

# New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Volume 19, Issue 1, January/February 2013

## Special Meeting

**\*\*Notice\*\***

**2013 Florida  
Fellowship  
Meeting in Feb.**

**See page 2 for  
details.**

**Making good use  
of their time to  
bless others at  
Thanksgiving,  
some of the very  
young decorated  
bags to hold food  
donations for  
needy families in  
our area.**



## Candles

**-Article from Elder Neil M. Phelan, Jr.'s  
Book "The Daily Record", The First Year in  
Retrospect-**

*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" – Matthew 5:14-16.*

In His sermon on the mount, Jesus used one little word to describe what His disciples were to be. Simple were His words, yet profound was their meaning, so profound we could spend a lifetime meditating upon them. They were to be Candles. All his listeners knew what a candle was. It was a common household article in that day, a source of light in every home. When they descended the mount, they saw themselves in a totally different light. They saw themselves as Candles in a dark world.

Left to itself, a candle is a passive thing. Until it is chosen by the divine hand and set on fire by His Spirit, all it can do is occupy space.

But once it has been lit, it has a purpose suitable to its composition, to chase away the darkness and shed its light. Christ is the light of every candle. He is "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world" – John 1:9. It is He that burns ablaze in the hearts of His people. Just the mention of His name is like the glow of the candle: silent, yet majestic. As the candle sends forth its radiant beams, chasing away the darkness and warming the heart, so does the name of Jesus in a believer's ear.

One candle can set a million others ablaze. That was why he lit them. To diffuse the gospel; to reveal Christ to others; to shed forth the beams of His doctrine; to oppose the forces of darkness; to lead others to the "Father of lights." As they went forth from the flame of Christ, they would carry Him ablaze in their hearts. From candle to candle they would set others aglow with the testimony of Jesus Christ and Him crucified for their sins. Therefore, every candle is an evangelist. Their purpose was for glow and not show. A burning candle does not make a lot of noise, but its constant rays are powerful;

*(Cont'd on pg. 3)*

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Bible Study  
Wednesday 7:30pm

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# Pastor's Letter

Elder Glenn Blanchard

We have been sending the New Hope Newsletter for 18 years now. We do this as a service and have never charged a subscription fee for the publication even though a few have contributed, some a gracious amount. Recently, due to the downturn in the economy, we have received very little in the way of donations. We realize that times are difficult for many right now. We still do not wish to charge a subscription fee for the newsletter.



Therefore, we have decided to only send out the newsletter six times a year. We intend to publish only in odd numbered months. We'll

try this for awhile and see if it helps. We pray that this will not discourage anyone. We enjoy sending out the newsletter and will continue to do so as long as we can. ■



Many gathered in Winter Garden to give thanks for our abundant blessings and share a meal together. Among the guests were Brandon and Robin King (photo on right) and Robin's parents.



## 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/night. Please make reservations through Kathy Ulmer at 321-231-6415 at least 30days prior to ensure price and availability. Feel free to contact Elder Mark Nunley, 904-491-3441, with any questions or for more information.

*(Candles Cont'd from page 1)*

penetrating, effective.

By His divine hand of providence, God places His candles. Since every candle is different, consisting of various graces and gifts, He places them in the location they are most useful. In the early days of the church, the candles were moved from city to city by the winds of persecution. Rather than extinguishing the fire, those forces of darkness only fanned the flame as the message of the risen Lord traversed lands and seas. From the home to the work place, in the community and in the church, every candle has its own particular sphere of influence. Oh, how we need these candles to shine today in the dark world in which we live!

There are also found in His words a negative, a solemn warning to every candle. Don't put your light under a bushel. A bushel basket was just as common as the candle. It too, was found in every home. Certainly, they would not think of placing their candles under a bushel. But is it not the common, every day affairs of life that snuff out the radiant beams of Christ in our hearts? There is a bushel of indifference; the bushel of malice; the bushel of strife; the bushel of anger; the bushel of pride; the bushel of jealousy, the bushel of lust, the bushel of the work place; the bushel of the gossiping tongue

and the bushel of contentions. We must all search our own hearts for these bushels, for, in reality, every thing that we say and do is the light that projects from our hearts. Is He honored in it? Is His house respected for it?

Of course, the place for every candle is the candlestick, His church. Oh, how brightly His testimony shines forth when all of His candles come together in one place and shine in one accord. The removal of just one flame diminishes His light by a degree. Do you see how important your light is?

We can be certain that the Devil hates the light. Dark deeds are done in dark places. Street lamps are placed to hinder evildoers, so God places His lights in this world. If Christ has been revealed in your heart you are a candle. You now represent Him. You have been chosen, lit and placed to shine forth the radiant beams of Christ in your sphere of influence. "Let your light so shine before men."



**We were pleased to welcome Lewis and Wanda Johnson from Cookeville PBC in TN.**

## Meeting Notices

### **Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting, Pigeon Forge, TN**

The 2013 Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting will be held, beginning on Monday night, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and continue through Thursday morning April 4<sup>th</sup>. It will be held in the Grand Ball Room of the Smoky Mountain Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, TN. The Convention Center is 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 reservation's number is 1-800-523-3919. Be sure to tell them you are with the Primitive Baptist Meeting. If you need a first floor room you need to make your reservation before March 1<sup>st</sup>. For further information you may call Elder Harold Hunt at 865-982-3012.

### **Little Union PBC Annual Meeting, Lithia, FL**

Little Union's Annual January Meeting - January 17-20 with Elder Ronald Lawrence from Nashville, TN.

#### **Meeting Schedule:**

Thursday 7 PM, no supper; Friday 7 PM with supper at 5:45 PM; Saturday 10:30 AM, lunch to follow, supper at 5:45 PM and Communion at 7 PM. Sunday 10:30 AM with lunch to follow.

For directions, information or help please contact the pastor, Chris Crouse at 813-752-1345.



**Winter Garden's Brother Cory Howard enjoyed the company of his friend, Lisa Koller, from Indianapolis.**



Sister Melissa and Brother Chris Morton enjoyed a visit from Melissa's mom, Ann.

## An Ounce of Prevention

By Elder Dolph Painter

Paul wrote the Galatian, the Thessalonians, and the Corinthian Churches before writing the Philippian Church. The following can be found in the Philippian letter – To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous,

but for you it is safe – Php 3:1.

What was Paul warning them about? Why warn a church on the right track? The Philippian Church was doctrinally sound and the main purpose for writing the epistle was to thank the church for their charity.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the Thessalonians was written to fix a misunderstanding concerning the second coming of Jesus Christ. Paul charged the Thessalonians to continue in good works until Jesus returns. Paul issued the same charge to the Philippians in Chapter One – Php 1:6, 10.

The 1<sup>st</sup> letter to the Corinthians was written to the internal divisions, including variance over

preachers. Paul charged the Corinthians to love each other no matter who was preaching. Paul issued the same charge to the Philippians in Chapter Two – Php 2:2-5, 19-30.

The letter to the Galatians was written to fix some O.T. legalism which crept into the church. Paul charged the Galatians to put no stock in works. Paul issued the same charge to the Philippians in Chapter Three – Php 3:3-7.

An old saying goes, “Those who do not learn from history, are cursed to repeat it.” Well, Paul saw errors in other churches and he was warning the Philippians not to let these things happen to them. Peter wrote, This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; (in both) which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: that ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before... - 2 Pet 3:1-2.

Athletes, coaches repeat certain instruction for they speak with experience. Children, when dad shares the mistakes of his youth, pay attention. Saints, when preachers warn and remind you of things you know, they follow an apostolic pattern.

## Church News

Palm Bethel PBC, West Palm Beach, FL



On Sunday [November 25th](#) Angel L. Rivera and Vanessa Raffucci-Vazquez came and asked for a home at Palm Bethel PB Church. They were joyously welcomed home to the Church and were baptized by Elder Charles Dennis. Bro. Angel and Sis Vanessa are husband and wife. The difference in name has to do with them being from Puerto Rico and the custom there. They have 2 children; Angel E. Rivera and Tatiana Rivera.

They first started attending Palm Bethel in August of this year with Vanessa translating for Angel. Vanessa returned to Puerto Rico and Angel stayed here working for a company in Miami. Though he does not understand English as well as Vanessa, he was faithful in attendance at Palm Bethel driving up from Miami on [Sunday mornings](#).

Elder Dennis would take his sermon notes and run them through Google Translate and send them to Angel and Vanessa via email and they in turn could ask questions the same way. Other doctrinal information was shared with the couple using Google translate.



(Modern technology is allowing us to reach out with the message of Grace in new ways. We give thanks to God for the opportunity He has given us.)

They had been attending an independent Baptist Church in Puerto Rico for 20 years and had come to realize the message being taught was wrong and they sought out the truth and found it with the Primitive Baptists.

We are thankful to God for the addition of this couple to our church.

**Elder Charles Dennis, Pastor** ■

## Look Upon Zion

Elder Harold Hunt has a new booklet out called "Look Upon Zion". It is one of his best written booklets he has ever done and covers a subject that is slowly creeping into Christian churches across America. This is a must-read!

I do not have Elder Hunt's permission to offer the booklet (28 pages) but – here goes. His address is P. O. Box 5352, Maryville, TN 37802. I would suggest a donation of between \$5 and \$10 to cover the cost.

## What is Life?

To the preacher, life's a sermon,  
To the joker, life's a jest.  
To the miser, life is money,  
To the loafer, life is rest.

To the soldier, life's a battle,  
To the teacher, life's a school.  
Life's a great thing for the thinker,  
But a folly to the fool.

Life is just one long vacation,  
To the man who loves his work;  
But it's constant dodging duty,  
To the everlasting shirk.

To the faithful, earnest worker,  
Life's a story ever new;  
Life is usually what we make it-  
What, my friend, is life to you?

-Author Unknown

-Reprinted from "Words Fitly Spoken" by  
Sister Marlene Melvin-

## Journal of My Third Trip to Botswana

**By Elder Vernon Johnson**

A couple of men in Botswana whom I had conducted bible studies with on my previous trip in February of this year requested that I come again and provide more studies for their congregations and for them concerning the doctrines of grace and the beliefs of the Primitive Baptists. In response to this request Elder Mike Ivey and I began our journey to Botswana on 21 October 2012. We departed DFW airport after saying goodbye to our wives at 4:05 P.M. and flew Lufthansa Airlines to Frankfurt, Germany. This flight was about 10 hours and when we arrived in Frankfurt, both Elder Ivey and I were exhausted. We had a 13 hour layover so we located a hotel at the airport and checked in and slept for a period of time before our next flight that took us to Johannesburg, South Africa. The flight to Johannesburg was also about 10 hours in length. We arrived at Johannesburg at about 8:45 A.M. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October.

We were scheduled to be met by a Bro. Macmillan Phiri of South Africa who was to accompany us to Botswana. However, he had an emergency hindrance that kept him from coming so we proceeded to Botswana without him. The flight to Botswana depart around 2:00 P.M. and we arrived in Francistown, Botswana around 3:00 P.M. We were met at the airport by Bro. Jeff Chabala who carried us to a bank where we exchanged our U.S. dollars for Botswanan Pula's. Next, we proceeded to our lodging at Towne Lodge in Francistown. The lodging was more than adequate as it was comparable to a good Motel 6 in the US.

The next day we began our studies with the leaders in the morning and with the members of the congregations in the evening. In our studies with the members of the congregation we taught them the doctrines of grace. Studies with the leaders in the morning centered on several issues concerning the practices of the Primitive Baptists as taught in the scriptures. The studies with the members of the congregations were very well received with much rejoicing by those who attended. The numbers of people who

**Frequent visitors,  
Ryan and Joy  
Huff, are a  
delightful couple.  
Ryan works with  
Brother Jose  
Carerra.**



**We were surprised and overjoyed with a visit from the Pitney Family from Knoxville, TN. Below are David and Tyler.**



attended varied from a high of about 100 on the first session to a low of about 20 people. Throughout these evening sessions there seemed to be an understanding among the members of the attendees about the doctrines of grace and, moreover, much rejoicing by those who attended. The studies among the leaders were received with mixed reactions. One brother, Chibwe Katebe, who was pastor of a large congregation, seemed resistant to the teaching on singing in the church without using musical instruments. Even though he acknowledged that the use of musical instruments was not scriptural, yet he seemed insistent on what he called “a balance.” The other brother who led a very small congregation, upon understanding the fact that musical instruments were not authorized by the New Testament, was willing to put away musical instruments and told us privately that he wanted to become a Primitive Baptist. This brother is Jeff Chabala, the brother whom I first got acquainted with in Botswana.

On Monday night of our final week in Botswana we had a study with the members of the congregations and taught them about the subject of Justification. This was well received by the congregation of about 30 people present amidst great rejoicing. At the close of the study and almost spontaneously many of the people began to request that we extend our stay in Botswana. Bro. Katebe joined in and said that we should stay another month. At this point in time it was apparent that he was greatly rejoicing in the doctrines of grace.

What happened next, reminded me of the parable of the sower that the Lord taught the disciples. As you recall, the seed that fell on stony ground was initially received with joy. Then, when tribulation or persecution arose because of the word, they were offended, because they had no root in themselves. By the next morning, Bro. Katebe, had gone from great rejoicing concerning the doctrines of grace, to inviting us to leave as he no longer wanted to be associated with the Primitive Baptist. It was very apparent that he was offended by the scriptural practices of the Primitive Baptist and the fact that he was not willing to give up the musical instruments, women preachers, and so-called charismatic gifts of the Pentecostal beliefs. He was not willing to pay a price to be a disciple of Christ. A few days after we had left, Bro. Katebe told Bro. Jeff Chabala that he no longer wanted to associate with him so long as he was associated with the Primitive Baptists. Bro. Jeff continues to express his strong beliefs that the Primitive Baptists are the true church and that he wants to be associated with the Primitive Baptists.

With Bro. Jeff’s help Elder Ivey and I changed our flight schedule, called Bro. Macmillan in Pretoria, and arranged to fly out a day early so that we could spend a day with Bro. Macmillan and his family in Pretoria before we began our trip back to the United States.

Bro. Macmillan had shown a great understanding in the doctrines of grace when I had visited South Africa in February of this year. He is a very humble man who has a great desire to read, hear, and learn the word of God. He has a servant’s heart and a great love for the Lord. He is currently the main teacher at a bible college (so-called) just a few miles from Pretoria. He has about 6-8 students that he is teaching in the scriptures. He lives on the compound and has his lodging provided there. However, he receives no salary. When Elder Daryl Chambers and I visited in February, I asked him to read and study the section of the bible study notebook that I had written on the practices and structure of the New Testament church. After Elder Ivey and I had arrived at his home, I asked Bro. Macmillan if he had read that section of the notebook and he said that he had. I then asked him what he thought and he responded that he believed that it

was in complete harmony with the scriptures. I then asked him if he recognized that those teaching were different from many of the practices and teachings of the Pentecostals whom he had been previously associated with. He told me that he was aware of that. I then asked him to pray about converting to the Primitive Baptists as our beliefs and practices are in line with what he believes and those of the Pentecostals are not. He said that he would pray about it.

The next morning we arose to a beautiful day in South Africa, which is indeed a beautiful country and a very modern country. After having a cup of tea, Bro. Macmillan asked me to step outside and talk with him as he had some questions for me. He asked me how that Primitive Baptist’s elders teach others and stated that he had a passion to teach the word of God. I explained to him that rather than having a bible college, we went as we were led by

the Spirit of God and taught wherever the Lord opened to us a door of utterance. We use bible studies, in some ways similar to what he was doing at the bible college, but we do not use the bible college structure, but we teach in the homes and in the churches and the bible is our textbook. After I had answered his questions concerning the issue of teaching, he announced to me that he was ready to become a Primitive Baptist.

About an hour later, Bro. Macmillan's wife, Angela, asked what we had talked about. I told her that she should talk to her husband as it was his place to tell her. She said that she already had and that she was accepting of it. I could tell that she was concerned as to what it would mean to her family. I assured her that the Lord would provide. She seemed satisfied.

I ask your prayers on behalf of Bro. Macmillan and his family as they will be giving up everything to become Primitive Baptists.

Elder Ivey and I were convinced at the end of the trip that it had been successful as one door closed, then God opened another door that appears to be more far-reaching than the door that closed.

**Elder Vernon Johnson**



**It was a special day for all of us at Winter Garden to spend a Sunday with Sister Inella Morrow. She is unable to attend very often anymore.**

## Emergency Bible Numbers

The Bible has the answers to everything.

When in sorrow, call John 14.

When men fail you, call Psalm 27.

If you want to be fruitful, call John 15.

When you have sinned, call Psalm 51.

When you worry, call Matthew 6:19-34.

When you are in danger, call Psalm 91.

When God seems far away, call Psalm 139.

When your faith needs stirring, call Hebrews 11.

When you are lonely and fearful, call Psalm 23.

When you grow bitter and critical, call 1 Cor. 13.

For Paul's secret to happiness, call Col.3:12-17.

For idea of Christianity, call 11 Cor. 5:15-19.

When you feel down and out, call Romans 8:31.

When you want peace and rest, call Matt.11:25-30.

When the world seems bigger than God, call Psalm 90.

When you leave home for labor or travel, call Psalm 121.

Your prayers growth narrow and selfish, call Psalm 67.

For a great invention/opportunity, call Isaiah 55.

When you want courage for a task, call Joshua 1.

How to get along with fellow men, call Romans 12.

When you think of investments/returns, call [Mark 10](#).

If you are depressed, call Psalm 27.

If your pocketbook is empty, call Psalm 37.

If you're losing confidence in people, call 1 Cor. 13.

If people seem unkind, call John 15.

If discouraged about your work, call Psalm 126.

If you find the world growing small and yourself great, call Psalm 19.



**First time visitors, Rick and Eva Gamble with baby, Julianne, were a delightful family. They are from the Toledo, OH area.**

### Answers to This Month's Quiz

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. armor, I Sam. 16:21     | 5. five, I Sam 17:40      |
| 2. Bethlehem, I Sam. 17:15 | 6. brother, I Kng. 1:5    |
| 3. forty, I Sam. 17:316    | 7. king, I Kng. 1:5       |
| 4. food, I Sam. 17:17-18   | 8. Bathsheba, I Kng. 1:11 |

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move! Thanks!*

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*New Hope Newsletter*

# Kid's Corner

## Kings

1. In Saul's court, David loved Saul and became his \_\_\_\_\_ bearer.
2. While his brothers were in battle, young David fed his father's sheep in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. How many days did Goliath taunt the Israelites?
4. David's father sent him to visit the army to take them \_\_\_\_\_.
5. How many smooth stones did David select for his slingshot?
6. Adonijah was Solomon's half \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Adonijah declared that he would be the next \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Who was Solomon's mother?