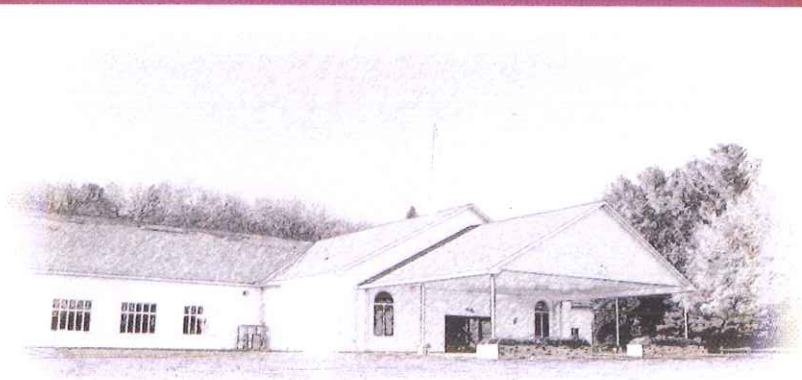


Court & Ninth St. building purchased in 1952

Tabernacle
Bible Church
www.tabernaclebiblechurch.org

TBC
ANNIVERSARY **75th**
Homecoming



Grove St. building occupied in 1994

MAY 27, 2018

75th Anniversary Service

May 27, 2018

John S Banks, Senior Pastor

Welcome

Prayer.....Pastor John S Banks

Faithfulness

Great Is Thy Faithfulness # 43

History Video

Be Thou My Vision # 382

Offering:Special..... He's Been Faithful

Foundations

Message.....Dr. D Paul Williamson

How Firm Is The Foundation?

Family

The Church's One Foundation # 227

Video: What is TBC Now

Future

What Does Our Future Look Like?Pastor Banks

It Is Well With My Soul # 493

Focus

Video: Core Value

How Do We Achieve These Goals?Pastor Banks

He Will Hold Me Fast

Senior Pastors

Rev. Ross Pisauro 1943-1977

"Not your creed but your need makes you welcome to this church"

Rev. John V McAndrews 1977– 1984

Rev. Stephen K Young 1985-1993

"Christ in you, the hope of glory"

Rev. Anthony Raffa 1995-1996

"Where love is felt the message is heard"

Dr. D Paul Williamson 1997-2009

"God's Word Honored Christ's Love Shared"

Dr. Richard I Gregory –2009-2011

Rev. John S Banks 2011 to present

Assistant Pastors

Rev. Garfield Walker

Assistant Pastor / Youth Pastor 1964-1970

Sal Santoli,

Assistant Pastor Outreach/ Visitation 2002-2012

Pastoral Interns

Kevin Lowe, Jr. 2010

Peter Ryneski 2012

David Hasbrouck 2013

Spencer Beals 2014

John Kornbau 2016

Drew Bundy 2017-2019

Greetings :

Mrs. John V McAndrews

"Greetings to all my friends at Tabernacle Bible Church. I have such wonderful memories of coming to Honesdale in 1977 as a young pastor's wife and then being blessed with two sons , David and Joel, while we were there.

We started the AWANA program the fall after arriving and my husband was commander for the first year. Realizing how demanding it was, he had to step down and I was privileged to serve as commander until Gloria Haun moved to the area and had experience in AWANA. I then moved on to directing games.

John would meet regularly with a few men for a run and a time of prayer on the front steps of the church. Cottage Bible Studies were held in a variety of homes for young couples. Young families began to attend and many children blessed our church family. The theatre seats were replaced with much more comfortable pews. The basement of our building on Court and Ninth Streets was a dingy and dirty mess, being neglected for many years. John had an idea to clean it up and have a Haunted House as an outreach in that very scary basement. Several ladies and I got together and spent hours making home-made donuts for refreshments. We had quite a lot of people pass through.

After we moved to Florida John continued in ministry in several IFCA churches. He taught Sunday School, and then served as Interim Pastor in two different IFCA churches. We had a daughter Sarah after moving to Florida. Sadly, John passed away in 2003. The Santoli's and Mountjoy's were able to represent the Tabernacle and came down for his service.

I now have 8 grandchildren with another expected in August. I think of your love and kindness every day when I see my freezer, such a useful gift from you all! It still runs well and keeps meat and my ice cream!"

My love to you all!

Marie

Stephen K & Joyce Young

We rejoice with you on the occasion of the celebration of three quarters of a century of God's faithfulness. May God bless you with His presence on your big weekend; it is right to remember God's mercies and provision throughout our individual lives and corporate fellowship in the local church. I frequently think of how our experiences in the trials of life build our faith and confidence for the next test, so that we are better prepared and more mature in our response to God's direction. Think of it this way, as grueling as it may be to begin training for a marathon, the training never actually gets easier, we just get more competent and capable; we get better at it and eventually come to enjoy it (James 1:2-4).

As I reflect on our time in Honesdale, I am amazed at how God blessed in spite of my youthfulness. It was certainly a busy time of life for us. When we arrived, I was not yet thirty years old, and our first child was not yet two; Joyce was pregnant with our second at the time. Four children were born to us during our 9 years in Honesdale, and Tina joined our family. Along with leading a growing and transitioning church fellowship, I was able to insert myself deeply into the community, by ministering to police, sheriff's office, jail both professionally and individually, the local school system and substantially at the hospital, where I served on several committees.

What I remember most fondly about my time of ministry in Honesdale was the nobility of the faith of the fellowship. God's word was powerful. I recall some "startling" conversions, heart-rending deaths, and effective prayer with the Elders according to James 5: 14, 15. It was that simple and noble faith that allowed God to provide us with cash money to purchase the property on which the building now sits, even though other factors caused some to conclude that the church was in dire financial straits. It was that faith which sustained us through the extreme test of our corporate adjustment relative to HIV/AIDS on multiple fronts.

While we have had wonderful ministry since, nothing compares with the personal involvement we had with people, not just Tabernacle people, in Honesdale. During those 9 years, my family grew, I grew, the church grew, the church leadership grew, and God was honored. As the third pastor to serve the Tabernacle, perhaps my experience could be described this way: Rev. Pisauro oversaw the childhood of the church, Pastor McAndrews was over the adolescence, and God permitted me to oversee growth into maturity.

On a personal note, we regret not being able to be with you, but we have just returned from Florida for Benjamin's wedding. My wife Joyce and I have 6 children, Tina, Jared, Philip, Sharon, Benjamin and Samuel and 7 grandchildren.

I am currently a counsellor at the Durham Rescue Mission; it has been four and a half years now. I see men individually for spiritual instruction and encouragement, which is very rewarding work. I see 11 men per day and the time absolutely flies.

God bless your celebrations! Rejoice in his mercy and grace; he is a faithful and covenant-keeping God. Daniel 9:4

In *"The Hope of Glory"*,

Rev. Stephen K. Young

"Christ in you, the hope of glory"

(edited from full letter posted on the bulletin board)

Rev. Anthony & Jil Raffa

I am grateful for the opportunity afforded me to pastor, even for a brief time at the Tabernacle. It was very profitable and beneficial and I was pleased to be in the position while the church was in transition with a new building. It was a time of sorting through ministry options to further expand the ministry of HGT. We saw the salvation and baptism of many individuals during that time.

It was during that time that I was instrumental in the formation of a formal office structure with Bonnie Mountjoy coming on as my secretary and Marion Bunting continuing as a part-time office secretary. I had the joy of beginning a local pastor's fellowship and had ministry in some of the area schools. Before I moved to another ministry in Ohio, we had the joy of seeing the building completed with a formal dedication of our "lighthouse on the hill."

For the past 15-16 years, I have been preaching in a camping ministry, serving as pulpit supply, and for the last 10 years as a substitute teacher.

A previous cancer has come out of remission and I ask your prayers for the prognosis. God has been gracious to me and my family and I praise and thank Him.

Anthony Raffa

"Where love is felt the message is heard"

D Paul & Helen Williamson

Pastor Banks, Elders of Tabernacle Bible Church, and TBC Congregation:

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ!! What a special joy and awesome privilege it is to share in this special occasion of the Tabernacle's 75th Anniversary. What a testimony to the wonderful grace of God in working His purposes in and through the labors of faithful servants of the Lord here in Honesdale.

I am convinced that Pastor Pisauro had no idea what God would sovereignly do when he envisioned a Bible preaching church in the county seat of Wayne County. That is the joy of church planting as God takes the labors of a missionary pastor the commitment of believers and the working of the Holy Spirit to bring to fruition the establishment of a local church.

Over the years God has sovereignly seen the pastoral care of this congregation move from Pastor Pisauro to John McAndrews, Stephen Young, Tony Raffa, Paul Williamson, Richard Gregory, and now John Banks. Each pastor has been used of God to see the work of the Tabernacle move forward with consistent commitment to the Word of God and the outreach to this community and global missions.

In celebrating 75 years of ministry here in Honesdale we rejoice together in the milestone achieved and believe that God will continue to bless the work here in the years to come. It is my humble prayer that the Foundation will remain strong, the Faithfulness of God to His faithful people will be realized anew, the Family atmosphere of the Body of Christ will grow, and the Future will remain focused on a vision for church planting and global missions.

Until the Lord comes again let us always be vigilant about the work of the Lord knowing that our work is not in vain in the Lord [1 Corinthians 15:58]. May the Tabernacle always be a place where – God's Word is Honored and Christ's Love is Shared!!!

A Co-laborer for the cause of Christ,

Dr. Paul Williamson

"God's Word Honored...Christ's Love Shared"

Mrs. Richard Gregory

Congratulations to Tabernacle Bible Church for 75 years of faithful service to the Lord, to those who have ministered and those who have been ministered to.

I would love to share the events in the Dr. Richard Gregory families' life through the years as it relates to the Tabernacle.

- Dick & Eleanor Gregory were active members from the very beginning days of Honesdale Gospel Tabernacle and attended till their homegoing.
- 72 years ago, when Dick Jr. was 10 years old, Mrs. Pisauro led him to the Lord.
- When my family moved to this area in 1952, I attended Phi Gamma Club and was introduced to my future husband by Mrs. Pisauro during a club meeting.
- June 9, 1956, Dick and I were married at the Tabernacle and in years following, two of our children were dedicated to the Lord there.
- In 1958 Dick was examined and ordained to the ministry at the Tabernacle.
- Later, Dick returned to participate in the funerals of both Pastor Ross Pisauro and his wife Dorothy.
- The Tabernacle family upheld us in their prayers through our years in school, in pastoral ministry in Laceyville and Limerick and then as Executive Director of the IFCA.
- The capstone of a lifetime of ministry was to return as an interim pastor and then Sr. Pastor for almost 3 years. Even though Dick was sick, it was a wonderful, precious time to return and finish his life of ministry where he began.
- In 2013, his memorial was held at TBC.

I can't thank the church enough for the care you gave our family through provision of meals and the dessert fellowship that followed his memorial service.

Thank you for the impact that TBC has had on the Gregory family for 75 years.

With love and prayers for future blessings in the days ahead.

Carol Gregory

John S & Abby Banks

At our installation service a little over 7 years ago, the head elder at that time said, "With Pastor Gregory we had experience, and with Pastor Banks we have energy." When we arrived, our children were still stair-steps but starting with Adam at 8 years old, descending with Noah (7), Jonah (6), and Seth (3). We did have more energy!

The kids have been blessed with the stability of staying in this local church for the past 7 years. They have many close friends here. We were blessed to add Anna to our family in 2015. Abby and I are thankful for the many who have paid attention to our children and made them feel as though they are not "just the pastor's kids."

Over the past few years experience has been forthcoming and I have learned more of the inter-personal shepherding of people's hearts and lives. Over these years, I have gained significant insight into ministry-life, had some opportunity to develop preaching, teaching, and counseling. So, as I trade energy for experience, I am thankful for the patience of God's people here at the Tabernacle.

Through these years, we have seen a deeper focus on the importance of membership and our personal growth and responsibility in the body of Christ. We have also given recognition to believers as members who hold different end-time views. I am very grateful for the maturity of our congregation to show grace on matters, which while they are important, are not as important as the gospel itself.

It has also been my privilege to work with many church interns from whom I have learned much, and hopefully, we as a church have benefited them as they moved on to other ministries. I have been very thankful for our church's involvement with Biblical Counseling in partnership with Foundations Christian Counseling by providing them with an office for Wayne County. This ministry continues to expand and resource other church families within driving distance.

Abby and I look forward to what God will bring as we labor together to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ. May God Bless this congregation (and the congregation that will come to Christ in years to come).

John Banks,
Senior Pastor

You might not know::

- * In 1943 the average attendance was 29 with an average weekly income of \$7.27.
- * We became members of the IFCA in 1947.
- * Pastor Pisauero opened a small Christian bookstore in 1948 which later moved into the back room of the Court and Ninth St. building.
- * In 1957 a Charter was established with 40 charter members and a board of Elders and Deacons. Joanna Gillow is the last remaining Charter member still attending TBC.
- * Our first public address system was purchased with funds donated from the sale of a pick up truck owned by a member of the board of directors.
- * The 814 Court St. building was purchased in 1946. The second floor became the residence for Pastor & Mrs. Pisauero. The mortgage was paid off in 1951.
- * 1951—Sunday morning service was broadcast over the radio.
- * In 1952 the 814 Court St. property was sold for \$15,000 and the Old Wayne Memorial Hospital on Court and Ninth Sts. was purchased for \$30,000. That mortgage was burned on May 24, 1970. This building was then sold to the Wayne County Commissioners in 1993 for \$395.00 which funded construction of our church facility at 455 Grove St. without any mortgage.
- * The rear building of the Court and Ninth St. property (Dimmick Bldg) which was used for nurses housing then became the parsonage. This small house was the parsonage until 1993 when the Young family moved into the newly constructed house on 116 Ray St. The house is still owned by TBC and has provided housing for several missionaries and currently provides a basement apartment for our pastoral intern Drew Bundy.
- * At our groundbreaking ceremony, Marion Bunting played a portable pump organ, which was also used in early nursing home ministry.
- * The pulpit podium was the same one used by all pastors. A raised section was added to accommodate Pastor Young's height.

- * We had our first service in our *"Lighthouse on a Hill"* in June of 1994. There has never been a mortgage on this property and we have never conducted a fund raising event. God has always provided through faithful prayer and the generosity of His people.
- * The stained glass windows in our sanctuary came from our former building and were lovingly and skillfully crafted and installed by Myrna Bates' husband Dick Bates.
- * In 2016 TBC set up an office room for the sole use of Foundations Biblical Counselling as they provide opportunities for those in need of professional Christian counselling. Their services are provided to the surrounding communities of Wayne County.
- * Our beautiful Welcome Desk, bookshelves, mission display table and foyer tables were skillfully crafted by Russell Gillow.
- * We became involved in Project Jerusalem through Baptist Bible Seminary and were the supporting church for a church plant in Forest City, now known as Cornerstone Bible Church.
- * Our regular mission budget in 2003 was \$30,000 yearly. In 2018 our mission budget is projected at \$73,382.00.
- * With praise to God alone, we funded the purchase of a *"House of Prayer"* (church building) for our Ukrainian missionary pastor, Vasiliy Shevelenko, and also funded the construction of a small church and apartment in India for a national pastor.
- * Countless numbers of people have gone out from TBC into full time missions, short term missions trips, year-long commitments with established traveling ministries and local summer missionary commitments. There are too many to count. Our prayer for 10 from the Tabernacle has been multiplied several times.
- * The Tabernacle family recently purchased a 5 acre piece of land connected to the rear of our current property with access frontage on Grove St. As God allows, we hope to develop this property for future outreach and fellowship opportunities.



www.tabernaclebiblechurch.org

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