

OPENING REMARKS: - "CTS/NYC State Competition"

The South Carolina Free Will Baptist state CTS/NYC Competition will take place this week on Friday and Saturday at Peace FWB Church in Florence, SC. Registration will begin Friday at 6:30 PM, and the competition will continue on Saturday with registration beginning at 8:30 AM. Many young people have worked very hard on a church, district, and state level, and we are very proud of their accomplishments.

The FWB Children's Home Gold City Benefit Concert will be on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 7 PM at Patriot Hall in Sumter, SC. Tickets are on sale now at the Children's Home by contacting 843-659-2880.

This past week, I have had the privilege of being with the Ebenezer FWB Church in Glennville, GA, in revival with Pastor Rick Cason. It was a joy and honor to see people like minded as we all labor together in God's Kingdom work. It is a great honor serving Free Will Baptist in South Carolina. Thank you for allowing us to be your servants.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- 1) Please pray for **Reverend Earl Hendrix**, pastor at First FWB Church in Inman, SC. He was recently diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer. Please remember him in prayer as he undergoes medical treatments.
- 2) Please pray for **Reverend Joe Cagle**, pastor at Little Bethel FWB Church in Johnsonville. Brother Joe was diagnosed with cancer close to his eye, and he will be having surgery on Friday, April 30, 2009. Please remember him in prayer during this time.
- 3) **Reverend James Earl Raper**, member of the South Carolina Conference, is going through cardiac therapy from a recent stint that was placed in his heart. Please remember him in prayer during this time.
- 4) **Missionary Mirial Gainer** recently came out of the hospital in Japan from having pneumonia. Please remember her in prayer during this time.

MINISTER NEWS:

- 1) **Beaver Creek Minister's Monthly Luncheon** - Will now meet on the first Monday of every month at the Grape Vine Restaurant in Boiling Springs, SC, at 11:30 AM. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 4, 2009, at 11:30 AM.
- 2) **True Life Conference Meeting** - Saturday, May 16, 2009, at Mt. View FWB Church in Dallas, NC, at 10:00 AM.
- 3) **Palmetto Conference Meeting** - Saturday, May 16, 2009.
- 4) **PASTORAL TRAINING / SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING** - Saturday, May 16, 2009, at Evergreen FWB Church in Conway at 9:00 AM. Registration is \$20. For each church sending 5 people or more people with a paid registration, the pastor can attend the training at no charge. Lunch will be provided by the Evergreen Church.
- 5) **EASTERN CONFERENCE MEETING** - Saturday, May 23, 2009, at Olanta FWB Church in Olanta, 9:30 AM

CHURCH NEWS:

April

26-May 2 **REVIVAL - Heartland FWB Church, Lancaster, SC**, Sunday (11 AM & 6 PM) - Rev. Tim Hackett
M-Tuesday (7 PM) - Rev. Tim Hackett, Wed - No Service, Thurs-Fri (7 PM) Rev. Buddy Seay
Sat (May 2nd - 6 PM) White Savannah TMT Drama

May

4-8 **REVIVAL - Calvary FWB Church in Georgetown** - MONDAY MAY 4 - FRIDAY MAY 8 7:30 PM EACH NIGHT WITH REV. JAMIE MONTGOMERY.

16 **GOLF TOURNAMENT - Peace FWB Church in Florence will be hosting a Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 16, 2009.** This charity golf tournament is a fund raiser benefiting the Peace Church's youth ministry trip to the National Youth Conference (NYC) in July in Cincinnati, OH. The cost is \$60 per person and will take place at the Wellman Club located at 436 Clubhouse Drive in Johnsonville, SC. The deadline for entry is May 1, 2009. Please contact Mr. Craig Place for details or entry forms. His email address is singnplay@sc.rr.com, and his home number is 843-968-5837.

16 **GOLF TOURNAMENT - Temple FWB Church in Darlington will be hosting its third annual "Radical Change" golf tournament on Saturday, May 16, 2009**, at the Governor's Run golf course in Lamar, SC. It will be four men teams, captain's choice, shotgun start tournament that will start at 9 AM. The cost will be \$60 per person which includes lunch, good bag, snacks, and drinks during the tournament. Tickets for prizes will be available for some of Myrtle Beach's finest golf courses. Also, there will be four hole-in-one prizes as well as longest drive and closest to the pin. Proceeds will go toward the youth fund for expenses for going to the NAFWB Convention in Ohio in July. For more information or to register a team, contact Reverend Bruce Kimbrel at 843-307-4016 or Temple FWB Church at 843-393-5251. The deadline for entries is Monday, May 11, 2009.

16 **BASS FISHING BENEFIT TOURNAMENT - The North Spartanburg FWB Church** in Spartanburg will be hosting a "Bass Fishing Benefit Tournament" for the Free Will Baptist Home for Children, on Saturday, May 16, 2009, at Lake Greenwood State Park Landing. The entry fee is \$50 per team. Sign in and live well check is at 5:45 AM. Weigh in at 2:30 PM. There is a 5 fish limit. \$10 from each team entry fee will go to the FWB Children's Home. For a copy of the rules or other information, please contact Jerry McKelvey at 864-978-3056, or you may email him at jerry2@charter.net.

17-20 **REVIVAL - Liberty FWB Church, Manning, SC** - with Evangelist Bobby Jackson (Sunday 11 AM & 6 PM / M-W 7 PM)

June

14 67th HOMECOMING - Mt. Carmel FWB Church in York with Rev. Earl Stanley (11 AM)

*Please send church news announcements via email to ToddSmith@scfwb.com by

Tuesday of each week for the following SC FWB Update. THANKS.

SC WAC News:

1) **Central District WAC Mother Daughter Banquet** - Saturday, May 2, 2009, at Little Star FWB Church in Lake City, SC.

2) **SC Conference District Mother Daughter Luncheon** - Saturday, May 16, 2009, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, at the FWB Children's Home in Turbeville, SC. Guest Speaker: Amber Faulkner. The cost is \$7 for ages 12 and up, \$4 for children ages 4 to 11, and children under the age of 3 are free. For details, contact Sandra Dail at 843-407-4079 or 843-621-3927 or sandradail@msn.com.

3) **SC WAC STATE RETREAT - "ESTHER'S CLOSET"** - Friday and Saturday, October 2-3, 2009, at the White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro, SC. The total cost for 1 night stay and 3 meals is \$70. A \$20 non-refundable fee is due by April 30th. Please make checks payable to "SCWAC" and mail the payment to Cathy Logan at 1580 Potter Road, Lancaster, SC 29720. The remaining \$50 is due upon arrival.

CTS/NYC News:

State CTS/NYC Youth Competition - Friday (registration at 6:30 PM) and Saturday (registration at 8:30 AM) - May 1-2, 2009 - Peace FWB Church, Florence, SC.

SC FWB Youth Ministries News:

- 1) SC FWB Teen Camp - June 8-13, 2009 (Mon-Sat) at Camp Anchorage at Waccamaw Lake, NC. For a camp brochure, worker screen form, or a medical release form, visit www.scfwb.org/youth_ministries.htm
- 2) SC FWB Junior Camp - July 27-31, 2009 at Camp Pee Dee in Marion, SC. For a camp brochure, worker screen form, or a medical release form, visit www.scfwb.org/youth_ministries.htm
- 3) SC FWB Teen Retreat - October 23-25, 2009 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

CLOSING REMARKS: "Heaven - What a Day That Will Be!"

While on his deathbed, D. L. Moody cried out: "This is my Coronation Day. Don't try to call me back." Charles Haddon Spurgeon, when facing death, implored: "Can this be death? Why, it is better than living!" When John Owen, the great Puritan, lay on his deathbed his secretary wrote (in his name) to a friend, "I am still in the land of the living." "Stop," said Owen. "Change that and say, 'I am yet in the land of the dying, but I hope soon to be in the land of the living.'"

For some, Heaven is closer than for others, but we are all closer than we were yesterday. May we live our lives pleasing to the Savior so that when that "Coronation Day" comes, we will be prepared to meet him, and what a day that will be!

May the Lord richly bless you.

In Christ,

Todd Smith, Executive Secretary
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