

New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Volume 18, Issue 11, November 2012

Riches and Faith

By Elder Neil M. Phelan, Jr.

– Copied from “*The Daily Record*” *The First Year in Retrospect*

“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich” – 2 Cor. 8:9

The false prophet will tell us that faith and riches go hand in hand. If we have enough faith, we will have enough money. If we can't pay our bills, and live as we would like, it has nothing to do with our slothfulness, or our extravagant spending. It is just a

personal problem with our religion and our faith. And if we will send our money to him, he, as well as his ardent supporters, will pray for us, that we may have everything our heart desires. What a contrast we find in this mind-set as to that of Jesus who “though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor”.

The mind-set of the first Christians was not centered upon material things. Their hearts and their souls burned for the honor and glory of Christ. I don't find them all wealthy people, but I do find their faith intact. They did not serve Christ in order to become wealthy, nor did they expect Him to make them so. Surely, they did not believe that faith and wealth went hand in hand. Since He became poor for their sakes, their mind was of the same opinion. They descended to where He was. (*cont'd on pg. 3*)

Spending a weekend together at a local camp facility, provided Winter Garden's young and young at heart, a rousing time of paintball and ziplining.



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

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771 Bending Oak Trail
Winter Garden, FL 34787
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Pastor's Letter

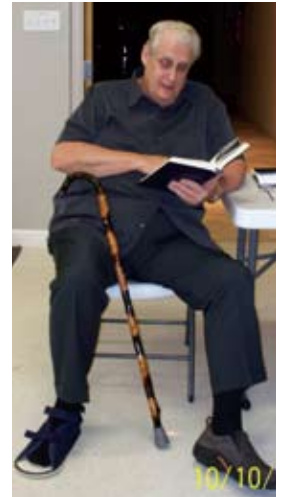
Elder Glenn Blanchard

This week, Pat and I were doing yard work at the church, and some of the young men in the church dropped by to lend a hand. In the process, we started fooling around and I broke a bone in my foot. I'll be hobbling around on a cane and having a boot on my foot for the next six weeks. Hours of profitable work and then 30 seconds of "horse-play" and I'll walk funny for weeks.

It made me think of my daily spiritual walk. It seems I can do well

for hours but just one foolish thought or action and my spiritual walk is also hindered.

I think I'll try and stop the "horse-play" both naturally and spiritually. I want my walk to be with the Lord and not hobbled by careless thoughts and actions. ■



Winter Garden's Wilderness Adventure



Almost an unlimited variety of activities were at our disposal at Winter Garden's camp weekend.

Some chose to relax while others joined in the swimming, volleyball, hayride, paintball and more. It was a beautiful weekend of Christian fellowship and we look forward to more in the future. Thanks to Sister Leanna Ulmer for the arrangements.

(Cont'd from front cover)

Consider Mary, the mother of Jesus. From the throne of God, the angel Gabriel hailed her as, “highly favored”, “blessed art thou among women” – Luke 1:28. But did the world observe her as such? She was falsely accused of fornication. She had her first baby in a barn. Her family gave the poorest of offerings to the church. She fled from city to city because the king sought to kill her Son. She was the wife of a poor carpenter. She witnessed the slander and murder of her Son upon a cross. She died in what we would call poverty, kept by her Son’s friend. You can be quite sure she would never have been invited to appear on “Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous”. But her religion and her faith were on target and her testimony is forever engraved in God’s word. According to God, she was “blessed”. Are these not the true riches?

Consider the apostle Paul. There was a day in which he would glory in the flesh. He gave his qualifications to glory in Philippians chapter 3. He was a wealthy Pharisee with a social position his peers would envy. He had power, money and a name. He had the uppermost seat in the synagogue. But when he met Jesus he changed his religion. “I count all things but loss for the Excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.” Philippians 3:8. Saul means “exalted one”. That was what he would be called among the

Pharisees. Paul means “little”. In his mind, that was the position among the Saints. He became poor for Christ. Was there a problem with this man’s faith?

We must remember that God calls His people from every walk in life: rich, poor, unknown and well known. From time to time, God has blessed his people with wealth. David was a wealthy man. So was his son, Solomon. And we read of others such as Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, and even Zacchaeus. But they did not serve God for wealth. Consider “Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.” But when the Lord came by that day he outstripped rich and poor and climbed into a tree to see Jesus. The Lord went home with Zacchaeus that day and I am sure he could have gone anywhere he wanted. But did you notice Zacchaeus’s heart? Did it not burn for Christ?

Mammon (riches) and faith. They do not always go hand in hand. Every wealthy person was not made so by God and every poor person was not called upon to suffer need. Wealth is not the yardstick that God uses to measure our faith. Nor should it be ours. We can not judge the book by its cover. We must look inside. It is the heart that God looks upon and it is His pleasure to look upon a heart that has been conformed to Christ, “that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich” – 2 Cor. 8:9. Lord, increase our faith that we would think more like Him!

Meeting Notices

2012 North Georgia Preacher's Meeting

November 6,7,8, 2012
Shoal Creek Primitive Baptist Church
174 Fields McGhee Drive
Canton, Georgia 30114
Elder Randall Cagle, Pastor
770-630-7150
TOOLS FOR LIVING

After much prayer and thoughts about this years preachers meeting I feel this will be the theme for this year’s meeting, TOOLS FOR LIVING. Paul says in Ephesians 4 that you are to walk worthy of the vocation you are called to. He tells us how also that we have been

given gifts and here’s the list, “ some apostles, and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some pastors and teachers;” for the growth and maturing of the saints, for the work of ministering, for the building up and equipping the body of Christ. That we all may be unified in the faith, and know the Son of God unto a mature person, and that we can measure up to that of Jesus Christ. We need to quit being like children and grow up, because as children we are carried away tossed around with all kinds of teachings. The evil ones are lying around ready to trap God’s people, and we as God’s ministry need to be aware and know how to train and equip God’s people in the church and all those

Brother Mitchell Ulmer introduced his beautiful guest, Holly Dodson.



we may have an opportunity to meet. The rest of the book of Ephesians is full of instruction to us in all this.

Please make plans and come to this years meeting. Services will begin Nov. 6 at 9:00am and end on Thursday Nov. 8 at noon. We will serve breakfast Tue., Wed., and Thursday. Lunch and supper on Tue., and Wed. will be served at the church.

Also during this time the minister's wives are planning their annual retreat. They have done this for the last three years, and it has been very encouraging to all that has attended. If

any minister's wives are interested please contact my wife Debra Cagle at 770-853-1156, and she will reserve you a place.

We have local hotel info available also. If you have any questions or comments please call me 770-630-7150. Please come praying God will be magnified.

Contributions

John and Verta Stone

Annual Meeting, Bethany PBC, Atlanta, GA

November 2-4, 2012
5101 Old Atlanta Road
Suwanee, GA 30024
770-939-1631

Elder Tim McCool and Elder Glenn Blanchard are the invited ministers.

November Meeting, Little Union PBC, Lithia, FL

Little Union Church, Lord willing, will host an Annual Meeting beginning on Thursday, November 8, 2012, at 7 PM. The meeting will continue with services on Friday, November 9th at 7 PM, with supper at 5:45 PM. Saturday morning services will begin at 10:30 AM with lunch to follow, then evening services at 7 PM, with supper at 5:45 PM. The meeting will conclude with services on Sunday morning at 10:30 AM, with lunch to follow.

Elder Joe Holder, pastor of Little Zion Church of Bellflower, CA and Elder Philip Conley, pastor of Cool Springs Church of Danville, GA will be our guest ministers during this meeting. We invite all to attend, and if you need lodging arrangements, directions or any other help, please contact the pastor, Elder Chris Crouse at 813-752-1345.

Florida Fellowship Meeting 2013

February 8, 9 & 10, 2013

Little Zion PBC is looking forward to hosting the annual Florida Fellowship Meeting in February 2013. We extend a heartfelt invitation to each one to attend this meeting and enjoy a time of worship and fellowship. Plan your vacation time to be with us on these dates.

On February 8 and 9, Friday and Saturday, services will be held at Ramada Gateway, Kissimmee, FL. 10:00am morning service, lunch to follow, 2:00pm afternoon service, fellowship and dinner, 7:00pm evening service.

Sunday service, Feb.10, will be held at Little Zion PBC in Davenport, FL, 3333 CR 547 North. 10:00am morning service with lunch to follow.

Lodging arrangements have been made at the Ramada Gateway, 7470 Hwy. 192 West, Kissimmee, FL. Rate: \$49.00/nt. Please make reservations through Kathy Ulmer at 321-231-6415 at least 30 days prior to ensure price and availability. Feel free to contact Elder Mark Nunley, 904-491-3441, with any questions or for more information.

Church News

Invitation to Moriah PBC, Colbert, GA

Hello Primitive Baptist Friends! Christian greetings from Moriah Church near Athens, GA.

Please send us your University of Georgia students! We are an easy drive for your young Bulldawgs – located just ten miles north of Athens off US Highway 29.

We worship (and serve lunch) each Sunday. Services begin at 10:30 A.M.

You can find directions, sermons, singing, and our Articles of Faith on our website: www.moriahpb.org.

Our pastor is Elder Ernie Bryson. Elder Bryson has a heart for the truth of God's Word, a heart for God's people, and a passion for sharing

the finished work of our risen savior, Jesus Christ. His preaching brings a fresh energy to the beauty of God's creation and to defending sheep against conformity with the world.

Since our congregation has college students away from us, we understand how important having a church home-away-from-home is to college students. We will strive to show them God's love while they are here. Please forward this message to your favorite college student!

My God receive all the glory He deserves is our prayer.

In Christian love,
Elder Ernie Bryson, Pastor
Erniebryson71@gmail.com
Cell phone 706-338-3536



Local visitor, Paul Sears, has joined us for worship recently.

Sing, Not Play

By Elder Dolph Painter

The following definitions were taken from the Oxford English Dictionary: 1) sing – to utter words with musical inflections; 2) song – vocal music; 3) play – to perform instrumental music; and 4) tune – succession of musical notes produced by an instrument or voice. Using these definitions consider the scripture below:

Col. 3:16 – *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.* Can a piano teach? Can an organ admonish? Does a guitar have grace or a heart? No, but a singing saint does.

Eph. 5:19 – *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.* Can a flute articulate a psalm or a hymn? Can a drum utter a spiritual song? Does a cymbal have a heart or utter to the Lord? No, but a singing saint can.

ICor. 14:15 – *I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with understanding also; I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with understanding also.* Does a musical instrument have or give understanding? No, but a singing saint does and can.

Heb. 2:12 – *Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.* Can a musical instrument declare the Lord's name? Can an instrument offer praise? No, but a singing saint can.

Primitive Baptists worship without musical instruments. Here are a few non-PB's who advocated a cappella worship. Aquinas (a Catholic) believed it, Luther (a Lutheran) practiced it, Calvin (a Reformist) employed it, Wesley (a Methodist) insisted on it, Spurgeon (a Baptist) demanded it, Girardeau (a Presbyterian) defended it, McGarvey (a Cambelite) taught it, and the Greek church continues to do it. How, why, and should have so many left a cappella worship? ■



Sister Jamie Engel (rt.) was accompanied by school friends, Sam, Jordan, and Alex.



We were pleased to welcome Miss Candy for Sunday worship.

Keeping up with the children and varied activities is father, Brother Luke Lawrence with Lorianne and Nathan.



Obituary of Elder Frank Blair

Elder Frank Blair, Jr., 83, of North Little Rock passed away Tuesday, August 28, 2012 at Baptist Health Medical Center of North Little Rock. He was born November 24, 1928 in Aberdeen, Mississippi to William Frank and Laura Blair, “Frank”, “Dad”, “Paw Paw”, “Mr. Blair”, “Brother Blair”, - these were all names to which he answered during his life.

To Ailene, his wife of 57 years, he was Frank, a devoted companion, truly for better or worse, in sickness and in health, ‘til death do us part. To his children, he was Dad, there whenever needed to provide love, support and guidance. To his grandchildren, he was Paw Paw, always happy to see them, ready with a smile or a game and never losing his joy at having them visit.

To countless students and teachers, he was Mr. Blair, elementary school principal. Over a 30-year career he established a reputation as being firm but fair, dependable and ready to listen and offer sound advice when asked. He was a teacher, not just of math, science or history, but of life.

To his brothers and sisters in Christ, he was Brother Blair, a faithful and humble servant. He was a lifelong member of the Primitive Baptist Church, serving as a Deacon and later as an Ordained Minister and Pastor. At the time of his death he still preached regularly, serving churches in Conway and Marvell.

To all of us that remain, he leaves behind a legacy of a good name, a legacy of love for his family, humble service to his God and commitment to his profession and community. He will be sorely missed, but as he would tell us with great conviction, he leaves to go home to be with his Savior. We are reminded of what is written in the book of Ecclesiastes, “A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one’s birth.”

He is survived by three children and their families - Keith Blair, Craig Blair, his wife Rita and their two sons, Braden and Paul; Jennifer Thornton, her husband, Joe, and their son Andrew and daughter, Sydnie; one sister, Nadine Cochran, and six brothers -Clyde Blair, David Blair, Joe Blair, Leroy Blair, Loyd Blair, and Wayne Blair. Visitation [was held] Friday, Aug. 31st; funeral services were Saturday, September 1st, Elder Charles Holmes presiding.

Report from Mexico

By Elder Darrell Chambers

On Tuesday, August 14, 2012, Elder Donnie Halbgewachs, his wife Sister Barbara, and I traveled from El Paso, TX to a Colonia just west of Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico. I had contacted Eld. Halbgewachs a few weeks earlier and notified him that I would be in the El Paso area on business.

He had arranged for me to travel with him and his wife to their former home (and the location of the church meeting house) for me to preach. I was under the impression that Eld. Halbgewachs was still regularly attending services here once per week. However, I learned that he was only meeting once a week with Bro. Jose Luna, who is a licensed minister that is currently leading the worship services here. Bro. Jose will likely be ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in the near future, and serves faithfully as a son in the ministry to Eld. Halbgewachs. Eld. and Sis. Halbgewachs had moved from their home in September, 2011 due to the dangerous conditions surrounding them. Due to safety concerns, they had also discontinued meeting with the congregation there who still calls him their pastor.

On the way to the church, the Halbgewachs informed me of much of the history of this church that was constituted about 6 years ago, and their experiences with several of her members. We took several safety precautions and passed by several scenes of obvious violence as we neared the church location. In fact, part of the driveway leading to the building was charred black

where a car was recently burned. We passed several little shops that had been thriving a few weeks earlier; but, were now closed due to the violence and criminal activities of the drug gangs. As we neared the church, we stopped near several of the members' homes as they reminisced about their beloved brethren.

It was very obvious to me that this was a time of great rejoicing for the Halbgewachs, as their emotions increased as we neared the church. When we arrived at their former home, they were warmly and anxiously greeted by Bro. Jose and his family out in the yard. When we entered the building, the large meeting room was already filled to near capacity with approximately 50-60 awaiting members and church attendees. Elder Halbgewachs went to each one and gave them all big hugs and spoke to each, inquiring of their well-being. The love that was shared between them all was very apparent.

The song service was lively and spiritual, with seemingly all participating (except me—as I could not understand the Spanish hymns). However, I did enjoy observing the zeal with which this congregation worshipped together in the song service. No one here spoke English, except for me and the Halbgewachs. So, Bro. Donnie served as my translator. He later told me this was his first time to serve as a translator, although he had spoken many times through a translator while he was in the PI. He said it was more difficult than it had previously seemed. The worshipers were very attentive and responsive with many smiles, eye contact, head nods, and amens. I guess that 60% of the congregation were under the age of 20 years old. When the preaching was finished, Bro. Jose had some closing remarks that brought many amens, the congregation was obviously spellbound by his remarks. He also opened and closed with prayer. After the services, a sister asked to speak. She was granted liberty and gave a testimony of 3-4 minutes in length, after which, she sang a song that one of her friends had written. We then enjoyed a time of fellowship and the Halbgewachs enjoyed visiting their loved ones. Eld. Halbgewachs and I then rode the bus that delivered the members to their respective homes and the riders all sang beautiful hymns as we returned them safely home.

We were blessed with safe travels and when we returned to El Paso after 10 PM, we stopped and ate supper and then went to the Halbgewach's and visited until after midnight. It was a wonderful evening in the service of our Great God!

I admire the zeal, dedication, and labors of the Halbgewach's as they have given their lives in the service of God and His precious children. May the Lord bless them as they enter a new chapter of ministry in the El Paso area. Please keep them and the congregation in Juarez in your prayers. Blessings, Darrell Chambers



Tackling the second longest zipline in FI in expert fashion is Brother John Dombrosky .

Letters

9-14-12

Enclosed is our check. We enjoy the format & content of your Newsletter.

Sincerely,
John & Verta Stone
Chattanooga Church

9-10-12

Elder Glenn Blanchard,
Hi! Enclosed is Dad's Funeral Obit Program (Frank Blair, Jr.). Dad was a faithful Primitive Baptist Deacon, minister, and member during his life. My mother, Sister Ailene

Blair was also a faithful Primitive Baptist member in her life. She died in March 2011. Please continue in prayer for our family. May God bless you! Please send me one of your church newspapers (Newsletters). Thanks. Sincerely, Keith H. Blair, North Little Rock, AR

Answers to This Month's Quiz

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mara, Rth. 1:20 | 5. evil, ISam.2:12 |
| 2. barley, Rth.1:22 | 6. coat, ISam. 2:19 |
| 3. gleanings, Rth. 2:2 | 7. four, ISam.3:8-10 |
| 4. Moabite, Rth. 4: 5-6 | 8. sleeping, ISam 3:2 |

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Please come visit us!

New Hope Newsletter

Kid's Corner

Ruth & Samuel

1. When Ruth and Naomi arrived in Bethlehem, Naomi changed her name to _____ ?
2. What grain was being harvested in Bethlehem when they arrived?
3. Ruth gathered up the leftover harvest in the fields, a process known as _____.
4. The next kinsman would not buy the property that had belonged to Naomi's sons and husband because Ruth was a _____.
5. The sons of Eli the priest were _____.
6. Each year, Hannah made Samuel a little _____.
7. How many times did the Lord call Samuel before Samuel answered the Lord, "Speak: for thy servant heareth"?
8. When Samuel was called by the Lord, Samuel was _____.