



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 9, 2016 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Host Pastor Steven Cantrell welcomed attendees to the annual meeting of the East Central District Association at First FWB Church, Decatur. He led the congregation in singing "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." His devotional message was from Psalm 106:32 concerning the boldness of Moses. Gabby Boomer from Decatur Church gave her testimony and spoke about her upcoming e-Team trip to Panama this June. She spoke of how Emily Petty's e-Team testimony last year really influenced Gabby to go on e-Team.

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator Richard Brown asked Clerk Susan Burgess to call the meeting to order. Then the standing delegates were recognized. The clerk read the quarterly and annual letters from seven churches. There was a motion and second and carried (MSC) to approve the reports and to seat the delegates sent from churches.

The minutes of the October meeting were presented in typed form for everyone to keep. MSC to accept the minutes as printed.

The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Kathy Hayes. The ending balance today was \$985.42. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

Illinois State

There was no promotional secretary report since David Shores was in New Mexico.

Illinois Missions

Ernie Lewis gave the update on missions connected to the state. He handed out a brief description of each work and commented on some. In Marana 293 attended Christmas Eve services and a realtor was saved. The Davidsons in France are signing up new learners for classes. IL Missions purchased a popcorn machine for their center. Joel and Lydie Teague are in the States preparing to be career missionaries after their 2-year internship in France. They are scheduled to speak at the IL WAC State meeting.

Jamie Lee was introduced as a new church planter in Champaign, and he has resigned Calvary Church in Salem. Jamie testified of his and his wife Heather's calling to the new work. In addition, IL Missions gave \$300 to each of the eTeam. Tyler Penn reported on International student work at the University of Illinois this past Fall. One of his English conversation classes turned to a Bible study. He has had several opportunities to witness.

Illinois Master's Men and Women Active for Christ

Tim Hayes gave a Disaster Relief report regarding two days helping at National Director Ken Akers' request in flooding relief in Missouri. They assisted four businesses and five families and handed blankets made by Pleasant View Church Vacation Bible School children. Ernie Taylor added details of a project where Calvary Church and Masters Men and Salem area churches worked to rebuild a burned house in Salem.

Women Active for Christ President Susan Burgess announced that the ILWAC state meeting will be Saturday, May 7. It will be held at New Hope FWB Church, rural Ina. Joel and Lydie Teague will be the speakers. Director Elizabeth Hodges will be speaking at a women's retreat at Cote d'Ivoire in March and taking gifts for approximately 300+ women.

□ **Moderator: Bro. Richard Brown**
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□ **Asst. Moderator: Bro. Ernie Lewis**
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□ **Clerk: Susan Burgess**
4911 East Chana Road
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Moderator filled vacancies on committees. Charlie King replaced Lee Penn on the Business Committee. Business was recessed for Committees to meet.

BUSINESS SESSION (CONT.)

Meeting was resumed with the singing of "Cornerstone." Delegates were called back into session.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The report from the Business Committee was read.

1. Deceased Members of the East Central District for 2015 include the following:

First – Mt. Vernon – Robert Dethrow, Robert Hamilton

Pleasant View – Edna Ryan

2. Recommends sending \$100 to each eTeam member for a total of \$500:

Ben Barcroft, France; Gabby Boomer, Panama; Garrett Gibbs, Bethel; John Hill, France; Isaiah Penn, Cuba

3. Recommends giving \$100 to Jamie Lee mission work.

Signed: Tim Hayes, Rodney Logue, Charles King
MSC to adopt the report.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The report from the Youth Committee was read.

1. Suggest Quarterly allow youth to come perform at next meeting as a practice for the upcoming State Competition.

Signed: Phillip Kennedy, Bradley Decicco, Tyler Penn.
MSC to accept the Youth Committee report.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The report from the Examining Committee was read.

1. The Examining Committee recommends that the following minister's receive a card of good standing for 2016:

Jessie Allen, James Boggs, Richard Brown, David Burgess, Stephen Cantrell, Shane Davison, John Hollis, Phillip Kennedy, Jamie Lee, Ernie Lewis, Tyler Penn, David Shores, Karel Smith

Signed: Ernie Taylor, David L. Burgess and Ernie Lewis
MSC to accept and approve the report of the Examining Committee.

DELEGATES TO STATE

Delegates were appointed for the Illinois State Meeting in March at Calvary Church, Salem. Suzanne Lewis, Kathy Hayes, Marie Rutger, and Paula Hayes were named as our district delegates. MSC for Moderator to appoint others attending the meeting as delegates.

Decatur First Church Report

Steven Cantrell came as a new pastor to the church in May. He is praising the Lord that a man was saved a couple of weeks ago. Wednesday night they have a bus route and are feeding the kids who attend.

Mt. Vernon Church Report

Phillip Kennedy reported four new members and several new attendees. Pastor David Shores is in New Mexico for a few days. Several new faces are on the van, a ministry Phillip provides for all services. New young active members are encouraging. They are serving a meal on all Sunday nights, which excites the youth. They have had kids' days with activities, lessons, and videos as outreach. From VBS they gained children and older youth. Two of the teens' fathers are finally coming on Sunday and Wednesday nights after several years.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service opened in prayer by Moderator. During the offering, the Decatur girls' choir sang beautifully.

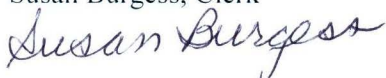
Mark King, English Language Institute teacher in Tibet, a country of 3,000,000 people. He showed slides from Tibet and Mount Everest. He has eight coworkers in the city of Lhasa (500,000 population). When he goes back, his new team will only have six members. Approximately 20 people from countries other than Tibet or China are in the city. He requested prayer for the Friendship Club, which meets at The Yellow Restaurant. This discussion group discusses serious topics and are led by a man from Tibet.

Mark's message was from Mark 1:16-20. He described how Tibetans leave their nets as the disciples did. Sarah Malone, ELI, wrote an article in One Magazine discussing how identity, security and comfort can equate to nets today. Mark added ignorance as a big net for Tibetans that they need to leave. To be Tibetan is to be Buddhist, their identity. China says those in Tibet are Chinese. But the Tibetans do not like Chinese taking their culture. They do not have the entire Bible in Tibetan. Their security is monetary. They need the Chinese to make a living. They believe in karma, an influencing, impersonal force. What they need is the Gospel of forgiveness and grace, which is confusing to them; so they go back to rituals. For comfort, it is family. There is not a Christian community there. It usually takes years for Tibetans to become Christ followers and leave their "nets." The Chinese church has reached out to Tibetans for Christmas.

More people are needed to in Tibet. The Government had shut down the English program where Mark and another teacher worked, but Lhasa wants the program back and will be there in June. Mark needs \$1,000 per month to work in Tibet. Mark thanked us for twenty years of support in China and Tibet.

MSC to adjourn the meeting. The next district meeting will be April 9 at the First FWB Church, Mt. Vernon. Closing prayer and blessing on our lunch by David Burgess.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burgess, Clerk





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MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2016 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Host Pastor David Shores welcomed attendees to the annual meeting of the East Central District Association at First FWB Church, Mt. Vernon. Ernie Lewis led the congregation in singing "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus," with piano accompaniment by Marie Rutger. Phillip Kennedy brought the devotional message from Philippians 2:12-16 regarding murmuring and complaining. How is your attitude? Prayer by Phillip Kennedy.

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator Richard Brown asked Clerk Susan Burgess to call the meeting to order to do business for our Lord. Then the standing delegates were recognized and seated. The clerk read the quarterly reports from seven churches. Clarification that standing delegates are ordained ministers, deacons and district officers. There was a motion and second and carried (MSC) to approve the reports and to seat the delegates sent from churches.

The minutes of the October meeting were presented in typed form for everyone to keep. MSC to accept the minutes as printed.

The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Kathy Hayes. The ending balance today was \$534.42. MSC to accept the treasurer's report. Moderator appointed Charlie King and Marie Rutger to fill vacancies on Business Committee. Karel Smith and Steven Cantrell filled in on Youth Committee.

Illinois State

Promotional Secretary David Shores reviewed the Illinois State Association. Curtis Smith was elected new moderator and Tyler Penn, the assistant. Camp Hope will be working on big projects after summer camping season, including new bathroom addition to the girls' dorm and remodel of manager's home. The CTS competition will be held the last weekend of April at Ina FWB Church. He is checking on who needs additional funding for eTeam and College Missions Program.

Bro. Shores indicated that 14 men are being trained as carpenters in Cuba. They will come to the U.S. to donate a month of work on the new Welch College President's house. "The Gratitude Team" needs prayers for visas, travel funds, etc.

Illinois Missions

Ernie Lewis gave the update on missions connected to the state. He handed out a brief description of each work and commented on some. In Marana prayer is requested for Josh Bennett's father Tommy who has cancer. Bro. Ernie met with the Davisons' partners this past week. It is a challenge now since International Missions has gone back to designated giving. The Davisons need previous donors to return. Sarah Malone meets with government leaders to secure housing and passports for ELIC teachers. FWBGo.com shows a video for the Penn's ministry. Macquire Portell is going on eTeam. A church in Oklahoma provided a home for Joel and Lydie Teague while they are in the states. They will be in Illinois in May and have a wonderful testimony. The eTeam need their money by May 1.

Jamie Lee, newly appointed church planter to Champaign, requested prayer for the sale of their house and for their launch team, including Valerie and Kevin Wright, seven other adults, and Tyler and Kellie Penn. Pray for fundraising. He has speaking appointments through July. Pray also for the children as they move and travel from church to church.

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Illinois Master's Men and Women Active for Christ

Ernie Taylor gave details of a project where Calvary Church and Masters Men and Salem area churches worked to rebuild a burned house in Salem. That work is finished, and there is a \$2,000 reward for information on who started the fire. Bro. Alton Loveless, Ohio, is writing a book on the timeframe of women ministers in 1920-1950. Per the Southern Illinois Yearly Conference 1949 report, 11 of 40 ministers were women.

Women Active for Christ President Susan Burgess announced that the ILWAC state meeting will be Saturday, May 7. It will be held at New Hope FWB Church, rural Ina. Joel and Lydie Teague will be the speakers. Gabby Boomer, eTeam from Decatur, will sing and give a report.

After prayer for the Moderator's family because of death of his sister this morning and for the Gospel to the world, business was recessed for Committees to meet.

BUSINESS SESSION (CONT.)

Meeting was resumed. Delegates were called back into session. Clerk distributed 2016 FWB Yearbook to all churches.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The report from the Business Committee was read and voted item by item.

1. Emily Petty going to Brazil with College Missions Program and having difficulty raising funds. Recommend sending her \$100.
2. Recommend sending \$100 to Holly Petty who is going to Bulgaria with the Hanna Project and is also raising funds.
3. Recommend praying for Welch College building a new campus in Gallatin TN.
 - a. Steel is in place at the Main Hall.
 - b. Second floors are beginning to take shape at the Residence Halls.
 - c. We need to have a prayer today and encourage our churches to pray for this building project.

Signed: Rodney Logue, Charles King, Marie Rutger
MSC to adopt the report.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The report from the Youth Committee was read and accepted as information and encouragement.

1. We want to remind everybody to attend the CTS competition in Ina, IL April 29-30.
2. Camp pre-registration ends May 13.

Signed: Phillip Kennedy, Stephen Cantrell, Karel Smith
MSC to accept the Youth Committee report.

Oak Valley Church Report

Pastor Richard Brown reported that the Food Pantry is functioning well. They went to Brookstone Estates to share cookies and a message. They had an April 1 "Don't Be a Fool" service. There are two new babies and a fresh new wind in the Church.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The report from the Examining Committee was read and accepted as information.

1. The Examining Committee is researching the video ministerial study for new ministers.
2. New Cards of Good Standing are being printed and will be distributed at that time.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, David L. Burgess and John Hollis
MSC to accept the report of the Examining Committee.

Pleasant View Church Report

Susan Burgess reported Vacation Bible School was about the Himalayas. Kids made warm, soft blankets and distributed them to the needy, Disaster Relief, and Mark King. Their Christmas drama was "A Christmas Carol" and the young people and live sheep did an outstanding job. The first Sunday in February was memorable when the pastor collapsed in the pulpit. After five days in the hospital and several weekends of recovery, he is back to almost a full schedule after a rare case of food poisoning. Coming up May 7 will be their joint Mother/Daughter Banquet with Calvary Church. They have three seniors and two eighth graders graduating this year.

Business meeting was adjourned.

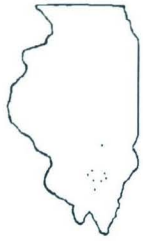
WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service opened by congregation singing "He Is So Precious To Me," led by Ernie Lewis. Bro. Jamie Lee spoke from Esther chapter 4. We can't forget who we are. He is encouraging us today. His father-in-law ran for state representative this Spring. He is a dedicated Christian businessman. As Esther was told, "Perhaps you have been put in this position for a time such as this." Heather, his daughter, told him. From Esther 4, it seems the king and Esther has been married five years. She was fearful to approach the king unsummoned. If we don't do our jobs as Christians, somebody else will tell the world the wrong message. Esther put everything on the line. "If I perish, I perish." John 15:16 says our joy is full because we have been appointed to bring forth fruit. Per II Corinthians 5:20 we are ambassadors. We can't forget our purpose. We must live intentionally for Jesus Christ. Jamie's father is a wonderful Christian, but Jamie is still his baby boy. Jamie explained his ministry in Champaign is to preach to others daily. We can't forget the power of Jesus. Ephesians 3:20 says that is the only way we can be purposeful.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer. Blessing on our lunch was by David Burgess. The next district meeting will be July 9 at the Oak Valley FWB Church, Geff.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burgess, Clerk

Susan Burgess



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MINUTES OF THE JULY 9, 2016 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Host Pastor Richard Brown welcomed attendees to the July meeting of the East Central District Association at Oak Valley FWB Church, Geff. Valerie Brown led the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace," with piano accompaniment by Marie Rutger. Bro. Richard's text was II Chronicles 34:1-2 "We Need Revival." Under King Josiah revival came to the nation because he followed his spiritual ancestor King David instead of other evil kings. Repentance depth determines the height of revival. Christianity is God shaping us in His image. Idolatry is man shaping God in man's image.

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator Richard Brown asked Clerk Susan Burgess to call the meeting to order to do business for our Lord. Then the standing delegates were recognized and seated. The clerk read the quarterly reports from seven churches. There was a motion and second and carried (MSC) to approve the reports and to seat the delegates.

The minutes of the April meeting were presented in typed form for everyone to keep. MSC to accept the minutes as printed. To fill in on the committees, the Moderator appointed the following: Youth Committee, Lawrence Pennington and Charles King; Examining Committee, Ernie Lewis for John Hollis, who is ill.

Illinois State

Promotional Secretary David Shores reported that several churches in Illinois need pastors. These churches include Alexander, Calvary, Oak Grove, and Hazel Dell where Larry Clyatt is interim.

Adult Camp Meeting will be August 7-10 at 6:30 p.m. Also, Hazel Dell is having men's steak supper Thursday, August 4. Jamie Lee will be speaking and the Peyton Sisters will sing.

Illinois Missions

Ernie Lewis gave the update on missions connected to the state. He handed out a brief description of each work and commented on some. In Marana Josh Bennett's father Tommy is very ill with cancer. There were five teens saved at their youth camp, and the Goodman's report the team is looking for a new location for the church. Brenda Carney in Japan is expecting baby due August 24. She is in the hospital with herniated disc.

Jamie Lee, newly appointed church planter to Champaign, sent a text message that he is traveling in Kentucky, Mississippi, Indiana, and Illinois. They have raised over \$2,000 in support. They live in the Benton parsonage. Pray for them as they move and travel.

Sarah Malone was home over the summer. The Penn's have had a Welch College student come to help meet new students. Craig Portell reports that someone from the United States is using Facebook to destroy their work in Mongolia. The Darren Portell's are in Taiwan. Macquire is on eTeam. Mark and Kristie Shores' son Josh and wife Kathy are expecting a baby July 13.

Camp Hope camping season showed great results and attendance. Junior Camp had six salvations and Primary, four. One young man was called to preach and one decision for salvation at Freshman/Sophomore Camp. There are two projects being undertaken: Remodel of the caretaker's home for approximately \$35,000 and a new addition to the women's dorm for \$50,000. Special offerings are requested in July and September.

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□ **Clerk: Susan Burgess**
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Illinois Master's Men and Women Active for Christ

Ernie Taylor gave details of the upcoming retreat September 15-17.

Women Active for Christ President Susan Burgess reported on the WNAC seminars and praise service with Kellie Penn at the National Convention in July. The IL Women's Retreat will be "My Country Home" September 23-24 at Camp Hope.

The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Kathy Hayes. The ending balance today was \$672.42. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

Business was recessed for Committees to meet. Prayer by Bro. David Shores.

Meeting was resumed. Delegates were called back into session.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The report from the Business Committee was read.

1. Recommend giving \$150 to Missionary Joel Teague.
2. Recommend giving \$100 to the Camp Hope project.

Signed: Lee Penn and Rodney Logue
MSC to adopt the report.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The report from the Youth Committee was read and accepted as information and encouragement.

1. We want to make everyone aware of a Youth Conference on October 7-8 at the Donnelson Fellowship, Nashville, TN. The speakers will be Josh McDowell and Sean McDowell. It is an apologetics conference.

Signed: Phillip Kennedy, Lawrence Pennington and Charles S. King
MSC to accept the Youth Committee report.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

1. The Examining Committee had no current business to discuss.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, David L. Burgess and Ernie Lewis
MSC to accept the report of the Examining Committee.

Blue Point Church Report

Pastor Ernie Lewis reported that Blue Point had a good Vacation Bible School in June. They have a SAWG (Serving and Worshiping God) teen group. They are anxious to host the district meeting with their new fellowship building, which is more accessible. Joel Teague will be speaking at their church July 9. They had the Davisons and Jamie Lee recently. The Wayne County Christian Teen Group is trying to start a group in Cisne.

Calvary Church Report

Deacon Tim Hayes reviewed the past year. Jamie Lee resigned in January to become a church planter in Champaign. In August they had a two-day VBS called "Back to School Extravaganza" where they gave away school supplies. In November the church members led the community in building a new house for a family whose house had burned in Salem. Calvary planned to pay any remainder of expenses after community donations. They ended up needing to pay only \$75. Two members teamed with another Salem church to work on a maintenance project at the Sun Valley Indian Christian School for Navaho Indians in Arizona. There are plans to remodel the dorms to open a high school this fall. They have had a variety of preachers to speak including Sam McVey, the Turnboughs, Mark King, Joel Teague, and eTeam members. For about the last 15 years they have had at least one and often two eTeam members from Calvary Church. He requested prayer for a pastor for Calvary.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service opened with prayer by Bro. Richard Brown. The congregation sang "Redeemed," and an offering was taken. Missionary to France Joel Teague spoke on "We Worship the God of Miracles." In France schools and media teach we have been liberated from religion and science has proven God is not real. The occult is common. The Teagues use "J'Pense" events to pose a variety of questions to interest young people in finding the truth:

Is it really crazy to believe there is a God?
 If there is a God, why do bad things happen?
 Can the Bible be relied on?
 Is religion a psychological crutch?
 How can we believe when there is so much violence done in the name of God?
 Is blind faith or rational atheism correct?
 Who is Jesus?
 How can we evaluate a religion?
 Do all religions lead to God?
 Do children automatically know there is a God to trust?

Bro. Joel uses the story of a missing shovel in a Japanese war camp. The guards threatened to execute all the prisoners if no one confessed to taking the shovel. One of the prisoners stepped up to be executed for taking the shovel so that all would not be shot. Later it was found that the shovel had been misplaced. This helps illustrate that Jesus was willing to die for all even though He was innocent.

MSC to adjourn the business meeting.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer. Blessing on our lunch was by Bro. Ernie Lewis. The next district meeting will be October 8 at the Pleasant View FWB Church, Walnut Hill.

Respectfully submitted,
 Susan Burgess, Clerk

Susan Burgess



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MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2016 MEETING

WELCOME AND DEVOTION

Host Pastor David Burgess welcomed attendees to the October meeting of the East Central District Association at Pleasant View FWB Church, Walnut Hill. Larry Maas led the congregation in singing "Heavenly Sunlight," with accompaniment by Paula Hayes. Bro. David's text was Esther 3:1-6. He explained that King Saul had not obeyed the Lord's command, which affected the events in the Book of Esther. Haman is an enemy even today of Jews and Christians. He also shared some insights into Navy Chaplaincy and prayed for our country.

BUSINESS SESSION

Moderator Richard Brown opened the meeting with prayer. He asked Assistant Clerk Paula Hayes to call the meeting to order to do business for our Lord. Then the standing delegates were recognized and seated. The clerk read the quarterly reports from seven churches. There was a motion and second and carried (MSC) to approve the reports and to seat the delegates. The minutes of the July meeting were presented in typed form for everyone to keep. MSC to accept the minutes as printed. The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Kathy Hayes. The ending balance today was \$743.42. MSC to accept the treasurer's report.

Illinois State

Promotional Secretary David Shores gave a sermon highlights from Bro. Brad Ryan speaking at the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Kansas City in July. Bro. David reported that Adult Camp Meeting will be in September in 2017 and Chaplain Kerry Steedley, US Army Retired, will be the speaker. Today several are attending a youth conference at Donelson Church in Nashville, TN, where Josh McDowell is speaking. Bro. David encouraged us to remember the needs of Camp Hope and that October is Pastor Appreciation month.

Illinois Missions

Ernie Lewis gave the update on missions connected to the state. He handed out a brief description of each work and commented on some. Reporting on Marana, AZ, Bro. Ernie related that Josh Bennett's father Tommy passed away with cancer soon after our last meeting.

Illinois Master's Men and Women Active for Christ

Ernie Taylor gave details of the retreat September 15-17 and noted there was a good speaker. Paula Hayes reported regarding the Women Active for Christ in Illinois since IL WAC President Susan Burgess was attending a WNAC national board meeting in Nashville, TN, this week. Paula shared about the Illinois Women's Retreat "My Country Home" September 23-24 at Camp Hope with speakers Kellie Penn and Heather Lee.

Tim Hayes reported that the Disaster Relief team had helped four families in Salem and three in Iuka. Bro. John Hollis shared news from sister churches in Florida helping those fleeing Hurricane Matthew now. Business was recessed for Committees to meet. Prayer by Bro. John Hollis.

Meeting was resumed. Delegates were called back into session.

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YOUTH COMMITTEE

The report from the Youth Committee was read and accepted as information and encouragement.

1. We would like to encourage our churches to participate in CTS.
2. We would ask for prayer on behalf of our youth at the Grounded Conference at the Donelson Fellowship Church in Nashville, TN.
3. Welch College will be at Ina Church on November 12 as a youth event.
4. We encourage our churches to send our high school students to the last Welcome Days at the Welch Campus on Richland Avenue, Nashville, TN on November 3, 4, 5.

Signed: Tyler Penn, Stephen Cantrell, Charles King. MSC to accept the Youth Committee report. Bro. Cantrell prayed for the youth.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The report from the Examining Committee was read.

1. We met. We had no current business.

Signed: Ernie Taylor, David Burgess, John Hollis. MSC to accept the report of the Examining Committee.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The report from the Business Committee was read.

1. All officers have consented to service again for 2017 with the exception of the Youth Committee. We are unsure about that committee.

Signed: Tim Hayes, Lee Penn, Rodney Logue. MSC to adopt the report and elect officers nominated. Brad DeCicco was returned to the Youth Committee, but will be replaced if he isn't able to fill the position.

Crossroads Church Report

Pastor John Hollis reported that he is recovering from two major surgeries but is back in the pulpit. Mike Altgilbers, Steve Futrell and Johnny Hollis have been filling in. The church had their Bear Hug Sunday in February, and Easter services with a cross hunt, communion and feet washing. For their 35th anniversary, the Wanda Mountain Boys Gospel music group sang. Bro. John and Vickie helped at Leadership Camp, and Payton Dandurand attended Junior High Camp. They participated in the Respect Life Chain. WAC is sponsoring a missions' cookout at the Altgilbers' home. A revival with Kelly Douglas is scheduled for October 16-20.

Decatur First Church Report

Pastor Stephen Cantrell praised God for how He has blessed the van ministry. They need a second van in reaching children for God. Decatur First held three VBS events at a park and block party. Some parents brought kids and stayed to hear. As a result, the church has been able to minister to several families. The church will miss their janitor Dean Faulk, who passed away at 83 years old. They have had one young person on eTeam and two in Truth and Peace service this year.

In further business, MSC to give \$200 to the Illini Initiative in honor of our speaker Tyler Penn. MSC to thank Pleasant View Church for the things they have done to host the meeting. It was commented that the church looked nice. MSC to adjourn the business meeting.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship service opened with prayer congregational singing. An offering was taken. Missionary with the Illini Initiative Tyler Penn spoke from Galatians 5:6. Bro. Tyler shared a slide show with glimpses of what is happening in their ministry. Daniel was a summer intern there helping to work with international students, the vast majority of whom have not heard anything about Jesus. Their family exhibits "faith working through love." Love and faith in Jesus, not works, is what matters. But faith is not passive; it results in working through love.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer. Blessing on our lunch was by Bro. David Burgess. The next district meeting will be January 14, 2017 at the Blue Point FWB Church, Cisne, IL.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Burgess, Clerk

Susan Burgess