

SC FWB Update, Vol. 4, No. 27, Wednesday, June 9, 2010

OPENING REMARKS: "Teen Camp"

It has been a great joy to be with our teens at Camp Anchorage in Lake Waccawaw, North Carolina this week. They are having a great time participating in many activities and games, such as Boating, Swimming, Water Tubing, Skiing, Skating, Rock Wall Climbing, Basketball, Foosball, Ping Pong, Air Hockey, and much more. The meals and fellowship have been wonderful, but more importantly, many teens have been making spiritual life changing decisions. Reverend Jonathan Blakenship has been preaching some very timely messages during the evening worship services. I am very proud of our teens. God has a great plan for each one of them, and I know this week of camp will make a lasting and positive impression upon all of them.

I received a letter last week from Cliff Donoho, a dear friend and Free Will Baptist minister, regarding a church growth seminar that he is teaching. I would encourage you to visit his web site at www.churchgrowthseminar.com. Cliff has been a church planter and pastor for many years amongst Free Will Baptists and would provide some valuable tools for you and your church. For more information, feel free to contact him at donoho.1@comcast.net.

Thank you for the wonderful privilege it is to serve you and your church!

PRAYER / PRAISE REQUEST:

*Reverend Tim Hackett's brother passed away. Reverend Tim Hackett is the pastor at Fairview FWB Church in Spartanburg. Please remember his family in prayer during this time.

*Ray Lewis' mother passed away last week. Ray is the Director/CEO of our NAFWB Board of Retirement. Please remember his family in prayer during this time.

*Matthew Deckard's dad had surgery last week. Matthew Deckard is our SC FWB Christian Book and Supply bookstore manager. Please remember his dad in prayer as he recovers from surgery.

*Mrs. Mary Reid, wife of Reverend Paul Reid, has requested special prayer for their son and daughter-in-law, David and Leilani Reid. Leilani's mother went to be with the Lord on Tuesday of this week.

MINISTER NEWS:

*Lake City Area Minister's Breakfast - Tuesday, June 15, 2010, Prosser's Restaurant in Lake City - 8:30 AM

*South Carolina Conference Quarterly Meeting - Friday, June 25, 2010, FWB Bible Church, Darlington

CHURCH NEWS:

June:

13 FAMILY DAY & VBS Commencement Service - First FWB Church in Inman - 11 AM.

19 TMT - Teen Ministry Team from White Savannah in Conway will be with Freedom FWB Church in Lancaster at 6 PM

21-25 VBS - Unity FWB Church, Johnsonville - Holy Land Adventure / Supper 6:30 -7 PM and VBS is from 7-9 PM Nightly.

27 ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY - Landmark FWB Church in Anderson (SS 10 AM / Worship 11 AM)

July:

9-10 YOUTH RALLY - Bethany FWB Church in Timmonsville will be hosting a "Soldiers of the Saviour (SOS)" Youth Rally. All teens and youth are welcome to attend. The youth rally will begin at 5:30 PM on Friday and on Saturday at 11:30 AM. There will be preaching, games, activities, prizes, and food. Youth workers, please contact Reverend Joshua Horton if you are planning to attend. You can call him at 843-346-2593. Thank you.

August:

13-15 YOUTH RETREAT - Westgate FWB Church in Arcadia (Spartanburg) will be hosting its first annual YOUTH RETREAT August 13-15, 2010. Some of the events will be roller skating, putt putt, batting cage, bon fire, and much more. Reverend Kevin Smith (pastor at Westgate), Reverend Joey Mills (youth pastor at Westgate), and Reverend David "Boo" Casper (pastor at Promise FWB Church) will be preaching. For more information or registration forms, contact Tami Fish at the church office at 864-574-5904 or Youth Pastor Joey Mills at 864-219-1849.

20 BACK TO SCHOOL BASH BOWLING PARTY - South Gate Bowling in Florence, 6-9 PM. \$10 per person. Grades 4-12. Area churches are invited. Please contact Reverend Chris Edwards for details - 843-598-4410 or chris@lebanonfwbc.com

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

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS:

*Junior Youth Camp, Camp Pee Dee, August 2 - 6, 2010. Vince Tharpe with Art Alive Ministry will be the Evangelist. Please visit Brother Vince's website at www.Artalive.org. For further details, visit http://www.scfwb.org/youth_ministries.htm

WAC NEWS:

*SC WAC Fall Retreat - October 2-3, 2010 - White Oak Conference Center, Winnsboro, SC

CLOSING REMARKS: "Dimples"

Have you ever noticed the pock-marks or dimples covering the surface of a golf ball? They make the ball look imperfect. So, what's their purpose? An aeronautical engineer who designs golf balls says that a perfectly smooth ball would travel only 130 yards off the tee. But the same ball with the right kind of dimples will fly twice that far. These apparent "flaws" minimize the ball's air resistance and allow it to travel much further.

Most of us can quickly name the physical characteristics we wish we had been born without. It's difficult to imagine that these "imperfections" are there for a purpose and are part of God's master design. Yet, when the psalmist wrote of God's creative marvel in the womb, he said to the Lord, "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well" (Psalm 139:13-14). It is so easy for people to be discontent with their physical appearance and the way that God created them. Contentment comes in knowing God is pleased with us not for what we look like but for what we look to. When we look to Him to know His will for our lives, we can know that God can use our physical infirmities for His glory. So much emphasis is placed on physical appearance in the world in which we live today that many people feel very insecure about their own physical appearance and how God made them. God loves you just the way you look. God looks not on the outward appearance but on the inward heart of a person. That is where He finds the true beauty of a person.

May the Lord bless you!