

The Informer



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

Merry Christmas

Ron Moore **Recommended For** **Promotional Director**

After reviewing three resumes and a personal interview with each applicant the Executive Committee chose Ron Moore as a commendation to the State Association to be elected to replace Norwood Gibson for the director of this state ministry.

Brief comments will be made here about Brother Moore. The January-February issue of The Informer will carry a feature article giving detailed information about him and his position about the ministry. Brother Ron is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN and holds a Masters Degree from Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC. Prior to his nine year ministry with the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Department, serving in Ivory Coast, West Africa, his entire pastoral ministry was in South Carolina, with the exception of his first ministry, helping to organize Surrency Free Will Baptist Church in Surrency Georgia. He left a fruitful ministry with Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Georgetown, SC to enter the missionary ministry in Africa. While at the church in Georgetown he began Calvary Christian School, which exist until this day.

The Executive Committee acted at the request of Brother Gibson and he is in full agreement with and endorses the committee's choice. The Promotional Office Ministry and the Christian Book Store Ministry has grown to the point that one man can no longer serve both effectively.

Promotional Office Ministry is on a sound foundation, and church supported. The book store is still in its infancy and needs close scrutiny as it grows to maturity. Brother Gibson

*And A
Happy New
Year*

**From Your Promotional
Director And The
Employees Of FWB
Christian Book Store**

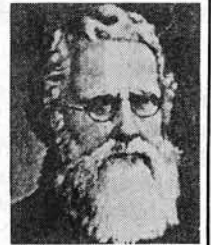
**State Convention
Thursday-February 29th
and
Friday-March 1st.
Hosted By The Eastern
Conference At
Gilead FWB Church
Lake City, SC
Full Details In The Next
Issue Of The Informer**

will remain as manager of the book store until it is fully stocked, financially sound and capable of paying a manager and employees.

The rumor mill has it that Brother Gibson is retiring. Don't believe it!! He may be tired, he may seek retreading, but he will stay active in the ministry in whatever capacity the Lord directs as long as he has breath left in his body.

Anyone who may have questions about this change, and would like answers, you may call Brother Gibson at the Promotional Office. Telephone 1-803-662-5010

*Hudson
Taylor
1832 - 1905*



Point Of Interest

The following article may or may not be true, but it is certainly of great interest. The information at the end of the article will give explanation of how it came into existence.

Hudson Taylor "Saw" Today In 1855.

Hudson Taylor, missionary to China and founder of the first truly interdenominational foreign mission, the China Inland Mission, was graced by God to "glimpse" some of today's events 140 years ago! On one of his furloughs to England in 1855, Taylor was preaching when he suddenly stopped. He stood speechless for a time with his eyes closed. When he began to
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TAYLOR FROM PAGE - 1

speak again he explained.

"I have seen a vision. I saw in this vision a great war that encompassed the whole world. I saw this war recess and then start again, actually being two wars. After this I saw much unrest and revolts that will affect many nations. I saw in some places spiritual awakenings".

"In Russia, I saw there will come a general all-encompassing, national SPIRITUAL AWAKENING so great that there could never be another like it. From Russia, I saw the awakening spread to many European countries. Then I saw an all-out awakening, followed by the Coming of Christ."

From an original Russian article titled Spiritual Revival published in Finland in 1945, Reprinted from Food for Life International, 1848 Liverpool Road, Suite 253, Pickering, Ontario, L1V 6M3, Canada.

Bible Conference Free Will Baptist Bible College March 10-14

Dr. Richard Melick, Jr., President of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas, Texas, will be the featured speaker at the Bible College's spring Bible Conference, March 10-14, 1996. Other speakers are Rev. Randy Sawyer, Rev. James Kelly Caudill and Rev. Roy Harris.

Brother Sawyer is pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Gastonia, NC. He is a 1978 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, has held over 200 revivals, and is currently completing his Masters Degree program at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Brother Caudill has pastored Tom's Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Nippa, Kentucky, for 23 years. He has had an evangelistic ministry in the United States and abroad, and enjoyed a successful radio ministry for 25 years.

Brother Harris is Free Will Baptist Bible College's Director of Stewardship Development. He earned his Bachelors and Master's Degree at FWB Bible College and has pastored in North Carolina, Georgia, and Kentucky.

Other features of the Bible Conference will include "homecoming for FWBBC alumni. Officers of the Alumni Association are planning to honor the classes of 1944, 1945 and 1946. Members of the class of 1971 will be honored by being seated with FWBBC President Tom Malone and past presidents of the college.

Pray For Carlisle Hanna

About a month ago Carlisle fell while walking from his home to the church on the mission compound and broke his elbow. Surgery was performed and the broken bones were wired together.

The last report of his condition he was doing well. PLEASE PRAY FOR COMPLETE HEALING

Carlisle Hanna Guest Speaker At Central Meeting



New Life Free Will Baptist Church, Conway, SC hosted the October 14th quarterly meeting of the Central Association. Moderator, Billy Baker, presided over the days activities.

Missionary Carlisle Hanna, Free Will Baptist 43 year Missionary to India, was the guest speaker in the morning service. In addition to sharing with the congregation the Word of God he related many things regarding his ministry in India and both were heart moving. The association gave him a very generous personal gift.

The morning devotion was delivered by Stewart Norris, Pastor of Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church at Whiteville, NC.

After the associations ministry reports, treasurers report, state visitors reports were received the business items were considered, which included receiving Brother James Crowe, pastor of Unity FWB Church, Johnsonville, into the association's fellowship. He came to them from the Eastern Conference.

The conferees enjoyed a time of fellowship around the table of "a good ole country meal" prepared by the ladies of the host church.

Eastern Conference Holds Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Eastern Conference was hosted by Gilead FWB Church, Lake City, SC on Saturday, October 21. Larry McAlister, Moderator, presided over the days activities. It was one of those services when the presence and power of the Holy Spirit seem to permeate the building, every song and message.

The host pastor and moderator, Larry McAlister, delivered the morning message from Job chapter one, entitled "What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do". Pastor Oscar Tedder delivered the message in the morning worship service. His message was taken from Daniel chapter 5, "The Hand Writing On The Wall".

The business session included granting a letter of good standing to the Central Association for Pastor James Crowe, and a letter of good standing to the Beaver Creek Association for Brother Marty Cox. Brother Crowe is now pastor of Unity FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC and Brother Cox is the pastor of New Life FWB

Church, Lancaster, SC. John Matthews was approved for ordination. He is a member of the Fellowship FWB Mission Church in Manning SC.

The business was concluded with the election of officers to serve in the 1996 sessions. They are: Terry Dennis, Moderator; Doug Pate, Assistant Moderator; Danny Johnson, Clerk-Treasurer.

The Gilead ladies served the conferees a delicious country dinner. The food was enjoyed with a time of good fellowship.

THE EASTERN CONFERENCE WILL HOST THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 AND FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1996. GILEAD WILL BE THE HOST CHURCH. COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM, MOTELS AND RESTAURANTS WILL BE GIVEN IN THE JANUARY-FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE INFORMER.

Walk And Bike-A-Thon Nets \$6,999.06

New Prospect Christian School held its annual Walk-A-Thon and Bike-A-Thon on Saturday, October 14, 1995, raising \$6,999.06 for the school ministry.

Winners in the "20 mile" Bike-A-Thon are: First Place (one hour), Scott Cagle, age 12. Second place (one hour and 20 minutes), Lance Cagle, age 12. Third place (one hour and 23 minutes), Daniel Parker, age 47.

Winners in the "5 mile Walk-A-Thon" are: First place (one hour and 22 minutes), Christopher Powell, age 10. Second place (one hour and 23 minutes), Kenny Haselden, age 19. Third place (one hour and 25 minutes), Brenda Calcutt, age 33.

The school's administrator and church pastor, Joe Cagle raised \$2,090.00 through his sponsors, the largest amount as an individual. The students raised \$4,909.06 through their sponsors. The school classes also competed in raising the highest dollar amount. The winners in their respective category are 5-K class, \$454.75; 1st. Grade, \$367.00; 7th. Grade, \$255.00 and 9th grade, \$150.00.

Two individuals raised a tidy sum, Mrs. Linnie Mae Parker \$215.00 and Brock Cooper, a four year old, \$350.01. He is the son of Al and Angela Cooper.

New Prospect Christian School is a ministry of New Prospect Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Joe Cagle is pastor-administrator and Ms Lula Mims is supervisor of the school. Her summary of the event is, "A Great Success And A Great Time By All".

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Telephone 803/662-5010



Who Is The Lion? ? The Ladies In The Background (Carolyn Wilhide Visible) Don't Seem To Be Disturbed By The Vicious Animal

State Auxiliary Retreat Sets Record Attendance

More than 300 ladies gathered at Lookup Lodge, located about 10 miles north of Travelers Rest, South Carolina, nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, on September 15 and 16 for the State Women's Auxiliary Retreat. A new record was set for the biannual event. The well-balanced program was packed with fun and fellowship—enthusiastic singing, hilarious skits, exciting contests, challenging messages and a time of powerful prayer. The theme and key verse of this year's retreat were "the strength of a lion," Proverbs 28:1. The lodge was decorated with banners, posters and (what else?) a lot of stuffed lions! Oh, yes, a few live ones too. (People) Mona Dukes, from Westside FWB Church, kept the ladies in stitches with her unique style of song leading. Several new songs were introduced this year. Two of the funniest were "Count Your Calories" by Velma Haynes and "Is Your Hair Falling Out?" The last song was written by Pam Hackett and sung to Norwood Gibson by ladies from Inman Christian Academy and Horse Branch FWB Church. Four young ladies from Inman sang "I Just Can't Wait to Be King." But, sworn to secrecy by Sister Gwen Hendrix, that's all we can say!

The ladies always seem to come up with new skits and contests. The Gilead ladies presented a humorous skit about "cooking meat loaf" which emphasized that God gives everyone

different talents. Miss Beulah Mims from Horse Branch gave a recitation titled "I Can't Remember." Everyone is still wondering if she ever got her letter mailed! The ladies from Gaffney FWB Church turned the lions loose on Sister Gwen with their humorous skit which emphasized that we need not fear our arch enemy, the roaring lion. Sherry Carter from Valley Falls held a "Snap, Crackle, Pop" contest. Ladies from the Beaver Creek and South Carolina Conference won. Donna Porter, from First FWB Church in Greenville, won the fashion contest with her lion's tee shirt and matching tote bag.

Joanne King, a retreat favorite from Cramerton, North Carolina, was the special speaker. On Friday evening she challenged women to make their home a place of nurture by slowing down, being there for their children and teaching them biblical values through an exemplary life. Her Saturday morning message touched on principles found in Luke 2:25-36, 2 Corinthians 12:5 and Psalms 71:17-18. The ladies were challenged to "grow old gracefully," to stand strong in the Lord and to pass on their faith to their children and their children's children.

One of the highlights of the retreat was the time of testimony and prayer that the ladies spent together. They were divided into four groups. Each was given a poster with the drawing of a large lion paw on it. They wrote a prayer request in each of the lion toes and a praise item in the center. After spending about twenty minutes in prayer, they reassembled and each group shared their requests and praise items with the entire assembly.

Ron Moore, missionary to Ivory Coast, and Marie Hanna, missionary to India, attended the retreat. Brother Ron expressed his and Linda's appreciation to the Auxiliaries for their prayer and financial support during their nine years with the Mission. Sister Marie brought greetings from India and gave a short report on the work there. The ladies then received a special offering for Sister Marie so she could purchase a needed set of new luggage.

Two problems arose out of this year's retreat, however: (1) If the attendance continues to increase, where are they going to put everyone? And (2) How can the program keep getting better and better? Congratulations, ladies, for a job well done! Those are two very nice problems to have.

Totherow New Pastor Bethel - Fort Mill

Crawford R. Totherow, a native of Rock Hill, SC became pastor of Bethel FWB Church, Fort Mill, SC in April of 1995. He and his church are members of the Palmetto Conference.

He was saved in 1990 at a Pentecostal church in Rock Hill. He was a member of First Free Will Baptist Church in Rock Hill and served as



BR-LR Beth and Crawford, Jr. FR-LR Mrs. Crawford (Cheryl) And Pastor Totherow

Christian Education Director, Adult Sunday School Teacher and assistant to the pastor. Brother Crawford was ordained in June of 1995 by the Palmetto Conference.

The church has been progressing under his leadership with a numerical increase with new converts. He baptized six recently with another baptism scheduled soon. God has blessed them with a good number of young people that are interested in spiritual growth which is evidenced by their attendance on Wednesday nights.

The church facilities have also had a touch of renovations. New carpet has been installed in the sanctuary, the fellowship hall has been repainted, a pastors study added, a central heating and cooling system installed and the parking lot improved with gravel.

Pastor Crawford is married to the former Cheryl Phifer, a native of Rock Hill. They have one son, Crawford Totherow, Jr., age 13, and a daughter, Beth Totherow, age 11.

It is always a refreshing joy to hear of growth in a church. May God grant it to continue with this congregation.

Tindall Takes Socastee Pastorate



Don Tindall, a native of McColl, SC became pastor of Socastee Free Will Baptist Church, Socastee, SC in March 1995.

He was saved in 1969 at a revival meeting under the ministry of Evangelist, Clyde Reap in Gastonia, NC. Brother Tindall was ordained by the Piedmont Association of North Carolina
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FWB Churches and attended Cramerton Bible Institute.

Former pastorates in North Carolina are Shining Light FWBC, Rockingham and Robinson Creek, FWBC, Bostic. Former pastorates in South Carolina are First FWBC, Enoree; Little Bethel FWBC, Johnsonville; Mt. Trolley FWBC, Galivants Ferry; Hillside FWBC, Florence and New Life FWBC, Conway.

Pastor Tindall is married to the former Helen Ann Johnson, a native of Lumberton, NC. They have one son and one daughter and both reside in Gastonia, NC.

We extend a hearty welcome to the Tindall's back to the Central Association and to South Carolina. May the Lord give them a long and fruitful ministry with the fine Congregation at Socastee.



FR-LR Mrs. (Kathy) Simmons, Pastor Simmons. Standing In Back Is Their Daughter Becky.

Simmons Takes Pastorate With Parkway

Brother Leon Simmons, a native of Whiteville, NC, assumed the pastorate of Parkway Free Will Baptist Church, Spartanburg, SC the first Sunday in September, 1995.

Brother Simmons was saved in 1971 after being discharged from military service. It took place on a Monday afternoon under a pecan tree at his fathers home after being convicted during a service in his home church, Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist in Whiteville.

His preaching ministry began in 1973 and his former pastorates are Mt. Olive FWBC, Hallsboro, NC; Mt. Calvary FWBC, Clarkton, NC, Mt. Ariel FWBC, Conway, SC; Cypress Creek FWBC, Whiteville, NC; Mt. Carmel FWBC, Lexington, NC; Calvary FWB Church, Jacksonville, NC and Faith FWBC, Rockingham, NC. He came to Parkway from the latter pastorate.

Pastor Simmons is married to the former Kathy

Nethercott, a native of Riverhead, NY. He met her while serving in the US Air Force. They have 3 children, Becky, age 22 of the home; a married son and daughter, both residing in Lexington, NC. Of course, we can't leave the grandchildren out, they have three.

We extend a hearty welcome to the Simmon's to the Beaver Creek Association and to our state. May the Lord give them a long, fruitful ministry with the fine congregation at Parkway.



Men Depositing Their Coins In The Bucket First. Patsy Hyman Reversed The Bucket Position When She Pulled In Her "Wells Fargo Wagon". Read The Article For The Final Results

Immanuel's Benjamin Randall Day Nets \$1,000.00

Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church, Santee, SC held a special "BENJAMIN RANDALL DAY" for National Home Missions on Sunday, November 19. Pastor Herman Hyman had been reminding his folks about the special day through out the year and to save their coins. They had set a goal of \$1,000.00 and they reached it. For a small congregation as this it was an outstanding accomplishment.

It was a challenge between the men and the ladies to see which could raise the most coins in weight. The defeated group would have to serve the other a meal. Well, it is difficult to reveal the results, but we must. The ladies will feed the men a meal sometime in January.

Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director was the guest speaker for the morning service. It was a very exciting time for both the morning and evening service. They had made a scale using a galvanized pipe with a bucket attached to each end of the pipe. The pipe was attached in mid center to a structure to assure an even balance. On Sunday morning coins were placed in the buckets, the left for the men and the right for the ladies. The men's bucket rested on the floor first indicating they had the greater

weight. Patsy Hyman, the pastors wife, is a little sneaky. She slipped out of the sanctuary and soon returned pulling a small covered wagon with the words, "Wells Fargo For Missions". When she placed her coins on the scale it shifted positions in favor of the ladies. The men must have been more sneaky than Patsy because in the evening service the men placed more coins in their bucket, so much that the scale not only dipped in their favor, but the weight of the coins was so heavy the pipe holding the buckets broke. All of the coins weighed in at 333-1/2 pounds. When all gifts were counted the total was \$1,000.00. This congregation is to be commended for this remarkable success.



Mullins-Marion FWB Church, Mullins, SC is in a building program that will greatly increase their facilities. The building to the far right is the newly completed fellowship hall. The center back facility under construction will be additional educational space. The concrete slab in the immediate front will be their new sanctuary.

The Church has experienced a remarkable growth recently. Bill Jacobs is the pastor.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to a heavy work load and limited help this edition of "The Informer" is limited in size. It was a must in order to get it to you before Christmas. Many articles have been postponed until the January issue. All articles to date will be included in this issue. Thanks for your understanding.