



Native Sons

Equipping Native Leaders to Reach Native Americans

P R E S I D E N T G I L B E R T W A L K E R

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We still at app. 90% of our monthly support.
- The state of North Carolina has just approved NABC for an additional major — BRE in Missions.

PRAYER POINTS

- Comfort for Theresa & her family.
- That our budget be fully raised.
- Sensitivity to the culture and grace and favor among the people.

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Pastor Gilbert Walker is in transition. He is now both Pastor Walker and President Walker. Since September he has been serving as president of NABC as well as pastor of Maxton First AG. Elected by unanimous decision, President Walker is the first Lumbee president of NABC although not the first Native American to serve at the school.

Rev. Roger Cree (Mohawk) was president from '77-'82, under his leadership the school purchased the current property and erected its first building. Rev. Roy Clark (Lumbee) taught from '78-'79 and also served as interim president from '82-'83 both while pasturing full-time. His wife, Sister Juanita Clark (Lumbee) taught from '88-'89 while teaching full-time in West Lumberton. Rev. Marvin Wilber (Menominee) taught and was also VP of Student affairs from '94-'95. Rev. John Maracle (Mohawk) taught and was VP of Student affairs from '95-'97. Rev. Mitchell Oxendine (Lumbee) served as Executive VP and taught from '83-2001 while also pastoring full-time.

Pastor Walker pioneered Maxton First Assembly and will celebrate his 25th year as its pastor in October 2008 at which time it is his intention to fully step down and devote himself entirely to running NABC.

My first semester at NABC has come to an end. I am enjoying teaching and we have made some wonderful new friends. Caleb is doing well, but is struggling with the issue of "reverse prejudice." We encourage him that this is what others have experienced for many years. He understands, but still finds it difficult.

Since our last newsletter we have experienced another death in our family. Theresa's brother Bob died unexpectedly the week before Thanksgiving. This necessitated a trip back north for us to be with family. I did the funeral on the

weekend. At the beginning of the week we all cleaned out Bob's apartment. His death has been hard on Theresa and her family. They are doing well, but very much still working through the grieving process.



President Gilbert Walker

tion of further buildings in the future.

President Walker speaks of a desire to equip Native Americans to reach Native Americans and to become equippers themselves. He also desires to reach beyond the local Native American community to see the school become a tool to reach out to all cultures.

Currently working on developing a greater awareness of NABC's presence, President Walker envisions a time when we will be as

large as any of the other AG schools. His desire is to make NABC a hub for sectional activity as well as for the North Carolina District and beyond. There is active discussion between the District and the school to transfer the current ministerial training school run by the district to NABC.

President Walker desires to reach the local population through leadership development at all levels within the church; equipping both pastors and lay people with the tools they need to minister more effectively. He would like to see us eventually offer developmental programs that will start where a person is; included within this vision is the development of a GED for those who lack a high school diploma. He envisions a time when the school will become a university offering Biblically based training to those seeking to enter fields other than the ministry proper (nursing, engineering, etc.).

With the beginning of the raising up of Native leadership at the school it is an exciting time to be at NABC. As his transition President Walker states, "I can feel God beginning to remove the mantle of pastoral leadership from me and equip me with the armor I need to run NABC and lead it to its next level of development."

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O N A P E R S O N A L N O T E

support. Because of the meaning of this season we have reason and cause to celebrate.



Merry Christmas!

Theresa was so impressed with John's results from the "new body" by Jesus program she tried it herself with equally remarkable results