

# The Macedonian Call

*A Baptist Newsletter Dedicated to Our Missionaries*

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April-August, 2017

*John B. Porter, Editor*



## A Report from *Japan*

*Editor's Note: In April 2017 Dr. Mike Collins and his wife Susan (members of Fairview Memorial MBC in Bowling Green, KY) were in Japan where they visited Brother Koji Tajima. Sister Susan wrote the following report.*

A few days ago Mike and I traveled to Hiroshima. While there we met the Tajima's and their daughter Kyoto for lunch. They were excited to see us, although Sister Michiko did not remember us. She is suffering from dementia, but is bright and cheerful in spite of being terminally ill with colon cancer. She looked very frail and had lost a tremendous amount of weight. Brother Koji also appeared frail and appeared to be having problems with his vision. Both of them walked with a cane, Kyoko guiding her mother while Bro Tajima walked very haltingly holding on to the wall, chair, etc. However we found him very clear in mind and his English is still very good although his speech is slow. Sadly, he indicated that they are no longer well enough to keep up the church as they would like, and they have not been having any regular services. He said that although many members have died there are still some living although not well enough to attend church. He said that no new people were coming as they had in the past when many young people used to attend, sometimes out of curiosity. In days past he baptized many, but interest in Christianity has waned. Kyoto still takes them to the hospital and homes of members to visit. Bro Tajima spoke of how lonely they were with no Christian friends to fellowship with and how much he would enjoy hearing from people back home. He repeatedly stated how blessed they are that the Lord spared their lives in the automobile accident. It took him 1 & 1/2 yrs to recover, spending that time in a rehabilitation hospital. Although his spirit is willing, he really is not in physical shape to preach. Bro Koji spoke of how entrenched Buddhism is in Japan and how sad that is. We asked him to pray for our daughter-in-law Mami

**And a vision appeared to Paul in the night;  
There stood a man of Macedonia and  
prayed him, saying come over into  
Macedonia, and help us." (Acts 16:9)**

*...and Jesus came and spake unto them, saying  
"all power is given unto me in heaven and in  
earth. Go ye therefore and teach all Nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father, and  
of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching  
them to observe all things whatsoever I have  
commanded you: And lo, I am with you always,  
even unto the end of the world. Amen."*

*Matthew 28: 18-20*

***"The Great Commission"***

and her family. He assured us that he would. He said, "They are good people but they don't know the Lord." Kyoto is buying him a new computer. As soon as it is set up with the internet she will let us know his email address, and we will pass it along. Mike told him we would start sending him the Macedonian Call, and when he gets his computer set up he can go online and get it. Mike asked him if there was anything he needed medically or financially but he replied, "Thank you, but no. I have a good doctor who does well by me." We will include Bro. Koji's mailing address for those interested in writing him. A few years ago the post office here privatized and all addresses changed, however the Tajima's still live in the apartment behind the church. We went by the church but it was getting dark and our photos were blurred. I would also like to add that Bro. Tajima had some concern about his son Luke, a Lt. Commander, being aboard the Ronald Reagan stationed in Hawaii which was deployed to the N. Korean peninsula with the tensions arising there.

Brother Tajima and his wife have been faithful

*(Continued on page 2)*

servants of the Lord in this pagan land for many years, enduring many hardships. He has fought a good fight and kept the faith. Many who were saved and baptized are now spread abroad, others have passed on. Bro Koji stressed repeatedly how lonely they are, and we assured them we would be praying that God would send them some Christian friends. His address is as follows:

**Koji Tajima**  
**Japan Post Hiroshima Nishi Branch**  
**Box 17, 733-8691, Japan**  
Sincerely, Mike and Susan Collins



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's my privilege to be able to give an update on the work here in northern Virginia. It has been a little over eight years since the Lord made a way for me and my family to move to Spotsylvania Virginia, and there have been so many blessings

Being located a little over 50 miles from Washington D.C., we have been blessed to be a stop for those who are travelling through the area for work or vacations. This has also proven true for those in the military, since we are so close to many different branches of our armed forces. We have been visited by many brothers and sisters throughout the country who needed a place to worship on Sundays. I see us as a beacon of light in the darkness of the East Coast!

Just over one year ago, a young family moved to Charlottesville, Virginia which is about an hour away from where our church meets. The young man who is in the Army was stationed there for training for one year. His wife took him to revival services in Tennessee before they moved and the Lord pricked his heart with the gospel truth and he fell under conviction. The young man was under heavy contrition and got saved in his home the first week they moved to Virginia! They then began to attend services with us at Upper Spotsylvania. They have been such an encouragement to us during their time in Virginia. The Lord always provides what we need!

In March, the church held a three day revival meeting in which the Lord met with us greatly. We had local visitors come two out of the three nights.

The church was blessed to be able to uplift our Lord and to hear the gospel preached with great liberty during this effort meeting.

We also were able to assist Elder Wayne Deering in holding an effort meeting, once again, the week of Memorial Day, Tuesday through Friday nights at 7pm at the Ellipse Park which sits directly behind the White House. These services were very uplifting as we sang, prayed, testified, and preached the gospel to all those in the area. We had several visitors that attended through the week. One of the nights we had around 20 people in attendance. The last two nights we had a middle-aged homeless gentleman who expressed that he enjoyed our services and was searching for the truth. There were several more passers-by who stopped and listened for a while. I was reminded how His word will not return unto Him void and that it will accomplish that which He pleases and prosper where He sends it. What a great promise! We are to scatter the seeds of the gospel everywhere, and we certainly did in that little part of the country that we call our nation's capital for a few days. This place where we hold the services will forever be a special place to me, and especially for my oldest son, who was saved by God's grace one year ago during our services last year. What a blessing!

Our church project is pushing forward as we have been able. Despite the bumps in the road that we have encountered with the County, we have been able to clear the trees from the main part of our property and have made the preparations for the placement of our pavilion that we are projecting to be up this summer. This is an important first step for us, as we are planning to mill the hardwoods from the cleared land, have the planks dry and set under the pavilion. These planks are going to be set aside to be used for some of the interior of our building. We are currently waiting to hear back from the County to approve our entire site plan, soil disturbance inspection, and final inspection for the pavilion so we can move forward with its construction (of the pavilion only).

This year's **Virginia Baptist History Tour** dates are set for **October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>**. Hotel reservations can be made with the Country Inn and Suites located in Fredericksburg, Virginia by calling 540-898-1800 and tell them you are with Upper Spotsylvania Missionary Baptist. The special rate is \$79 not including tax. We had a record crowd last year (aside from the year we had the tour with our church organization.)

We all enjoyed great fellowship and a wonderful time in the Lord!

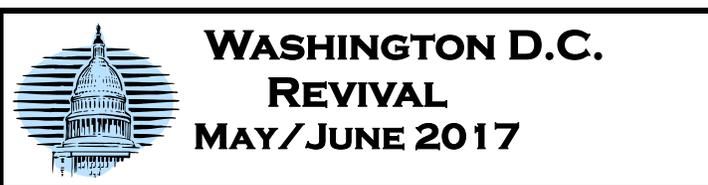
We are also going to have a brand new church website that will have many great pages to view, including a page that will have more detailed information and pictures from past history tours. We are looking to roll this out in the near future

Thank you all for the prayers, love and support for our little group of faithful servants of the Lord here in Virginia. May the Lord continue to shine down His mercy upon all of us, as we labor in the various works in which He has placed us.

To God Be the Glory!

**Elder Justin Farris**

**Pastor-Upper Spotsylvania Missionary Baptist Church**



Elder Wayne Deering held a Revival meeting in our nation's capital at the Ellipse Park just behind the Whitehouse, having nightly services starting at 7pm Tuesday night( May 30) through Friday night (June 2, 2017). This was the fourth consecutive year that a Revival meeting has been held in Washington DC. Assisting Brother Deering were Elder Justin Farris and Elder Michael Horton. These were good spiritual services with good preaching, singing, praying and testifying. Nightly attendance ranged from 13 to 23, not including some passer-bys that stopped to listen. Also a homeless man on a bicycle stopped by on Thursday night and stayed for the entire service. He said he was from a "cowboy church" and was looking for the truth. He was back again for the Friday night service.

The services were well supported by several visitors from Missionary Baptist Churches in Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. On Thursday night I believe there were visitors from seven different churches. We thank God for blessing the services, and for the freedom to hold worship services like these out in the open. These revivals are planned to continue each year as long as the Lord leads. Next year's Revival is planned for Tuesday night through Friday night (May 29th-June 1st) after Memorial Day weekend.

Brother Deering also travels to Washington almost

every week to hold a Tuesday evening Prayer service at the Quality Inn in Vienna VA, and to volunteer at The Whitehouse Visitor Center on Wednesday morning. His connections at the Visitor Center has enabled him to secure the necessary permits to hold the outdoor services near the Whitehouse.

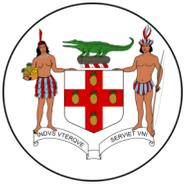
Please continue to pray for these efforts in the Washington DC area.



Dear Brothers, Sisters & believers in the Old Timey way of becoming reprovved, convicted, & drawn by God's power to the saving of the soul - I begin by sharing news regarding my burden to go to Nassau, Bahamas to preach the Word. As many may not realize, preaching in a foreign land is very different than the US. After three visits to scout the area to hold the first revival and line out living quarters etc.; and once I applied for a work permit to permanently preach and establish the mission, I am not allowed to re-enter the country until the status of the permit is granted. Every two weeks I have someone checking on the status. A few months ago, all permits were abruptly halted due to the ruling government changing hands. I'm told as soon as their new government officials are in place I should hear regarding the status of my mission to be established on the island. Therefore, I am still in need of your prayers that the goodness of God will befall my Macedonian call to Nassau which Craighead Old Timey Missionary Baptists in Jamaica, where I hold my membership, has authorized my work. Please continue to pray for the prosperity of the church in Craighead Jamaica and the mission efforts in the Western Caribbean, and those in other places abroad and at home in the US.

**Brother Rick Jones**





## Jamaica Trip Report

### July 10-17, 2017

By John Porter

There were six of us that traveled from the US to Jamaica, arriving Monday afternoon July 10, for a week of revival services and free medical clinics to be held at the Craighead Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to myself, joining Dr. Mike Collins on this trip were Susan Collins (Dr Collins' wife), Dr. Kay Wiatr, Michelle and Buddy Jones. Everyone, except for me, were from Bowling Green, KY. It took 2 to 3 hours for Dr Collins to get his medicines through customs at the Montego Bay airport. We all left the airport by van for the drive up into the mountains to the Bryce Guest House where everyone stayed, arriving about 9:00 PM. Bryce House is located near Christiana which is about a 20 to 30 minute drive to the Craighead Church. Brother Rick Jones, who had arrived a few days earlier, stayed at the apartment in the church basement.

Tuesday morning Brother Dwen Gritton transported everyone to the church in the trusty pickup truck. Several hours were spent setting up the clinic in the church basement before seeing any patients. Helping Dr. Collins in the clinic were Susan Collins (RN), Michelle Jones (a medical assistant student/trainee), Dr. Kay Wiatr (a dermatologist) and Salonie Williams (a local church member who just completed her RN studies/degree). Susan and I worked in the pharmacy dispensing the prescribed medicines. Several patients were seen in the afternoon and early evening, however we were hampered by electrical power losses. The clinic was closed around 7:00 PM, and church services were also cancelled due to the electrical power loss.

Clinics during the day continued Wednesday and Thursday and revival services held each night. As usual the opening of the clinic each day was preceded by a devotional and prayer on the first floor of the church where the patients were waiting. The patients were also invited to the nightly revival services.

On Friday after seeing a few patients at the church, a good part of the day was spent with Dr Collins making house calls to see patients that were physically unable to come to the church clinic. Some of these patients are bedridden. These in-

home patient visits are always a very special and spiritual occasion where devotionals and prayer are held before Dr Collins attends to their physical needs.

On Saturday we went to Mandeville and met Kevin Malcolm and his family. He grew up as an orphan child at the New Vision Orphanage when the Benson's were operating the orphanage. We also met Christina, another former orphan child that was raised at the orphanage. Both of them have done really well in life, and are a living legacy to the great work of the Bensons who were like a mother and father to the children at the orphanage.

Nightly revival services were held on Wednesday through Saturday. Attendance at some services was hampered by the rain. There was good preaching, but no one came to the altar to seek the Lord even though there were lost people in attendance. To be very honest, it was somewhat discouraging. This all changed at the Sunday morning revival service. Brother Rick preached a good spiritual sermon, and when the altar call was given Michelle Jones came to the altar earnestly seeking the Lord. Several came into the altar to pray for her. Brother Rick then invited the church to gather in the altar to pray for Michelle. There were many knelt in the altar praying for her. In a short while Michelle made a beautiful profession telling that the Lord had just saved her. Her smile radiated the peace and joy that she felt within.. Michelle then expressed a desire to join the church, as well as her husband, Buddy, who had been saved when he was 14 years old, but had never joined a church. Also a Jamaican lady, Dian Gordon, told that she got saved Saturday night at home after being at the Saturday night revival service. She also expressed a desire to join the church. The church voted to accept all three as members of the church upon their baptism. Since Brother Rick was scheduled to return to the US in a couple of days the church voted to have the baptizing that afternoon (Sunday). It was a beautiful and very spiritual baptism in spite of a pouring rain that stopped just as we reached the baptizing site.

Directly after the baptizing the US visitors changed out of their wet clothes from the rain and caught the van to Montego Bay to catch our Monday flights back to the states, except for Brother Rick who was scheduled to depart a day later. The good Lord richly blessed this trip and the revival, and He deserves all the Honor and Glory.



## Hauser MBC

### August, 2017 Report

This is an update of some things that God has been doing on the Oregon Coast this summer.

Tisha is a young (30's) single mother that moved from Missouri in February to be with her two kids. She has been attending church ever since. She experienced domestic violence in the end of May, was taken to the hospital and through testing for potential injuries from that trauma, it was discovered that she had a brain mass and other melanoma related malignancies (Stage IV melanoma cancer). She was life-flighted to a research hospital in Portland and had brain surgery the next day (Friday). On Saturday, I made the 4 1/2 hour drive to visit her in ICU and expressed to her that she hasten to seek the Lord for salvation. Nearly a week later, after a week that included a full service Wednesday night prayer meeting where the church prayed for her situation, she testified on Thursday night to Sandra that she had been saved on Memorial Day in her hospital bed! A shout of praise erupted with her testimony. She presented for church membership that Sunday and was baptized into the fellowship of the church in the Coos Bay leading to the Pacific Ocean on the last day of our revival, July 2nd. Her surgery has caused some physical impairments and she is currently taking radiation and immunotherapy treatments. Her recent medical examinations have been frustrating. She originally had brain surgery on Memorial Day weekend to remove one tumor. A test two weeks ago revealed that she now has 10 brain tumors. She is unable to work currently and the church has pulled together to provide housing and utilities. The medical prognosis is discouraging, but Sister Tisha has been very positive, cheerful, thankful and spiritually testifies to God's goodness at nearly every service she attends. She has been a great blessing to all.

Our summer revival was June 25- July 2. Elder Brad Hicks, his wife Cathleen (members at Whiteland MBC), two young children and Sister Morgan Besser (member at Macedonia MBC ) all traveled to Oregon for the revival. Elder Hicks preached with the leadership of the Holy Spirit with a theme of the week being God's Grace. Every night was very spiritual and one of my children publicly sought the Lord twice at the mourners bench during the revival. He has been lost for about a year, but had never publicly sought the Lord before this revival. Brother Hicks' last night was Friday because he had to travel back to Indiana so that he could fly out on

Sunday for ministerial work in Ghana, Africa.

Paul is a man that has attended the church for about 10-11 months. He will be 80 years old in August. He has been very faithful to attend every service at the church for several months. On Brother Hicks' last night of the revival, at the end of the service, Paul told brother Hicks, myself and our wives "Pray for me, you know I'm lost and I'm an old man." On Saturday night after I got done with the message one our members went and talked with Paul, and another member tearfully asked the church to have an altar prayer and to pray for Paul. While the church gathered in the altar and cried out to God for a long time, Paul came to the mourner's bench, knelt down and began audibly praying and seeking salvation. When the prayer was over, Paul was seated in the front row with his hands on his head/face and stated joyfully "I'm 79 years old and I have never felt like this in my life." The Spirit bore witness with that statement, but Paul waited until the next day (Sunday ) to stand and testify, saying that the Lord had saved his soul that night! He presented himself for membership and was baptized in Saunders Lake Sunday July 30th.

Thank you for your prayers and support. The church was truly revived at the end of this series of services. God has been so good to us! All Praise, Honor and Glory be unto Him.

Humbly submitted,

**Elder Jason Stotler, Sandra, Johnathan,  
Bryson, Leah, Brandon**



## Guatemala Report

### March, 2017

We send our heartfelt thanks for your support of our sister church, **Neuva Vida (New Life) Missionary Baptist Church** and its worthy mission in Coban, Guatemala.

We have waited a long time to find a translator for the purpose of translating Brother Edgar's sermon(s) on tape from Spanish to English, and have found fulfillment of our desire in the efforts of Brother Ryan Skinner. I and others have been favorably impressed with Brother "Edgar's sermons that were translated. Brother Edgar seems to have a deep spiritual understanding of both genuine humility and a shepherd's love and burden for the work he has embraced, among other apparently good traits. We pray for the time when we can ordain him to the office of elder so that he can altogether fulfill this needed pastoral office, of which he has already capably embraced the burden.

Please remember Unity MBC also in your prayers.

Our little church has been burdened lately with many hard trials. Among the greatest of these was the illness and loss of one of the best young Christian men I have ever known, Brother Zach Haley, to the better world of God's heaven. We pray for divine healing of hearts which adds understanding and strength to enable those who need it most for their future pilgrim journey.

In behalf Of Unity, Nueva Vida, and all of Guatemala,

**Elder J. A. Reynolds**



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**Elder Paul Bryson:** 2701 Sample-Scales Road, Homer, GA, 30547 (706) 677-3432.

**Elder Bobby Budd:** 6255 S 501 Rd., El Dorado Springs, MO 64744 (417)876-7478

**Brother Damon Carlock:** 119 Hillsdale Ave. Bowling Green, KY 42104 [damoncarlock@gmail.com](mailto:damoncarlock@gmail.com), (270)202-3059

**Elder Justin Farris:** 6924 Old Courthouse Rd., Spotsylvania, VA 22551 (504)645-2913 [apjfarris@gmail.com](mailto:apjfarris@gmail.com)

**Gold Coast Mission Fund,** C/O Elder Bradley Hicks, 229 Forum Drive, Whiteland, IN, 46184 (317)750-8780 [www.goldcoastmissions.com](http://www.goldcoastmissions.com)

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**Mission Trips:** [www.docmikejamaica.homestead.com](http://www.docmikejamaica.homestead.com)

**My Salvation Experience :** [www.mysalvationexperience.com](http://www.mysalvationexperience.com)

**Old Fashion Gospel Hour:** Farris Crook, Bookkeeper, 821 Hwy 52, E, Portland, TN 37148: website-[http://www.ofgh.org/\(615\)822-3208](http://www.ofgh.org/(615)822-3208)

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**Words Of Hope Ministry:** International Radio Broadcast, Elder Eugene Brown, Dir., P. O. Box 22, Hendersonville, TN 37075 (615) 824-5285 (website address-<http://www.wordsofhope.org>.)

**Bahamas Mission:** Send donations to : Elder Rick Jones, P.O. Box 572, Buffalo, MO 65622

**Jamaican Support:** Donations to support the Jamaican Churches should be sent to : Elder Scott Carter, 400 Chickasaw Drive, Huntington, TN 38344

**The Africa Fund:** c/o Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lucas, 100 Bluebird Lane, Lafayette, TN 37083 615-688-8485

**Kenya Fund:** c/o James Jones, P.O. Box 109, Whitehouse, TN 37188 (615) 672-0442 [jamesjonesdph@gmail.com](mailto:jamesjonesdph@gmail.com)

## ***The Macedonian Call***

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FREE UPON REQUEST

Financed by the free will gifts of concerned Churches & Individuals

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