

## SC FWB Update, Vol. 4, No. 49, Wednesday, December 1, 2010

### OPENING REMARKS:

We trust you and your family had a blessed Thanksgiving. As we move into the Christmas season, our prayers are with those who lost loved ones over the past few years, as this is a very difficult time of year for them. Our prayer is that they will know the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Through the busyness of the Christmas season, we pray you and your family experience the fullness of Christ joy knowing He came to this earth born of a virgin to die on our behalf and now intercedes for us.

Church Pews: Williams Hill FWB Church in Hemingway is replacing their church pews. If you know of a church that might need some pews, please contact Reverend Doug Mathis for more details at 843-558-2076 if you are interesting in obtaining the pews for your church or if you know of a church that might could use them.

Leadership Conference: The National Association of Free Will Baptist annual Leadership Conference will take place next week December 6-7. Please remember in prayer the many who will be traveling to attend this conference.

The next Sunday school quarter starts this coming Sunday. Thank you for allowing us to serve your Sunday school needs. We appreciate the opportunity to partner together in ministry.

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### PRAYER / PRAISE REQUEST:

\*Mrs. Irene Skipper passed away on Friday of last week, and her funeral was held this past Sunday at First FWB Church in Hartsville. Mrs. Irene was the wife of Reverend James Skipper, the pastor at First FWB Church in Hartsville. She was 83 years old and served alongside of Brother Skipper in ministry for 51 years. She will be greatly missed. Please remember the Skipper family in prayer during this time.

\*Mirial Gainer, Free Will Baptist missionary to Japan, returned to the Mayo Clinic for further medical care this week. Please remember her in prayer during this time.

\***URGENT NEED:** Please remember in prayer the needs of our India Mission work. After returning to India, Missionary Carlisle Hanna was notified of a mud slide that had taken place behind at the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in South India, which is the first Free Will Baptist Church planted during the ministry of Mrs. Laura Bell Barnard. This is the second mud slide, and a wall needs to be built to secure the building. Funds are needed to help with this need. If a wall is not built to secure the church building, we will lose the first Free Will Baptist Church that was built in India. Please pray about what God would have you to do about this need. Feel free to send your gift for this need to the SC FWB State Office, PO Box 9, Turbeville, SC 29612. Please pass along this information to your friends and family that they might pray about this need as well.

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**MINISTER NEWS:**

\*NAFWB Leadership Conference - December 6-7, 2010 - For details, visit

<http://www.onemag.org/>

\*Florence/Darlington/Lake City Area Wide Free Will Baptist Ministers and Wives Christmas Fellowship - Tuesday, December 14, 2010, at 7 PM, at Horne's Restaurant in Florence. God has graciously provided a donor through Minister Ministry, the ministry of Reverend Mike Jones, to provide the meal free of charge for Free Will Baptist ministers and their wives.

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**CHURCH NEWS:**

November:

29-Dec 2 REVIVAL - Freedom FWB Church in Ladson with Evangelist Scott Eddy (7 PM Nightly with a meal served each night at 6 PM)

December

2 CHRISTIAN SKATE NIGHT at Pee Dee Skateland in Marion (7-9 PM). Fun for the whole family. Admission is \$5 per skater. For details, contact Reverend Mark Leonard at 843-493-5567

18 CHRISTMAS PLAY - Mt. Ariel FWB Church, Conway - "A Christmas in the Country" - 6 PM

\*Please send church news announcements via email to [ToddSmith@scfwb.com](mailto:ToddSmith@scfwb.com) by Tuesday of each week for the following SC FWB Update.

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**CLOSING REMARKS: "That IS my Business!"**

As D.L. Moody walked down a Chicago street one day, he saw a man leaning against a lamppost. The evangelist gently put his hand on the man's shoulder and asked him if he was a Christian. The fellow raised his fists and angrily exclaimed, "Mind your own business!" "I'm sorry if I've offended you," said Moody, "but to be very frank, that IS my business!" Even if people reject the gospel, we still must love them and tell them the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

If you have 50 bottles to be filled with water, you don't take a bucket and dump it out hoping to fill them all. No, you grab the first bottle by the neck, and then you pour in water until it is filled. Then you go on to the next bottle. It can be easy for churches to think of evangelism as a two or three week program, but evangelism is not a program, it is a lifelong ministry of consistently spreading the Gospel. Are we training each individual member of our churches to be a witness whenever the opportunity arises? We must equip our people with the tools and resources needed in order to enable them to be lifelong witnesses of the Gospel of Christ. It has been said that if you take a person fishing, you feed him for a day, but if you teach him to fish, you feed him for a life time. The same is true with evangelism. Training is essential in growing God's church. Christ led this example by pouring His life in the lives of 12 men who became worldwide evangelist.

D.L. Moody once spoke with a woman who didn't like his method of evangelism. Mr. Moody said, "I don't really like mine all that much either. What's yours?" She replied that she didn't have one. Moody said, "Then I like mine better than yours." This time of year is a reminder of God's greatest gift to mankind. May we let the world know of this gift and train others on how to share it.

Working and Watching While Awaiting His Return,

Todd Smith

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