

Resolution of Appreciation for Hope Baptist Church – Host Church

The brethren of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America, meeting June 21-23, 2016 at Hope Baptist Church, Hanover, PA, hereby express our deep appreciation to our host church for their generous welcome and thoughtful care for us under the leadership of our brother, Pastor Al Harris. The church's support of the work of the Fellowship is exemplary, especially in terms of the leadership and service of her people: Pastor Harris, who has served faithfully as our Moderator; Donna Joseph, who has labored expertly with our Review mailings and other administrative needs; and the rest of the church family, who have provided for the many details of the conference we enjoyed here this week.

We have been greatly blessed by the hospitality of your people. The church's enthusiastic preparations in the love of Christ for our conference have encouraged and refreshed us as we have exhorted one another to act as freemen in a difficult day. Thank you for your faithful example and loving care. We have enjoyed the use of your beautiful building, and your generous provisions for our refreshment have been many. Thank you for ministering to our children and for servicing the logistical needs of our assemblies. Thank you for orchestrating your own ministry schedule so as to reduce our conference expenses. The commendation of Gaius applies here: "Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; which have borne witness of thy charity before the church" (3 John 4-5).

We rejoice in this separated witness for the truth of the gospel, and we pray that the blessing of the Chief Shepherd will continue to give you grace to stand as freemen with great boldness for His glory. We shall look forward to continuing to strive together with you, and may the Lord of the harvest richly multiply our labors in His field white already unto harvest. "Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it" (1 Thess. 5:24).