3lue Point FWB Church

The East Central District Association of Illinois Free Will Baptists met at Blue Point FWB Church, in Cisne, IL.

Dening song "Victory In Jesus" was led by Kent Waller with Sis. Debbie Woolbright at the piano and Sis. Sherry Nix at the organ. Prayer vas led by Bro. Jesse Allen.

3ro. Ernie Lewis, the host pastor, welcomed us by bringing a devotional message from Galatians 6:7. Deceit is one of the biggest problems in he world today. Beware the wiles of the devil, God is not mocked. One day there will be a reckoning, and those who have rejected God will be cast out of His presence. Brother Ernie closed in prayer.

The clerk called the meeting to order to do business for our Lord.

standing delegates were asked to stand and be recognized.

Letters from 7 churches were read by the clerk and delegates were asked to stand and be recognized. Motion was made and seconded to accept he letters and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

n absence of a letter from the Pleasant View FWB Church, Brother John Hollis made a motion to accept Mary Street as their delegate. Motion econded and carried.

The clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was made and seconded to accept the reading of the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by Sis. Kathy Hayes. We had a balance on hand today of \$910.63. Motion was made and seconded to accept he report as read. Motion carried.

3rother John Hollis gave a missions report. Bro. Mark Shores will be leaving the mission board in March. The board recently returned from a raining seminar held in Nashville. Our cross-cultural ministry is booming. The Koreans are thrilled to be a part of Free Will Baptists, and are vanting to start more new Korean churches. The Russians are also starting several churches here. We have a Russian-speaking church in Wheeling, IL.

The board hopes that Operation Saturation has inspired us on a local level. They have materials available for use in the local communities. An estimated 1700 Free Will Baptists left their local churches to help with this project.

3ro. John stressed the need for more new churches in Illinois. There are fewer churches per capita now than 100 years ago. Illinois is ahead ser capita compared to the rest of the nation, but more needs to be done.

3ro. Potete has purchased a building in Chicago. However, the local red tape is an ongoing problem. They had to spend 24K to replace neating units to make them meet the city code. They are going to have to plant some trees in the parking lot. The chain link fence around the property will have to be replaced with wrought iron in the front and be moved back some 8 feet. Also, some 36K will have to be spent to refurbish the parking lot.

He also told us that 4 people were saved recently, and attendance has increased. A new sign will be finished soon. We need to pray that God vill work in these matters and pray for the aldermen and council.

In Elgin, Bro. Carl is visiting a lot. He is seeing good increases in attendance. They had 40+ for Christmas. Bro. Carl's work is allowing him to work some flexible hours to allow him to do the work of the church.

3ro. Ken Doggett, in Springfield, is in need of a new building. Pray that God will allow some method for a larger place to meet. As a praise tem, Sis. Bonnie is doing much better with her health. We thank God for his healing on her behalf.

Mascoutah is running in the 70's now. They have finished their building project and have room to grow. They also have plans to build a new auditorium when needed. They average around 20 people each week for their visitation program.

3ro. Larry Powell will be the new director of Home Missions in the Nashville offices. He will replace Bro. Tryman Messer.

Bro. John stressed the importance of IRS support.

Bro. Ernie Lewis gave a report of the camp board. They now have \$630 on hand and \$650 designated for chairs. Bro. Tim Hayes has offered to cut and weld the steel for some of the new beds. They will be asking people to help assemble them. A calendar for summer youth camp and ministry placement forms were made available. Please be much in prayer for the youth camps. One week still doesn't have a director. Another very important need is for kitchen help. Sister Alfreda Monday has been very helpful in the past to fill this need, but they have moved out of state. Bro. Dennis Teague and his family will be living in the camp apartment this summer. We need a camper to borrow for a few weeks to

use for the kitchen help. Bro. Ronnie Mitchell gave an update on the problem with the roof on the all-purpose building. The board decided to purchase materials this winter and to try one more time to repair the roof ourselves. In April, they will be looking for help with removal of the old roof.

Bro. John Hollis reported that Johnny Hollis II will be graduating from Free Will Baptist Bible College in May. He is looking for a church in Illinois where he can work with the youth ministry.

Bro. Tony Williams stated that there is currently no full time chaplain in the Illinois National Guard. He is working now to fill that need. He challenged us to contact our congressman to let them know that we would like to see a full time chaplain made available for the Illinois National Guard.

Bro. Mike Robertson gave a report of the Illinois Master's Men. He reminded us of the Master's Men retreat to be held at Camp Hope in September.

Bro. Ernie filled vacancies on the various committees as follows:

Youth Committee

Sis. Debbie Woolbright for Bro. Scott Porter

Bro. Neil Barcroft for Sis. Paula Hayes

Business Committee
Examining Committee

Bro. Dale Braddock for Bro. Elmo Mannahan

Bro. Ismaa Bogga for Bro. Buford McClearon

Bro. James Boggs for Bro. Buford McClearan

Recess was called to allow the committees time to complete their work.

At 11:00, we were called back into session by the moderator.

Youth Committee report was given by Bro. Spencer Meagher as follows:

- Recognize your church's youth on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in February. Perhaps you might consider letting your youth have control of one of your services.
- 2. Encourage 6<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> grade kids to attend Truth and Peace II at Camp Home on March 22 25, 2001
- 3. Youth Rallies:

March 9<sup>th</sup> - Calvary FWB Church has asked to host the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. (Ask churches to bring skits, songs, music, etc.)

Apr - Jun - Crossroads FWB Church, date and details to be announced

Jul - Sept - Oak Valley FWB Church, date and details to be announced

Oct - Nov - Pleasant View FWB Church, date and details to be announced

Signed,

Spencer Meagher Debby Woolbright Neil Barcroft

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

A report of the Business Committee was read by the clerk as follows:

The Business Committee recommends that we give \$200 to Mark Shores account.

Note: The Business Committee elected Bro. Ernie Taylor as chairman of this committee.

Signed, Ernie Taylor Dale Braddock Gary Culli

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

Bro. Tony Williams gave a report of the Bakerville FWB Church. The church is growing tremendously. They will finish 10 years in their new building in April. They recently paid off their note. Two new deacons and 5 new trustees were recently added. They have an exciting Sunday school program. They have recently installed a new Sunday school board instead of one person as a superintendent.

Bro. Ernie gave a report of Blue Point FWB Church. The youth group is very strong. They went to California this past summer for the National Youth Conference. The worked on community projects while there including painting and feeding the homeless. They have their own services each week. We just finished our Christmas program. We sent a record number of youth to camp this year. We had a good VBS program. Our bus ministry is growing. We held our annual chili/chowder in the fall with an auction for WNAC afterwards. Some building maintenance has been done also. We are very thankful for our people.

Another recess was called to go into our morning worship service.

Song, "Are You Washed In The Blood of The Lamb?" led by Kent Waller with Connie McGrew at the piano and Sherry Nix at the organ. Prayer by Bro. David Burgess. Song, "All That Thrills My Soul". The offering was taken with prayer by Bro. Neil Barcroft. A special song was offered by Connie McGrew, "The Lord's Been So Good To Me"

Bro. Mark Shores preached on inspiring message from II Tim. 4:1 about the responsibilities of a pastor and the congregation. He closed in prayer.

He also told us that he has about \$1,700 in monthly support so far. He asked us to remember him in prayer.

Bro. Ernie called us back into the business session.

A report of the Examining Committee was read by the church as follows:

1. We recommend the following to be approved for cards of good standing. (We examined these reports and approved them.)

George W. Waggoner
Tony Williams
Spencer Meagher
James E. Boggs
David L. Burgess
John D. Hollis
Travis L. Penn
Ronnie Mitchell
Ernie Lewis

There were a total of 96 decisions reported in the year 2000 by these ministers.

- 2. We met with Bro. Tony Cash (Currently filling in as pastor of the Salem FWB Church) He is a member of the South Central Quarterly and has started he year waiting period in July of 2000. He just wanted to inquire about our requirements about ordination, if he were to come to this district.
- 3. Concerning Pastor Russell Wolfe, due to our constitution, by-laws, Free Will Baptist treatise, and resolutions of our National Association of Free Will Baptists, (1976 National Convention) we have no other choice but to request his minister's credentials.

Signed,
John Hollis
Ronnie Mitchell
James Boggs

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report and act on it item by item. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item 1. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item 2 as information only. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item 3. Motion carried. (There were two no votes)

Delegates to the State Association meeting in March were appointed as follows:

Blue Point FWB Church
Calvary FWB Church
Ka
Crossroads FWB Church
No

Kent Waller Kathy Hayes

Neil Barcroft Jerry Kean

Mt. Vernon First FWB Church
Oak Valley FWB Church

Maxine Hicks Marie Rutger

Cindy Meagher

Salem FWB Church

Tony Cash

Motion was made and seconded to appoint the list as read and empower the moderator to appoint alternate delegates as needed at the meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Closing prayer was made by Bro. James Boggs

The next meeting is to be held at the Bakerville FWB Church on 4/7/01. The meeting date was changed so as not to fall on the Saturday before Easter Sunday. A letter was sent out to all churches in the district to inform them of the meeting date change.



## East Central District

#### Association of

# Illinois Free Will Baptists

Bakerville FWB Church, Blue Point FWB Church, Calvary FWB Church, Crossroads FWB Church, Mt. Vernon First FWB Church, Oak Valley FWB Church, Pleasant View FWB Church, Salem FWB Church

Minutes of the April 7, 2001 quarterly meeting held at Crossroads FWB Church.

The East Central District Association of Illinois Free Will Baptists met at Crossroads FWB Church, in Effingham, IL.

Opening song "Heaven's Jubilee" was led by Mike Robertson with Sis. Vickie Hollis at the piano. Prayer was led by Bro. David Burgess.

Bro. John Hollis, the host pastor, welcomed us by bringing a devotional message from II Kings 7:4. If we sit here, we die. We must have an outreach. We need to share the good tidings.

The clerk called the meeting to order to do business for our Lord.

Standing delegates were asked to stand and be recognized.

Letters from 6 churches were read by the clerk and delegates were asked to stand and be recognized. Motion was made and seconded to accept the letters and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

The clerk did not receive a letter from the Bakerville and Calvary churches.

The clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was made and seconded to accept the reading of the minutes. Motion carried.

Bro. David Burgess made a motion that, in the future, the minutes should be published to each pastor and church clerk prior to the meeting. This could save time during the meeting, and everyone would have a chance to look over the minutes and suggest changes if needed. Motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by Sis. Kathy Hayes. We had a balance on hand today of \$866.41. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

Brother John Hollis gave a missions report.

The World Missions Offering will be taken in April, which is World Missions month. Bro. Mark King is home from China for an extended stay. Bro. Mark is struggling financially. Bro. John stressed the importance of the IRS plan in supporting missionaries like Mark.

Bro. Mark Shores is on itinerate in Colorado.

A house in Johnson City was donated to the Illinois Association of Free Will Baptists, with the sale proceeds to be applied to the Chicago mortgage.

Cisne, IL 62823

The Doggetts need more room! There is a building for sale near where he lives. They need money in order to buy it. They can't build where they are now, it is on a dead-end street. However, the current building and property should be worth about \$150,000 if it were sold. He already has \$20,000 in commitments.

Bro. Carl Hawkins is doing very well in Elgin. They have built a new wheelchair ramp and have erected a new sign. They also have changed the name of the church to Solid Rock Free Will Baptist Church.

Bro. Potete needs to have a letter of credit, or else put down \$16,600 to the local government to ensure that the work they want done gets accomplished. The parking lot has to be completely redone. There is an alderman that seems to be willing to work with Bro. Potete. The building is great!

The church at Mascutah is doing very well. They had a dry time, but their numbers are rising again. The public school system is going to sell them a bus in June. God has really blessed.

Remember the needs of all of our missionaries.

Bro. David Shores gave a report of the promotional secretary. He thanked everyone for the support of Mark and Kristie. The state association was very good. We had great speakers and lots of sweet fellowship. Bro. David handed out brochures for the national association meeting that will be held in July in Detroit. Bro. David, Ed Furguson, and Jim Dycus will be going to Cuba in May. They are trying to get as many toiletry items as they can to take to the seminary students there.

Bro. Mike Robertson gave a report of the Master's Men. The retreat is the first Thursday after Labor Day. Bro. James Kilgore and Bro. Jon Cannon are the speakers. There will also be a golf tournament. The National Master's Men Retreat is scheduled for April 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> in Alabama.

Bro. Ernie Lewis gave a report of the camp board. They will begin the roofing project on the all-purpose building on 4/23. The last time they roofed this building, more than 40 workers showed up. They are looking for just as many this time. The camp board really appreciates the district for providing new chairs and beds. Camp will begin the first week of June with leadership camp. Please do three things concerning camp, PRAY, SEND, WORK! We especially need to pray for cooks. Anyone who can should make arrangements to help with this task.

A recess was called to allow the committees to meet. Bro. Ernie filled vacancies on the committees as follows:

**Business Committee** 

Bro. Neil Barcroft and Bro. Travis Penn

Youth Committee

Bro. Mike Crabtree, Sis. Suzanne Lewis, and Sis.

Tammi Kash

Examining Committee Bro. J

Bro. James Boggs

Bro. Ernie called us back into session after the break.

A report of the Youth Committee was given as follows:

- 1. The Crossroads FWB Church will host the next youth rally. They will let us know the date and time for this event.
- 2. Let's encourage the young people to attend a week oat youth camp. Encourage our adults also to volunteer to work a week at camp. There are still positions open, especially in the kitchen.
- 3. A note of invitation. Blue Point FWB Church is presenting a play entitled "The Main Event" including the crucifixion of Christ, scenes at the judgment, and modern day scenes of youth making decisions for Christ. The youth group has been preparing and praying for weeks. The last two presentations are tonight and tomorrow night at 7:00 P.M. each evening.

Signed,
Mike Crabtree
Suzanne Lewis
Tammi Kash

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

Bro. David Shores mentioned that there is to be a youth rally on April 19 at Hazel Dell. Bro. Mike Kniffen is to speak.

A report of the Business Committee was given as follows:

- 1. We recommend that the July meeting date be changed to July 7<sup>th</sup> at the Mt. Vernon First FWB Church due to the National Association meeting being July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. We recommend that the district give Bro. Robirds \$50 for speaking today.
- 3. We recommend that the district give \$300 to the Laura Bell Barnard World Missions offering.
- 4. We recommend that the district give \$100 to the Mark King account.
- 5. We recommend that our district pursue action to accomplish the printing and distribution of the minutes to the district churches, to be posted and given to the delegates to bring to the quarterly meeting.

Signed,
Elmo Manahan
Neil Barcroft
Travis Penn

Motion was made and seconded to act on the report item by item. Motion carried.

All five items carried.

Bro. Travis Penn gave a report of the Calvary church.

They have had a very good year. They sent Carl Hawkins to Elgin, and sent Bro. James Boggs to Pleasant View. They are planning for their upcoming Vacation Bible School. They had a singing and missions conference in the fall. They also had a Christmas Homecoming concert. They have adopted Philippians 1:9-11 as their vision. They are focusing on the love of God. They were also very pleased to have almost 100 in attendance for the recent youth rally.

A report of the Examining Committee was read as follows:

We have met with Clarence" Bud" Porter. He is presently ordained and holds a card of good standing with the West Central District in Illinois. He is joining the Pleasant View FWB Church. We recommend that upon vote of acceptance as a member of Pleasant View FWB Church and Pastor Boggs be allowed to add

a request to the Pleasant View report to accept Brother Porter. We recommend that we recognize his ordination and accept him into full fellowship.

Signed,
Ronnie Mitchell
John Hollis
James Boggs

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

A report of activities at the Crossroad Church was presented by Bro. John Hollis.

They are very proud of their pre-school. They are also grateful for the staff. In March, they made over 1,000 visits as a kick-off for missions. Johnny Hollis was ordained in March. Bro. Wallace Malone participated in the ceremony. They will celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> year in May. They are planning to have the Durbins come and sing. They have adopted the motto: "Go and compel them to come in."

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Our worship service was opened with a song, Oh I Want to See Him, led by Mike Robertson with Sis. Vickie Hollis at the piano. Prayer was offered by Bro. Mike Crabtree. The pre-school kids recited Psalms 23. The youth group then sang a special, Our God Is An Awesome God. An offering was taken.

Bro. Don Robirds presented the new Foreign Missions program, "Embracing The Vision". He said, "If you do things the way you've always done them, then you'll be where you've always been." In Acts 1:8, the word "both" means all at the same time. We should pray that God will affirm or tell us we're going the wrong way.



## East Central District

### Association of

## Illinois Free Will Baptists

Bakerville FWB Church, Blue Point FWB Church, Calvary FWB Church, Crossroads FWB Church, Mt. Vernon First FWB Church, Oak Valley FWB Church, Pleasant View FWB Church, Salem FWB Church

Minutes of the July 7, 2001 quarterly meeting held at Mt. Vernon First FWB Church.

The East Central District Association of Illinois Free Will Baptists met at Mt. Vernon First FWB Church, in Mt. Vernon, IL.

Opening song "Praise Him, Praise Him" was led by Paul Bryant with Travis Penn at the piano. Prayer was led by Bro. Mike Robertson.

Bro. Ronnie Mitchell, the host pastor, welcomed us by bringing a devotional message from II Timothy 2:1-4, about falling in love with your calling. This message was primarily for the pastors, but we as laypeople need to encourage our pastors as well. He told us that "God trusts you." The ministry is to be the center of everything. The stability of a pastor's home gives strength to the ministry. He encouraged the ministers to be faithful in their calling, and encouraged the laity to respect and uphold our pastors.

The clerk called the meeting to order to do business for our Lord.

Standing delegates were asked to stand and be recognized.

Letters from 7 churches were read by the clerk and delegates were asked to stand and be recognized. Motion was made and seconded to accept the letters and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

The clerk did not receive a letter from the Calvary church.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by the clerk. We had a balance on hand today of \$807.26. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

Brother John Hollis gave a missions report.

John Hollis II is serving as youth minister at Hazel Dell FWB Church.

The Carlsons are serving as home missionaries in Paduchah, KY. The pastor's wife may be charged with manslaughter. She accidently left one child in her car and it died as a result of the heat. We need to pray that God will have His will concerning this tragic event.

Mark Shores is finalizing his itinerate work. They have a home in New Mexico and are in the process of selling their Illinois home.

Bro. John mentioned again that a house has been donated to the home missions board to sell with the proceeds to go toward the mission work in Chicago.

Mark King is home. The board purchased a car for him to drive while he is here this summer. He did not raise enough money to go back as a student. He is trying to get enough support to go back as a teacher.

Sarah Malone is also home this summer.

Cisne, IL 62823

□ Moderator: Bro. Ernie Lewis R. R. 1 Box 52A

Asst. Moderator: Bro. James Boggs
 1140 Racetrack Rd.
 Centralia, IL 62801

Clerk: Bro. Kent Waller R.R. 2 Box 213 Flora, IL 62839 The Northwest church in Chicago has a new sign. They are still fighting the local beaurocrats. Bro. Doggett is still looking at options for more room. They need to build or relocate in order to grow.

The Mascoutah church recently started a new bus ministry. A new convert couple has stepped up to direct it.

Carl Hawkins is averaging about 27 people each week in Elgin. Bro. Carl works full time as well.

Dennis Owen is \$15,000 in the red in his account.

Dennis Teague is \$8,000 in the red. They are coming home for a year furlough this fall. The board is trying to help find them a car to drive.

Bro. John encouraged all to "Embracing the Vision". If you haven't had the tape series at your church yet, please plan on using it soon. Many other materials are also available from the national offices.

Bro. Ernie Lewis mentioned that Ernie and Christina Taylor are trying to raise money for a mission trip to the Virgin Islands this fall.

Bro. Ernie gave a report of the camp board. Youth camp this year has been FULL! We praise the Lord for all the campers we have had. Many decisions are being made for the Lord.

Bro. Travis Penn gave a Master's Men report. The annual retreat is scheduled for September 8, at Camp Hope in Ewing. Bro. James Kilgore will speak. They will again have golf, skeet, etc. as activities. Men are asked to come prepared to give a testimony. Also, they will utilize any talent.

The clerk made the denomination digest available. Several copies were made available, and all of the pastors were encouraged to take some back to their respective churches. There are still a few copies left if someone needs or wants one.

Bro. Emie filled vacancies on the boards as follows:

Business Committee Ed Furguson in place of Ernie Taylor

Examining Committee James Boggs in place of Buford McClaran

Youth Committee Travis Penn in place of Scott Porter

Danya Maas in place of Paula Hayes

A recess was called to allow the committees to do their work.

Brother Ernie called the session back into order.

A report of the Youth Committee was given by Spencer Meagher as follows:

We the undersigned members of the East Central District Association of Illinois Free Will Baptists Youth Committee have discussed the following:

- 1. Fall praise/worship meeting at Bethel FWB church in South Roxanna. The date is still to be decided. This program is to be open to all youth and the young at heart.
- 2. Youth rally this quarter at Mt. Vernon First FWB Church. A suggested theme is "Back to School".

3. Order of hosting future youth rallies.

Bakerville FWB Church	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2002
Blue Point FWB Church	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2002
Calvary FWB Church	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2003
Crossroads FWB Church	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2003
Mt. Vernon First FWB Church	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2001
Oak Valley FWB Church	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2001
Pleasant View FWB Church	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2002
Salem FWB Church	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2002

4. Encourage youth to participate in "See You at the Pole" in September.

Signed,

Spencer Meagher Travis L. Penn Danya Maas

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

A report of the Business Committee was given as follows:

- 1. Recommend we send \$100 to Mark King
- 2. Recommend we send \$100 to the Carlsons
- 3. Recommend we send \$100 to Ernie Taylor
- 4. It has been suggested that we change the quarterly from Saturday morning to Friday evenings.

Signed,

Ed Furgoson Gary Culli Elmo Manahan

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report and act on it item by item. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item #1. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item #2. A motion was made and seconded to amend the motion to send a letter of encouragement along with the money. The amendment carried. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to accept item #3. Motion carried.

Item #4 was read again by the clerk. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of changing the meeting time and day. A motion was then made to ask our program committee to put more time in preparing the quarterly meetings. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

A report of the Examining Committee was read as follows:

- 1. Signed certificate of ordination to be sent to Johnny Hollis now that he is serving as a youth pastor.
- 2. Motion made to send a letter of good standing for Clifton Buchanan to his district association in Georgia.

3. We recommend that we contact the South Central District Examining Committee to confirm Tony Kash's year waiting period and upon receiving confirmation, license him and begin his study course.

Signed,

Ronnie Mitchell John D. Hollis James E. Boggs

Motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

After their report, a presentation was made to Tony Kash to license him.

The next meeting will be 10/13 at the Oak Valley FWB Church, in Geff.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

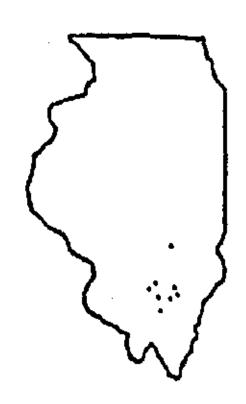
Our worship service was brought to order by singing "Majesty". Prayer was led by Brother Robert Hamilton. Song, "Jesus Saves". An offering was received while Brother Travis Penn playing "Mansion Over The Hilltop" on the piano.

Brother Paul Bryant sang a special, "A Sinner Saved By Grace".

Brother Tony Kash brought the message from Hebrews 11 and 12:1-2, "Running The Race of Life". He reminded us that faith is the foundation of our salvation.

A report was given concerning the Mt. Vernon church by Ronnie Mitchell. They continue to see new families in the church. They just finished viewing the "Embracing The Vision" series from the national offices. Brother Ed Furguson went to Cuba this spring. They ask that we continue to remember the Cuban people in prayer. They have lost several people in the church recently, including Zelda Shelton and Mary Rainey. Sister Rainey was the last charter member of the church. Pray for Brother George Waggoner. He is in failing health, and would appreciate a card of encouragement. They are very thankful for their youth. Currently, they have from 25 to 30 teenagers. Paul Bryant is working with them this summer.

Brother Spencer Meagher gave a report of the Oak Valley church. They are glad to have Brother David and Sister Susan Burgess as pastor. Many attended Operation Saturation. They got a church van this year. They have a very active youth group. The youth have participated in several activities including Godstock, See You at the Pole, CTS competition, etc. In March, they spent a night as homeless people in the Geff park. Their VBS is coming up and they ask your prayers for that. They also had a revival with Brother Travis Penn.



# East Central District

### Association of

### Illinois Free Will Baptists

Bakerville FWB Church, Blue Point FWB Church, Calvary FWB Church, Crossroads FWB Church, Mt. Vernon First FWB Church, Oak Valley FWB Church, Pleasant View FWB Church, Salem FWB Church

The East Central District Association met at Oak Valley Free Will Baptist Church on October 13, 2001.

Opening song, Showers of Blessing was led by Brooke Byars with Marlis Manahan at the piano and Marie Rutger at the organ. Prayer was offered by Spencer Meagher. Bro. Spencer gave the welcome devotion using II Peter 3:8 – 11. We live in a serious time. He reminded us of times in the Bible when man slipped away from God. (Noah, Peter, etc.) Today we are falling away from God as well. We must wake up and take God seriously. Heed the warning, warn others and pray.

Bro. Ernie Lewis asked the clerk to call the meeting to order.

Standing delegates were recognized.

Letters from all eight churches were read and delegates were seated.

Minutes of the last meeting were made available for information.

The treasurer's report was read.

Bro. Ernie filled vacancies on committees as follows:

**Examining Committee** 

James Boggs, Bud Porter

Youth Committee

Brooke Byars

Bro. John Hollis gave a report of missions. He reminded us to display the missionary posters in our homes and churches to remind us of the missionaries we support with the IRS program.

The new sign is up at Northwest FWB church in Chicago. The parking lot is finished, and a variance was approved by the city. They are averaging 48.

Alexander Drosdorf, the Russian pastor in Wheeling, would like to go to churches in the state to present.

Bro. Carl Hawkins is working very hard in Elgin. They are averaging 21 each week.

The Doggetts are averaging 60. They are in great need of a new building. Sis. Bonnie is doing much better with her health. We praise the Lord for his healing.

The Mascoutah church has finished their addition. They are averaging 73, and have begun a bus ministry. They also have 15 enrolled in a new Bible Institute.

Sarah Malone reports that she is seeing good results. She has seen at least 3 saved recently. Mark King is back in China as well as a teacher. His account is \$2,000 in the red.

Craig Portel is working for the English Language Institute in Mongolia.

Bro. John reported that Dennis Owens' account is \$19,000 in the red, and that Dennis Teague's account is \$13,000 in the red.

□ Moderator: Bro. Ernie Lewis R. R. 1 Box 52A Cisne, IL 62823 Asst. Moderator: Travis Penn
 116 Donoho Drive
 Salem, IL 62881

© Cierk: Bro. Kent Waller R.R. 2 Box 213 Fiora, IL 62839 Tim and Jessica Lewis are seeing some saved in Ogden, Utah. They recently learned that their baby could be blind. The doctors say that it could just be slow development. Please pray for Logan Lewis.

Bro. Mark Shores saw 16 people the first Sunday in New Mexico. The next two weeks they had 11 and 24 respectively.

Remember the Benjamin Randall offering on November 18.

Operation Saturation was held in September. He encouraged us to visit our mission churches. It would not only give us a chance to see their facilities and fellowship with them, but it would greatly encourage the missionaries as well.

He gave an update on the situation with the Carlson's in Paduchah. Mrs. Carlson is being charged in the death of her infant baby for leaving it in their vehicle. The court did not go ahead and take the other children away. The pretrial hearing was held on 9/7. The prosecution is trying to get them to plea bargain, but the Carlsons insist on her innocence. The trial is scheduled for July, 2002. Please remember them in your prayers.

Bro. David Shores gave a report of the Promotional Secretary. He thanked us for prayers on their behalf. They were scheduled to go to Uraguay on 9/11, but were stopped at St. Louis after the bombing in New York.

Sean Warren is going to France with a team to minister to Muslims there.

He told us that there are jobs open around the world if anyone is interested. Many opportunities for missions exist.

We have several churches that need pastors. Currently, they are:

Mt. Vernon

Freedom

Oak Grove

Pittsburgh

Rockford

Bro. Otis Smith is still preaching at Rockford, however he is 83, and he is blind.

Bro. David has been visiting several churches since retiring. He has had opportunities to visit different churches of other denominations as well.

Bro. Ernie Taylor gave a report of their trip to Virgin Islands. God opened the doors for them to get to go after the terrorist attacks. The worked in three revival services. They distributed literature in the area. At least 12 people saved during their visit. A trip is being planned next year to either Canada or Alaska. They are thankful for the prayer and financial support.

Joy Taylor is looking to go to Ivory Coast in January to do her student teaching. She needs \$5,500 and our prayers.

Bro. Ernie called a recess to allow the committees to do their work.

Bro. Spencer gave a report of the Youth Committee as follows:

We the below signed member of the youth committee would like to report on the following:

- 1. Please support Pleasant View youth calendar sales. The proceeds are going to help the Peoria FWB church.
- 2. Encourage eligible high school youth to attend welcome days at Free Will Baptist Bible College in November.
- 3. Encourage attendance of winter youth retreat at Camp Hope in December.

4. Youth rally at Oak Valley on 11/18 at 12:30 – 4:00 p.m. A meal will be provided.

Signed,
Spencer Meagher
Paula Hayes
Brooke Byars

A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

The report of the Examining Committee was read as follows:

We met with Bro. Tony Kash regarding his licensing and study course. The program was explained to him We have not received confirmation from the South Central district concerning his year of waiting.

Because this delay is not Bro. Kash's fault, this committee has moved forward to start his study program (2yr).

We have requested our clerk to officially ask for this confirmation from the South Central district. (Bro. Kash did receive his license from the South Central district a couple of months ago.

His license from this district are yet held by this committee until official confirmation from the South Central district is received, as per discussion on July 7, 2001.

We recommend a motion to this effect.

Signed,
Clarence C. Porter
James E. Boggs
John D. Hollis

A motion was made and seconded to accept the report and adopt the item as read. Motion carried.

Bro. Boggs gave a report of the Pleasant View FWB Church. They were active in a nursing home ministry in January and July. Eleven new members were added to the church in April. Wednesday nights have been devoted to the "Embracing the Vision" series in April. VBS was held in June. They had a very good attendance and the offering went to Mark King. Their homecoming was held in September with Bro. Clifford Hicks preaching and music by the Victorymen Quartet. They have a very active youth group. Several remodeling jobs have either been completed or are underway. They replaced windows, doors, and siding.

The Salem FWB Church gave their annual report in the form of a letter. It was read by Bro. Dale Braddock.

The Business Committee was not finished with their work, so a recess was called to start our worship service. Song, Banner of the Cross, opening prayer by Bro. Bud Porter. Song, The Light of the World is Jesus. The offering was taken while Sis. Marie Rutger played "I Just Keep Trusting My Lord" on the organ. The offering was in the amount of \$121.00. Sis. Brooke Byars sang a special song, "How Long Has It Been?"

We were blessed to have Bro. Dennis Teague with us for our service. He spoke to us about their work in France. He used Joshua chapter 5 and 6 to parallel their ministry in France. He said that the work in France is in the 6<sup>th</sup> day stage. He believes that the work is on the virge of springing forth. We cannot back down now. Remember 40 years earlier only Joshua and Caleb were ready to take the city. God is opening doors in France and around the world.

The Business Committee gave their report as follows:

We recommend officers be elected for the coming year as follows:

Youth Committee
Business Committee

Paula Hayes for a term expiring in 2004 Elmo Manahan for a term expiring in 2004 **Examining Committee** 

Clarence "Bud" Porter for a term expiring in 2004

James Boggs to for a term expiring in 2003 vacated by Bro. Ronnie Mitchell

Moderator

Ernie Lewis

**Assistant Moderator** 

Travis Penn

Clerk

Kent Waller

Treasurer

Kathy Hayes

We recommend to give the following amounts:

\$150 to Ken Doggett building fund account

\$150 to Dennis Teague account

\$150 to the Joy Taylor account

Signed,

Ernie Taylor Gary Culli Elmo Manahan

Motion was made and seconded to accept item number one and elect all officers as presented. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to accept item two and give the gifts as recommended. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Closing prayer was offered by Bro. Lawrence Pennington.