



Newsletter

JOHNSTON CITY CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Fletcher Reporter: Reba Ritter

Our ReLaunch Team worked very hard getting ready for Back to Church Sunday, September 16. We installed new stage lighting, painted part of the auditorium, striped the parking lot, painted our picnic shelter and benches, and hung new signs inside and out. Instead of a potluck dinner, we prepared box lunches for our guests and regular attenders. After service, folks could eat lunch in the picnic area or take it home. If they stayed, they could enjoy live music and games outside. Several individuals and families accepted the invitation to be our guests. God blessed us with a wonderful service and beautiful day.

Our Wednesday night student ministry resumed September 5. This discipleship program (REACH) includes supper, worship, and small groups for all ages. Our lessons right now are about the Holy Spirit.

Heritage Fellowship at 12th and Pine in Johnston City will host the next Fifth Sunday Night Community Sing, September 30, 6:00 pm. Refreshments will be served afterward. Thursday evening, October 4, we will begin a women's Bible study using Beth Moore's book and video on the Book of James. All women are welcome to attend.

One in five Americans struggle with mental illness (over 43 million adults). Our pastor will begin a Wednesday night Bible study (October 3, 7:30 pm) called "Troubled Minds." This study is especially for those who suffer with or live with someone with a mental illness. If you are interested in participating, please contact us via our website (www.jcity.church), on Facebook, or by calling 618-983-5254.

Our oldest member, Reba Ritter, will be 95 October 12. She's still singing! You can watch a video of her favorite chorus (see our Facebook page). She and Pastor Keith attended Camp Meeting Tuesday night and were blessed to hear Bobby Jackson and visit with him and his wife Jane. Keith and Sarah were also able to attend Sunday and Monday evenings as well.

"Who among you fears the LORD? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD and rely upon his God." - Isaiah 50:10 NKJV

HAZEL DELL CHURCH

Pastor: Larry Clyatt Reporter: Diana Kirk

Happy Fall Everyone!!

We extend our sympathy to Robert "Red" Friar and family whose father, John Friar recently passed away. Please remember this family in prayer.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast group met for their monthly meeting on Sunday, September 2nd. There were 9 in attendance. Brother Rusty Miller gave the devotion Proverbs 16:12.

We were blessed to have Brother Bobby Jackson and his wife Jane with us on the morning of September 9th. He spoke during our morning worship service.

We are anxiously looking forward to our Homecoming and Revival Services October 14th-17th. Rev. Ron Helms, son of former Pastor Robert Helms, is our speaker for these services. Special music for our Homecoming service will be provided by the Peyton Sisters. Hope any and all of you can attend if possible.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." - Romans 12:2



THE ILLINOIS MASTER'S MEN sends a big "Thank You!" to the ladies who made and donated pies for the annual Master's Men Retreat Pie Auction which is held on Friday evening of the retreat. There were 23 pies donated and they sold for \$700! The money was given to the account of **Rusty and Brenda Carney**, missionaries to Japan.



**David and Susan
Burgess**

**50th
Anniversary
Celebration**

**Sunday, October 21, 2018
2:00 – 4:30 pm
Pleasant View FWB Church
Myers and Kell Road
Walnut Hill, Illinois**

**Renewing of Vows: 2:00 pm
Reception to Follow
No Gifts Please**



NEW HOPE CHURCH

Pastor: Craig Smith Reporter: Jackie Capps

Merritt Lee Fowler arrived into this world on August 29th. His parents are C.W. and Shannon.

Several people from other churches helped us with a fund-raiser for Thadden Lea at the Ina Community Building

A large crowd gathered at our fellowship hall for a dinner for the Plumb family. Other congregations also joined us by bringing in food and helping in the kitchen.

Our annual picnic was held at Camp Hope on the 26th of August. Homemade ice-cream and etc. was enjoyed by all.

Our congregation also participated in the camp meeting held at Camp Hope.

“For if I do this willingly, I have a reward.”

- I Corinthians 9:17

BLUE POINT CHURCH

Pastor: Ernie Lewis Reporter: Suzanne Lewis

The Junior High Sunday school class had been saving their offerings for several months. They used these offerings to purchase supplies for ‘Wound Care Kits’ for The Hannah Project.

Our teenagers have begun meeting on Wednesday night in the home of Kevin and Beth Bowen. They have named their group “Connect Youth”.

Mark Hunt recently filled in for both Sunday morning and evening in Brother Ernie’s absence. Many of our church people attended the auction and property sale for Galen Conard, a long time member.

On Grandparents Day all grandparents were asked to stand and were given a round of applause. Each one was given a special gift at the close of the service. At our monthly birthday and anniversary fellowship we also held a wedding shower for Madison Smith and Caleb Barnard.

Brother Ernie and Suzanne were able to attend two nights of the Camp Meeting at Camp Hope and were blessed by the preaching of Bobby Jackson. Brother Ernie was also able to attend the Master’s Men Retreat and enjoyed the activities there.

CONNECT CHURCH

Pastor: Dan Smith Reporter: Shirley Brown

Hello, to all our Sister Churches! Summer has ended, school has begun and things are beginning to get back to normal (whatever that is!). Our VBS ran from July 30 thru August 3, with the BIG celebration on Sunday, August 5th. Our celebration attendance was 187, many of whom hadn’t attended a service here before. The children participated in the program which showcased the lessons they were taught during the week.

On Monday, August 6th, Connect Christian School held Open House. Two new students were enrolled as a result, and we are blessed with 4 new enrollees as of this date. Our new principal, Mr. Greg Gomez III has already made an impressive beginning. I expect God will do great and wonderful things for CCS this year.

On August 7th, we held our first Community Clothing Give-Away. Members contributed so generously, we had to request no further donations be brought!! Our final summer BBQ was held on August 26th and was well attended and enjoyed by all.

September is busy here, as it is wherever you are and we believe God is going to continue to send us new people during the year. Our congregation is participating in “Come Back to Church Day”, September 16th and Pastor has challenged us to fill our pews – get out and invite new folks who don’t already have a church home and join us for Bible Study and Worship. Our Fall Small Groups begin on Wednesday, September 12th. We have six small groups, 2 for men, 2 for women, and 2 general studies; there is something for everyone. On September 30th, we will begin our monthly Sing-Alongs, followed by a finger food fellowship. Have a great Fall everyone!!

“Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus.” - 1 Peter 5:14b

PITTSBURG CHURCH

Pastors: Eddie Donelson and Keith McDannel Reporter: Heather Phillips

Fall has arrived and it is time to enjoy the changing leaves and crisp breeze! We hope everyone had a good September and a wonderful start to the school year!

Our AWANA program started back up on Wednesday, September 12 and it was an awesome evening with over 100 Clubbers in attendance! We are expecting that number to grow as the year starts to progress. The classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm throughout the school year. The program is open to any child between 2 years through 12th grade. Lots of helping hands and willing leaders make the program such a success! The AWANA program is a great way for young people to memorize the Bible. Knowing what the Bible says and how God wants us to live out our faith is vitally important to our spiritual health and the future of our children.

A favorite time of the year for many at PFWBC is Pastor Appreciation Month. So many great opportunities to lift them up in prayer, fellowship with other brothers and sisters, and enjoy breaking bread with one another are being planned this month. Even though we appreciate them and thank God every day for our wonderful pastors, we enjoy spoiling them during the month of October!

We are hosting our 111th Homecoming on Sunday, October 7. Todd Greiner, author of *Miracle Man*, will be our guest speaker. Following the service, we will have a fish fry meal and all of the 'fixings' to go along with it! Everyone is welcome to come and join us!

On Sunday, October 28 is our annual Family Fall Festival at Bandy's Pumpkin Patch. We always love the Fall Festival Sunday, because we return that evening for an outdoor service around a bonfire here at the church!

October is a very busy month here at PFWBC. We have so much to look forward to this month! We pray everyone is enjoying the beautiful scenery only God could create!

"There Ain't Nothin' Gonna Steal Our Joy, in 2018" ...and no one can rob you of that joy.- John 16:22

HARMONY CHURCH

Pastor: Curtis Smith Reporter: Jennifer Cook

On August 26th, Harmony held their evening service at Brother Dick Smith's pond. Brother Travis, Brother Cruz and Brother Ethan were baptized. Praise the Lord! Please continue to pray for these gentleman, that God will strengthen them in their walk with Him.

On September 1st, Sister Pauline Sailliez went home to be with the Lord. She was a gracious, gentle, and kind lady who loved the Lord and loved to proclaim His name and His unending love for us. Our love and prayers go out to the family. The absence of her presence here is felt by the whole congregation, but glory to God she is in the presence of our Savior Jesus Christ, praising and worshiping Him for all eternity!

Saturday, September 1st, the Master's Men hosted a night of fellowship, feasting and fun with a bonfire and cookout. Sunday, September 2nd, the Lesters provided the worship service during morning worship. Harmony held another baptism at Brother Dick Smith's pond for the evening service. Please continue to pray for Sister Heather as she grows in her walk with the Lord!

September 4th, the Sisters of Strength held their monthly meeting. Please continue to pray for this ministry, that God will strengthen the members and give us boldness in serving the church and the community. Please pray for these upcoming events at Harmony: Harmony is hosting a Bouncy House day on September 23rd after morning worship service for the youth. Food will also be served. Harmony will host a revival September 30th through October 5th. There will be a different speaker each night. Please pray for this revival that it will draw hearts and minds closer to Him and those who come will grow bolder in their walk with Christ! Let us come together and boldly worship and proclaim the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing." ~ Psalm 100:1-2

WALTONVILLE CHURCH

Pastor: Harrel Hungate Reporter: Maxine Hicks

Our church has scheduled our annual Homecoming service for Sunday morning, September 23rd. The Victory Boys will sing at 9:30 and Brother Curtis Smith will preach at 10:30. Lunch will be served at noon. Everyone invited!

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

*Note to Church Reporters: News items for the November issue of the Newsletter must be submitted by October 15th.
Send all correspondence to David Shores: davids@mvmfreewillbaptist.org.*

ARNOLD VIEW CHURCH

Pastor: Ivan Ryan Reporter: Buddy Parks

Average Sunday School attendance during August was 86. Arnold View's delegates to the South Central District Meeting at Johnston City on August 4 were Larry and Karen Jones, Colene Doss and Janet Orr. Our Annual Business Meeting was held on August 5. A group from our church attended a Southern Illinois Miners game at Marion. The Women Active for Christ Meeting was held on August 8. The WAC collected and distributed 49 pairs of new school shoes. Adam Brown shared his call to preach on August 12, and brought the evening worship message on August 19. Henry Colson, 78, passed away on August 19. He was Josh Colson's grandfather. Condolences to this family.

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." - Romans 10:17

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – DECEMBER 3-4

The 2018 Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference will return to Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel December 3-4. Pastors and church leaders across the denomination will explore the theme, "Communicating Effectively," from church to print to digital. During keynote sessions, Robert J. Morgan, teaching pastor at The Donelson Fellowship in Nashville, Tennessee, will share principles for communicating effectively through preaching.

On Tuesday morning, during a slate of seminar-styled sessions, Eric K. Thomsen, editor of *ONE Magazine*, will offer practical advice for communicating effectively in *print*. Media Commission member Daniel Edwards will unravel the mysteries of communicating effectively through *technology*, and Dr. Neil Gilliland, director of member care for IM, will offer advice for communicating effectively *across generational lines*.

The two-day conference will offer more than training, with time for renewing friendships during banquet-styled meals, music provided by Welch College, and free time on Tuesday afternoon for sightseeing in Nashville. Additionally, several national boards will meet in conjunction with the conference. Hotel reservations can be made at the **Nashville Airport Marriott** for \$145 plus tax. Visit www.nafwb.org/leadershipconference for a schedule and more information.

