

The Informer



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

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

Children's Home Day - November 4th.

Gibson Guest Speaker Children's Home Day



State Promotional
Director, Norwood
Gibson will be the guest speaker at the

NOVEMBER 4, 1995
CHILDREN'S HOME DAY

This has been an annual event for many years and it has served many purposes. 1) Our Free Will Baptist people and friends of the home have an opportunity to visit the children and the facilities. 2) It provides a time of good fellowship and food. 3) Most of all, it opens an opportunity for Free Will Baptists and friends of the home to give of their money and substance in support of the home.

By the time you read this article you should have received notice from the home about what their needs are.

What Are The Needs? How Can They Best Be Met?

The needs are what any family with children may need, from clothing to toilet articles and everything in between, including food to give a balanced daily meal. What is the best way to meet these needs? By giving cash. Many times when commodities are given there is an over supply of certain items and a shortage of others. With cash gifts the home supervision can purchase the needed items when they need them.

This prevents both over supply and the shortage. Cash prevents a lot of work on the part of donors. They do not have to go buy the items and take them to the church or another collecting point.

However, please understand you can give commodities and they will be greatly appreciated.

As always, the home will have a worship service of good singing and preaching. Also, the home will treat those present with a delicious meal. **YOU ARE INVITED TO COME SHARE IN THE FESTIVITIES OF THE DAY. ASK YOUR PASTOR FOR MORE DETAILS.**

THE HOME IS IN NEED OF HOUSE PARENTS MARRIED OR SINGLE

If you are interested or if you know of anyone that is interested in this ministry please call the Children's Home Director, Rev. James Wilhide 659-2880

A Letter From Parson Jones

Attendance at church Sunday was mighty poorly. I don't reckon I oughta grumble cause I had a bunch of sick members and when you add to all that my shut-ins, we

don't have a sight of pew fillers. So I went ahead and preached to what I had. Only thing was the echo in the near empty church hurt my ears. My madam said I needed to get out and ride awhile and let the fresh air clear my head. It done the trick. Our little ride not only cleared my head, it made me feel right good inside. What I saw made me rejoice. I saw miracle after miracle.

Ole Hezekia who had been deathly sick that very morning, had roused up and was riding down the highway with his fishing poles. No, nothin but a miracle could have rescued Ole Hez from the jaws of death in such a short time.

Now there's Rufe's brother. Rufe told me Sunday morning that his brother's back was in such foul shape that they was afraid an operation was gonna be necessary. Well, we remembered him in our prayers, and lo and behold, at two o'clock there he stood at the driving range hitting golf balls. If that wasn't a quick recovery, then what is?

All told, about 20 of my sick folks had roused up and was taking nourishment in one form or another. But what really made me happy was to see so many of my shut-ins out riding around and enjoying the world. Hezekiah's paw, who don't attend church cause he can't stand crowds, was headed for the drag races. Sister Nell's mama who was too weak to get outa the house, was in town shopping. Ellie's sister, who can't come on account of her kidneys, stood in line two hours to get into the show. It was a show about "The Miracle Worker". I thought it was right appropriate, seeings as how a miracle had happened to her.

Yes, sir, it thrilled my heart to see what I saw. I ought to have a packed house next Sunday with all my sick folks being healed and shut-ins being set free. I just hope they don't overdo themselves before next Sunday and have a relapse. I gotta go now and play with my smallest youngun. He is gonna be the farmer and I'm gonna be the goat. Tin cans will be easy to eat after what I've swallowed. - Copied

"POP" WILLEY MISSION OFFERING

The annual "Pop" Willey missions offering has been on a low profile recently, and for good reason. A few years ago the national ministries set annual fund raising months to aid in additional income to operate the ministry. Since the "Pop" Willey Offering culminated at the end of December it was a conflict with the Bible College month. NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS HAS THE "BENJAMIN RANDALL OFFERING" IN NOVEMBER, FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE HAS THE "PAUL KETTEMAN MEMORIAL FUND" IN DECEMBER AND THE FOREIGN MISSIONS HAS THE "LAURA BELLE BARNARD WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING" IN APRIL.

Previously the "Pop" Willey Offering embraced both home and foreign missions. It will now be strictly for foreign missions. The date for this offering is set for January through April. OUR CHURCHES WILL BE REQUESTED TO SET THE LAST SUNDAY IN APRIL AS "POP" WILLEY FOREIGN MISSIONS SUNDAY. THIS MEANS THAT THE FOUR MONTH EFFORT WILL CULMINATE ON THIS DATE. IF THIS PROGRAM IS PROMOTED WITH THE BIG SUNDAY EMPHASIS IT WILL BRING IN A LARGE SUM OF MONEY FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The first priority for this offering is our South Carolina foreign missionaries. Churches will be given information about the needs of our missionaries. Churches will have the choice of designating their offerings. They will have the needed information about the needs of each missionary so they can prayerfully seek God's leading about who to give it to. It can be designated to divide it among all or any number of missionaries or missions projects.

Churches will be receiving promotion materials and more information about this in the mail soon.

Free Will Baptist Bible College Briefs

Bible College Enrolls 346 For Fall Semester

THIRTEEN SOUTH CAROLINA STUDENTS ENROLLED IN BIBLE COLLEGE. THEY ARE: Eric Brown, Temple FWB Church, Darlington; Ashley Cannon, Corrie Coker, Kristie Coker, Montee McKenzie and Tracy Mims-all from Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville; Shiloh Hackett, Fairview,

FWB Church, Spartanburg; Amy Hudson, Black River FWB Church, Andrews; Margaret Barnes Hampton, Midlands FWB Church, West Columbia; Kristi Hanna Johnson, Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville; Darla Kirby, Bethany FWB Church, Timmonsville; Walter Lee, Fellowship FWB Church, Florence and Jason Turner, Fellowship FWB Church, Manning

Forlines Lectures

Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, who served 22 years as president of Columbia International University (formerly Columbia Bible College) will be Free Will Baptist Bible College's guest speaker for the 1995 Leroy Forlines Lectures to be held on campus October 24-26.

Prior to his service at CIU, Dr. McQuilkin was a church-starting missionary in Japan for 12 years. At CIU he led in the training of thousands of young people who are now a missionary force that circles the earth.

Pastors Conference Successful

Quote From Tom Malone, College President. "The conference was not only challenging and encouraging, it was packed full of practical helps for the preacher. I appreciated Dr. Olford's continual emphasis on "preach the Word". The Tuesday night message is still challenging me concerning the Lordship of Christ. Many pastors shared with me how they were helped and encouraged, and thanked the college for sponsoring the conference."

SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS

20% Increase In Enrollment

Southeastern Free Will Baptist College, Wendell, NC had a 20% increase in the 1995 fall semester student enrollment over the same period of 1994.

Seven South Carolina students are in the student body. They Are: Andrea Woodsin, Sophomore; Melissa Gilbert, Junior, both from First Free Will Baptist Church, Inman. Jennifer Ange, Freshmen, from Jefferson Road FWB Church in Sumter; Kimberly Beavers, Freshmen, First FWB Church, Gastonia, NC (Kimberly lives in Clover, SC, but her church is in North Carolina; Rev. Peter Bove, Freshmen, from Gilead FWB Church, Lake City; John Driggers, Freshmen, from Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward and D. J. Miles, Sophomore, from Peace FWB Church, Florence.

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**WNAC RETREAT
OCTOBER 20-22, 1995
GLORIETA CONFERENCE
CENTER
GLORIETA, NEW MEXICO**
**FOR MORE DETAILS AND
REGISTRATION FORM CALL
WNAC 1-615/731-6812 OR THE
STATE PROMOTIONAL
OFFICE 1-803/662-5010**

Available Preachers

REV. CARLON GASQUE is available for supply preaching. He can be contacted by calling him at 1-803/358-3042. His address is Route 2, Box 171, Aynor, SC 29511. The best time to call is after 5:00 pm. He is a member in good standing with the Central Association of South Carolina FWB Churches.

REV. LEROY SEXTON is available for a pastorate and supply preaching. He can be contacted by calling 1-803/684-8082. His address is 493 Sutton Springs Road, York, SC 29745. He is a member in good standing with the True Life Association of South Carolina FWB Churches.

REV. RANDALL WHITE is available supply preaching. He is a member of the Beaver Creek Association and Converse FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC. Wayne Price is his pastor. He can be contacted by call 1-803/463-9065. His address is 352 Oglesby Lane, Cowpens, SC 29330.

BRIAN BIRD is available for supply preaching. He is a member of the Beaver Creek Association and a member of Converse FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC. He can be contacted by calling 1-803/592-0426. His address is 1190 McSwain Rd., Chesnee, SC 29323.

PHILLIP A. SMITH Is available for supply preaching. He is going through the Beaver Creek plan of study for new ministers. Brother White is a member of Valley Falls FWB Church in Spartanburg. He can be contacted by calling 1-803/585-1078 (home number) or 1-803/580-5268 (work number). His address is 213 Windy Hill Drive, Pauline, SC 29347.

Available Evangelist

JERRY FRANKLIN. Brother Jerry is available for full time evangelism and will appreciate it if you would give him prayerful consideration about a meeting with your church. His address is 619 Britt Str. Spartanburg, SC 29301. Telephone 1-803/576-7756. His recent pastorate was with Happy
Continued To Page - 3

Continued From Page - 2

Home FWB Church, Andrews, SC. He was a member in good standing with the Eastern Conference. It is possible that he remains a member there. It is not known if he moved his membership to Beaver Creek Association.

Notice

Rev. Everett Tyner is no longer affiliated with the Eastern Conference of South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches.

Poplar Hill Calls Stepp For Pastor

James Stepp, a native of Greenville, NC, assumed the pastorate of Poplar Hill FWB Church, Hemingway, SC in March 1995. He came to Poplar Hill from a pastorate with Grimesland FWB Church, Grimesland, NC.

He was saved in March 1963 at Mt Calvary FWB Church, Huckerton, NC under the ministry of Gordon Subastien. Brother Stepp was ordained by his home church in 1964. His college training was at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN during the years 1965-1969.

Former pastorates are: Greenwood FWB Church, Cross Plains, TN; Davis FWB Church, Davis, NC; Bay Branch, FWB Church, Timmons ville, SC; First FWB Church, Titusville, FL; Lighthouse FWB Church, Siler City, NC and Grimesland FWB Church, Grimesland, NC.

Pastor Stepp is married to the former Linda Harrell, also a native of Greenville, NC. They have two sons and one daughter: Mrs. Gregg (Teresa Lynn) S. Sullivan, Greenville, NC; David Frank Stepp, Atlanta GA, and John Walter Stepp, Greenville, NC.

On behalf of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists and the South Carolina Conference a warm hearty welcome is extended to Brother and Sister Stepp. May they enjoy a long, fruitful ministry with Poplar Hill and be an asset for the cause of Christ in our State.

Conyers At St. Johns Patrick

Richard Conyers, a native of Sumter, SC, completed his



first year as pastor of St Johns Free Will Baptist Church, Patrick, SC. He came to the church in September 1994. His mother and father are faithful servants of the Lord in Jefferson Road FWB Church until this day.

The Sumter native was raised up in Jefferson Road FWB Church. His mother led him to the Lord at home in 1967. He answered God's call to preach in 1984 and was ordained by the South Carolina Conference of South Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches.

Brother Richard graduated from Southeastern FWB College, Wendell, NC in 1988 with a Bible Diploma.

His past ministry was in Texas. First with a mission work in Levelland Texas and Westside FWB Church in Midland Texas.

Pastor Conyers is married to the former Brenda Pate, a native of Pikeville, NC. Her home church is Faith Free Will Baptist in Goldsboro, NC. They have one son and a daughter; Richard Lee Conyers, Jr., age 6 and Rachel Conyers, age 4.

On behalf of the South Carolina State Association and the South Carolina Conference we extend to Brother Richard, Sister Brenda and the children a warm, hearty welcome back home. This is a belated welcome, but none the less sincere.

May our Lord give them a long, fruitful ministry at St Johns.



Pastor and Mrs. Jerry White

White Called To Liberty Orangeburg

A native of Jasper, Alabama was called as missionary pastor for Liberty FWB Church, Orangeburg, SC. This work is under the South Carolina Home Mission Board and Brother Jerry White came to the church by call of the board.

Brother White was saved at age 16 in May 1958. He was ordained in May 1982 by the Progressive Association of Alabama.

He is a graduate of Walker Junior College, Jasper Alabama and Sanford University of Pharmacy.

His only previous pastorate was a 12 year tenure with his home church, Cordova Free Will Baptist in Cordova, Alabama. He came to Orangeburg from that ministry in June 1995.

Pastor White is married to the former Etta Guyton, a native of Cordova AL. They have one son, Andrew White, age 18, who plans to

attend a diesel Auto School in Nashville, TN. Three daughters, Naomi White, who is a student at Pevill State College in Sumiton, AL with plans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham; Monica White, a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN and is currently in China as a missionary while teaching English, and Merenda White Parrish, the wife of Rev. Todd Parrish, Youth Pastor at Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville, SC.

On behalf of the South Carolina State Association and the South Carolina Conference we extend a hearty, warm welcome to Brother and Sister White to the conference and our state. They are very happy with their new ministry and may our Lord give them a long and fruitful one.

New Life Calls Cox As Pastor

Marty Cox, a native of Hemingway, SC was called as pastor to New Life FWB Church, Lancaster, SC. This is the second pastorate for this young preacher and all reports indicate that God is blessing his new ministry. Both, he and his wife Annette, are very pleased and happy to be with New Life. He came to New Life from Mill Branch FWB Church, located in Poston's Corner, a community near Johnsonville, SC.

Brother Marty's home church is New Vision Free Will Baptist, Hemingway, SC. He was licenced and ordained by the Eastern Conference. He attended Holmes College of the Bible in Greenville, SC. While in Greenville he attended First FWB Church in Greer, SC, working with his former pastor, Brother John Suttles.

Pastor Cox is married to the former Annette Baxley, a native of Johnsonville, SC. They have two sons, Marvin Calvin (Cal) Cox, Jr., age 6 and Caleb, age 1.

On behalf of the Beaver Creek Association we extend a warm, hearty welcome to their area of the State. May the joy of their new ministry continue into a long and fruitful one for the New Life Church.

Gaffney Calls Miller AS Pastor

Brother Jim Miller assumed the pastorate of Gaffney



Miller From Page - 3

FWB Church, Gaffney, SC, in July 1995. Both, he and his wife Melanie, are natives of Lancaster, SC and they are very happy with the new ministry.

In conversation with Pastor Miller recently he stated that the church is now averaging 103. He has held several pastorates in South Carolina which have been very successful. He came to Gaffney from a nine year pastorate with Parkway FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC. Parkway was formerly known as Hearon Circle FWB Church. Brother Miller led the church through relocating and a tremendous building program. It included a new sanctuary, educational facilities and family life center.

While he was working with New Life FWB Church, Lancaster, he was licensed by the Beaver Creek Association in 1978. His first pastorate was with First FWB Church, Dublin, GA. While in Georgia he was ordained by the Georgia Union Association in 1980. Other pastorates in South Carolina were Grace FWB Church, Lancaster; Damascus FWB Church, Conway and Hillside FWB Church in Florence.

May the Lord bless them with a long and fruitful ministry in Gaffney.



(L) Ralph Sullivan (Deacon) Presents Pastor and Mrs. Brasington With A Plaque

Lesslie Pastor Honored At Pastor Appreciation Day

Lesslie FWB Church, Lesslie, SC - a community at Rock Hill, SC, honored their pastor, George Brasington, with a "Pastor appreciation Day". It was held on Sunday, May 28. They also included the celebration of "Memorial Day". Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director, was guest speaker for the occasion.

The church gave Pastor Brasington two suits. The Woman's Auxiliary gave him two shirts and ties. After the morning service the congregation pinned money on the pastor and his wife, Joyce.

Brother George and his wife Joyce are natives of Lancaster, SC. This is the second pastorate with the Lesslie Church. His first tenure was in

1982-1984. His current ministry with the church began in 1993. The period between 1984 and 1993 he was pastor of Pine Grove FWB Church, Jefferson, SC for 6 years. Brother George is employed by El Dupont Company in Camden and is looking forward to his retirement so he can pastor full time.

The Brasingtons' have three children. Brian of the home and employed, David, a student at York Technical School and Mrs. Randy (Sheila) Roberts. They reside in Elgin, SC.

The Lesslie congregation is to be commended for this expression of love and appreciation for their pastor and family.



Pastor Jim Miller And Wife Melanie Going Down The Isle With A Shocked And Surprise Look On Their Face

Parkway Honors Pastor and Wife

The theme of the Saturday, May 6 "Appreciation Service" was "This Is Your Life".

David Carter, pastor of Valley Falls FWB Church, served as the narrator.

The first message he conveyed was a letter from the church to Pastor Jim Miller and his wife, Melanie. After reading the content of the letter you will agree that it is worthy of printing in full here.

In Appreciation

For you dear pastor, we celebrate the ninth anniversary of your leadership at Parkway Free Will Baptist Church. It has been a joy to have such a dedicated man of God as you, for our pastor. You and your wife, Melanie, have touched all of our lives in a spiritual and personal way.

We have laughed, cried, shouted, hugged, and shared many emotions together. It is with the love we have for you that we honor you today with "This Is Your Life", Jim Miller.

Parkway FWB Church Congregation.

The narrator shared a number of things pertaining to the young lives of Jim and Melanie; from the time they met, dating, their

marriage, Jim's time in military service, his return home and how he came to be saved. It also included the events of his early service to the lord and his call into the ministry. They were very informative and interesting events.

As the narrator continued to read the event in his life he would stop at points and a voice would come over the PA system and make a statement that hopefully Jim would recognize and most of them he did. They included his past pastors, Brother Ansel Smith and Brother L.H. Clayton; friends and relatives. One person spoke and put Jim in tears. It was his brother Dan, from Spokane Washington, whom he had seen only one time in 10 years. He has two other brothers, Wayne and Scoopy, and they shared in the service.

The Parkway congregation gave Jim and Melanie more than \$2,000.00.

The large congregation that gathered to share in this special occasion enjoyed the fellowship and food at the reception.

This church is to be commended for expressing their love for their pastor in this most impressive way.



Brother Jim Miller (R) Embraces A Former Pastor, Rev. L.H. Clayton, Who Is Now Retired

Pastor Receives \$10,000 Gift From Church

Brother David Anders assumed the pastorate of New Life FWB Church, Lancaster, SC, in September, 1981. God blessed his sixteen year ministry with the church in spiritual and numerical growth. Under his leadership the church was very generous to outside ministries. They were very generous in benevolent giving to folks in the church and in the community. He led the church in a \$350,000.00 building program which produced a beautiful church facility. The beauty of the facility is enhanced by the new lighted church sign. A fund raising effort was implemented to pay off the debt. The

Continued To Page - 5

Anders Continued From Page - 4

Lord blessed their effort, which enabled them to pay off the indebtedness in nine years.

When Brother David left the church in May the congregation of New Life gave him, and his wife Parlie, a generous gift of \$10,000.00. Does the Lord reward faithfulness???? Yes, indeed He does.

By means of The Informer, New Life Church would like to express their love and appreciation for his many years of faithful service.



Pastor Owens Eating Dinner On Roof

Pastor Enjoys Dinner On Roof Top

The congregation of First FWB Church, Kingstree, SC saw more than their attendance climb on "Roll Call Sunday" last November. The pastor, Wayland Owens, challenged the congregation to exceed the attendance of the previous Roll Call Sunday. He promised the folks if they would exceed the attendance he would eat dinner on the roof of the church building. Their previous attendance was 178. On Roll Call Sunday 94 they had 227 in attendance, a gain of 49.

Brother Owens fulfilled his promise, with a little extra. The extra was that he dressed in a bright yellow suit. The above picture proves he ate dinner on the roof top. If he goes any higher up to eat he will have to wait until the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

In the morning service the congregation enjoyed a gospel singing rendered by the McNeils, a gospel group from Lumberton, NC

Hillside Purchase Van

A 1994 15 passenger van was purchased by Hillside FWB Church in Florence. The van is in excellent condition with only 30,000 miles on it. The purchase was very good. The retail value was more than \$20,000.00, but they were blessed to get it for \$17,500.00.

Mr. Ralph Love, a member of the church, gave \$1,250.00 toward the cost of the vehicle in memory of his uncle, David Pierce.

Pastor Todd Smith stated, "the vehicle will be used for church activities for every age group and for a ministry in reaching souls for Christ".

Pastor Smith is excited about the wonderful work that God is doing at Hillside. He shared with the congregation at a recent quarterly meeting that the church's mission giving was up 90% over the previous quarter. The pastor said, "How true it is that we can never out give God; and when we give cheerfully to God's work, He bountifully returns added blessings to us." He is grateful to the church for their gracious giving that made the van purchase possible. Truly God is good and to Him be the glory, for great things he hath done.



Hillside's Van

Great Happenings At First Church Chester

After reading this article you will agree the heading of the article is correct.

Church Has New Sign

Standing by the new sign is Pastor Sanders, his wife (R) Terry Kay and (L) their daughter Brandee. The sign was installed on August 27, at a cost of \$3,500.00. Anyone will agree that it is a beautiful addition to an already attractive facility.



New Church Sign

Pastor Appreciation Day

Jimmie Sanders, pastor of the church, had a great day on Sunday, June 11. A layman in the church, Mr. Wayne Byars, brother of Ralph Byars, pastor of Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward, SC, delivered the morning message.

After the service the church expressed their love and appreciation for Brother Sanders with a basket full of money. He also received \$500.00 in addition to the basket of money.

Member Appreciation Day

157 members were in attendance for this occasion. The morning message was delivered by Brian Henson, the son of Lamar and Shirley Henson. His message was entitled "Secret Sins". Brian is 18 years of age and is a student at USC at Columbia and music is his course of studies. He plays the bass guitar and the piano. After the service the congregation enjoyed fellowship and a catered meal.

Water Rapids Ride

Twenty four members of Chester Church spent two days, June 30-July 1, at Beckly, West Virginia. The purpose of the trip was to share fellowship together and to take a "White Water Rapid Ride". The circulating question is, did Amy Darby fall into the river or did Pastor Sanders toss her into the water???? Will the one with the truth please come forward!!!!

Rock Hill Mission Experiences Rapid Growth

New Vision Free Will Baptist Church, Rock Hill SC moved from mission status to a self supporting church in two years. Brother Daggett Duncan is the founding pastor. The work began in March 1993 in a trailer chapel with 18 people in attendance. Since that time the congregation has grown and in April of this

year they purchased a 10 acre tract of land with a building on it, at a cost of \$75,000.00. Brother Duncan stated that it has an appraised value of \$225,000.00. The property is located on highway 901 about one mile south of the Rock Hill city limits and three tenths of a mile from I-77. It is an excellent location for a church.

The basic structure of the building was good, but it had to be completely renovated according to the required standards for public occupancy. The wiring and plumbing had to be replaced, light fixtures replaced, the walls and



Exterior Of Building Before Steeple And Canopy Was Installed

ceiling refinished. New carpet was installed on the floors.

With the work completed they now have a very attractive and convenient facility to meet in. The building now consist of a sanctuary, baptistery, nursery, classrooms, a fellowship hall, pastors study, rest rooms and a new sound system.

Since the above picture of the building was taken a steeple, inclement weather canopy and a new sign have been erected. All of the land has been cleared and they are in the process of

the Piedmont Medical Center and heads up local Helping Hands Benevolent Fund. Brother Duncan stated they have received 20 members into the church since being at the new location and have baptized seven converts recently.

All who are aware of this progress will confess that it is nothing short of a miracle from God. Pastor Duncan and his congregation are to be commended for permitting the Lord to use them in this remarkable way. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!!!

establishing a cemetery. In addition to Pastor Duncan's church responsibilities he is Chaplin of the York County Prison, Chaplin of the Oak Pond Nursing Home, Assistant Chaplin of

you for your service given with love, joy, peace, meekness and temperance. Galatians 5:22-23. Presented on this 7th. Day Of May 1995.

It is not sure what was given to Brother Cody in gifts of money and other items by the congregation. However, if measured by the love the folks have for him, they were very generous.

Expressions of appreciation for pastors by their congregation is becoming wide spread among Free Will Baptist through "Pastor Appreciation Days". Life for a pastor can and does become very difficult at time. An expression of love and appreciation is a source of strength for them. Thanks, Mt Carmel, for doing this for your pastor.



L-R Jerry Gentry, Geneva Spelts, Rodney McAbee and Phillip Smith. Recognized For Perfect Attendance And Reading The Bible Through in 1994

Great Events At Valley Falls

Pastor David Carter and his congregation at Valley Falls FWB Church, Spartanburg, have experienced some outstanding achievements in recent days.



Pastor Carter Presents Tressy With \$50 Gift Certificate

They held a "Friends Day" Promotion to increase their Sunday School and church attendance. **TRESSY PAYNE** received a \$50.00 gift certificate from the Christian Supply Store in Spartanburg for her outstanding effort in the campaign. She distributed 526 letters inviting folks to attend church on "Friend Day". "Friend Day" was a great success.

They also had seventeen members to receive recognition for perfect attendance in 1994. These faithful folks are pictured above. For members of the "6652" Club read the Bible through and had a perfect attendance

Continued To Page -7



Interior View Of New Vision's Sanctuary

Mt Carmel Honors Pastor

Mt. Carmel Free Will Baptist Church, York, SC held "Pastor Appreciation Day" Guest speaker for the occasion was Norwood Gibson, State Promotional Director. The church pastor, John Cody was presented a beautiful plaque. The only thing that could out do the appearance of it was the message inscribed on it. "Presented To John Cody and family for faithful, loving service to Mt. Carmel Free Will Baptist church for the last 14-1/2 years. Thank



(R) Brother Jeff Bolt, Deacon, Presents Brother Cody With A Plaque While His Family Looks ON. L-R Trisha, Wife-Sandy, Lisa and John Jr.

Valley Falls From Page -6
record for 1994.

Brother Carter and his folks are to be commended for this commitment to the Lord. Congratulations!!!!



Members Of The 1994 "6652" Club. With Perfect Attendance In 94. FR-LR Jamie Blume, Joey Blume, Rachel McAbee, Trent Payne, Jennifer Smith. SR-LR Cindy Norris, Glenda Smith, Sheila McAbee, Tunie Revis, Daniell Smith. BR-LR Travis Carter, Joey Norris, Pastor Carter, Sherry Carter, Joy Carter and Gina Revis.

These Three (Not Pictured) Read The Bible Through In One Year.: Lib Suttles, Christine Duncan and Donna Perry.



Senior Ladies Sunday School Class. This Class Was Recognized For Their Faithful Testimony In Sand Hill Church and The Community. Mrs. Belva Lee (RF) Is The Teacher. She has served As Teacher At Sand Hill Many, Many Years.

Sand Hill Celebrates 138th. Anniversary October 29

In October of 1994 the church held a big celebration of their 137th. anniversary. Many believe that the church is much older, but at the time this was as far back as they could verify. Dr. Robert Picirilli was the guest speaker. As Dr. Picirilli is known to do, he delivered a tremendous message in the morning worship service.

The Picirillis' have a great interest in Sand Hill because of past and present family ties in the church.

Sherwood Lee, Pastor of the church and his wife Vada, with the help of some in the congregation put together and displayed a lot of the church history through documents, pictures some former pastors, former buildings and various groups of the former congregations. It was very interesting to view these objects of history. The church gave plaques to various members who have served the church faithfully

and in some outstanding way.



BR-LR L.R. Mitchel Reynolds-Faithfulness as a Trustee and assisting with the remodeling of the church. Robert Collins-For helping with the remodeling of the church. Carl Reynolds-For leadership as chairman of the Trustee Board and building up-keep. Larry Reynolds-For faithfulness as a Trustee and with remodeling of the church. FR-LR Teresa McDonald-For her love commitment and dedication to the work of the youth. Meike McDonald-For her faithfulness in youth competition. Beatrice Carroway-For her willingness to be of service when needed and touching the lives of those in the church with flowers. Rosaland Collins-For her willingness to be of service when needed. Chad Matthews-For his faithfulness in youth competition. Not Pictured: Elma Lee-For her faithfulness as church pianist. Selma Lynch-For her faithfulness as church organist. Frances Pate, now deceased, was honored for her willingness to be of service when needed.

Volena Wilson Former Missionary To India

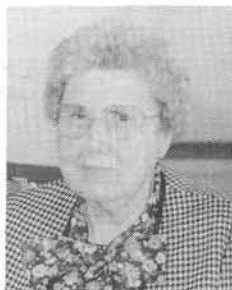
On Sunday
November 20, 1994
Sand Hill held a

"Special Missions Sunday" with Missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna. They have served in India now for 43 years. Another delight for the occasion was the presence of Miss Volena Wilson, a former Free Will Baptist Missionary to South India.

As always Brother Carlisle had a heart moving message for missions and news of interest about the work in India. Sand Hill is known for its generosity in giving to ministries beyond their church, especially to missions. The church gave sufficient funds for the Hannas to build a church building in India with Sand Hill name on it.

The church choir and soloist Vada Lee rendered special music for the service and indeed it was a blessing.

On Sunday, October 29, 1995, Sand Hill will celebrate their 138th. anniversary. With homecoming services. Dr Charles Thigpen, a former professor and president of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN. will be



the guest speaker. It will be another great day in the life of this church.

The congregations of the past and the present are to be commended for the great work they have allowed the Lord to do through them for the cause of Jesus Christ.

Valley Falls Host Beaver Creek District Auxiliary

The Saturday, March 4, Beaver Creek District Auxiliary Convention was hosted by Valley Falls Free Will Baptist Church, Valley Falls, SC. District President, Gwen Hendrix, presided over the session, with more than 162 in attendance, representing 15 local church auxiliaries.

The theme for the session was "Behold The Lamb", taken from John 8:12. The thought for the day was, "Light of Life".

The host church provided the devotion and Gwen Hendrix, District President delivered the presidents remarks. Danny Keen, a Beaver Creek Home Missionary to Anderson, SC delivered the message in the morning worship service.

Cindy Weaver from Fairview Church, Kathy Guffey and Patty Newton from First Church, Inman, rendered special singing. Each year an award is given to the local auxiliary with the greatest attendance at the district meeting. They have four categories which are based on the membership of a local auxiliary. This year Division "A" award went to the Valley Falls FWB Church. Division "B" award went to Fairview. Division "C" went to First Chester. Division "D" went to New Life, Lancaster.

They also award the local auxiliary that gives the greatest amount to foreign and home missions. This is based on the per capita giving in the local auxiliary. The 1995 awards went to Whitney FWB Church for foreign missions giving and High Point for home missions.

The Beaver Creek Auxiliary has always been very generous in giving to missionaries and other needs. This years was no exception, they agreed to raise \$1,000.00 to help with the expenses for the Bahama cruise for State Promotional Director and his wife Molly. This is a part of their "50th. Wedding Anniversary" celebration. At the state auxiliary meeting the ladies agreed to give them an additional \$1,000.00, which will cover most of the cost. The choice of words to express the gratitude of these two people are so few and inadequate. The Gibson's have never had anything that would even resemble a "Honeymoon". A quote from Brother Norwood, "Ladies, we never expected something like this even though we have desired a trip of this kind. We accept it as a gift from God that He sent through you. Thank you so very much." The host church provided the congregation with a delicious

Continued To Page - 8

BC Auxiliary From Page - 7
dinner that was served in an appropriately decorated building.

Gwen Honored By Her Ladies



Sister Gwen Having Money Pinned On Her

Gwen Hendrix is known widely for her ability in money raising efforts. Also, for an unselfish spirit in doing special things for others. At the annual meeting of her district auxiliary the ladies reciprocated by honoring her for the tremendous amount of work she puts into the auxiliary. She indeed is a great lady of God and does a lot of things in service for the Lord that few if any know about. Her favorite means of giving to people is by having people pin money on them. As you can see in the picture the ladies reversed the method to apply to her. Thank you ladies for this kind, thoughtful and generous act of love for Gwen.



JoAnne King Guest Speaker-State Auxiliary Convention

The State Woman's Auxiliary Convention was hosted by First FWB Church, Inman, SC. Mrs. Gwen Hendrix, Sate President, presided over

the activities of the 47th session, with more than 229 in attendance.

The theme for the convention was "The Radiant Lamb" taken from Revelation 21:23, "And the city had no need of the sun neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." The thought for the day was, **BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD--THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.**

After the morning devotion, given by Carolyn Riddick, special music was rendered by Mona Dukes and the Inman Christian Academy Choir. Special singing was also rendered by the Inman Trio.

Gwen Hunter gave a report on the National Retreat at Ridgecrest, NC. Reports on two district "Mother-Daughter Banquets" were given. Patricia Powell gave the report for the Central District and Frances Poston reported for the Eastern District. Camille Scott gave a report on the WNAC Convention at Little Rock, AR.

JoAnne King, from Cramerton, NC delivered the morning message for the worship service. Dr. Mary Ruth Wischart, President of WNAC, was a guest of the convention and she gave greetings from the Nashville office.

Whitney FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC received the foreign missions plaque. These ladies gave an average of \$196.71 per member to their local auxiliary. Mill Branch FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC received the home missions plaque. They gave an average of \$60.88 per member to their local auxiliary. Officers elected to serve for the next two years are not listed here. The picture and information were not available at printing time. This will appear in the next issue of The Informer.

As always Sister Gwen and her Beaver Creek ladies went all out in preparing a delicious meal and serving it in a beautifully decorated dining area.

The body voted to give \$1000.00 each to two missionaries; Carlisle and Marie Hanna and Mirial Gainer. They also voted to raise \$1,000.00 for the Promotional Director and his wife, Molly, to help pay the expenses to the Bahamas in January 1996. The Beaver Creek District Auxiliary had already voted to give \$1,000.00 for this purpose. The Gibsons celebrated their "50th Wedding Anniversary on June 23 of this year. Their cruise to the Bahamas is a gift from these wonderful ladies. In expressing their love for them with this gift they are providing a "Honeymoon" they have never had. Ladies, Molly and Norwood want you to know that they are so very grateful for your kindness and generosity. They could never have afforded this. As a TV Marine celebrity of many years past would say, "Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!"



Annette Aycock And Her Daughter Autumn

SC District Auxiliary Mother-Daughter Luncheon

The information about the May 6 event was given by Patsy Hyman, Assistant District Coordinator. She and those who helped her plan and supervise the program did an outstanding job. This year they had a little different format and called it "Mother-Daughter Luncheon". The district provided of the food, supplies and other expenses. The Children's Home at Turbeville hosted the event.

The theme for the day was "Precious Moments". The theme was played out as mothers related stories about precious moments with their daughter(s) in the past and daughters sharing precious moments they had experienced with their mothers in the past. April Stevens shared with them a precious moment with her mother. Carolyn Riddick brought a picture album of her daughters from birth to the present. Margie Wilson had Evelyn Upright, Mary Alice Mahoney and Mona Wilson model her mother's hats. Some embarrassing moments were shared by Freddia Mims and Edra Saverance. Freddia shared the embarrassing experience with her mother at Hamricks in Florence. It seems they were trying to find their way out of the store and ended up in the display room. Edra told how her mother reacted when the children came home from school and announced that pictures would be taken at school the next day. She stated that her mother would call for the scissors and give them a beauty treatment of the head. Knowing Sister Edra and how she can dramatize a story this one was a doozy. Carolyn Wilhide and Marie Chapman rendered a duet in song, "The Family Circle Will Not Be Broken". Karen Bazen and her daughter rendered a piano duet. Annette Aycock and her daughter Autumn rendered the song, "The Miracle of Jesus".