

Most are familiar with the wilderness wanderings of Israel in the OT. God chastened His people by making them reside in the wilderness for a period of 40 years because of unbelief and disobedience. At the end, many had died, little ones grew older, and some were born. Following this time, God's people, led by Joshua, possessed the land of promise.


Why this story? In some ways our journey as a church planting work in Salem County has felt like a "wandering" of sorts. While we were not being punished by God, nor did we "wander" for 40 years (more like 7), God has had a very distinct plan for this church. He is all wise, sovereign, and head of His church.



The BURDEN



Pastor Mark Franklin and the ministry of Hardingville Bible Church (Monroeville, NJ) sponsored and initiated this church planting endeavor. The need existed for a Bible-believing, independent, fundamental church in the Alloway/Mannington area.

 **The BUILDINGS** In God's providence, we were led to different meeting places until settling in Alloway.

➤ **April 2006** – The Fraser home

A weekly, Thursday night Bible Study began in a home on Quinton-Alloway Rd. to stir interest and build a nucleus. Mainly led by Pastor Franklin and Pastor Terry Smith, these times included a Bible study, fellowship, and refreshments.

➤ **June 2007** – Mannington Grange Hall (Compromise Rd.)

The Bible Study phase was moved to Sunday evening @ 5 pm.

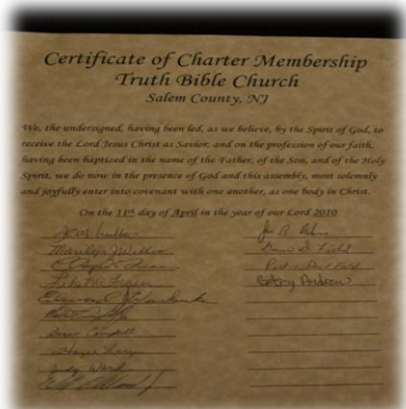


- **September 2008** - Remsterville Learning Center (in Mannington)
 Going by the name Mannington Bible Church, a formal Sunday morning service began as well as Sunday School for all ages. Pastor Dave Field committed to pioneer the work.



- **October 2009** - 7th Day Church in Quinton (on Rt. 49)
 Needing a larger facility, we made a move. With this move, the name Truth Bible Church was adopted and other services added.

Highlight: April 11, 2010 we formally organized as a local church.



➤ November 2010 – Alloway Municipal Building

God orchestrated our move to the town of Alloway in His time. While having some limitations, this facility was nicely renovated, suitable, a good location, and the cost was fair. During our time here, we met a number of the townships leaders and were able to be a good testimony for the Lord.



* For years Pastor and the leadership had prayerfully sought a more permanent home not just for the church but for Pastor and his family.



By the end of 2011, we were informed of the intent to close the Alloway Church of the Nazarene. This facility and home was located within the heart of the community.



For 2012, the properties remained “on the market” and, while we were interested, the asking price was unaffordable. In God’s will and time, the church was willing to greatly reduce their price to see it remain as a church. Discussions, prayer, and membership meetings followed.

We outlined some contingencies that we needed God to work in.

- 1 – The District of the Nazarene accepts our offer.
- 2 – The mold remediation cost was not excessively high.
- 3 – Hardingville Bible Church could financially assist us.

God worked...

- 1 – Our offer of \$125k on 1/15/2013 for both the church and parsonage was accepted with no counter!
- 2 – Remediation costs were affordable!
- 3 – HBC unanimously voted on 1/24/2013 to give us a \$100k loan with no payments for the 1st year and no interest over the life of the loan.



➤ March 2013 – Settlement on new church building and parsonage

Following settlement, we got to work getting the church and parsonage ready for use. It would take several months!



1st service in new building:
June 16, 2013



Summer 2014 - New well drilled 280'



A MEMORABLE BLESSING

January 22, 2015 the Hardingville Bible Church membership voted to forgive the entire \$100k loan.

What an amazing gesture of love, grace, and support! Psalm 145:3 is true when it says “great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.” We praise Him for the ministry and testimony of HBC and the significant contribution they have made in the establishing of a NT church.



✝ Our first missionaries

In July 2015, we began supporting the Knipes (South Africa), Maries (Bolivia), and Shalom Ministries/Craig Hartman (NYC & Israel).



Summer 2015 the basement was renovated and we received a certificate of occupancy to use the entire basement!





Also in 2015 – Fall
The church parking lot was paved!



2016 - Major renovations to the front entrance, foyer, and sanctuary



What a difference!!!!





More renovations - the Fellowship Hall



Pastor Dave and Dawn's family

Fall 2008 (when we officially started)



Fall 2023



This “BRIEF” review is just a sample of what God has done at TBC in our young history.

We are grateful for every person who has attended and served the Lord in some way here over the years.

What is more important than physical/building blessings?

Answer: The work God has done over the years in saving souls and changing His people to be Christlike.