

THE



Volume 47 Num. 1 January 2017

INFORMER

The Informer is the official publication of the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists, Inc.

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The South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists will be hosted by the South Carolina Conference at Peace FWB Church (897 Third Loop Road, Florence, SC) February 23-24, 2017.

We are looking forward to great preaching (This year's theme will be "We Preach Jesus") and wonderful fellowship as we listen to reports by State and National representatives and take care of necessary business.

The General Board will convene on Wednesday February 22 at 10 AM at Peace FWB Church to hear reports and make recommendations for business items for consideration by the State Meeting.

Registration begins at 8:30 am on Thursday, February 23rd (you can preregister on the State Website www.scfwb.com) and services begin at 9 am.

(From the State Constitution- "Representation to this association shall consist of delegates duly appointed or elected by the local church (2) and local conference / association (5), all ordained and licensed Free Will Baptist ministers, and all members of standing boards or committees, who are of a good report in their church and conference / association of which they are members.")



**Peace Free Will Baptist Church
897 Third Loop Rd
Florence, South Carolina**

Hotel Accommodations:

Country Inn & Suites (Headquarter Hotel) located at 1739 Mandeville Rd, Florence, SC 29501-7026 Hotel has been recently remodeled, has interior hallway access to rooms and is rated 4 stars by Tripadvisor. Reservations need to be made by phone (843) 317-6616 and mention the SCFWB State Meeting. Hotel is approximately 7 miles from the Church. Price is \$89 per night. Reservations must be made by Feb 15th.

Days Inn located at 2111 W. Lucas St. Florence, SC 29501 Hotel has exterior access to rooms and is rated 3.5 Stars by Tripadvisor. Reservations need to be made by phone (800) 363-2297 and mention the SCFWB State Meeting. Hotel is approximately 7 miles from the Church. Price is \$58-\$68 per night depending on number of adults. Reservations must be made by Feb 8th

A special Banquet to honor the 20th Anniversary of Rev. Sherwood Lee's tenure as SCFWB State Moderator will be held Friday February 24th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of Peace FWB Church.

This will be an exciting evening filled with laughter, food, and fellowship as we honor Brother Sherwood's faithful service to our state.

Contact SCFWB Executive Secretary, Chris Todd for additional information and to pre-register.



\$1,153,646.17 GIVEN BY SCFWB CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS IN 2016– GLORY!

Gifts are listed by their total giving but each gift is important and appreciated. Thank you for helping so many ministries do so much for the cause of Christ.

SC Lebanon, Effingham	-141,498.78	SC Columbia Original	-5,790.00
SC Horse Branch, Turbeville	-140,648.39	SC Low Country, N Charleston	-5,410.53
SC Grace, Lake City	-62,479.54	SC New Town, Lake City	-5,387.00
SC Florence First	-62,021.11	CA Hamlet First	-5,323.00
ZZ Anonymous	-51,134.00	EC Happy Home, Andrews	-5,160.00
SC Westside, Johnsonville	-50,956.78	CA Little Bethel, Johnsonville	-5,000.00
SC Bethany, Timmonsville	-36,737.75	SC Mt Elon, Pamplico	-4,960.00
BC Liberty, Lancaster	-34,636.36	SC Liberty, Manning	-4,816.22
EC Gilead, Lake City	-31,828.11	SC Poplar Hill, Hemingway	-4,800.00
SC Peace, Florence	-29,501.57	SC Fellowship, Florence	-3,925.50
BC Inman First	-26,352.50	BC High Point, Lancaster	-3,783.00
EC Mill Branch, Johnsonville	-25,510.80	BC Greenwood First	-3,555.70
SC Temple, Darlington	-23,086.72	SC Hartsville First	-3,524.21
SCFWB State Association	-22,978.13	WNAC BC	-3,465.49
BC Fairview, Spartanburg	-21,448.28	BC Calvary, Union	-3,400.00
SC Black River, Andrews	-20,541.56	ID Prospect Independent Methodist Church	-3,250.00
SC Sand Hill, Coward	-20,138.00	EC New Prospect, Pamplico	-3,180.00
CA White Savannah, Conway	-18,856.08	ZZ Stone, Gail	-3,000.00
SC Bay Branch, Timmonsville	-18,501.00	EC New Vision, Hemingway	-2,736.00
CA Mullins-Marion, Mullins	-13,290.00	ID Great Bridge FWB Church	-2,703.33
SC Tabernacle, Coward	-12,700.00	EC Williams Hill, Hemingway	-2,700.00
SC Darlington First	-12,235.07	SC Eastside, Florence	-2,504.73
BC Lockhart, Lockhart	-12,049.00	BC Parkway, Spartanburg	-2,500.00
EC Lighthouse, Florence	-11,791.29	ID Victory, Andrews	-2,447.75
SC Beulah, Pamplico	-11,064.40	EC Hillside, Florence	-2,400.00
CA Mt Ariel, Conway	-10,827.00	SC Liberty, Orangeburg	-2,354.57
SC Faith, Darlington	-10,586.45	BC Simpsonville, First	-2,200.00
CA Mt Trolly, Galivants Ferry	-9,893.00	TL Pine Grove, Jefferson	-1,989.30
SC Southside, Darlington	-9,726.67	SC Immanuel, Santee	-1,957.00
CA Evergreen, Conway	-9,537.09	WNAC State	-1,858.00
SC FWB Bible, Darlington	-9,500.00	CA 0 Central Association	-1,806.00
CA Damascus, Conway	-8,358.31	CA Greater Vision, Bladenboro, NC	-1,795.63
CA Little Star, Johnsonville	-7,644.00	ID Floyd Chapel PH Church	-1,700.00
CA Unity, Johnsonville	-7,200.00	BC 0 Beaver Creek Association	-1,680.00
CA Cornerstone, Whiteville	-6,500.00	CA Wildwood, Nichols	-1,622.00
SC Jefferson Road, Sumter	-6,220.42	CA South Conway, Conway	-1,200.00
CA Free Welcome, Conway	-6,000.00	SC 0 South Carolina Conference	-1,200.00
EC St John, Scranton	-5,979.10	BC Una, Una	-1,100.00
		ZZ Bridal Hut Florentine, LLC	-1,000.00
		TL Calvary, Gastonia, NC	-1,000.00

WNAC SCD	-950.00	ZZ Seay, Buddy and Vicki	-65.00
ZZ Goff, Lexie	-935.26	ZZ Goff, Lori Ann	-65.00
CA Oak Grove, Conway	-856.00	ZZ Floyd, Thessie and Teresa	-65.00
EC Cypress Fork, Manning	-706.79	ZZ Evans, Johnny	-65.00
EC Cornerstone-Fellowship, Manning	-682.15	ZZ Dunbar, Galen	-65.00
SC Rejoice FWB Fellowship	-610.00	ZZ Driggers, Mark and Kim	-65.00
SC Kingstree First	-600.00	ZZ Driggers, Brandy & Tommy	-65.00
WNAC ED Gilead	-599.80	ZZ Simeral, Roberta and Harry	-65.00
CA Grace, Loris	-530.00	ZZ Simplified Office Systems	-65.00
ZZ Thompson, Don or Zuliene	-500.00	ZZ Edwards, Chris	-65.00
WNAC SCD Southside, Darlington	-365.00	ZZ Ard, Lanney and Gwen	-65.00
ZZ Jones, Mike and Paula	-360.00	ZZ Williams, Jimmy	-65.00
WNAC CD	-325.00	ZZ Griggs, Connie & Jimmie	-50.00
PC New Vision, Rock Hill	-305.00	ZZ Lowery, Leroy	-50.00
EC 0 Eastern Conference	-300.00	ZZ Altman, Jakey	-50.00
ZZ Temple Christian Academy	-300.00	ZZ Larrimore, Jowand and Timothy	-50.00
ID Hebron United Methodist Church	-300.00	ZZ Stevens, David or Angela	-50.00
EC Hickory Hill, Gresham	-300.00	PC Peace, Spartanburg	-50.00
ID Canaan Land FWB Church, Ohio	-300.00	ZZ Coker, Jenifer and Brian	-35.00
Zz Player, Naomi	-260.00	ID First FWB Church, Jacksonville, NC	-30.00
ZZ Langston, Syble	-250.00	PC New Harvest, Tradesville	-25.00
ID Greer First, Greer	-240.00	ZZ Jordan, Dorothy	-25.00
ID Jesus First	-140.00	ZZ Blanton	-25.00
WNAC SCD Peace, Florence	-137.70	ZZ Bishop, Theodore & Brenda	-25.00
ZZ Alford, David	-130.00	ZZ Raines, Waldon and Vivian	-25.00
ZZ Watford, SW	-105.00	ZZ Logan, Cathy	-20.00
TL Calvary, Lancaster	-100.00	ZZ Campbell, Wesley and Candy	-20.00
ZZ Ward, Annie Ruth	-100.00	ZZ Perdue, Annie Lee	-5.00
ZZ Langford, Bobby	-100.00		
ZZ Baxley, Janet	-76.25		
ZZ Pressley, Melvin	-75.00		
ZZ Parsons, Faye	-65.00		
ZZ McCrea, Michael	-65.00		
ZZ Parsons, Roger	-65.00		
ZZ Marlow, Kimberly	-65.00		
ZZ Postlewaite, Joey	-65.00		
ZZ Long, Connie	-65.00		
ZZ Poston, Kathleen	-65.00		
ZZ Poston, Lawayne & Emmarie	-65.00		
ZZ John Driggers Builders	-65.00		
ZZ Hughes, Larry	-65.00		
		TOTAL	-1,153,646.17



We thank you for the privilege of allowing the SCFWB State Office to help you help so many people through our State Office and FWB Book Store,

PRACTICING WHAT WE PREACH



Temple FWB church Darlington, provided breakfast for over 150 people affected by hurricane Matthew.



The men from Fairview FWB Church, Spartanburg, brought themselves and cleaning supplies donated for 'Blessing Buckets' so they could help with the SCFWB Disaster Relief efforts.



The SCFWB Disaster Relief Board did numerous assistance projects in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.



Randy/Kris Valandingham (Aiken). The Home Mission Board was able to purchase a used mobile home for the Valandingham's to live in. Pray for them as it is being set up and renovated.





IM ENDS 2016 IN THE BLACK

Clint Morgan, General Director Free Will Baptist International Missions, recently shared the following Good News:

Last year at the National in Kansas City, I made the following commitment to the denomination. "If the general fund needs are fully met, monies can be distributed as needed to missionary accounts." We have closed the books for 2016 and Rob and I have looked at the numbers. The 'general fund needs' have been fully met. The board authorized Rob and I to strategically distribute the remaining funds to help accounts that are in the red or underfunded.

Therefore the great news is:

1. IM ended 2016 in the 'black'. We are very grateful to the faithful supporters who have stepped up and gotten behind the IM missionaries and our ministries.
2. All deficits of missionary accounts have been erased. About 1/3 of our missionary accounts were in the 'red' at the end of the year. However, we did keep our promise to use extra funds to cover missionary needs and praise the Lord that we were able to erase all red ink for missionary accounts.
3. An additional \$209,000 has been allocated to strategically address missionary account needs. Rob and I have worked hard to strategically allocate these funds. We are rejoicing that these monies were available and we are able to bring some much needed relief to those who were looking at red ink.

Thank you again for your continued support and words of encouragement. May God direct us as we move forward together to help fulfill the Great Commission. "We exist to labor with the Body of Christ to fulfill the Great Commission."



True Life Conference Moderator, Mike Wilson, recently presented a plaque of honor to Stanley Degraw for his long term service as treasurer of the True Life Conference.

Beaver Creek WAC District

Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 4th at the Inman Free Will Baptist Church. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. Nelda Highsmith (NC Vice President) and Sue Rutland will be our guest speakers. They will be sharing with us their involvement with the Hanna Project and the different countries they have visited. Please come and be a part of this important meeting that we might learn together the opportunities God may have us help serve in this important ministry of spreading the gospel.

OLD FASHIONED REVIVAL
MARCH 19-24

SUNDAY
10:30 AM
AND 6PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY
7PM

REV. WESLEY CAMPBELL

DR. JOE ARTHUR

TURNING POINT
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

SINGING NIGHTLY BY

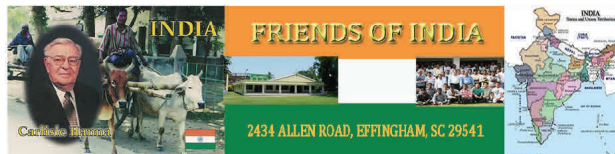
THE JOYAIRES

THE PARSONS

THE ROGERS FAMILY

104 FAIRVIEW CHURCH ROAD · SPARTANBURG, SC 29303

**FRIENDS OF INDIA REPORT
TO THE 2017 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE
ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS.**



Your prayers and support for the work of God in India through Friends of India are vital and greatly appreciated. Please consider putting "Friends of India" into your regular Church giving. Ongoing projects include: Funds to operate our Children's Home in Sonapur (Hostel). Funds to purchase Motorbikes for our Pastors (\$2,000 Each) and Bicycles for our Evangelists (\$75 Each). And \$75 dollar monthly is needed to keep our Evangelist/Church-Planter on the field winning souls for Christ.

From Missionary Carlisle Hanna: "We want to express our thanks to all of you who have, so faithfully, supported the ministry of Friends of India with your prayers and finances. Our Lord continues to build His Church. There is cause for rejoicing as I meet and speak with our pastors and evangelists on the Mission Compound or at our churches. We have permanent church building from the north end of our field to the south end. That is about two hundred miles and the width is from the Nepal border to the Bangladesh border. After preaching the Gospel here for so many years, there are still so many who have never heard the name of JESUS. Please, all of you, pray that each believer shall be faithful in lifting up His name in these last days before our Lord calls us HOME.

Board of Friends of India with the year their term expires:
 Dr. (Rev.) Don Hanna, Chairman of the Board..... 2020
 Rev. Mike Jones, Secretary / Treasurer 2019
 Rev. Sherwood Lee 2018
 Rev. Chris Todd..... 2021
 Rev. Buddy Seay, Jr. 2022
 Rev. Jacob Creech 2017

Contact Information:
 Friends of India
 2434 Allen Road
 Effingham, S C 29541
www.SCFriendsofIndia.com

Thanks for your continued prayers for my visa. He is able to see that it will be granted. We are doing what we can to get this granted."

God is doing a great work in India and we appreciate your prayers and support.
 Rev. Mike Jones, Secretary-Treasurer

FRIENDS OF INDIA 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT		
FOI Foundation Perpetual TRUST FUND	Balance 1/1/16	\$89,041.59
We began the Trust Fund with 11K in 2006. During the Ten Years since we began we have received around 85K in gifts. In spite of the fact that 8 out of the 20 semi-annual reports have shown a negative "earnings" we still earned 18K in interest. Our semi-annual Endowment gifts have totaled 24K.	Gifts to Trust Fund in 2016	\$7,553.93
	Trust Fund Endowment - 2016	-\$4,515.50
	Trust Fund Earnings- 2016	\$252.66
TRUST FUND BALANCE 12/31/16		\$92,332.68
FOI GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENSES		
	2016 INCOME BY STATE	
	SC	\$176,593.30
	NC	\$21,758.84
	GA	\$11,500.00
	MO	\$1,483.00
	TN	\$7,212.43
	OK	\$16,827.00
	AL	\$65.00
	FL	\$125.00
	TOTAL	\$235,564.57
Thank You SCFWB for the Funds to build this church in Nepal. What a joy to share together in building God's Kingdom	Balance 1/1/16	\$276,556.20
	INCOME- 2016	\$235,564.57
	TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	\$512,120.77
2016 EXPENSES / Designated Gifts	Used to Build Churches, Buy Bikes and Motorcycles, pay Evangelist/Church Planters, and other ongoing projects	-\$339,511.34
We try to keep enough in reserve to build a Church and handle any immediate emergencies. We are also dealing with a changing Money Crisis presently taking place in India.	BALANCE 12/31/16	\$172,609.43
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. GOD IS DOING A GREAT WORK AND YOU ARE HELPING MAKE IT POSSIBLE.		



Tim and Kristi Johnson (Spain). Hola to everyone in South Carolina. We wish we could tell you in person how much we appreciate what you and the SCFWB churches are doing to support us. Here are some highlights of our present work.

We continue to work with the Alpredrete Church where Tim preaches and serves on the church board. Kristi works with music and children's classes. But our most important role in the church right now is in leadership development.

We are working through a plan to help the church become an independent work so that (hopefully) we can move on to start another church. Pray that God will provide the right leadership components for this to take place.

We also work with our national pastors and our association of FWB in Spain to encourage collaboration and growth. Our small association recently sent out our first missionary couple, Manu and Noemi, to work with people from North Africa who have relocated to the south of Spain. Pray for this new ministry, that their physical needs will be met and they will be able to share the Gospel with people they come in contact with.

We are so thankful for the financial support we receive from the churches in South Carolina. You have been faithful to give to our account for almost 20 years now! Our next scheduled stateside assignment (furlough) will begin in July of 2018. We look forward to seeing many of you and sharing more about what God is doing here in Spain!



Jonathan and Amy Postlewaite (Bulgaria). Dear friends and fellow laborers in South Carolina, We recently completed our fifth month of being in our new city- Pleven, Bulgaria. We are so grateful for your financial support that has enabled us to be in this place, and we are very thankful for your prayers which have sustained us during this time of transition.

We praise God for the opportunities he has given our family to continue to support the church planting work in the city of Svishtov (where we lived our last term) while also laying foundations for a new church plant here in Pleven. We usually attend church in Svishtov on Sunday mornings, and Jonathan helps in preaching there once a month. We have been thrilled to see the spiritual growth among believers there, including a few people stepping up in leadership, which has been our prayer for a long time.

We are also excited about some new things we are starting this month to reach people in our city. First, a Bible study with a family on Sunday nights, which we are praying will grow soon. We are meeting weekly for evangelism and discipleship training with a group of Christian young people. Another thing we are praying about and making plans for is the prospect of starting English clubs for kids and adults which will include Biblical content.

We know that we must be faithful in our efforts to learn about our context and in building trust among nonbelievers if we want to see God work through us here. That is why we have been continuing studies, meeting with a language tutor almost every day, and finding ways to connect and establish friendships in our community.

We realize that starting a new church from scratch is a process that requires much patience, persistence, and prayer. We cannot express how thankful we are for standing by us in this "beginning" stage which can be challenging at times. We believe that God's plan to reach the people of this city who have never heard the Gospel and to see their lives changed is indeed amazing and the pastors and churches in South Carolina have been such a huge part of it.

You all mean so much to us, and we constantly thank God for you. May he give patience and persistence to each of you and may you be faithful in prayer as you continue to build His kingdom in your communities!

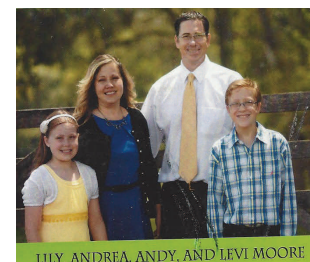


Neil and Mandi Morgan (Spain). The New Year has gotten off to an encouraging start. Our small church was packed full recently. We just completed our second week of workshops and began our English classes at the local university. Please continue to pray for the opportunities God has given us.

The church is very excited about the workshops. They are at a city cultural center and sponsored by the town hall. Each week a speaker presents information about a different value or theme as a service to the community. We are praying for God to open doors through this opportunity so we can reach the lost that have no interest in stepping foot in a church. We are partnering with the Spain Christian Police Association in this endeavor and they say they have seen a number of Spaniards saved through this ministry in other parts of the country.

We cannot express our gratitude enough for how much South Carolina churches have meant to our ministry. Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support through the years!

Andy Moore (Brazil) This new year got off to a great start. We had a watchnight service at our church where over 40 people helped us pray in the new year. We are preparing this month for our first baptismal service since moving into our new building and we have recently started a new Sunday school class. Thank you for our prayers as we head into 2017!



LILY, ANDREA, ANDY, AND LEVI MOORE

South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists
Chris Todd, Executive Secretary
P O Box 9, Turbeville, SC 29162
WWW.SCFWB.COM (843) 657-2091



In May of 2016, **Free Will Baptist Family Ministries** was contacted about the John M. Reed Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Facility in Limestone, TN. Their Board of Directors had leased the property to another company, which ended up

declaring bankruptcy, resulting in the Reed Center closing their doors.

Upon our touring the site, I was confident there was a great opportunity for FWBFM to operate this facility. With the approval of our Board of Trustees, we moved forward in the purchase of the Reed Center. We are in the process of renovating the building in hopes to begin accepting residents in February 2017. We are excited with the prospect of growing our organization to include the 63 bed skilled nursing and long term care services, as well as a 12 unit assisted living home, licensed for 20 beds.

We know that our thriving ministry is only through God's leading, our faithful prayer and financial partners, a committed administration and staff, as well as a host of volunteers. We covet your prayers in this major endeavor for FWBFM, as we seek the right staff to care for the residents that will call this place Home.

In Christ, Frank Woods, Executive Director

Pastor's Day at the statehouse

February 14, 2016 | 10am - 2pm

Fellowship and eat with your fellow members,
then meet and pray together with your legislators!

Register at

PastorsDaySC.EventBrite.com

Or email erik@PalmettoFamily.org



For our SC FWB churches, below is a list of available or retired ministers to help supply the pulpit in the absence of a pastor:

Rev. Earl Hanna, Florence - (843) 617-7339
Rev. Leroy Lowery, Darlington - (843) 229-2078
Rev. James Earl Raper, Turbeville - (843) 659-2366
Rev. Jacob Creech, Turbeville - (843) 687-2301
Rev. Galen Dunbar, Florence - (843) 676-9865
Rev. Bobby Bowers, Greenville - (864) 230-0518
Rev. Bennie Turner, Manning - (803) 473-0286
Rev. John Cody, Rock Hill - (803) 323-7092
Rev. Donald Davis - (864) 998-4965
Rev. Kenny Haselden - (843) 731-4842

Church Treasurers and Pastors- The 2017 Mileage rate is to \$.535 per mile.

The 81st annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists will be held in the

Kentucky International Convention center in Louisville, KY on July 16-19, 2017. More information will be available at our State Meeting.

