



Family Finances

Budgeting for a strong, growing family.

It takes funds to live as a family – to pay the bills, to travel, to communicate. With a family of churches, it is no different.

Much of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches functions with volunteer leadership. Our national office is made up on one full-time person and a part-time assistant. It is a vital link between the more than 300 ministries that make up the Grace Brethren family, including churches, districts, national ministries, and cooperating ministries. An annual budget to support the national office is approved by representatives of member churches each year at our Vision Conference. These funds also allow us to come together for encouragement, visioning, and training at our annual Vision Conference or at regional meetings, such as Focus Retreats.

The financial records of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches are reviewed annually by a certified

public accountant. This review is available from the national office by calling (574) 269-1269.

Delegates at the 2016 conference approved a \$.25 per attendee increase in the annual fellowship fee that each member church pays. You can see the complete delegates report including a budget at <http://fgbc.org/files/DelegateReports2016.pdf>.



“ We declare that Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, as revealed in the Bible, the written Word of God, is the only Savior and Lord. He is the center of our shared experience of true biblical unity. ”

— from the Charis Commitment to Common Identity (adopted by the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches in 2016)

Could Access2017 be Historic?

In 1614, years before the Mayflower's first landing, an English explorer captured a native American named Squanto. He was taken to Spain and then to England and then returned to his homeland. Imagine the impact of this one-of-a-kind English-speaking native walking out of the woods to approach the Pilgrims and teach them local survival skills. This event changed everything! Who could have known?



So is this an historic time for our movement? I'm not sure, but consider the following:

- For the first time ever, there is a global expression of our movement called the Charis Alliance. Last summer (2016) we adopted the Charis Commitment to Common Identity and joined the Charis Alliance by a unanimous vote of the delegates.
- Nothing beats watching your children grow to adults and apply values they learned from you to raising their own kids. More than 100 years ago we sent out missionaries. God has blessed, disciples have been made (95% are outside North America) and they are now making disciples who make disciples. And the Charis Commitment to Common Identity demonstrated that 100 plus years later they are still holding to the same values we taught them. It doesn't get any better than this!

- This summer at Access2017, delegates will consider amendments to the FGBC constitution that will allow us to use the Charis Commitment to Common Identity in our membership process. This could be huge!
- Did you hear that we are considering a new DBA (Doing Business As) name for the FGBC? Stay tuned! Come to Access2017.
- Access2017 is our annual conference this summer. We want EVERYONE there! Bring ALL your staff! ALL your elders! ALL your leaders! We are even offering discounted group rates for 5 or more. Our meeting space can hold 1000. Let's fill it!
- Access2017 will be at Grace Community Church in Fremont Ohio. Due to the generosity of the

church we can reduce the registration cost to 1/3rd of past years. Access2017 will be all about creating access relationships for you with others in similar ministry contexts. Relationships that last long after Access2017 finishes.

- A new identity statement was never the mission. Now we need to sharpen our focus what we have already agreed is our mission: establishing new churches, training and deploying leaders, and doing good (creating good will, in hopes of one day, prayerfully, earning an audience for the good news). Stay tuned!

If you haven't noticed... Access2017 will be all about important connections and potentially historic decisions. Ya'll come!

Tommy



FGBC Statistical Form and Fellowship Fee

Please complete and mail this form as soon as possible but by May 15, 2017 to:

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches
P.O. Box 384
Winona Lake IN 46590

Please include a check for your fellowship fee
payable to Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches

Church Name	Email Address	
Mailing Address	City	State ZIP
1. Average weekly attendance for 2016		
2. Average weekly Sunday School or small group attendance in 2016		
3. Total conversions recorded in 2016		
4. Total baptisms in 2016		
5. Total membership as of December 31, 2016		



FGBC Statistical Form and Fellowship Fee

Please complete all blanks on the statistical form. Please note that the statistics for this report are from the year 2016. Please put 0 for None, NR for No Records kept, NA for Not Applicable. Do not leave any statistical blanks empty.

Please send the original report but be sure to keep a copy for your files. Don't forget to sign the form.

Please include a check for your fellowship fee payable to Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. If your church is unable to pay the fellowship fee this year, complete the report and include a note of explanation.

Tear Here

Please mail the report as soon as possible but by May 15, 2017 to:

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches
P.O. Box 384
Winona Lake IN 46590

The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches is a family of diverse congregations who are committed to Jesus, His Word, His Church, and His Mission. As a family we maintain a national office, send representatives to serve on a national board (the Fellowship Council), provide points of communication and connection, and seek to find new ways to work together in God's kingdom. A fee is asked of each member church to help fund this joint activity. Use the worksheet above to calculate your amount of contribution based on your average weekly worship attendance (all ages).

Questions? Contact Tom Avey at: tomavey@fgbc.org or (574) 269-1269.

6. Is your church thinking about or actively starting a new church?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. If yes, who may we contact for more information about this new church?	

Calculation of Fellowship Fee for 2017:

10. Enter the average weekly attendance from line 1	
11. Per person fellowship fee: (\$6.25 before May 15. \$6.75 after May 15)	\$6.25 / \$6.75
12. Multiply line 10 by line 11	
13. Total fellowship fee - line 12 or \$8,000 (\$8,500 after May 15)	\$
Signature of Person Completing this Report:	
FOR FGBC USE ONLY:	
Date received: / /	Check #: Amount: \$



The Fellowship of
Grace Brethren Churches

2017

Statistical Form & Fellowship Fee Request

