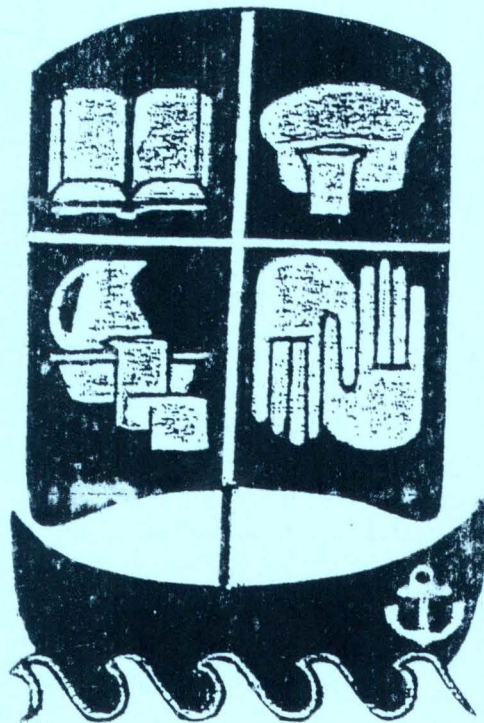
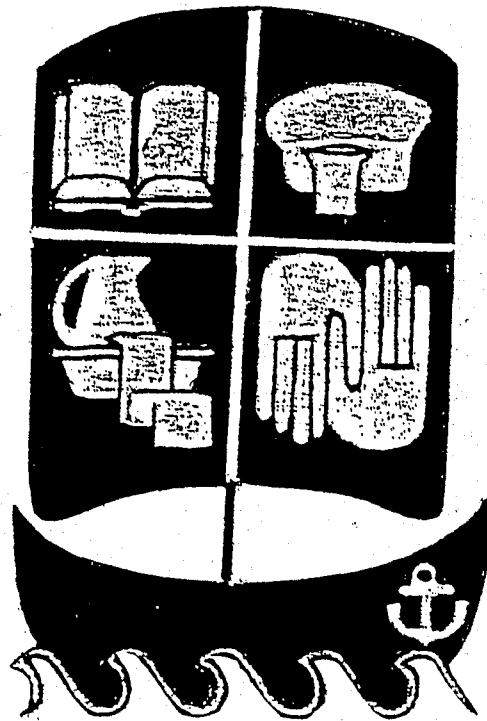


THE COASTAL ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS



Annual Digest
for
2013-2014

**THE COASTAL ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**



Annual Digest
for
2013-2014

Officers 2014-2015

Moderator
Assistant Moderator
Clerk
Assistant Clerk
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Ernest Laxton, Stacy
Jerry Johnson, Morehead City
Tim Thompson, Jacksonville
David Rackley, New Bern
John Moran, New Bern
Richard Patterson, Beaufort

Boards

Examining

Mance Cason 2016
William Sealy 2017
Robert Bragan 2015

Executive

Freeman Edwards 2017
Herbert Thompson 2018
Sutton Raynor 2015
Buster Radford 2016

Missions

Bill Kellum 2016
Brownie Woolard 2017
Jimmy Mercer 2015

Youth

Henry Potter 2016
Stuart Harmon 2017
Pat Hall 2015

List of Ordained Ministers

Bragan, Robert
Bryan, Volney
Bulla, Tommy
Cason, Mance
Coghill, Scott
Coleman, Willie
Edwards, Freeman
Golding, Walt
Haggard, Larry
Hall, Joseph
Hall, Pat

Hart, Gordon
Huffman, Kenneth
Jenkins, Fred
Johnson, Jerry
Kellum, Bill
Kennedy, Glenwood
Laxton, Ernest
Mercer, Jimmy
*Moore, Andy (Brazil)
Moran, John
Outlaw, Rudolph

Patterson, Richard
Petty, Steve
Potter, Henry
Rackley, Jerry
Sealy, William
Thompson, Tim
Wiggs, Dennis
*Wolf, Logan (Utah)

Coastal Association of North Carolina
Licensed Ministers

	Jul. 13	Oct. 13	Jan. 14	Apr. 14	Jul. 14	Oct. 14	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15	Jan. 16	Apr. 16
Burgess, Joshua	A	P	A	A								
Harmon, Stuart		P	A	P	A							

National Association of Free Will Baptists
Coastal Association of North Carolina
Churches

	Jul. 13	Oct. 13	Jan. 14	Apr. 14	Jul. 14	Oct. 14	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15	Jan. 16	Apr. 16
Angola	P	P	P	P	P							
Bridgeton	P	A*	P	A	P							
Calvary	P	A*	P	P	A*							
Cape Fear	P	A	P	P	A							
Cardinal Village	P	P	P	P	P							
Community	P	P	A*	A*	A							
Cove City	P	P	A*	P	P							
Davis	P	A*	P	P	P							
Emmanuel	A	A*	A	P	A							
Faith	A	P	P	A	A							
First, Beaufort	P	P	P	P	P							
First, Jacksonville	P	P	P	P	P							
First, Morehead City	P	P	P	P	P							
First, Richlands	P	P	A*	P	P							
Freedom Way	P	P	A	P	P							
Grace, Holly Ridge	A*	A*	A*	P	A*							
Palmetto Chapel	P	P	P	P	P							
Pleasant Acres	P	A	P	A	A							
Ruth's Chapel	P	P	P	A*	P							
Sherwood Forest	P	A*	P	P	P							
Stacy	P	P	P	P	P							

* Represented by Report

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

From long experience, we, the Original Free Will Baptist Churches, being convinced of the advantages of cooperative programs and united efforts for advancing the cause of our Lord, do purpose to establish and maintain an association of churches for the purpose of spiritual fellowship, united efforts in missions, Christian education and church extension upon the following plan:

- I. This Association shall be named the *Coastal Association of Original Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina* and shall be composed of such well-regulated Free Will Baptist Churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.
- II. The acting members of the Association shall be five (5) delegates from each organized church (chosen by the members of the respective church, while in session), associational officers and board members, and all ordained and licensed ministers, whose names appear on the roll of ministers of the Association belonging to any church composing this body.
- III. The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a treasurer, and a clerk, who shall superintend the printing of the minutes. These officers shall be elected annually, and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. An Executive Board of four (4) members is elected from the laity, whose term of office shall be as follows: one elected for one year, one elected for two years, one elected for three years, and one elected for four years; and at the expiration of each of these terms, one shall be elected for four years. The officers of the Association are named: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer and shall be members of the Executive Board, and shall meet with the Board and shall have a vote on any and all matters that shall come before the Executive Board.
- IV. Any regular organized Free Will Baptist Church maintaining gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrine and practice as set forth in the *Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist*, and in favor of benevolent enterprises such as Sunday School, Missions, Temperance, Christian Education, etc., may be received into this body by presenting a Petitionary Letter requesting membership and upon examination and recommendation of the Examining Board, and by majority vote of the body in session. Moreover, any church holding membership in this Association reserves the right to participate, or refrain from participating in any or all programs of the body, or may withdraw from the Association at her own pleasure.

- V. This Association shall have the power to discipline its churches; exclude them for disorderly conduct if labor proves unsuccessful; to license and ordain ministers (such as give evidence of qualifications); to settle questions of doctrine and discipline as the churches may refer to it; and to make any rules necessary to its regulation and not inconsistent with its internal regulations. The Association may not exert any ecclesiastical authority over the churches composing it (see National Treatise).
- VI. This Association shall convene quarterly at 10:00 A.M. on the fourth Saturday in January, July, and October for fellowship and the conducting of such business as may be deemed necessary. The annual business meeting shall be on the fourth Saturday of April, beginning at 9:30 at which time the Association shall act upon questions and topics as may be referred to it committees and transact such other business not repugnant to this constitution, or to the usage of the denomination as in their judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches within the limits of the Association. The churches shall make such reports of their work as required by the Association.
- VII. It is the duty of this Association to provide for general union of churches, to point out their interests, and to aid them in securing pastors when requested, to put evangelists and other ministers in places where the gospel is most needed, and require an annual written report from each minister belonging to this Association.
- VIII. Duties and job descriptions of the Boards of the Coastal Association:
 - A. **THE MISSIONS BOARD:** It shall be the responsibility of the Missions Board of this Association to promote the cause of Home and Foreign Missions among the churches of the Association through information provided them at the associational meetings, references from the mission boards of the National Association, inquiries from various churches, and actively promoting the actual ministry of various missionaries by scheduling services for them in the churches when requesting them to do so. In addition, the Mission Board shall maintain an up-to-date listing of all missionaries, both Home and Foreign, with their addresses and current needs so as to be of use to the churches as a source of information.

- B. **THE EXAMINING BOARD:** It shall inquire as to the qualifications of ministers, approving or disapproving them for recommendations accordingly. They shall be the investigating committee for new churches wishing to unite with this Association, and upon satisfactory recommendation, the churches shall be recommended to the Association. They shall examine the credentials of ministers transferred to this Association and shall make recommendation to the Association as to their reception.
- C. **THE CHURCH TRAINING AND YOUTH RELATIONS BOARD:** It shall promote the training program for the youth among the churches of this Association; shall be responsible for conducting team and individual competitions for the various youth competitive programs offered by the National C.T.S. Department; and shall be responsible for conducting youth camp sessions on behalf of the youth of this Association, the time and frequency to be determined by the board. They shall encourage area youth rallies.
- D. **THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:** It shall transact all the business of the Association when this body is not in session. If any vacancies occur between sessions of the Association, the board shall fill such vacancies until the next session of the Association: all of whom shall perform such duties as usually devolve to such officers, or as directed by the Association in session.
- E. The general responsibility of all boards of this Association shall be to promote the good of the cause of Christ among the churches of the Association and seek to help the churches to become more effective in the work of the Gospel.

IX This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of all members voting at any regular session of the Association, written notice having been given at the previous session.

Proposed Guidelines for Organizing and Accepting New Churches into The Coastal Association of North Carolina Free Will Baptists.

- I. When a church or mission church desires the fellowship with the Coastal Association, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The church presents a written request at a regularly scheduled association session.
 - B. The church provides for this session.
 - C. The representatives of the church meet with the Examining Board for questioning pertaining to the church's former association, present organization, purpose, and doctrinal practices.
- II. If the Examining Board recommends the church to our fellowship, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The church coming from other denominations or associations shall be taken under the watch care of the Association for one year.
 - B. The church submits a statistical report to the Examining Board's chairman at the end of each six months.
 - C. After one year's watch care, the Examining Board may recommend that the church be taken into full fellowship of the Coastal Association.
 - D. During the year of watch care, the church should send non-voting representatives to the Coastal Association.
- III. When a Mission Church desires fellowship with the Coastal Association, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The mission church should follow the above guidelines, with the exception of the one year waiting period, plus:
 - B. After becoming established enough to operate as a church and having twenty-five charter members, organize into a church with an organizational service. The Coastal Association Moderator, Chairman of the Mission Board, and Examining Board should participate in the service.
 - C. Recognize the KJV Bible as the only rule of faith and practice.
 - D. Adopt the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant.
 - E. Adopt a Constitution and Bylaws based upon the National Association Treatise.
 - F. Request to be accepted by the Coastal Association in full fellowship at the next session.

16. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order.
17. A minister seeking membership in the Association shall present a petitionary letter to the Association; and after he has been recommended and approved by the Examining Board and upon a majority vote of the Body in session, his name shall be placed on the "Roll of Ministers of the Association." Each new minister coming into the Coastal Association shall be contacted by the Examining Board and notified of a date to appear before the board for approval. This should be done within two (2) months after he has arrived and begun his pastorate in the Association.
18. No one shall be licensed or ordained to the Gospel ministry or received into our Association who is divorced or married to a divorcee, homosexual, or immoral in his lifestyle; who uses tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or illegal narcotics; or who has a tolerant attitude toward liberalism, modernism, communism, Catholicism, or tongues-speaking as a part of the practice of the Christian life and evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence and approval. One who seeks to be licensed to preach must be recommended by his local church to this body for membership. He should possess the same standards as the ordained minister. The license must be for a period of one (1) year.
19. The ministers are required to attend the Coastal Association meetings unless prohibited by a legitimate reason, approved by the body. If a minister does not report to the meetings over a continuous period of two (2) years by presence or letter, or he begins to pastor a church outside the Coastal Association, his name shall be dropped from the roll. Before the name is dropped, the moderator must contact him.
20. Each member church shall be required to make an annual report to the Association. Any church failing to report for two (2) consecutive years shall be declared out of fellowship with the Association until such a time as report is made. Churches affected by this action shall be notified by the clerk and given one month to report. If a church fails to respond, a visit shall be made by the General Officers to the pastor. Those churches then failing to comply shall be notified that they are out of fellowship until such a time as they report.
21. The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern this body in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of this Association.
22. These rules may be amended and the order of business may be temporarily suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the body.

(Revised 10/24/98)

August 3, 2013

Coastal Association Minutes

Pleasant Acres Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, served as the site for the Coastal Association, convening on August 3, 2013. Host church pastor, Scott Coghill led the body in singing "Victory in Jesus" and "To God Be the Glory." Opening prayer by Dennis Wiggs was followed by Moderator Ernest Laxton's devotional thoughts from Exodus 17. Rev. Laxton paralleled Moses' battle with Amalek and ours with a culture that is increasingly hostile to God and good. The battle is real and necessitates our aiding each other as Aaron and Hur supported Moses, making Israel's victory possible.

The business session was called to order by the Moderator, delegates were seated, and visitors Josh Crowe and Billy Keith were recognized and welcomed. Committees secured included Finance (John Moran, Jimmy Mercer); Digest (Richard Patterson, Jerry Johnson); and Resolutions (Tim Thompson, Henry Potter).

Treasurer John Moran's early report revealed that an ending balance of \$4,966 and disbursements of \$4,044.20 yielded a current balance of \$921.84.

Pat Hall shared a rave summary of the recent youth camp week at Cove City which witnessed twenty-four salvation decisions and several teens responding to God's call regarding specific future ministries.

Brownie Woolard (Missions Board) introduced Josh Crowe who provided an update on his and Alicia's current outreach in Japan. (Alicia Crowe is one of the positive products of the Pleasant Acres Church.)

Pat Hall explained how the Cape Fear Church was able to refinance its loan through David Brown (Free Will Baptist Foundation), reducing said loan to \$113,000 and allowing a prospective goal for the church to achieve self-supporting status by September.

Following a request by Missions Board spokesman Brownie Woolard, Pat Hall led in a special prayer for our State Missions Board as it seeks God's will in sending someone to the western part of our state to establish a church and also for Rev. Tim Osborne as he battles liver cancer.

appreciation to the Beaufort Church for hosting today's meeting as its members have simultaneously prepared for their annual Homecoming celebration for tomorrow.

Digest reporter Willie Coleman shared today's statistics: churches reporting (11); number received (7); lost by death (3); lost by transfer (4); membership total (991); baptized (8); Sunday school (772); C.T.S. (142); WNAC (102); Master's Men (51); average mid-week attendance (509).

Mance Cason reported that the Examining board, having met with Stuart R Harmon, Jr., on October 22, 2013, recommends that the Emmanuel Church, of which Harmon is a member and currently serving as Youth Pastor, license him to preach and that his name be added to our Coastal roll of licensed ministers. The body accepted a motion by Examining Board member Robert Bragan that the Board conduct a review of its current examination form and the designated duties of its members.

The worship service began with the hymn "I'd Rather Have Jesus." Following the offering, Meresa Mercer inspired and encouraged attendees with a rendition of "In Christ Alone."

Tim Thompson shared Bible verses and principles and reiterated the need for us to learn, love, and live the blessed Word of God.

A time for announcements was followed by Rudolph Outlaw's dismissal prayer. The body dispersed to enjoy lunch and, God willing, a safe trip home.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Thompson

January 25, 2014

Convening on January 25, at the Sherwood Forest Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, the Coastal Association began with Kenneth Nelson's leading the congregational "Victory in Jesus" and opening prayer by William Sealy. The formal welcome by host pastor John Moran was followed by devotional thoughts from Matthew 16:3 shared by Moderator Ernest Laxton, who reminded us that the ominous signs of our morally-corrupt culture simply highlight the imminent return of our Savior.

Soon after calling the business session to order, Moderator Laxton was granted permission by the body to secure today's committees as follows: Finance (John Moran, Nathanael Waites); Digest (Richard Patterson, Jerry Johnson, Buster Radford); Resolutions (Rudolph Outlaw, Tim Thompson). It was also agreed that the Examining Board will serve as this year's Nominating Committee.

The body agreed unanimously to honor Treasurer John Moran's request that our Association Treasury reimburse the \$104.24 food expense covered by the Sherwood Forest Church, relative to the "Pastors' Meal/Fellowship" in January, 2014. The morning session's Treasury balance registered \$451.59.

Pat Hall announced the availability of applications for junior and teen Youth Camp and also presented the Youth Board's financial report, which shows a current balance of \$3,915.82.

Missions Board spokesman Jimmy Mercer asked Pat Hall to share how the Cape Fear Church, Wilmington, had received an unexpected gift of \$75,000 from a life insurance policy, pre-designated by a former cocaine addict who'd been converted to Christ by the church's outreach and had been an active member before succumbing to death four years after his conversion. The gift has proved an indispensable asset toward paying down the church's mortgage.

A hymn-chorus medley of "We're Marching to Zion," "Crown Him Lord of All," and "I Sing Praises to Your Name," by the host church choir commenced the worship service. Prayer was offered by Larry Haggard. A moving piano solo by Martha Anderson was followed by the choir's rendition of "The Light of That City." Our State Promotional Director Billy Keith delivered the message from 2 Kings 6 entitled "A Broken Ax." Rev. Keith emphasized the

necessity of maintaining our sharpness with the Holy Spirit to accomplish the work to which we have been called.

Kenneth Nelson's leading the congregation in singing "The Solid Rock" and the opening prayer by Dennis Wiggs initiated the afternoon session.

The Finance committee's report by John Moran revealed a "receipts total" of \$986.50, a "projected disbursements" of \$1,231.84, and a Treasury balance of \$206.25.

The Digest Committee's findings, shared by Richard Patterson indicated the following; Churches reporting (17); received (16); number lost by death (7); lost by transfer (4); membership total (1,386); baptized (14); enrolled in Sunday school (1,158); C.T.S. (196); WNAC (145); Master's Men (53); Mid-week service average (760).

The resolution read by Rudolph Outlaw and heartily accepted by the body was that we express by a rising vote our gratitude to the Sherwood Forest Church for so graciously hosting today's session.

William Sealy shared the Examining Board's recommendation that, following the formal ordination by Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Joshua Burgess be added to our roll of ordained ministers.

A time for announcements was followed by Rudolph Outlaw's motion to adjourn and the closing prayer by Jerry Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Thompson, Clerk

Nathanael Waites, Assistant Clerk

April 26, 2014

The North Carolina Coastal Association of Free Will Baptists convened on April 26, 2014, at the Cape Fear Free Will Baptist Church, Wilmington. Host Pastor Pat Hall extended the formal welcome, then led the congregation in singing "At the Cross"; Richard Patterson offered the opening prayer.

Today being the Cape Fear congregation's official transitioning from a "mission church" level to that of a self-supporting status, Dennis Wiggs' devotional from I Corinthians 3:6 reviewed the church's progress over the past 16 years under the capable leadership of Pat Hall, who has proved a man of commitment, sacrifice, soul-consciousness, and frugality regarding finances. Preacher Wiggs expressed his desire that the Cape Fear ministry grow spiritually and numerically, that it reproduce itself in the Wilmington region, and that it remain *Free Will Baptist* by distinction.

Upon receiving permission from the delegates, Moderator Ernest Laxton announced committee choices as follows: Finance (John Moran, Richard Patterson); Digest (Tommy Bulla, Steve Petty); Resolutions (Rudolph Outlaw, Tim Thompson).

The early treasurer's report by John Moran revealed that total disbursements of \$1,481.84 left a treasury balance of \$98.65.

Pat Hall shared his anticipation of an exciting and spiritually – oriented week of youth camp at Fort Barnwell, scheduled for June 23-27.

Brownie Woolard provided a positive update relative to the current missionary conference in our Association, a word about retired missionary Molly Barker's returning to Uruguay to live, and then introduced Robert Bryan, one of our Free Will Baptist missionaries to France. Following Rev. Bryan's encouraging ministry report, Fred Carraway shared with us some of the ways God has blessed in the Roanoke Rapids ministry, including an attendance of 87 on Easter Sunday and the salvation of both a teenager and an adult in that one service.

The Nominating Committee's recommendations presented by William Sealy for the new year's officers and committee members were unanimously accepted by acclamation.

"What a Day That Will Be!" led by David Hall was the congregational commencing today's special installation service; prayer was offered by Jimmy Mercer. North Carolina

State Home Missions Board members David Robinson, Reuben Cason, and Fred Crank were introduced by Jimmy Mercer. Fred Crank then seated the Cape Fear Church charter members, Reuben Cason recognized the church Constitution and By Laws, and David Robinson presented Cathy Hall with a beautiful bouquet basket and offered the dedicatory prayer upon the Pat Hall family and extended family members. Fred Crank officially pronounced the Cape Fear congregation to be a bona fide Free Will Baptist church, qualified to operate as such at both state and national levels. Pat Hall reviewed the church's 16-year history, then introduced Johnny Hudson who delivered a very stirring and practical sermon, based on II Timothy 4:1-10, Rev. Hudson encouraged Bro. Pat as the leader of the Cape Fear Church to remain faithful to Christ and His Word, assuring him that, in so doing, God has promised His provision and power and protection.

After assessing receipts totaling \$2,985.00, Treasurer Moran's afternoon report reflected a balance of \$3,083.65, with the N.C. State Free Will Baptist dues pending.

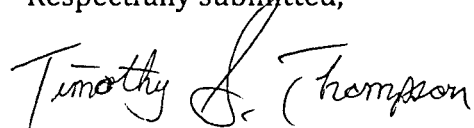
The Digest Committee report by Tommy Bulla was as follows: churches reporting (16); number received (23); lost by death (10); lost by transfer (4); membership total (1,517); baptized (13); enrolled in Sunday school (2052); C.T.S. (196); WNAC (167); Master's Men (50); mid-week service average (784).

Two resolutions adopted by the body were that we express our gratitude to the Cape Fear congregants for so graciously hosting today's session and that, as this critical ministry in the Wilmington community has now transitioned to an official church status, we pledge through prayers and encouragement our continued support for the Cape Fear Church.

Kenneth Huffman expressed thanks for prayers on behalf of his wife Karen, who continues to enjoy good health after her bout with cancer, and special prayer was petitioned for Rhonda Wiggs Prather as she anticipates cancer treatment and for Jerry Johnson's grandson as he continues his struggle against a rare blood disease.

Our session adjourned following the prayer rendered by Rudolph Outlaw.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy L. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "T" and "L".

Tim Thompson

~~(Interim)~~

Leading and Laboring for our Lord
(I Corinthians 3:9)

<u>Church</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Clerk</u>
Angola	Willie Coleman	Fanny Autry
Bridgeton	Jerry Rackley	T.J. Herring
Calvary	Henry Potter	Annie King
Cape Fear	Pat Hall	
— Cardinal Village	Rudolph Outlaw(Interim)	Joyce Johnston
Community	Glenwood Kennedy	Donna Kennedy
— Cove City	Chase Bright	Sonja Gaskins
Davis	Robert Bragan	Virginia Willis — Nancy Grice
Emmanuel	Jimmy Mercer	Hope Morton
— Faith	Tommy Bulla	Heather Landry — Vickie Riggs
First, Beaufort	Joshua Burgess	Gaye Atwood
First, Jacksonville	Richard Patterson	Andi Atoigue
First, Morehead City	Larry Haggard	Peggie Hoffman
First, Richlands	Jerry Johnson	Tammy Justice
Freedom Way, Hubert	Volney Bryan	Elanor Watson
Grace	Steve Petty	Cindy Woolard
Palmetto Chapel	Kenneth Huffman	Amy Hudson
Pleasant Acres	William Sealy	Larry Moore
Ruth's Chapel	Scott Coghill	Beverly Adams
Sherwood Forest	Ral Alsbrook	Linda Simons
Stacy	John Moran	Beth Nelson
	Ernest Laxton	

