

SC FWB Update, Vol. 3, No. 44, Wednesday, December 2, 2009

OPENING REMARKS:

Last night, we had the first of three minister and spouse Christmas dinner fellowship meals. The first one took place last night at Horne's restaurant in Florence. The meals are being provided free of charge by the SC FWB State Office and Christian Book and Supply for all ministers and their spouse that are a member in good standing of a conference that is a part of the South Carolina Free Will Baptist State Association, Inc. We had a wonderful time of fellowship at the Horne's Restaurant in Florence. The details of the remaining two meals are listed below under "Minister News." We are grateful for all of our ministers and wives for their faithfulness in the Lord's work. Be sure to show your gratitude to your pastor or other ministers in your church during the Christmas season.

Next week, many across our denomination will be participating in the annual Leadership Conference which will take place at the Nashville Airport Marriott. For information on this event, feel free to visit <http://www.nafwb.org/leadershipconference>

PRAYER REQUEST:

- 1) **Mrs. Everette Ard**, age 94, a long time faithful member of New Prospect FWB Church and former employee of the New Prospect Christian School in Pamplico, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, November 30, 2009. Mrs. Ard sang in her home church and in many revivals across our state. She had a testimony of humility and faithfulness and will be greatly missed. The family will receive friends from 6-9 PM at New Prospect Church on Wednesday, December 2, 2009, and the funeral will take place on Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 11 AM at New Prospect FWB Church. Please remember her family in prayer during this time.
- 2) **Mr. Ray Hendrix**, age 73, the brother of Reverend Earl Hendrix, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, November 28, 2009, from Spartanburg Regional Hospice after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Mr. Ray served in the U.S. Navy from 1955-1959. He was a faithful member at First FWB Church in Inman, SC. Visitation and a memorial service was held on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at First FWB Church in Inman. Please remember the Hendrix family in prayer during this time.
- 3) **Mrs. Wanda Bryson**, the wife of Reverend Tommy Bryson, will be having surgery on Monday, December 7, 2009 in Wilmington, NC. Also, please pray for Reverend Tommy Bryson as he will be seeing an eye specialist about whether or not he will have to have eye surgery.

MINISTER NEWS:

- 1) **Spartanburg/Lancaster Area Ministers and Spouse Christmas Fellowship Dinner** - Thursday, December 3, 2009, Shelly's Family Dining, Boiling Springs, SC at 6:00 PM. Directions to Shelly's Family Dining: Go through Boiling Springs on Hwy 9 and cross over Lake Bowen. Shelly's is just across the bridge on your left. A room has been reserved in the back of the restaurant. For detailed instructions, feel free to contact Reverend Todd Black at 864-205-8918.
- 2) **Conway/Central Area Ministers and Spouse Christmas Fellowship Dinner** - Thursday, December 10, 2010, Ryan's Grill Buffett, 2904 Church Street, Conway, SC at 7:00 PM. (Ryan's Restaurant - 843-365-4664) For further details, contact Reverend Buddy Seay at 843-455-7028

COUPLES RETREAT:

20th Annual Couple's Retreat - Myrtle Beach Hilton - February 12-13, 2010

Cost: \$175 per couple (includes ocean view room, Friday night buffet at Captain Bennett's Seafood,

Saturday morning buffet in the Dune's Ballroom, all sessions, door prizes, and goodie bags. A deposit of \$125 is due by December 18, 2009. If people opt to pay in full by December 18, the cost is \$165 and their names will be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing (\$100 off next year's retreat). For more information, call Donnie Miles at 843-667-8798, or feel free to email him at peacepastor50@cs.com.

CHURCH NEWS:

November

29-Dec 2 REVIVAL - **Bethany FWB Church** in Timmonsville, with Reverend Timmy Larrimore.

December

7-9 FAMILY REVIVAL - **Unity FWB Church in Johnsonville**, with Reverend Buddy Seay, 7:30 PM

13 & 14th COMBINED CHOIRS - The choirs of **Beulah FWB Church, Mt. Elon FWB Church, and Pamplico FWB Church** will be presenting

"The Love of God at Christmas" cantata Sunday night, December 13th at 6 PM and again on Monday night, December 14th at 7:30 PM.

Both services will be held at Beulah FWB Church in Pamplico.

20 Mark and Myra's Christmas Concert, December 20, 2009, at 6 PM at **Mt. Elon FWB Church, Pamplico**. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

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

CLOSING REMARKS: "The Other End of the Log"

In the writings of Charles Spurgeon, the following story can be found: An old servant was once carrying a large bough of a tree to have it cut into pieces to make a fire. A little boy, one of the family, seeing the end of it dragging along the ground and making it very heavy, came and took hold of the end, and the burden grew light. Then said the servant, "Ah! Master Frank, I wish you could take hold of one end of the greater burden that I have to carry; I have a burden of sin; the more I drag it about, the heavier it becomes. I wish Jesus Christ would take hold of one end of it." The little boy said, "My mother told me, yesterday, that Jesus Christ carries all our sins; therefore, you do not want Jesus Christ to drag one end of it; he will take the whole of it." The poor woman, who had been long seeking rest, found it by that remark of the child. Yes, Jesus does take your sins. If you trust Christ, this is the evidence that all your sins are laid on him.

Truly Christ is the reason for the season!

Merry Christmas,

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