

New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Volume 17, Issue 12, December 2011



attending were Brothers Jerry Winterstein and Terry Muzzy.

They rode up with me, and we had a good time of fellowship, being together in my van for that period of time. I learned to appreciate so many things that these brothers shared with me that I had not known before.

While I was preparing to be gone, Sister Leanna Ulmer put together a special dinner provided by our church to the Ronald McDonald House at the Orlando Regional Medical Center in Orlando. Our members prepared a wonderful meal for the parents of some of the children who are in the hospital. Many of our young members participated in serving the meal to the parents of the children. We

want to thank them for making this effort. It is a blessing for them to learn to serve others while they are young!

Brother Randall Cagle did an outstanding job in putting the Fellowship together. It is a big undertaking. We want to thank him and his church members. The sisters of the church provided us with delicious food for the meeting. That, too, takes a lot of time and effort, and we want to especially thank them.

We have been blessed by God so very much this year. We've enjoyed several baptisms, have shared our accomplishments and our troubles, and basically have tried to solve each problem, just as a family would handle a problem in their family.

Pastor's Letter

Elder Glenn Blanchard

As we approach the end of 2011, we at Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church would like to wish everyone who reads this Newsletter a very happy Christmas Season and pray that you will have a prosperous and blessed 2012.

During the week of November 1-3, 2011, I attended the North Georgia Preacher's Fellowship. In attendance were many ministers and several of their wives. (photo above) Some of the preachers made presentations, each was scholarly prepared, and I enjoyed them all. We had a wonderful time! From Florida, we had six in attendance: Elders Buddy Abernathy, Joel Fuller, Charlie Dennis and me; also

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

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We enjoyed a visit from Ray and Judy Stewart from Vidalia, GA.

God Showed Up

by Elder Dolph Painter

The fourth weekend of each July, the church I pastor holds an annual meeting. A Primitive Baptist annual meeting is a series of worship services held Friday through Sunday typically preached by a guest minister. Other denominations hold similar meetings and call them revivals. Last week we held our annual meeting, and I would like to share a few particulars concerning Saturday night's service.

The day was hot and humid, 100 degrees. We had dinner in our dining hall, promptly at 6:00. We cleaned our dishes and put away the food, promptly at 6:50. We

entered the meeting house and began singing, promptly at 7:00. But at 7:10, we lost power. That evening, the demand on the power company by the community was too great and we lost electricity.

Knowing that the temperatures would rapidly increase and light would fade; we ended the song service, omitted introductory comments, said a short prayer, and asked the

preacher to begin. Soon, the deacons began opening windows and passing out fans (paper plates). The preacher preached and was sweating buckets. But then, a miracle happened. God showed up. From a natural standpoint, a lot of things went wrong; but God showed up – and only ten minutes of singing.

Ask any of our members as to the meeting's highlight and 99% will tell you about Saturday night's message. What's the lesson? Compare how much time we spend preparing for natural things with the time we spend begging for God's presence. We know what's important, but we fret most over that with very little importance. Amen?

Later in the evening, back at my house, the guest preacher said that for a moment he wasn't too sure how the meeting would go. I told him that I never doubted; that I was confident it would be a great service. He asked, "What made you so sure?" I told him, "The best sermons never get recorded." Miracles can be that way (Matt 11:5).

Answers to This Month's Quiz

1. Vashti, Est. 1: 11
2. Ahab, IKng. 16:13
3. Saul, ISam. 28:7-25
4. Absalom, 2Sam. 18
5. Balak, Num. 22
6. Darius, Dan. 5&6
7. Hoshea, 2Kng. 18:9-11
8. Zedekiah, 2Chr. 32:10
9. Agog 1Sam15:8

Meeting Notices

Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting

The 2012 Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting will be held at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, beginning Monday night, April 2nd and continuing morning and night through Thursday morning April 5th. Rooms are available at \$45 per night at the Ramada which is on the same property. The Ramada and the Convention Center share the same parking lot. The Convention Center is on the South end of town on the Parkway. It is just behind a Cracker Barrel. To make reservations call 1-800-523-3919. You stand a better chance of getting a ground floor room if you call by March 2nd. For more information you may call Elder Harold Hunt at 865-982-3012.

Radnor PBC, Nashville, TN.

Radnor Primitive Baptist Church at 503 Brewer Drive, Nashville TN. 37211 Phone 615-333-3073

invites you to our FALL MEETING
November 11-13, 2011

Guest Minister: Elder Jeff Winfrey from Dawson Springs PBC in Dawson Springs, KY
Friday 7:00pm Saturday 10:30am (Lunch Following) Saturday 7:00pm (Supper at 5:45) Sunday 10:30am (Lunch Following)

Please come, pray, sing and worship with us!

For more information or directions: <http://radnorpbc.org/contact.html> or contact: Elder Shannon Whipp: 615-837-1043 (pastor@radnorpbc.org), Church Clerk: Bro. Ron Box: 615-776-3206 (rbox@comcast.net).

Florida Fellowship Meeting 2012

The 2012 Florida Fellowship Meeting will be held at Little Union PBC, Lithia, Florida, February 16-19, 2012. Details will be in the next issue of the Newsletter. Please make plans now to attend.

Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting 2012

Piney Grove Primitive Baptist Church of Headland, Alabama, is sending this general invitation to all our brethren to come worship with us as we plan to host the 2012 Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting on Friday, March 23rd and Saturday, March 24th, 2012.

The meeting is set to begin on Friday morning at 10:00 AM. There will be a morning, afternoon, and evening service on Friday (with lunch and supper), then on Saturday, there will be a morning service, lunch, and then an afternoon service to conclude the meeting. (However, Piney Grove will have its regular Sunday morning service at 10:30 AM.

Piney Grove is located at 1947 Broad Street, Headland, Alabama, just 2 miles north of the town square on AL Hwy 173. Information is included for area motels and some of our members are hoping to entertain guests. For more information, call Elder Clayton Nowell, pastor, at 334-693-5700 or Royce Sellers, deacon, at 334-693-5385.

May the Lord our God richly bless and keep you in His most tender care.

Hotel Information Near Piney Grove: Hampton Inn and Suites, 4684 Montgomery Hwy, Dothan, AL (334) 671-7672 – 10.1 miles from church; Holiday Inn Express Hotel North, 4090 Ross Clark Circle, Dothan, AL 36303 (334) 699-6868; 6.7 miles from church.

-Your Brother in Christ, Elder Clayton Nowell, Pastor, Piney Grove PB Church

Church News

Cool Springs PBC, SC

These are pictures from two baptisms we were blessed to have recently at Cool Springs. Bro. Josh and Sis. Kate Longazel came forward to ask for a home with the church the 4th Sunday of September and were baptized the first Sunday of October. We feel like the Lord has blessed us to have them among our body here at Cool Springs. They have one daughter

named Emma Lynn and we recently rejoiced at the birth of their second daughter Ella Penelope!

The Lord has blessed us recently with some good meetings at Cool Springs, for which we are truly thankful. We were blessed to begin a Fall Fellowship meeting this year the 4th weekend of October. Elders Charles Kitchens, E.W. Hooven, Kerry Lathrop, and Bob Mitchell were blessed to preach for us on a variety of subjects. Pray for us as we continue to labor in this part of South Carolina that we might let our light shine so that others may see and glorify our Father which is in Heaven!

In Christian Love,
Eld. Daniel Wood



Bethany PBC, GA

Bethany recently ordained four men to the office of deacon. Pictured below are the deacons and presbytery that took part in the ordination.

New deacons are Mike Towner, Michael Farrin, Bryan Camp and Brent Coleman. God Bless these men in their service.





Bethany PBC, GA

Brother Luis Bernal, a member of Little Union PBC in Lithia, FL, was invited to address Bethany during a business visit to the Atlanta area. Luis is the Executive Director for the Dept. of Energy in Puerto Rico. He shared his quest for biblical truth and how he came to discover the doctrines of Sovereign Grace and the Primitive Baptist Church through the internet. Pictured on the left is Brother Luis and Elder Gus Harter.



Camp Creek PBC, GA

Camp Creek PBC enjoyed a recent meeting with visiting ministers, (left) Elder Kenneth Brantley pictured with pastor, John Melvin, and (above right) (Lic) Adam Kinsaul, Elder Melvin and (Lic) Derrick Kitchens. Camp Creek was also blessed with the baptism of new member, Brother Jeff Butler. (Bottom right)

In The Beginning (Series cont'd.)

Elder Sonny Phelan

Harmony PBC, Arkansas

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

It is possible for one to be a creationist concerning nature, but an evolutionist when it comes to spiritual things. It is by faith that we see God as the sovereign creator of both worlds: the **natural** and the **spiritual**.

When God created man, He did not ask man's opinion. Adam was passive when God formed him from the dust of the earth and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils. God needed no assistance. All of nature was passive. The birds, the fish, the earth, there was none of it. God spake and it was done. But what about regeneration, the new birth, when one of Adam's race made of clay, is born of God's spirit? Does this evolve over a process of time? Does man assist God in this miraculous change? Is it procured by a series of religious exercises? What does God say about it?

By faith we believe God's sovereign declaration of this creative fiat as well: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” – 2 Corinthians 5:17. The Bible is very clear on this issue. Any person in Christ has become a “new creature”. The word “creature” means creation: he has been *created* anew. Man does not evolve from an old creature to a new creature. He is *passive* in the change. God, and God alone, brings it about. No wonder there are so many conflicting ideas as to how this occurs. A solemn belief in God as the sovereign Creator will silence all arguments.

When a person becomes a new creature, things *change*: “all things are become new”. This new creature has Spiritual appetites that he never had before. As the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and brought beauty out of chaos in His natural creation (Gen. 1:2), so moves God’s spirit upon the heart of unregenerate man and brings beauty by His spiritual creation. This beauty is apparent as there is a notable change in the life (Acts 9:6). He now hungers and thirsts for righteousness (Mat. 5:6). He is interested in the Bible. The gospel comes to him in power and not in word only (I Thes 1:4,5). He now hates the things he once loved and loves the things he once hated (Ephesians 2:3-5). There is now the knowledge of sin (Romans 7:24). God’s law is written in the heart (Hebrews 8:10-11). The name of Jesus is sweet in his ears (John 11:28-29). He looks for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God (Hebrews 11:9-10).

This is a miraculous change indeed, and it occurs sovereignly, when God ordains it. As with John the Baptist, it may be in the mother’s womb, or as Saul of Tarsus, it may be upon the Damascus Road. It is truly life from death and only God can make that change, “And you hath **he** (emphasis mine) quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins” – Ephesians 2:1. “**He**” is not the preacher or the message; it is GOD the Creator! The gospel will not give life, but rather, sheds light upon the life that God has already imparted (II Timothy 1:10). God reaches the heart and prepares the heart by this change to receive the message of Jesus Christ. Belief in this message does not bring about the change, but is rather an evidence of the change that God has already brought about. There may be those who claim this change with no real evidence manifested in the life; no spiritual breathings; no spiritual fruits upon the tree; no real change; no new creation. Man may have claimed the creation when God has had no part in it.

Let us not allow man to usurp the power of God and claim a portion of His creation. After all, “Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?” – Romans 9:21. Where do you stand? Do you believe that God is the sovereign creator of all worlds...even yours?

Contributions

Joe and Hazel Brooks	Elder Don Farris
Fay Foster	The Sumner Family
Ronald Prather	Rita Renfroe

Members of Winter Garden PBC were enjoying the blessings of serving dinner at the Ronald McDonald House in Orlando, FL





A great family day was enjoyed by Ed Morrison, Roy Miles, Dan White, Elizabeth Morrison and June White.

Sister Zelma Trotter was delighted to have her sister, Aretha Parmer visit from Jasper, AL



Revival at Zion PBC

Zion Primitive Baptist Church was established near Gordo, Alabama, in 1847. It was a rock in the Zion Community for many years and was evangelistic in helping establish several fellowships and at least one other church – Bethlehem, in 1901. The pastor of Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church today is Elder Tim McCool. During the 1920s, Zion Primitive Baptist Church fell into the destructive error of absolutism, also known as the false doctrine of the absolute predestination of all things. Under the influence of this false teaching, the church dwindled to 5 members by the year 2000, and was all but a forgotten memory of encouragement and influence in the surrounding area. Around 2001, Elder Tim McCool, also an

attorney, helped to advise the dwindling church at Zion on certain legal matters. It was at that time that Elder McCool was first burdened by the Lord that a revival could possibly take place there.

But this did not happen until 10 years later and only one living church member survived. The last living member - Sis. Lorene Deason - opened the doors of the church to hold services twice a month on Sunday nights

in June, 2011. The initial service and those thereafter were packed and the preaching was blessed of the Lord. On the first Sunday in August, 2011, the church held a conference that was attended by members and preachers from Five Mile, Tuscaloosa, Hopewell, Vestavia, Zion Rest, Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Churches, and others. At this conference, held before a full church house, Zion Church severed ties with the false doctrine of absolutism and churches condoning such, reaffirmed the original articles of faith, and requested to reestablish fellowship with regular, Old-line churches that it once fellowshiped with. As an added blessing, the church received one new member that very night!

The Sunday night meetings continued, with Elder McCool continuing to preside over the services. On the first Sunday afternoon in October, Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church held its regular communion service to conclude the anniversary meeting of that weekend. During that communion service, members of Zion Primitive Baptist Church and members of Bethlehem communed together for the first time in almost 100 years. That very night at Zion Church, after a powerful sermon preached by Elder Sam Bryant, the church at Zion was blessed by the Lord to experience more revival. At the close of the service, Elder McCool's brother, Chris McCool, came forward requesting membership at Zion. Bro. Chris McCool, a truth believer for all of his life, was already an ordained Independent Baptist preacher. It was as if the Lord was giving His stamp of approval for the church's turning from false doctrine, in sending them a wonderful gift in Bro. Chris on the very night of communing again with fellow truth believers.

Following Bro. Chris' baptism, the church has now tripled its membership in three months, which very well could be a record for an Old Baptist Church! On the first Sunday night in November, the church voted to liberate Bro. Chris to exercise his gift. The church also voted to meet each Sunday at 5 p.m., in order to have a weekly worship service in the community.

Zion Primitive Baptist Church would like to request ongoing prayer that the Lord would continue to bless, and for continued spiritual growth. The church would also like to request prayer in the eventual selection of a pastor. It is also the desire of the church to encourage other dwindling churches to cling to the faith

once delivered to the saints, and pray that the merciful God of heaven will open up a similar door for revival. Zion Church invites all to come and worship on Sunday nights at 5 p.m. The church is located 8 miles north of Gordo, on Hwy 159 North, turn left onto County Road 49, and the church is on the right. For more information you may contact Bro. Chris McCool at 205-364-8209. ■

Too Blessed to be Distressed and too Anointed to be Disappointed

I refuse to be discouraged, to be sad or to cry.
I refuse to be downhearted and here's the reason why:

I have a God who is almighty; who is sovereign and supreme;

I have a God who loves me, and I am on His team.

He is all wise and powerful, Jesus is His name;

Though everything else is changeable, My God remains the same.

I refuse to be defeated. My eyes are on my God.

He has promised to be with me, as through this life I trod.

I am looking past my circumstances, to heaven's throne above.

My prayers have reached the heart of God. I am resting in His love.

I give thanks to Him in everything. My eyes are on His face.

The battle is His; the victory is mine. He will help win the race.

YOU ARE BLESSED, SO BLESS SOMEONE ELSE!

-Submitted by Brother David Grant-

Sermons at Winter Garden PBC are now available online in video format. Full color newsletters are also available at the church website, www.wintergardenpbc.com.

Please let us know if you would like to access either CD's and/or newsletters in this manner in the future so we may remove you from the mail list. You may contact us by emailing the webmaster on our website: www.wintergardenpbc.com



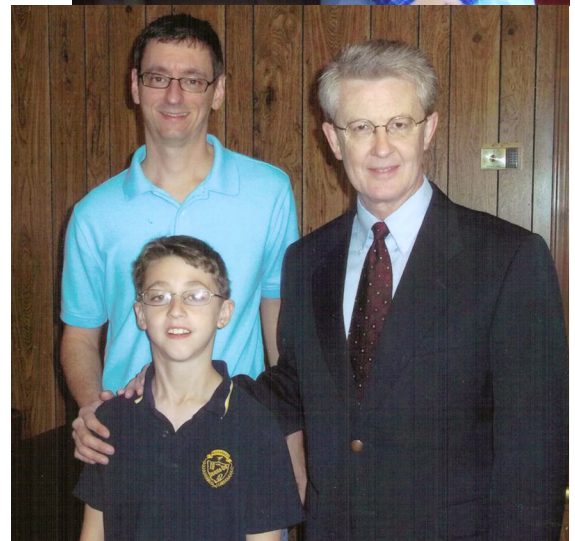
Sister Mariah DeWitt was with us before she was stationed in KY. It was great to have her home for a brief time.

Special Blessings

Macedonia PBC, Delark, AR

Macedonia PBC near Arkadelphia recently received two new members, Brother Jesse Rich and his son, Dylan. They were baptized by Elder Gary Harvey. The church was overjoyed! (photo on bottom)

In addition, Macedonia was thrilled with a first time visitor, Hunter Dunne, pictured on right with Elder Gary Harvey. Hunter is a former English student of Brother Harvey's. He has attended the church's bible study previously. Again the whole congregation was thrilled and excited, especially Brother Gary!



NEW HOPE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
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Please come visit us!

New Hope Newsletter

Kid's Corner

Royalty

1. Who was queen of Persia before Esther?
2. Who does the Bible say did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him?
3. What king solicited the services of the witch of Endor?
4. What royal heir got hanged by his hair in a tree?
5. For what king of Moab did Balaam work?
6. What king threw Daniel into the lions' den?
7. Who was the last king of Israel?
8. Who was the last king of Judah?
9. What king did Saul refuse to kill in direct disobedience to God's command ?