

New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Volume 17, Issue 2, February 2011

Pastor's Letter

Elder Glenn Blanchard

There are a number of ways of judging a congregation's progress. In some denominations the pastors have to provide reports full of statistics and facts. The pastor's are held accountable for the progress of their congregation. I feel the same burden. Since I don't have a headquarters to send my report to, I'll give it to you.

We had some people join this year and some people leave. In other words, like any

living organism – we inhaled and exhaled. Some projects were started and are ongoing and some just flopped. So much for statistics.

Our real progress is measured in an increase in members that are reading their Bibles through in a year. Also the increase in the number of people in our two Bible Studies we hold each week. The fact that most of those who attend regularly know more about God this year than they did a year ago. And finally, lives have been changed for the better.

Salvation by grace is still being preached just as it comes from the Bible. Our doctrine and practice is the same as it has always been.

My ability as a pastor/preacher is still woefully lacking but I shall try and do better this year.

I close this report by giving the congregation an A+. My grade as pastor will be given by the Author and Finisher of our faith. ■



Camp Creek PBC in Lilburn, Ga. participated in Operation Shoebox for children in need. (Details page 5)

Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 771048
Winter Garden, FL 34777
407-656-7007
www.wintergardenpbc.com

Worship Service
Sunday 10:30am
Bible Study
Wednesday 7:30pm

Elder Glenn Blanchard
771 Bending Oak Trail
Winter Garden, FL 34787
407-905-5627
primitivebaptist@embarqmail.com

Tapes (subscription or address information):
tapes@wintergardenpbc.com



Florida Fellowship Meeting 2011

Dates: February 18-20, 2011

Place: Banquet Room of Best Western Hotel, **8797 20th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32966-6958** Phone: **772/567-8321** | Fax: **772/569-8558**

Hotel Dates: **February 18-20, 2011:** Best Western Vero Beach, see above

Rate: \$69 per night, when you call Best Western mention the Florida Fellowship Meeting to receive this room rate

Directions: Traveling on I-95: Take the SR 60/Vero Beach Exit, Best Western is just East of I-95 on the South side of SR 60.

Traveling on Turnpike: Take Yeehaw Junction/SR 60 Exit and travel East on SR 60 approx 30 miles to Vero Beach, after you travel under the I-95 overpass, Best Western will be on the South side of SR 60.

For more information on the Hotel and directions see their website: <http://www.bestwesternflorida.com/hotels/best-western-vero/>

Sunday morning services will be held at Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, 1210 Old Dixie Hwy, Vero Beach, Florida. Located on the corner of 12th Street and Old Dixie Hwy.

Schedule of Services:

Friday, February 18th: 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm - Lunch and Supper provided

Saturday, February 19th: 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm - Lunch and Supper provided

Sunday, February 20th: 10:00am at Antioch Church - Lunch provided

(Additional Hotel rooms available at \$79 rate: Holiday Inn Express, 9400 19TH LANE VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32966 UNITED STATES Hotel Front Desk: 1-772-5672500 Hotel Fax: 1-772-5674979, located on SR 60 just West of I-95, <http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/vero-beach/vrbnl/hoteldetail>)

Elder Chris Taylor (772) **201-1244** and (772) **567-4149**

Deacon Bud Carter (772) **226-7845**

Announcements

Grace PBC, Houston, TX

The Grace PBC in Houston, Texas will host their annual meeting, the second weekend in February, beginning on Friday night and continuing through Sunday.

The church is located at 3616 Hurley Street in Houston, Texas. For more information please contact Bro. Bobby Moseley (bmoseley2@comcast.net, or Elder Pat Young (youngjp62@verizon.net); or visit their website at: <http://www.gracepbc.org/>

Bethany PBC, San Antonio, Tx.

The Bethany PBC in San Antonio, Texas will host its annual meeting the 3rd Sunday weekend in February.

There will be services on Friday night, Saturday and the meeting will conclude on Sunday.

If you need additional information or wish for us to make lodging arrangements, please email us at ministry@bethanypbc.net or call Elder Mike Rodgers at 210-861-9215.

Ebenezer PBC, Sterrett, Al.

The Ebenezer PBC in Sterrett, Alabama will be hosting their annual meeting the fourth weekend in February.

They will entertain services on Saturday morning at 10:30 am, followed by lunch and then afternoon services. The meeting will conclude with regularly scheduled worship services on Sunday morning.

For more information, please visit the Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church website at <http://www.ebenezerpbc.org> or email their pastor, Elder John Yadamec at johnyadamec@hotmail.com.

The above announcements were copied from the Banner of Love

Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting

The 2011 Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting will be held, beginning on Monday night, April 4th and continuing through Thursday morning, April 7th. It will be held in the Grand Ball Room of the Smoky Mountain Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, TN. The Convention Center is



Winter Garden PBC wrapped and gave blankets to residents attending our church services at a local nursing home.

on the parkway at the South end of town. It is almost directly behind the Cracker Barrel. Rooms are available at the Ramada Inn next to the Convention Center. The motel and the Convention Center share the same parking lot; so the meeting place is easy to get to. The price of the rooms is \$45.00 per night. The reservations number is 1-800-523-3919. Be sure to tell them you are with the Primitive Baptist Meeting. For further information you may call Elder Harold Hunt at 1-865-982-3012.

Answers to This Month's Quiz

1. Christ, Lk. 2:11
2. Immanuel, Is. 7:14
3. Abba, Mk. 14-36
4. Nazirite, Jdg. 13:5
5. Daniel, Dan. 1:7
6. Sarah, Gn. 17:16
7. Mara, Ruth 1:20

In The Beginning Part 6

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” – Genesis 1:1

Why did God create the heaven and the earth? Why are we here and what is our purpose? In Revelation 4:11, John writes, “Thou are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” In one short statement, John not only declares the Lord as the creator of all things, but he also shares with us the purpose of His creative works: “for thy pleasure”. All of God’s creation was made for his pleasure. Therefore the purpose of our existence is plain: to please the Lord.

Naturally speaking, whether it is a spark plug for a car, a tool for a job, an instrument for a procedure, or a weapon for warfare, it has a designated purpose. When misused, it will probably become damaged and unprofitable for its intended use. Many times, we become damaged, discouraged, despondent, frustrated,

and lose the will to go on. May I suggest to you that much of the reason for these emotions is because we have forgotten our intended purpose? Much of our unhappiness is due to a self centered life as opposed to a Christ centered life. The most joyful moments of a believer’s life are those occasions they know they have pleased the Lord. And why is this? Because they are fulfilling their purpose in life!

It is good to remember that regardless of how old we may become, or what our station in life may be (consider John the aged on Patmos), our lives continue to have a purpose: to please God. All of God’s creation which surrounds us, the animals, trees, planets and stars, resound with the joyous opportunity of fulfilling their purpose in God’s creation until Christ returns. Lord, help us to know, understand and fulfill thy purpose in our lives.

Elder Neil Phelan, Jr.
Malvern, AR

Church News

Camp Creek PBC, Lilburn, Ga.

Dear Area Ministry and fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was deeply blessed and sincerely grateful for Bethany Church’s Defense of the Faith seminar. During the planning phase with Elder Harter, Elder Will Martin floated the idea that we could present these messages in an on-going series on [Sunday](#) nights. As a participant in that seminar I was deeply struck by the sincere questions and the challenges being faced by our young people. Additionally, the follow-up emails and questions which I have received have cemented the great need we have for continued instruction. The verse comes to mind which says: If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

Coupled with this need is the great desire that Elder Coy Thomas and I have for increased fellowship particularly for our young people.

As such, every third Sunday night of the month at 5:30 pm starting [February 20th](#), Camp

Creek Church will host a series which I call Foundations of the Faith. We will try to continue and complement the work which Elder Harter put together by covering some of the same issues but also handling the issues which make us as Primitive Baptists unique. I have spoken with him regarding this meeting and appreciated his blessing.

My prayer is that this evening service will be a blessing to Primitive Baptists in the Atlanta area by furthering our understanding of the “faith once delivered to the saints.” We will end our service with fellowship and a simple meal.

One of the greatest blessings at the seminar was the presence of area ministers to assist in handling questions. I will be calling on you all to help with this again. I hope you will prayerfully consider coming and that you will extend this heartfelt invitation to your congregations as well. All ages are desired and invited to attend these services!

In hope,
Brother John Melvin



**Camp Creek PBC/Nancy's Creek PBC
Lilburn, Ga./ Brookhaven, Ga.**

Camp Creek PBC and Nancy's Creek PBC joined forces once again to feed and clothe the needy in their community during the holiday season. They provide fresh food from their food bank as well as coats and other needed clothing. Photos above show the food and clothing bank. Pictured are ministers, Elder Royce Beal of Nancy's Creek, Elder Coy Thomas and Elder John Melvin of Camp Creek. Photo on right is the hot meal served on Thanksgiving. Many needs in the area are, hopefully, met through these efforts to minister and reflect the love of God.



Camp Creek PBC, Lilburn, Ga.

Beside shopping for presents and gifts for shoeboxes themselves, members at Camp Creek were blessed with the opportunity to work at one of the largest collection sites in the southeast for Samaritan's Purse's ministry "Operation Shoebox". It was a lot of fun and impressive to see thousands of shoeboxes full of presents and loving messages to children in other parts of the world. We helped sort through the gifts making sure nothing harmful was inside and package them in large cartons to be shipped over seas. These shoeboxes full of presents are donated by people from all over the U.S. and open the door for the ministry to share Jesus Christ and to give to so many children in need. *(photos on front page)*

Letters

Dear Elder Blanchard,

Please find enclosed a contribution to help defray the cost of sending us the New Hope Newsletter. We greatly enjoy reading it.

Robert Dean,
Ruskin, Florida

Dear Brethren,

Thank you for your continued support and your prayers for the evangelical effort of the churches in the Philippines and the work of mercy, Beauty for Ashes. We rejoice the building for the malnourished treatment center is complete and is paid for. Thank you!

On January 17th through the 29th, Betty Jo and I, with four ministers, Elders Darrel Chambers from Alabama, Don Farris from

Sister Janie and Jere Jones were kind enough to host Elder Blanchard during the recent Preacher's meeting in the Atlanta area. Your hospitality is appreciated.



Letters (con't)

Arkansas, Shannon Whipp from Tennessee, Steven Bloyd from Maryland and Donna Stevenson, a nurse from Tyler, Texas will be going to the Philippines to encourage and strengthen our churches and the ministry of Beauty for Ashes. We beg an interest in your prayers for both safety in travel and success in forwarding the work. Betty Jo and Donna upon arriving in Manila will proceed to Davao to work with the children and the new malnourished treatment clinic.

The ministers will have to split up to visit at least four major islands and preach at dozens of churches. The terrorist problem has improved from our last visit. The safety of Americans traveling is much better. We will travel in pairs

and hold meetings with both ministers gathering and entire congregations. Most of our time will be spent in Luzon, the northern island and home of Manila, and in Mindanao. These two islands contain 75% of our churches.

I look forward to renewing our fellowship with these good brethren. We will return with an update on the progress of the work and pictures which often speak volumes more than words. The Lord is gracious to me and my family. For eight years we traveled all over the Philippines and never knew we were in danger. Please continue to pray for our success and safe return.

Your servant in Christ,
Gus Harter

What's the Difference?

What's the difference between Baptist and Primitive Baptists? I suppose I have been asked that question 100+ times. The problem is, I'm still refining my answer. This article will address two responses which have not been successful and why I think they failed. The next four articles (which will appear in coming editions of this newsletter. Ed.) suggest approaches which have been much more successful (at least for me. DP).

First avoid describing our differences using "religious words," such as:

- Saved – because the concept of earthly deliverance is foreign to so many folks.
- Sovereign grace – every Baptist says they believe in sovereign grace.
- Predestination – most non-PB's have this word synonymous with absolutism and fatalism.
- Justification – this word is ambiguous in that we are justified by blood, faith, and works.
- Sanctification – we are set apart in so many ways and spiritual birth is only one of the ways

Do you understand how differences in definitions cause differences in doctrine? And most of the time, once the two of you have finally honed a definition, you've run out of time. I suggest you stick to simple, everyday words that need not to be defined.

Second, avoid our "We Do Not" list:

- We do not use instruments, praise bands, choirs or soloists; but worship God with our voices.
- We do not have Sunday Schools or organized activities, but worship as a corporate body.
- We do not have youth, seniors, women, men, or...groups, but worship as families.
- We do not have seminaries or youth pastors, but utilize apprenticeships with on-the-job training.

Nine times out of ten, stating things positively is much more effective than stating things negatively. I believe Primitive Baptists have the best story in the history of the world to tell. If we've got a person's interest for a few moments, why not share what God does instead of what we don't? Make sense?

Elder Dolph Painter
Athens, GA

A Well Planned Retirement

The London Times reported that outside England's Bristol Zoo there is a parking lot for 150 cars and 8 buses. For 25 years, its parking fees were managed by a very pleasant attendant. The fees were \$1.40 for cars and \$7 for busses. Then, one day, after 25 solid years of never missing a day of work, the attendant just didn't show up; so the Zoo Management called the City Council and asked it to send them another parking agent. The Council did some research and replied that the parking lot was the Zoo's own responsibility. The Zoo advised the council that the attendant was a City employee. The City Council responded that the lot attendant had never been on the City payroll. Meanwhile, sitting in his villa somewhere on the coast of Spain (or some other scenario) there is a man who'd apparently had a ticket machine installed completely on his own, and then had simply begun to show up every day, commencing to collect and keep the parking fees, estimated at about \$560 pre day – for 25 years. Assuming 7 days a week, this amounts to just over \$7 million dollars! And no one even knows his name.



Beauty for Ashes

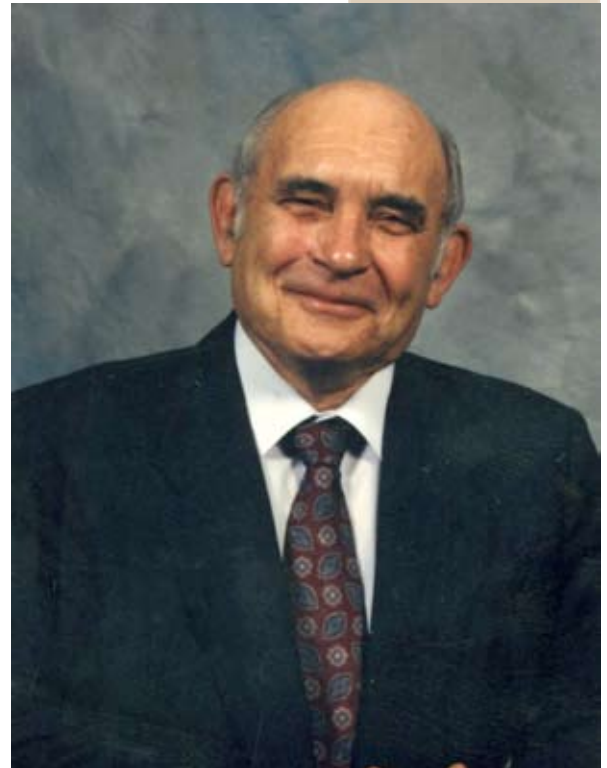
I recently received a detailed letter and a beautiful booklet from Sister Betty Jo Harter, wife of Elder Gus Harter. If you did not receive this mailing, you are really missing something. Please contact them at: Beauty for Ashes, PO Box 1301, Roswell, GA 30077-1301. Both of these writings are “keepers”. GB

Sister Pat Blanchard and Jackie Watkins stop to enjoy God's bounty in a cotton field on a recent trip to AL.

Elder Edward Mines

Elder Edward Mines, 80, of Rainsville, Alabama, passed away Monday, December 2, 2010. Elder Mines is survived by his son, Richard Mines, of Guntersville; sister, Carol Austin, of Manchester, TN; two grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. Elder Mines was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Mines; son, Kenneth Mines; grandson, Kenon Mines; father, Hershall Mines; and mother, Theresa Mines.

Elder Mines was a faithful servant to Rainsville Primitive Baptist Church and a gifted preacher. His clear method of presenting the scripture was a joy to a newcomer like me. May God bless his family. —Elder Glenn Blanchard (*photo on right*)



Contributions

Rita Renfroe
Robert Dean

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*Help us keep costs low! Let us know **before** you
move! Thanks!*

Please come visit us!

New Hope Newsletter

Kid's Corner

Words

1. What name for Jesus, meaning "Anointed One," did the angel of the Lord use when speaking to the shepherds?
2. What name for Jesus, meaning "God with us," was first used by Isaiah?
3. What name for God has been translated "Father"?
4. What word, which means "one separated," describes Samson?
5. What Old Testament prophet, whose name means "God is my judge," was also known as Belteshazzar??
6. What woman, whose name means "princess," was described by God as a mother of nations?
7. What name, which means "bitter," did Naomi request that she be called?