



Illinois Newsletter

August 2019

CHURCH REPORTS AND NEWS OF THE ILLINOIS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Christian Education Leaders and Sunday School Teacher Training Workshop

Saturday, August 17th

Registration 8:30 am

Training Sessions 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

Lunch Provided

Registration Fee before August 17th- \$10
\$15 at the door.

Mail checks to

Ina Free Will Baptist Church

P.O. Box 122 Ina, Illinois 62864

CAMP MEETING CAMP HOPE

SEPTEMBER 22 – 25

EVANGELIST:
GLENN POSTON



MASTER'S MEN RETREAT – CAMP HOPE

September 12-13-14



Shawn Mygatt writes, “My wife and I have partnered with Love Packages in Butler Illinois and we are now a drop off location for our area at our home. If anyone has new or used material or Bibles they want to go to Love Packages, they can contact me to arrange a drop off. Every Sunday school book, every

Daily Bread, every devotional book, every Bible that we normally throw away when we are done with them has the potential of reaching 20 people for the first time. Please contact us at:

Shawn and Samantha Mygatt 103 East Yung Street Sesser IL 62884 Cell: 618 927 7442 (Shawn’s cell)

RESCUE CHURCH

Pastor: Bryant Harris Reporter: Donna Harmon

Hello from the Rescue Church! I asked Brother Bryant for a report on our new church, and with a big smile he said, “Construction has begun and we are thankful for that!”

Second great news: Trevor Beatty was saved during Youth Camp. Brother Bryant taught 5th and 6th grade classes during that week. Jevan and Braxton Squires were saved at home.

Our Vacation Bible School was well attended, with an average attendance in the thirties, and the new hours of having morning bible school went well. It was a great time for kids to meet Jesus.

Our church picnic was at our new location near Ewing. The church prayed that would not rain and it did not rain, but the event might have been even more enjoyable if it had! It turned out to be one of the hottest days of summer. That is why prayer is never ending.

June 26 was the day of our WAC meeting at the home of Jane Harmon.

On June 27 our church took treats to camp hope.

On June 30 we had Dessert Sunday with all proceeds going to missions.

We wish the very best for Brother Larry and Sister Peggy Clyatt as they retire and move back to Florida.

Our condolences to the family of Marian Hughes. We had a dinner for her family following her funeral at our church.

The very best to all of you who attended youth camp to study more deeply into the love of Jesus: Samuel Harris, Benjamin Harris, Hank Barker, Avery Barker, Casey Tanner, Tara Tanner, Zane Harmon, Trevor Beatty, Payton Heater, Hadleigh Sweatz, Lane McCollum, Keaton McCollum and Jevan Squires.

Irma Lee, we sure do miss you! What an awesome god we serve!

HAZEL DELL CHURCH

Pastor: Curtis Smith Reporter: Diana Kirk

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

We welcome Brother Curtis Smith and family to our church. He officially took over pastoral duties on Sunday, July 7th as Brother Clyatt was on hand for a "Passing of the Mantle" service.

Brother Clyatt was privileged to perform 4 baptisms before leaving us. On June 23rd the Nitz family, Brian, Amie and Zoie were baptized and on July 9th Dan Gulley was baptized. We are so happy for these and their decisions to follow the Lord in baptism.

Several church members were on hand to help the Clyatts load the U-Haul in preparation for their trip home to Florida. We wish them the very best and will always be appreciative of their service and friendship to us here at Hazel Dell.

We were responsible for the "Bag A Lunch" summer meal program during the week of June 17th -June 21st. Several children through the age of 18 were served each day. Thank you so much for the help and support of this program.

Eight month old Oliver James Delaneuville was introduced to our church on June 23. Proud parents, Jeremy and Jennifer (Gibson) Delaneuville made the introduction. We wish all the Gibsons many blessings on this addition to the family.

Our condolences to Sister Bev Galloway on the passing of Brother Ray Galloway on June 25th. Please remember Sister Bev and family during this difficult time.

The Peppy Calebs group met for lunch at Joe's Pizza in Benton on June 27th. We had an enjoyable time of food and fellowship. There were 12 in attendance.

Brother Larry and Sister Peggy were honored upon their retirement on June 30th. A cake and ice cream social was served in the fellowship hall following the evening service.

Thank you to Sister Cindy Davey and Sister Diana Kirk for assisting in the kitchen at Camp Hope on July 1st. Hazel Dell provided fresh fruit for that day.

The men's prayer breakfast group met for their regular monthly meeting on July 7th. There were seven in attendance. We would like to thank Brother Harold Combs from the Benton First FWB Church for his recent donation of a handmade wooden cross for us to use in our decorating endeavors. Thank you, Brother Harold, for a beautiful job!

We ask for your continued prayers for Brother Brian Lewis. Also, continue to remember our shut-ins in prayer: Wilma Cockrum, Gearald Hamilton, and Donna Rice.

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." - II Peter 3:9

BLUE POINT CHURCH

Pastor: Ernie Lewis Reporter: Suzanne Lewis

Our Annual Cornhole Tournament has begun. There are four different pools with games being played after the Sunday evening service in the Link. The winner from each pool will make the "Final Four" and play in a championship round.

Several from the church attended a Monday night St. Louis Cardinals ballgame. We sent several campers to the last couple of weeks of camp. Suzanne Lewis helped in the kitchen for Primary Camp. We sent fruit down on a Monday for lunch.

Russell Best, one of our men, recently spoke at "Not Your Ordinary Church" in Fairfield on a Saturday evening. Congratulations to Caleb Waller and Cassie Dickinson who were married in Wichita, Kansas in July.

All of Caleb's many family members, along with Brother Ernie and Suzanne attended the wedding and the reception. Larry Ohms from the Calvary Church filled the pulpit in Brother Ernie's absence.

We send our congratulations to Logan and Angie Parker on the birth of their son, Caden Andrew, who was born in Mt. Vernon on Thursday, June 27th. We also congratulate Eric and Megan (Byars) Spitzner on the birth of their daughter, Caroline Claire, who was also born on Thursday, June 27th in Evansville, Indiana.

New flooring has been chosen and will soon be installed in our basement. Part of the motivating factor is that we are hosting the Southern Illinois Homecoming Gospel Choir on Sunday night, August 25th. That service will begin at 6:00pm and everyone is invited.

ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH

Pastor: Ivan Ryan Assistant Pastor: Adam Brown Reporter: Buddy Parks

Average Sunday School attendance during June was 87. Diamond Dyson shared with us on June 2 about her upcoming trip to Germany, where she will work with immigrants. Our Annual Business Meeting was held that evening. VBS was held on June 3-6. "Camp Out - Jesus is the Light" was the theme. Robby and Katie Stokes served as directors. VBS offerings went to the Camp Hope Renovation Fund. *(Continued on next page)*

(Arnold View continued) Kandace Jennings attended Leadership Camp and Jr/Sr Camp. Kennady Thompson and Taylor Thompson also attended Leadership Camp.

Our church began a new ministry to shut-ins by visiting Jim and Anna Jane Sanders on June 2. A Father/Son Family Style Dinner was held at our church on June 11. Adam Brown shared a devotion about Father Abraham. The Women Active for Christ Meeting was held on June 12. The Jones Fish Fry was held on June 14. Brother Adam Brown brought the morning worship message on June 16. Allie Jane Dwyer, Luci Dwyer, Anna Elders, Braden Hankey, Ethan Harris and Ava Settle attended 5th/6th Grade Camp. Congratulations to Mikayla Chamness and Zack Ray, who were married on June 22. Cameron Hankey, Lily Harris, Julia Jennings, Miracle Jennings, Josh Loyd and Josie Tanner attended Fr/Soph Camp. Our Fifth Sunday Song Service was a blessing.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." - John 8:32

JOHNSTON CITY CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Fletcher Reporter: Reba Ritter

We've had a great summer with lots of special days and guests at Lunch Bunch. July 11 was Super Hero Day. We gave away a brand-new Action Bible to a student who memorized the names of the 12 Disciples. On Hawaiian Day (July 8), we introduced a treasure chest of prizes. We draw for a prize each day until August 2, the final day of Lunch Bunch, when we'll give away some grand prizes. While Lunch Bunch is in session, we also serve USDA-approved meals for Sunday breakfast (9:45-10:15 am) before our morning worship and Wednesday supper (6:30-7:00 pm) prior to our student discipleship ministry. All four students who went to 5th-6th grade camp this summer made decisions for Christ so we definitely have discipling to do.

August 3, the Saturday after Lunch Bunch ends, we'll set up a prayer tent at the community back-to-school rally hosted by Washington Avenue Baptist Church. We worked with this church during VBS, July 8-11, by providing meals, transportation, and workers.

Our church voted July 7 to begin the process of setting up a nonprofit community development center called "JCity Center for Hope and Renewal." Lord willing, this ministry will be located in an adjacent building, once the home of Happy Time Day Care. Our church has a long history of ministry to children and families in Johnston City, and this new nonprofit organization will be able to receive grants and other funding needed to renovate the old daycare into a center for counseling, support groups, and other resources for children and families in our community.

New Life Drama Company is returning to JCity Church the weekend of August 24-25. They will offer a drama workshop for students on Saturday and join with those students to provide a dramatic presentation of the gospel Sunday morning. Here's a verse Reba would like to share: *"Then He saw wisdom and declared it; He prepared it, indeed, He searched it out. And to man He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, And to depart from evil is understanding.' "* - Job 28:27-28 (NKJV)

BEAR POINT CHURCH

Pastor: Gowdy Cannon Reporter: Lana Travelstead-Eubanks

Brother Larry Cook preached his last sermon on June 30th. It was bittersweet and an honor and blessing to be in God's house for his special last message. Although he will be dearly missed, we are happy for him and Sister Linda as they embark on this new chapter of their lives. We will continue to love and pray for them both. Again, thank you Brother Larry for all the love and support you have shown and blessed the Bear Point family and Sesser community.

And with that being saidThe Bear Point FWB Church, is pleased to announce and introduce our new Pastor Gowdy Cannon, his wife Kayla and son, Liam. They come to this position from the Northwest Community Church in Chicago, where Gowdy served as an associate pastor for 17 years, and where Kayla joined him since they were married in 2015. Gowdy served as youth pastor of Northwest for 8 years and the last 9 as the bilingual pastor, as the church transitioned to being an English/Spanish congregation. Gowdy and Kayla both graduated from Welch College in Nashville. Kayla is a teacher at Cartersville Elementary School. We welcome them with open hearts into our Church family and pray God's blessing upon them as they get settled in.

We have had several long time members pass away recently and we would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the families of Toni King, Marie Clapp, Jr. Eubanks and Jim Crawford. They all have been long time members and will be greatly missed.

This has been a very busy summer for all of us. June saw many of our young people heading off to Camp Hope and we pray that God touched and moved through each one. July 14-18 was our Vacation Bible School with Sister Chrissy Confer heading up this outreach program. A special thank you to her and the countless others that step up and help put this together. It's a lot of work but also great fun. With this year's cosmic theme "Jesus Saves the World", the kids were greeted by a special space traveler! We had many who attended the National Convention in Cincinnati.



Or Current Resident

*Note to Church Reporters: News items for the September issue of the Newsletter must be submitted by August 15th.
 Please send all articles to davids@mfvfreewillbaptist.org.*

PITTSBURG CHURCH

Pastors: Eddie Donelson and Keith McDannel Reporter: Heather Phillips

Greetings from Pittsburg! One of our summer highlights each year is Vacation Bible School! VBS is a week of outreach, worship, growth, and fun for kids to learn more about God and to worship Him. 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. Please join us in praying for open hearts, listening ears, relationships to be made, and for our faithful workers. This year’s theme is *Roar! Life is Wild...God is Good*. At Roar VBS, kids discover that even though life gets wild, God is good. Roar is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste. I will report next month about ROAR! VBS 2019!!

We are looking forward to celebrate the start of the new school year with our annual Back 2 School Bash on Wednesday, August 7! We invite all families to come and help us celebrate another year of learning and growth for our students. 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.

This event is open to the public and it is FREE!

Back to school is officially upon us and 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. Let us pray that they may have good health, peace, protection, passion and a productive year. Thank you Heavenly Father in advance for the work You are going to do in our teachers and students’ lives this year.

WELCH COLLEGE STUDENTS MAKE PRESIDENT’S AND PROVOST’S LISTS

The spring 2019 semester at Welch College ended with 90 students receiving academic recognition, according to Provost Matthew McAfee. This honor roll includes both online and Enriched Adult Studies students whose spring courses ended in late May. “We congratulate these students on their academic accomplishments,” says McAfee. “These students are the academic leaders among their peers at Welch College, and we hope their example will encourage others to strive for excellence in their academic work.”

Illinois students who made all A’s and placed on the President’s List were **Adam Brown** (Junior) and **Jonathan Payne** (Sophomore).

Illinois students who earned a 3.25 GPA with all A’s and B’s were **Emily Petty** (Senior), **Emma Guthrie** (Junior) **Sarah Pierce** (Junior), **Kendal Ryan** (Sophomore) and **Benjamin Barcroft** (Freshman)