

East Central District Association
January 10, 2009 meeting at
Oak Valley FWB Church

Bro Craig Smith gave the welcome and morning Devotion. Marcella Smith led the singing while Marie Rutger and Shirley Byars accompanied on the ~~pi~~ organ and piano. David Burgess led the opening prayer. Bro. Craig Smith read Scripture from Phil. 3:12-14 and illustrated how important discipline is when trying to reach a goal. He shared his experience as a high school basketball player with a strong desire to dunk the ball. His coach helped him by starting out with a small ball and working up to a regulation size ball. It is important to not "let up" when you are so close to reaching your goal. Then when you reach your goal, it might be that no one is there to see it. Bro. Craig encouraged us to stay in our routine, "press on". He also encouraged us to tell someone else about it.

Moderator Ernie Lewis instructed the clerk to call the meeting to order. The standing delegates were recognized and the church letters were read. MSC to approve the church letters

and seat the delegates.

Bro. David Burgess shared information from the National office concerning reporting each church property value. The reply from the National office was to figure it as insurance plus property value.

The minutes of the October meeting were available in printed form. MSC to accept minutes. Treasurer Kathy Hayes gave her report. A beginning balance of \$667.40 with receipts of \$245 dues, \$35. late dues and an offering of \$221. made available \$1,168.40. Disbursements made include \$50 to the clerk, \$250 to Sarah Malone, \$100. Youth Camp Chapel, \$75 to Mark King and \$75 to the Disaster Relief Fund leaves a balance of \$618.40. MSC to accept treasurer's report. John Hollis pointed out the need to update the constitution and by-laws. Ernie Lewis will look into the cost.

Two vacancies on the Youth Committee were filled by Donnie Shurtz and Susan Burgess.

Bro. David Shores reported on many missionaries. Shane & Joy Davison are focusing on North Africa. They are involved in English classes. The M-Team would like to find a building from which to work. Bro. David spoke of 3 specific prayer requests: 1) Women's French Literary Program, 2) outreach center and 3) weekend basketball camps. Continue to pray that God would bless and present opportunities as we reach around the world. We

were able to view the World Missions Offering DVD that Bro. David brought. April is International Missions month. We were encouraged to take the WMO banks to our churches and have them filled.

Rusty + Brenda Carney will be leaving January 13th for Japan. They have had a commissioning service. The Collinsville work is going well - attendance about 80. Sarah Malone is in the States and available to come to your church. Jennifer (Simpson) and Josh Detherage will be going to Mongolia with E-LC. Illinois E-Team members are ~~Jennifer~~ ^{Jessica} Davis, Maria + Holly Petty. Contact them to come to your church. Derek Lewis is going to Japan with a Bible College group. Mark + Kristie Shores have a congregation of 30. They mourn the loss of a woman who has been with them since the start. Bro. Ernie Taylor had nothing different to report from Master's Men. He thanked us for support in the Disaster Relief efforts and asked for continuing volunteers as the needs arise. We were dismissed for a short recess.

Sis. Marie Rutger gathered everyone together for business by playing "Let's Just Praise The Lord" on the organ.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

- 1) We recommend that the youth have a bi-annual fellowship and/or outing. Craig will organize date and activity.
- 2) We encourage youth to participate in the youth choir at State meeting in Salem. Give e-mail to Travis Penn to get music. Signed: Craig Smith, Susan Burgess, Donnie Shurtz MSC to accept this report.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

- 1) We recommend to give Bryant Harris \$100 for speaking and mileage.
- 2) We recommend that we give to those in our district Summer mission trip and E-Team \$100. each:
Derek Lewis, Holly Petty and Maria Petty.
- 3) We recommend that we change the District Meeting in April to the 3rd Saturday because of Easter.
(April 18, 2009)
- 4) We recommend that the pricing of printing updated Constitution be checked into. Signed: Elmo Manahan, Mike Robertson & Tim Hayes MSC to approve.
The April meeting at Pleasant View will be a practice for CTS competition.

Sis. Susan Burgess gave the report from Pleasant View. Rusty & Brenda Carney & Grace were there to share their burden for Japan. The youth collected cans of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday. A joint Mother/Daughter Banquet was enjoyed with the Calvary ladies. There is new carpet in the old classrooms and on the handicap ramp. The VBS offering raised enough money to buy a pig and a goat thru World Vision. Bro. James Eubanks a deacon, passed away in July. Another dear brother in Christ, Bro. Gilbert passed away in recently. Pleasant View has enjoyed nursing home services in August, Homecoming in September and a Thanksgiving dinner and service with Calvary. Sarah Malone visited in November and the Christmas program and services were very good.

Delegates to the IL State Association meeting March 20 + 21st will be Mike Robertson, Jim Beatty, Marie Rutger, Susan Burgess, Eloise Porter. There was a motion and second for these to serve and Moderator Ernie Lewis to appoint others as needed at the meeting. Motion carried. We were recessed from business because the Examining Committee was still working.

We entered into worship service singing "We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes". Elmo Manahan prayed then we sang "It's So Sweet to Trust in Jesus". The offering was received by ushers Elmo Manahan, Lawrence Pennington and Mike Conard. We also enjoyed Oak Valley's talented musicians as they shared "Jesus Calls Us", "Thank You Lord For Your Blessings on Me" and "Blessed Assurance".

Bro. Bryant Harris read from Genesis 22:1-14 and shared his thoughts about two offerings of sacrifice. The first offering Abraham made was himself. He did not wrestle long with this, the scripture tells us "the next day...". The second sacrifice he made was his son, Isaac. Consider Abraham - an older man, a father. He went out looking for the place that God would show him, to do what God would tell him. Consider Isaac - the obedient son. He didn't see the sacrifice, but Abraham knew God would provide. God sees the situation and provides. Verse 18 promised that all nations would be blessed because of obedience. Then in the fullness of time (Gal. 4:4) God provided Jesus. Bro Bryant shared scripture from Matt. 6:25, God's provision. John 14:27 God's provision of peace. and

In Romans 8:31+32 God's all. Are you fully trusting Him for that provision?

Bro. Bryant then shared with us a video of the Camp Hope Chapel project.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

- 1) We met with Bro. Craig Smith. He is still on schedule for his studies.
- 2) We met with Bro. Luther Ganieany for information.
- 3) We request a letter from Decatur. When we receive it and the yearly report, ^{we} will issue a card to Bro. Tyler Penn.
- 4) Add to church letters a request for the retired ministers.
- 5) We issued cards of Good Standing to the following:

George Waggoner, retired

Jesse Allen, retired

James Boggs, retired

Clarence "Bud" Porter

David Burgess

Shane Navison

John Hollis

Travis Penn

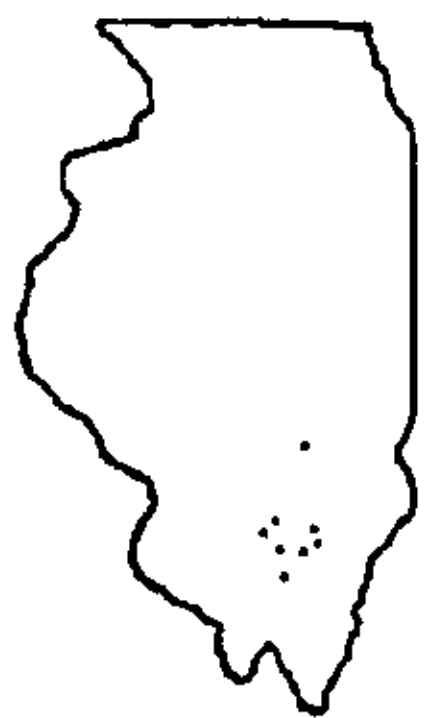
Ernie Lewis

David Shores

Signed: John Hollis, Ernie Taylor, Clarence Porter
MSC to receive report.

Bro Craig Smith gave the report from Oak Valley. They have remained busy with a trip to St. Louis, VBS in July, Youth Rally at Sam Dale Lake. They have baptized five and enjoyed Homecoming, a harvest party and a Thanksgiving Supper. The Youth made ornaments and sold them to raise funds for the food pantry.

MSC to adjourn. Bro. Ernie Taylor closed in prayer.



East Central District

Association of

Illinois Free Will Baptists

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

MEETING APRIL 18, 2009

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Holly Hayes led the congregation in singing "He Brought Me Out" with Susan Burgess playing the piano. Mike Altgilbers offered the opening prayer. Dr. David L. Burgess gave the welcome and devotion from the Pleasant View Church. David read scripture from Exodus 24:27-35 and gave a six point devotion about how God wants His people to be real. When the gospel is first heard it is exciting! He encouraged us to remember the day we got saved—how exciting it was. Then after awhile things settle down and get a little boring. In Exodus 32:1 the Israelites became bored. That's when Aaron put on a good show—the golden calf and all. Moses returned with a glow—where did he get it? From communion with God. Matthew chapter five gives an account of Satan tempting Christ. Follow Christ's example of fighting temptation by using the Word. Then in Matthew chapter 6 find the secret to Christian living—prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator Ernie Lewis began the business by asking the clerk to call the meeting to order. Clerk Paula Hayes called the East Central District Association to order to do business for the Lord. Standing Delegates were recognized and the church letters were read. The Crossroads and Oak Valley churches were represented but would have to send their letters to the clerk after the meeting. Delegates for Crossroads were Mike Altgilbers and Mike Crabtree. Oak Valley had delegates Craig Smith and Gary and Kathy Taylor present. There was a motion and second to seat the delegates and accept the letters from the local churches. MSC

Minutes from the January meeting were available in printed form. It was noted that E-Team member Jessica Davis needed to be corrected. Her name is Jessica not Jennifer. MSC to accept the minutes.

Treasurer Kathy Hayes gave the financial report. We began with \$618.40 and received \$1240 in dues and \$203 in the offering, giving us \$2061.40 beginning balance. Disbursements made include: Bryant Harris, speaker \$100, Marie Petty \$100, Holly Petty \$100, Derek Lewis \$100, IL State Assoc. \$1,110 (\$75 Mark King, \$75 Disaster Relief and \$960 Dues) leaving a balance of \$551.40. MSC to accept the treasurer's report as given.

Bro. Ernie filled the vacancies on the committees as follows: Business committee—Mike Crabtree. Examining Committee—David Shores and Travis Penn.

REORTS

David Shores brought a report from around the state of Illinois. The State Meeting was a real blessing. The E-Team members need our support. We would like to see this program continue. The CTS competition will be next weekend at Ina. The coin banks are still available for the World Missions Offering next weekend. Of course your offering will be accepted anytime you turn it in. Bro. David plans a trip to Cuba the first part of June. If your church wants to send anything with him, he will be glad to take it. Raymond Riggs passed away—pray for the family. Next year Illinois will be

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celebrating it's 50th anniversary of the State Association. Special things are being planned. Sign up for the IL newsletter if you are not already receiving it.

Bro. David Burgess made comments about how good the IL State Meeting was. Next year we are looking forward to the 50th anniversary. He has met with Representatives John Shimkus and John O. Jones concerning the special anniversary. We are hoping to have March 19th declared Free Will Baptist Day!

Master's Men representative, Ernie Taylor gave a brief report. He attended the Calvary men's retreat and enjoyed it. He mentioned several dates coming up, if anyone would be interested in traveling to various parts of the country to work on some projects. Closer to home, though, there are plans to build a house in Benton with the proceeds to benefit the Master's Men department. This is all in connection to the 50th Anniversary celebration next spring. Bro. Ernie also mentioned Joy and Shane Davison and their work in France. The M-Team is changing as members have followed the Lord leading in other directions. The Portells are going to Morocco to minister in a school there. With other members of the M-Team already having gone other places or come home to the states, Shane and Joy may have to come home as well. They will not be allowed to remain in the field alone.

Bro. Ernie Lewis gave a report of our Illinois supported missionaries. The Davison's are doing well with the English classes they have been teaching. Shane has been going to an individual home of a Muslim to teach English. The Portells are going to be involved in an American school in Morocco. Clint & Lynette Morgan are back at the Bible College. This leaves Shane and Joy by themselves. The Detherage's are going to Mongolia in the fall. Stephen Gray had 155 Easter Sunday. They will be having another baptism soon. The Lewis in Utah are seeing exciting things happening. They are in a new building and averaging near 80 in their attendance. Sarah Malone is in the States for the most part, but has been back and forth to Asia a few times. Craig and Sara Portell continue to reach out in Tibet. Their account is in the red. Mark Shores continues to work in Albuquerque, NM. Jason Taylor in Yuma is doing a series and outreach. They continue to have first time visitors. The Teagues are leaving the church in France and starting a new one. Bro. Ernie reminded us again about the World Missions Offering and encouraged us to support the Global Evangelism Fund.

Bro. Ernie Lewis also had various forms for Camp Hope. He encouraged each church to take home the camp calendars, worker applications and camper forms. Leadership camp begins June 11th. They are hoping by April 23rd to get the chapel started. Any offerings for the chapel would still be appreciated too.

A thank you note from Derek Lewis was read. He thanks us for supporting him on his recent mission trip. Bro. Ernie reminded us to look on the back of the program today for dates, times, and places of upcoming events we might want to attend. We were dismissed to enjoy refreshment and fellowship during break while the committees met.

CHURCH REPORTS

A letter from the Salem Church was read. Pastor Bryan Bennett wrote of the many activities they have been involved in since last fall. In September they had a float in the Wayne City Bean Days parade to represent their church. October brought a wiener roast and hayride for everyone to enjoy. The church took a Thanksgiving dinner for the elderly residents of the Golden Acres Apartments. In December the junior class prepared fruit bags and took slippers for the residents at Golden Acres, as well as sang Christmas carols to them. The youth group enjoyed the seasonal lights and pizza in Olney one night. Other things they have been involved in include helping a young mother by purchasing a washing machine, ham and bean dinner for the residents at Golden Acres, and a sweetheart dinner at the Kelly's home. Salem's worship services have been blessed as they use the new projector and screen that was purchased. In March, Bro. Laythen Musgrave preached revival services in which three souls were saved—Praise the Lord! The spring season has brought about special services as well. The passion of Christ was presented to the community, and Easter Sunday was busy as the resurrection was celebrated.

Salem Church looks forward to seeing what God has in store for them in the upcoming months. God Bless!

Bro. Ernie Lewis was happy to tell the group present about the things going on at Blue Point Church within the past year. Last summer they enjoyed Vacation Bible School with a high attendance of 103 people. They finished off a good week with a family picnic. The junior and senior high students enjoyed hiking at the Garden of the Gods. In October their church participates in "Trunk or Treat". Many kids turn out for that. This spring they showed the movie "Fireproof". God continues to work as one woman and some youngsters have received Christ as their Savior. An annual spaghetti supper was enjoyed by many and funds were raised in excess of \$900 for missions. Blue Point reaches out to the community in many ways by conducting a clothing drive as well as a food drive. The junior church kids enjoyed a night at the movies and saw "Monsters vs. Aliens". The teens enjoyed bowling.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMITTEE—We the Youth Committee recommend the bi-annual dates for youth get-to-gathers to be the Teen Rally in September and to be an activity to follow quarterly meeting CTS practice in April. Signed: Tyler Penn, Ed Ferguson and Craig Smith
MSC to accept the Youth Committee Report.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE—this report had two items to be taken care of by the body present.

1. We recommend \$100 to Jessica Davis.
2. Received resignation letter from Travis Penn of Assistant Moderator East Central District.

Signed: Mike Robertson, Tim Hayes and Mike Crabtree

There was a motion to receive the Business Committee report and deal with each item . MSC

Item #1—A motion was made to give \$100 to Jessica Davis an E-Team member from Illinois. She was originally going to go to Mexico with a team, but her doctor would not allow her to travel there. Jessica was then put on the team going to Chicago, IL so the East Central District would like to help her with her finances. MSC

Item #2—A motion was made to accept the resignation of Assistant Moderator Travis Penn. Bro. Travis and Sis Wendy and their family will be leaving Illinois and going to Noblesville, IN to help a team of church planters to begin a new work there. MSC

Before the CTS practice competition began, it was announced that the new yearbooks were on the front pew. Each church pastor or representative should be sure to pick one up and take it home today. Thank you.

SERVICE—CTS STYLE

We were blessed by a large turn out of young people who came to practice their competition pieces one last time before the State Competition next weekend. The following young people blessed the hearts of those attending this service:

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

Kacie Bloemker—Crossroads Church

Isaiah Penn—Calvary Church

SKIT

"The Sheep" performed by Rebecca Smith & Harrison Walker—Blue Point Church

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

Ben Barcroft—Calvary—I Corinthians 13 and Roman's Road

SKIT

"Dig That Talent" performed by Madison Smith, Haylee Walker & Jonathon Hill—Blue Point

INDIVIDUAL DRAMA

"The Leper" performed by Jacob Barcroft—Calvary Church

PIANO SOLO

"The Walls Came Tumblin' Down" performed by Ben Barcroft—Calvary Church

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

Chelsey Baker—Crossroads Church—Isaiah 61:1-3, I Cor. 6:14-18 & James 1:2-8

James Barcroft—Calvary Church—Col. 3:12-17, Deut. 6:4-9

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE RECITATION

“What a Day That Will Be” performed by Hope Walker—Blue Point Church

VOCAL DUET

“Jesus Messiah” performed by Jonathon & Noah Hill—Blue Point Church

SKIT

“One Body” performed by James Barcroft—Calvary Church

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO (Clarinet)

“Lord I Lift Your Name On High” performed by Brooklyn Penn—Calvary Church

VOCAL SOLO

“Giant Of A God” sang by Ben Barcroft--Calvary

DRAMA DUET

“Excuses, Excuses, Excuses” performed by Catherine Halterman & Nick Allison—Blue Point Church

VOCAL SOLO

“Here Am I, Lord, Send Me” sang by Heather Baker—Crossroads Church

BIBLE MILLIONAIRE

Kacie Bloemker and Landon Altgilbers—Crossroads Church

Callah Mathena and Blake Hayes—Pleasant View Church

BIBLE BOWL

Danielle Spitzner and Kaelin Davis—Blue Point Church

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

March 9, 2009—The Examining Committee met with Bro. Craig Smith. He is still completing his study course and nearing completion. As an oversight, we have now issued Bro. Craig a card of good standing. He had filled out a minister's report and had turned it in at the last quarterly meeting. We recommend permission to issue a certificate of license to Bro. Craig Smith dated July 7, 2007. (This is an oversight.) Signed: Ernie Taylor, John Hollis and Clarence Porter

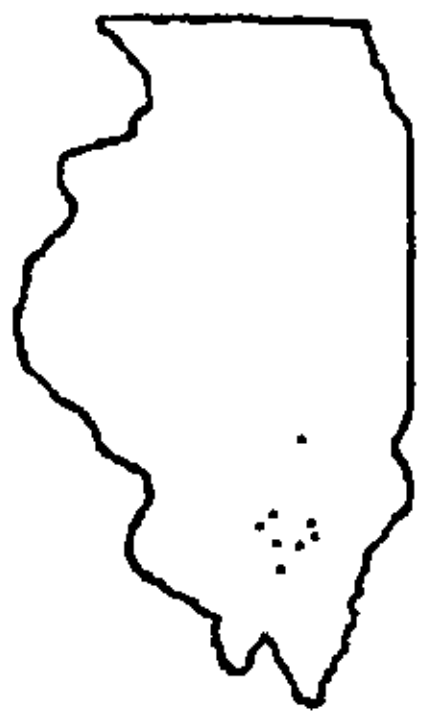
April 18, 2009 The Examining Committee met with Bro. Luther L Ganieany after reviewing his current status as an ordained minister and based on a previous interview plus the recommendation from the Union Grove Presbytery of General Baptists, it is our recommendation that Bro. Ganieany meet with the full Examining Committee before our next quarterly meeting and consider our first interview as the beginning of the waiting requirements for recognition of ordination into the East Central Quarterly.

We also met with Bro. Craig Smith. He has completed his study course and we recommend him for ordination. We extend to him our congratulations for this achievement and invite this quarterly to his ordination service at Oak Valley Church on July 12, 2009. Signed: Ernie Taylor, Travis L. Penn and David Shores.

There was a motion, second and motion carried to receive this report from the Examining Committee. Ernie Taylor called Bro. Craig Smith forward to receive his Certificate of License. Plans are made for Bro. Craig's ordination to take place July 12, 2009 at the Oak Valley Church.

Bro. Ernie Taylor also announced that we are invited to Calvary Church on August 23, 2009 when he will unite with Tish Wilson in Holy matrimony.

The next East Central District Association meeting will be July 11, 2009 at 9 a.m. Notice will be sent out about the meeting place. We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Luther Ganieany. Pleasant View served a lunch and everyone enjoyed fellowship before parting ways.



East Central District

Association of

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

July 11, 2009 MINUTES

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Kathy Hayes led the congregation in singing "Revive Us Again" while Debby Woolbright played the piano. Moderator Ernie Lewis introduced Salem FWB pastor Bryan Bennett to give the morning devotion. Bro. Bennett shared thoughts from Psalm 122:1. He encouraged us to have a strong desire to be in the house of the Lord. Our first concern should be our relationship to the Lord. Next we should have a good testimony to the community and world for the Lord. As brothers and sisters in Christ come together to the house of the Lord and peace be with you. Bro. Bennett closed his devotion in prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION

Bro. Ernie Lewis opened the business session by recognizing the standing delegates. The clerk called the East Central District Association to order. The church letters were read. MSC to accept the letters and seat the delegates from the local churches.

The minutes from the April meeting were available in typed form for everyone to see. The clerk was directed to make a correction to the Examining Committee report from the April meeting. MSC to accept the minutes.

Kathy Hayes gave the treasurer's report. A beginning balance of \$551.40 plus receipts of \$280 dues and \$192 offering gave us \$1023.40 available to work with. Disbursements made totaling \$250 leaves a balance of \$773.40. MSC to accept the report from the treasurer.

REPORTS

David Shores gave us a view of things going on around the state of Illinois. The main thing he mentioned was Adult Camp coming up August 16-19. The speaker is Rob Morgan.

Ernie Lewis brought us up to date on the mission events. The camp chapel presently is a flat piece of dirt. The forms are being set up. Many people have asked about the funds. Bro. Ernie said the funds have been slowing down, so that is somewhat of a concern.

Shane and Joy Davison have been working in English classes as well as the port ministry to reach people in France. They have been busy with a college team there this summer and a college intern. Darren Portell and his family have left the M-Team and gone to North Africa. The new missionary poster is in the back of the church today for anyone who wants to take one home for their Sunday School rooms and other places to display them. Josh & Jennifer Detherage will leave in August for Mongolia. They are going for ELIC to teach English. The Gray's have been at Camp Hope this summer, helping out. Mark King is home, but will soon go back to China. The Lewis' in Utah are excited about the things happening there. Sarah Malone has been at Camp Hope this summer, and will be going back to China in August. Continue to pray for Craig & Sara Portell. Mark & Khristie Shores continue to work in Albuquerque. They have two new families. Some paint was donated for the church, so that work is being done. The Taylors in Yuma have an opportunity to use a theatre. They are hoping to use it a long time. Some renovations have been done. It is located in the center of Yuma. The Teagues are excited about the work in France. They are leaving their church to begin a new work. The Riggs have outgrown their living room.

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Bro. Ernie Taylor talked about the Men's Retreat coming up in September. They are changing the format. There will be no registration fee, but offerings will be accepted. Bryant Harris and Larry Cook are speakers for the retreat.

Before the break, Bro. Ernie filled the vacancies on the committees. Donnie Shurtz and Laurel Pennington were asked to help on the Youth Committee. The minutes from the Illinois State Association meeting were made available to each church. We were dismissed for a short break.

CHURCH REPORTS

Debby Woolbright played the piano to call everyone back from the break. She played "We Have Come Into His House".

CALVARY—Tim Hayes brought the report from Calvary since they do not have a pastor at this time. Calvary hosted the State Meeting in March. A great deal of work went into that, but everything went very well. Their building is 20 years old. They painted, laid new carpet and poured concrete to fix up the building for the State Meeting. The men enjoyed their spring retreat. James Evans ministered to 30 guys. Bobby Donoho furnished fish for everyone at the cookout.

Bro. Travis Penn resigned, to go to a new work in Indiana. Pray as they look for a new pastor. Some of the Calvary women went to a Women of Faith event. The CTS kids are active and working on their competition pieces for the National soon. Calvary is active with the Disaster Relief unit. Some places they have worked are Marion, Carterville and Spillertown. Several churches in this district support the Disaster Relief unit regularly. It is appreciated. Tim asked us again to pray for Calvary a pastor. As God called Travis to Indiana, He could be calling someone to Calvary.

Bro. Ernie Lewis mentioned in a report from Jason Taylor that the mission board may be asking him to resign.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

There were no recommendations from the Youth Committee at this time. Signed: Craig Smith, Donnie Shurtz and Laurel Pennington. MSC to accept this report.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee report was read as follows:

1. We recommend we elect David Shores as assistant moderator.
2. We recommend a constitution change that board members or officers in the district that are not ordained authority be made standing delegates of ECD.
3. We recommend to give \$250 to Camp Hope Chapel Fund.
4. We recommend to give up to \$75 for a new brief case for the Examining Committee.

Signed: Elmo Manahan, Mike Robertson and Tim Hayes

There was a motion and second to receive this report. Item #1 was passed by a motion, second and vote carried. Item #2 was brought up with many questions. The Business Committee was dismissed to work on this recommendation and present it in writing. While the Business Committee prepared the change in the constitution, the Examining Committee report was given.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The Examining Committee had met on June 15, 2009 with Bro. Luther Ganieany. Bro. Luther has twice met with our committee. He is in compliance with the faith and practices of the Free Will Baptist. He is completing his one year waiting period, and will be eligible to be received as an ordained minister in January 2010. We request Bro. Ganieany meet with this committee each District meeting until he is officially recognized. We will be requesting a quarterly report from Bro. Ganieany each quarter. Signed: Ernie Taylor, Clarence Porter and John Hollis.

From today's session the Examining Committee report reads as follows:

1. We met with Bro. Craig Smith. He has finished his study course and is set for ordination tomorrow, July 12th at Oak Valley FWB Church at 2 p.m.

2. We met with Bro. Luther Ganieany. He is in compliance with his waiting period and we meet with Bro. Luther at the next quarterly meeting.
3. We met with Bro. David Shores on behalf of Bro. Phillip Kennedy, as a candidate for ordination.
4. We recommend issuing a certificate of recognition of ordination to Bro. Bud Porter as a result of oversight by previous district.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, John Hollis and Clarence Porter

There was a motion and second to deal item by item with the report from the Examining Committee. MSC to accept the June 15th report. Item #1 MSC. John Hollis said how proud we are of Bro. Craig's studies. God bless Bro. Craig Smith as he continues his ministry. Item #2 MSC as Bro. Luther Ganieany continues his waiting period and meets with the Examining Committee. Item #3 MSC concerning Phillip Kennedy from the Mt. Vernon Church as he begins his ordination process. Item #4 was explained concerning Bro. Bud Porter. We have all the records as he came to Free Will Baptist from another denomination and then from another district to this district. Motion, second and carried concerning the recognition of ordination for Bro. Clarence "Bud" Porter.

While the Business Committee was still out composing the constitution change, it was noted that the constitution and by-laws should be reprinted and brought up to date. A constitution change will be tabled today and then voted on at the next meeting. After the next meeting would be a good time to reprint and update any changes that have been made to the constitution and by-laws.

CROSSROADS CHURCH—Pastor John Hollis told us of the activities of their church. They are planning to go to the National Association with their young people. Recently they have had Rusty & Brenda Carney, as well as Sarah Malone in services at their church. They have participated in Life Chain. Crossroads has a Friend and Family Day that everyone enjoys. They support home missions and international missions. They give God thanks at a candlelight service and the Christmas program included a play as well as singing. Crossroads put on a live nativity scene outside where the occupants of 12,000 cars viewed the Christmas story. The Women Active for Christ sponsor the service at a nursing home. A 90 year old person was saved. They have also led a 60 year old cancer patient to the Lord. One man who had been attending, moved to Florida, but came back to Crossroads to be baptized. In February they have "Love our Church" Sunday, and "Goal 4 Souls" and VBS help to increase attendance. Homecoming was in May. They covet our prayers as they continue to reach people for the Lord.

BUSINESS SESSION—The Business Committee came back with their written proposal for a constitutional change. This change concerns Article II, which presently states:

ARTICLE II

The active members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the churches of which this Association is composed, every church being entitled to three lay delegates, its ordained ministers, and active deacons in good standing.

The Business Committee recommends the following constitutional change:

That Article II be amended by deleting "its ordained ministers and active deacons in good standing." And adding a new sentence which reads: "Standing delegates to this association shall be its ordained ministers and ordained deacons in good standing, and all officers and members of standing committees." Signed: Mike Robertson, Tim Hayes and Elmo Manahan. There was a motion and second to table this amendment change until the next quarterly meeting.

Continuing the business session, we turned attention back to the original report of the Business Committee. Item #3 recommended to give \$250 to the Camp Hope Chapel Fund. MSC Item #4 recommended to give up to \$75 for a new briefcase for the Examining Committee. A motion was made and seconded. The briefcase presently being used by the Examining

Committee is difficult to carry due to the fragile state of the handles and case itself. This case has served its purpose, but needs to be replaced. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Before entering into the service, Bro. Ernie announced that there would be a Palmer Institute for pastors and leaders on October 2nd & 3rd. Doug Earl from Missouri is organizing this first of four sessions.

Kathy Hayes and Debby Woolbright led the congregation in singing “He’s Been So Good To Me” and Lawrence Pennington offered prayer to begin the worship service. The offering was received by ushers Craig Smith and Bryan Bennett. Bro. Ernie prayed.

Bro. Luther Ganieany brought the message. The church today needs revival. He asked, “What revives us?” The WORD—the Bible! Bro. Luther challenged us to participate in revival praying, revival preaching, revival singing and revival Bible study. Pastors need to stop “talking” to the church on Sunday morning and “preach”. The Lord wants us to know what He says, and we do that by prayer and study. Revival Bible study comes as we read it, study it, pray about it, and the Holy Spirit will reveal it. It is later than it has ever been. Revival now!

Prayer requests were mentioned for John Mintor to be saved, Don Hanke, Calvary’s need for a pastor, and Bro. Craig’s ordination. The next quarterly meeting will be in Decatur on October 10th. Bro. Mike Robertson prayed as we were dismissed.



East Central District

Association of

Illinois Free Will Baptists

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

Minutes from October 10, 2009

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

The East Central District Association of FWB met at the Decatur FWB Church on a foggy, autumn morning. Mike Crabtree led the singing and Kay Penn played the piano as we sang "Jesus, Hold My Hand." Prayer was offered by David Pittman. The welcome and devotion was given by Bro. Craig Smith, Oak Valley Church. He read scripture from II Timothy 4:1-8. Many of us have things in our lives that may distract us or make it difficult to stay the course. Bro. Craig encouraged us to stay on course. According to verse three, there will come a time when men will not put up with sound doctrine. They will surround themselves with teachers that say things they want to hear. They may want to pull us away from the truth. Our energy needs to "reflect" the shine of God. Most of us drove here this morning in the fog. It was hard to see the signs so that we could stay on course. But we kept looking for the signs until we arrived where we wanted to be. Bro. Craig shared how his grandfather's favorite verse was II Timothy 4:7—"I have fought the good fight..." He encouraged us to be strong in faith and endure the hardships, then he closed the devotion in prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION I

The clerk called the East Central District Association to order to do business for our Lord. The standing delegates were recognized and the letters from each church were read. MSC to accept the letters and seat the delegates from each church with the addition of Tish Taylor named as a delegate from the Calvary Church. The minutes were presented in typed form for everyone to have a copy. MSC to accept the minutes.

Kathy Hayes gave the report of finances. We began the quarter with \$773.40. Receipts include \$245 dues and \$205 offering giving us \$1223.40 to work with. Expenditures include \$75 to Mark King, \$75 to the Disaster Relief Fund and \$250 to the Camp Hope Chapel leaving a balance of \$823.40 presently. It was reported that an estimate to have the Constitution and By-Laws reprinted would cost about \$200. The treasurer's report was accepted by MSC.

The vacancies on the business and youth committees were filled as follows:

Mike Crabtree—Business Committee, Richard Brown—Business Committee, and Tish Taylor—Youth Committee.

REPORTS

Ernie Lewis gave a report about Josh and Ashley Bennett going to Marana, Arizona. The Marana Project includes this young couple and Jeff and Heather Goodman and their daughter Ava. These two families are leaving Georgia and raising funds to go to Arizona. Shane and Joy Davison continue to work in France. They are starting up English classes again. Shane is also teaching guitar and Joy is conducting cooking classes. The Detherages are in Mongolia training high school teachers to teach English. Stephen Gray reports good crowds over the summer. Becky Ham still needs funds to teach in Budapest, Hungary. Mark King is in China with ELIC. Tim Lewis is excited about the baptisms in Utah and has a desire to go self-supporting. Sarah Malone is back in Beijing, China. Craig & Sara Portell still serve in connection with ELIC. Darren Portell and family have gone to Morocco to teach in the International school there. Mark Shores needs our continued support. The National Home Missions are in need of funds and missionaries too. Dennis Teague has had baptisms in France and is working with teenagers, having a conference for the second year. Keep praying for a new church plant in France. Jason Taylor is renovating an old theatre for their services in Yuma. They have been having new visitors and new converts since they are in their own building now. Bro. Ernie informed us of the home missions department efforts to raise more funds. He mentioned Strategic Missions Partners and the "walk". They would like to try to get teenagers excited about missions with a walk across America. The 75th Anniversary of

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International Missions is 2010. The Heights Church in Noblesville, Indiana has been actively making an impact in the community of the leaders there. Pray for Travis and Wendy Penn and family as they minister in Indiana.

The committees were instructed to meet while recessed. We were reminded that any business that needed to be considered, should be presented to the Business Committee in writing. Everyone enjoyed refreshment and fellowship during a short break.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

We the Youth Committee recommend that we host a youth event at the Salem Community Center to follow the April meeting. Signed: Tyler Penn, Craig Smith and Tish Taylor. MSC to accept this report. It was mentioned that the April meeting would once again be a practice competition for the CTS entries that the young people of our district are working on. This is a good opportunity to get the youth together for a district event.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

1. Send Mark Shores \$100 to his account.
2. Since it is time to vote on the election of officers the following recommendations are made:
 1. Mike Robertson be re-elected to the Business Committee.
 2. Re-election of Tyler Penn to the Youth Committee.
 3. Re-elect John Hollis to the Examining Committee.
 4. To the quarterly moderator position, David Burgess.
 5. To the Assistant Moderator, David Shores.
 6. Kathy Hayes—treasurer.
 7. Paula Hayes—clerk.

Signed: Mike Crabtree, Tim Hayes, and Richard Brown.

There was a motion, second, and motion carried to accept this report and vote on the slate of officers.

As the Examining Committee was still meeting, we proceeded to hear the local church reports from the Mt. Vernon and Decatur churches.

MT. VERNON FWB CHURCH—Bro. David Shores was excited that for the 75th anniversary of International Missions someone had pledged to match every dollar up to \$500,000 that the kids raise. This is a good opportunity to raise much needed funds for missions. Bro. George Waggoner is in critical condition. Pray for the family at this time. Mt. Vernon is having a Veteran's service Nov. 6th. They have a chaplain coming to speak to the group that gathers for this special time. Veterans are encouraged to bring medals to display. Phillip Kennedy is going into missions. He is here today with his family. Bro. Luther Gainaeany joined the Mt. Vernon group and has been filling in for some pastors in the area. This church has had blood drives, a flu shot clinic, VBS and supports the food pantry. They had a block party and had contact with 146 people and 84 families. They want people to see them reach out in the community. The community is changing and the church is trying to see what the Lord wants them to do. Pray for wisdom as they seek His will.

DECATUR FWB CHURCH—Pastor Tyler Penn welcomed us to Decatur and shared with us how the church there is trying to enable a person to become a mature believer thru their "Community of One" program. They are using an acrostic (**GUTS**—Grow, Unite, Tell, Serve) to teach people to being committed to their beliefs at church and in the community. Decatur has participated in "Trunk or Treat" to reach out to the community. On Wednesday, they have a band for kids, hoping that as families come to hear their children in the band, they will hear the gospel and want to be involved in other activities of the church. Pray for the Decatur church as they focus on a "community of One."

BUSINESS SESSION (cont.)

In the July 11, 2009 meeting a proposed constitutional change was tabled to be voted on at the October meeting. Article II presently states: The active members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the churches of which this Association is composed, every church being entitled to three lay delegates, its ordained ministers, and active deacons in good standing. The Business Committee recommends the following change: That Article II be amended by deleting "its ordained ministers and active deacons in good standing" and adding a new sentence which reads: "Standing delegates to this Association shall be its ordained ministers and ordained deacons in good standing, and all officers and members of standing committees." MSC to take this change off the table and vote on it. A motion, second and very little discussion to accept this constitutional change was carried. Article II will now read: "The active members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the churches of which this Association is composed, every church being entitled to three lay delegates. Standing delegates to this Association shall be its ordained ministers and ordained deacons in good standing, and all officers and members of standing committees."

WORSHIP SERVICE

The congregation sang “Beulah Land” under the direction of Mike Crabtree and Kay Penn. Shannon Hayes offered prayer as we entered into the worship service. The congregation then sang “When We All Get To Heaven”, the offering was received, and Bro. Tyler Penn brought the morning message “Living Out Loud”—“Being Different.” He read scripture from Acts 16:22-34. People are listening to you and listening to your faith to see if you ring true of your faith. Preceding this passage, Paul and Silas had cast out an evil spirit from a young girl. Her masters caused an uprising against them and caused Paul and Silas to be beaten and thrown in jail. Bro. Tyler emphasized the word “listening” throughout these verses. Verse 25 tells us that the prisoners were “listening” to Paul and Silas singing hymns to God when suddenly a violent earthquake occurred. This earthquake shook the very foundation of the jail so that the doors to the cell opened and the prisoners’ chains fell off. They were free. Bro. Tyler first looked at the prisoners—why should they stay when freedom was right there? Verse 25 says that Paul and Silas were singing and praying and the prisoners were “listening”. What Paul and Silas had just been thru is not something that we would want to go thru. But it was all because they were “Living Outloud”—doing what they should be doing. There was something different about Paul & Silas. When Christians go thru difficult times it is where your faith sounds the loudest. Tyler shared about Miles in the hospital and how the nurses were “listening” to Kelli and Tyler’s faith. Sometime later when God brought them together again, Tyler can see how they were “listening” to the faith the Penn’s were living. Next, we looked at the jailer. He drew his sword and was ready to kill himself (vs. 27), but then he heard Paul’s voice announce that they were all there! The jailer was amazed that all were there, so now he was “listening” to Paul & Silas living outloud. Bro. Tyler reminded us to be authentic, people are “listening” and we should be “living outloud.” He prayed in closing his message.

BUSINESS SESSION (cont.)

The Examining Committee report was read as follows:

1. The committee met with Bro. Phillip Kennedy. We explained the process for ordination. He is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, so his probationary period will be reduced to six months, and he will need to report each quarter.
2. We met with Bro. Luther Ganieany. He is in compliance with his waiting period and we have approved his quarterly report.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, Clarence Porter and John Hollis

A motion was seconded and carried to receive the report of the Examining Committee.

The Business Committee brought one more item before the body for consideration. The Business Committee recommends the following amendment be put on the table for discussion to be tabled for consideration as it would be a constitutional change. Mike Crabtree stated that this would be an addition to the constitution. Article IX, Paragraph D would state: “Ordained deacons in good standing that become inactive in Free Will Baptist Church(s) in the state of Illinois, would be recognized as ordained authority in the district. A confirmation of good standing by letter from the deacon’s home church would be expected.” Signed: Mike Crabtree, Tim Hayes, and Richard Brown. MSC to place the addition to the Constitution and By-Laws on the table until the January 2010 meeting.

The January 2010 meeting will be the second Saturday at the Blue Point Church near Cisne, Illinois.

Clerk’s note: due to inclement weather the meeting was re-scheduled to January 30, 2010.

Craig Smith announced a Southern Gospel Sing coming up soon in Fairfield. Tyler Penn gave directions for all who would stay for soup and fellowship this beautiful fall day. Several prayer requests were mentioned. Elmo Manahan (Oak Valley Church) recently had surgery, Mary Altgilbers (Crossroads Church) has serious prayer needs, Bro. George Waggoner (Mt. Vernon Church) is in critical condition. David Burgess offered prayer in closing for these special district members and a blessing on the food.