



Illinois Free Will Baptist

April 2018

# Newsletter

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ILLINOIS WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST  
RESCUE CHURCH  
SATURDAY, MAY 5



**RUSTY and BRENDA CARNEY**  
Missionaries to Japan

## THEME: THE DOUBLE BLESSING

Towel Sets – solid colors except blue, Sheets – Twin, Full, Queen (300+ thread count), Mattress Pads – Twin, Blankets – Twin and Full, Crock Pots – 4 quart or larger, Flatware – durable and at least 12 place settings, Cookie Sheets, Muffin Tins, Gift cards

### *Provision Closet Shower*

The Rescue Church is located near Whittington, Illinois  
The meeting begins at 9:00 and closes with a brunch.

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## BEAR POINT CHURCH

**Pastor: Larry Cook Reporter: Lana Travelstead-Eubanks**

Spring has sprung! “If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.” As we celebrate Easter, this old saying reminds me that our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, is referred to as both the Lion and the Lamb in passages throughout the bible. In Revelation 5:5–6, He is both the conquering Lion of the tribe of Judah and the Lamb who was slain. As the Lion of Judah, He fulfills the prophecy of Genesis 49:9 and is the Messiah who would come from the tribe of Judah. As the Lamb of God, He is the perfect and ultimate sacrifice for sin. Praise God, we serve the risen Savior.

We would like to congratulate Phillip and Melissa on the birth of their daughter, Avery on February 14th. Blessings to Talan Alexander, Seth and Wyatt Loucks who were baptized on February 23rd

On March 11th, the Church collected a love offering in honor of Brother Larry and Sister Linda, for his birthday and their anniversary. To say how much the Church loves and appreciates all they do for us is an understatement and we pray that the Lord continues to bless them both.

The youth had a soup and sandwich fund raiser after Sunday morning services to raise money for expenses for the National trip. Thanks to all who helped and provided food. In the evening service, we enjoyed the talented family singing group, the Williamsons.

March 24th, the J-Walkers group enjoyed an outing of lunch and bowling at Herrin Bowl. Thanks to Justin and Beth and Devin and Tippiie for organizing this month’s event.

Some new changes at church include: The youth do services second Sunday of each month. The Jr. High/High School Sunday School class has started a home study group and plan on meeting once a week. This is their idea and they are doing the studies, planning and recruitment themselves!

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: traveling to and attending Love Packages

Sunday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m.: In the evening service we are having The Peyton Sisters in Concert.

We welcome and encourage all to attend and receive a blessing. Happy Easter to all!

## **HARMONY CHURCH**

**Pastor: Curtis Smith Reporter: Jennifer Cook**

Oh how I love spring! I can see God's grand design coming to life as the trees awaken from their winter slumber and the flowers begin to bloom and grow. What an awesome God we serve! Harmony attended the annual Sisters in Spirit Ladies Seminar at Grange Hall FWBC on March 3rd. It was a blessed and spirit-filled day spent in fellowship with friends, old and new, in praise and worship to the King of Kings! Thank you Harmony for making it possible for the ladies to attend this seminar.

Harmony also held the birthday/anniversary meal after evening worship on March 4th. Sisters of Strength and Masters Men held their monthly meeting on March 6th. Please continue to pray that God will continue to guide and direct our steps in drawing people to the Lord. On March 18th, the Victory Boys will be with us during our morning worship service. We will be joining New Hope FWBC for evening service to help kick off their revival. This day is very special for Harmony as it marks seven years with Brother Curtis as our pastor! We are truly thankful for his boldness, dedication and passion in serving the Lord.

On Saturday, March 31st, , Harmony will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30am. Rain or shine! On Resurrection Sunday, April 1st, Harmony will have Sunrise service beginning at 6:30am with breakfast following. We will also have Sunday School and our regular morning worship service but will not have evening service.

On Saturday, April 28th, the quarterly meeting will be held at Harmony. Please join us in praying for these upcoming events that revival will begin within us and spread like wildfire throughout our communities and draw His people closer to His saving grace! *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."* ~Galatians 2:20

## **HAZEL DELL CHURCH**

**Pastor: Larry Clyatt Reporter: Diana Kirk**

Brother Larry and Sister Peggy have recently returned home to us after some vacation time. During their absence we were blessed to have Brother Harl Ray Lewis and Brother Walter Freeman to fill in for the Sunday services.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast group met on March 4<sup>th</sup> for their monthly meeting. There were 8 present. Brother Rusty Miller spoke from Titus 1:8 on the "Qualities of Christian Leadership-Hospitality".

Harrison Walker, a member of E-Team France 2018 was with us on the morning of February 25<sup>th</sup> to share about his upcoming Mission Trip. Harrison is a member of Blue Point FWB Church. Then, on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Ben Barcroft, a member of E-Team Tokyo 2018 was with us to present information concerning his upcoming Mission Trip. Ben is a member of Calvary FWB Church, and he is also planning to attend Welch College in the fall. What a blessing to hear how God is using these young people!

We are looking forward to our Easter Sunday services! We will have a Sunrise Breakfast and devotion time beginning at 6:30 a.m. Then our regular morning services at the usual times. The evening service will be dismissed.

Please continue to pray for our shut-ins: Gearld Hamilton, Frances McNeal, Wilma Cockrum and Helen Galloway. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."* 1 Peter 1:3

## **RESCUE CHURCH**

**Pastor: Bryant Harris Reporter: Donna Harmon**

Work days on the Camp Hope caretaker's home began again in January. Our WAC meeting was held at the home of Sister Jane Harmon with Jane Baine and Ann Sink in attendance.

In February we had our monthly business plus our annual business meeting. Communion was served during the month. Our monthly WAC meeting was held at the home of Sister Kathy Lingle, and we had a dessert Sunday with all proceeds going to missions. Our Tuesday School had a Valentine's Day party, we also had a bowling party for our youth with 20 in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the evening and we went to eat together afterwards. Thanks to everyone for homeless shelter items brought to the church.

In March we had our monthly business meeting and WAC members Kathy Lingle, and sink, Jane Harmon, and Rachel marker attended the district WAC meeting in Johnston city.

Please have special prayer for Jay and Emily Lentz. Congratulations on the arrival of their new son Landon. He has at least two months remaining at Children's Hospital. Landon weighs 3 lbs. 11 oz. Please keep him on your prayer list. John Baine had a surprise party for his wife Janet at the church. On May 8 at 6 PM we will have our Tuesday school graduation. Come out and see how much Miss Linda Melinda and team have done for the children. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Brother Bryant would love to have you for a service or you could come every evening. What an awesome God we serve.

## **PITTSBURG CHURCH**

**Pastor: Eddie Donnelson Pastor: Keith McDannel Reporter: Hollie Utley**

We are welcoming March with open arms here at Pittsburg! Hoping to see the *Sonshine* even more as spring approaches! We are incredibly thankful for God's protection over our travelers, as they safely made it back from the Holy Land. They had an absolutely amazing trip and we are enjoying hearing about their experiences!

Thank you for your prayers.

Our rescheduled Love Banquet/Sweet Tooth Auction was a huge success! The men of PFWBC fixed a wonderful meal and we auctioned off so many delicious desserts to raise money for our Youth Group's mission trip fund.

Preparations are being made for the Easter Egg Hunt for the kids of PFWBC and community. They always have a great time at this outreach!

Resurrection Sunday is one our favorite days here. We are looking forward to our SONrise Service at 6am and breakfast to follow. Praying for this time of celebration and that God would pour out His spirit upon these upcoming services.

Also, this month we will host our bi-annual Church Closet Giveaway on Saturday, April 28, 7am-12p. If you have any questions about donations or know of any needs that we may be able to meet, feel free to call the church office at 618-982-2230. We will accept donations up until April 21. Please join us in praying for the hundreds of souls that may walk through the doors of God's house; that they would feel His presence and desire to come back and worship with us.

Praying all of our sister churches have a blessed April! "There Ain't Nothin' Gonna Steal Our Joy, in 2018"

...and no one can rob you of that joy. John 16:22

## **BLUE POINT CHURCH**

**Pastor: Ernie Lewis Reporter: Suzanne Lewis**

We are currently in the middle of our annual Volleyball Tournament where the Sunday school classes play each other in round-robin style. Games are played after the Sunday evening services in the Link. The Championship will be coming up soon. Larry Ohms of Salem has filled the pulpit recently for Brother Ernie.

Congratulations to Lance and Lindsey Endsley on the birth of their identical twins, Savannah Jo and Anna Beth. The girls are expected to be released from the hospital soon.

Some ladies and men from the church recently attended a "Sheepdog Conference" on church security. They dealt with security teams covering the service times and protecting children by doing background checks on all workers. Over four hundred people attended the conference held in Flora.

Several from the church worked at and/or attended the annual Geff Fire Department luncheon. This is the annual money-raising event with a barbecue chicken dinner.

Brother Ernie was able to attend Forum 18 at Welch College in Gallatin, Tennessee. While there he visited with several students from Illinois and sought some summer employees for Camp Hope.

## **CONNECT CHURCH**

**Pastor: Dan Smith Reporter: Shirley Brown**

Hello from connect church! Several events are scheduled for March, but first let me tell you about how the Lord has blessed our congregation with the addition of Brother and Sister Scott and Mary Radcliff. Brother Scott is a stonemason par excellence! He, along with his wife and our Brother George Delancey, have enhanced the sanctuary by placing stone on the surround of the cross and replacing the Cross itself with a 3-D Cross representing the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are thankful for Brother Scott's talent and desire to serve the Lord.

Now, on to what's happening this month. On Sunday, March 11, Connect Church will celebrate our first anniversary with a special service including music and testimonies. Then, all present are invited to enjoy a catered luncheon and fellowship. Thanks go to Sister Tammy Oseland for arranging the dinner preparations. On March 24 we will conduct the first of our 90 day out reach events for the community of South Roxana. We will host a free pork steak barbecue dinner and hope to feed up to one or 1,000 from the village! It is a big undertaking, but we serve a big God who can make it happen. Pastor Dan was very pleased with the number of volunteers who signed up to take part in this first-ever event, and lots of help is needed, as you would imagine. To get the word out, workers will be canvassing the village, knocking on doors and leaving handbills inviting everyone to come to this free event. The goal is not only to feed them physically, but to invite them to come and worship and be fed spiritually as well.

Resurrection Sunday is April 1, and we anticipate another big event on that day with up to 5,000 candy filled eggs and other activities for the community and our church family as well. More on our next report for April. Until then, we solicit your prayers for continued success as God leads us by the Holy Spirit to reach the lost in South Roxana.

**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

*Note to Church Reporters: News items for the May issue of the Newsletter must be submitted by April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Send all correspondence to David Shores: [davids@myfreewillbaptist.org](mailto:davids@myfreewillbaptist.org).*

### **ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH**

**Pastor: Ivan Ryann Reporter: Buddy Parks**

Five from our church attended the Ignite The Flame Dinner at Ina on February 17. Average Sunday School attendance during February was 79. Services were dismissed on February 11 due to icy conditions. The Women Active for Christ meeting was held on February 21. Keith Soldner, 64, passed away on February 25. Condolences to his family.

*"And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus:  
and great grace was upon them all." – Acts 4:33*



**WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING**

**SUNDAY,  
APRIL 29,  
2018**

**WMO**

The World Missions Offering (WMO) is one means of funding the purpose of the Mission—planting churches overseas. The National Association of Free Will Baptists has designated the last Sunday in April for churches across the denomination to receive a significant offering for International Missions.

