

SC FWB Update, Vol. 5, No. 23, Wednesday, June 29, 2011

OPENING REMARKS:

Mileage Rate Increases for Last 6 Months of 2011 - The IRS has increased the standard mileage rate for the final six months of 2011. The rate will increase to 55.5 cents per mile for all business miles driven from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. This is an increase of 4.5 cents per mile from the 51 cent rate in affect for the first six months of 2011. ("At Your Service," Volume VI, Issue 8, Tuesday, June 28, 2011)

Housing Allowance Case Dismissed - A lawsuit in federal court challenging the minister's housing allowance has ended. The challenge to the minister's housing allowance tax exclusion was dismissed Friday, June 17, in the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of California in Sacramento. The case, Freedom From Religion Foundation v. Geithner, was originally filed in 2009. The case was voluntarily dismissed by the plaintiffs in light of a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2011 on the issue of standing, a legal concept that only parties who have been directly harmed by a statute can challenge its constitutionality. Because the plaintiffs are not directly impacted by Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code -- the section that governs the housing allowance exclusion -- they do not have the standing to challenge it. The minister's housing allowance is among the most important tax benefits available to ministers. Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code allows "ministers of the gospel" to exclude some or all of their ministerial income -- as designated by their church or church-related employer -- as a housing allowance from income for federal income tax purposes. (www.bpnews.net)

Bookstore Closed July 4th - Our SC FWB Christian Book and Supply will be closed on Monday, July 4, 2011 for Independence Day and will re-open on Tuesday, July 5, 2011, at 9 AM. Thank you for allowing us to serve your church. We are here to help those who are helping others!

SC FWB JUNIOR CAMP - SC FWB Youth Ministries Director Reverend Teddy Rabon would like to remind everyone that there is still time to send in registration forms for Junior Camp. For questions, feel free to contact Reverend Teddy at [843-520-6407](tel:843-520-6407). Also, you can download a brochure and medical release forms from our SC FWB web site at www.scfwb.org/youth_ministries.htm.

PRAYER / PRAISE REQUEST:

***Reverend Jonathan Postlewaite**, the pastor at First FWB Church in Darlington, and his wife **Amy** were recently approved to be Free Will Baptist missionaries to Bulgaria under FWB International Missions. Due to funding needs they will not immediately be going full time with FWB IM. However, they left yesterday for a short term mission trip to Bulgaria. Please pray their trip will be prosperous, and please pray for their safe return. They return on July 7, 2011.

*SC FWB Children's Home Dorm Parent **Howard McNeal** is still recovering from a gas grill burn. A couple in Horse Branch FWB Church is gracefully providing an apartment for him and

his wife Kellie during this time of recovery. He is doing better, but please continue to remember him in prayer.

*SC FWB Children's Home Dorm Parent **Dale Blout's** father was recently trampled by a bull. His father is in critical condition with many broken ribs and several other complications. Please remember Dale's dad in prayer during this time.

***Mrs. Barbara Wall**, mother of Mrs. Karen Edwards (wife of Reverend Mike Edwards - Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville), is in Pitt Hospital in Greenville, NC. Very little has changed regarding her condition since last week. Please continue to pray for their family during this time.

MINISTER NEWS:

*Conway Area FWB Minister Breakfast - Monday, July 5, 2011 - Shoney's Restaurant, Conway - 8:30 AM

*Central Association Meeting - Saturday, July 9, 2011 - Little Star FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC - 9 AM

*Darlington/Florence Area FWB Minister Breakfast - Tuesday, July 12, 2011 - Bazen's Restaurant, Florence - 8:30 AM

*NAFWB FWB Convention - July 17-20, 2011 - Charlotte, NC
(<http://www.nafwb.org/2011conv>)

CHURCH NEWS:

JUNE

27-July 1st VBS - Vacation Bible School - High Point FWB Church, Lancaster - 6:30 - 8:30 PM - Theme - "Rev It Up, Jesus"

JULY

3 HONORING GOD AND COUNTRY - South Conway FWB Church, Conway - Flags of Freedom service honoring God and country - 10 AM (Food and Fellowship to follow the morning service).

3 GOD AND COUNTRY SERVICE - Combined Darlington Area FWB Churches - Hosted by Temple FWB Church, Darlington - 6 PM. Includes hot dogs, fellowship, games, and fireworks after the service.

15 MONTHLY ONE NIGHT REVIVAL SERVICE - South Conway FWB Church, Conway - 7:30 PM, with Rev. Buddy Seay (Food will be provided). All are welcome for a great time in the Lord.

11-17 VBS - Vacation Bible School - Evergreen FWB Church, Conway - Classes for all Ages. Adult classes will be taught by area FWB ministers (Mon. - Rev. Teddy Rabon, Tues. - Brother David Stevens, Wed. - Pastor Kevin Johnson, Thurs. - Rev. Stephen Hyman, Fri. - Rev. Allen Goodman. Theme - "Home Town Nazereth" / Time 6:30 - 9 PM (Supper 6:30 - 7 PM)

25-29 VBS - Vacation Bible School - First FWB Church, Simpsonville, SC - 6 PM / For information contact Brother Paul Julian at [864-967-4080](tel:864-967-4080)

31-Aug 2 FAMILY REVIVAL - Rains FWB Church, Rains, with Reverend Buddy Seay (SS 10 AM / Worship 11 AM & 6 PM / M-T 7:30 PM)

*Please send church news announcements by Tuesday of each week for the following week's SC FWB Email Update.

YOUTH NEWS:

*SC FWB Junior Camp - July 25-29, 2011, Camp Pee Dee, Marion, SC - Guest Speaker, Reverend Jonathan Postlewaite / Cost per camper - \$125 (Early bird price) - \$135 per camper after June 1, 2011.

*SC FWB Teen Retreat - October 21-22, 2011 - Guest Speaker Reverend Joe Wilson (FWB IM) - Ages 12-19 - Cost: \$125 per student.

CLOSING REMARKS: "Declaration of Independence"

On July 1, 1776, Congress returned to session. On July 2, the Lee Resolution for Independence was adopted by 12 of the 13 colonies (New York signed July 9). The wording of the Declaration was then considered. The discussions in Congress resulted in a few more alterations and deletions -- but the document remained mostly as Jefferson had intended. The process of revision continued through July 3 and into late afternoon of July 4. Then at last, church bells rang out over Philadelphia -- the Declaration had been officially adopted. John Hancock, the President of the Congress, was the first to sign. The other delegates began to sign at the right below the text, their signatures arranged according to the geographical location of the states they represented. New Hampshire, the northernmost state, began the list, and Georgia, the southernmost, ended it.

Note that, when the Declaration was signed, church bells began to ring!! Oh, that it would be, many years later, that the church would be heard from -- and our message would signal intolerance to those things that threaten our basic biblical freedoms. – THE PASTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING, Vol. 12, No. 27 -- July 2, 2004

*The sum of the whole matter is this: If our civilization is to survive materially, it must be redeemed spiritually. - **Woodrow Wilson***