



Illinois Free Will Baptist

August 2016

# Newsletter

## BEAR POINT CHURCH – Rural Sesser

Greetings from Bear Point. Father's Day was celebrated with each father receiving a gift.

Father's with special recognition were: most family Cecil Webb, oldest Jim Dean (84) but he forfeited it to Jr Eubanks (90) who wasn't able to be there due to a death in the family, youngest Jon Zsido. Our young people and adults passed out VBS flyers and popsicles at the Sesser homecoming parade.

During Jr. High camp our ladies provided cakes on Thursday.

Several of our young people went to camp this summer. We had a few adults who worked and some young people who helped as Junior Counselors.

On July 10 we had a baby dedication. Judson and Beth Mandrell dedicated daughter Georgia, Brandon and Brittney Montgomery dedicated son Brantley and Jon and Heidi Zsido dedicated daughter Emerson. This was a special time as Larry also had a dedication service for Brittany and Heidi when they were babies.

Thank you to all who expressed their love for us in the passing of my father Don Lusk Sr. Also thanks to Brother Ross Bunton who filled in for Larry at that time.

**Pastor: Larry Cook**

**Reporter: Linda Cook**

## HARMONY CHURCH – Rural West Frankfort

Every season brings new opportunities to shine God's light out to the community around us. We are thankful for the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit as we continue to grow in our outreach.

A special thank you to Bro. Dennis Slater for our beautifully crafted welcome desk now located in the entryway. June 14th our S.O.S. held their annual birthday party. Fun, food, and fellowship made for blessed fellowship. June 19th Brother Tim Parton provided our morning worship service. It was a wonderful time of praise and worship. June 26th was collection day for the Manna Mission in Johnston City. July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Harmony attended a joint evening service at Whiteash FWB Church.

Brother Mark King has returned from his mission work in Tibet for several weeks. Welcome home Brother Mark! Congratulations to Brian and Buffy Diefenbach who were married on June 9<sup>th</sup>! We are very happy for them and Harmony is very thankful that they are a part of our church family. July 10th our morning service was truly blessed as the Holy Spirit moved visibly throughout the service. Praise God for His faithful presence, Immanuel, God With Us! June 12th Harmony held its first Masters Men meeting at 7pm. We are very thankful for all the men who came out to participate in this new outreach ministry. The S.O.S. meeting was also held this evening. Both meetings will be held the same evening with joint fellowship following each meeting.

As the end of the month approaches Harmony has many events coming up. July 28th at 7pm Harmony will host a youth rally in conjunction with Ezra Church of God, New Hope FWBC, and Rescue FWBC. July 29th will begin Harmony's revival with Brother Jim McComas bringing the word. It will be Friday, June 29th and Saturday June 30th at 7pm and on Sunday, June 31st for both morning and evening services. Please pray for these upcoming events, that hearts will be open to receiving God's truth and that the revival fires will be ignited in each individual so that a wildfire revival will spread throughout our church, our families and into our communities.

*"Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things;  
His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory." - Psalm 98:1*

**Pastor: Curtis Smith**

**Reporter: Jennifer Cook**

## HERITAGE CHURCH – Springfield

Joy abounds at Heritage. Our mortgage has been paid off and on July 10<sup>th</sup> we “officially” held a Christian event full of happiness and thanks for everyone that helped make this occur. This achievement will allow us to do more in the community. From the July 10<sup>th</sup> morning service until our 6:00 pm evening service, we celebrated with fellowship and praise.

Our vacation Bible School was held from July 11<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup> with our youth enjoying fellowship with their peers and bible lessons under adult supervision.

Our church continues to be a beacon of peace in a world full of turmoil.

If you want what the Christians have; do what the Christians do.

**Pastor: Marcellus Leonard**

**Reporter: Marilyn Guthrie**

## ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH – Rural Creal Springs

Average Sunday School attendance during June was 93. Thanks to those who helped cut and remove the large maple tree that had to go because of its proximity to our new addition. Our Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on June 12. Work is progressing on our new addition.

A group from our church put up the flags in Crab Orchard for Flag Day. The Father/Son Dinner was held on June 16. Each father received a gift on Father's Day. Elijah and River Doss and Miracle Jennings attended 7th/8th Grade Camp. Kennedy and Taylor Thompson, Josh Jean and Kandace Jennings attended Freshman/Sophomore Camp. Our 3rd/4th Grade Campers were Allie Jane and Luci Dwyer, Aniya Graham, Brayden Hankey, Ethan Harris, Skye Mausey and Boone Morris. There were 40 from our church at the Camp for the fireworks display.

Congratulations to Robby and Katie on the birth of Henry Ferris Stokes on June 21. A baby shower was held for James and Holly Sanders on June 25. Some members participated in the Williamson County Relay For Life at John A. Logan College. Reagan Thompson was saved at our church on June 22.

*"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." - Psalm 127:1*

**Pastor: Ivan Ryan**

**Reporter: Buddy Parks**

## OAK VALLEY CHURCH – Rural Geff

Greetings from our church. We were glad to host the East Central District meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>. We welcome 3 new members to our church recently - Darwin and wife Earlita Markham and Brenda Eckleberry. We enjoyed a fish fry and picnic at Sam Dale Lake the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of June.

On Father's Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>, the fathers and families enjoyed a breakfast in the fellowship hall that morning. Gifts were given fathers in the morning worship time.

Our annual Homecoming is Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. Sunday School begins at 9:30 A.M. followed by Gospel Singing program by the at 10:30 worship time. Basket dinner at noon. No afternoon or evening service.

*"He who walks with integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will become known." – Psalm 10:9*

**Pastor: Richard Brown**

**Reporter: Marie Rutge**

**Note:** We will try to have a report on the National Convention, list of CTS competitive winners, etc. in the September issue. Churches should submit articles for publication for the September edition of the Illinois Newsletter by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Send all correspondence to David Shores - <davids@mfvfreewillbaptist.org>

## HAZEL DELL CHURCH - Rural Sesser

Hello from all of us at Hazel Dell. Hope all are having a safe, fun summer.

Congratulations to Kendall Gibson and Madelyn (Keith) Gibson who were united in marriage on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Kendall is the son of Bro. Brian & Sis. Lori Gibson. Madelyn is the daughter of Tom & Cheryl Keith. We pray for God's blessings upon the lives of this couple.

Thank you to Bro. Larry & Sis. Peggy Clyatt, Pat Sample and Diana Kirk for volunteering in the kitchen at Camp Hope on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Also, thank you to those who gave money toward the purchase of fruit to be served that day.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast was held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Joel & Lydie Teague, FWB Missionaries to France were with us during the evening service to share their ministry to young adults in that region of the world. An offering was received to help in their endeavors.

The annual Hazel Dell Men's Rally will be on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Men, plan to attend to enjoy a special evening of worship!

*"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." - 1 John 3:11*

**Interim Pastor: Larry Clyatt**

**Reporter: Diana Kirk**

## FIRST CHURCH - Benton

Greetings from us to you: It got summer and how but it didn't stop members at Benton First. We celebrated Father's Day by giving each gentlemen present a pocket size flashlight. Debated turning off lights in sanctuary because they were so bright. Pastor and Mrs. Tedra made a trip to Nevada to celebrate her son's birthday. Jamie Lee spoke at both services that Sunday and taught Wednesday evening Bible Class. We haven't seen a lot of the Lees as they have spent much time visiting other churches in Illinois and even some in other states.

Brother Walter Freeman filled the pulpit on July 3. Pastor and Mrs. Tedra were up north where he officiated in his grand daughter's wedding. We were proud to be able to witness Shane Riley accepting the Lord and following him in baptism. The Zimmermans are attending the National in Kansas.

We are fortunate in the dedication of our young people. Stuart Thomas keeps the lawn mowed at both the church and parsonage. Nathan MacDonald has been assisting in cleaning the church every week. Zeb Leffler is the assistant to Stuart in running the sound system. The children's church group, which is now mostly boys, enjoys helping their teacher Mrs. Marci in packing the shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We were proud to hear that one of our Wednesday night youth accepted Jesus at camp and hopefully she will be baptized soon. Johnny Dallape, a member of church, in a nursing home in Eldorado has started services there. She is 91. It seems our prayer list gets longer every week, but space doesn't allow for the whole thing. First and foremost let's remember our troops in harm's way. Pray for whoever is selected for President of the United States. Pray that he/she accepts that the Lord is over all. Pray for Tom Sanders, who had surgery, as did Ed Simpson and Alan Price. Pray for the Cooks, Elloise Sullivan, David McCoy, Harry Lawrence, Ellenwood family, Alisa Leffler, parents of church members and all who stand need of the Lord's healing touch.

**Pastor: Kent Dunford**

**Reporter: Barbara Spencer**

## MASTER'S MEN RETREAT

**September 15-17 at Camp Hope**



**Brother Brandon Bell is the guest speaker**

**Jason and Josh Jean will provide the music**



**Daily events include skeet shooting, fishing, golf, horseshoe pitching and other activities**

**Plus prayer and Bible study.**

Illinois Free Will Baptist August 2016

# Newsletter

Illinois State Association of Free Will Baptists  
P.O. Box 1  
Bonnie, Illinois 62816-0001

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## OLD FASHIONED CAMP MEETING

August 7-10 + 6:30 pm Each Evening + Camp Hope + Rural Ewing, Illinois

Gospel Preaching

Inspirational Singing

Christian Fellowship

Worship Leader:

Rusty Miller

Pianist:

Doris Wallace



Evangelist: Jeff Jones

Our Evangelist:

Pastor Jeff Jones

Hilltop FWB Church

Fuquay Varina, NC

Additional Morning Meetings

to be announced

*Pray for revival as we meet together  
for four nights of praise and preaching!*

