

SC FWB Update, Vol. 2, No. 1, Thursday, January 3, 2008

OPENING REMARKS:

STATE OFFICE: \$1.3 Million - PRAISE THE LORD!

Today was the deadline for church treasurers to submit their giving through the state office for the year 2007. After entering all giving, the total giving from all churches and individuals was \$1,331,655.22 that came through the SC FWB State Office for the year 2007. The next issue of the Informer, which will be published by February 10, 2008, will reflect the amounts given from each church and conference. In the next couple of weeks, we will be compiling reports for our SC FWB Digest of reports in preparation for our upcoming February state meeting.

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE: SC FWB State Meeting

The option to pre-register for the upcoming SC FWB State meeting is now online through our web site at <http://www.scfwb.com/registration.htm>. You will find a schedule of the state meeting along with directions and a map. Conference leaders, please note the special announcements regarding representation to the state meeting found at the following link:

http://www.scfwb.com/state_meetings.html We are looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship together in the Lord.

MILEAGE RATE CHANGE:

For churches, boards, or committees that may pay mileage on behalf of leaders, the IRS mileage rate for 2008 has increased to .505 cents per mile. If you log and file mileage for your tax return, the rate for 2007 was .485 cents per mile.

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=176030,00.html>

PRAYER & PRAISE:

- 1) Please remember to pray for the **Missionaries Tim and Kristi Johnsons** and their family as they are now back in the states on mission itinerant. They will be in SC from January - May 2008.
- 2) Please remember **Missionary Carlisle Hanna** as he is having some difficulties with a situation in India.
- 3) **Phillip Jones**, pastor at Low Country FWB Church in Charleston, SC, will be having a heart procedure on January 29, 2008. Please remember him in prayer.

MINISTER NEWS:

- 1) **Florence Area Minister's Breakfast**, Tuesday, January 8, 2008, at Bazen's Restaurant in Florence, at 8:30 AM.
- 2) Two **FWB IM luncheons** will be held in South Carolina to discuss the newly proposed refunding FWB IM projected plan:
 - a) East side of the state - Peace FWB Church, Florence, on January 11, 2008 at 12 noon, and
 - b) West side of the state - Parkway FWB Church, Boiling Springs, on January 12, 2008, at 12 noon.

Lunch will be furnished, so reservations are requested.

Please RSVP to April Bybee in the Mission office (april@fwbgo.com or toll-free 1-877-767-7736).

3) The **Central Association meeting** will take place on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at Socastee FWB Church, Socastee, SC.

4) The **True Life Conference** will be meeting on January 19, 2008 at Heartland FWB Church in Lancaster, SC.

5) The **South Carolina Conference** will be hosting their meeting on January 24-25, 2008 at Sand Hill FWB Church, Coward, SC.

6) The **Beaver Creek Association** will be hosting their annual meeting on Saturday, January 26, 2008 at Enoree FWB Church in Enoree, SC.

*Be sure to visit the SC FWB web site for all upcoming conference meeting dates and places. Also, feel free to visit the SC WAC web site at www.scwac.org for upcoming ladies auxiliary events.

CHURCH NEWS:

1) **Pastor Donnie and Mrs. Trudy Miles at Peace FWB Church in Florence, SC**, will be hosting their 18th annual couples retreat to be held on Friday and Saturday, February 8-9, 2008, at the Hilton Hotel in Myrtle Beach, SC. The cost is \$155 per couple. A \$100 deposit is due by December 12, 2007. The guest speaker will be Rev. Bill Evans, former FWB Board of Retirement Director. For more information, feel free to contact Trudy Miles at 843-667-6285 (church) or 843-667-8798 (home).

2) **Westgate FWB Church in Arcadia, SC**, will be having a "Sportsman Banquet" on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at 6:30 PM. Pastor Kevin Smith said the menu will include "deer hash, duck, quail, and more." Please call 864-574-5904 for more information.

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

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS:

Randall House Director Ron Hunter along with the Randall House Board will be meeting with state promotional directors and state bookstore managers in Nashville, TN, on Monday and Tuesday, February 4-5, 2008, in accordance with a motion passed at the July 2007 FWB Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, in order to collaborate together on the best effective means to make Randall House and our state bookstores succeed in providing the best Christian education for our churches.

CLOSING REMARKS:

A man once told Gypsy Smith that after having gone through the whole Bible he received no inspiration from it. Gypsy Smith replied: "Don't go through the Bible; however, let it go THROUGH YOU, and then you will tell a different story." This is a time of year when many are making New Year's resolutions. I had the opportunity to be with Pastor Jeff Cockrell at Black River FWB Church this past Sunday, and there was made available on the foyer table a yearly Bible reading schedule, as I'm sure is the case in many of our churches. What a wonderful opportunity at this time of year to commit to reading through the Bible in a whole year. If you do not have a yearly Bible reading schedule, there are numerous ones available online. Feel free to use the following link to download a Bible reading plan:

<http://www.navpress.com/Magazines/DiscipleshipJournal/BibleReadingPlans/>

John Quincy Adams said: "I have for many years made it a practice to read through the Bible once a year. My custom is to read four or five chapters every morning immediately after rising from my bed. It employs about an hour of my time, and seems to me the most suitable manner of beginning the day. In what light soever we regard the Bible, whether with reference to revelation, to history, or to morality, it is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue."

God could have chosen many different ways to communicate with us. He could have chosen skywriting, bellowing His message with a thunderous voice, or programming electronic impulses in our heads; however, thankfully, he chose a book, The Holy Bible, through which to communicate with us! READ IT EVERY DAY; IT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

You are greatly loved,

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