

September 3, 2025

Dear Co-laborers,

*Heaven came down and glory filled our souls* is the only way to describe the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary services of Shalom Baptist Church. The actual anniversary date of the organization of the church was August 20, 1975. However, the anniversary festivities stretched throughout the whole month of August.

The first celebration was an overnight church retreat held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, just south of the city of Jakarta. There was not only preaching, but plenty of fellowship, games, and family time.

The missions director of the World Baptist Fellowship, Bro. Joey Bacon, and his wife Julie were our special guests August 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>. On Friday evening, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, Shalom Baptist Church sponsored a city-wide seminar for pastors and church workers. Bro. Joey Bacon spoke on *Problems and Solutions in Ministry*. It was such a blessing and encouragement to the 97 in attendance. The following morning, the ladies fellowship of Shalom Baptist Church hosted a city-wide ladies meeting. Mrs. Julie Bacon spoke to a crowd of 198 from 15 different Independent Baptist churches on *Sarah: A Woman of Great Faith and Doubt*. What a wonderful lesson on trusting God! Afterwards Mrs. Bacon gave each lady a small packet of mustard seeds to remind them to have a "mustard seed" of faith every day.



*Karen translating for Mrs. Julie Bacon*



*Evans Tambunan translating for Bro. Joey Bacon*

The climax of our celebrations was held on Sunday morning, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Special songs were sung by the Sunday School children, youth, ladies, men, Bible college students, and others. Then Bro. Joey Bacon preached, *Great is God's Faithfulness* from Psalm 89. The service, followed by a video of the history of the church, special recognition of our oldest church members, and a catered box lunch, lasted about five hours. *Heaven came down and glory filled our souls* for what God had wrought!

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support, making it possible for Shalom to celebrate these fifty years of ministry. We covet your prayers that the Lord will continue to bless and grow the ministry throughout Indonesia.

His for Indonesia,

Karen L. Werth

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