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# TESTIMONIES

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## New Testament Association of Independent Baptist Churches

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### It's Annual Meeting Time!

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As the NTA meeting approaches, June 5-7, we at Faith Baptist Church are excitedly preparing for your attendance! This year's theme, *Unashamed of the Word*, is a perfect reminder of the Christian's command to "hold forth the Word of life" (Philippians 2:16a) in a world that desperately needs its truths.

The guest speaker is Dr. Milton Jones from Heritage Baptist Church of Frankfort, IL. He has been a senior pastor for over 35 years, with two previous pastorates in Alabama and Georgia. He holds B.A., M. Min., D.D., and D.S. Min. degrees and has authored numerous study books and devotionals.

If you have not been to the Twin Cities area, we encourage you to use this opportunity to visit! Check out performances at the Ordway or Guthrie or see a Twins vs. White Sox game. Stay extra days and catch a Twins vs. Angels game or the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. St. Paul is home to the free Como Zoo and Conservatory, Museums (Transportation, Historical Society, American Art, Children's), the James J. Hill House, the Alexander Ramsey House, golf courses, hiking trails, parks, and shopping. Minneapolis also has many points of interest: American Swedish Institute, Minnehaha Falls (hiking, biking, surrey rentals), Mall of America, and the MN Landscape Arboretum. Stillwater, a neighboring town, is known for its antique stores. SO MUCH IS AVAILABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!! We have a list of points of interest available from [jgp@fbcstp.org](mailto:jgp@fbcstp.org). Wednesday a golf outing will be planned for those interested, so bring your clubs and inform the office if you intend to play.

A block of rooms has been reserved under "NTA" at the Country Inn & Suites in North St. Paul (3505 Vadnais Center Drive), approximately seven miles from the church. The cost of each room is \$99 plus tax (1 king or two queens). Breakfast is included. \*\*When making your reservation, make it under the **NTA May 5** by to get the special rate.\*\* Please note! ... DO NOT reserve anything at the Motel 6 (previously Super 8) at 1736 Old Hudson Rd., as it has an unsavory history, and your stay may not be worth the monetary savings.

The cost for the meetings is \$10 per adult. Chaplains are free, as are children. A nursery will be provided for each service. Four of the main sessions will have children's sessions provided.

**Please email Jenifer at [jgp@fbcstpaul.org](mailto:jgp@fbcstpaul.org) or call 651.771.5567 with confirmation of attendance by May 15 and include the following:**

- **Number of adults/number and ages of children attending**
- **Which meals you will be eating at the church (Wed. p.m., Thurs. lunch)**
- **If anyone in your group is going to golf**

We look forward to seeing you in June! Please feel free to contact us should a question arise.

Pastor Julian Suarez,

Faith Baptist Church, St. Paul, MN

## DR. MILTON JONES

Dr. Milton Jones hails from North Carolina and was saved at the age of nine in an independent Baptist Church. The church was a "poor man's" church with illiterate members and as a teenager Pastor Jones began teaching Sunday School.

In a series of circumstances clearly orchestrated by God, Pastor Jones attended Bob Jones University as a Chemistry major, but God changed the direction of his life and he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Bible in 1974. He and his newly-wed wife, Pam, took his first pastorate at Emmanuel Baptist church in Decatur, AL. In 1983, he assumed the pastorate of Gateway Baptist Church in Macon, GA. Nine years later, the Jones family moved to Oak Forest Baptist Church in Oak Forest, IL. This ministry moved to Frankfort, IL in 1996 and changed the name to Heritage Baptist Church. Pastor Jones has served this ministry for 25 years.

In every church, God has enabled a resolution of debt and building of new facilities. The current ministry is debt free after 40 years of debilitating debt.

Educationally Pastor Jones completed a Master of Ministry degree at Bob Jones in 1990, was awarded a honorary Doctor of Divinity from Maryland Baptist Bible College in 1992 and in 2000 he completed the Doctor of Sacred Ministry degree at Northland Baptist Bible College. He has served various boards including the Fundamental Baptist Fellowship, the Illinois Association of Christian Schools, Camp Joy in Whitewater, WI, and Baptist World Mission.

Pastoral ministry has always been Dr. Jones focus and he has authored 35 volumes. Additionally he has brought 16 A.T. Pierson volumes back into print. For 15 years, Pastor and Mrs. Jones conducted an annual retreat for pastors and wives which served over 170 couples.

## UNASHAMED OF THE WORD

N.T.A.I.B.C. 2018 Annual Meeting  
June 5-7, 2018  
Faith Baptist Church, St. Paul, MN

### Tuesday, June 5

7:00 p.m. Session 1 – Dr. Milton Jones  
(Children's Session provided)  
8:30 p.m. Fellowship Time

### Wednesday, June 6

9:00 a.m. Session 2 – Dr. Julian Suarez  
10:00 a.m. Break/Fellowship Time  
10:20-10:50 a.m. Business Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Session 3 – Dr. Jones  
(Children's Session provided)  
12:00 p.m. – 5:25 p.m. Break for lunch and afternoon activities  
5:30 p.m. Dinner provided by Faith Baptist Church  
7:00 p.m. Session 4 – Dr. Jones  
(Children's Session provided)  
8:30 p.m. Fellowship Time

### Thursday, June 7

9:00 a.m. Session 5 – President Jerry Clark  
10:00 a.m. Break/Fellowship Time  
10:20-10:50 a.m. Business Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Session 6 – Dr. Jones  
(Children's Session provided)  
12:00 p.m. Lunch provided by Faith Baptist Church

*"Holding forth the Word of life"*  
~ Philippians 2:16a ~

**Faith Baptist Church, our annual meeting host church, is asking for help to provide nursery for the six preaching sessions. If you would be willing to do one of the nursery times, please email [garry46thompson@gmail.com](mailto:garry46thompson@gmail.com). Thank you for your help.**

## Financials

### Plant for the Lord

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance: | \$10,195.35 |
| Income:            | \$ 335.00   |
| Pust Support:      | \$ 400.00   |
| Ending Balance:    | \$10,130.35 |

### General Fund

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance:   | \$ 4,249.90 |
| Income & Receipts:   | \$ 2,026.90 |
| Total Credits:       | \$ 6,276.80 |
| Total Disbursements: | \$ 1,801.53 |
| Ending Balance:      | \$ 4,475.27 |

\*Treasure's Note: There was an additional deposit after this report was made.

*Please send any NTA giving to:*

*Pastor Scott Jones  
10600 61st Street  
Kenosha, WI 53142*

NTA National Representative

Pastor Garry Thompson  
2072 Hwy 12  
Baldwin, WI 54002  
(715) 808-3866  
[garry46thompson@gmail.com](mailto:garry46thompson@gmail.com)  
[www.ntaibc.org](http://www.ntaibc.org)

## Pastor Barry Simmonds

Barry was born in South Carolina, raised in lower Michigan, accepted Jesus Christ as Savior when he was nine and was baptized two years later.

He joined the Air Force out of high school and served as a firefighter in duty stations in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Honduras, and Royal Air Force Base Mildenhall in England. He also served as a Non-Commissioned officer in charge of the Wing Safety office for the 410<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing at K.I. Sawyer AFB in Michigan. While in the AF, he was involved in church and hosted a Christian Radio program in Honduras.

Early in his AF years, he married Julie and they have three married daughters and currently have 5 grandchildren.

After leaving the Air Force, he worked for the state of Michigan where he continued serving in churches as treasurer, teaching, Sunday School Superintendent, deacon, and would preach when needed at nursing homes or if the pastor was gone.

He took an early retirement from his position with the State of Michigan in 2010 and accepted an offer from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to become the Safety Manager for the St. Paul (Minnesota) district. He and Julie became involved at Faith Baptist of Stacy, Minnesota.

In December of 2015, the pastor at Faith Baptist Church resigned and Barry was asked to preach while the church looked for a pastor. During this time, Barry also began Bible classes with the intent to minister as pulpit supply for churches seeking a pastor. In November of 2017, after searching for two years, the Pastoral Search Committee from his church asked him to become pastor. He and his wife, Julie, feel greatly humbled to be used of God in this special manner.



## Marilyn Hines Obituary

Marilyn Cravens was born December 20, 1936 in Herrin, Illinois. While she was still quite young her parents separated and her mother eventually moved to the Oak Lawn area, remarried and began attending Ashburn Baptist Church, where she was saved. After high school, Marilyn spent two years at Bob Jones University and then transferred to Pillsbury Baptist Bible College when it opened in 1957. She graduated and married Jim Hines in 1959 and then moved to Dallas, Texas so Jim could attend Dallas Theological Seminary. After seminary they moved to the Chicago area and started Brentwood Baptist Church in the fall of 1963. Marilyn was always active in multiple and varied positions of ministry in the church and taught at Brentwood Baptist Christian Academy for 29 years.

Marilyn began experiencing some dementia but continued doing as much as possible, accompanying Jim when he conducted services at several senior homes. In 2017, she had gallbladder surgery and was no longer able to walk or talk much. She passed away Thursday, August 3, 2017 and went on to be with the Lord.

She is survived by her two brothers, her husband and their four children: Carol, Steve, Brenda and Yvonne, their spouses and 23 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren, who all loved her and will miss her very much.

## Thompson's Travel

January 14 we had the privilege to be at Bryant Avenue Baptist Church, Pastor David and Marilyn White in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for Sunday School, presented a brief report of the NTA and preached the Morning Service message. We are thankful for the kind hospitality provided by the church and had a delightful lunch with the Whites.

Sunday, February 18, we went to Memorial Baptist Church, Pastor Terry and Judi Pergl in Rockford, Illinois. We were blessed with the Sunday School time. I again brought a brief update of the NTA and preached the Morning message. Between Sunday School and the Morning Service I was blessed to talk to Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Martin. Dr. Martin had pastored Memorial Baptist Church for 33 years and was a leader and great supporter of the NTA in its formative years. Before leaving Rockford we had an enjoyable time of fellowship with the Pergls.

Sunday evening we were with Pastor Jared and Laura Cochran, First Baptist Church, Oregon, Illinois, to share the work of the NTA and preach the Evening message. We were graciously hosted overnight by the Cochrans.

Sunday afternoon, March 25, we drove out to Elkton, SD. I spoke in the Evening Service at Prairie Winds Baptist Church, Pastor Jerry and Sue Clark. Monday morning was spent with Board Members planning the Annual Meeting. The Clarks provided a delicious lunch for us and we then we left for home.