

NCFWB NEWS

December 2009



Sheila and I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks for all you have done for us this year. You have welcomed us into your homes, your hearts, and your churches. You have made us feel welcome in so many ways. You have provided a place to stay, food to eat, and fellowship to enjoy. It has been a joy to serve as your state representative to the National Association and as the Associational Minister to our state's churches and pastors. We have made many new friends and have had a chance to see some old friends from our past. God has been good.

We would also like to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have seen many changes in our world, our nation, our state, our churches, and our homes this year. But we have confidence in knowing that the Babe of the Manger, the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords has not changed one bit. He still saves the lost and encourages the weak. He still longs to receive our praise and waits to hear our prayers. It is easy to get so busy with Christmas that we forget Christ. Keep Him the center of all your celebrations. The world may try to remove him, but there would be no celebration without him. As we look toward a new year may we do our best to keep him the center of all we do. We do not know what the future holds, but we do know who holds the future.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In spite of all the Lord has done for us this year, our income has not been what it should be. In June, at our State Association, I reported that 2009 looked like it would be the best year financially in several years. Several churches had added us to their outside giving. Other churches increased the amount of giving. We have even had some individuals and couples who have sent in funds. However, we had some churches stop sending in funds, while others were forced to reduce their gift amounts.

November's income was less than \$4000.00. This means we face a deficit of about \$3000.00 for that one month. End of year expenses can be higher because that's when I catch-up on the expenses of social security and retirement that is part of my income. The economy can be blamed for part of the problem. A schedule that has not allowed me to visit more churches is part of the problem. But we are part of the problem. Over 100 of our North Carolina Churches have given nothing to our office this year. If only half of them could send an end of year offering and add us to their giving next year, the needs would be met. I have no one to turn to but you. Remember: the envelope with your check must be postmarked by December 31, 2009 for it to count for this year.

Something New is Coming

The Institute for Christian Education will begin offering classes in January in six states. North Carolina is one of them. The goals for ICE can be found in II Timothy 2:15 and Ephesians 4:12-13. The classes will be held at West Calvary Church in Smithfield on the fourth Saturday of each month. The courses will be from The Evangelical Training Association. We will offer credit toward certificates, CEU units and college credits. Let me know if you need more information. A packet of material can be mailed to you. Bro. Jim Turnbough, pastor of Immanuel Church in Durham, is our dean and first instructor. I am the co-ordination and my wife Sheila is the registrar. Dead-line for registration is January 4, 2010, allowing the student ample time to receive their textbook. This is a good opportunity for your church people to get some extra training in the Bible and in leadership.

Bits & Pieces

Continue to pray for those churches in our state that are looking for a pastor. Especially pray for those that have lost their pastor due to his death. Special prayer is needed for Sister Dixon, Sister Mitchem, and Sister Wilson.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be March 29, 2010 in Durham. On March 30th the All Boards Meeting will be in Durham. Pray for these meetings where state business is conducted.

The State WAC Meeting will be held on May 1, 2010 at West Calvary Church in Smithfield. Their Banquet will be on April 30 in the church fellowship hall.

Our State Association meets June 7 & 8, 2010 at Meadowbrook Church in Black Mountain.

Our National Association meets July 18-21 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The 2010 Ministers Retreat will be September 9-11 at Camp Joshua in Albemarle.

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