

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES**Fellowship Council Minutes**

Grace Brethren Church, Sacramento, CA

Thursday – February 3

The Leadership team met Thursday afternoon beginning at 12:00 PM. The full Fellowship Council met for dinner at 6:00 followed by a time of prayer and preparation for the meetings.

PRESENT: Larry Edwards (C 07), Dan Allen (Mod 05), Geraldo Leighton (H), Ron Smals (E 08), Joel Richards AGBM V-Pres, Robert McMillan (W 08), Ed Waken (W 06), Tim Boal (Mod 07), Jim Brown (E 07), Ted Kirnbauer (W 05), Dan Gregory (C 08), Keith Shearer (Mod 06), Tom Avey (FC), John Teevan (Mod 04), Vic Young (E 06), Mike Jentes (C 06), Mark Saunders (C 05), Greg Howell (Sec).

Friday – February 4

(All day is for the Fellowship Council and leaders of Cooperating Organizations)

Devotions—by Ted Kirnbauer “Surfing at Pipeline”, men’s triple crown and the spectators were watching the babes, not the surfers. Illustration of looking at the wrong thing. Ted took purposes home and called them his own and thought he taught them to his leaders, but when Ed Lewis asked, they couldn’t articulate, because they were not looking at the main event. He read the Vision for 2010 from Handbook. Challenge: ask local elders, can they list the core values (3—biblical truth, biblical relationships, biblical mission) We only have 5 years left to accomplish these goals and just having our leaders recite them may be the minimum.

020405-01 What we see in the FGBC?

1. Update Grow-Go-Lead (Tom Avey)
 - a. Relationship of vision and values. May be able to state vision, but will always pursue values. Values can change. God’s purpose is to change our values. They are not what you decide they are—they are discovered by observation.
 - b. What are our values?
 - (1) I and my Bible all alone
 - (2) Read and obey. (Truth and Conduct are one word)
 - (3) Sorting cherries (Pietism, Anabaptist, reformed, etc) eclectic
 - (4) Resist the cloister
 - (5) Community/Relationship: “She birthed me”...”He trained me...”
 - (6) Local church
 - (7) Jesus of the Bible
 - (8) Evangelism
2. GrowGoLead
 - (1) One vision—Multiple Strategies
 - (2) Simple
 - (3) Nehemiah-type vision
 - (4) Invites Improvement (fixing)
 - (5) Movements are happening
 - (a) Tiger-by-the-tail pastors
 - (b) Backbone pastors (Micropolitan Movement) majority of churches under 200
 - (c) Multi-Cultural/City Reach (comfort stretchers)
 - (d) 20-somethings
 - (6) Synergy is happening
 - (a) GrowGoLead and the National Organizations’ reports
 - (b) Moderators
 - (c) Conference Themes:
 - (i) Ron Manahan in 2001 Leadership: “The Next Generation”
 - (ii) Jeff Gill: “Discerning the Times”
 - (iii) John Tevan: “On the brink of Opportunity”
 - (iv) Dan Allan: “Watch your life and doctrine”
 - (v) Keith: “Truth on Fire”
 - (vi) Tim: still formulating: The church
 - (d) Permission is happening

- (i) Don't need anyway—Unleashed
 - (ii) Cloud or a box? (We are not a box.)
 1. Possibly a cloud of boxes
 - (iii) Platforms are an issue.
 1. The GB movement is not a good place for people with egos.
 2. We need to work to validate initiative.
- (7) Diagram of FGBC People/churches (like a bicycle—have to keep it moving): If you diagram our structure, it is very “flat”. Not much hierarchy.
- (8) Why FGBC Inc? (What if...?) Every institution has a survival instinct. What gives hope?
 - (a) We will not survive if we don't see growth by conversion. Local churches need new believers to survive, and FGBC needs new churches.
 - (b) We will not survive if we don't develop new leaders.
- (9) What is the job of FC in a cloud-like movement?
 - (a) Relationships
 - (i) Communications
 - (ii) Time together
 - (iii) Behavior
 - (b) Vision
 - (i) There is an end-game
 - (c) Core values
 - (i) Set the keel
 - (ii) Strategic activity that we are willing to give away
 - (iii) DNA—Divine Truth, Nurturing Development, **Accomplishing Mission**
 - (iv) Jesus—His word, His church, His mission
3. Dan Allan: One of us (pastors) What I see:
 - a. Sensitive hearts for God and His Word
 - b. Focus retreats
 - c. Movements are being led by servants
 - d. More about people coming than people going
 - e. Less posturing and judging and more networking and loving
 - (1) More theological safe zones than used to be
4. Open discussion followed on questions/comments such as:
 - a. Is the FC a legislative body or a group of traffic cops?
 - b. Keith's year will be about the Bible.
 - c. Focus next year will be about the Bible.
 - d. FC guards the fellowship—relationships and core values, different expressions and movements. FC provides the keel, clouds connected together by relationships and core values.

020405-02 - How can we make church planting a national priority in the FGBC – Kurt Miller

This year the council asked Kurt Miller of Grace Brethren North American Missions to talk about the need for a National Priority on Church Planting.

1. “Church Planting Now or Never”
 - a. God called me...
 - i) As an evangelist from the day I was saved—13 yr old Jake Turner.
 - ii) To a global mission—love for China (Pearl Buck books).
 - iii) From the farm to the city—BJU fundamentalists are evangelists, had to be out on the street weekly evangelizing.
 - iv) To be a police officer—same people, went from locking them up to setting them free.
 - v) To be a church planter—word of life camp, 7 yrs as police then returned to dedication to Lord as a church planter. The modern day evangelist.
 - vi) To serve the FGBC.
 - vii) To reach America and the world.
 - (1) Biblical Basis for church planting:
 - (a) Church planting is based on the biblical mission of God.
 - (b) Church planting is based on the teachings of our Lord.
 - (c) Church planting is based on the Lord's commission.
 - (d) Church planting is based n God's plan for the church.
 - (e) Church planting is based on an apostolic gift and function.
 - (f) Church planting is based on God's initiative.

- (g) Church planting is based on the mission of the local church.
 - (i) Evangelism and church planting are part of the mission of the local church. *In the words of Emil Bruner, "As the fire exists by burning so the church exists by mission."* Both neighborhood evangelism as well as cross-cultural evangelism should be given equal emphasis. Both the home mission and the foreign mission should be emphasized in the total missionary involvement of the local church.
 - (ii) *Theodore Williams* explains it clearly in his book, *The Local Church and Mission*: "A church that has no concern for cross-cultural evangelism is not fulfilling its mission." He emphasizes this point from a quotation from the constitution of the Church Of South India which he feels states this point beautifully: *"Every congregation of the people of God is basic to mission in its neighborhood and to the ends of the earth. The mission of the local church does not end with the mere proclamation of the gospel. There must be the planting of churches among the people to whom the gospel is proclaimed. The mission of the local church is evangelization with a view to planting churches in the neighborhood and in the world. Local churches reproduce themselves in their neighborhood and on the mission field."*
 - (iii) Church planting is based on the growth pattern of the New Testament church.
 - (iv) Church planting is based on the nature of the gospel.
 - (v) Church planting is based on the work of the Holy Spirit.
- (2) FGBC STATISTICS
 - (a) Decline 10% in membership (Member Churches) since 1994
 - (b) 1194 273 churches
 - (c) 2004—261
 - (i) We're not doing the job of presenting the gospel and multiplying churches.
 - (ii) Church planting (GBNAM) 1994—1 2004—16 upward trend 46 have joined over the years net loss of 58 churches in the last 10 years we've got to plant more churches just to keep up with attrition. Ultimately you have to have births or the family tree will shrivel up and die. 78 churches planted 39 planted by church under 200, 20 planted by churches over 200 and 19—not by a single church
 - (iii) DATA SUMMARY
 1. 50% planted by churches under 200
 2. 25% planted by churches over 200
 3. 25% planted by GBNAM or other situations
 4. Decline: 24 94-99 54 2000-04 46 new churches joined yet we still had a net loss of 12 churches
 - (iv) BIBLICAL DUTY
 1. To be a sending Fellowship
 2. To our Jerusalem, Judea & Samaria and the rest of the world
 3. We have done international missions well –GBIM
 4. We did well in the past in our Jerusalem and Judea
 5. We can't live in the past
 6. Today, our churches are dying
 7. We are not doing very well in our Jerusalem & Judea
 8. We are doing very little in our Samaria
 9. We are on a steady decline to extinction
 10. It is time to get serious about church planting in North America
 11. If our home base is shrinking it will be hard to finance the sending –we have to grow the base.
 12. It's Now or Never
2. The GBNAM strategy has built in assumptions:
 - a. Prayer
 - b. Initiatives come from the national leadership focused on mission and FC members going back to district churches to communicate and MAKE SURE the goals and vision are being carried out in the local churches. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!
 - c. Vision sharing comes about by networking. Focus retreats are a key. Must include young people. Local church is central and primary instrument, the pearl in a dark world.
3. Suggestions
 - a. Healthy, growing churches have to step up to the plate (over 200).
 - i) They must become fellowship minded.

- ii) They must become catalysts for Fellowship wide growth.
- iii) The rest must be willing to help.
- iv) They must be willing to let them lead with respect and cooperation.
- b. We must get past the issues that sometime divide us.
 - i) Race, economy, geography, size, education
- c. We must love and appreciate each other.
- d. We need to celebrate the rest of the body.
- e. We have to begin paying more attention to our home base.
- f. "Stop the bleeding."
- g. We must put church planting on the front burner.
- h. To help with this, GBNAM should enact the "Key church Initiatives" component of their strategy in cooperation with the Fellowship Council.
 - i) Establish churches with a passion and resources for potentially explosive church multiplication
 - ii) Source of prayer recruitment
 - (1) War college mentality
 - iii) Assign career missionary to recruit and train place
- i. Our goal is spontaneous multiplication.
 - i) The FGBC has experienced a 10% decline in church membership since 1994.
 - ii) 1994 – 273 churches
 - iii) 2004 – 261 churches
 - iv) This is a "post-1993 split" decline
 - v) 50% of church planting was done by smaller churches (under 200).
 - vi) 25% of church planting was done by mid-size to larger churches (over 200).
 - vii) 25% were initiated by a solo church planter, as a district project or by GBNAM.
 - viii) The FGBC declined from 273 to 261 churches.
 - ix) 24 churches were started from 1994-1999.
 - x) 54 churches were started from 2000-2004.
 - xi) 46 new churches joined the Fellowship.
- j. The missionary or the evangelist should live in conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit. No amount of study, training and experience would substitute for the power of the Holy Spirit. This fact has been rightly emphasized by Philip Hogan of Assemblies of God: "I am persuaded to believe, that after taking advantage of every tool, pursuing every possible human plan, all one needs to do to find plenty of service is simply to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. When one engages this truth and begins to live by its principle, there will be whole communities, whole cities, whole nations, whole cultures and whole segments of pagan religions that will suddenly be thrust open to the Gospel witness..."
- k. The *Lausanne Covenant* states- "The Father sent the Spirit to bear witness to his Son; without this witness ours is futile. Conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth, and Christian growth are all the Spirit's work. Further, the Holy Spirit is a missionary spirit; thus evangelism should arise spontaneously from a Spirit-filled Church. A Church that is not a missionary Church is contradicting itself and quenching the Spirit. Worldwide evangelization will become a realistic possibility only when the Spirit renews the Church in truth and wisdom, faith, holiness, love and power."
- l. We need to include the diversity discussion.

020405-03: Follow-up discussion

Tim Boal: GBNAM exists to reach the lost, not to sustain the fellowship and not for solving the problems, but examining the possibilities and looking for pastors who are passionate about reproducing themselves. We lack workers for the harvest field. We are talking about the need for leadership and strategizing because we are in need of leaders. There may be many models and strategies, but we have one objective - to establish local churches.

Ed Waken—We need to pray every day for harvest 10-02 project.

Robert McMillan—30 days from idea to launch daughter church, under associate. Win/win/win

Who are our Timothys, young men that we can prepare and turn loose?

It is not the size of the church. It is the philosophy and passion of the man.

020405-04: Reports from Cooperating Organizations

Grace Brethren Investment Foundation - Ken Seyfert. Larry Chamberlain sends his regards. We have funds on hand waiting for the explosion of churches needing to start or expand. Funds available now are because of

consistent investment in the past and peoples' trust in the fellowship. Total assets almost \$90M, 2/3 not invested in churches. We have 5M in retirement with about 270 participants. It has become a big deal. One administrative assistant in charge .

Association of Grace Brethren Ministers - Tim Boal: Jerry Young has been working for the past 1 ½ years in research and development asking the question "should we expand the kind of people allowed to be in the AGBM?" The executive committee meets next week to review Jerry's 14 pages of recommendations. Key points—don't want a bishopric over us, but do want someone beside us working on consistent communication and continuity. Jerry and Terry White are working on connecting communications. Reincorporation in Ohio up for renewal this year, will rewrite to reflect an executive director. We are working on consistent licensure and ordination procedures. We will have a central office in WL, advance continuing education (Equip05) in order to be the best instruments God would have us be.

BMH - Terry White: "I am excited to be working more closely with AGBM and Tom Avey and the Fellowship Council." He gave an open invitation to use the BHM boardroom and DSL anytime while in Winona Lake. Building Biblical relationships is its purpose. FGBC World is connecting local churches with each other. Newest edition is at the press. Half of the time during past year was used in cleaning up and liquidating assets. Now they can concentrate on publishing and FGBC World and the editor's blog. Greatness of the Kingdom has sold 1378 copies in six months. Whitcomb and Davis book on Judges and Joshua is selling similarly. We will have about 6 books out by conference and are working on the whole Kent commentary series on Mark.

Women of Grace, USA - Janet Minnix: "What have I come to the kingdom for?" paraphrase of Esther. The leadership team has 6 core values that are similar to what local church might have. They want women to be focusing on these things and helping the local church. Women of Grace are still focusing on missionaries, but asking women in local churches about the needs they have. So far answers seem to fall into the 6 categories. They will be receiving the SMM oversight from CE National and are looking forward to working in that area with Viki Rife continuing as the coordinator. Women of Grace wants to give women permission to use the methods in their church, using the 6 key areas.

CE National - Timothy Kurtanek: Ed Lewis sends his greetings. CE National is not the church, and does not pretend to be, but wants to help. The focus in 3 areas: training, ministry experiences, and resources. Everything is focused on trying to capture people's hearts. "Tag-You're It" trains children to share their faith (thanks to Women of Grace for their help). Urban Hope has seen 3 house churches happening and gave away 300 meals at Christmas. CE Cabinets don't get much publicity, because Ed works with them directly and doesn't toot his own horn. The 4:12 Commission is working in cooperation with all of the other National Organizations not in competition. It is like a year long OB for students who have finished High School, but want a Bible education. Two upcoming locations: Norton, OH under Jeff Bogue and Sebring Florida under Randy Smith"

Grace Brethren Men - John Haller: GBM is working on expanding using Bob Arnold's Shepherd's Grace men's 3-year discipleship program. They are not planning a men's meeting at Equip05. GBM needs prayer to determine tools for local church use. They could use a couple of men to partner with Bob and John as a taskforce to formulate the future. Contact John Haller with names.

Grace College and Seminary - Jeff Gill: Ron sends his greetings. Jeff has learned a lot in 2 ½ years. Ron & John Boal are working hard to raise last 2.5 M for the convocation center. The 3T's are teaching, training, and transformation. Much of the redesigning of the seminary revolves around these three T's. They are delighted to partner with other National Organizations. Much of the future has to do with distance and continuing education. Many have told Jeff that Equip05 is perfect timing to jumpstart their DMin which they have wanted to do for 10 years. This Spring will be first of what should become an annual Seminary trip to Israel—10 days 3 credits, 12 locations, Terry Hofecker will be the instructor. Grace Seminary is working on a significant presence in Ohio with Columbus serving as an extension campus. They will focus on 3 physical locations: Winona Lake, Extensions (Columbus, Ft. Wayne) and On-line. Accreditation through ATS is being pursued. Why? Chaplains may not be recognized in future and many denominations will not recognize our MDiv from non ATS accredited seminary.

Grace Village - Jeff Carroll: A former directors/defendants funds report was distributed. 26 new units have been finished including 4 & 3 plex Robin Hood units. There are now approximately 300 residents (more Methodists than Brethren). The amount the defendants paid for the lawsuit was \$330,000—total raised \$130,000 , Grace Village is still working on this but cannot give directly; can only funnel money given.

020405-05: 4:12 Commission:

Ed Lewis wants to know if the FGBC, Inc. would support and endorse 412. It will be run like a franchise; local church based and foundational. Locations are Norton and Sebring, and they are working on a California location. It includes a trip to Israel. Tuition is \$10,500 including an Israel trip and room/board (probably in host homes). How can we be involved? Send students to Norton or Sebring or sponsor 412 in your Local church. It is a good option over Marines for 19+ homeschoolers wandering around. "They don't want to grow up". It needs to be structured to be able to be credited for transfer.

MOTION: The Fellowship Council looks with favor on 4:12 since it promotes our core values. 2/p

020405-06: National Conference in 2005

Equip05: registrations are coming in. We hear that some churches are bringing whole groups of staff. We would be thrilled if 100 churches bring 3 or more. April 1 is the first price break increase and we historically have ½ the registrations by that increase. We are already talking about Equip07 but will see how Equip05 goes before planning. The budget is built to break even at 200. We are working on childcare. There will be two plenary sessions and morning Jump-Starts as well as a big meal/business meeting Monday evening.

020405-07: National Conference in 2006

Keith Shearer on Celebrate 06: Keith gave an overview of his Moderators address ideas for feedback with a hand out. In 2004, Dan Allan talked about the flag, Keith Shearer is hoping to have a flag to wave. Dan talked about fanning the flame and intentionally stoking the fire. Jim Cymbala is confirmed for Celebrate06. Cel06 will be designed to emphasize the Biblical base of who we are. Let's be everywhere—"Jerusalem, Judea & Samaria" as Kurt expressed this morning. Cel06 will include forum discussion open to anyone: "How to release resources" (ie relief Tsunamis, build church buildings,) can we get the right people to the table? It will be a modern equivalent of FMS under the trees in 1900. Keith has invited Jim Custer to represent us to some of these Brethren groups. We are looking at producing a video to put a positive spin on 20th Cent Brethrenism. Continuing new churches for new people (FEi, micopoltan, "Driven", SALT, 4/12, etc.) Cel06 will appeal to the historic and contemporary trajectory of who we are at Focus Retreats. Thoroughly enjoyed time on leadership team and to continue things that previous moderators advanced. Hopes to emphasis affinity groupings that are not exclusively geographic (ie districts)

020405-08: National Young Adult Conference in 2006

Mike Jentes on Driven: Mike showed a video presentation. Driven is the National Young Adult Conference (June 15-18, 05—Kenyon College, Gambier, OH). Between the ages of 18 and 29 there is a 58% decline in church involvement. Many in that age bracket feel overlooked as leaders. An answer: gather a generation to become catalysts for Christ within church and culture. DRIVEN: Engage * Accelerate * Incarnate! The point where "knowing the path" intersects with "living the path". Website: Driven05.org, for 19-29 yr olds, Singles, married, (kids) \$155 until 3/1 with a break for couples and small charge for child care.

Saturday – February 5 (Fellowship Council and Leadership team only)

Devotions/Prayer by Ed Waken—"Tsunami of souls!" 10:02 harvest of souls: Jesus wants workers in the harvest fields. For too long the target has been the church, the church is an instrument to hit the target which is the world. Purpose statement—Grow, Go, Lead --Julia Childes or Julia Roberts good looking genes or good tasting genes, we all look alike when we are one minute old. We've got to see some shifts. Tuesdays dinner at my house—elders and anyone who wants to come, we sit around and talk about the church and the coming Sunday, I cook dinner. Harder, messier, etc than doing myself, but better. 1. Invite evangelists to your planning table. Kurt said "evangelist is not for world, but for church"—Eph 4:11-12. Shepherds keep people. Evangelists are risk takers—rescuing people, going out to get them. We need comprehensive leadership—not just evangelists and pastor/teachers. Lk. 19:10, John 20:21—but church is not a sending agency, we are already sent—John Fischer. 2. Evangelists are given to encourage church to use/discover evangelistic character they already have. Do not believe the lie that only 10% are evangelists 5 things every believer has

1. Authority Mt 28:18
2. Power Acts 1:8
3. Mind of God 1 Cor
4. Words of God Mt 10, Eph 6, 1 Pet—need to throw seed indiscriminately –need to change def of evangelism from conversion to conversation—successful if you sow
5. Ambassadorship

1 Evangelists need to model and teach. They need to be the mouthpiece often to people to encourage rest to
2 exercise their abilities to share. If the amount of evangelists increases, conversions will increase and the harvest
3 will be gathered. It is not about the medium it is the message. And we will see growth by conversion.
4 Need apostles, prophets, P/T as well, but don't discount the evangelists.
5

6 **020505-01: Hispanic Church and Ministry to African American**

7 Geraldo Leiton on our Hispanic Church: We have 19 Hispanic churches. The Tampa church bought almost 2
8 acres and are working on a new building. But other churches not doing well. The building at Tampa will be a
9 church and training center to equip and send other pastors. Jesus Munoz says finances were only about 60%
10 last year. "How do you break through connection with men from a women's Bible study (from ESL)?" We have
11 been to weddings, etc., but men are content with Catholicism. Soccer games, picnics, --very difficult, cultural—pray,
12 pray, pray and more prayer.
13

14 Jim Brown about African American and the FGBC: When we target them they ask "who appointed you?" But
15 secret is the same—build relationships, the race or ethnicity is not the issue.
16

17 Dan Allan: "How has FGBC made Hispanics feel a part, or made it difficult?" Gerardo Leiton: "You are doing
18 more than good", Jesus Munoz feels the same. Jesus Munoz has a budget for training new men, etc. Dan Allan:
19 "Do the Hispanic churches get together?" Gerardo Leiton: "yes, once or twice a year. Last time at Tennessee at
20 Conf.". Finances make it difficult, so trying to get together pastors from different areas together."
21

22 **020505-02: Debrief from yesterday**

23 What followed was an open discussion from the reports and presentations of Friday. These are un-edited notes
24 as taken by the secretary. Discussion points only represent the view point of the speaker and not the Fellowship
25 Council nor the FGBC.
26

27 JT—normalization from hurts of the past.

28 RS—wake up call for me, read e pages, reports, didn't realize things were not as good we thought.

29 TA—flat for 25 years, barely replace churches. Kurt's conclusions were right. Now or Never is not a bad way to
30 look at things. Emphasis on evangelism is really needed. Focus on church planning is healthy because it is an
31 evangelistic emphasis which requires leadership training. Eph 4:11 is God's plan for church growth, so we just
32 need to find the people and turn them loose. We have chased off the evangelists. What GBNAM board did is
33 huge—separating. They are not the church planting arm. TB—our role is to facilitate church planting, not do it.
34 TA—called R Boehm to ask permission, R—you plant the church—its your responsibility.

35 TA—watching grandchildren, wonderful to watch daughter-in-laws natural nurturing mothers. How many
36 churches have birthed a lot of daughter churches? Columbia City--We don't know how and looked around to
37 copy and didn't find many, so we just started doing it. Need a movement in some cities (Sacramento). TB—
38 Apostolic gift of training at setting team loose. Always about team, more than p/teacher strategy. Need to identify
39 who are those people and how do they get their teams together. I think we're off the brink and there. VY—new,
40 but I'm encouraged to hear reports. To live 3 point goal: lost save, saved grow, be real. Wonder if FGBC really
41 knows what we have going. FGBC is the most biblical—autonomy, --- When we look at the graphs, numbers is
42 not enough. What I'm hearing is a burden for souls. Deltona pass out tracks—pray Lord let me see them as you
43 see them—and walk down streets crying. Our strong points love, acceptance, being real, most biblical, answers
44 G Commision, everything converges (pietism, reformed, eschatology.,
45 TK—always come back from these meetings tense, urgency. Not motivated to change. But we have a lot to offer
46 to the Christian community. Who is it we are going to pass the baton on to. Time passes way to quickly for the
47 results that I think should be happening. Stats are always flat. We have a lot to offer.
48

EW—Go! Not just wait.

49 TA—EV Hill went hour over, trying to get response, said under his breath "no wonder I've never heard of this
50 group"

51 RM—Church planting is not end in itself, just means to have resources enough to accomplish Great Commission
52 which God has assigned to us. Only reason interested in church planting and evangelism is it is all that we know
53 how to do and what wer are called to

54 MS—list of churches needing pastors and new churches needing to be planted how are we going to raise up
55 leaders. How can we communicate to rest the urgency to look beyond all that we are personally doing.

56 TB—look for generals and find strengths and pour resources into them. Some guys are motivated internally
57 based on giftedness, so let's find the ones who are —we only need the one's God has appointed.

1 VY—my staff hate to go to ministerium, rest just happy with hand ful coming to their church. Downer to go there
2 because we sense a great difference. The others don't want anyone to rock their boat—good guys, but not
3 motivating for us.
4 TB—should fellowship around affinity rather than old geographic divisions. Figure out ways to get gether with
5 guys with same passion and interests.
6 DA—get together with folks that you want/need to be with. Do we need permission? No, who cares. Forget
7 about structure and platform, find guys that can keep you charged up.
8 LE—that's happening, youth pastor is doing it across denomination lines. Encouraged by the passion of different
9 guys—even if not my passion
10 JT—keep listening to Bullard, these are things he was telling us about
11 TA—Bullard, said to listen to people of passion because they are change agents not nec people of position
12 because they put a ceiling on things. We don't have positions. New guys on FC seem to think that they have
13 finally arrived, but after 4 years know they are nothing.
14 JT—this group is theaputic –you are a better person for having been on this council.
15 DG—maybe mostly catalytic, wrote down random thoughts: discussions that are big picture, keeping focused on
16 big things what is that?—Jesus. Believe churches . will we hear from regions, about how local churches are
17 doing. Acts 4:12, Driven, but will we create a problem to be talked about in local churches. Who are we really
18 and who do we wish we were. Sometimes wonder what we want to be. People of the Book as apposed . We
19 need to be story tellers. FCs in other parts of the globe are we hearing from them? What will take from this table
20 to be a part of this. It's been great to hear other people's heart.
21 LE—what stories are we developing now to pass on to our children.
22 TA—maybe good that there be something concrete that we take with us.
23 MG—must have something, we need to walk away with some thing.
24 EW—we maybe need to stop now listen to Holy Spirit. I don't pray with you guys. We walk away inspiried, but
25 need to walk away together with specifics
26 DA—we have time at end to sit and determine what we need to leave with.
27 RM—People really do like to hear stories. We have been sharing sermonic material, we are oral people, like to
28 hear (and tell) stories. Need to go back determined to salt our oats with the things we have been hearing.
29 VY—passion based on foundation of Word.
30
31

32 Commissions --- Leadership Team Assigned to meet with various commissions. Commissions met prior to this
33 meeting via conference call to formulate routine recommendations and to begin discussion. The following
34 motions came from the commissions to the full council for approval
35

36 FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION:

37 Larry Edwards (chair), Mark Saunders, Larry Edwards, Ron Smals, John Teevan
38

39 **020505-03 – Parsonage Allowance**

40
41 MOTION: According to the provisions in income tax law, a minister of the Gospel is not subject to federal income
42 tax on the parsonage allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used by him to rent or
43 provide a home. Based on Rev. Tom Avey's estimate of his home expenses, it is agreed to officially designate
44 50% of his total cash salary as parsonage allowance. Resolved that as long as Rev. Tom Avey is our employee
45 the above amount of designated parsonage allowance shall apply to all future years until modified. 2/p

46 47 **020505-04 – Detailed Budget for 2005**

48 Discussion:

49 We need a series of financial guidelines for FC members and moderators that contain the costs for attending an
50 out of area Focus retreats, etc.

51 We need to have a strategic plan for increased funding of the National Office for increased staff.

52 We need to prepare for the possibility of increased income from Equip05, 07 and 09.

53 The leadership team increased Tom's benefits by adding 3% added to Tom's retirement (total = 15% of base).

54 Reminder: The budget only includes a small amount (employee contribution) for Tom's health insurance since he
55 is covered through his wife's employment. However, the FGBC is obligated to cover his and his families health
56 insurance per the contract so costs may increase at any time.
57
58

59 MOTION: Approve the 2005 detailed budget with footnotes: 2/p

020505-05 – Fiscal year

Discussion: The Fellowship Council approved a shift to a year-ending fiscal year of October 31. However, this change requires delegate approval to amend the Manual of Procedure.

MOTION: Recommend to Conference that the fiscal year be November 1 through October 31. Change the Manual of Procedure as follows: ARTICLE VI, MISCELLANEOUS, Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall be November 1 through October 31. 2/p

020505-06 – Focus Retreats

MOTION: To allow the Fellowship Coordinator to invite pastors to Focus retreats when those pastors can't come due to finances. 2/p

020505-07 – Expense Reimbursement Policy

MOTION: Amend the Expense Reimbursement Policy to allow financial reimbursement for FC members who attend one Focus outside their region during their term. 2/p

020505-08 – Questions about the Financial Review

JB--Auditors report noticed several areas out of compliance—are we correcting? About the pension investment plan: A review of these funds has not been included in the financial review of the FGBC nor the audit of GBIF in past years. We are currently working to include this in next years FGBC financial review. A report (distributed by the Retirement Committee) shows that with a GBIF contribution each year and present cash in hand, the retirement committee believes the fund is properly funded. About following Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP): We operate on a partial cash basis, fully expending capital items in the year of purchase rather than according to a depreciation schedule. The Fellowship Council approved this departure from GAAP.

FROM THE STRUCTURES COMMISSION:

Ted Kirnbauer (chair), Vic Young, Nathan Zakahi, Robert MacMillan, Dan Allan, Keith Shearer

020505-09 – Nominating Committee

The Fellowship Council places names on the ballot for the delegates to select 6 for the nominating committee of the FGBC. The Fellowship Council also selects one person from those elected to serve as chairman of that committee.

MOTION: To approve the following names for the ballot for Nominating Committee in 2005/06: Ted Kirnbauer, Mark Saunders, John McIntosh, Jesus Munoz, Jeff Gill, Ron Boehm, Jim Bown (Phil), Wayne Hannah, Neil Cole, Don Shoemaker, Richard Todd, Joel Richards 2/p

MOTION: To ask Dan White to serve as chairman of the 2004/05 nominating committee. 2/p

020505-10 – Parliamentary Committee

MOTION: To ask Jerry Young, Terry White, and Jesse Deloe, in that order to replace Dave Plaster on the Parliamentary Committee. 2/p

020505-11 – Membership Committee

The Fellowship Council places 6 members on the membership, two each year for three year terms.

MOTION: To recommend an amendment of the Manual of Procedure: Article V, Section 1 point #1 to: "A membership committee, consisting of three members, shall be appointed by the Fellowship Council. Members shall serve three year terms, arranged so that one new member is appointed each conference year." Effectively reducing the size of the membership committee from 6 to 3. 2/p 3

MOTION: If the above amendment is defeated to ask Glen Shirk and John Davis to serve on the membership committee.

020505-12 – Pastoral Connections

Greg Howell has provided excellent service to the FGBC through the Pastoral Connections for many years. We are deeply appreciative of Greg's work in this area.

MOTION: To move the Pastoral Connections office the National FGBC office with assistance from AGBM when they are ready 2/p

020505-13 – Secretary and Treasurer of the FGBC

MOTION: To recommend (required delegate ratification) Tom Avey as Corporate Secretary and Larry Edwards as Corporate Treasurer.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION:

Ed Waken (chair), Mike Jentes, Jim Brown, Dan Gregory (new), Tim Boal, Tom Avey

020505-14 – Delinquent Churches

No churches have reached the critical 3 year delinquency mark. AMEN!

020505-15 – Delinquent Churches

The Membership taskforce continues to meet about twice a year

020505-16 – Cooperating Organization Policy

The Membership Commission is engaged in active discussion about the policies and procedure related to cooperating organization status.

020505-17 – New Church Applications

MOTION: To recommend "Family of Grace", Mason, OH to become a member of the FGBC.

MOTION: To recommend "Iglesia Biblica de Fe", Lancaster, CA to become a member of the FGBC.

MOTION: To recommend "Still Waters", Pottstown, PA to become a member of the FGBC.

020505-18 - Minutes020505-19 – Future Meeting Dates

MOTION: Approve Minutes of the July/August meetings of the Fellowship Council. 2/p

Future Meeting Dates:

2005

Saturday, July 30 @ 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm in Winona Lake (changed to 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

2006

Thursday, Feb 2 @ 5:00 – Sunday, Feb 5 @ 3:00 pm – location TBA

Friday, July 28 2 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm in Indian Wells, CA

2007

Thursday, Feb 1 @ 5:00 pm - Sunday, Feb 4 @ 3:00 pm – Location TBA

Saturday, July 27 @ 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – location TBA

2008

Thursday, Jan 31 @ 5:00 pm – Sunday, Feb 3 @ 3:00 pm – location TBA

Friday, July 26 @ 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – location TBA

020505-20 – Now the REAL business...

The afternoon was spent in prayer for the FGBC, it's churches, its leaders and it's future. The council began with time for solo prayer, then prayed in small groups, and then prayed as a whole group. It as an awesome time!

Moderator Dan Allan closed the session around 3:00 pm and encouraged holy hugs.

Sunday – February 6 – Worship or participate in NorCal Churches

Several members have preaching or greeting opportunities in district churches.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory M. Howell,
Recording Secretary