

OPENING REMARKS: - "The Real Heroes Were the Ones Who Never Came Back"

It may seem like a long way away, but as fast as this year seems to be going, Mother's Day and Father's Day will be here before we know it. We have Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts available at our Christian Book & Supply. Attached is a [picture](#) of the gifts with prices and details. Feel free to give us a call if we can help you in any way. Thank you for supporting your State Office and Christian Bookstore.

I received an email this morning from Brother Mitch Edge's brother. Mitch is the pastor at Parkway FWB Church in Boiling Springs, SC. His brother is currently in Afghanistan fighting for our freedom. It was a reminder to me of the need to continue to pray for the men and women who are serving our country at home and abroad that we might enjoy our freedom. God has blessed us with a great land. With this email comes a salute of honor to those who have served in the past and for those who are serving in the present! I'm also reminded of the words of James Bradley in his book "Flag of our Fathers." His father often told him, "The real heroes were the ones who never came back." May our hearts be filled with gratitude for their sacrifice.

PRAYER & PRAISE:

- 1) **PRAISE:** Congratulations to **Rev. Mitch and Mrs. Regina Edge** on the birth of their first grandchild, Cohen Scott Chalk, born on Thursday, February 28, 2008. Cohen weighed 8 pounds and 2 ounces. Pray for parents Ashley and Scott as they begin their new journey with their precious gift from God.
- 2) Please pray for **Rev. Leonard Williams**. Brother Williams was in McLeod Regional Medical Center last week, but was released and is now home.
- 3) Please pray for **Rev. Bennie Turner**. Brother Turner was in MUSC in Charleston, but has been released and is now home.
- 4) Please continue to pray for **Rev. Paul Creech**, nephew of Rev. Jacob Creech, as he continues to undergo radiation treatment.

MINISTER NEWS:

- 1) **Florence Minister's Breakfast**, Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 8:30 AM at Bazen's Restaurant.
- 2) **Lake City Minister's Breakfast**, Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 8:30 AM at Prosser's Restaurant.
- 3) **Eastern Conference Quarterly** - Saturday, March 22, 2008, at Calvary FWB Church in Georgetown, SC.

CHURCH NEWS:

- 1) OLD TIME CAMP MEETING - **Chesnee FWB Church**, Chesnee, SC, with **Rev. Billy Bevan, Rev. Bob McCurry, and Rev. Billy Fields**. (Singers include Ingleside Trio, Phillips Family, Rev. Billy Fields, and Chesnee Church singers).
- 2) REVIVAL - **Low Country FWB Church**, N. Charleston, SC. March 9-14 (Sun 6 PM & M-F 7 PM) with **Rev. Bobby Jackson**.

- 3) REVIVAL - Calvary FWB Church, Union, SC
- 4) SPECIAL SERVICE - **Turning Point FWB Church**, Boiling Springs, SC. Sunday, March 16, 2008, at 11 AM. **Rev. Benny Hartley**, former Cincinnati Red player and Southeastern FWB College graduate, will be sharing his life testimony of how fame led to drug and alcohol abuse and how the Lord delivered him through saving grace!
- 5) REVIVAL - **Free Welcome FWB Church**, Conway, SC. March 17-21, 2008, with **Rev. Buddy Seay**, Evangelist. Services begin at 7:30 PM. Billy T. Baker, Pastor.
- 6) REVIVAL - **Turning Point FWB Church**, Boiling Springs, SC. March 17-21, 2008, with **Evangelist Bob McCurry**. 7 PM nightly.
- 7) EASTER DRAMA - **White Savannah FWB Church**, Conway, SC. Sunday, March 23rd at 7:30 PM.
- 8) REVIVAL - **St. John FWB Church**, Pamplico, SC. March 24-28, 2008 (M-F), with **Rev. Rickey Evans**.
- 9) SPRING JUBILEE - **Westgate FWB Church**, Arcadia, SC. April 4-6, 2008. Special music by Sam & Labreska Atkinson, Soul Harvest, and others. Guest Speakers: Rev. James Sanders, Rev. Buddy Seay, Rev. Todd Smith, Rev. Chris Jackson, Rev. Mitch Ingram, and others. Free meal on Saturday for all who attend.
- 10) REVIVAL - **High Hill FWB Church**, Scranton, SC. April 6-9, 2008, with **Rev. Milton and Melvin Worthington**.
- 11) REVIVAL - **White Savannah FWB Church**, Conway, SC. April 7-11, 2008, with Rev. Allen Goodman.
- 12) REVIVAL - **Mullins-Marion FWB Church**, Mullins, SC. April 13-17, 2008, with **Rev. Mike Blanton**. (Sun. at 6:00 PM & Mon-Th at 7:30 PM)
- 12) REVIVAL - **Hickory Hill FWB Church**, Gresham, SC. April 6-19, 2008 (TWO WEEK REVIVAL), with Rev. Darwin Cook (4/7-12/08), Rev. Todd Smith (4/13/2008), and Rev. Richard Cole (4/14-19/08). Services 7:30 PM nightly and Sunday, April 13 - 10 AM & 6 PM.
- 13) REVIVAL - **Horse Branch FWB Church**, April 13-16, 2008, with **Rev. Richard Barnes** (M-F at 7 PM nightly)
- 14) ANNUAL CAMP MEETING - **Freedom FWB Church**, Ladson, SC. June 8-12 with various ministers preaching.

*Please send church news announcements via email to ToddSmith@scfwb.com by Wednesday of each week for the following SC FWB Update. THANKS.

SC WAC NEWS:

- 1) **SC WAC State Meeting** - Saturday, March 15, 2008, at Temple FWB Church, Darlington, SC
- 2) **SC Conference DISTRICT Spring Retreat** - Friday & Saturday, April 11-12, 2008, at Camp Bob Cooper in Summerton, SC. Theme - "Esther's Closet." Guest Speaker: Mona Dukes.
- 3) **SC WAC STATE RETREAT** - Friday and Saturday, September 5-6, 2008, at the White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, SC.

YOUTH MINISTRIES NEWS:

- 1) **CTS District Run Off Competition** - Saturday, March 7-8, 2008, at Peace FWB Church, Florence, SC. (Friday - 7 PM, Bible Competition & Saturday - 8:30 AM, Music and Art Competition)

2) **Summer Junior (July 28 - August 1) and Teen Camp (June 9-14)** http://www.scfwb.com/youth_ministries.html

3) **Teen Retreat** - October 24-26, 2008 at Myrtle Beach, SC

CLOSING REMARKS: - "You Jerk, Why did you save him? He's going to die!"

Do you remember the high school book report days? I remember them well. I don't remember all the books I had to read, but to this day there sits on my office bookshelf a book that I reported on in high school. After high school graduation, I purchased my own copy of the book. Its contents made a great impact on my life. The book is entitled, "The Race for Life" by Janet Sonnenberg. It tells the story of her son Joel Sonnenberg who was severely burned in an automobile accident on Saturday, September 15, 1979. The book tells of the great strength of a little boy trying to survive, the forgiveness of a mother, and the compassion of those who provide medical care. All thirty six tons of steel thrust into their vehicle as they waited to pay at a toll booth. The accident would end up leaving Joel's body scarred for life. Jane records vividly the anger that filled her heart and mind toward the man who caused the accident and even the man who saved her son, because at first, she felt it would have been better if her son had just died due to the fact that there was not one part of his body that was not severely burned. "Lady, I saved your baby!" came the cry from the one who saved the scorched body of this precious child. She said, "I wanted to scream, 'You jerk! Why did you save him? He's going to die!'" Instead, she sobbed a quiet "Thank you." Jane learned to forgive though her heart and family were traumatized. Though her son faced the ridicule of others because of his looks, Jane knew he was a gift from God.

Forgiving someone is not always easy. It is often been said, "Forgive and Forget." But this is immediately humanly impossible. We are humans, we remember the hurt and pain that was caused. Forgiveness is a decision. It is a choice to no longer hold something to someone's account. Forgiveness takes God's help and strength. We must look through the eyes of God and not our own eyes. At His dying hour, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34). Paul said to the church at Ephesus in Ephesians 4:32, "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Is there someone that you need to forgive? With God's help all things are possible. Rely upon him for strength, and He will be your guide. Someday, we might need someone else's forgiveness. I pray for God's strength and grace in your life during this time.

You are greatly appreciated,

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