Horry County. They have two children; Christy, age 15 and Bradly, age 12.



Brother McCoy Presents Brother Noles And Wife Evelyn With A \$1,000.00 Check

Walker Chapel Holds Pastor Appreciation Day

The congregation at Walker Chapel, Sumter, SC, expressed their love and appreciation to their pastor, Brother Mancy Noles, on Sunday, September 26.

He and his wife, Evelyn, were treated to a delicious dinner that was especially prepared for them. The congregation also gave them a gift of \$1,000.00.

During the service many of the members stood and expressed their love for their pastor and gave testimony to the faithfulness of this pastor and wife. Many ways were expressed on how the pastor

had served them.

Brother Noles founded the church in April 1974 and has been the pastor since that time. He is a faithful soldier of the cross and is worthy of the expressed love of his people. It is good to hear that many churches are honoring their pastor with a special day and gifts.

Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director, was the privileged guest speaker for the occasion. These are fine Christian folks and it is always a joy to be with them in their services.



(R) Moderator, James Childers Presents Plaque To Pastor Belton Laws.

Beaver Creek Honors Pastor - 25 Years Service

Each year at the annual session of the Beaver Creek Association they honor preachers for 25 years of faithful service with the association.

At the January 27 session they honored Brother Belton Laws. Brother Laws has been in the ministry for many years. Twenty five of those years has been with Beaver Creek. He is currently serving Hope Free Will Baptist Church In Spartanburg. He has served this church for many years.

We commend Brother Laws for this faithful service.



5,240 Cars Pass Sign Daily. PEOPLE ?

New Sign At Black River

Black River FWB Church is located about 4 miles north of Andrews, SC on highway 41.

Their new, very attractive and readable, sign was erected at a cost \$6,000.00. It was made and erected by the J. M. Stewart Co. of Florida. It was completed in time for their September Revival. Is an attractive lighted church sign worth the cost? Yes, if it is readable without stopping your car. Who is the best preacher in South Carolina? LOOK AT THE SIGN!!!!



Fellowship's Renovated Sanctuary

Fellowship Completes \$12,000 Renovations To Facility

The congregation of Fellowship FWB Church, Florence, SC is enjoying the beauty and comfort of their renovated sanctuary and education facilities.

The sanctuary ceiling was refinished, and eight light brass chandeliers replaced the old florescent lighting. Spot lights were installed over the choir loft and the pulpit area, and a modesty rail was placed to separate the choir and pulpit. The pulpit area was enlarged, the paneling that once covered the walls was cut into leaving the bottom portion paneled with a

chair rail. The upper walls were finished in sheet rock and painted. The vestibule was finished likewise. A plush royale blue carpet replaced the old carpet on the sanctuary floor. New upholstery replaced the original

covering on the pews, and the PA system was upgraded.

The educational facility floor was covered in a new commercial grade carpet. The pastors study and the nursery were renovated. They both received wall paper on the upper section of the walls and paneling on the lower section with a chair rail.

A framed picture of the late Mrs. Edna Purvis was placed on the wall in the vestibule in memory of her faithful service to the Lord and support of the church, which she sincerely loved.

The project cost about \$12,500.00 in materials. Most of the work was done through labor donated by the church congregation.

Pastor David Aycock and his people are to be commended for this great improvement to their church facilities. "To God Be The Glory".



Those Burning The Mortgage Are: BR-LR Pastor Jerry Franklin, Deacons; Don Alford, Henry Swails, Bruce Cantley, And (FR) Gene Altman And Rutledge Alford.

Happy Home Burns Parsonage Mortgage

Happy Home FWB Church, Andrews, SC constructed a new 1,820 square foot parsonage for their pastor, which was completed in late 1993. The cost was in excess of \$80,000.00. The church only had to borrow \$25,000 to complete the project. In 18 months they raised \$25,000. 00 and paid off the loan. On Sunday,

January 8, they burned the mortgage. It is an extremely nice home and the Pastor, Jerry Franklin and his family, are continuing to enjoy its comfort.

We commend this fine church for being concerned about the needs of their pastor and his family.

How Far Removed Are Some Churches From Scripture?

The article given here will answer the above question to some degree. It might answer it more than many would like to know. To the Christ loving and honoring Christian it brings sadness and joy. Sadness, because the influence of some elements of the church today are leading many to eternal damnation. Joy, because we know that the scriptures teach us that before Christ returns there will be a great falling away from the faith. The great King, Judge and Creator is soon coming for His Own.

A large Tennessee newspaper reported goddess worship at an international ecumenical meeting of church women are being met with shock and disbelief by local women church leaders of two mainline large denominations.

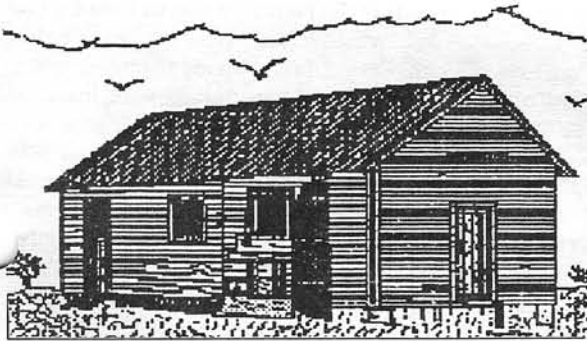
However, the meeting in November in a large mid western city, where the worship included prayers to the goddess Sophia as "our maker" and "creator", drew nearly half of its participants (2,200 including 83 men) from twelve well known, mainline denominations. The twelve denominations contributed over \$66,000 from its Bicentennial Fund to help finance it. Other funding agencies listed in the official conference program included agencies of six well known denominations and church groups.

Some who attended the meeting said it focused on growing interest in the goddess Sophia as a manifestation of divinity that is underway among feminist theologians and some female churchgoers. In addition to what they regarded as "goddess worship" and "heresy," they also objected to: a spontaneous "celebration" led by a lesbian and bisexual women; self avowed lesbian as speakers; liturgies using sexual images to express the divine; the remarks of a female minister who rejected the atonement doctrine, the belief that God and humanity are reconciled through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross; a speaker who said Jesus was guilty of violence against women and that what "we really need is a promised land where women will be free to love other women".

A large southern news paper stated, "A new church has been formed in this state, the First Non-Judgmental Church. The Pastor says, "his church is a new thing that God is doing through his Spirit...based upon the law of Christ rather than the law of Moses....This church born out of a heart for God. We are evangelical, full gospel and trans-denominational."

High Point Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Sunday, August 21, 1994 was a day of praise and joy for the congregation of High Point Free Will Baptist Church, Lancaster. They celebrated their 50th anniversary as a church. The praise and joy flowed from them as they went back in history by memory. By pictures they saw their meager beginning, by memory they caught sight of the many souls that have been saved through this church, of which many of them are now with the Lord. By sight they looked upon their beautiful and comfortable facilities. In it all they saw God's hand of His marvelous mercy and grace, from which all blessings come. If this is not enough to cause one to offer praise and joy to our God, what then would it take?



A Drawing Of First Meeting Place

High Point FWB Church was organized by the late H. J. Sawyer of Fort Mill, SC. on July 15, 1944, and Rev. Harley Buckner assumed the pastorate of the church. Rev.



First Building Construced



Current Facility - Family Life Center In Background

E. R. Tyner was the pastor in 1949 when the second building was constructed. Rev. Carl Shook pastored High Point for approximately 15 years.

Rev. Harold Haynes followed him as pastor and was with the church when the current building construction began. Rev. James Wilhide succeeded brother Haynes as pastor and served the church for 17 years. He led the church in completing the construction of the building that began in 1974, the construction of "The Family Life Center Building", and paving of the parking lot. Brother Wilhide and his wife Carolyn, are now serving at Free Will Baptist Home For Children as Superintendent and House Mother. Rev. Jack Lassiter served the church as pastor for a brief time before taking the ministry as Promotional Director at Southeastern FWB College in Wendell, NC. The current pastor is Brother Stuart

Snow. He assumed the pastorate in March 1994. The church under his leadership is doing extremely well in spiritual and numerical growth. Brother Mitchell Davis serves as assistant pastor.

The singing for the occasion included the church choir and as usual they sang with spiritual fervor which was a tremendous blessing.

Brother James Haynes presided over most of the service. He called the names of the previous pastors and gave brief remarks about each one and in some cases a family member stood in for those who are deceased and for those who could not attend. They are: Rev. H.J. Sawyer - Mitchel Davis; Rev. H.T. Sellers -

no one; Rev. L.S. Powell-no one; Rev. Harley Buckner - no one; Rev. E.R. Tyner - his son, Rev. Everette Tyner; Rev. Carl Shook - his son, Donnie Shook; Rev. Harold Haynes, his twin brother, James Haynes; James Wilhide - his daughter-in-law, Linda Wilhide; Rev. Jack Lassiter - no one and Stuart Snow. He stood for himself. Brother Haynes also recognized the past and present deacons of the church. It was a tremendous service in which God was given praise and honor for what He had done. The people through the years are to be commended for permitting the Lord to work through them for this great accomplishment.

After the service the congregation was treated to a delicious dinner in the Family Life Center Building.



Pastor Snow (R) Presents Plaque To Molly And Norwood Gibson

Promotional Director And Wife Honored

High Point Free Will Baptist Church, Lancaster, SC, honored your State Promotional Director and his wife, Molly. The special service was held on Sunday morning, January 8. The High Point Church has been very supportive of the Promotional Office, the director and his wife for many years and in many ways. We are so grateful for their love and concern for us. Our thanks to Pastor Snow for arranging the service. The Gibson's were presented a very nice Plaque, which reads, "In Appreciation For All You Do In God's Work". God bless you!



District Officers For 1995-96. (LR) Study Course Chr., Retha McAlister; Secretary, Joyce Spalding; Coordinator, Shelly McKnight; Treasurer, Patricia Simmons; Prayer Chr., Carolyn Baxley; Mission Action Chr., Gwen Gunter; Field Worker, Gimpson Poston; Assistant Coordinator, Evis Poston (Standing in for her-Angie Stone, Former Coordinator and Marie Hanna.

Hillside Host Eastern District Auxiliary

The annual meeting of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary met on February 11, 1995, at Hillside FWB Church, in Florence. Mrs.



(BR-LR Marie Hanna) 1995-96 District Officers: Emmie Belle Brown, Coordinator; Ella Robinson; Secretary, Donna Hucks; Treasurer, Dorothy Inman; Mission Study Chr., Faye Hanna; FR-LR Assistant Coordinator, Angie Coker; Mission Action Chr., Vicki Seay; Song Leader, Evelyn Bell and Mission Prayer Chr., Evelyn Bell.

Central District Auxiliary Meets With First Myrtle Beach

First FWB Church, Myrtle Beach, hosted the

Angie Stone, district president presided over the days activities.

The theme for the day was "Love One Another", taken from 1 John 4:10-11. The thought for the day was "While faith makes all things possible, love makes all things easy." The one day session began with the welcome by Susie Poston of the host church. The district president gave her message followed by a special in song by Robyn Timmons.

The 1994 "Activities Reports" were given by Frances Poston, National Retreat; Shelley McKnight, State Convention; Teresa Smith, National Convention; Lillian Clayton, Mother-Daughter Banquet and Lou Etta Williams, Praise and Prayer Rally

Missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna were

annual session of the Central District Woman's Auxiliary on Saturday, February 18. Sister Emmie Bell Brown, Vice President, presided over the one day session.

The theme for the meeting was "Caring For Others In The World". The thought for the day was "When our hearts are in tune with God we will be more caring for others."

Sister Peggy Brown extended the welcome and Rev. Jimmy Brown, pastor of the church, gave the devotion.

The reports on the 1994 activities were given by: Mary Coker, Mother Daughter Banquet; Angie Lahmon, Prayer and Praise Rally; Dorothy Inman, State Convention; Camille

the guest speakers for the event. Carlisle delivered the message in the morning worship service. Marie gave the devotion in the afternoon service.

A special in song, rendered by Juanita Altman, got the afternoon session underway, which consisted mostly of business and the installation of the new officers. Marie Hanna conducted the installation service.

It is very noteworthy that the number of local church auxiliaries that make up this district are few. However, in addition to many other causes they support they gave in excess of \$2,300.00 to missions.

It would be an injustice to close this article without mentioning the delicious dinner that the ladies of the host church prepared for the conferees and convey thanks to them for it. Ladies, you have not lost your touch in putting on a spread of delicious food.

Scott, National (WNAC) Convention and Emmie Bell Brown, National Retreat.

Special music was rendered by Amanda Mincey, Soloist; Camille Scott, Soloist and by "Friends of the Father", a quartet from the host church, consisting of Chevelle Turner, Kelvin Smith, Pat Wilds and Randy Smith.

Carlisle and Marie Hanna were the guest speakers. Carlisle delivered the message in the morning worship service. Marie gave the devotion in the afternoon service and conducted the installation service of the elected officers.

The ladies enjoyed a delicious meal together and a good time of fellowship. It seems that a few men had their hands in serving up the good food, so I guess we better say, Thank you ladies and men for the food and the appropriately decorated dining area.

The 1996 district session will be held February 17, 1996.



Sixty Six Club Members

First Kingstree Promotes Bible Reading

About eight years ago First FWB Church, Kingstree, SC implemented a program that was designed to encourage the members to read the Bible through each year. It is called the "66 CLUB", named so for the sixty six books of the Bible. It has been very effective. They now have about forty members, with two new "Bible Readers" added in 1994.