

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 (843) 662-5010.

**Ada Miles
Joins Bookstore Staff**



Ada Miles, a member of Peace FWB Church in Florence, joined the bookstore staff the last of August. Mrs. Miles, the widow of Rev. Washington Miles, has over 17 years experience in the Christian bookstore ministry, having worked for the Family Christian Store (formerly known as Bible Bookshelf). Welcome aboard, Sister Ada!

Stand up for Righteousness and Protect Families

Vote Against the South Carolina Video Poker Referendum

**Vote "No"
November 2, 1999**

Children's Home Golf Tournament Rescheduled for November 6

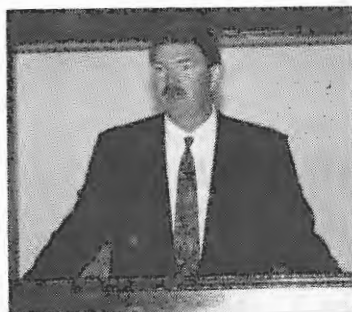
Children's Home to Celebrate Fiftieth Anniversary

According to Rev. James Wilhide, director of the Free Will Baptist Home for Children in Turbeville, South Carolina, the home will celebrate its fiftieth year (1949-1999) of ministry on November 6. "We want all of our friends, churches, and sponsors to come and help us celebrate this milestone of our Children's Home," says Brother Wilhide. Tours will begin at 10 am, which will include the new boys dormitory. There will be a special service at 11 am followed by a delicious meal provided by the Children's Home and area restaurants.

**Eastern Conference
Sponsors
Home Missions Revival**



The Eastern Conference of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists sponsored a **Revival on Missions and Evangelism** August 23-27, 1999 at **Gilead FWB Church** in Lake City. According to moderator **Rev. Ricky Evans**, the purpose of the revival was not only to reach souls for the Lord and encourage believers to be faithful soul-winners, but to raise funds to help with the home mission building project in Aiken.



Rev. Ricky Evans

The program followed a nightly format of a devotional at 7:00 P.M. and a message at 7:30 P.M. Ten different pastors and preachers, mostly from the Eastern Conference, spoke. By all accounts, the revival was a success. Souls were blessed, Christian hearts challenged and \$3,965 was raised for Aiken.

**Carlisle Hanna
To Return to India**

After a short furlough, **Rev. Carlisle Hanna**, veteran missionary to India, has set November 3 as the date for his return to the field. In a recent letter he says, "Do please pray for me as I seek with all my heart to discern and do His will." The work load in India does not get any easier with the years. Bro. Hanna is the only Free Will Baptist missionary in India serving under our national board and the needs there are tremendous. Do faithfully pray for him, the ministry needs that await his return, and for the church in India.

**Tim and Kristi Johnson
Enjoy TEAM Spain '99**



TEAM Spain members: (front) Jessica Turnbough, Timothy York, Shelly Ford, Josh Dukes, Scott Collins, (back) Johathan McKnight, Beth Davis, Hollie Hubbard, Jason Cox, Alicia Bunch, and Marie Kennedy.

According to missionaries **Tim and Kristi Johnson**, TEAM Spain '99 was a big success. They arrived on June 23 and didn't stop until the day they left. They presented their program of songs and testimonies in two Spanish FWB Churches and gave out 12,000 brochures in Villalba. Two South Carolinians stayed with the Johnsons, **Josh Dukes** (Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville) and **Jonathan McKnight** (Fellowship, Florence).

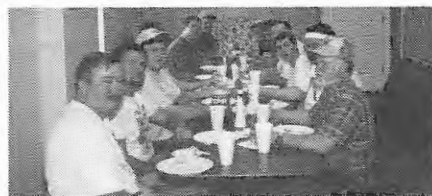
**Anderson Mission Building
Project Nears Completion**



Front and back view of new facility

According to missionary pastor **Danny Keen**, the Lord has truly blessed their efforts to complete their new facilities. During the month of September, two Saturdays were set aside as work days and men came from various churches to help their church family with the construction. The crews

helped with carpentry, electrical and sheet rock work. Brother Keen hopes to complete the work on the church by Thanksgiving.



Volunteer Workers at first workday - not much work getting done, though!

The Anderson work at is doing well. They average about 90 for worship service but can only seat between 50 and 60 for Sunday School because of the limited space. The new facilities will house several new Sunday School rooms, a new nursery, new restrooms and a seating capacity around 300. The rate they are growing, it will not be long before they fill up the new facility!



New home next to church

The State Home Mission Board recently gave the church permission to purchase the above home and adjoining property. The purchase not only provides needed land for expansion in the future, but it will provide some rental income for the church.

**Benjamin Randall
Day
November 21, 1999**

Every church is urged to give a special offering for the National Home Missions General Fund. We need your help! Please make this your best gift yet!

Accent on the Auxiliary

A Report of the SCWAC Retreat

An estimated 300 ladies attended the annual South Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Retreat at Look-Up Lodge August 27 - 28, 1999. The theme of the retreat was "South of the Border" and the key verse was Acts 1:8. As seen in the picture below, most all the ladies wore Mexican outfits with sombreros. Special speaker for the occasion was **Rev. Trymon Messer**, Director of National Home Missions.



Attendees with their sombreros!

As usual, Friday evening was fun time; and, my how these ladies know how to have fun! The activities included a hilarious "Bible study" skit on foods in the Bible led by **Camille Scott**, from the **Westside Auxiliary**. The skit was filled with songs like "There's within my heart a melody, Jesus whispers *sweet and low*." The attendees rolled with laughter as the participants in the skit did little to grow spiritually – or encourage dieting – during their Bible study time. **Mona Dukes**, also from the Westside Auxiliary, led a skit playing the role of José at a baseball game.



The Munsey Family

Special music for the retreat was provided by **James and Mitzi Munsey** and their children – **Laura, Matthew**

and Rachel. The Munseys are Coordinators for Mexico. When the Munseys introduced themselves, Rachel said that she was an eight year old with a forty-nine year old kidney! As you may know, Brother James provided a much needed kidney for his daughter earlier this year. Please continue to pray for Rachel as her body adapts to the transplant.

Another highlight of the retreat was the celebration over the enormously successful project "Pesos for Mexico." During the State Auxiliary's annual meeting in March, the ladies adopted a \$10,000 project to build a church in Mexico. As one auxiliary after another brought their gift forward during the retreat, the ladies were amazed by what God had done – He provided more than enough money to build, not one, but two churches! Praise God! He is so good! To date, over \$23,000 has been received toward the project. A special gift of over \$4,400 was received from the estate of the late **Francis Poston**, former president of the State Auxiliary.



"Pesos for Mexico"

As the Saturday morning session came to an end, a special time of remembrance was held in honor of several dear servants of God who have gone on to be with the Lord: **Francis Poston**, **Rev. Norwood Gibson** (former Promotional Director) and **Rev. Ken Eagleton** (former missionary to Brazil). When the invitation was given at the conclusion of the morning message, the altar filled with women looking to Jesus for greater power in their Christian lives and service.

Sister Gwen, congratulations! You and the other leaders of the State Auxiliary have done it again! As a former missionary and present Promotional Director I have had the privilege of attending many retreats over the years. Though they have all been good, this was the simply the best ever! May the Lord continue to bless the SCWAC as it seeks to spread the gospel at home and abroad!

1999 Youth Camp Yields Spiritual Fruit

According to **Rev. Donnie Miles**, director of the South Carolina Free Will Baptist youth camp, nearly 200 young people attended the 1999 session at Camp Beaverlake in Patrick. **Rev. Todd Smith**, missionary pastor to Aiken, was the evangelist during junior week and **Rev. Buddy Seay**, pastor of White Savannah FWB Church, was the evangelist during teen week. There were 28 recorded decisions during the camp: 13 for salvation, one to preach the gospel, and 14 rededications! During the Tuesday through Thursday night services, over 50 teens came to the alter each night! Praise the Lord!



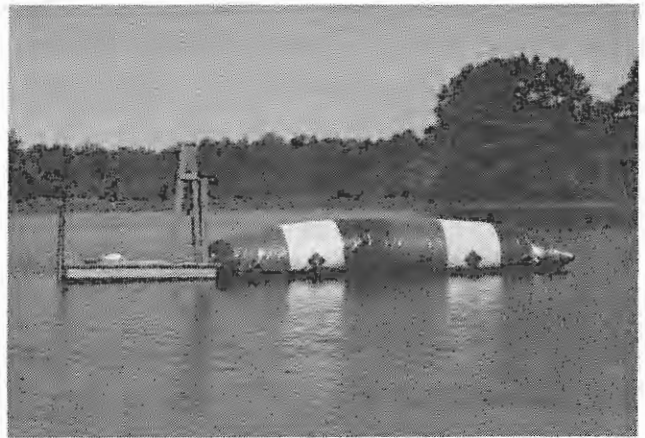
Some of the camp staff during teen week

Brother Miles commends not only the members of the camp board who work wonderfully together, but their churches who unselfishly allow them to be away from their normal church responsibilities. He also expressed indebtedness to the many men and women who volunteer to come and serve as Counselors. "These dedicated people sometimes even take vacation time in order to come. They minister with joy and enthusiasm. God uses them to be a blessing to our campers," says Brother Miles.



Rev. Buddy Seay during chapel

The camp facilities at Beaverlake are excellent and the kids always have a great time. Activities include instruction in archery, the rifle range and putt-putt golf. There is plenty of basketball, volleyball and ping-pong as well. Water activities include the swimming pool, canoeing and "the blob" (an air pillow in the lake).



"The Blob"

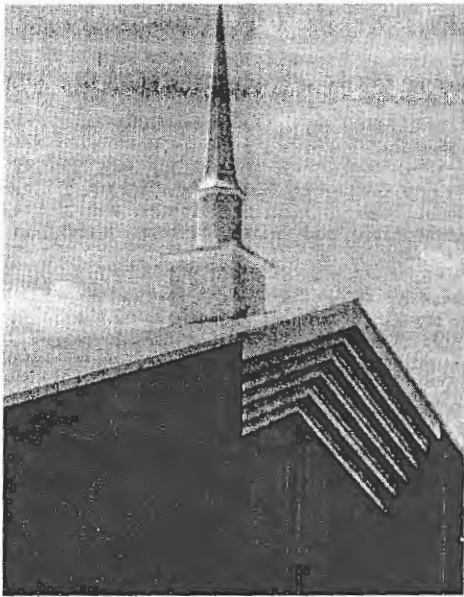
The cabins at Beaverlake are well-kept and spacious. They are divided into both a boys and a girls section, each have their own bath and shower facilities.



Inside of one of the cabins

Every year the camp concludes with special activities on Thursday night – which include a banquet, a preaching service, a hay ride, and a water balloon and shaving cream fight. The kids not only have a good time, many of them have their lives changed for eternity! Pastors, encourage your youth to attend next year. The tentative schedule for next year is that the teen camp would be held the last week in July and junior camp would be held the first week in August. Don't miss this opportunity to influence your kids for Christ! Plan now to send them to camp!

Chester Church Relocates



Sunday, June 20, 1999, was a very special day for members of the **First FWB Church** in Chester, South Carolina. The members gathered at their old church at 222 West Elliott St. for their final service. They opened with prayer, sang a hymn, and had a short devotion by **Wayne Byars**.

Afterwards, the members and visitors went directly to their beautiful new church facilities at 790 Hawthorne Road. There, worship was continued as the choir sang, "To God be the Glory." **Mrs. Sandra Haynes**, daughter of the late Rev. J.B. Smith, former pastor of the church, provided special singing. **Rev. James Sanders**, pastor of this fine church, preached the morning message.

We congratulate Brother Sanders and his congregation on this bold step of faith. May the Lord continue to bless your ministry in Chester!

Rev. Marty Cox New Pastor at Mt. Trolley

Mt. Trolley FWB Church in Gallivants Ferry, South Carolina, called **Rev. Marty Cox** as their new pastor August 15, 1999. Brother Cox was ordained by the Eastern Conference in September 1991 and served two other South Carolina churches as pastor before going to Mt. Trolley, **Mill Branch**

(May 1993 to June 1995) and **New Life** (June 1995 to August 1999). He and his wife **Annette** have two boys, **Cal** (10) and **Caleb** (5). Welcome back to the Pee Dee, Brother Marty. May the Lord richly bless your ministry.

Central Association Ordains J.T. Adams

Rev. J.T. Adams was ordained by the Central Association August 18, 1999 at **Pee Dee FWB Church**. Brother Adams was saved in 1966 and called to preach in 1991. He is married to the former **Maryon Branton**. The couple has been married for twenty-seven years has one child, **Mary Melissa**.



Rev. Buddy Seay preached the message for the ordination, **Rev. Richard Huggins** gave the charge, and **Rev. Tony Miles** presented the Bible. If you would like to contact Brother Adams for a service, call (843) 358-2125. Congratulations, Brother Adams. May the Lord bless your future ministry.

Canaan Calls Clayton Cordell



Canaan FWB Church in Lancaster has called **Rev. Clayton Cordell** as their new pastor. Brother Cordell is a graduate of Southeastern FWB College. In his few months as pastor, the Canaan Church has grown significantly. Welcome to South Carolina, Brother Cordell!

Kingsway Joins Central Association

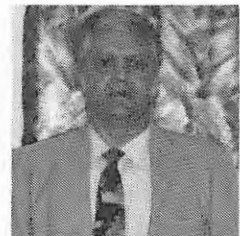
Kingsway FWB Church in Enoree, South Carolina and **Rev. Austin Martin** (pastor of the church) have united with the Central Association



of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists. The church and pastor were formerly members of the **Beaver Creek Association**. The motto for their ministry is "*The Going, Glowing, Growing Church That Accepts No Other Way But The King's Way.*"

Jerry Sizemore Moves to Wilmington

Rev. Jerry Sizemore, who has pastored two churches (one in Kentucky and the other in West Virginia) has retired and moved



to **Wilmington, NC** because of health problems. Brother Sizemore is now a member of **Trinity FWB Church**, which is affiliated with the **Palmetto Association of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists**.

Other Pastoral Updates

- ▶ **Rev. Carrol Edwards** is the new pastor at **Greer FWB Church**.
- ▶ **Rev. Eddie Hinson** is the new pastor at **Great Commission FWB Church** in Lancaster, SC.
- ▶ **Rev. Darin Squires** is the new pastor at **Socastee FWB Church**.
- ▶ **Rev. Timmy Larrimore** is the new pastor at **South Conway FWB Church**.

Beulah Honors Clyde Hare



Beulah FWB Church surprised Brother Clyde Hare with a special service in his honor August 1, 1999. Brother Hare has been a faithful member and Sunday School teacher at Beulah for over thirty years.



"Surprise
It's Clyde Hare Day"

Brother Hare was scheduled to preach that morning but was truly surprised as different members of the congregation began to share how much he has meant to them, the church and the community. Four things stood out as one after the other shared their thoughts: (1) Brother Hare has a tremendous Christian testimony, (2) he has been an excellent Sunday School teacher, (3) he is diligent soul-winner, and (4) he is a tireless helper of those in need.

We join the congregation at Beulah in praising the Lord for such a fine layman. Rev. Elro Driggers is pastor of the church.

Liberty Breaks Ground



Liberty FWB Church in Lancaster recently broke ground on a beautiful piece of property just outside the city.

Rev. David Anders, pastor of the church, has had a terrific ministry at Liberty. The church began about three years ago in a small store front in an old shopping center. Today, they often average over 100 in attendance.

The church plans to begin construction of a multipurpose facility on the new site. The new sanctuary will be built during the second phase of construction. God bless you folks!

High Point Holds Homecoming and Burns Mortgage



Pastor Snow and deacons burn mortgage

High Point FWB Church in Lancaster, SC, held its annual homecoming service August 22, 1999. This year it was different, however. Over 300 attended the worship hour as the congregation gathered to burn the mortgage on their beautiful facilities.

Present for the service were Rev. Ron Moore, Promotional Director, Rev. Nate Ange, guest speaker, and fourteen former and present deacons. The congregation was blessed by special singing from two groups within the church, the Justified by Grace Trio and the Helm Sisters, and by the pastor's wife, Leigh Ann Snow. Following the service, the church provided a delicious meal that was enjoyed by all.

We rejoice with pastor Stuart Snow and the congregation over the many blessings God has given them.

Terry Brown New Pastor at Bethel

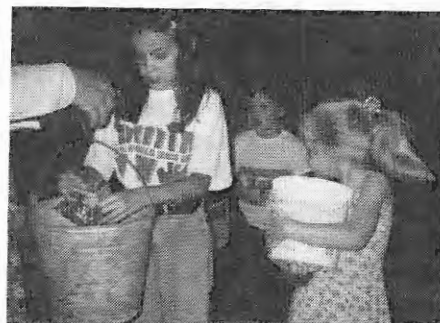
Rev. Terry Brown was called as pastor by Bethel FWB Church in Florence, SC, May 23, 1999. The Bethel

Church is one hundred and seventy years old, founded by Rev. Redden Moore in 1829. The church recently joined the Central Association. It is located on Bethel Road, just off National Cemetery Road.

Since Brother Brown began his pastoral ministry at Bethel, the church has doubled in attendance. Our prayers are with both Brother Brown and the congregation.

Bethany Children Raise Funds for Orphanage

VBS was a huge success at Bethany this year due to all the kids who pitched in and gave free-heartedly all the change they could find. For the past 3 years the church has been weighing pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters for the VBS offering. They would have competition between the boys and girls. This year, Brother Donnie Miles, his wife Trudy and their "dummy child" Chester conducted the program (Trudy is a ventriloquist). The children raised over



\$1,000 this year and with the offering from last year, they will send \$1,325 to the orphanage in Brazil, where Jim and Shirley Combs minister. Rev. Galen Dunbar is the pastor of this fine church.

Grace Fellowship Consolidates with Peace

According to former pastor Ron Moore, Grace Fellowship FWB Church (formerly Southoak) has voted to consolidate with Peace FWB Church in Florence, SC. The consolidation was effective September 26. The decision to mutually join resources was made by both congregations in order to more effectively reach the greater Florence community for Christ.