

New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Volume 18, Issue 7, July 2012

Foul Waters

By Elder Dolph Painter

God sent Elijah a trial early in his ministry. Elijah's trial was to be waited on. The reader may think if being waited on is a trial – then bring it on!

Well, Elijah's waiters weren't your run-of-the-mill waiters. His waiters were black and feathered. God commanded ravens to feed Elijah. Elijah did not get to pick his entrees, nor his portions. He was completely dependant upon birds for his day-to-day sustenance – I King 17:1-6.

When I think of ravens, I think of scavengers who eat what others have left behind. Yuck! I think of squabblers who fight over scraps, and of bullies who run off smaller birds. Nevertheless, ravens are what the Lord chose to sustain Elijah.

Picture Elijah sitting by a brook, the entire region suffering from food deprivation,

yet twice a day ravens show up with bread and meat. Imagine the bird's punctuality despite not having a clock. Imagine the bird's manners despite their nature. Imagine Elijah's conversation. Did he ask what tenderizer the chef used? How did the birds know he liked his meat medium rare? Did he thank his waiters or did he ask for seconds? I think it fair to say, Elijah was not in control.

If Elijah had any pride or self-reliance before this experience, they were gone afterwards. This trial was designed to teach Elijah God would sustain him on a daily basis. Jesus taught the same lesson in the Sermon on the Mount. He said, *“Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? Or, what shall we drink? Or, wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself– Matt 6:31-34.* This lesson made Elijah a better minister. I pray this lesson will make us better saints. ■

Elder Michael Gowens is joined by David Lawrence and Sarah and Bob Griffin from Little Union PBC at our Annual Meeting.

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

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Pastor's Letter

Elder Glenn Blanchard

I heard that fellowship is the glue that holds a church together. I don't know if it's true, but it's worth considering. Following are some of the events we have had recently and others that we have planned.

We started the summer off with a great Annual Meeting. Elder M. Gowens of Lexington, Kentucky was our invited speaker. He preached four messages and each one seemed to get better. Finally, on Sunday, Elder Gowens was greatly blessed and preached a very scholarly sermon. It was enjoyed by everyone, and the Spirit could be felt in our meeting house. You can experience these messages on www.wintergardenpbc.org, both in audio and video.

The young people really enjoyed the time together. Some of them spent the night in the church building and had breakfast there each morning. You don't need a youth director when the

young people enjoy each other's company and want to be together.

Chris and Melissa Morton, valuable members of our church, organized a surprise High School graduation party for Sister Hannah Chu last Saturday, May 27th. She is a very bright young sister and asks for your prayers as she starts college.

Brother Dick Lawrence always plans a beach picnic for us. This year ours is on Saturday, July 14th. And Sister Leanna Ulmer has worked hard to put together a campout for us in August. Then another three day meeting in the Fall.

When you add some of the local Primitive Baptist meetings coming up, you can see that we do enjoy being together. I'm sure most pastors would agree that constitutes a blessing.



Winter Garden's Annual Meeting



We appreciated the Elders who were in attendance at our Annual meeting (Above). (Above Rt) Sister Grace Marsh and daughter, Beth Scott joined us from Palm Bethel PBC and (Rt) Sister Dee Reynolds shares a moment with Elder Gowens.

Meeting Notices

4th Annual Coastal Georgia Fellowship, Zion PBC, Brunswick, GA

The time of the Fourth Annual Coastal Georgia Fellowship is quickly approaching and we are inviting all of you to come worship our Great God and His Son, Jesus Christ with us in spirit and in truth. The fellowship will be hosted by Zion Primitive Baptist Church in Brunswick, Georgia, the second weekend in July, 2012. Services will be held at the Methodist Church building next door to the Zion Church building on Old Jesup Road, Brunswick, Georgia, beginning at 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 6th. Services will continue in the same location on Saturday, July 7th at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served after morning services, and afternoon services will begin immediately after lunch. On Sunday, July 8th, services will return to the Zion Church building beginning at our normal time of 10:15 a.m., lunch will be served immediately following services.

Directions to the fellowship: If you are traveling north or south on I-95, take exit 36B. After you exit you will be on Highway 341 going towards Jesup, GA. Follow 341 approximately three miles until you pass the Tractor Store. Take the next road to the right at Tommy's Corner Store, onto Old Jesup Road and go approximately ¾'s of a mile and Zion Church will be the first church building on your right; the Methodist Church building is next door.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Elder Chris Folsom** at (912)674-5679 or by email at chirsfolsom@gmail.com.

Bethlehem PBC Annual Meeting

Bethlehem PBC of Oklahoma City has announced their 113th Annual Meeting of the First Primitive Baptist Association of Oklahoma on the second weekend in July (July 5-8, 2012). The meeting is located at 9010 S. Fairview Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73159. Phone number there is: 405-703-1728. Our former members Brother Bill & Judy Kemper and Sister Bianca Brown are now members there. Sister Judy's parents are members of the Oklahoma City Church.

Annual Meeting, Little Union PBC, Lithia, FL

Little Union's Annual July Meeting will be held July 12th - 15th, the meeting beginning at 7 PM on Thursday night. The meeting will continue with services at 7 PM on Friday night, and supper before at 5:45 PM. On Saturday the meeting will begin at 10 AM with lunch following, and then communion services at 7 PM on Saturday evening. The meeting will conclude with services at 10:30 AM on Sunday, with lunch following.

Elders Lonnie Mazingo, Jr., and David Crawford will be our guest ministers during this meeting.

We have homes available for visitors and welcome all to come and worship with us. For more information you can visit our website at www.littleunion.com, or contact the **Pastor, Elder Chris Crouse** at 813-634-4754.

2012 Little River Association Meeting

Boiling Springs will be hosting this year's Little River Association meeting and celebrating it's 175th anniversary. Hotel rooms have been reserved nearby for those needing lodging at Best Western 907 Holcombe Bridge Road, Roswell, GA 30075 770-552-5599 to get the negotiated rate of \$55 mention the "Little River Association." **Elder Danny Cagle** is Pastor, 404-444-6490 Church Address is 1200 Birmingham Road, Milton, GA.

August 16, Thursday 7:00 p.m. Evening services.

August 17, Friday 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast, 10:00 a.m. Morning Services, Lunch, Afternoon Services, 6:00 p.m. Supper, 7:00 p.m. Evening Services.

August 18, Saturday 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast, 10:00 a.m. Morning Services, Lunch, Afternoon Services.



We welcomed first time visitors, Amanda and Randolph.

Sister Zelma Trotter is joined by her daughter, Nancy Madigan



Enjoying a visit from Il. were Larry and Denise Thompson with granddaughter, Madeline (front) and friend, Marie.



Winter Garden PBC Beach Fellowship

Please join us for a day of fellowship at the beach on July 14, 2012 from 8:00am-6:00pm. We will be at Pavilion #1 at Spessard Holland Park South on Melbourne Beach. It should be a day of swimming, eating, playing and enjoying time together.

Elder Norvel Mann of Mt. Zion PBC in VA. was pleased to baptize Sister Darlene Crane, wife of Brother Mike Crane, who assisted with the baptism.

Church News

Ordination of Elder Ernie Bryson

On Saturday, May 6, 2012, Moriah Primitive Baptist Church set Brother Ernie Bryson aside for ordination to the ministry. The following elders made up the presbytery: Elders Dolph Painter, Eddie Whidby, Ken Still, Randle Cagle, Ken Smith, Dan Hall, Lloyd Blair and Gus Harter. Elder Bryson is to be the pastor at Moriah PBC, in Athens, Georgia, a position that became vacant when Elder Dolph became pastor at Mt. Olive PBC in Roanoke, Virginia.



New Members, Union PBC

Union Primitive Baptist Church was blessed to receive two new members this afternoon (5/21-12). At the close of our afternoon service, Brother Ron and Sister Sharon Crocker came forth asking for a home in the church. They were received with much joy. The Crockers have been visiting Union Church for awhile and we were hopeful that they would join. We already felt like they were a part of our Church family. Brother Ron has a good gift to speak and is very wise in the scriptures. We use him often in our preaching services. He is also an ordained deacon, and we will use him in that capacity as well at Union.

We are thankful to God for His many blessings. He has been rich in mercy and grace and many abundant blessings. Thank you, Lord, and blessings to you all. – By Elder Darrel Chambers, via Larry Jones –

Elder Jay Steve Harris April 27, 1938 - May 15, 2012

Elder Jay Steve Harris, 74, of Pulaski, VA, passed away Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at Highland Ridge Nursing and Rehab in Dublin. He worked in sales and was the former pastor of Pulaski Primitive Baptist Church from March 1975 until October 2007 when he stepped down due to health issues. Elder Harris was born in Floyd County, Virginia. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Reba Hatfield Harris; son, Craig Harris of Dublin; and brother and sister-in-law, Hugh D. and Linda Harris of Winston-Salem, NC. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Pulaski Primitive Baptist Church, c/o Bob Webb, 4092 Trebor Lane, Pulaski, VA 24301.

Contributions

Rita Renfroe

Answers to This Month's Quiz

1. Herodias, Mk. 6:14-29
2. Peter, Jn. 20:6
3. Samuel, I Sam 28:7-25
4. Esau, Gn. 25:25
5. Eunice, 2 Tim. 1:5
6. Stephen, Acts 7:54
7. Achan, Josh. 7
8. Abimelech, Jdg. 9
9. Jared, Gn. 5:20

The Testimony of A Christian Grandmother

Article #21 from Elder Neil M. Phelan, Jr.'s Book "The Daily Record" – The First Year in Retrospect-
Published 01/08/99

"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also"-2 Timothy 1:5

Some time ago, this true testimony was shared in a local church by a sixty year old man of faith: "When I was a small child an older lady in the community was concerned about the spiritual welfare of my brother and me. This kind lady would come to our house on Sunday mornings, wake us up, wash our faces, get us dressed and take us to church. My mother and father did not attend church. After a period of time, my mother began to get up and go with us. Finally, my father recognized the importance of family worship, and he, too, began to attend the Lord's house. Today, I have the special blessing of sitting in the Lord's house with my whole family. The older lady was my grandmother."

Timothy's grandmother was such a woman, a woman of faith. Other than being Timothy's grandmother and one of Timothy's spiritual tutors, this is all the Bible tells us about her. But what better epitaph could be written for any grandmother. We can be quite sure she wasn't a perfect woman, but from the few syllables the Bible tell us about her, this kind lady exerted a godly influence in the life of her daughter, Timothy's mother, as well as in the life of Timothy, that was worthy of notice. Here we find a powerful testimony: a godly Grandmother.

Paul observed Lois as the first source of the Christian faith in the family of Timothy: "which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois." Her age would suggest that she was among the first of the converted Jews. She recognized the Messiah when He made His advent into this world and became one of His first followers. Her Lord and the church were important to her. Paul describes her faith as "unfeigned."

The word "unfeigned" means "sincere", "without hypocrisy". Lois didn't profess religion and live contrary to her confession; she didn't talk about religion and the Bible, pointing to a dusty book on the coffee table; she lived the faith of the Bible. She must have been faithful in her attendance and exemplary in her walk in life. For Paul to call attention to this lady and for God to have recorded her faith in His word, she must have been a dynamic example to her family and other Christians.

I am persuaded there was more to Lois than example, for when the Bible speaks of this kind of faith it refers not only to the walk, but also to a faith which has knowledge of precepts and principles. Lois was knowledgeable of the scriptures. She knew the Bible and taught it to her daughter, Eunice, and her grandson, Timothy. Lois must have believed sound doctrinal principles and taught them to her family, doctrines that her grandson would someday preach; doctrines such as the sovereignty of God; the faith of the saints; the fear of God; the creation of the universe; and the creation of man. She must have handed down to her offspring an accurate knowledge of the Jehovah of Israel who parted the Red Sea and led Israel through a waste howling wilderness. For Timothy to have embraced the faith of the first Christians, she must have taught Timothy of the Lord's Christ, the fulfillment of prophecy; the promised Messiah, the Savior. Simple truths, we can be sure of, but truths that would leave an indelible impression upon the lives and hearts of her offspring. The Bible continually reminds us that Godly instruction from a loving parent and grandparent will leave a lasting mark upon a child that can never be achieved from any other source.

This testimony of Lois was so apparent that an apostle could point his finger to it and remind a young preacher, not of the apostle's example of faith, but of the grandmother's faith: "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance." As much as to say, "Timothy, remember your grandmother's faith." What strength Timothy must have drawn from this memory in his days of trials and temptations. What an impact Lois had upon Timothy's life, and long after Lois's death, Timothy could say the same thing about her testimony as we read of Abel's sacrifice, "She being dead yet speaketh." Lord, thank you for Christian grandmothers!

Report from South Africa and the Philippines

By Elder Darrell Chambers - Intro part 1

I was blessed with the wonderful privilege of visiting South Africa and the Philippines in one, 4 week trip in January and February of this year (2012). Elder Vernon Johnson and I met in South Africa to plant the seeds of doctrinal truths that we find in the word of God and that we hold dear to our hearts. Elder Johnson had been previously corresponding with Bro. MacMillan Phiri, and he had asked us to come teach a group of interested folks in South Africa. We were blessed to spend about a week in instruction and worship services with a lively group of folks. Attendees consisted of a mixed group of folks from various parts of Africa, America, Great Britain and France. Few were actually of South African ancestry. As was expected, some rejoiced in the truths we taught and others rejected it. There were those who left after one or two sessions and those who stayed through the entirety. We were invited and encouraged to return and to also visit other parts of Africa to share the same New Testament Doctrines of Grace that feed our very own souls. We were treated very hospitably by the Phiris and we both feel a desire to return and continue this important work by walking faithfully through the doors that God has opened and teaching His truths to the folks whose hearts He has opened. While in South Africa, I was also blessed to meet the family of my son-in-law and was very impressed with their hospitality and godliness. They are a great and loving family, and I am thankful that my daughter has a great "other" family to be a part of.

From South Africa, Elder Johnson traveled on to Zambia, and I traveled to the Philippine Islands (PI). I have made several trips to the Philippines in

the past, and I have many wonderful friends and brethren there. The first week in the PI was spent in the Visayas area, focusing on the Islands of Negros, Guimaras, and Panay. Elder Noli Hechanova, my long-time friend and a faithful minister accompanied me and made all the arrangements, except for the arrangements made by Elder Efren Delmo on Guimaras Island. Much was accomplished with outreach efforts to reach folks who were just learning the Doctrines of Grace. Also, work that was begun several years ago came to fruition in the constitution of 3 churches, the ordination of 3 ministers, and the baptism of a dozen new converts. Others are awaiting baptism from the area ministers. The outreach efforts, primarily conducted through ministers meetings and basic presentations of the Doctrines of Grace, were well received and much new interest was shown in the responses of many attendees. The ministers that were ordained were Elders Ronaldo Sabordo and Allen Alimpuangan on Negros Island, and Dan Delmo on Guimaras Island. In Ilo Ilo City (Panay Island), we visited and renewed old acquaintances with Elder Cabaobao and the congregation he has faithfully served for several years. I was able to see great progress in the growth of some of the church congregations and building improvements in the Visayas area islands. The zeal and faithfulness of these folks, in spite of persecutions and tribulation, is very evident and encouraging. The handful of faithful ministers in this area expressed great encouragement from our time together. I can assure the reader that I was probably the one most encouraged and blessed by them. Thank the Lord for this great opportunity.

From the Visayas area, I traveled to meet 3 other American preachers, Elders Jeff Winfrey, Shannon Whipp, and Dolph Painter. I greatly enjoyed my time with these 2 faithful brethren. We visited several areas and sometimes divided up to cover more areas. We visited the recently flood ravaged areas of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan City in the Northern part of Mindanao, and conducted several ministers meetings and services. These meetings were very lively and involved both new inquirers and faithful local ministers. We tried to encourage those who were recently affected by the natural disasters. From here, Elders Whipp and Painter traveled to Surigao, and Elder Winfrey and I traveled to Manila. We enjoyed good meetings and profitable instruction in Manila, and especially enjoyed the renewed fellowship of past acquaintances. One of the primary topics of these meetings, besides the Doctrines of Grace, was the subject of Eschatology (study of the end times and end-time prophecies). Elders Painter and Whipp rejoined us for a weekend of services

These are some of the members of the newly constituted church served by Elder Sabordo.



and meetings in the Manila area, where we divided up on Sunday and all attended multiple services at different churches. All reported good liberty, good attendance, good fellowship, and a good reception. We rejoined on Sunday Night for a time of fellowship with local ministers and their families.

From Manila, we traveled to Davao, in central Mindanao, and visited with the local ministry and several churches in this area. We also enjoyed a couple of days of visitation with the Children and staff of Beauty for Ashes. This is always a special treat, and we were glad to find the children all doing well and progressing in their studies and maturity. We saw the newly completed clinic, but regret that the funding hasn't yet been sufficient to open the doors for newly rescued children. So many lives have been saved by the efforts of those who rescued, nursed, and lovingly cared for these children over the years. Sister Betty Jo Harter was instrumental in founding this organization and she would dearly love to see the efforts continue for the benefit of the starving, diseased, and dying children. I know she would return and continue this work if she were physically able. Here we also visited a local hospital and saw the conditions from which Sister Betty Jo Harter had rescued several children. The sights were heartbreaking. We also visited a young man who had been blessed to miraculously recover from the effects of a fever of unknown origin that had left him paralyzed for several years. He is still recovering; but, can now walk and talk and carry on daily activities. He and members of his family are members of the Providence Primitive Baptist Church, on the same property as Beauty for Ashes. We were encouraged to see the close working

Our Graduates

We are pleased to announce the graduation of three of our young members. Sisters Charity Rees and Hannah Chu recently graduated high school. Brother John Dombrowski graduated from the Fire Academy and looks forward to making career plans. God has richly blessed us with these fine young people for which we are grateful. Join us in praying for all of our young ones as they seek after our Lord and prepare for the future. (Photo on right)



We enjoy frequent visitors and part of Sister Zelma Trotter's family, Margaret and Alan Wehner and Rita Renfroe.

relationship between Bro. Julius and Bro. Antonio, the co-pastors of some of the local churches, and co-workers at Beauty for Ashes. ■

It is our intent to bring you continuous segments of Elder Chambers' account of his travels in future newsletters.



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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

Who's Who

1. What wife of King Herod engineered the execution of John the Baptist?
2. Which disciple actually entered the empty tomb?
3. Whose spirit was brought up from the dead by the witch of Endor?
4. Who was born looking red?
5. What was the name of Timothy's mother?
6. Who was the first recorded Christian martyr?
7. Who stole treasure from the devastated city of Jericho - and paid for his sin with his life?
8. Who used a fable about the king of trees to prove he was supposed to be in charge?
9. Who has the second-longest recorded lifespan - 962 years?