

# **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 JANUARY 14, 2012**

#### **WELCOME AND DEVOTION**

Mike Crabtree led the singing and Vickie Hollis played the piano as the congregation sang “Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul”. Pastor John Hollis welcomed us to Crossroads FWB Church and shared what the Lord had put on his heart from Galatians 2:20. Jesus was crucified—are you? Bro. Hollis shared many thoughts about Jesus’ birth, miracles, and his declaration of authority. He challenged us today by asking if we want a spiritual king or a servant. Many churches today want a servant. Name it and claim it! We want God to do what we want, when we want it. He ought to be pleased to receive what we give Him when we decide to give it. We tend to think we are doing God a favor when we go beyond the call of duty. Pastor Hollis encouraged us to look around at the principle of our country. We are in trouble. Washington is not the answer—God is the answer. In the Bible times people looked for a political King. Jesus should become the Lord and Savior of our lives. Bro. Hollis encouraged us to campaign for Jesus. Be witnesses and win the lost. Disciple for Christ and edify. In closing, he remarked, “God help us to crucify self and live for Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, practically, but on purpose. Bro. Hollis closed in prayer.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION**

The clerk called the meeting to order to do business for the Lord. Standing delegates were recognized. The letters were read from the local churches. The delegates named were asked to stand. MSC to elect them as delegates for the business meeting. Minutes from the previous meeting were available in typed form. MSC to accept the minutes.

Kathy Hayes gave the treasurer’s report. Beginning balance was \$663.15. Dues received were \$280 and offering received was \$216 giving an available balance of \$1,159.15. Expenditures disbursed include \$50 clerk, \$50 speaker—Luther Ganieany, \$75 Mark King, \$75 Disaster Relief, \$150 Family Ministries, and \$150 Illini Initiative leaving a present balance of \$609.15. MSC to accept the treasurer’s report.

Moderator David Burgess filled vacancies on the Examining committee—Ernie Lewis to replace Bro. Bud Porter. The Youth committee—Susan Burgess and Craig Smith to fill the two vacancies on that committee.

#### **SPECIAL REPORTS**

David Shores gave the report of things around the state of Illinois. Oak Grove church has a new pastor. Mark and Khristi Shores need prayer as their church in Albuquerque was trashed and this is discouraging to the people there. David Burgess mentioned that David Potete’s vehicle was stolen.

Michaela Smith is going on the E-Team Chicago trip. She shared how God had spoken to her during a youth retreat at Sam Dale Lake. She read Joshua 1:5—9 and asked that we pray for her and her team as they prepare and go to Chicago in June.

Ernie Lewis had a list of mission works for which to pray. The Bennett’s and the Goodman’s in Marana, Arizona are beginning services in a new school. The Carney’s continue language study in Japan. Shane and Joy Davison will be home in February and want to share about their work in France. The Detherage’s teach in Mongolia. Steve and Denise Gray are seeking to go self-supporting in

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Collinsville. They average 107 on Sunday and 33 in Youth services and need a building. Becky Ham teaches at the Bingham Academy in Ethiopia. Mark King and Sarah Malone along with other ELI personnel are attending the winter meetings. The Penn's are visiting churches to raise support for the Illini Initiative. The two Portell couples stand in need of prayer. Craig & Sarah are teaching in Mongolia, while Darren & Dana's plans are being reconsidered. The Taylor's in Yuma continue to see growth. Dennis & Carol Teague are planning their new outreach center and will be coming home in July. Joel and Lydie Teague will be coming to the States in April to raise money for their internship in France.

Susan Burgess briefly mentioned the Illinois Women Active for Christ state meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. at the Ina church. Joy Davison will be the speaker, and the women will be hearing from others, such as the E-Team members that might be there to share about their trips. The Women Active for Christ appreciate the young women as they step up to help in the work.

Bro. David Burgess offered prayer as the body was dismissed for refreshment and fellowship. The committees were also instructed to meet during this time.

## **BREAK**

### **CALVARY FWB CHURCH**

As we reconvened the business portion of the day, Pastor Jamie Lee gave a report about the Calvary Church. They have adopted a theme this year "Making Vision a Reality." Their goal is to reach the community. This will be a year of developing good leaders.

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

The Youth report was read as follows: We encourage the churches to support the youth competition in CTS at the next quarterly meeting in April, and have an activity for youth after competition. Signed: Craig Smith, Jamie Lee and Susan Burgess. MSC to accept the report. The next quarterly meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Blue Point Church.

### **WORSHIP SERVICE**

With two committees still out, we entered into the worship service with Mike Crabtree leading the congregation in singing "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus" and "Beulah Land." Bro. Craig Smith offered prayer as the offering was received while Sis. Vickie Hollis played "He Is Lord" on the piano. Joe Wilson presented the desires of the Hanna Project. Bro. Wilson read from Mark 2:1—12 and pointed out that needs were met. First, four friends saw the need of their friend. Secondly, they believed Jesus was the answer to that need. Next, Jesus healed the heart need by forgiving sin, then he healed the disease. Following that, people were amazed. The Hanna Project was established to serve as a humanitarian arm of the Free Will Baptists in 2004. In Matthew 28 we are called to "GO" and in I Peter 4 we are encouraged to serve. Bro. Wilson shared how the Hanna Project had served in various places around the world during 2011. He also encouraged us to pray as 2012 brings more plans and more needs. Support International Missions financially as well as get involved with a project. Perhaps you can provide school supplies or medical supplies, even giving yourself and going to serve on a team for a period of time. He challenged us to think about the potential to meet needs and then he read I John 3:16 before closing in prayer.

### **EXAMINING COMMITTEE**

There was a motion, second and motion passed to approve the report from the Examining Committee in its entirety. Their report read as follows:

- We recommend that Bro. James Boggs and Bro. Jesse Allen be issued cards of good standing in regard to retired ministers in good standing.
- Due to Shane Davison's situation and lack of a yearly report, it is recommended he be approved for a card of good standing upon receiving his approved report.
- It is recommended that :  
Craig Smith  
John D. Hollis



Phillip Kennedy  
Jamie Lee  
Ernie Lewis  
Clarence Porter  
David Shores  
David Burgess  
Luther Ganieany

receive cards of good standing, having completed yearly reports that have been approved.

- We met with Bro. Richard Brown and recommend that he start his one year probationary period.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, Ernie Lewis and John Hollis

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The report of the Business Committee read as follows:

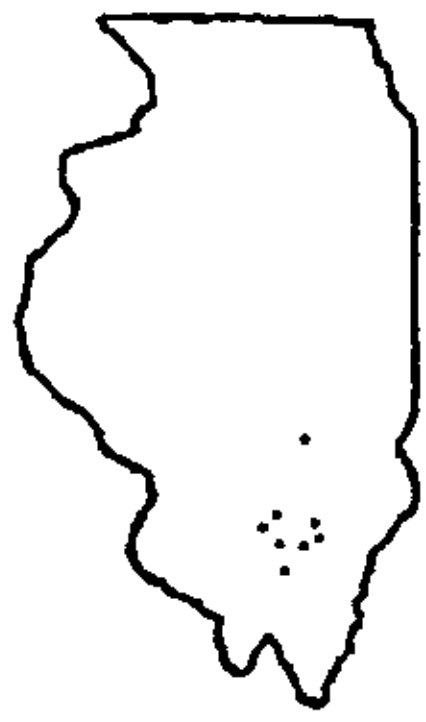
- E-Team members Jacob Barcroft, Michaela Smith and Brooklyn Penn each be given \$100.
- Constitution and By-Laws reprint bids received as 150 each @ \$252.00 and 200 each @ \$327.00  
Recommend the body choose.
- Dues increase January 2012 \$190 and quarterly 2012 \$40.
- Give \$200 to Hanna Project
- Standing vote of thanks to Crossroads FWB Church for hosting East Central District meeting.

Signed: Mike Robertson, Tim Hayes and Phillip Kennedy

There was a motion, second and motion carried to vote on each item recommended by the Business Committee. Item #1 was approved by a vote. Item #2 concerning the reprinting of the Constitution and By-Laws was discussed. Bro. Ernie Lewis has typed the revisions, talked to the printer, and the up-dates are ready to be printed. The body present voted to accept the bid for 150 copies at \$252. Item #4 was approved for \$200 to go to the Hanna Project. Item #3 concerning the annual and quarterly dues was discussed. Because the dues that are sent on to the state meeting were raised this year it seems necessary to raise the district dues to compensate. A motion to set the annual dues at \$190 and the quarterly dues at \$40 was seconded and motion passed. \*It was noted that for the 2012 April quarterly, \$45 dues would need to be paid to build up the district treasury for increased dues sent in March to the State Association.

Finally, Item #5 was approved and everyone stood to their feet in appreciation of the hospitality shown by the Crossroads church. Prayer requests were mentioned: John Hollis, Bud Porter, John's brother Nick, David Burgess' cousin, Mark Shores' church and the International Missions department.

One last order of business almost forgotten was naming delegates for the State Meeting in March. Mike Robertson and Kathy Hayes each volunteered to be delegates. Authority was given to Moderator David Burgess to appoint other delegates at the meeting. Ernie Taylor prayed mentioning the requests named earlier, and blessing the food that we would partake, as we enjoyed fellowship with one another.



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## **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2012 MEETING**

### **WELCOME AND DEVOTION**

Pastor Ernie Lewis welcomed us to the Blue Point FWB Church on a beautiful sunny morning. Larry Maas led the congregation in singing "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" while Paula Hayes played the piano. Ernie Lewis gave the devotion from Daniel 6:18-23, "Praying in the Den." Bro. Ernie challenged us with three questions: "Does your prayer life trouble the world?" "Is your prayer life noticed by the world?" and "Is your prayer life acceptable to God?" Daniel's prayer life troubled the world leaders at that time. The king fasted and had no entertainment or sleep while Daniel was in the den of lions. The king new Daniel prayed, even though he prayed in the privacy of his home. Daniel's prayer changed things and the world noticed. Daniel's prayer life was acceptable to God. Daniel acknowledged who had answered his prayer and gave God the glory. Let us pray concerning God's glory rather than our own relief. Bro. Ernie closed the devotion with prayer.

### **BUSINESS SESSION I**

Clerk Paula Hayes called the meeting to order and Assistant Moderator Ernie Lewis asked the standing delegates to rise and be recognized. Moderator David Burgess could not attend the meeting due to a funeral service. The clerk read the letters from seven churches and a motion was seconded and carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates. The minutes were available in typed form. MSC to accept the minutes.

Kathy Hayes gave the treasurer's report. We began the quarter with \$539.15 and received \$1340 dues and \$185 offering giving us \$2064.15 available. Expenditures include \$200 to the Hannah Project, \$100 each to Jacob Barcroft, Michaela Smith and Brooklyn Penn (E-Team) and \$75 Disaster Relief and \$75 Mark King leaving a balance of \$1414.15. The dues to the State Association (\$1520) have not been sent, as that would put us in the negative. MSC to receive the treasurer's report.

Bro. Ernie Lewis filled vacancies on the committees as follows: David Shores to the Examining Committee and Larry Maas to the Youth Committee.

The Missions Report was given in typed form. Thank you Ernie Lewis for putting that together for us. Please continue to uplift each missionary family in prayer.

Susan Burgess gave a brief announcement about the Women Active for Christ State Meeting May 12<sup>th</sup>. The speaker will be Joy Davison. The Women's Retreat will be held the last weekend of September at Camp Hope. She encouraged women and girls to attend each event.

Bro. Ernie presented I-GO Mission posters for each church to share in their classrooms and mission displays. He also had camp registration forms and camp worker applications for anyone interested in turning those in.

We took a short break for refreshment and fellowship, while the committees met. After the break the young people presented their competition pieces for us to enjoy.

### **YOUTH PROGRAM**

First up was the Blue Point drama trio (Maddison Smith, Haley Walker and Noah Conard) presenting "Give Me Your Trash." They were followed by Lauren Grace Conard presenting "The Lord's Softball Game." Next up was the drama duet of Rebecca Smith and Harrison Walker presenting "The Great Adventures of Sling and Stone." We enjoyed a vocal solo "When You Believe" given by Tomi Poe from the Rescue FWB Church. Finishing up the presentations of the talents of our young people was a three game match of Bible Tic Tac Toe. The Ina team played the Pleasant View team. We know there are many more competition entries from our district churches, and we wish them all well as they compete at the State CTS competition later this month.

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## **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Business Committee report was read as follows:

Nonbinding Resolution:

1. We recommend participation in the Illinois C E Board's "The Seven Laws of Training" seminars by contacting David Mishler @ 618-201-7268
2. Nominations for Committees:

Examining Committee Jamie Lee to replace Bud Porter

Youth Committee Phillip Kennedy to replace Jamie Lee.

Business Committee Scott Bee to replace Phillip Kennedy.

Signed: Mike Robertson, Tim Hayes, Phillip Kennedy

There was a motion and second to receive the committee report and vote on it item by item. Motion passed.

Item #1 MSC to participate in the C E Board. Item #2 MSC to elect the slate recommended by the Business Committee.

## **EXAMINING COMMITTEE**

The Examining Committee report was read and approved.

1. The Examining Committee met with Bro. Scott Bee. We explained the requirements for transfer into this district. We desire the clerk to request a letter of good standing from Bro. Scott's previous district association. We will also need a letter from the Decatur Church requesting he be accepted in full fellowship in this district and we recognize his ordination as a Free Will Baptist minister.
2. We met with Bro. Richard Brown. He is continuing in his one year waiting period.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, John Hollis and David Shores

MSC to adopt this report.

## **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

The Youth Committee gave a verbal report to encourage the youth to participate in the CTS competition. Bro. Ernie also encouraged each church to have their youth pre-register for camp by May

11. It helps when making plans for food and activities if they have a number to plan on.

A couple of announcements were made. The updated and re-printed Constitution and By-Laws are here. Anyone needing a copy may pick one up at the front of the sanctuary before leaving today. There are also the new Yearbook here. Each church may pick up a yearbook before leaving. The July quarterly meeting would come on the day before the National Association this year. There was a motion, second and motion carried to hold the July quarterly meeting on Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Decatur Church.

Bro. David Shores made a motion to reapprove the Decatur letter to include the request that Bro. Bee meet with the Examining Committee. MSC.

## **CHURCH REPORTS**

John Hollis gave a report of how things are going in Effingham at the Crossroads FWB Church. They would be delighted to have others come and participate in the "Seven Laws of Teaching" seminars they will be hosting. He shared prayer requests and other concerns of contacts he has made in their area. The church has continued to stay busy with many activities thru the year—Walk-a-thon for missions, live nativity scene, banquets and meals to fellowship with one another and visitors. He thanked us for our prayer support for his health matters and the church in Effingham that began 31 years ago.

Scott Bee shared about the way God has answered the prayers of the Decatur church at the same time He was answering Bro. Scott's prayers. They are trusting God to do great things .

An offering was received before adjourning the meeting. There was time for one more Bible Tic Tac Toe game before dismissing to the basement for lunch.



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### **MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2012 MEETING**

#### **WELCOME AND DEVOTION**

Pastor Scott Bee made everyone feel welcome on behalf of the Decatur Church. He gave directions around the building and opened the morning business with a word of prayer. The music service was led by Kay Penn at the piano and Joy Pittman, Amy Bee, Heather Skelley and Elizabeth Lindsey blending their voices to praise God throughout the morning. David Burgess brought the morning devotion from Romans 12:1 & 2. He used a nylon stocking to illustrate how a person who is in the world gets along without any friction for awhile. Then the Lord convicts that person over some things such as tithing, friendships and even places they need to give up. There comes a time when a decision needs to be made: the world or God. When that person makes a decision to follow Christ, he becomes like sand paper on the stocking—lots of friction. Romans 12:1&2 instructs us to “be transformed”—not like the world. When a Christian takes a stand for the Lord it will cause friction. Bro. Burgess referred to a current event getting national attention such as the Chick-Fillet owner’s stand on marriage. He then closed his devotion with prayer.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION I**

The Clerk called the meeting to order to do business for our Lord. Ordained deacons and ministers were asked to stand and be recognized as standing delegates. The letters of the local churches were read and there was a motion, second and motion carried to accept these reports and seat the delegates. Lee Penn made a motion amending the Decatur church’s letter. They would like for their new pastor, Scott Bee, to meet with the Examining Committee. Motion was seconded and carried.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented in typed form. The clerk noted a typographical error correction that was made and the minutes were accepted by a motion, second and motion carried.

Treasurer Kathy Hayes gave an oral report of the finances. Beginning with a balance of \$1414.15 the district received dues from seven churches \$310 and an offering of \$337 giving us an available total of \$2,061.15. Disbursements include \$394.45 to Peacock Printing for the updated Constitution and By-Laws and dues sent to the State Association \$1520. Present balance being \$146.70. Sis. Kathy noted that our quarterly obligation of \$75 for the Disaster Relief Fund and \$75 for Mark King’s account have not yet been paid as that would cause our bank account to overdraw. MSC to accept the report given by the treasurer.

#### **REPORT—STATE OF ILLINOIS**

David Shores began his report by encouraging us to read ONE magazine to update ourselves about the National Association. The New Life church in Rockford is now without a pastor. They have asked to meet with someone that might help them see what they need to do about the status of their church. The Salem FWB church near Wayne City is also seeking guidance for their church. Victory church will be dedicating their new building August 21<sup>st</sup>. David Crowe will be the speaker for that special day. A golf scramble will be held August 25<sup>th</sup> to raise money for the Illini Initiative. Churches or groups interested in sponsoring a hole or cart for this event are being sought. Camp Meeting will be

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September 23 thru 27. Kenny Simpson will be the speaker and Larry Clyatt will be leading the song services.

In the absence of Ernie Lewis, Jamie Lee gave the report of Illinois sponsored missionaries. The Bennett's continue to work with the Goodman's in Arizona. The Davisons plan to return to France in August. The Detherages are in Wheaton continuing studies. Mark King will return to China in August. The Shores are looking for a different building so continue to pray for them. The Teagues are in the States and look for services to present their vision.

Tyler Penn invited churches to bring their youth groups to Champaign August 18<sup>th</sup> for a morning of canvassing the area to get the word out about the Fields Church. They are partnering with the "English Corner" at the University to be able to meet students and share the Word.

#### MASTER'S MEN

Ernie Taylor gave a short report about the Master's Men group in Illinois. The new board will be meeting soon. Tim Hayes pulled the trailer and Bobcat to the National Association in July. The men's retreat is coming up in September. David Beltz is the scheduled speaker. David Shores added that a new fishin' hole has been dug at the camp and they wait upon the Lord to fill it.

#### WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST

Susan Burgess invited all the women and girls to the women's retreat September 28 & 29<sup>th</sup>. The speaker will be Diana Bryant, and Carol Teague will give a devotion Saturday morning on the theme "Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

The Crossroads Church handed out information about "The Seven Laws of Teaching" conference they will be hosting September 21 & 22.

David Burgess filled vacancies on the committees. Mike Crabtree was asked to serve on the Youth Committee. We were dismissed to enjoy refreshment and fellowship while the committees met.

#### BREAK

#### LOCAL CHURCH REPORTS

Mt. Vernon First Church pastor, David Shores gave a report of their activities. In the past, they have hosted a teaching conference. They have been trying to reach out to new families that have not been in church. Pray for Mt. Vernon's group as they continue to reach out. With Chick Fillet in mind, the Mt. Vernon church is going to gather at the Jefferson County Courthouse to support their stand on marriage being defined as the union of one man and one woman. Mt. Vernon's Women Active for Christ group is active. Pastor Shores challenged his church to raise enough money to purchase an \$1800 Super Bowl ticket. They got busy and actually raised \$2000. This money of course went to missions. Mt. Vernon Church has also had the pleasure of receiving a sizeable sum of money from a dear member's will. This is being used to update the bathrooms in the building. Phillip Kennedy, youth pastor, keeps the kids active with many different services and activities. There have been five baptisms recently. They had nine young people attend youth camp this summer. Pray for Mt. Vernon Church as they continue their outreach.

#### BUSINESS SESSION II

The Business Committee had no business to conduct. There was a motion and second to accept this report. MSC

The Youth Committee report was read as follows:

1. Thanks to everyone who helped with sending their kids to State and national Youth Convention.
2. Recommend to have youth groups come up to help the Illini Initiative pass out information on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Signed: Mike Crabtree, Phillip Kennedy and Tyler Penn. A motion, second and motion passed to accept the report from the Youth Committee. Tyler Penn invited everyone to come at 10 a.m. to 1917 Oak Park, Champaign. He would have more details, as well as information about the Fields Church on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

David Shores voiced concern about the district's lack of funds. A motion and second was made to have the clerk send a letter to the churches in the district association stating the situation. Perhaps some of the churches would want to help with the obligations of the district. Motion carried. It was suggested the letter sent out might direct any funds to be sent to the treasurer Kathy Hayes.

Business could not continue until the Examining Committee finished meeting. The report from Oak Valley was to be given by Richard Brown and the committee report would still need to be presented. Therefore, a motion to recess business and move on to the worship service was seconded and passed.

### **WORSHIP SERVICE**

Once again, Kay Penn came to the piano and the ladies led the song service. We sang "Are You Washed In The Blood". The offering was received. Special music--"Who Can Satisfy My Soul Like You"—was enjoyed by the congregation before host pastor, Scott Bee brought the message. Reading from I Corinthians 1:18—25, he shared his thoughts on "It's Still the Cross!" It is foolishness to those who are perishing; it is a message of nonsense. To those being saved it is a force—the power of God. In verse 19 Paul reaches back in history to illustrate how the power of God confounds man's intellect. The dynamics of Christ and the cross is that it works. God still changes lives. The dividing of the cross—it stands between a person and hell or a person and heaven. To those believing, Satan works to make you think you are foolish. Be faithful to God. Salvation comes from faith. Preach God's word. The method may change thru the times, but the message better not change. Bro. Bee encouraged us to preach the simple message of the cross, and then he closed in prayer.

### **BUSINESS SESSION (CONTINUED)**

The Examining Committee report was read as follows:

1. We met with Bro. Scott Bee. We have received the letter of good standing and recommendation from the Southern Quarterly Presbytery of the Cumberland Association of Tennessee and have received the letter of recommendation from his church. The examining committee approves Bro. Bee's credentials and recommends the East Central accept Bro. Bee into full fellowship.
2. We met with Bro. Richard Brown. The committee approves his oral reports. He is still continuing his one year waiting period.

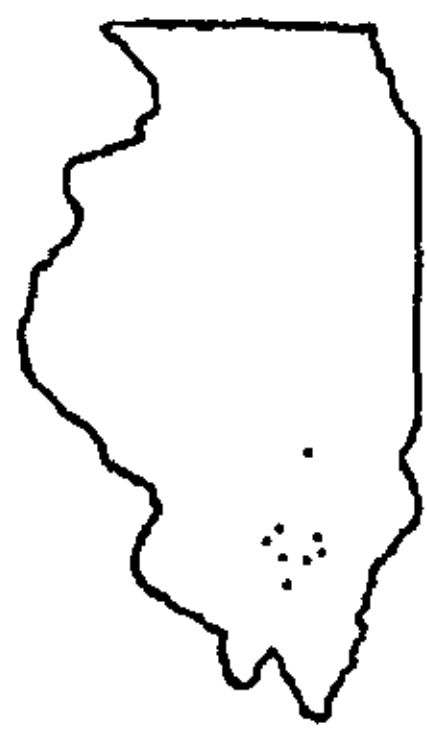
Signed: Ernie Taylor, Jamie Lee and John Hollis

MSC to accept this report.

Richard Brown gave the report from the Oak Valley Church. They were blessed to be able to upgrade their building with a new furnace and air conditioner, sidewalks, flower plantings, tables for the fellowship hall and refrigerator in the kitchen. They are thankful to have had the money to make these changes. The congregation is growing in number as well as in spirit. They have helped in the food pantry and ministered in the nursing home. People come to the church when they have a need. They come to the church realizing the church has what they need in their troubles. Oak Valley is about showing Jesus' love to those who need Him.

The business meeting was adjourned. Many prayer requests were mentioned, and Moderator David Burgess asked Tim Hayes to close in prayer as well as give the blessing on the food.





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### **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2012 MEETING**

#### **WELCOME AND DEVOTION**

The East Central District Association of FWB met in Mt Vernon, IL with six churches represented. Susan Burgess and Marie Rutger accompanied the congregation on the piano and organ under the leading of David Burgess. After opening with prayer we sang "He Touched Me". Host pastor David Shores brought the devotion from James 1:1—8. James, a servant of the Lord Jesus had the privilege of growing up with Jesus as his brother. James gives practical knowledge in good times as well as bad, and inward as well as outward. James encourages us to be joyful during times of temptation. Bro. David warned us, though, not to court things that are bothersome to us, just to see if we can overcome. In his writings, James talks about not just passive endurance but steadfast endurance. Patience has to do it's full work in us. If you lack wisdom—ask God. He wants to give us wisdom. The problem is that people focus on the problem. They rush in and then turn to God, but then rush back to the problem. The main target of temptation is your faith. We may not understand the fullness of what James is saying, but he gives us this scripture to help us understand. Before closing in prayer, Bro. Shores assured us that we can find all the faith and confidence we need in Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **BUSINESS SESSION**

The clerk called the meeting to order to do business for our Lord. The standing delegates were asked to stand and be recognized. The clerk then read the letters from six churches. There was a motion, second and motion carried to receive the reports and seat the delegates.

The minutes of the July meeting were presented in typed form. A correction was made concerning the report about the Master's Men retreat. The speaker was David Beltz. MSC to accept the minutes.

In the absence of the treasurer, Kathy Hayes, the clerk read the treasurer's report. Beginning with a balance of \$146.70 we received dues of \$320 and an offering of \$383.32 giving an income of \$850.02. Expenses paid out include \$50 to Scott Bee-speaker, \$150 Mark King account and \$150 Disaster Response account. This leaves a balance today of \$500.02. A motion and second was made to accept the treasurer's report as given. Motion carried.

The vacancies on the committees were filled by Moderator David Burgess. Appointed were these people: Lawrence Pennington to the Business Committee, Ernie Lewis to the Examining Committee and Luther Ganieany and Susan Burgess to the Youth Committee. Richard Brown offered prayer and then we were recessed for a time to allow the committees to work.

#### **BREAK**

#### **REPORTS OF GROUPS**

Susan Burgess brought a report from the Illinois Women Active for Christ. The retreat in September was wonderful. Coming in May, the first Saturday, will be the State ILWAC meeting at the Peace Church in Granite City. Elizabeth Hodges-WNAC—will be the speaker that day.

An Illinois Missions report was given by Ernie Lewis (typed form). It was also mentioned that the Joliet church had closed but a church in the area was interested in renting the building. The golf tournament sponsored by the Master's Men had raised just under \$3000 for the Illini Initiative. Thank you for supporting the tournament. David Burgess mentioned that when posting things on the bulletin

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board or internet for your church be careful not to list our creative access personnel as missionaries. The areas they are living and working in are sometimes dangerous when the connection is made to their names. Ernie Taylor commented about the speaker at the Master's Men retreat being a good speaker and encouraged us to notify the Disaster Relief team if their help is needed after a disaster.

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

The Youth Committee report was read: We just want to announce some events that are coming up.

1. There will be a youth retreat at Camp Hope for Junior High and High school youth on November 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>.
2. There will also be a Welcome Days at Welch College on November 8—10.
3. Youth leaders/parents are encouraged to attend CTS Competition information meeting on either November 9 or November 10 at Camp Hope.

Signed: Phillip Kennedy, Luther Ganieany and Susan Burgess.

There was a motion, second and motion carried to accept this report from the Youth Committee.

### **EXAMINING COMMITTEE**

The Examining Committee report was read. We met with Brother Richard Brown. The committee approves his oral reports. He is still continuing his one year waiting period. Signed: Ernie Lewis, Jamie Lee and Ernie Taylor. MSC to accept the Examining Committee report.

Bro. Ernie Taylor came forward to present Bro. Scott Bee with a certificate to recognize his credentials and welcome him into our district association.

### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Business committee had nominations for officers for the year.

Moderator: Scott Bee

Asst. Moderator: Ernie Lewis

Clerk: Paula Hayes

Treasurer: Kathy Hayes

Business Committee: Mike Robertson to replace Mike Robertson, and Lee Penn to replace Scott Bee.

Examining Committee: John Hollis to replace John Hollis

Youth Committee: Tyler Penn to replace Tyler Penn

Executive Board Member: John Hollis

Signed: Mike Robertson, Scott Bee and Lawrence Pennington.

Ernie Taylor made a motion to elect the slate of officers, David Pittman 2<sup>nd</sup>. The clerk asked to be replaced, so thru the year the committee needs to consider that matter. The motion was carried. Scott Bee asked for guidance as he learns the moderator position since he is new to the district. David Burgess thanked everyone for the time he enjoyed moderating the district meetings.

### **LOCAL CHURCH REPORTS**

Susan Burgess gave the report from Pleasant View Church. They enjoy a time of sharing Thanksgiving service and meal with the Calvary Church. Pleasant View also has a Christmas program and sings Christmas carols to shut-ins while sharing a goodie basket with them. The youth had a few fund raisers to help pay expenses to the National Association this summer. They also went to Champaign to help pass out door knockers. Homecoming was in October so several projects were completed to spruce up the grounds. Also, new hymnals and pew Bibles were purchased and placed in the sanctuary. One of the nursing homes in Centralia closed and so they were reassigned to Fireside for the month of Sunday services. The High School students put in many volunteer hours to earn the use of iPads at Salem High School. The youth enjoyed a night of bowling in October. Pastor Burgess tied for first that night!

Moderator David Burgess noted that there were some announcements on the back of today's bulletin. Also mentioned was that the State Association would like to have pictures of those listed on the obituary report. They try to put together a power point presentation and would appreciate pictures of



your members that have gone on to be with the Lord. Blue Point will be having their Homecoming and Bill Adcock will be the speaker. MSC to adjourn the meeting.

### **WORSHIP SERVICE**

The Congregation sang "Love Lifted Me" to move into the worship service. Ushers Ernie Lewis, Lawrence Pennington and Dave Pittman received the offering after Bro. Pennington offered prayer. "Redeemed How I Love to Proclaim It" was played as an organ/piano duet. Mt. Vernon youth Mikala and Michael Scott brought special music "Children of God" and Phillip Kennedy presented the message from Col. 4:2-6. He encouraged us to have constant communion with God. Paul starts out this letter praying for the believers at Colosse and asks them to pray for him. Christians should be devoted to talking to God thru prayer. Bro. Phillip encouraged us to be watchful and aware of things going on around us, watchful of sin, so as not to fall into it or be distracted by it and be watchful in prayer. Paul prayed that God would open up an opportunity to speak and speak boldly. Bro. Phillip warned us that if we are waiting for someone to ask us about Christ we are missing opportunities to speak for God. He illustrated his point by telling of a girl he knew in high school and how they had talked about many things, but he had missed his opportunity to tell her about Jesus when she died suddenly in a car accident. Paul was always asking believers to pray. He wanted to speak to people in a way that they would understand the gospel. Bro. Phillip urged us to pray for wisdom so that we would be ready to answer boldly with kind and gracious speech. He closed his message in prayer.

Before dismissing, Scott Bee gave the blessing on the food. It was announced that the January meeting would be at the Oak Valley Church. We enjoyed good food and fellowship provided by the Mt. Vernon Church before parting to our homes.