

# The Torch

SPRING 2013



## Passing the Torch from Generation to Generation

*President Harold Graves*

A highlight of the Commencement season at Nazarene Bible College is the passing of the torch ceremony during the Saturday morning Convocation. The torch is passed from graduate to graduate with each pledging to take the light of the Gospel to a world in darkness. The last graduate then passes the torch to a first-year student who vows to follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before them. It is an inspirational moment for all who witness the ceremony.

In 1982, Claude and Janet Crisp took the torch in their hands and promised to take the light of Christ into the world. They began their ministry serving local Nazarene churches in Eastern Kentucky. In 1986, Claude heard the call of God to serve both God and country as a United States Army Chaplain. Upon completion of seminary, Claude entered into active duty as an Army Chaplain. For more than 20 years he has provided preaching, counseling, pastoral care, and spiritual leadership to the outstanding members of the Armed Forces in both stateside locations and world areas such as Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, the Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Cuba, Korea, and Germany.

During their military years, Janet volunteered her talents and gifts to various Nazarene churches wherever they were assigned providing preaching and teaching support and other needed services. Her greatest calling was evident in her dedication to raising four children in the challenging military environment where the soldier is often absent from the home while performing military duties.

This year, Claude and Janet's eldest child, John, will be the first-year student receiving the torch from a member of the graduating class. John will make his promise to follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before. How appropriate that those footsteps include his parents who have served God and country so effectively.

I am reminded of the Apostle Paul's charge to Timothy as recorded in 2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5 (NIV)

*<sup>1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup>Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. <sup>3</sup>But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.*

Passing the torch to glorify Jesus Christ as Lord, by preparing adults to evangelize, disciple, and minister to the world is the great mission of Nazarene Bible College. I am thankful to be a part of that mission.

*You are invited  
to the NBC Alumni  
Luncheon at  
General Assembly.*

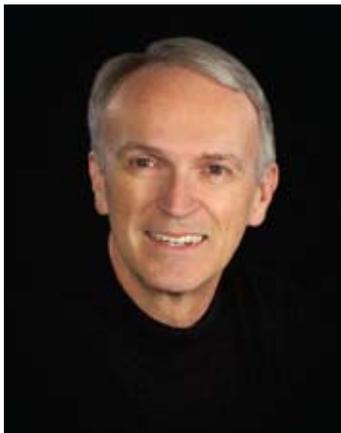
*See page 3 for details*



## Professor Ron Attig

### *Communication and Spiritual Formation*

*This issue of The Torch spotlights Professor Ron Attig, well known by students, alumni and friends of Nazarene Bible College for almost forty years.*



**The Torch:** Forty years is quite a career.

Tell our readers what it is that connects you to Nazarene Bible College.

**Prof. Attig:** From my beginning days here, I have been surrounded by devoted, mission-driven colleagues in the administration and faculty. I was privileged to serve with some of the founding faculty when I arrived in 1973. These men and women, like Drs. G. B. and Audrey Williamson, modeled an unmistakable passion for the mission of NBC; they shaped my vision of the global impact this institution would have. My present colleagues mirror their passion as they sacrificially invest their lives in this generation. Their commitment stimulates my continuing desire to be a part of this “grand enterprise.”

**The Torch:** What is it about preparing men and women for active ministry that continues to challenge you?

**Prof. Attig:** The opportunity to impact students’ personal growth in addition to their skill development is extremely rewarding. My greatest joy is the privilege of watching students “become” what God has in mind for them to be. They are trophies of God’s grace. A Divine calling compels them. I am challenged daily to participate in their journeys. Christ, the Master Teacher, is my model and inspiration.

**The Torch:** Share with us a bit of your personal background, your academic preparation, and how you have been specially honored by your alma mater.

**Prof. Attig:** I was raised in a Nazarene parsonage. This introduced me to ministry as a way of life. My undergraduate education began at Olivet and concluded at Mid-America Nazarene College where I met my lovely wife, Ann. While beginning my teaching career at NBC, I completed an M.A. in Communication at the University of Northern Colorado. In 1999, I was honored by my alma mater, MNU, with a Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

**The Torch:** What do you most enjoy about living in the Rocky Mountain area of Colorado?

**Prof. Attig:** I have always enjoyed the scenery. Living at the base of the front range is a privilege. Looking at the majestic mountains beckons me to explore them. Through wildflower hikes, downhill skiing, snowmobiling, and autumn aspen excursions, I have discovered the incredible beauty of the Colorado Rockies. Hiking to the summit of Pike’s Peak (14,115’) was challenging and exhilarating!

**The Torch:** How do you pray for Nazarene Bible College?

**Prof. Attig:** I pray that we will be faithful to our mission and that we will continue to serve the Nazarene denomination by providing future leaders who understand holiness and model Christlikeness. I pray that our curriculum will fortify students with the truths of Scripture as they face a culture of shifting moral and ethical standards. I pray that our students will develop an intimacy with God and choose to be servant leaders. I pray that the administration, faculty, and staff will experience God’s grace and be strengthened by His power daily to accomplish their tasks.



## PLANNED GIVING AT NBC

You can make an important long-term difference at Nazarene Bible College through planned giving. By including NBC in your estate planning, you can help us prepare people for ministry by reducing their need for student loans. You can include NBC in your will, create a charitable remainder trust, establish a charitable gift annuity, or assign a life insurance policy to the college.

**Dr. Terrell Earnest** is available to help you with the details in arranging your gift to NBC. Contact Dr. Earnest at [www.nicep.org/tearnest](http://www.nicep.org/tearnest), or call Mike Arrambide at (719) 884-5004.

## Songwriter Dave Clark '12 Leads the NBC Family in Chapel



Dave Clark’s songwriting credits cross musical boundaries from contemporary Christian music to southern gospel, including songs recorded by Larnelle Harris, Sandi Patty, Steve Green, 4HIM, Al Denson, Point of Grace, Craig & Dean, Glen Campbell, Donny Osmond, CeCe Winans, The Martins, and many others. Along with authoring more than thirty musicals, Dave recently celebrated his 25<sup>th</sup> #1 song adding to a list that includes *Crucified with Christ*, *Strange Way to Save the World*, *Be the One*, among others. In 2009, Dave was awarded ASCAP’s Living Legend Award in honor of his many accomplishments.

Dave says, “I left my home and family in Jackson, Michigan when I was 17 to move to Nashville, Tennessee to pursue God’s call to write Christian music. Even though college was not an option at that point, I always intended to go. It was nearly 30 years later when I enrolled at NBC in the MPP program. The goal was not to try and get a better job, but to get a deeper understanding of the Bible. About a year and a half into that program, after coming to the conclusion that studying was not as overwhelming as I feared, I switched to the degree program and graduated in 2012. The online method allowed me to achieve the education I could not have otherwise, and I am convinced that NBC does it better than anyone else.”



## NBC Alumni Investing in the Lives of Others

*Dr. Stephen Anthony, is a 1977 graduate of NBC, and is currently serving as District Superintendent of the Eastern Michigan District.*

**The Torch:** How did God use your move to Colorado Springs and the call to NBC to impact your life and ministry?

**Dr. Anthony:** When Marilyn and I and our two-year old daughter moved to Colorado Springs in the spring of 1974, we had never lived more than a few miles from where we grew up. It was a huge step of faith, and now that I look back, it was the best thing that could have happened to us. It was a great time of maturing in our family and spiritual life. The journey through our days at NBC was a constant walk of faith that has provided us the platform for our entire ministry. I'm thankful there was no such thing as an online program then, because I would have most likely chosen it and missed out on one of the biggest blessings of my life. I believe in the online program, but there's nothing like loading everything on a truck and heading off to school. Our move was as much a part of our education as the classroom work.

**The Torch:** Describe the benefits and how your life and ministry were impacted by the experience of attending Nazarene Bible College on campus.

**Dr. Anthony:** Being on campus taught me how to balance the many rigors of ministry that I would face over the next 36 years. Like most other NBC students, I had to work a full-time job and attend classes full-time, as well. Add study time, church involvement, and being a full-time husband and father, I had to learn to be creative. We learned how to do without a lot of things and how to stretch the dollars. Marilyn learned to sew the girls' clothes, and we would only shop for things if they were on sale. It was an honor just to sit under the instruction of some of the giants of the Church of the Nazarene like Dr. and Mrs. G.B. Williamson, Dr. Norman Oke, and Rev. Milo Arnold. The list is almost endless. *(Continued on page 4.)*



**Al Pitman '77** realized God's call on his life in 1973 at the age of seventeen. Soon after, he began serving as bass guitarist in a Christian band, at which time he met Norma. They were married in 1975. He received his degree in Biblical Studies from Nazarene Bible College in 1977. He eventually joined the staff of Calvary Chapel of Colorado Springs in music ministry. In 1991, the family relocated to New Mexico where Al served at Calvary Chapel Albuquerque as an assistant pastor and co-worship leader.

In 1997, the Lord called Al and his family back to Colorado Springs to pastor Calvary Worship Center. Though it was a difficult decision, they knew the Lord was leading them, and they have experienced God's awesome faithfulness as the fellowship has grown along with their faith. Al earned his Master's degree in 2006, and in 2012 he earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque. Al and Norma are the proud parents of Renee, Nathan, and Reggie, as well as proud grandparents. They covet your prayers for their family and ministry as they endeavor to live a life pleasing to the Father. Al says, "To God be the glory for all He has done and will do!"



**Ruben Villarreal '98** is the founding pastor of ThornCreek Church in Thornton, Colorado. This church was started by Pastor Ruben and his wife, Grace. There was no "parent church" or "core team" that was provided, and they were complete strangers to the area. However, the Colorado District graciously helped finance the first two years. Although the north Denver area was known to be "hard ground" for churches, God blessed ThornCreek, and today it has approximately 1,000 people who call it their home church. God clearly deserves all the glory! ThornCreek is a Nazarene church, but only 10 percent have any Nazarene background. Most of the demographics consist of different faith or non-religious people. ThornCreek has learned a rhythm of being very culturally relevant, extremely Bible-driven, and is unapologetically passionate about Jesus Christ. Additionally, ThornCreek has strong local and regional outreaches and has a long-term global partnership with Negritos, Peru through Compassion international. ThornCreek will celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on April 20, 2013. Ruben and Grace have two wonderful children, Josiah and Hannah. Ruben says, "This church is evidence that God can do anything He wants to do with anyone He wants to use!"



## Indianapolis Alumni Banquet

**You are invited to join us at the NBC Alumni Luncheon on Saturday, June 22 at the Westin Hotel, Grand Ballroom One and Two**

- President's Greetings and Update
- Dr. Gary Haines Sings
- Award Presentations
- Fellowship and Friends

**Gathering at 11:30 Luncheon Served at Noon**

**Tickets are \$25 Available Online**

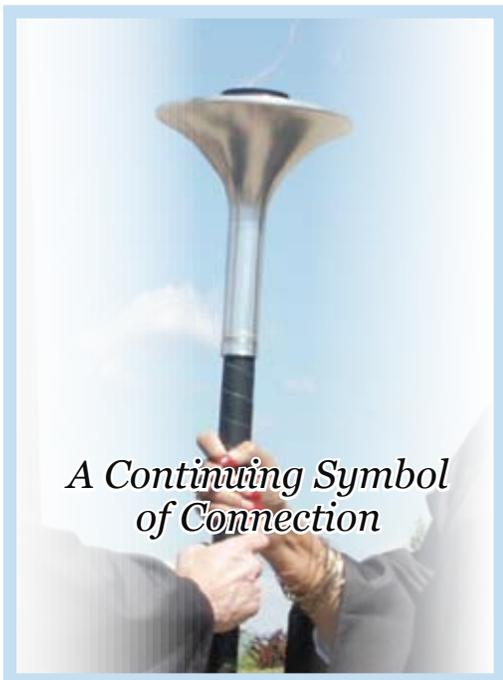
<http://www.secure.nbc.edu/secure/payments/events.php>

**When ordering tickets online, be sure to click "General Assembly Luncheon" for payment type**

**After May 31, Ticket Price is \$30 until sold out**



## Indianapolis



*A Continuing Symbol  
of Connection*

## Nazarene Bible College Calendar

<b>Awards Chapel</b> . . . . .	<b>May 7</b>
<b>Graduate Chapel</b> . . . . .	<b>May 14</b>
<b>Graduate Sending Chapel</b> . . . . .	<b>May 15</b>
<b>Convocation</b> . . . . .	<b>May 25</b>
<b>Class of 1973 Reunion</b> ( <a href="mailto:dianebean6@gmail.com">dianebean6@gmail.com</a> ) . . . . .	<b>May 25</b>
<b>Class of 1983 Reunion</b> ( <a href="mailto:arizonapastor@q.com">arizonapastor@q.com</a> ) . . . . .	<b>May 25</b>
<b>Class of 2008 Reunion</b> ( <a href="mailto:vjunge1@msn.com">vjunge1@msn.com</a> ) . . . . .	<b>May 25</b>
<b>Alumni/Graduate Banquet</b> . . . . .	<b>May 25</b>
<b>Commencement</b> . . . . .	<b>May 26</b>
<b>Summer Term Begins</b> . . . . .	<b>June 3</b>
<b>Alumni Luncheon at Assembly</b> . . . . .	<b>June 22</b>
<b>G.B. Williamson Tournament</b> . . . . .	<b>August 26</b>

## Tournament Proceeds Pay Big Dividends



**Pastor Bob Moulding '95** recalls, "In my junior year at Nazarene Bible College, I was faced with a difficult choice—take a year off from school to get caught up financially or move forward trusting that God would supply my needs. My advisor encouraged me to do

the latter, and I registered for classes. I still remember sitting in her office as she prayed for me. The Lord answered through a scholarship made possible by the *G.B. Williamson Alumni Golf Tournament*. Only time and eternity will reveal the full impact of that simple prayer and a generous gift from a game of golf."

Nazarene Bible College is blessed to annually distribute scholarships from endowed funds of approximately \$67,500. In recent years, the proceeds from the golf tournament equal the approximate annual proceeds of a \$300,000 endowed fund, with annual net proceeds of about \$15,000. This is largely due to the generous support of sponsors of the tournament, and a good number of golfers who validate the sponsor support decision.

The 36<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament is scheduled for a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. on the Silver Course at the Air Force Academy's Eisenhower Golf Course on Monday, August 26, 2013. You may register at the NBC website.

*Steve Anthony continued from page 2*

**The Torch:** What value was added to your educational experience by moving to Colorado Springs and attending NBC?

**Dr. Anthony:** I thank God for the vision that a few had for a place called Nazarene Bible College. I had not done well in college right out of high school, and with jobs plentiful I didn't even complete a semester. I had a good job with a great future, but God interrupted those plans. When I was looking for a place to prepare for the call God had placed on my life, I checked out one of our liberal arts colleges but found there was not only a huge age gap between the average student and myself, but also there was a tremendous cost difference. My pastor, Rev. Norman Rickey, took the time to drive me from Michigan to Colorado Springs to visit NBC. When I stepped on campus I knew immediately that was the place God had for me. I am convinced that my ministry would not have been nearly as fruitful had I not attended NBC. It prepared me as a pastor. Every class was geared to ministry and how to be an effective pastor.

**The Torch:** Tell our readers about the highlights of your 36 years in ministry.

**Dr. Anthony:** I grew up in Michigan, and the Williams Lake Church of the Nazarene was our church home. After serving in the Air Force and working in management for Michigan Bell, Marilyn and I were married in 1968. We served our local church in various capacities, and then in 1973 I answered God's call to preach. I graduated from NBC in 1977, then served in Michigan churches and was elected Superintendent of the Eastern Michigan District in 1992.

*Dr. Anthony was the first NBC graduate to serve as a district superintendent. During his time as D.S., he has led the district to plant 15 new churches. In 1994, Olivet awarded him the Doctor of Divinity degree. Dr. Anthony has announced his retirement as of mid-April, 2013.*