

Praise the Lord for the 85 youth, sponsors and staff who attended our second "Arctic Blast" this past January. Our theme from Romans 2:1-2 was "Go Against The Flow." All the comments received were very positive and favorable about this winter retreat. The youth were challenged from God's Word to know Christ as Savior and live for Him even if you have to "go against the flow." We thank God for the one public decision made for Christ.

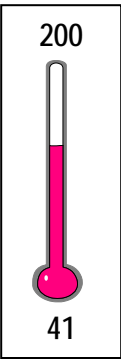
Many of our young people are faithfully preparing to participate in our annual TFC competition. The date is April 8th beginning at 11:30 am at Calvary Baptist Church, Quincy, IL. There are two divisions: scholarship and x-panded. All the registration information can be found online at www.ilmoyouth.org. Encourage your young people to participate.

Be sure to visit the online monthly youth magazine for youth leaders and teens at www.1tim412.com.

IL-MO YOUTH WEB PAGE: www.ilmoyouth.org

FELLOWSHIP FRIEND UPDATE

If the IL-MO ARBC is to continue to improve and expand its ministry to our Fellowship of churches, we must grow our circle of Fellowship Friends. The total IL-MO budget for 2006 is only \$68,000.00. Would you be willing to commit \$1.00/week or \$52.00/year to support the ministry of your Fellowship? Our goal is to have 100 by the end of this year and a total of 200. Currently we have 41. Could you and would you help? To become a Fellowship Friend you can contact State Representative, Bob Fields, at 1409 White Horse Trail, Metamora, IL 61548 or 309-367-9404 or staterep@ilmoarbc.org.



PRAY FOR OUR PASTORLESS CHURCHES



- Carterville – Bible Baptist
- Chatsworth – Calvary Baptist
- Griggsville – Regular Baptist
- Lombard – Grace Baptist
- Metamora – Germantown Hills Baptist
- Oglesby – First Baptist
- Pana – First Baptist
- Pittsfield – First Baptist

IL-MO TRUMPET



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2006

MAGNIFICENT MISSIONS MINISTRY
(A Trip of a Lifetime!)

God gave Eileen and me one of the most wonderful experiences of our lives when He made it possible for us to go to Cape Town, South Africa, to minister together with missionaries Tim & Barb Mowers and Grace Baptist Church. We had the joy of spending eleven glorious days in modern Cape Town and three long days on planes!

As is always the case on mission trips, the people God allowed us to meet and fellowship with was the highlight for us. Their love for the Lord and desire to learn God's Word made a lasting impression on us. I had the privilege to preach in their church in addition to the three day Family Camp at a rented facility and to share with sixteen men at their Bible study. There were also the times of fellowship at the Mowers' home with the two deacons and their families and the meal times, recreation time, free time and table game time at Family Camp. I also was blessed to meet with one of the church men to talk with him about full-time Christian service. God greatly used these people to impact and influence our lives for Christ. They were so open, loving, considerate and receptive of our ministry.

Grace Baptist Church is a church of 100+ that has been planted by EBM missionaries. The Mowers have served eleven years in Cape Town. The church has purchased ground and has constructed a beautiful building. They began regular Sunday services in their new building on February 12th of this year. This church is about two-thirds of the way to being self-supporting and then they have a vision to begin planting other churches in Cape Town. Grace Baptist would serve as the mother church and they are teaching and preparing men from their church to serve as the pastors of these daughter churches. What a wonderful vision!

We want to thank each of you who prayed for us and those churches and individuals who gave financially toward our trip. Through you, God graciously supplied two-thirds of the cost of our trip. It was definitely a trip of a lifetime!

Bob Fields

Robert J. Fields, Editor 309-367-9404
IL-MO State Representative staterep@ilmoarbc.org

Visit the IL-MO ARBC Website at www.ilmoarbc.org

In my travels, I met Pat Patton in Littleton, IL. I ask her to share her vibrant and exciting testimony. This is Part 1. Part 2 follows in the next issue.

Then and Now (Part 1)

by Pat Patton

Then – 1970

Alone and unwanted into this world I came.
Alone and unwanted, to play life's cruel game.
Alone and unwanted, each day is hard to bear.
Alone and unwanted has taught me not to care.
Never loved or care for, in hopes of what you'll gain;
For all you gain is sorrow and a lot of bitter pain.
Never hold and cling to a dream you feel is true,
For you'll wake and find that life's the same and just as mean to you.
If you want to make it in this world so sick with hate,
You'll have to square your shoulders back and leave it up to fate.
For with fate you never need to fear sorrow and regret;
You'll take each day at a time and learn how to forget.
This way no one feels sorrow, this way no one feels pain,
And you never really have a loss 'cause you never had a gain.
Alone and unwanted into this world I came.
Alone and unwanted is how I must remain.
Alone and unwanted, yes, that's what I believe.
And alone and unwanted is how I've got to leave.

She had just turned seventeen when she wrote that poem, the elegy. Little did she know then that it would become her maxim, her mission statement, her life.

She had spent the last six years of her young life in a children's home, having been abandoned by her mother who had become a drunk following the death of her husband. The girl was only eight at her father's passing. Between the time of her father's death and the abandonment by her mother, the tragedies and traumas had been immense. She had experienced total neglect when her mother would be gone for days at a time, leaving her to fend for herself as best a nine-year-old could. There were days when the cupboards were bare and there was no money for school lunches. She had experienced physical abuse at the hands of her mother's numerous boyfriends. She had been sexually molested and raped by total strangers who paid her mother for the 'opportunity.' She hadn't screamed, she hadn't run, she hadn't fought off her predators. She believed she was helping her mommy. She had to believe that in order to survive. By the

age of seventeen, her life, the very essence of her being had become consumed with fear which had manifested itself in anger while giving birth to an internal rage that would dictate the next thirty years of her life. All those who had inflicted such pain and heartache upon her were absent in her life, out of reach. Revenge was impossible. The hatred and bitterness turned inward and she was set to self-destruct.

Upon entering the children's home at almost eleven years of age, she also entered the world of secular psychology. Her mental stage was categorized as manic-depressive with schizophrenic tendencies. Today she would be called bi-polar. For the next twenty-nine years she took all their prescribed medications and participated in various types of therapies. During secular treatment, she attempted suicide three times and those three times was institutionalized. She married into an abusive (mutually, I might add) relationship that climaxed with being hospitalized for a fourth time, this time undergoing a four-week program of electric shock treatments. Three years later, with partial memory loss, still encapsulated in fear and rage, she died.

That tormented little girl, that raging, self-destructive woman was me. I speak of myself in the third person because by the grace of Almighty God, I was able to nail 'her' to the cross of Christ when I was born again. A new creature in Him who so loved me. In a moment, Christ did for me what all those years of drugs and therapies could not do, would never do, were not intended to do. He healed me! The fear and the rage that ravaged my mind and shattered my heart are gone! They have been dispelled and replaced by the greatest, truest, unfailing love any human can ever know... the love of the Father, my Creator, the love of the One who died for me, Who thought of me and prayed for me on His way to the cross. I am His child now because He wants me, He chose me. He is my Conqueror. My victory over a life of sin belongs to my Lord. (Part 2 coming in the next issue!)

Neighbor News

EAGLE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH, FULTON

The church has grown over the last year and has established itself financially. We have a long way to go but the upswing is quite a ride. We will be losing some great members, as the LaFleurs are moving to Des Moines, IA in April. God has already been good to replace them. Pray that the church will continue to grow and influence our town. Many for the first time are getting to know the "Baptist Church" in town. With the completion of several projects after many years of decay, God has been good to supply our every need.

SILVIS HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVIS

We began a two month missionary focus in February with special bulletin boards, and PowerPoint or CD presentations. John Jackson (missions professor) from FBBC & TS will be with us March 3rd – 5th. S.S. offerings will be used to meet a specific need of a missionary child and an adult missionary.

NEW LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH, LAKE IN THE HILLS

We are seeing God’s hand of blessing in many different ways: spiritually, financially and numerically. It has been exciting to see evidence of spiritual growth among our people. We have more people serving around church, more people involved in the study of God’s Word and more people that are making decisions to live a godly life. We set some challenging financial goals at the beginning of the year (one was a 20% increase in the budget). Our attendance over the last 6 months has been 110+. Please pray for us that God would provide in a miraculous way for us to have a building and land of our own. There are currently two different locations we are considering as a possible church site. We want to be sensitive to God’s leading in these important issues.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

The churches in our Fellowship have been challenged to have a “Fellowship Sunday” sometime this year. On “Fellowship Sunday” a special offering is received for the ministries of Camp Manitoumi and the IL-MO ARBC. Each church can choose its own Sunday. We will keep you posted about the churches participating and the total gifts.

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All of the 2006 brochures are printed and ready for distribution. This year’s theme is “Leaving a Legacy” as the Camp celebrates 50 years of serving the Lord. The other brochures are for Family Camp, Manitoumi Adventures and the Retreat Center.



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