



Newsletter

ILLINOIS STATE ASSOCIATION REPORT

Due to the continued restrictions imposed upon our nation because of the corona virus, the Illinois State Executive Board met to conduct the business for our State Association on May 11th. The Moderator, Clerk and Promotional Secretary met at the Mount Vernon Church and the remaining members of the board joined with them on a telephone conference. All districts and boards were represented at the meeting. This meeting marked the 60th anniversary of the organization of our State Association. All board budgets were adopted, board members elected, Together Way allocations adopted for 2020.

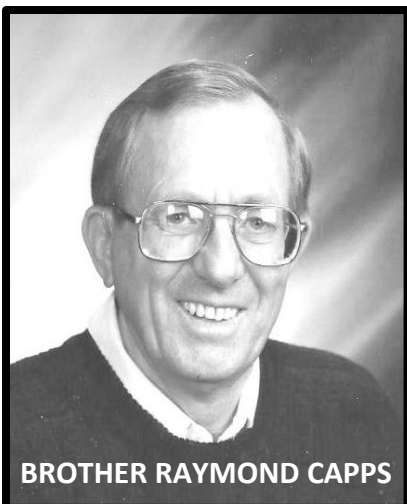
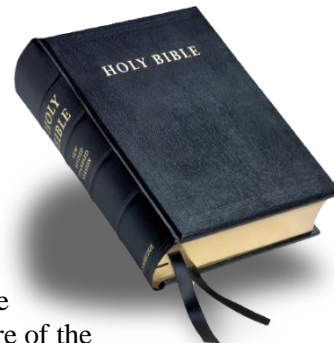
A 25 page Digest of Reports was e-mailed to all Illinois pastors by our State Clerk, Larry Cook. If your pastor did not receive a digest, you may contact Brother Cook: www.larry.cook1983@gmail.com.

The May Illinois Newsletter carried statements from our State Association, National Association, Vertical Three Conference and the rescheduled WMO World Missions Offering. You may check our State Website (www.ilfwb.org) and our National Website (www.nafwb.org) for more information concerning schedules for 2020.

In spite of the inconveniences we are facing this spring, many of our churches are having a greater outreach than ever. In our time of self-quarantine some people have more time to pray, read the Bible and focus on the more important things of life. So, "let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:"

- Hebrews 10:23-24

The new means of communications we are now using may become the norm in the near future. The emerging church is now more aware of the "unseen congregation" out there that can be reached by preaching on YouTube, FaceBook, etc. May God give us the vision and wisdom to use these new methods to evangelize the world! The church must pray that God will send spiritual revival to a great nation that needs the LORD.



BROTHER RAYMOND CAPPS

Brother Lloyd Raymond Capps entered the gates of heaven on Friday, April 24. He was born August 15, 1942 in Ashmore, Illinois to George and Helen (Jones) Capps who preceded him in death. He is survived by his loving wife, Jacklyn (Jackie), four children; Gale Capps and wife Angie, Lisa DeVore and husband Jerry, Karen Shafer and husband Doug, Ryan Capps and wife Tiffany. He was blessed with ten grandchildren

Brother Capps pastored several churches until failing health and also worked as a mechanic at Continental Tire for twenty-five years and He had an infectious smile, he loved Jesus and his family.

Due to the restrictions imposed on us because of the Corona virus epidemic, a private graveside service was held on Sunday, April 26 at the Belle Rive Cemetery.

Memorials for Brother Capps may be made to Camp Hope or Camp We Wo Se Je and mailed to Johnston Funeral Home, P.O. Box 66, Ina, Illinois 62846 or mailed directly to the camp.

RESCUE CHURCH

Pastor: Bryant Harris Reporter: Donna Harmon

Hello from Rescue. What a journey we are experiencing as I write this article. It's the middle of May. Rain is in abundance most of the time. When it just starts have to dry up, the mowers come out. Most of the bushes are full of buds, people are planting extra flowers. The last couple of months have been a long lesson on waiting and watching the with the corona virus. Everything has a purpose like all the people have become much closer than ever.

Brother Bryant had a drive-in service Sunday at the new Rescue Church building. We have to be thankful and remember God is always in control. A small part of us met with masks on and distance kept. Our love and prayers to all of you from Rescue and a special "Thank You" to Brother Bryant for services on Sundays, and Wednesdays on Facebook, and to Sister Andrea for singing. Mother's Day will certainly be another time to remember so many could not be here with their mother this year. Next year will be a great Mother's Day get together. Take care and may our wisdom grow and feed the soul. *"What and awesome God we serve!"*

HAZEL DELL CHURCH

Pastor: Curtis Smith Reporter: Diana Kirk

Greetings from all of us at Hazel Dell. We are anxiously awaiting the time of open doors of the church in order to experience full fellowship and worship of our Lord. We are continuing our online and "drive-in" services at this time. We continue to give Brother Curtis our appreciation for all his work in keeping us engaged in worship.

We would like to congratulate our 2020 Graduates. Our graduates this year are Seniors: Madlyn Bulla, Tanner Eubanks, Katerina LeVault and Sydney Lewis. Our 8th grade graduate: Ally Myers, and kindergarten graduate: Serenity Myers. Congratulations and best wishes as you continue your journey. God's blessings to you all!

*"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." - Proverbs 3: 5-6*

BLUE POINT CHURCH

Pastor: Ernie Lewis Reporter: Suzanne Lewis

We offer our congratulations to Chloe Byars and Cameron Gibson who were married on April 25th in a small family-only ceremony. We also congratulate all of our graduates. Desiree Gorley finished the 8th grade at Cisne Middle School. Nathaniel Freeman graduated from Flora High School. Our Cisne High School graduates included Kaleb Smith, Preston Roberts, Ellie Hill, and Layton Atwood. Jordan Hosick received his Associates Degree from Lincoln Trail College, while Rebecca Smith received hers from Frontier Community College. Haylee Walker graduated from Eastern Illinois University.

We offer our sympathy to the families of Mike Maculevics and Melvin Spitzner who both passed away recently. The ladies of the church arranged to have meals delivered to both the families' homes after the services.

We have continued to have our Sunday morning services online. Our Praise Team and Ladies Quartet have recorded numerous songs that are used. We have also been able to incorporate some special music and scripture readings for these services. Brother Ernie continues to give an online devotion every day. Our deacons and our general board have also been able to meet at the church, following social distancing guidelines.

Work continues on remodeling the auditorium at the church. The paneling in the sanctuary will be replaced by light walls and new carpet will be installed. Several of our folks are painting in the basement; both the walls and the doors.

ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH

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

We had a Virtual Easter Egg Hunt and a Bell-Ringing Service, where the Bell was rang 33 times on Easter. Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study is held on Conference Call. Our 3 Adult Sunday School Classes are utilizing Conference Call and Google Meet. Check out our revised website arnoldview.com We are also utilizing Facebook, Instagram, You Tube and Twitter for services.

*"Daniel answered and said, "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever:
for wisdom and might are His." - Daniel 2:20*

2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

As a result of COVID-19, **The 84th National Convention** will look different this year. Held **July 20-21**, worship services, seminars, and business sessions (conducted by the General Board) will be streamed online, according to Executive Secretary Eddie Moody, who offers some perspective on the changes:

These days, I often find myself thankful for those who have gone before us. For the first time in the 85-year history of the National Association, we will be unable to meet in person as a body. Our forefathers anticipated the possibility of a situation like this when they crafted Section 13 of the Constitution of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. "Should necessity arise from war, or pestilence or any cause which prevents a regular meeting of the National Association, whether such a condition is of a local or general condition, then the General Board shall be privileged to call and act with full authority in all matters pertaining to the general welfare of the National Association." They established a means by which we can conduct business this year.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, only those necessary to lead services and conduct business will gather in person. We respectfully request all others to join the conference online. Each General Board member will be responsible for fielding questions and nominations from his state or district. The Digest of Reports will be made available several weeks prior to the convention.

For a full list of General Board members and their contact information, visit nafwb.org.

A full slate of convention seminars will be available to watch online, starting Monday morning, July 20. These sessions, sponsored by every denominational agency and commission, will be available for viewing throughout and after the convention. Full descriptions of each seminar and panel discussion are available at nafwb.org.

NATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE July 20 and 21, 2020

MONDAY MORNING - JULY 20

8:00 Executive Committee Meeting
8:00 Online seminars begin

MONDAY AFTERNOON - JULY 20

3:00 Scripture Reading
Prayer
Roll Call and Proxies
2019 Minutes
Appoint Committees:
Nominating
Resolutions
Obituary
Executive Committee
Reports of National Agencies
Executive Office
Board of Retirement
Elect General Board
Elect Executive Committee

MONDAY EVENING - JULY 20

6:00 Evening Service
Welcome: Mike Wade
Speaker: Tim York

TUESDAY MORNING - JULY 21

8:00 Scripture Reading
Prayer
FWB Foundation
9:00 Home Missions
10:00 WNAC
11:00 Lunch

TUESDAY AFTERNOON - JULY 21

1:00 Randall House
2:00 IM, Inc.
3:00 Welch College

TUESDAY EVENING - JULY 21

6:00 Evening Service
Missionary Offering
Speaker: Eddie Moody

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING WILL BE
INSERTED TO SAVE TIME:

Historical Commission
Media Commission
Music Commission
Commission for Theological Integrity
Budget Committee
Resolutions Committee.

newsletter

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

*Note to Reporters: News items for the July Illinois Newsletter must be submitted by June 15th
Please send all articles for publication to davids@mvmfreewillbaptist.org*

PLEASANT VIEW CHURCH

Pastor: David Burgess Reporter: Susan Burgess

First, we want to thank Holly Hayes for her many years of reporting news from Pleasant View FWB Church. Second, we want to congratulate Holly Hayes Bush on her marriage to Aaron Bush on February 1, 2020 at Pleasant View Church. It was a beautiful wedding, and all are so thankful that the wedding date was prior to the times when we have not been able to use our church during the current crisis. Holly and Aaron live in northwest Illinois where Aaron farms. We send our best wishes and prayers for this new family.

Our most recent service at the church building was Wednesday, March 18. What a sweet service we had then, not knowing how restrictive soon to be announced attendance regulations would be. But we have worked to use Facebook Live to hold services Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Bible study Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. It has been good to see the numbers attending and to be able to reach out to friends around the world. We are praying that we will have guidance from the Lord regarding future steps to witness to those who need the Lord.

Although we don't know what the summer holds, we are stepping out on faith and preparing for a Vacation Bible School in some form. Our theme will be "Big Fish Bay." Help us pray that we can build up the children in our area to prepare them for the next school year.

**WMO (World Missions Offering) is now scheduled for August 30, 2020
Goal: \$650,000**