

# New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

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The above photo is most of the many ministers attending the Florida Fellowship Meeting in MacClenney FL.

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

## What is the Candlestick?

By Elder Dolph Painter

The command to shine was given on three occasions. The command was first given to those listening to the Sermon on the Mount – Matthew 5:15. The second audience was Jesus’ disciples, shortly after He interpreted the Sowing Parable – Mark 4:21. The third audience was the Philippian church – Philippians 2:15. This command was given to saints, preachers, and churches.

The command, as given in Mathew and Mark, is two fold. The first half of this command was given in the form of a “do not.” Do not hide, cover, or obscurely position your light. Notice, this portion of the command can be observed with passiveness. Avoid the negative and one has obeyed.

The second half of the command was given in the form of a “do.” Place your light on a candlestick. Elevate your light so as to illuminate others. This portion of the command is observed with action. Passiveness does not work here. We have heard many sermons about our lights (good works), but what is our candlestick?

Our church has run articles in our county paper, but I don’t think a newspaper is the candlestick Jesus was speaking about. Our church has a newsletter, a web site, and signs on the roads near our meeting house, but I don’t think they are the candlesticks which Jesus spoke of. So what is the candlestick?

I believe our candlesticks are our lives: our marriages, our families, our children, our reputations, our work ethic, our word. People will not give heed to our faith if our lives are a mess. Why should they? Faith and good works are placed atop the candlesticks we have set in the midst of our communities. Our lights ought to illuminate those inside and outside of the church.

Yes, our candlestick must be set in the community, but they must be functional and effective. May the Lord help us mend, balance, dust, and polish our candlesticks – that God may be glorified.

# Pastor's Letter

**Elder Glenn Blanchard**

We are always pleased at Winter Garden Church to see a first-time visitor come through the doors. God has blessed us many times over to be able to welcome someone from the community for the first time. This has caused us to start looking at the way a visitor might experience our church for the first time. Is everything well marked, are we prepared to get their contact information, how friendly and welcoming are we and will they feel comfortable? Will they feel like they have been to a worship service and have we done everything we could to present what we believe in spirit and in truth.

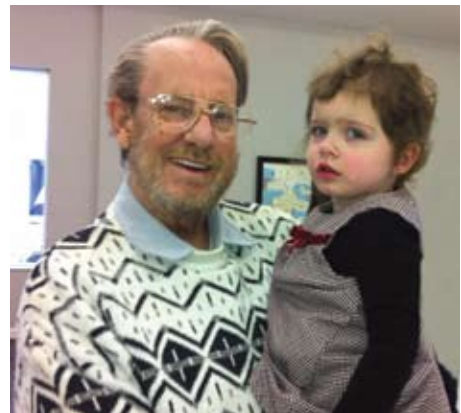


You see, I feel that when God sends us someone, just because He wants to, we should value the trust that God has placed in us. Perhaps we should all look at our Sunday morning service as if we were there for the first time. Because we have done that, we have made some changes. I hope you will come and visit us some time as let us know how we are doing. ■

## WGPBC Happenings



We are blessed with a large group of exceptional young adults who take time mentoring the younger ones. Photo above shows Michael Constantino assisting in the making of gifts for some of the older folks at church. Pictures at right are various young ones we have with us from time to time. Brother Muzzy enjoys his granddaughter, Emylee as (below) Aunt Jackie Watkins gathers a group of her nieces and nephews.



# The Goodness of the Lord

By Elder Sonny Phelan

*“I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living” -Psalm 27:13*

Faintness of heart is a common infirmity. He who slew Goliath was subject to its attack. It is that time in which we are ready to give up. Everywhere we look, we see evil and fear had gripped our hearts. The straw that broke the Camel’s back is added to our affliction and we are inclined to say, “Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!” –Psalm 120:5. Let us be honest. We all walk through the dark valley and have depressed spirits from time to time. This is nothing to be ashamed of. But let us not dwell there. Let us rise once again with renewed freshness, with hope in our hearts, believing that we shall “see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” This was David’s hope. Let it be ours.

God’s goodness has always been a strength to His own. With a view of His goodness, Moses received strength to go on. Described as “the friend of God”, Moses first knew God as the great “I am”, the self sustaining, self existing, everlasting God who has no beginning or end. He witnessed God’s power in their deliverance from Pharaoh as well as God’s wrath in their disobedience. But that was not the end of his experience. Let it not be ours. For the journey before him, Moses must see God in more intimate terms. He must see God’s glory: He must see God’s “goodness”.

The only way that sinful man may gain a glimpse of this goodness is through Christ. In a figure, that is how God revealed His glory. When Moses asked the Lord to “shew me thy glory”, the Lord told Moses, “I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee...Behold there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by.” Has He revealed His goodness to you?

In another psalm, we are reminded that “the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.” Yes, in the midst of the tragedies, the heartaches, the sufferings, the earth remains to be “Full of the goodness of the Lord”. The showers from above sustain us; the earth brings forth the bountiful harvest for our food. Even the air we breathe is a product of his grace. Must we go on? But why do we hear so little about it? Because man is not inclined to publish “the goodness of the Lord.” The headlines are full of evil tidings and events. Surely, this is an evil in our day and is designed to turn our eye away from “the goodness of the Lord.” Since we are told, “it is a shame even to speak of those things (works of darkness) which are done of them in secret” (Ephesians 5:12) we see the ultimate publisher of evil tidings. Oh, that the headlines would read, “NOTE TODAY, THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD”!

Since man is not naturally inclined to see, or acknowledge, “the goodness of the Lord”, His goodness is most commonly veiled in terms of “lucky” and “good break”. This is a mark of our depravity. Credit should be given where it is due. Let us join our



**Brother Richard Blanchard and his family, David, Bill, Hope, and wife, Laura, joined us around Christmastime.**

**We have been pleased to welcome frequent visitors, Anita and David Narine.**



(cont'd on page 4)



Karen and Jeong Park's family has grown with Joshua and the latest addition, Ashley.

Rachael Roberts (on right) brought fellow students from Holland, Adrienne and Annemarie.



*(The Goodness of the Lord Cont'd from page 3)*

voices with the psalmist and say, "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" – Psalm 107. Without an eye to His goodness, man will naturally be inclined to misjudge God and the events which surround him. If they can, the wicked will hide His goodness from the eyes of His children. They will present Him in rough terms. Thus, the heart will become discouraged: we will faint in this wilderness. Fainting Christians are easily captured! Therefore, those who truly know Him must look for His goodness and acknowledge him as good.

Though there are evil workers in every society, God will outlive them for "the goodness of God endureth continually." – Psalm 52:1. An eye to His goodness will make the rough places smooth and the crooked straight. A blindness to His goodness causes us to groan: our faith is dead; our hope is stagnant; the future looks doubtful; and the present is disturbing. If He never did another good thing for us in this life should we not continue to boast in "the goodness of the Lord"! "Come thou fount of every blessing teach my hear to sing thy praise."

## Meeting Notices

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

Annual July Meeting – 7/17/2014 – 7/20/2014  
 Invited Ministers: **Elders Joe Holder, Mike Roberts and J.C. Staland**  
 Thursday – 7 PM Worship  
 Friday – 7 PM Worship, 5:45 PM Fish Fry  
 Saturday – 10 AM Worship, lunch, 5:45 PM Supper, Communion at 7 PM  
 Sunday – 10:30 AM Worship, lunch  
 Please make plans to join us in worship.

### Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting, Palm Chapel PBC, Crestview, FL

We would like to invite you to join us at Palm Chapel Church in Crestview, Florida for the annual gathering of the Gulf Coast Fellowship. The meeting schedule is as follows:

Thursday March 27th at 7:00 pm (Palm Chapel Church 201 Cadle Dr 32536)  
 Friday and Saturday services will be held at Crestview Community Center 1446 Commerce Dr. Crestview, FL 32539  
 Friday March 28th at 10:00, 1:30, 7:00  
 Saturday March 29th 10:00, 1:30  
 Sunday March 30th 10:30

The following meals will be provided: Friday lunch and dinner Saturday lunch and Sunday lunch.

Hotel accommodations have been made at the Quality Inn in Crestview for \$62.00 per night.

This meeting may fall on or around spring break for many and we are convenient to Destin and Fort Walton Beach for those of you who may be planning a vacation at this time. Palm Chapel will also have service Wednesday evening at 6:30 for those who arrive early. For more information please note our Facebook page Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting 2014 or contact us at palmchapel@centurylink.net or by phone at 904-738-2485.

God bless you all, **Elder Silas Ford**

## 2014 Nebraska Fellowship Meeting, Mt. Zion PBC, Cozad, NE

The 2014 Nebraska Fellowship Meeting will be held at Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church in Cozad, Nebraska June 5, 6, 7, & 8. Schedule of services will be as follows:

Thursday at 7:30 PM: Singing & Prayer

Friday at 10:00 AM; 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM

Saturday at 10:00 AM; 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM

Sunday at 10:00 AM

[Lunch will be served Friday, Saturday and Sunday following morning services; Supper will be served Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 6:00 PM prior to evening services.]

Contact Info:

**Elder Thomas E. Bond**

P. O. Box 303

Cozad, NE 69130

308-784-5518 Home

308-325-3957 Cell

thomasbond13@yahoo.com

308-784-2441 Church

Deacon Howard Halbgewachs

75851 Road 419

Cozad, NE 69130

308-784-4320 Home

308-325-3302 Cell

Our desire is to accommodate as many of our guests in our homes as we can. There are two motels in Cozad. The two motels in Cozad offer a discount for the Fellowship meeting. Please be sure and ask for the discount when you make your reservation. Also, more motels are located in nearby Lexington and Gothenburg.

Rodeway Inn

809 S. Meridian

Cozad, NE

308-784-4900

www.rodewayinn.com

Americas Best Value Inn

440 S. Meridian

Cozad, NE

308-784-2290 or 308-784-2297

We also have some camper hook-ups available at the church.



## Coastal Georgia Fellowship Meeting, Zion PBC, Brunswick, GA

The Coastal Georgia Fellowship meeting will be held at Zion Primitive Baptist Church in Brunswick, Ga. on July 11, 12, 13, 2014.

The church is located at

2195 Old Jesup Road

Brunswick, GA 31548

**Elder Chris Folsom**, pastor - 912-674-5679 cell

Brother Raymond Phillips, deacon - 912-242-7620 cell

Brother Art Suber, deacon - 912-674-3163 cell

July 11 - Friday night 7:00

July 12 - Saturday - 7:00-9:00 am Breakfast served at Church building

July 12 - Saturday - 10:00 am Morning Worship Service begins

July 12 - Saturday - 12 noon'ish Dinner on the Grounds

July 12 - Saturday - 1:30 pm Afternoon Service begins (No night service)

July 13 - Sunday - 10:00 am Morning Worship Service begins

July 13 - Sunday - 12 noon'ish Dinner of the Grounds

Make plans to come and be with us. Please be in prayer for this meeting.

**Brother Chris Folsom**

**Brother EW McDonald was in the company of his son, Jim, at recent meetings.**

Brother Gary Ortega was pleased to share lunch with his daughter, Felicia.



## Letters

Dear Precious Brother,

I am sending a little donation to help on publishing the New Hope Newsletter. Hope you are doing good in that area. If you aren't please tell us in your newsletter. I enjoy it very much.

Elder Gary Harvey is my pastor now. Oh, what a blessing and gift the Lord gave us! Brother Gary does a good job and he is so humble, knowledgeable and cares about the flock. He has delivered great messages that we can learn, mediate on and use in our daily lives.

May God richly bless you in your service to Him and your family and church family.

In Christian Love,  
Sister Reba Marsh  
Atkins, Arkansas

Dear Brother,

I have been listening to some of your sermons online through I-Tunes and I want to thank you for your hard work, your dedication, your study, and most of all your humility within the church. I am very moved by the Holy Spirit through your sermons and you never fail to reflect the glory God shines through you...back to Him. I believe you have a good work and it strengthens me to know that there are men dedicated to His calling and seek to do good in the world (knowing that all the good of man is from Him and by Him). I feel such resounding hope in the online ministry of Winter Garden because your message is one of peace. We NEED the message of peace to abound as far as it can because my primary duty daily reminds me of the evilness of men on a global scale.

I have not always lived my life as I try to now. Living for Christ is challenging for me and many days I struggle, many days I fail. But I've learned that God's book is all about forgiveness, revival, and redemption. So I carry on, one day at a time. I am however greatly blessed with a wife who adores Him. He is her first love and by her grace have I averted many tragedies. Don't forget to thank the women of your church, that even though a position of church authority is not expressly mentioned it does not mean that they do not have a position of great leadership and an influence that can universally impact.

Don't forget that we are still at war. The force is drawing back, but that just means that our vulnerability will be increased due to diminishing numbers. And just because you haven't heard anything in a while doesn't mean our troops aren't still being wounded and killed weekly. If I could I'd introduce you to Dave, a 19 year old marine who opted for an amputation rather than a medical discharge because the wonders of modern prosthetics would allow him to rehabilitate so that he could deploy again. Let that sink in for a minute and then pray for us.

Thank you for all you do! God be with you and all the people of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church!

Your brother,  
Captain  
United States Air Force

Special visitor, Luke Dodson, joined us for worship services and fellowship.



# Church News

New Members at Little Union PBC,  
Lithia, FL



On January 7, following preaching services, three sisters came forward asking for a home at Little Union PBC in Lithia, FL Pictured above are Mariana Croy, age 10 and (top left), Meresa Croy, age 9 and (right) Ariel Schneider, age 7. Elder Chris Crouse, pastor at Little Union, was blessed to baptize the girls the same day. ■

## Philippines Report

We received a report from Elder Gus Harter on the relief effort that he spearheaded for the Primitive Baptists that were in the path of the typhoon in the Philippines. Over \$57,000 was raised and forwarded to responsible Primitive Baptists in the Philippines. From what I could gather from the report this money would assist at least 21 different churches. That would not be much in America but will make a great difference in the Philippines.

Elder Harter is planning a trip to the Philippines in the month of February with a number of Primitive Baptist ministers.

Everyone that responded to the call for assistance is to be commended for their generosity. May God be praised.

Special thank to Elder Harter for the years of preparation that made this rescue effort possible. —Elder Glenn Blanchard ■

## Contributions

Robert Dean  
Julian & Bea Cunningham  
Reba Marsh  
Kinnie & Judy Messer

## Answers to This Month's Quiz

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cana, Jn. 2:1    | 6. Thomas, Jn.20:25   |
| 2. Mary, Jn. 2:3    | 7. Amen               |
| 3. well, Jn. 4:7    | 8. Paul               |
| 4. 5 and 2, Jn. 6:9 | 9. Benjamin, Rom.11:1 |
| 5. crowd, Jn. 18:27 |                       |



We welcomed recent visitors, Isaac Willis and his friend, Cathryn.

NEW HOPE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH  
c/o WINTER GARDEN PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH  
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WINTER GARDEN, FL 34777

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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

1. Where did Jesus perform his first miracle?
2. At the wedding, who told Jesus there was no more wine?
3. Jesus asked the woman at the \_\_\_\_\_ for a drink of water.
4. Jesus fed a large crowd of people with \_\_\_\_\_ loaves of bread and \_\_\_\_\_ small fish.
5. Immediately after Peter had denied Jesus three times, a rooster\_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ did not believe the disciples when they said they had seen the risen Christ.
7. What is the last word in the book of John?
8. Who wrote the Epistle to the Romans?
9. Which one of the twelve tribes of Israel was Paul from?