



Newsletter

BRIDGE CHURCH

Pastor: Jamie Lee

Greetings from Champaign, Illinois. It is hard to believe that we have been in Champaign for a year now and we are just 2 months away from launch date of September 16. Up to this point we have had 4 preview services that have been attended quite well (68, 48, 58,78). We continue to have new people come to our services.

We have 25 people who are serving on our team. God has blessed us with diversity and committed people. I have said this so many times that I would not want to do this with anybody else. They are so gifted in so many areas and I am excited to see how God uses them. Not to mention, one of our families brought a baby girl into the world and we have another who will be here in September.

The last week of June was very busy for us. YET came in on July 26th. We introduced them to our ministry, and concluded with a prayer walk. We were blessed to have New Home FWBC from Tulsa, OK from June 28 - July 1. We worked with Salt & Light in Urbana, IL. They are a grocery store and consignment shop. They operate on a volunteer basis. They also did some work around our home, handed out water bottles, participated in a prayer walk, and helped with our service on Sunday! We are very grateful for them all!

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for our theater rental agreement. As of today, I am still waiting for corporate to send me the new lease.
2. Pray for God to draw people to both our services and to be on the launch team. 3. Pray for our current team members. Please pray they will build relationships with others, pray for their marriages and family.

WELCH COLLEGE RECOGNIZES STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The spring 2018 semester at Welch College ended with 102 students receiving academic recognition, according to Provost Matthew McAfee. This honor roll includes both Online Studies and Enriched Adult Studies students whose spring courses ended in late May. "These students have worked hard to distinguish themselves with academic excellence and are to be commended for a job well-done," says McAfee. "We hope this list will encourage all of our students to do their very best."

Thirty-four students made all A's and were placed on the President's List—10 seniors, 10 juniors, 5 sophomores, and 9 freshmen. Sixty-eight earned a 3.25 GPA and all A's and B's and were placed on the Provost's list—8 seniors, 7 juniors, 23 sophomores, and 30 freshmen. Illinois freshman student, **Jonathan Payne** is on the President's List with an "A" average, and 2 sophomore students **Emma Guthrie** and **Sarah Pierce** plus 2 freshmen students **Jessalyn Eubanks** and **Kendal Ryan** are on the Provost's list with a "B" average. Congratulations to these Illinois students!



James "Jim" B. Taylor, age 81, of Rinard, Illinois, passed away Thursday, June 28, 2018, at Clay County Hospital in Flora. He is survived by his wife: Rita Taylor of Rinard; children: Barbara, David and Mike, step-mother: Isabelle Taylor, a brother: Ernie (Tish) Taylor, and a sister: Linda Windland.

Brother Taylor grew up in the Blue Point Church and he served as pastor and supply pastor in several churches in his area for many years.

The family requests that memorial donations in Jim's memory be made in honor of the work of Joy and Shane Davison with the Mediterranean Team (in France) and checks may be made to:

Blue Point Free Will Baptist Church 1176 CR 1975N Cisne, Illinois 62823

CONNECT CHURCH

Pastor: Dan Smith Reporter: Shirley Brown

Greetings from connect church! June has been busy with graduations, Father's Day, and the beginning of our monthly Summer Barbecues. Father's Day was celebrated with Donuts with Dad on June 17 from 8:30 - 9:45 am, followed by church services and altar responses. Names of Dads were selected from a basket and the lucky winners received a restaurant gift card. A short business meeting was held on June 24th, followed by our first Summer BBQ/ Potluck. It was well attended and all enjoyed fellowshiping together. The Holy Spirit has been moving here and we have seen many coming to the altar following heart-changing messages from our Pastor. While attendance may be down, the Spirit is UP!!

Vacation Bible school begins on July 30th and run through August 3rd, with a big blow-out celebration for VBS families, friends, church members, and the community at large on Sunday, August 5th. The theme for this year's VBS is "Rolling River Rampage", and volunteers are signed up and ready to go! We expect the Holy Spirit to move in a mighty way, souls to be saved and lives to be changed as a result of this year VBS!! On August 9th, we are planning another outreach project. We will be distributing gently used clothing and laundry detergent to the South Roxana community. This will be reported in our next article.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." - Romans 10:13

NEW HOPE CHURCH

Pastor: Craig Smith Reporter: Jackie Capps

We like everyone else have had a busy month. On Father's Day, our men were each given a patriotic handkerchief which had homemade chocolate chip cookies wrapped inside. Rhonda McLearn, Lucille Smith, and Kaitlyn Catron took Rice Krispies to Camp Hope and worked in the kitchen on July 3rd.

A surprise 50th birthday party was held for Brother Craig and Sister Marcella. On June 24th, after the evening service, a wheelchair was waiting for Brother Craig, and a walker for Sister Marcella. The table, where the cake was, had old-dirty-broken John Deere toys. Our pastor uses John Deere equipment and his wife works at a John Deere parts store. We do appreciate our pastor and his family and wanted to help them celebrate their special birthday. Several from the church attended the wedding of Michaela Smith to Charlton Greathouse. Michaela is our pastor's oldest daughter.

"We then as workers together with him.."- II Corinthians 6:1

FIRST CHURCH BENTON

Pastor: Phillip Kennedy Reporter: Barbara Spencer

We got the hot weather alright. We were afraid we wouldn't have church one weekend after that side of town was out of power for four days. Thanks to God and Ameren, they got the power on just after 8:00 p.m. on Saturday night and we had church. Not like the old days when you could open windows and stir the hot air around with "funeral home" fans.

We had several men of God filling the pulpit for us during our interval. Thanks to Brother Jim Beatty who was available when we needed him and for being with us and with the Victory Boys on our Anniversary Sunday. Brother Kent Dunford came when we needed him. We selected a new pastor, Phillip Kennedy and his first Sunday was July 1. His family hasn't been able to move in to the parsonage until July 19 because of some needed work being done. Each young man in the family picked out the color he wanted in his room. Thanks to all of the men (and ladies) who worked there during this time.

The Portells were with us and both talked about their ministry in Taiwan. They will be attending the National and Dana will stay a while longer to get McGuire settled in his first year at Trevecca Nazarene University.

We are proud of our young people. Zeb and Delaney bring a lot of music to the church and he operates the sound system. They also have been very busy with a play about the Beauty and the Beast. Stuart Thomas is our Sunday School Superintendent and he keeps the lawn mowed at the parsonage. Dara MacDonald had been our janitor for over a year and also helped paint the boys rooms at the parsonage.

We have many different events planned during the next couple of months. Anyone is welcome to join us. The first will be A day & B day after evening services on July 29 when we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries that month. We have many names on our prayer list and ask you to join us in praying for them. Gary Cook is still recuperating, Sister Mary is the same. Brother Charles Dunford had surgery and recuperating. Barbara Combs is recuperating after extensive surgery. There are just too many others to name, so would you join us in saying - I pray for all the ones on the Prayer List. We prayerfully thank God in helping us find Brother Phillip Kennedy to be our new pastor.

WALTONVILLE CHURCH

Pastor: Harrel Hungate Reporter: Maxine Hicks

We will have a one-day Vacation Bible School on Saturday, August 11. It will begin at 9 AM. The theme will be "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus." Brother Curtis Smith, and his wife, Emily from Harmony Church will be the leaders. They will also bring some helpers from their church with them. Pray for us as we endeavor to reach the city of Waltonville and the surrounding community for Christ.

HARMONY CHURCH

Pastor: Curtis Smith Reporter: Jennifer Cook

I love the warmth of summer and the bright sunshine that gives us warmth and joy. Our love for the Savior should be like the sun, radiating its rays of joy and love and peace to those around us so that the Light that lives within us will pierce the darkness around us and draw people to Christ!

Harmony hosted VBS on June 25-June 29th. The theme was Shipwrecked. We had a very good turnout of approximately 60 kids. Jennifer Meacham and Cody Alstat did an amazing job decorating the church for VBS! Thanks for all your dedication and hard work in serving the Lord and the youth. Also, thank you to all the workers who volunteered sacrificed their time and shared the love of Christ to make this a special time for the youth.

Brother Rick Thompson went home to be with our Lord and Savior June 26th. He was a beloved part of Harmony's family, a dedicated and faithful servant of Christ. Harmony's love and prayers go out to Sherri and the family. What peace and comfort to know he is in the presence of the Almighty God, worshiping and praising our Lord and Savior!

Harmony will host a talent night, Sunday July 15th, during the evening service. We pray that those participating will find a boldness in sharing their gifts God has given them and that God will receive the glory in everything that is presented. Let us give praise to the only One who is worthy to be praised! Please pray for our new youth outreach team! August 5th a group of young adults and chaperons will be going to Bridge Church in Champaign to assist with youth and various ministries in the church. Also, on August 11th they will go to Waltonville Church to assist them in hosting a VBS program. God is truly using these young adults in a mighty way!

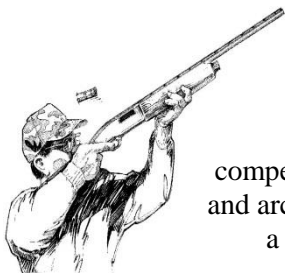
"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." ~ 1 John 1:7

ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH

Pastor: Ivan Ryan Reporter: Buddy Parks

Average Sunday School attendance during June was 88. Phyllis Liska, 78, passed away on June 4. She was Robyn Finley's sister. Dean Newell, 66, died on June 23. Rick Thompson, 71, passed away on June 26. Condolences to these families. Bradley Wilson and Taylor Reynolds were married on June 9. Congratulations. Alan Thomas brought a challenging message about thankfulness on June 10. Kandace Jennings attended Leadership Camp and Senior Camp. Camden Doss, Cameron Hankey, Lily Harris, Noah Lannom, Josh Loyd and Josie Tanner attended Jr. High Camp. The Women Active for Christ meeting was held on June 13. A love offering was received for Jason and Roxanne Ferguson. Christa Parks joined our church on June 17. Each father received a gift on Father's Day. Allie Jane Dwyer, Luci Dwyer, Ethan Harris, Skye Mausey and Lana Orrill attended Junior Camp. We had a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for our Youth Fund on June 24. Kennady Thompson, Taylor Thompson, Miracle Jennings and River Doss attended Freshman/Sophomore Camp.

"The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations." - Psalm 33:11



Master's Men Retreat September 13 – 15 at Camp Hope

The retreat gives time for quiet mediation, worship services, communion service, wonderful meals, plus fellowship and competitive events such as horse shoe pitching, fishing, skeet shooting and archery. The retreat will close with a pie auction to raise money for a missions project. This is a cost free program sponsored by the

Illinois Master's Men Board



HAZEL DELL CHURCH

Pastor: Larry Clyatt Reporter: Diana Kirk

All fathers in attendance on Father's Day were recognized and given shop towels as a token of appreciation.

On June 18th we were responsible for food pick-up and delivery to the Sesser-Valier Food Pantry. Thank you to the men who assisted with this project.

The Men's Prayer Group met for their monthly breakfast and devotion on Sunday, July 1st. There were 11 present and Brother Brian Gibson gave the devotion.

Thank you to Cindy Davey and Diana Kirk for assisting in the kitchen at Camp Hope on Monday, July 2nd. Our church provided fruit for the lunch period.

Thank you to the ones from our church who have been assisting with the Summer Lunch Program on Wednesdays at the City Park.

Brother Jim LeVault invited the church to enjoy cake and ice cream following the evening service on July 15th, in celebration of his 80th birthday and his grandson Walker's 6th birthday. A great time of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Be in prayer for our Annual Hazel Dell Men's Rally to be held on August 2nd.

Please continue to pray for our shut-ins: Gearald Hamilton, Frances McNeal, Wilma Cockrum and Helen Galloway. Also, remember in prayer Sister Donna Rice who is recovering from surgery and Sister Donna Harrison who is experiencing some health issues. *"Blessed is the nation whose God is Lord..." Psalm 33:12*

PITTSBURG CHURCH

Pastor: Eddie Donelson Pastor: Keith McDannel Reporter: Hollie Utley

Greetings from Pittsburg! We are so thankful to report that our youth group had safe travels and an outstanding time in Nashville, TN for their mission trip last month! Many lives were touched and we can't wait to hear their favorite memories from their week there at the upcoming 'Youth Sunday' service!

As this is being written, we are getting ready to open the doors for as many as the Father would send our way at Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is *"Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus."* We are excited to teach the kids that God is here for us, no matter where we go or how we feel! Praying for lives to be forever changed that week and the Holy Spirit to flood all in attendance. I will report next month about VBS 2018!

We are looking forward to host our annual Back 2 School Bash on August 1! Dental Safari will be here giving dental exams and we will be giving away free school supplies, haircuts, prizes, and more. This outreach is always a great way to

love on the community that surrounds us. We are praying for the upcoming school year. Join us as we pray for the students, teachers, parents and all involved in the school systems. Praying for safety, good health and a productive year!

"There Ain't Nothin' Gonna Steal Our Joy, in 2018" ...and no one can rob you of that joy. John 16:22

JOHNSTON CITY CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Fletcher Reporter: Reba Ritter

JC Kids' Lunch Bunch began June 4. We had great participation at the Community Carnival (our kick-off celebration) June 2. Our local police chief, our Lunch Bunch bus driver, and three pastors (Brother Keith, the Methodist pastor, and the pastor from the Church of God) spent time in the dunking booth. The kids really enjoyed making them get them wet and some of the adults did too, including our local mayor who dropped the police chief in the tank! We thank the other churches and organizations that helped with the carnival and who support Lunch Bunch throughout the summer. The New Life Drama Company will join us the last week of Lunch Bunch (July 30-Aug. 3) to help with our first-ever Drama & Music Mini-Camp. Students in elementary, middle school, and high school may sign up for afternoon sessions with NLDC to prepare for a closing program Friday evening. Application forms are available online (www.jcity.church). This program is free to all participants. If you know students who may be interested, please pass along this information. You do not have to live in Johnston City to come. Any student elementary through high school age may sign up

Our church will host the quarterly meeting of the South Central Illinois Association of Free Will Baptists, Saturday, August 4, 9:00 am. The New Life Drama Company will lead the worship service after our church serves brunch to our guests. The meeting begins at 9:00. You don't have to be a delegate or even from our quarterly to attend as the entire meeting is open to all.

About a dozen of our students went to Camp Hope this summer during Junior High week and Junior week (5-6 grade).

*"For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels,
and then He will reward each according to his works" - Matthew 16:27 NKJV*

BLUE POINT CHURCH

Pastor: Ernie Lewis Reporter: Suzanne Lewis

During the past month we have lost two of our most faithful men. J. D. Williamson and Galen Conard both passed away and their funerals were held at the church in June. Galen served as a trustee for over forty years.

Two missionary families have been with us on Sunday mornings to share about their ministries. Rusty and Brenda Carney of Japan visited us in June to tell about their work on the northern island of Japan. Craig and Sarah Portell came in July to share about their work with ELIC in Mongolia at the language center in Ulgi. Ellie Hill and Harrison Walker have returned from their respective E-TEAM trips and we look forward to hearing their reports. Ellie worked with refugees in Nashville, Tennessee and Harrison went to France with a musical team. Jon Hill completed a mission trip to Bulgaria through CMP (College Missions Program).

We have sent several more campers and workers to various weeks of camp at Camp Hope. We have also provided desserts and sent several kitchen workers for a second day. Brother Ernie served in Primary Camp as a counselor and Suzanne worked in the kitchen.

Through the summer months we have been thoroughly enjoying our 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament held on Sunday evenings after the service. Our crowds have been good; both for those participating and for those watching. Snacks have been served each week.

FIRST CHURCH MOUNT VERNON

Pastor: David Shores

Our church began the month of July with a "God and Country" featuring patriot songs and a message based on Proverbs 14:34. We had three young men who served as counselors at Camp Hope during the month and we are in the process of building up our Sunday School.

The church has added two men to serve on the Board of Deacons: Brother Robert Polston and Brother Adrian Smith assumed their duties July 15th. On that same Sunday morning, we had three adults to come forward and unite with the church. We are excited to see the willingness of new members ready to volunteer their time to work through this congregation.

We are trying to decide how we can best represent our church and the Lord when the city of Mount Vernon sponsors a Christian Family Day on August 25 in the downtown area of our city. We want to share the gospel with the people who will be present for the day's activities.

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." – Psalm 33:12

Attend the 2018 National Convention

CONVENTION SERVICES TO BE STREAMED IN ENGLISH, SPANISH: ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

The Media Commission will host two sites for watching live convention services and giving online during the 2018 National Convention. Services will be streamed live at www.nafwb.org/live. Links for services in both English and in Spanish will be available on the website.

Business reports given by departments and commissions will also be available for viewing. A digital version of the [2018 Digest of Reports](#) can be viewed or downloaded on the NAFWB website.

Online giving will be available at www.nafwb.org/give, through the Tithe.ly app, or by texting "GIVE" to 870.474.4004. Donations made through Tuesday, July 24, will help offset convention expenses. Donations made Wednesday, July 25, will be divided between International Missions

"HOW GODLY WOMEN...LEAD"

Illinois Women's Retreat

Speakers:

Elizabeth Hodges

and

Sarah Malone

Bring your friends-
Ladies and Girls

Friday and Saturday, September 28-29, 2018

Registration 5:00pm-5:30pm...Supper 6:00

Saturday Brunch 8:30am...Service 9:00am

Benediction 11:45am

CAMP HOPE, EWING ILLINOIS

Surprises! Major food
and fun, Seminar, Music,
Drama Team Prayer Walk

\$25 suggested
Donation for speakers and
expenses

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

*Note to Church Reporters: News items for the September issue of the Newsletter must be submitted by August 15th.
Send all correspondence to David Shores: davids@myfreewillbaptist.org.*

Camp Meeting

At Camp Hope September 9 - 12

Service Time:
6:30 Each Evening

**Special
Music**

**Old Fashioned
Singing**



**Evangelist
Bobby Jackson**

**Powerful
Gospel
Preaching**

**Pray for
Revival Spirit
Each Evening**

