



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 OF THE JANUARY 30, 2010 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Pastor Ernie Lewis welcomed the East Central District Association to the Blue Point FWB Church on a beautiful winter day. He led the congregation in singing "Blessed Redeemer" while Susan Burgess played the piano. Ernie gave the morning devotion from John 14:27. He began telling us where we won't find peace. First, peace does not come in a pill. That is a temporary fix. Second, peace does not come in a price. All the money in the world will not buy peace or security. Next, peace does not come in power. And last, peace is not in a place. Today many people try to go to their "happy place." Ernie mentioned Paul and Silas in jail as an example of being at peace where ever they were. Peace is found in Jesus! Thru Christ the bitter pill was taken. He drank of the cup. His great price was paid on the cross of Calvary. Peace comes from trusting in His great power as the disciples did. Then we are destined for the place of Glory. Bro. Ernie closed his devotion by reading John 14:27 again..."Let not your heart be troubled..."

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator David Burgess welcomed everyone to the meeting and directed the clerk to call the meeting to order. Standing delegates were recognized. The clerk read the reports from each church. MSC to accept the reports and seat the delegates. The minutes from the October meeting were available in typed form. MSC to accept the minutes.

Kathy Hayes gave the treasurer's report. We began the quarter with \$823.40. Dues were received \$315 and an offering of \$178 made available \$1316.40 to work with. Disbursements made include \$75 to Bud Porter for a new briefcase for the Examining Committee, \$20 Tyler Penn (speaker), \$50 Paula Hayes (clerk), and \$150 to the State Association for our designated giving. This leaves a balance of \$891.40. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

REPORTS

STATE OF ILLINOIS—Bro. David Shores gave a report of the state of Illinois. He spoke of the G10 Walk for the young people to participate in. This project goal is to raise one-half million dollars for missions. Bro. David encouraged us to look at the back of the bulletin today. Information concerning the Illinois State Meeting is listed there. It will be a very special time for the Free Will Baptists in Illinois—50 years!

There are five young people going on E-Team trips this summer. Maria Petty—Calvary, Kristen Cannon—Victory, Nicole Holt, David Emery, and Allison Lewis—Northwest Church are each on E-Teams.

MISSIONS--Bro. Ernie Lewis added that the Josh Bennett and Jeff Goodman families are leaving ministries in Homerville, Georgia and going to Arizona as the Marana Project. Ashley Bennett and Jeff Goodman are both from Illinois. Shane Davison, former international missionary may be coming back to help them on the field. The Detherages are in language study. They have been attending the ELIC winter meetings. Stephen Gray in Collinsville, fell and broke an ankle and had to have surgery. Discovery's average attendance was 91. They are excited about that. Becky Ham is here today and will tell us about her work. We haven't heard much from Tim Lewis. Darren Portell may be coming home this summer. Dennis Teague continues working with youth in France. Jason Taylor is praising the Lord that they had 190 in services. In two services they saw four saved then the next week, they had 242 in service and saw 7 saved. Continue to pray for each of theses missionaries and their families as they serve. Then Bro. Ernie Lewis briefly explained the GO 10 Walk for the young people. Jon Cannon is organizing this area. International missions is hurting for funds and this could be a good way to raise some support. David Shores reported on how things are in Alburquerque, New Mexico with Mark and Khristie

□ **Moderator: Dr. David Burgess**
125 Country Club Estates
Salem, IL 62881

□ **Asst. Moderator: Bro. David Shores**
25 Edgewood Dr.
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

□ **Clerk: Paula L. Hayes**
4638 Kell Road
Kell, IL 62853

Shores. The church has an opportunity to buy a building that would be a good place for church. They have been seeing some growth.

MASTER'S MEN--Ernie Taylor updated us on the Master's Men group in Illinois. They had an exciting year in 2009 and look forward to another good year. They continue to look for volunteers as needs arise. The help they give thru the Disaster Relief trailer presents many good opportunities to make contacts.

WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST—Susan Burgess announced the upcoming WAC meeting dates. The Emily Malone District will meet March 27th in Granite City and the Illinois State WAC will meet May 15th at the Harmony FWB Church in West Frankfort. Plans are also being made for a fall retreat at Camp Hope on September 24 & 25th for the women.

Other activities around the state area include the Palmer Institute coming back to the Mt. Vernon Church April 30th and May 1st. Bro. David Shores also asked for pictures for the obituary report at the State Meeting. The devastation in Haiti is very bad. The Free Will Baptist Master's Men group will go in when others are pulling out. There is much work to be done.

Moderator David Burgess filled the vacancies on the youth committee. Debbie Woolbright and Jim Beaty agreed to fill that committee. Bro. Ernie informed us that Mark King would be coming home soon, if anyone wants to schedule a service with him. ~~David~~ Pearce is providing a car while Mark is here. Bro. David prayed and the group dismissed to enjoy refreshment and fellowship while the committees met.

BREAK

As we came back from break, we were excited to hear from Maria Petty. She went last year to St. Croix with an E-Team and liked it so much she is going again. This year she will be on the E-Team Cuba. Maria likes to sing in different languages, so this a good experience for her. She has had someone donate bottles of vitamins for her to take to Cuba. Bro. David Shores encouraged all of us to send things to Cuba when someone is going. He will be going soon and said they like books in Spanish, cassettes, too. Clothing, toys, gum—anything the Cubans view as a treat!

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Youth Committee report was read as follows:

1. We encourage the youth to get their CTS competition together for the next quarterly meeting.
2. We encourage youth leaders to check into the GO 10 Walk.

Signed: Craig Smith, Jim Beaty and Debby Woolbright

MSC to accept the Youth Committee report.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee report was read as follows:

1. Recommend we give Becky Ham \$260. Note: This includes mileage, speaking and gift.
2. Recommend we give \$100 to Camp Hope Chapel Fund.
3. Recommend we give Maria Petty (member East Central District) \$200 for summer missionary trip.
4. Recommend we give \$50 each to the following summer missionaries: Nicole Holt, David Emery, Allison Lewis, Kristen Cannon.
5. Recommend we recognize the passing of the following members of our district churches: Lillian Henry, Bernice Kirk, Dorothy Morgan, Mike Lemons, George Waggoner, and Shirley Morgan—Mt. Vernon; Rose Bryan—Crossroads; Don Jelley—Oak Valley; Olive Ann Gregory, Phyllis Basher—Blue Point

Signed: Michael Robertson, Tim Hayes and Elmo Manahan. There was a motion, second and motion carried to deal item by item on the business committee report. Each item was made a motion, a second was received and each item carried by majority vote. Furthermore, a motion and second to receive a special offering for Becky Ham at the end of the service was carried.

Moderator David Burgess called for a motion to bring the Constitution and By-Laws addition off the table to be dealt with. MSC to bring that motion off the table. 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." There was some discussion about this proposed change. Ernie Lewis and David Shores voiced their opposition to this proposal. The terms "inactive" and "in good standing" could be misleading. Mike Crabtree, member of the committee, said that this could bring about the possibility of deacons going before the examining committee. It was pointed out by Bro. Ernie Lewis that examining the deacon is the

local church's business. Since the Examining Committee was still out, Moderator David Burgess suspended the discussion until they returned to the full body.

LOCAL CHURCH REPORTS

OAK VALLEY CHURCH--Bro. Craig Smith updated us on what the Oak Valley Church has been doing. They distributed food baskets and visited shut-ins at the nursing home. Oak Valley also continues to support the food pantry and hold a service in connection with the Hope Center. They are in the planning stages for a building program. The youth meet every Sunday evening. They had a Thanksgiving social, as well as a Christmas sing-a-long. Pray for Oak Valley and they will continue to pray for you.

PLEASANT VIEW CHURCH--Sis. Susan Burgess gave the report from the Pleasant View Church. They start out in January and February collecting cans of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday! These items are donated to the local needy. The youth enjoy bowling after Sunday evening service when there is no school on Monday. The youth also make Valentines for veterans. Everyone enjoys Easter breakfast before the worship service and egg hunt. Pleasant View conducts worship service for a nursing home in Centralia one month a year. Vacation Bible School was a big hit during the summer and the kids enjoyed performing the skits that went along with each night's lesson. In July it was a blessing to have the Mathena/Carlson wedding, and the church experienced some painting and sprucing up. The start of school in the fall brought on a Family and Faith night for the community. The church collects items and the ladies make up personal care packets for the Disaster Relief trailer. Christmas carolling to shut-ins takes two Wednesday evenings before Christmas to deliver goody baskets and sing carols throughout the church area.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Susan Burgess played the piano while Jim Beaty led the congregation in singing "Blessed Assurance." Luther Ganiaeny offered prayer on behalf of the many requests that had been mentioned.

David Burgess asked Ernie Lewis to come forward. He was presented with a plaque for his 19 years of faithful service to the East Central District Association as moderator.

The morning offering was received by ushers Ernie Lewis and Craig Smith.

Becky Ham came forward to present her plans to go to Budapest, Hungary. She shared with us her struggle to learn to wait and be still, and to listen to the Lord. Becky read Psalms 27:14 and Psalms 46:10. Her passion for teaching and for missions is being renewed. Her steps toward Hungary include a candidate orientation program, vision survey trip—one week, emergency training and raising support to name a few things. She will be going to Budapest to teach Spanish and science to junior high age kids in an international school. She is going thru Pioneers—a creative access company. Pray for Becky. She still needs to raise monthly support and prayer support.

An offering was received for Becky. Tim Hayes prayed the blessing on the offering.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The Examining Committee report read as follows:

1. Move to send a letter of good standing for Bro. Travis Penn, to the White River quarterly in Indiana.
2. To issue card of good standing to:

David Shores	Craig Smith
John Hollis	David Burgess
Ernie Lewis	Jesse Allen
Luther Ganieany	Clarence Porter
Tyler Penn	James Boggs
3. We met with Bro. Luther Ganieany. We will issue a certificate of recognition of ordination today. He has completed his required meetings and reports.
4. We will issue a certificate of recognition of ordination to Bro. Bud Porter, due to a past oversight.
5. We met with Bro. Phillip Kennedy. He is in compliance with his course for ordination. He is due to be licensed next quarter.

Signed: John Hollis, Clarence Porter and Ernie Taylor

There was a motion, second and motion carried to act on this report item by item. Item # 1 MSC. Item #2—Shane Davison is not on this list for a card of good standing. Ernie Lewis will bring Shane's ministerial report to the next meeting. Item #3 and Item #4—Luther Ganieany and Clarence Porter came forward to receive recognition of ordination certificates. Item #5—Phillip Kennedy stood to be recognized. MSC to issue a card of good standing to Shane Davison upon receipt of his minister's report.

Attention was directed back to the motion on the floor concerning the good standing of deacons. Moderator David Burgess pointed out that this would only change the district, not the state. The vote was taken. Two votes for the change, majority vote was no—motion defeated.

Delegates were sought for the Illinois State Association meeting. Mike Robertson, Susan Burgess, Jim Beaty, Kathy Hayes, Pat Shores, Eloise Porter and Suzanne Lewis were named as delegates. MSC for these to serve and for David Burgess to appoint others at the meeting to fill vacancies.

MSC to adjourn the meeting. Next meeting will be April 10, 2010 at the Calvary FWB Church. Opportunity will be given for CTS competitors to present their entries for a practice competition.



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

APRIL 10, 2010

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Brother Tim Hayes welcomed everyone to the Calvary FWB Church on a beautiful spring day. Several families were not able to come to the meeting because of the death of Bro. Mike Robertson's mother. We pray for God's comfort at this time. Tim introduced David Burgess to give the morning devotion. Bro. David read from Isaiah 6:1-8. He told us to close our eyes and get a vision. Isaiah saw the Lord on His throne! He was high, exalted with robes flowing! Seraphs were flying above Him! They were calling to one another, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty!" Then, overcome with fear, Isaiah realized whose presence he was in. After his lips were cleansed, Isaiah heard the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" Isaiah answered, "Here am I!" Moses wanted the Lord to send somebody else, but not so with Isaiah. "Whom shall I send?" God asks. He is sending you somewhere. It may not be to another nation. Bro. David also read from Hebrews 13. God will help us. He will not leave us. God is the same yesterday, today and forever! God is asking you today..."Whom shall I send?" Bro. David closed the devotion in prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION

The clerk called the East Central District Association to order. Deacons, pastors and committee members were recognized as standing delegates. Moderator David Burgess directed the clerk to read the church letters. MSC to accept the reports from the churches and seat the delegates. The minutes of the January meeting were available in printed form. One correction was noted. In the future, when the minutes are not sent out before the meeting, it will be requested of the clerk to read the minutes for everyone to hear. MSC to accept the minutes of the January 2010 meeting.

Kathy Hayes presented the treasurer's report audibly. Beginning balance of \$891.40 plus dues \$1120, offering \$178 and offering for Becky Ham \$182 made an available balance of \$2371.40. Expenditures include: \$20 (plaque), Becky Ham \$442, Dues \$960 and IL State Association giving \$650 leaving a balance of \$299.40. MSC to accept this report.

There is still a question of what it would cost to reprint and update the Constitution and By-Laws. *Clerk's Note: The minutes of the October 10, 2009 meeting indicate a verbal estimation of the reprinting of the Constitution and By-Laws would be about \$200. Nothing was presented in writing.

The moderator filled the vacancies on the committees. Business Committee: Ernie Lewis for Mike Robertson. Youth Committee: Larry Maas for Tyler Penn. Examining Committee: David Shores for Ernie Taylor.

REPORTS

David Shores gave the State of the State report. April is Foreign Missions month—World Missions. The G-10 Walk will be taking place over the next few months. Mark & Khristie Shores are looking for a bigger building. They have been seeing some growth. Pray as they continue to work in Albuquerque. The cost of putting out the newsletter is going up. Thankful for a rebate that was received. Bro. David thanked us for the things sent along with him to Cuba and the money to pay the extra weight expense. The Palmer Institute will be April 30 and May 1st. The cost is \$50.

□ **Moderator: Dr. David Burgess**
125 Country Club Estates
Salem, IL 62881

□ **Asst. Moderator: Bro. David Shores**
25 Edgewood Dr.
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

□ **Clerk: Paula L. Hayes**
4638 Kell Road
Kell, IL 62853

Ernie Lewis gave a missions report of the workers with ties to Illinois. The Bennett's and the Goodman's will be in the area during May, June and July. If you would like to schedule a service while they are here, it would be appreciated. The Gray's in Collinsville moved to a different building. Now they will not have to set up for every service. Mark King is here today. The Lewis' in Utah are looking to go self-supporting. Sarah Malone is recovering from surgery. Craig Portell will be going to Mongolia next year. Pray for the safety of Darren Portell and family. Please practice safety on your church websites or on-line when posting things about them anywhere. The Taylor's in Yuma are doing well. The Teagues have reached a great number of youth in France. Encourage participation in the GO-10 Walk in Western Kentucky and Southeastern Missouri. Blue Point is taking a group Monday, May 28th. Don't forget the World Missions offering the last Sunday in April.

Mark King brought greetings. He is home for six months. He is available for services or events or whatever kind of work you may need him to do while he is in the States. The support he receives from us is greatly appreciated.

Ed Ferguson encouraged everyone to bring their CTS competitors to the State Competition at Ina April 23 & 24.

Camper forms are available for Camp Hope this summer. Ernie Lewis also encouraged everyone to fill out the worker forms as soon as possible, so that plans can be made for your week to help.

Susan Burgess announced the Illinois State Women Active for Christ meeting to be held at Harmony, West Frankfort on May 15th. Ladies are invited to bring a gently used pair of shoes to be given for a project. The Women's Retreat is scheduled for September 24 & 25. Khristie Shores will be there to share what God has been doing in her life. The theme for the retreat is "When He Reigns, He Pours Showers of Blessings."

We were encouraged to observe the announcements on the back of the bulletin for this morning. Everyone stood for prayer, as we were dismissed for a break.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Youth Committee encouraged the youth to attend the activity time after the meal today. All youth were invited to the Salem Community Center to participate in various activities.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The report from the business committee was read as follows:

1. Recommend we accept the resignation of Ernie Taylor from the Examining Committee.
2. We nominate David Shores to fill the unexpired term on the Examining Committee.

Signed: Ernie Lewis, Tim Hayes and Elmo Manahan

MSC to accept the Business Committee report. MSC to accept the resignation of Ernie Taylor on the Examining Committee. MSC for David Shores to fill the rest of the term vacated by Ernie Taylor. (2011)

LOCAL CHURCH REPORTS

BLUE POINT FWB CHURCH—Last fall the church participated in Trunk or Treat. Bro. Ernie is thankful that this church has a wonderful influence on young people. In January they went bowling. They had a spaghetti supper for missions and raised money for the Detherages, Bennetts, Davisons and Taylor's. They have been blessed to have souls saved and baptized. The baptistry heater has been fixed and the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary too. Blue Point is thankful for their youth and those that are working with them.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The Examining Committee met with Bro. Phillip Kennedy. He has completed his requirements for licensing (for ministry). He will be eligible for ordination in one year. He will meet with this committee each quarter. Signed: John Hollis, David Shores and Clarence Porter. MSC to accept the report from the Examining Committee.

It was noted that Shane Davison's ministerial report was received and he has been issued a card of good standing.

Bro. Bud Porter came forward to present Phillip Kennedy with his license. Bro. Phillip shared his plans for the future. His wife will graduate from the Bible College in May. They are not sure of the direction they will be taking, but look forward to being missionaries. They share a heart for Panama, but they are waiting to see where the Lord leads. Pray for this young couple as they seek God's will and direction in their lives.

MSC to adjourn the meeting. Prayer requests were given concerning Mike Robertson's family at the passing of his mother and an uncle. Hazel Dell and Calvary are looking for pastors. Trula Cronk passed away. The service is in Greeneville, TN. Pray for the family. Everyone stood as Tim Hayes led in prayer.

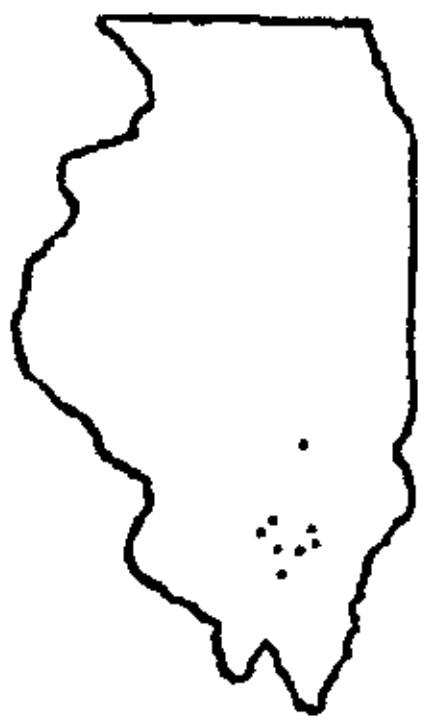
WORSHIP SERVICE

David Burgess led the singing and Debby Woolbright played the piano as the congregation sang "He Touched Me." The offering was received by ushers Tim Hayes and Ernie Lewis, who prayed the Lord's blessing on it. The Youth took over the service and everyone enjoyed the special music, drama and games that brought the message to us in an unforgettable way.

Madison Smith Harrison Walker Hope Walker	Piano Solo Ind. Drama Famous Speech	Amazing Grace Just Remember Extravagance of Love
Madison Smith Logan Hosick	Drama Duo	Moses & the Burning Bush
Harrison Walker Noah Hill Rebecca Smith Jordan Hosick	Group Drama	Witness Out To Lunch
Bible Millionaire <u>Bear Point Team</u> Alayna Hicks Brianna Bowlin Jared Acosta Coach—Linda Cook	Ernie Lewis—Quiz Master <u>Pleasant View Team</u> Erin Maas Callah Mathena Blake Hayes Coach—Susan Burgess	
Bible Bowl <u>Blue Point Team</u> Catherine Halterman Katie Beeson Keelin Davis Nick Allison	<u>Adult Team</u> Craig Smith David Shores Tim Hayes Ron Rossman	

Everyone stood for closing prayer and David Burgess dismissed in prayer.

It was announced that the next meeting would be July 10th at Crossroad Church in Effingham. Please note: The July meeting will be in Decatur due to a date conflict.



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 THE JULY 10, 2010 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

The Decatur FWB Church welcomed the East Central District Association on a beautiful summer day for the quarterly meeting. Bro. Ernie Lewis led the singing with Kay Penn at the piano. The congregation sang "Does Jesus Care?" followed by Bro. David Shores praying for Eloise Porter, John Hollis, Bert Tippitt, the National Association, and praising God for answered prayer concerning David Burgess good test results, the Bennetts reaching their goal and the GO 10 Walk nearing its goal.

Host Pastor Tyler Penn brought the morning devotion from Romans 4:4. "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt." Tyler asked this question of each of us, "What work has been done that was billed to my account and now I need to pay?" There has never been a man that worked for God and worked up a debt that God owes to pay. God never owed any man any thing! Yet have we received anything from God that we worked for? Tyler reminded us that everything we might have received in our life is because God wanted to give it—not because we earned it. **GRACE** Bro. Tyler closed his devotion in a word of prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION

The clerk called the East Central District to order to do business for the Lord. Standing delegates were recognized and the letters from the local churches were read. A motion, second and motion carried to accept the letters and seat the delegates sent from each church.

The minutes from the April meeting were presented in typed form. MSC to accept the minutes. Treasurer Kathy Hayes gave her report. To begin the quarter we had \$299.40, \$210 dues were received and an offering of \$182 made an available balance of \$691.40. Expenses included \$80 to the Salem Community Center for the Youth activity and \$150 to the State Association for our quarterly obligations (\$75 Mark King and \$75 Disaster Relief Fund). This left a balance of \$461.40. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

Moderator David Burgess filled the committee vacancies as follows:

Business Committee—Lee Penn and Richard Brown. Youth Committee—Phillip Kennedy. Examining Committee—Ernie Lewis and Shannon Hayes.

REPORTS

David Shores yielded his time to Ernie Lewis for a report of the Illinois Missions after he thanked everyone for their thoughts and kindness shown to him and his family at the passing of his mother.

Ernie Lewis updated us on the Illinois missionaries at work around the globe. Josh and Ashley Bennett are with us today and will tell us their plans as they go with Jeff and Heather Goodman to Marana, Arizona. Shane and Joy Davison are glad to have Norman and Bessie Richards with them in France. They are helping with writing skills in the French language and working with Shane and Joy. They continue the ministry where they hand out packets of books and other items as people wait on the ferries back to North Africa. Josh and Jennifer Detherage continue a ministry in Mongolia. Stephen and Denise Gray are excited about the prospects in Collinsville. Their new building is on Main Street for everyone to see! Mark King is home for awhile and is in need of funds. Sarah Malone needs prayer as she continues to work in Asia. She travels much and works with the teachers thru ELIC. Tim and Jessica Lewis are working toward self-supporting status in Utah. They have a good base group there. Craig and Sara Portell are going to Mongolia. Darren and Dana Portell are home for the summer after working in an International School. Pray for them. Bro. Ernie cautioned all of us to be very careful when we post something on the internet. We may have the best intentions, but many of our workers may be in harms way if we are not careful at home. Mark and Khristi Shores would like to find a bigger place to meet. They are out growing their facility. Jason and Melissa Taylor have had good results from remodeling their place

□ **Moderator: Dr. David L. Burgess** □ **Asst. Moderator: Bro. David Shores**

**125 Country Club Estates
Salem, IL 62881**

**25 Edgewood Dr.
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864**

□ **Clerk: Paula L. Hayes**

**4638 Kell Road
Kell, IL 62853**

of worship and are having three services on Sunday to accommodate the growth there. Dennis and Carol Teague are presently in OK but will be returning to France to continue their work. Becky Ham could not raise the needed funds to get to Hungary. Now she will be going to Ethiopia in August. The GO10 walk has been invigorating as well as tiring. The walk will end Tuesday night at the National Association meeting in Oklahoma City. This is the 75th anniversary for FWB. If anyone is interested—the book Into the Darkness has pictures and stories of the 75 year history of FWB missions. The chapel at Camp Hope is still in need of some things to finish up. Bro. Ernie encouraged us to go see the chapel if we have not done so.

The committees were instructed to meet during the break and take care of whatever business was presented to them.

BREAK

BUSINESS SESSION

Examining Committee

The Examining Committee report was read as follows: Phillip Kennedy has met with the Examining Committee and presented his report on his work during the past quarter. We approve his report and plan to meet with him again next conference as recommended at the April 2010 meeting, which will lead to his ordination April 2011. Signed: David Shores, Ernie Lewis and Shannon Hayes. The committee also noted that a letter of good standing needed to be sent to the Indiana White River Association of FWB for Travis Penn. The clerk recently sent the recommended letter. MSC to accept the Examining Committee report.

Youth Committee

The Youth Committee continues with plans to have a youth event following the April 9, 2011 district meeting. This report was signed by Tyler Penn, Craig Smith and Phillip Kennedy. MSC to accept the Youth Committee report.

Business Committee

The Business Committee recommends that the East Central District donate \$250 to Josh Bennett for speaker fees for today. This report was signed by Richard Brown, Lee Penn and Tim Hayes. MSC to accept the Business Committee report.

Local Church Report

Bro. Tim Hayes, deacon from Calvary FWB Church gave a report on their activities over the past year. Presently Calvary is still looking for a pastor. They have two prospects—one from Missouri and one from Arkansas. Jim Phillips had been interim pastor since last September. Greg Smith had been coming from the Bible College this summer to preach. He is a gifted speaker and keeps the attention of the people. His last day will be August 8th.

Maria Petty returned from E-TEAM Cuba safely. She had a good mission trip. Between Bruce, Holly and Maria Petty, Calvary has had someone on an E-TEAM for the last 6 years. Calvary is only 26 years old, but they have a strong tradition of supporting missions and mission work. The believers at Calvary function well in taking care of the church, but need evangelistic and pastoral care. Pray for them as they seek a pastor.

Masters Men Report

Bro. Tim Hayes also gave a report on behalf of the Masters Men group in the state of Illinois. Most recently a group responded to the flood in Nashville, TN. They helped 3 churches clean up—one of which was Cliff Donoho's church. A Christian School had flood damage even into the 2nd floor of the building. The temporary building washed out onto I24, that you may have seen on the TV news, was one site they helped clean up. Thirty-six hours after the flood, Tim was walking across that creek in leather boot. They also helped an Hispanic church that had been flooded. Kirk Hayes, Tom Harmon, Jim Dycus and Garrett Payne went along with Tim on this trip. If you get a chance to go help people in a disaster, you really get to see the Lord working. People have many emotions they go thru, and it is a good learning experience to deal with these emotions and spiritual needs during a time of crisis. The Chicago area had tornados in June. A team from Immanuel FWB Church responded to that area. It is good for the Illinois Masters Men to have the resources and to be able to respond in these times of disaster.

MSC to adjourn the meeting. Everyone stood as we entered into the worship service.

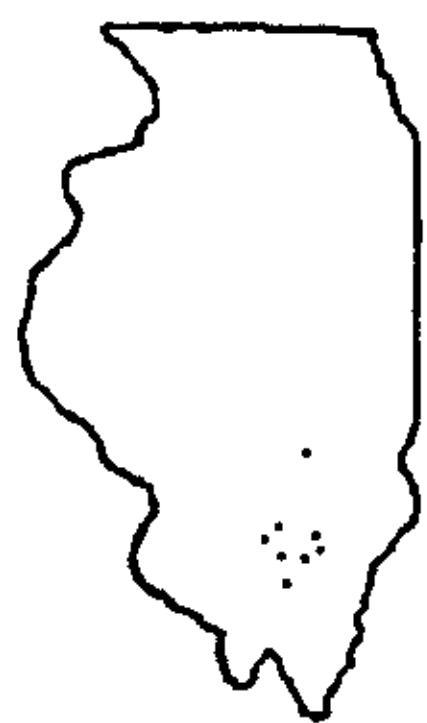
WORSHIP SERVICE

With Kay Penn playing the piano and Ernie Lewis leading the congregation in song, we began the worship service. After the congregation sang "He Keeps Me Singing", an offering was received. Kay Penn played "I'd Rather Have Jesus" as we gave from what God has blessed us. Sister Kay also sang "I Bless Your Name" for special music before Home Missionary Josh Bennett presented the Marana Project to us. He and

Ashley will be going to Marana, Arizona following the National Association in Oklahoma City. Hopefully, their things are in Arizona. They will be living in an apartment when they get there. One thing many have asked as Josh and Ashley tell of their plans for this new work, is “What kind of church are you starting?” The answer of course is a Christ-like church. Acts chapter 2 gives an idea of the Christ-like church. Matthew 16:13-18 God says “I” will build the church. Ephesians 5:25-33 looks at marriage as a model for the church. A great picture of the church as the bride of Christ is found in Act 2:42. There may be persecution, as there was in the early church. This did not stop Christians. What about today? Josh asked us what stops our churches today—temperature? music? time?

The church today, Bro. Bennett suggested, should be devoted to the scriptures. Talk about the Word of God, study it and be doers of the Word. The church should be devoted to prayer. We like to talk about prayer, sometimes to the point that prayer requests turn into gossip. Josh used many scriptures to point out that prayer should be practiced without ceasing and we should be faithful to pray. The church today should be devoted to the Great Commission. Jesus devoted much of his ministry to teaching and preaching. When he looked out over the crowd his heart was stirred to compassion. They had no shepherd. While in Marana and shopping at WalMart, Josh saw for himself—people are lost! He was stirred to compassion for the lost in Arizona. Next the church should be devoted to serving the needy. Acts 2:45--sell all they had and give to others in need. We are never more like Christ than when we are serving others. Finally, the church should be devoted to exalting Christ. Jesus explained to Nicodemus how the Christ must be lifted up, just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness. Everything about our lives must point to Jesus. Isaiah saw the throne room of God. He humbled himself and said, “Send me!” Bro. Josh closed in prayer.

David Burgess encouraged us to be obedient to the Word. Tim Hayes offered the closing prayer and the blessing on the food that we were about to enjoy. Those who could, gathered for good food and great fellowship before parting.



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 the October 9, 2010 meeting at Mt. Vernon FWB Church

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Bro. Craig Smith led the congregation in singing while Debby Woolbright played the piano. David Shores welcomed everyone to the Mt. Vernon Church and shared scripture from John 1:35-41. He encouraged us to think about verse 41—when Andrew found the Lord. Each one of us should remember when we came to know Christ. Bro. David shared his testimony of when he was saved during a revival. Bobby Jackson was preaching and Bro. David was convicted in his heart. He talked his parents into going to revival service. David went to the altar and prayed and when he got up, he saw that his mom and dad both had gone to the altar, too. God is able to save each of us. Something about that discovery of the Lord makes you want to tell somebody else about Him. Andrew did, Bro. David did. He encouraged us to keep our conversion always fresh and new, so that we would want to tell others. Bro. David closed in prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION

The meeting was called to order by the clerk, and the standing delegates were recognized. The church letters were read and delegates were seated. The minutes were presented in typed form. MSC to accept.

Treasurer Kathy Hayes gave her report of the district finances. Beginning with a balance of \$461.40, we had an offering of \$363 and dues paid of \$315 giving an available balance of \$939.40 to work with. \$250 was given to Josh Bennett-speaker, \$150 to the State Association leaving a balance of \$539.40. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

Committee vacancies were filled by Moderator David Burgess. Richard Brown and Luther Ganieuny were asked to fill the Business Committee. Ernie Lewis filled the vacancy on the Examining Committee and Lawrence Pennington filled the vacancy on the Youth Committee.

Bro. David Burgess offered prayer before dismissing the group for a recess. He reminded the Business Committee that officers should be elected this time.

BREAK

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The report from the Youth Committee was read as follows:

We recommend that the churches support CTS competition and attendance for the April 9, 2011 meeting for practice competition and youth outing. Signed: Craig Smith, Tyler Penn, and Lawrence Pennington. Oak Valley expressed their desire to host the April meeting and practice competition. MSC to accept the report from the Youth Committee.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business committee report was read as follows:

1. We thank the Mt. Vernon FWB church for hosting the East District today. There was a last minute change of meeting place because of the illness of John Hollis—Crossroads Church.
2. We the Business Committee nominate the following officer for next year.

Moderator—David Shores

Assistant Moderator—Ernie Lewis

Clerk—Paula Hayes

Treasurer—Kathy Hayes

Business Committee—Phillip Kennedy (2013)

Examining Committee—Clarence (Bud) Porter (2013)

□ **Moderator: David Shores**

25 Edgewood Dr.

Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

□ **Asst. Moderator: Ernie Lewis**

R. R. 1, Box 52

Cisne, IL 62823

□ **Clerk: Paula L. Hayes**

4638 Kell Road

Kell, IL 62853

Youth Committee—Ed Ferguson (2013)

Executive Board—John Hollis

Signed: Elmo Manahan, Luther Ganieuny, and Richard Brown.

MSC to act on these recommendations item by item. #1. The group wanted to say a big “thank you” to the Mt. Vernon Church, for stepping in to host this meeting at the last minute. #2. The slate of officers was elected by a motion, second and motion passed. Bro. Elmo Manahan suggested having prayer for Bro. John Hollis and this request was offered along with other requests as part of the worship service.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The Examining Committee report was read as follows:

We met with Brother Phillip Kennedy for his second interview and he will continue meeting with the committee until April 2011 at which time he will be eligible for ordination. Signed: Clarence Porter, David Shores and Ernie Lewis. MSC to accept this report.

REPORTS

DECATUR—Bro. Tyler Penn gave a report of activities in Decatur. They have been challenged for 40 days to Grow, Unite, Tell and Serve (GUTS). Bro. Lee Penn and Bro. David Pittman now serve as deacons for the Decatur Church. In September they celebrated Homecoming.

MISSIONS—Ernie Lewis gave a report of the mission projects connected with Illinois. The Marana Project in Arizona saw 24 people the first service and 18 the second service. Shane and Joy Davison are involved with tutoring Muslims, teaching guitar and starting a computer class. The Detherages are in Missouri visiting a grandfather who is battling cancer. Rusty Carney is back in Japan--his grandfather passed away after he returned to Japan. Continue to pray for and support the Grays in Collinsville, IL and the Lewis' in Utah. Sarah Malone met with Craig Portell, the Detherages and Keith and Sara Fletcher. Craig and Sara Portell are in Mongolia now. Darren Portell needs prayer because of the unrest and government pressure in Morocco. Mark & Khristi Shores are looking at different building prospects. The Taylor's in Yuma had 675 for their big kickoff. Sixty-two indicated that they were saved. Pray as they follow up on these prospects. Pray for the Teague's as they work in the youth ministry in France.

STATE—David Shores announced that Ernie Lewis will be preaching at the State Meeting and giving the history of Camp Hope. The GO10 Walk raised \$611,000! The mission offering goal next spring is \$650,000. Bro. David will keep us informed about that.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The congregation sang “Footprints of Jesus” as we entered into the worship service. David Burgess accepted prayer requests for Illinois Missions, Camp, John Hollis, Josh and Jennifer Detherage, Rusty and Brenda Carney, Calvary as they seek a pastor and Susan Burgess facing surgery. Craig Smith led in prayer on behalf of these requests. Debby Woolbright blessed us with a beautiful arrangement of “He Is Lord” while the offering was given. Tyler Penn offered prayer.

David Burgess brought the message from God's word. He read II Kings 12:1—18. We see signs of moral decline in society today. 9-1-1 had a time of turning back to God, but what has happened now? Bro. David shared some roadblocks to revival that we need to understand. First there is the “follow the leader faith” that Joash displayed in verse two. As long as Jehoiada the priest instructed Joash, he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. It is tempting to follow the crowd especially when they have a good leader. However, people will let you down. Revival comes not because the leader wants it, but because people desire God.

Secondly, David pointed out that neglecting strongholds become roadblocks. Joash was not willing to get rid of pagan practices. Are you ready to surrender every place in your heart to God or are you hanging on to something that doesn't belong?

Verses 17 & 18 tell us how Joash surrendered things that should have never been surrendered—sacred things. When push comes to shove in our lives, what gives way? If we are earnestly seeking a closer walk with the Lord, we should not surrender to anything or anyone but the Lord.

Ignoring the call to repentance can also be a roadblock. Joash did not like the message, so he killed the messenger. You can chose to ignore God's call to repentance or you can chose to answer. The choice is up to you. Before closing in prayer Bro. David left us with this thought, “genuine sorrow leads to repentance.”

A motion to give Bro. John Hollis \$200 to help with expenses was seconded and approved by the body present. Bro. Ernie Lewis closed the meeting in prayer with a blessing on the food.