

# The Informer



*The Informer* is the official bi-monthly publication of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists. Address all correspondence to Ron Moore, Editor, Post Office Box 13266, Florence, South Carolina, 29504 or call (803) 662-5010.

## SOUTH CAROLINA BREAKS ROLL CALL SUNDAY RECORD

South Carolina FWB Churches increased their attendance by an average of 11.1% on Roll Call Sunday, March 30, 1997. A total attendance of 14,643 in 1997 shattered the record set last year by 1,464. Eighty-four of our churches showed an increase over 1996. More importantly, 56 salvations were reported on that day. Praise the Lord! Below is a list of how the Lord blessed some of our churches.

Category A 1 - 49	Attendance	Percentage
St. John's, Pamplico	66	633%
Category B 50 - 99		
Charleston First	249	201%
Category C 100 - 199		
Chesnee	226	75.2%
Category D 200 - 299		
Horse Branch, Turbeville	275	32.9%
Category E 300 - Up		
Mullins-Marion	676	29.3%

### Top Ten in Percentage of Growth

1. St John's, Pamplico	633%
2. Camp Branch	270%
3. Greer First	217%
4. Charleston First	211%
5. Socastee	104%
6. Eastside, Florence	98%
7. Lynches River	93.9%
8. Darlington First	93.8%
9. Damascus, Conway	75%
10. Chesnee	75%

### Top Ten in Attendance

Mullins-Marion	676
Inman First	667
Valley Falls, Spartanburg	536
High Point, Lancaster	403
White Savannah, Conway	302
Horse Branch, Turbeville	275
Peace, Florence	257
Charleston First	249
Florence First	235
Bethany, Timmons ville	234

We congratulate all our churches, pastors and people for their fine efforts on this special day. Let's set our goals for next year at topping 15,000 in attendance and 75 saved! With the Lord's help, we can do it!

## "MOORE" THOUGHTS

by  
Ron Moore, Editor



The new South Carolina Foreign Missions Plan of Support is now facing its biggest hurdle--implementation. Developing the plan was easy compared to the task that is before us. With your help, however, we are confident that its implementation will be speedy and our goal of underwriting the financial support of our South Carolina missionaries will be achieved.

Some exciting things are already happening. Quarterly conferences are electing members to serve on the Foreign Missions Task Force. This Task Force will be responsible for working with me to promote the plan in their conferences, to evaluate its effectiveness, and to make recommendations to the State Association for changes. I am looking forward to working with these men.

The State Auxiliary has endorsed the plan and their treasurer will channel all missions giving through our office. This will help us coordinate the state effort.

We have held a few services in churches to present the plan and challenge our people to become more involved. The plan is being enthusiastically received. At Peace FWB Church in Florence, for example, the members responded by adopting nearly 60 shares (\$11 per month per share) in faith-promises. This is in addition to what the church had already committed in its budget!

Indeed, it is exciting to see how God is working among our people and to see our people respond to His missionary challenge. Pastor, give us an opportunity to share this exciting plan with your congregation. I know that they will be challenged to greater involvement and that the Lord will bless their efforts.

## New Life Breaks Ground For Family Life Center

New Life FWB Church, Lancaster, held groundbreaking ceremonies for the new 13,000 square foot Family Life Center on Sunday, February 23, 1997. Members and guests gathered on the site where the project will be located as their pastor, Rev. Marty Cox, read Psalms 100 and spoke on "The Goodness of the Lord."



Expected completion date for the facility is July 1, 1997 with a cost of \$500,000. The Center will include a 300 seat dining hall, a modern kitchen, serving area, restrooms, storage, and a full size gymnasium. Special guests for the festivities included former pastor Rev. David Anders and his wife Polly, and Promotional Director Ron Moore and his wife Linda.

## Kingsway Dedicates New Facility



Kingsway FWB Church, Enoree, SC, held dedication services for their beautiful new facility on January 26, 1997. The service included special singing by the Jay Lewis Family, Responsive Reading and a Dedication Prayer by Rev. Earl Hendrix, Special Recognition of Workers, and a dedication Message by Rev. Johnnie Bullman.

## Rev. Johnnie Bullman Receives New Car



Peace FWB Church, Spartanburg, presented their pastor, Rev. Johnnie Bullman, and his wife, Doris, with a new car on Pastor's Appreciation Day. Pictured above is Brother Doc Phillips handing the keys to Brother Bullman and Sister Doris.

## First Kingtree Nears Completion of New Facility

The First FWB Church of Kingtree is getting close to completing their Family Life Center. The 80' by 100' building will house a new nursery, two handicap accessible restrooms, kitchen facilities, storage, and a full size basketball court. An enclosed hallway ties the new building to the present church facility.



The men of the church are to be commended for donating time and labor to this project, saving thousands of dollars. Rev. Wayland Owens is pastor.

## Mullins-Marion Dedicates New Sanctuary

Mullins-Marion FWB Church held a dedication service for its new sanctuary on September 15, 1996. Pictures cannot do justice to the beauty of this marvelous new facility. The men of the church did much of the work and saved the congregation ten of thousands of dollars. The new sanctuary seats around 450-500 people (though on Roll Call Sunday over 675 attended!).

Pictured below is the new sanctuary attached to a spacious fellowship hall, which was the first phase of their building project, which was completed about two years ago. The new facilities are located across the street from the former sanctuary.



The Mullins-Marion Church began as a mission work under the ministry of "Preacher" Bill Jacobs and his wife Arliss on September 28, 1968. It has grown from an attendance of 5 during those first days to over 375 today. Brother Bill is the only pastor the church has ever had.

The church also houses a Christian School which began in 1975 when Brother Neil and Sister Billie Hinson joined the staff. Brother Neil serves as principle.

The fine pastor, staff and congregation of this church are to be commended for their commitment to bring the vision of a new church plant into reality. May the Lord continue to bless their ministry.

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## **FOUR OF OUR PREACHERS GO HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD**



**Rev. Wayne Price**

The Rev. Donald Wayne Price, 52, of 420 Elder Road, Chesnee, died February 12, 1997. Brother Price was pastor of Converse FWB Church in Spartanburg from September 1981 until his death earlier this year. He is survived

by his wife, Ann Foy Price, three sons, Donald, Steven and Brian, and six grandchildren.

**Rev. Billy Jackson**

The Rev. Billy Jackson, 62, of 209 Lindwood Drive, Jacksonville, NC, died March 2, 1997. Brother Jackson was pastor of Cardinal Village FWB Church from 1979 until his death earlier this year. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; a son, Kevin; two daughters, Rhonda and Pamela; two brothers, Bobby and Quinton; a sister, Nancy; and six grandchildren.



**Rev. Newton Howle**

The Rev. Newton Howle, 76, Darlington, died February 27, 1997. Brother Howle founded the Free Will Baptist Bible Church, Darlington, in 1972 and was its pastor until his retirement in February 1993. He is survived by one daughter, Ann; three sisters, Elizabeth, Doris, and Mamie; ten grandchildren; and twelve great-grandchildren. A picture was unavailable at press.

**Rev. Troy Baldwin**

The Rev. Troy Baldwin, pastor of Trinity FWB Church, Spartanburg, SC, passed away in April, 1997. Brother Baldwin served as pastor of Trinity from September 1992. He is survived by his wife, Ruby; two daughters; and one son.



*(Editor's note: We praise God for the faithful service of these men. Their presence among us is truly going to be missed. Please pray for their families and churches.)*

### **Two South Carolina Students Participate in TEAM Panama**

Two South Carolina high school students will participate in the 1997 **TEAM Panama** program sponsored by Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. The five-week experience will include one week of orientation in Nashville, three weeks on the field, and a trip to the National Association. The Teens Equipped and Active in Missions program was instituted to foster the experience of the Great Commission in the lives of Christian teenagers. While in Panama, the young people will minister in churches and schools through music, speaking, puppets and skits.

**Neil Morgan**, 17, is a junior and attends Sand Hill FWB Church in Coward. He believes that God is leading him in the ministry and is praying that the Lord will use this experience to give him direction.

**Misty Mathis**, 15, is a sophomore and attends Williams Hill FWB Church in Hemingway. Misty is also praying that the Lord would use this mission experience to help her discern the will of God for her life. In a recent service the church presented Misty with a check for \$1,000 to help with her expenses.

Pray that God would bless their experience and use it to direct these two fine young people in His perfect will.

### **Reaching Japanese Through English Bible Studies**



Mirial Gainer reports that one of her Japanese English Bible study students was baptized recently and that several others have become "seekers;" that is, they are seriously interested in the gospel and its claims upon their lives. Praise the Lord! Above is a picture of Mirial teaching one of the classes. Continue to pray that the Lord will use Mirial to reach many Japanese people with the gospel.

## ***Rusty Conyers Licensed to Preach***

Rev. Rusty Conyers was licensed to preach by the South Carolina Conference in February 1997. He is a faithful member and worker in the Jefferson Road FWB Church, Sumter. Brother Conyers has served as youth director and teacher in the Jefferson Road church since 1994. He attended Southeastern FWB College from 1985 to 1987.

Brother Conyers says that he is available for supply preaching and would prayerfully consider any open ministry according to the Lord's will.

If you are interested in his ministry, you may contact him by calling (803) 481-0128.

## ***Poplar Hill Calls Rev. Harry Cooper***



Poplar Hill FWB Church, Hemingway, called Rev. Harry Cooper as their new pastor in December 1996. Brother Cooper is a graduate of FWB Bible College (1973). He and his wife Carolyn have one son, Nathan, who is a senior at New Prospect Christian School. The Cooper's are excited about their new work and look forward to a fruitful ministry there. Brother Harry and Sister Carolyn, may the Lord truly bless your new ministry!

## ***Rev. Gordon Cook New Pastor At Rains***

Rev. Gordon Cook, an ordained minister in the Central Association, was called as Pastor of the Rains FWB Church, Rains, SC, in December 1996.

Brother Cook, may the Lord bless your new ministry at Rains!



## ***Pete Bove Ordained At Gilead***

The Eastern Conference held an ordination service for Pete Bove at Gilead FWB Church on February 16, 1997. Rev. Larry McAlister, pastor of the Gilead Church, presided. The Reverends Earl Bittle and Murrell Young joined Brother McAlister in representing the Eastern Conference.



**Preachers Lay Hands On Brother Bove**

Though Brother Bove was saved under the ministry of the Community FWB Church, Florence (1987), most recently, he has been a member of Gilead. He is a student at Southeastern FWB College. He served as dorm parent at the Children's Home in 1987. Brother Bove and his wife Annette have two children, Rachael (10) and Sara (6). Congratulations, Brother Bove. May the Lord bless your ministry.

## ***Sweet Home Calls Larry Greenwood***

Sweet Home FWB Church, Myrtle Beach, SC, called Rev. Larry Greenwood as their new pastor in November 1996. Brother Greenwood was saved in 1982 under the ministry of the Trinity Church in Tabor City, NC. He was ordained by the Pee Dee Association (NC) in December 1995.

Though reared in Tabor City, Brother Greenwood was born in Mullins, SC. He and his wife Tandie, born and reared in Tabor City, have one son who lives at home.

We welcome Brother Greenwood back to his native state of South Carolina and pray that God will bless his ministry.

## ***Rev. Michael Walker Joins Eastern Conference***

Rev. Michael Walker was accepted into the fellowship of the Eastern Conference during its 1997 Winter session.



Brother Walker is a member of the Fellowship FWB Church in Manning. He holds a B.S. degree from Holmes College of the Bible, Greenville, where he graduated Cum Laude in 1994.

Brother Walker is available for pulpit supply, revivals, or a pastorate. He requests that churches pray for an open door of ministry for him and his family. He may be reached at (803) 473-5122.

## ***Beaver Creek Honors Rev. William Porter***

During its annual meeting in January 1997, the Beaver Creek Association honored Rev. William Porter for 25 years of faithful ministry. Moderator Danny Keen presented a plaque to Brother Porter which read: "Presented To Rev. William Porter in Recognition of 25 Years of Ministry By the Beaver Creek Association of Original Free Will Baptists of South Carolina, January 31, 1997."



Congratulations, Brother William, may the Lord bless you, and us, with another 25 years of faithful ministry!

***"The love we have in our youth is superficial compared to the love that an old man has for his old wife."***

Will Durant (On his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!)



## Patsy Hyman Re-elected

Patsy Hyman, Santee, SC, was re-elected as State WNAC Field Worker during the 1997 State Convention. We apologize for having omitted her name in the last issue of *The Informer*.


## Waddell Congratulates SC Free Will Baptists

In a letter to the Promotional Office Rev. R. Eugene Waddell, General Director of FWB Foreign Missions, congratulated SC Free Will Baptists for having adopted the new foreign missions plan of support.


Brother Waddell said, "This is good news to your foreign missionaries from South Carolina . . . As you realize, the ultimate place of service for the Hannas, the Pooles, the Cowarts, the Johnsons and Mirial Gainer is overseas. All of us have grieved to see them burdened with enormous fund-raising responsibilities. Thank you for accepting some of these responsibilities and thereby rolling some of the heavy burden off the shoulders of our missionaries. This will enable them to avoid prolonged furloughs and actually give quality time to the business of winning souls, planting churches and training workers."

1997 YOUTH CAMP


**SOUTH CAROLINA  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
YOUTH CAMP—1997**



**Camp Beaverlake  
Patriot, S.C.**



**Teen Week  
July 28-August 1**



**Junior Week  
August 4-8**

## Temple WNAC Raises \$8,000 for Missions

The Temple WNAC, Darlington, raised a total of \$8,000 for missions during April. They designated \$7,500 to build a new church in India (This is the church's second!) and \$500 for the Foreign Missions Offering on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Pictured below is pastor Paul Collins presenting the check to Promotional Director Ron Moore. Pictured with them is Sister Elma Floyd (L), WNAC vice-president, and Dolly Cross (R), WNAC president.



The Lord truly blessed this mission project. The ladies Sunday School class, for example, raised \$1,900. It was Inez Streett that challenged this class with her faith gift of \$100. The first Sunday in April she only had \$102 to live on for the rest of the month but gave the \$100 anyway. The Lord rewarded her faith and by the third Sunday she had given another \$100! What an example of faith-giving!

## Rev. David Anders New Pastor At Liberty

No! He hasn't changed pastorates again! In the January-February issue of *The Informer* we mistakenly stated that he was the pastor at Victory, Lancaster. The church's name, however, is Liberty. Under the leadership of Brother Anders, the Lord is blessing with souls being saved and added to the church.



David and Poly Anders

## First Inman Honors Pastor and Wife

On March 23, 1997, the First FWB Church, Inman, honored their pastor, Rev. Earl Hendrix, and his wife, Sister Gwen, for thirty years of faithful ministry. The service included tributes from many area pastors, friends and businessmen. There was a special candle ceremony that emphasized the influence of Brother Earl's and Sister Gwen's light. The Hendrixes were presented a plaque by the Children's Church, a pearl tie pin and neckless, a book of memories, and the new keys to a 1997 Cadillac! Following the service the church provided a delicious meal for all attendees. Indeed, it was a very special day for a very special couple.



Bro. Earl and Sis Gwen with new car

## First Charleston Has Big Day

On March 30, 1997, First FWB Church, Charleston, celebrated Friend Day with 249 present! Many special guests were invited, including the mayor, fire chief, police chief, and even the promotional director! Praise the Lord for their hard work. Rev. Phillip Jones is the pastor of this fine church.



Brother Jones with mayor

## *Lockhart Burns Mortgage*

Lockhart FWB Church held a mortgage burning service for their new facilities on January 23, 1997. They were constructed over a ten year period beginning with the 300 seat sanctuary in 1986 under the leadership of pastor Ronnie Adkins. The fellowship hall was constructed under the ministry of pastor Danny Keen (1990-94). The final payment on the projects was made under the ministry of their present pastor, Rev. Tommy Bryson. The combined project cost was just under \$600,000.



Inside the new sanctuary

The church was established on Easter Sunday in 1914. Rev. Jake Martin was the pastor. Pictured below is the first facility built by the Lockhart Church. As many of you will remember, it was located in town, "down by the river."



In addition to the new facilities, many other projects have been undertaken. The auxiliary paid to build a bell tower and to have the bell from the original church moved to the new facility in 1992. The parking lot was enlarged and paved. Major landscaping was done in 1995. A new sign and remodeling of the gable were 1996 projects. This year the church is replacing the windows in the Sunday School and fellowship hall and remodeling the nursery.

Congratulations to the faithful members at Lockhart. Indeed, the Lord has blessed your faithfulness over the years!

## *Pee Dee Bible Institute Graduates Seven*



March 29, 1997 was a great day at Pee Dee Bible Institute, Darlington, SC. The Class of '97 enjoyed not only a time of graduation but also a fine worship service, fellowship time and refreshments. Rev. Melvin Haas, principle of Maranatha Christian School, Florence, was the commencement speaker. Pictured left to right are Wayne Rhodes, Henry Marshall, Rev. Leroy Lowery, Susan Mashall, Elma Floyd, Rev. Melvin Haas, Marice Patterson, James Boan, and Godiva McLendon (not present).

A new course entitled *Understanding Music and Worship* will be offered at the Institute this Fall. Classes will begin on September 15, 1997. The textbook will be the Evangelical Training Association course written by Dr. Vernon Whaley, editor of the Free Will Baptist Hymnal. The instructor will be Dr. Naomi Player, music director at Temple FWB Church, Darlington. For more information call Rev. Leroy Lowery, director of the Institute, at 395-2054.

## *Two Churches Looking For Ministers*

A well established church in eastern North Carolina is looking for a pastor between 35 and 50 years old, married, a college degree and at least 10 years of experience. If interested, contact Mr. Charles Beasley at (910) 346-9357 or 324-3839.

A well established church in the Pee Dee region of South Carolina is looking for a youth pastor. If interested, send a résumé to Youth Pastor, PO Box 13266, Florence, SC 29504.

## *Can you believe it?*

**Heard at a recent Mother / Daughter  
Banquet: "We would now like to  
recognize the oldest mother . . .  
without children."**