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# TESTIMONIES

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## New Testament Association of Independent Baptist Churches

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The greatest work in the world is the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in and through his local churches. Believers assemble in local churches:

- To worship and adore the True and Living God. Isaiah writes of the incomparable God in Isaiah 40:18, “To whom then will ye liken God? Or what likeness will ye compare unto him?” and in Isaiah 46:5, “To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?” The true worship of God is an outpouring of adoration from a redeemed heart.
- To be fed from the Word of God. The local church is the feeding ground for the people of God. Acts 20:28, “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” 1 Peter 5:2, “Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.” Charles Jefferson in his book The Minister as Shepherd writes, “The curse of the pulpit is the superstition that a sermon is a work of art and not a piece of bread or meat... Sermons, rightly understood, are primarily forms of food... The shepherds work is plain and humble.”
- To participate in fellowship, edification and encouragement of one another. The local church is where believers learn the lessons of biblical love. A genuine word of kindness, a compassionate word of understanding will encourage a brother or sister in Christ. There are times when the most productive encouragement is to simply listen with attention, without interruption and with a promise to pray for them and their burdens. Hebrews 10:24-25, “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” This is the good kind of provoking—to sharpen, to incite to love and good works.
- To serve the Lord together. There are many opportunities to serve within the local church. The local church is where believers bring their gifts, talents and abilities and put them to work for the Lord. It is God who brings believers together with their various strengths and weaknesses to get His work done. The people of God doing the work of God in the local church is a beautiful sight to behold. This involves doing the work of the ministry “heartily, as to the Lord...” as stated in Colossians 3:23.
- To be involved in carrying out the great commission. While believers are learning, growing and changing they are going on their way with enthusiasm in their relationship with God. The greatest outreach comes from healthy believers who are nourished by the Word and active in their local church. Go and teach, baptize the believers and lead them to a lifetime of learning. Matthew 28:19-10

The ministry of the local church is unique and wonderful. There are no unimportant churches. Wherever you are, however you serve, you are involved in a great work. Enjoy your part in the greatest work in the world as pastor and people serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in and through the local church.

Contributed by Pastor Jerry Clark, President NTAIBC

## Financials

### Plant for the Lord

Beginning Balance:	\$10,665.35
Income:	\$ 640.00
Pust Support:	\$ 800.00
Ending Balance:	\$10,505.35

### General Fund

Beginning Balance:	\$ 5,348.50
Income & Receipts:	\$ 6,464.08
Total Disbursements:	\$ 5,692.67
Ending Balance:	\$ 6,119.61

***Please send any NTA giving to:***

***Pastor Scott Jones***

***10600 61st Street***

***Kenosha, WI 53142***

NTA National Representative

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## Pust Update

We had a busy number of weeks. We were able to purchase a home and land for a future church building on August 1. We have settled into our new church parsonage and are enjoying it. On August 27 we had a dedication service and meal for the new property. We had a great turnout and our people are excited about the possibility of a home for Bakken Baptist church.

Then we turned our attention to the Men's Steak-Out as well as our Help and Hope Conference. The Men's Steak-Out was great! We had 13 men including four first time visitors. The weather was miserable but we hauled picnic tables into our garage which also has an ancient gas furnace that I was unsure if worked. I put a match to the pilot light and it fired right up! In spite of a downpour we had a great time.

This last weekend we had our annual Help and Hope Conference. Pastor Jim Grosse from Dillon, Montana, spoke. Everyone from church attend most of the meetings Friday evening, Saturday evening and then regular Sunday services. We always do a family activity, so this year on Saturday we did a Family Field Day, which was very well attended and enjoyed. We praise the Lord for the work He is doing here. We have had a number of visitors these last weeks including three new families that have started coming.

Please pray: 1) For follow-up opportunities with recent visitors. 2) For Heidi as she has 4-7 weeks to go with this pregnancy. 3) That God would provide for a building in 2018! Thanks for your prayer and support of the work here. If anyone would like to get our regular update please e-mail me at [pastorpust@icloud.com](mailto:pastorpust@icloud.com)



## Pastor Jerry Clark

Jerry Clark and his wife Sue have served the Lord in full time ministry since 1988. Graduating from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in 1984, he completed his work on a Master's Degree in Biblical Studies/Biblical Counseling in 2006 from Maranatha. His full-time ministry began in Jacksonville, Florida, teaching high school and coaching varsity football. Later he served in Illinois as an assistant pastor and school administrator. In 1993, he accepted a call to a senior pastor position in Michigan, where he served for five years, and then at First Baptist Church in Oregon, Illinois, for 16 years. In 2014, the Lord led the Clarks to Prairie Winds Baptist Church in Elkton, South Dakota, where they currently serve.

The Clarks raised four children and have 12 grandchildren with two additions on the way. They rejoice that all their children know Christ as their Savior, married believers, are active in their churches, and have a heart for the things of God.

Pastor and Sue enjoy serving the Lord together and are thankful for the churches in which they have ministered over the years. Next year will be their 20<sup>th</sup> year serving in NTAIBC churches, including on the board.

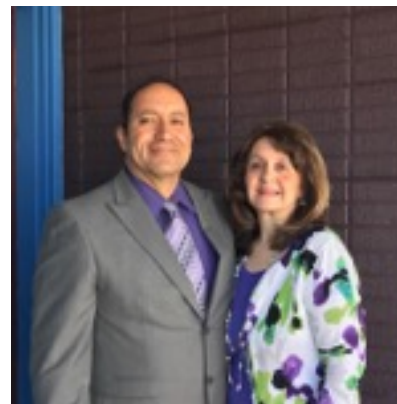
Pastor Clark may be reached at [pastorgmclark@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgmclark@gmail.com) or 605-695-1858.

## Pastor Hernandez & Triumph Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Indian Church started as a mission church in 1970 through Miss Lucille Riley of Baptist Mid-Missions who began the ministry with a daily Vacation Bible School. This developed into Sunday School, then a Women's and a Girl's Bible Class. Pastor Allen Adler and his wife Marilyn, also of Baptist Mid-Missions, arrived in Great Falls, Montana, June 1976 to work with Miss Riley and continued with the ministry until August 2003. Brother Wayne and Barbara Voss took over the ministry and served until May 2015. Pastor Arthur Hernandez then assumed pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church. The name of Calvary Baptist Indian Church was changed to Calvary Baptist in 2012 by Brother Wayne Voss and changed from Calvary Baptist to Triumph Baptist in January 2016.

Pastor Hernandez received Jesus Christ on May 23, 1985. He married Doris and they have two adult children, AJ and Alyssa. He served in the United States Air Force for 21 years and served 12 years for Homeland Security. He also served as a deacon at multiple churches and for 12 years as an Assistant Pastor before the opportunity as Senior Pastor at Triumph Baptist Church. Shortly after taking the church, it became apparent that they would need a larger than current 2500 square feet space. After praying the Lord did provide a much larger place, one that is over 28,000 square feet with several classrooms, two large kitchens, and a full-size basketball court.

Along with regular services, the church ministers through Master Club, Food Ministry, and Mountain States Baptist Bible College (currently meeting at our church). Without a doubt, it is the very Hand of God that has moved in this place - one huge miracle after another. All For His Glory! Praises To The Almighty. HE IS LORD.....



## 2017 Resolutions (continued from Summer issue)

### III. EVANGELISM AND SOUL WINNING

WHEREAS, The Great Commission consists of proclaiming the Gospel, leading people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, baptizing converts in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teaching converts to obey all the commands of Christ ([Matthew 28:16–20](#)), and WHEREAS, Jesus’ model for disciple-making entails being fishers of men ([Matthew 4:19](#)), and

WHEREAS, The discipline of evangelism is “soul-winning,” as the New Testament employs the words “winning” and “persuading” in regards to imploring unbelievers to believe in Jesus Christ for the salvation of their souls ([1 Corinthians 9:19–22](#); [2 Corinthians 5:11, 20](#)), and WHEREAS, The soul of every person will spend eternity in hell unless that person believes the life-changing message of the Gospel ([Matthew 7:21–23](#); [Luke 16:19–31](#); [Romans 10:14–15](#); [Revelation 20:11–15](#));

BE IT RESOLVED, That NTA churches understand “evangelism” as the intentional, consistent, and verbal declaration of the Gospel to unbelievers in the power of the Holy Spirit; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we articulate the Gospel as the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sins ([1 Corinthians 15:3–4](#)); and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we acknowledge salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone, wrought by the Holy Spirit as people repent of their sins, believe in Jesus Christ, and confess Him as their Savior and Lord ([John 14:6](#); [16:8–11](#); [Acts 2:37–38](#); [4:12](#); [Romans 10:9–10](#); [Ephesians 1:13](#); [2:8](#); [Titus 3:4–7](#)); and BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That we encourage all pastors to present the Gospel in their public messages; and, we encourage congregations to prayerfully set goals to implement intentional evangelistic strategies to reach the lost.

### IV. BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

WHEREAS, In recent decades, there have arisen several moderating hermeneutical systems between classic Dispensationalism and Covenant Theology, including views espoused by New Covenant Theology, Progressive Covenant Theology, Promise Theology, and Progressive Dispensationalism ; and WHEREAS, Some of these views, in varying degrees, abandon the normal interpretation of Scripture in favor of an allegorical method; and WHEREAS, A single hermeneutical method is necessary to avoid the subjective interpretation of God’s word; and WHEREAS, The normal interpretation of Scripture, when consistently applied, preserves the authority of the whole Bible and makes prophecy meaningful to its original hearers; now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, That we commit to the normal interpretation of Scripture which is a central tenet of Dispensationalism, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we reject both allegorical and complementary hermeneutics, and BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That we allow the Old and New Testaments to speak for themselves according to the principles of normal, grammatical-historical interpretation.

## Thompson’s Travel

July 2 we had the privilege to be at Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Timothy Collard, Pekin, Illinois and are thankful for the kind hospitality provided by Mark and Sara Fugate. Sunday evening we were at Brentwood Baptist Church, Pastor Daryl York, Des Plaines, Illinois. Sunday, July 16, I participated in the installation service for Pastor Zachary Patke, Calvary Baptist Church, Sheldon, Iowa. There was an encouraging number of church people, visitors and area churches at this service.

Saturday, August 5 had us back to Brentwood Baptist Church for the funeral service of Marilyn Hines. It was a blessing to hear the testimony of this gracious lady and to meet the family of Dr. Hines.

Sunday, August 22 it was a joy to be at First Baptist Church, Pastor Rich Riley, Lake Benton, Minnesota. We were graciously hosted by the Rileys’ after the services. Sunday evening found us at Morris, Minnesota visiting with Pastor Micah Tanis and family of First Baptist Church.

Saturday, September 2 I flew out to California to visit our NTA churches. It was a blessing Sunday morning to worship and fellowship at Crosspointe Baptist Church, Santa Maria, Pastor Jon Stone. Sunday evening I was with Pastor Mark Irmeler, Crown Point Baptist Church, Simi Valley. God used the NTA to help this congregation expand their meeting area several years ago.

I visited with a pastor interested in the NTAIBC and appreciated the kind spirit of this congregation. Sunday evening I enjoyed the fellowship of Pastor George Motoc, and Foothill Baptist Church, Castro Valley. This church has been with the NTAIBC since 1980. I am thankful for the safe travels while in California and God’s provisions for Faith Baptist Church, Baldwin while I was gone.