

❖ **1-26-2000 WEDNESDAY EVENING and OVERVIEW**

- Wednesday Evening: The Fellowship Council met Wednesday evening for a meal, for fellowship and for prayer. No business was conducted.
- Overview: The Fellowship Council met with National Organizational Leaders and Local California Pastors on Thursday. They then met as just Fellowship Council Friday all day and Saturday morning. Several had Sunday speaking engagements.

❖ **1-27-2000 THURSDAY - With representatives of Cooperating Organizations and local FGBC pastors**

➤ PRESENT:

▪ Fellowship Council Members

- Tom Hocking, Ron Boehm, Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), Galen Wiley (Moderator 1999), Bob Combs, Dan Thornton, Richard Placeway, Ron Carnevali, Greg Howell (Sec. Pro-tem), Charles Ashman (Assistant Fellowship Coordinator), John McIntosh, Ron Manahan (Moderator 2001), Keith Shearer, Tom Stallter (Treasurer), Jeff Gill (Moderator 2002), Tad Hobert, Dave Mitchell, Ron Guiles, and Jim Custer (Moderator 2000).

▪ Introduction of National Organizations & local pastors:

- Ed Trenner-pastor at Orange, Don Shoemaker - pastor at Seal Beach & Chairman of Social Concerns Committee, Jeff Carroll - Administrator of Grace Village, Terry Daniels - pastor at South Pasadena, Ken Seyfert - Director of GBIF, Kurt Miller - GBNAM Director of Church Planting & Development, Jesus' Munoz - Pastor of Brandon, FL Iglesia & Coordinator of US Hispanic ministries, Ed Lewis - Director of CE National, Nancy Placeway, Helen Miller, Janet Minnix - President of WMC, and Tom Julien - Executive Director of GBIM.

012700-01: Discussion about Milestones, Possibilities and Obstacles in the FGBC

- Discussion about Milestones, Possibilities and Obstacles in the FGBC
 - Jim Custer (Moderator) divided the group into 7 teams to look at the MILESTONES, POSSIBILITIES (what FGBC will look like in 2010), and OBSTACLES
 - 11:00 we gathered to share results of our brainstorming. (MILESTONES, POSSIBILITIES – Printed at the end of the minutes)

012700-02: National Organization and Leadership Reports

- National Organizations and Leadership Reports:
 - GBIM: Tom Julien shared what it takes for seed to produce fruit (as he shared at the Focus Retreats). The three-fold message to be believed because it is true: we are in Christ and He in us and we are to be planted in the world. There are two parables in the Bible about seed. In the first, the Word of God is the seed planted in the child of God. In the second parable the seed is us planted in the world and that seed must die. Death in this case is not annihilation but is the separation of the covering so the germ can come in contact with the soil and germination can take place. Culture has moved from the rational to the relational. In relational evangelism, relationship grows into truth. There needs to be a true relationship between the seed and the soil. The seed does not decide to germinate but planting causes it when soil comes in contact with it.
 - BENCHMARK 2000: Tom Avey distributed BENCHMARK 2000 schedules and mentioned Chuck Colson as a possible speaker. After a break for lunch we looked at an overview of BENCHMARK 2000 to be held April 7 in Winona Lake. Fellowship Council members who are not on national boards are invited to participate.
 - MODERATOR 2002: Jeff Gill gave his testimony. He came from a church-going family but never heard the Gospel, until he went to Ohio State University and came in contact with the Columbus GBC. There he was challenged to invest his life in what lasts forever. He went to Grace Seminary and after graduation became the Pastor at Delaware GBC. His prayer is that he would be passionate about the lost. He suggested 1 Cor. 9:19-23 as the Theme Scripture for Conference 2002. We have failed to enter into the world of the lost. We like being

- 1 who we are and don't want to become like someone else. Thoughts about Conference: It will probably be
2 located in Philadelphia so it can be accessible to Urban Hope ministry and also a concentration of FGBC
3 Churches. He thinks we could expect a goodly number of attendees.
- 4 ■ CE NATIONAL: Ed Lewis spoke of new momentum in CE National ministries, BNYC revival, and concern for
5 today's generations. He applauded Grace and Dr. Manahan for their part in the youth institute and evangelism
6 opportunities and spoke of a great need to prepare people to work with young people even as tent makers,
7 opportunities at Urban Hope. He stressed ministry from seniors. Neil Cole reminded kids to be accountable to a
8 partner even a teen. CE headquarters needs to expand, maybe as a retreat center.
 - 9 ■ SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: Don Shoemaker mentioned that California will be voting on definition of
10 Marriage as the traditional one man, one woman. The liberal clergy are challenging this. LA city is passing an
11 ordinance that anyone doing business with City must have same sex partner benefits.
 - 12 ■ GBIM: Tom Julien reported on the 100th anniversary of GBIM this September. He said that the initiative and
13 focus for missions comes through the local church and that the principal role of GBIM is to equip the local
14 church. Their strategy is to see where the Spirit of the Lord is working and to see how we can join Him. GBIM is
15 not primarily a Mission Society. He spoke of 300 points of light (emerging churches) and the need of
16 mobilization of more and more people for short term work using any believer desiring to minister globally and
17 internationally. GBIM will be sending older folks as 1st term mission trip. The transition is going well between
18 Tom and Dave. Tom and Doris have applied to return to France in Paris.
 - 19 ■ WMC: Janet Minnix gave a packet introducing and explaining WMC. She shared about WMC GO team to CAR
20 dialoging with the OTN ladies and leaders, with a special interested in the literacy program. She talked with
21 Chery Otermat about a GO Team in the US with the result of them going to Urban Hope. Janet attended Charis
22 International. 2000 Theme: *Missionaries; that's Us!* There is a shift from 1970's WMC. It is now studying
23 through the four parts of Acts 1:8, setting goals, develop a website, developing ways WMC has and is
24 contributing to FGBC and meeting needs—helping women look outward to the needs of others, praying for
25 missionaries around the world, learning about them so we can pray effectively, encouraging missionaries -
26 especially wives and using the missionary chest program. Janet read letter from MaryAnn Barlow, which
27 emphasized the value of the older women teaching the younger. WMC is a place where new Christians can get
28 to know what missions and missionaries really are. WMC helps GBC women feel connected to the whole
29 Fellowship and makes a great contribution toward a feeling of family in the Fellowship. If we continue to loose
30 WMC groups at the current rate WMC may cease to exist by the year 2010. Janet asked for support in prayer
31 and promotion from pastors. They are anticipating changing the name to Women of Grace USA.
 - 32 ■ HERMANOS: Jesus Muños thanked us for welcoming the Hispanic pastors at the Focus retreat. He expressed
33 excitement at the increase in Hispanic churches and pastors. They need resources for a few more years like a
34 newborn baby. Pray for us. By end of 2010, we can envision 75 churches.
 - 35 ■ GBNAM: Kurt Miller rejoiced that we finally have seen the Hispanic pastors defer to one leader, Jesus'.
36 GBNAM works with 3 basic principles: 1) Strategic partnerships, 2) Clustering, 3) Reproducible multiplication
37 (by a new churches fifth birthday it plants its 1st new church). Regional initiatives - Strategic partnerships;
38 World Class City initiatives - clustering, (Chicago and San Francisco). We are on target for largest number of
39 churches planted by GBNAM - 15-20 in 2000. Ethnic American Church Planting initiatives will help create a
40 Fellowship in next 10 years that is ethnically and geographically representative of America.
 - 41 ■ GBIF: Ken Seyfert reported how exciting it is to see growth in assets and we just made the change to a
42 \$50,000,000 foundation allowing more ability to provide loans, etc. This also will result in the lowering of
43 delinquency rates. We are continuing to communicate ministry value primarily and money line secondarily. We
44 expect to continue to run with what founding fathers planned during the next 10 years, coming along side
45 situations what allow churches to succeed and be a positive part of their communities. We want to be fair in
46 returns to depositors and make rates affordable. God has blessed us with funds.
 - 47 ■ GRACE VILLAGE: Jeff Carroll distributed a written report and booklet. He requested that if each of our churches
48 could/would give between \$500/1000 during the next 4 years the former director/defendants could be paid off.
 - 49 ■ INTERNATIONALS USA: Ivanildo Trindade mentioned a 1972 Chinese man who married a Spanish woman and
50 opened a deli. They were an oddity speaking different languages in a predominately English community. Now
51 their daughter is an oddity because she only speaks English. But just like the church, the local businesses need
52 to reflect their communities. There are 120 languages in LA today. IUSA exists in order to help minority
53 language churches reach their target area and community. This will definitely change the face of the FGBC.
- 54 ➤ Each of the 7 teams shared concerning OBSTACLES. The suggestion was made that we need a workshop like this at
55 Conference this year.

- Ed Trenner read a compilation of the strategy 2000 profile predicted in Jan. 1990. It was gratifying to realize how much of it God has allowed us to accomplish.

❖ **FRIDAY, January 28, 2000**

- PRESENT: (only Fellowship Council Members met on Friday) Ron Carnevali, Galen Wiley, Dan Thornton, Ron Boehm, Bob Combs, Tom Hocking, Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), Jim Custer (Moderator), Dick Placeway, Dave Mitchell, Tad Hobert, Jeff Gill, Tom Stallter, Keith Shearer, Ron Manahan, John McIntosh, Ron Guiles, and Greg Howell (Sec.Pro-tem).
- John McIntosh read from Focus on the Family's *The Pastor's Weekly Briefing* about Kurt Warner who led St. Louis Rams to Super Bowl and his Christian testimony and inspirational son.
- Jim Custer asked each man to share: "What is the most significant book you have read recently and what is its core value"?
- Jim reviewed discussion from yesterday with the NAT/ORGS and pointed out the agenda and asked for additional items. Pastoral Connections update list, Mid-Atlantic letter concerning receiving new churches individually and Prayer position (R. Boehm) were added to the agenda.
- Jim appointed Tom, Galen, & Bob to pray as we laid hands on Ron Carnevali.

012800-01: Statement of Faith (motion to table resulted)

- Moderator Jim Custer led in a discussion about the Statement of Faith.
 - The Statement of Faith has a place of honor but should not usurp the place of the Bible.
 - The Strategy teams recommendation is to not change the Statement of Faith.
 - We have had three statements of belief: Message of Brethren Ministry 30's, Seminary Covenant of Faith, Statement of faith 1969
 - Is it time for a new statement of what we believe?
 - Idea: Establish a drafting committee to study "The Character of the Bible and How we Use it" (see notes from Strategy Committee.)
 - Study and release a new Governing Value each year for a decade, not to replace the Statement of Faith, but a new document - launched this Conference with Pastors on Friday.
 - A new package of answers for today's problems, in today's context, a series of Statements, maybe a whole book, moving away from possible creedalism, and constantly back to the Book.
 - Discussion ideas:
 - Concerns/cautions to establish a new statement
 - Panel discussion/dialog on McClain day on What does the Bible say about...? / Paper(s) produced because of interaction/public discussion.
 - Can't change insecurities/Statement of Faith is a security blanket.
 - Clarifying the Statement of Faith is necessary, but out there "change" will raise objections.
 - Need to communicate what and why about changing Statement of Faith.
 - We do need an expanded dialog on the areas of the Bible that are important to us as Brethren, and an ongoing living notebook, especially for incoming leaders. It will help us to look at Statement of Faith to see where we need to fine-tune it. A project collection agency instead of formal voted document. Byproduct if it led to writing that did not require the blessing of the FGBC and provided tools/books avoiding the risk of the ultimate creed that will replace scripture. Iron sharpens iron. We have a model with CE National's Biblical Beliefs. Needs to be separated from the political process. It can possibly grow into a change of the Statement of Faith but not necessarily the goal, but investigate what the Bible teaches about various subjects. Would include areas not previously addressed. If Satan caused a virus to destroy every copy of the Statement of Faith would the FGBC still exist? We have been using the Statement of Faith as a basis of Law rather than grace. End result is the fulfillment of the law. In the process of our work will we mention the value of the Statement of Faith. Is this an issue of fellowship? Custer suggested that we revisit the topic tomorrow.
- **MOTION:** A motion was made to table this item until tomorrow. The motion was seconded and passed.

012800-02: FGBC Structure

➤ FGBC and Fellowship Council Structure:

- Moderator Jim Custer expressed concern about how the structure has by-passed Districts so there is a great disconnection between representatives and those who are the constituents. Conference should be the expression of the local churches. Also the problem of the finances. We are missing two things: Financial support and communication because they are really representing local/district constituents and come to do business. May also solve the problem of distribution. NAT/ORG reps - how we really do what we did yesterday, regularly. BENCHMARK should lead us into a better ability to address that.
- Fellowship Coordinator Tom Avey expressed that the formation of Fellowship Council now has more to do with efficiency than real form. If we require Districts to send representatives, but give perimeters for the choosing of reps., it will make for more efficiency. This was referred to Structures Committee, which will discuss the make-up of the Fellowship Council, District Representation, & National Organization Representation.

012800-03	Our ongoing relationship with the Ashland Brethren and Conservative Grace Brethren
------------------	---

- From the chair - Jim Custer informed the Fellowship Council that efforts are being made to rebuild relationship with the Ashland Brethren Churches and possibly with Conservative Grace Brethren Churches.

012800-04	Hermanos report
------------------	------------------------

- Hermanos: Jesus Muñoz reported that, with the support of the Fellowship Council (see minutes of Feb 1999) we are developing relationships with and between our Spanish speaking pastors. He reported that:
- Ideally they want to be independent financially, after some initial help, translating materials, distance education. Tom Stallter expressed desire to provide swiftsites in Hispanic locations in Washington, Florida, California.
 - Hispanic pastors need training on how to maintain, not just start a church.
 - The following recommendations to the Fellowship Council were made in writing from "Hermanos"
 - ◆ Title: For the Internationalization of the FGBC
 - Latin American Churches in the USA.
 - Latin American Churches in the USA are an "organism," not an "organization" and effective communication within the Latin American churches and with the Anglo churches should be our first priority. We do not have, nor have elected, nor appointed an official body to lead us, but we have elected Jesus G. Muñoz to be our voice of communication from the Latin American churches in the USA to the Anglo churches.
 - Since the FGBC is a fellowship, not a "denomination," and each local church is independent, we are not expecting that another body provides leadership for us, furnish resources, etc. We are going to try to accomplish the things that can be accomplished through the resources and people generated through the Latin American churches. However, we will welcome the advice of the Fellowship of GBC and of National organizations.
 - We need to continue to demonstrate that we, as minority leaders and pastors, can be trusted upon to do ministry with excellence, at every level of involvement. We need to double our efforts to reach the Latin Americans that God has sent to USA, and to demonstrate that we have something worthwhile to say within the Fellowship, and that our contribution will be vital to the continual growth of this fellowship within the ethnic groups.
 - To accomplish all the above, we are going to:
 - Publish a directory of Latin American pastors/leaders (and their families) ministering in the U.S. including pictures, brief biographies, educational background, place of ministry, hobbies, etc. We will make this directory available to all national organizations. (Abner Solano offered to do this for us)
 - We will publish a quarterly newsletter with news from our different ministries (ideally in English and Spanish).
 - We will establish a prayer chain with the names of each Latin American pastor/leader who wants to participate. This way, whenever urgent needs arrive, we will be praying for each other immediately.
 - Propose to the Fellowship: We desire the National Fellowship to cooperate with us in the following ways:

- To let us hold a mini conference in Spanish concurrent with the National Conference, starting this year with one or two main speakers, several seminars that could be led by men and women from this group, or especial guests.
 - That every National Conference features an international speaker as one of the main speakers, ministering in English or through a translator to the whole conference.
 - That the 2000 Conference feature an outreach into the community around the Warsaw/Winona area, partnering with one or more of the area churches, with a view toward jump starting a Spanish-speaking church there. The Fellowship could use people from the Latin American group to lead small groups and saturate the Spanish-speaking community there with the Gospel.
 - That every communication from the National Organizations, Fellowship Council, Moderators, etc., be sent also in Spanish to the Spanish-speaking congregations.
 - Establish a fund for continual education of International pastors/leaders ministering in the U.S.
- ◆ End of "Hermanos" report.

012800-05 New Leadership Issues

- Licensure and Ordination: We need some changes for the new men coming without Bible College/Seminary training. Jeff Gill has training modules for Vision Ohio. Need to determine minimum requirements for leadership. 50 of 255 pastors are not members of the Association of Grace Brethren Ministers. We may need to establish guidelines that encourage membership.

➤ LUNCH

012800-06 Ron Manahan - Conference 2001 (Motion to delegate site selection to Ron Manahan)

- **Conference 2001**
 - Themes will include: developing leaders, passing on the baton to the next generation, modeled in his home with his own son. Promote emerging leaders in their positions of leadership. Leaders who can code and decode the culture in which they live. FOCUS - Timothy. Location S. California. Would like freedom to choose which site.
 - **MOTION:** A motion to entrust Ron to choose specific location in Southern California for the 2001 conference was made, seconded and passed.

012800-07 Committee task assignments

- Committee Task Assignments
 - Structures - Make up of Fellowship Council, District Representation, Mid-Atlantic letter
 - Membership - Dues based on attendance or membership, Anchorage church, delinquent churches, Statistics Form (what to ask on form and why it is important, welcoming new pastors into FGBC).
 - Finance - Finance report, recommendation from Grace Village, Tom Avey's contract
 - Leadership team - no specific assignments.

012800-08 2000 Ministry Handbook Evaluation:

- FGBC Ministry Handbook 2000: People section now includes all staff names that local churches submitted as well as National Organization staff and missionaries. All agreed it was good improvement and economically produced.

012800-09 Conference 2000 Plans

- Conference 2000 plans: Jim Custer shared that Winona Lake is transformed and getting ready to host Conference. Some special things planned for Conference: A 1/10 scale replica of Billy Sunday Tabernacle, Play *Billy & Ma*, Globe Prayer Walk, missions set up home and international displays on either side of the canal.

➤ COMMITTEE REPORTS

1
2 ▪ **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

- 3 • Anchorage Grace, Jeff will meet with pastor
4 ♦ Grace Community withdrew
5 • Dues - stay as is for now, recommend looking at attendance, membership, and giving to devise a formula
6 with which to assess fees.
7

8 **012800-10 MOTION: A motion was made that we recommend to the delegates at conference a change to base**
9 **membership fee on total Worship service attendance. The motion was seconded and passed.**

- 10 • Requires manual of Procedure change. Fee changes from \$4.50 to 3.50 with \$.75 going to promise of honor
11

12 **012800-11 MOTION (not passed): That we eliminate the triune immersed membership figure from the statistical**
13 **report 2/**

- 14 • Meaningful figures give value to data collection. We are discussing values without solutions.
15 • Amend motion to eliminate all membership figures and add measurable ministry figures: number of people
16 involved in cross-cultural ministries, points of light, etc.
17 • **Vote postponed** until Saturday morning.
18

19 ➤ Broke for Dinner at 4:50 PM
20

21 ❖ **SATURDAY, January 29, 2000**
22

23 ➤ **PRESENT:** Jim Custer, Tad Hobert, Ron Guiles, Dave Mitchell, Richard Placeway, Jeff Gill, Tom Stallter, Keith
24 Shearer, Ron Manahan, John McIntosh, Greg Howell, Ron Carnevali, Dan Thornton, Tom Hocking, Tom Avey, and
25 Charles Ashman.
26

27 ➤ **Committee reports (continued from Friday)**

28 ▪ **MEMBERSHIP (continued)**

- 29 • Recommended that we waive conference fee for New Pastors (new to the FGBC 2 years and less) and
30 sponsor corporate lunches as well as well as some money to help them even get to Conference. Tom Avey
31 will seek them out. He encouraged Fellowship Council to let him know who is new.
32

33 **012900-12 MOTION: A motion was made that the conference attendance fee be waived for New Pastors (new to the**
34 **FGBC 2 years and less) and that we sponsor corporate lunches as well provide some money to help those who can't afford it**
35 **get to Conference. The motion was seconded and passed.**
36

37 ▪ **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- 38 • Our financial position is healthy because of Tom's cost cutting, including winter meeting at a church like
39 Simi instead of hotels.
40

41 **012900-13 MOTION: A motion was made that the printed financial report be approved. It was seconded and passed.**
42

- 43 • Grace Village requested help from churches of \$500 to \$1000 each. Instead it was recommended that the
44 FGBC to adopt a plan to reach \$180,000 goal. Authorize Tom Avey to work with Jeff Carroll and Grace
45 Village on a plan together to present to Conference.
46

47 **012900-14 MOTION: A motion was made that the Fellowship Coordinator be authorized to work with Grace Village on**
48 **a plan to encourage FGBC churches to contribute toward the \$180,000 director/defendant reimbursement. The motion was**
49 **seconded and passed.**

- 50 • Fellowship Coordinator: Salary needs to be reviewed annually at least for cost of living (3%) adjustments.
51
52

53 **012900-17 MOTION: A motion was made that Fellowship Coordinator's financial package be reviewed by the Finance**
54 **Committee for adjustment review annually. The motion was seconded and passed.**

1
2 **012900-18 MOTION: A motion was made that \$25,000 of the Fellowship Coordinator's Salary be designated housing**
3 **allowance. The motion was seconded and passed.**

- 4
5 • Does Indiana require workmen's compensation? And will Disability insurance be needed? Finance
6 Committee will be investigating.
7

8 **012900-19 MOTION: A motion was made that we procure a Disability Insurance package for the Fellowship**
9 **Coordinator costing up to \$10,00. The motion was seconded and passed.**

- 10
11 • Discussion about Tom being Fellowship Coordinator beyond end of this three year contract (Dec. 2000). No
12 negative remarks. Indefinite term recommended. Leadership team interviews Tom rather formally at
13 Cambridge annually.
14

15 **012900-20 MOTION: A motion was made that we continue Tom Avey as Fellowship Coordinator at will and formalize a**
16 **review of his work and needs annually by the past-Moderator reporting to the whole council. The motion was seconded and**
17 **passed.**

- 18
19 • Finance Committee will recommend salary figure for Fellowship Coordinator at Fellowship Council summer
20 meeting.
21
22 • Galen expressed the Council's pleasure with his work and our continued desire for him to be Fellowship
23 Coordinator at will. Others shared their personal appreciation for Tom and his work.
24
25 ▪ **LEADERSHIP TEAM**
26 • Prayer Coordinator
27

28 **012900-21 MOTION: A motion was made that Ron Boehm in conjunction with GBNAM be charged with tracking**
29 **prayer in North America. The motion was seconded and passed.**

- 30
31 ▪ **STRUCTURES COMMITTEE REPORT:**
32 • Letter from Mid-Atlantic District: Dan Pritchett is concerned about churches applying for membership in the
33 Fellowship while not in fellowship with the district in which they are geographically located.
34 ♦ Structures committee recommends
35 ➤ That we adopt his second proposal that at conference churches be received into membership one
36 at a time, not as a group.
37

38 **012900-22 MOTION (tabled): That at conference churches be received into membership one at a time, not as a group.**

- 39
40 ♦ Tabled
41

42 **012900-23 MOTION: A motion was made concerning New Church Applications incorporating the following elements.**
43 **The motion was seconded and passed.**

- 44
45 • That we adjust the application process in the following ways:
46 ♦ Add to the application that it is to be received by May 15.
47 ♦ Tom Avey will advertise potential churches on the WEB and Email and if objections are expressed he
48 will investigate the potential church's relationship to the District.
49 ♦ Tom Avey will then present a report to Fellowship Council about the status of the potential church.
50 ♦ Fellowship Council will then make recommendations to the Conference accordingly.
51 ♦ **MOTION:** That the above procedure be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed.
52
53 ▪ The Tabled Motion concerning receiving new churches was brought off of the table
54

1 **012900-24 MOTION: A motion was made that, at conference, new churches be received into membership one at a time,**
2 **not as a group. The motion was seconded and passed.**

3
4 • **Fellowship Council structure**

- 5 ♦ Comments from committee: 1 representative per district produces too large of a group to develop trust.
6 Many districts and district conferences are weak and almost non-existent. Suggestion: send the ballots
7 for Fellowship Council members directly to the churches. Idea of representation is bogus as
8 representatives manage and control. Leadership doesn't have to be representative. We no longer have
9 to send our representatives by stagecoach to Washington. Email allows direct contact. Regions,
10 though hypothetical, do in fact fit reality. Substantial differences between west and east and central.
11 Dismantling will be too destructive. We've come to a period of trust - why tamper with a new
12 organizational plan. Note: If finances are an issue, that can be addressed in another way.
13 ♦ Key Issues why consider changing our structure?
14 ➤ We need ways to Identify new leaders
15 ➤ Finances
16 ➤ Increased ownership in the Fellowship Council
17 ▪ Significant Problems:
18 ➤ Increased Size of the Board - Why go back to the old days of "big government?"
19 ▪ Leaders vs. representatives (Would be like dismantling elder board and going back to
20 congregational rule).
21 ♦ Structure Committee Recommendations
22 ➤ That the financial concern be referred to finance committee: increase dues
23 ➤ That the Fellowship Council have the option of identifying and elevating new leaders by inviting 2-
24 3 key men to Fellowship Council meetings as guests from 2-3 non-represented districts (and pay
25 their way).
26 ➤ That Fellowship Council develop increased ownership by E-mailing pastors a brief description of
27 the direction of the moderators' leadership team and the benefits and challenges of being part of
28 the Fellowship Council prior to or in conjunction with requests from the nominating committee for
29 Fellowship Council nominations. That Fellowship Coordinator (Tom Avey) also periodically
30 identify and highlight the names of each region's four council members to the churches of that
31 region.
32 ➤ That we stop using the term "representative", use "leader" or "council member" instead.
33

34 **012900-25 MOTION: A motion was made that the above recommendations be accepted. The motion was seconded and**
35 **passed.**

- 36
37 ♦ Recommendations for Nominating Committee
38 ➤ Brent Sandy
39 ➤ Dave Kennedy
40 ➤ Tom Julien
41 ➤ Dan White
42 ➤ Mark Saunders
43 ➤ John Teevan
44 ➤ Darrell Taylor
45 ➤ Ron Carnevali
46 ➤ Tom Hocking
47 ➤ Bob Combs
48 ➤ Rob Ferris
49 ➤ Chris Ball
50

51 **012900-26 MOTION: A motion was made that these names be placed into nomination. The motion was seconded and**
52 **passed.**

- 53
54 ♦ Suggestion: It would be advantageous to get the Nominating Committee together at Conference to get
55 jump-started identifying leaders, and since they would have no other face to face time.

1
2 **112900-27 Parliamentary, Membership and other special committees**

- 3
4 ♦ Structures committee will present appointments for Parliamentary and Membership and other special
5 Committees at Summer meeting.
6

7 **012900-28 MOTION: A motion was made that Tom Avey and Tom Stallter continue as Secretary and Treasurer**
8 **respectively for 1 year. The motion was seconded and passed.**
9

10 **012900-29 Conference 2000 schedule review.**

- 11
12 ▪ Conference 2000 schedule review
13 • Jim highlighted several special events and changes. **Friday** - McClain Day and evening Celebration service;
14 Saturday - International Festival with GBIM and GBNAM down in the park and on the Island with a Theme
15 Park feel (stand alone day); Sunday - attend local churches, Hispanic Worship in Center Lake Park as an
16 Outreach, GBNAM dinner and evening Celebration service; Mon. breakfasts, 2hr CE Seminars, Conference
17 Seminars, evening CE night, Tuesday - Corporation Luncheons, evening Jeff Gill & multinational look, every
18 night there is an encore (fellowship/coffee time), Wednesday - Delegates luncheon (free for delegates with
19 business and conferring) balloting early with ballot boxes (maybe at registration), evening reenactment of
20 Billy & Ma Sunday, and Homer Rodeheaver. The history of Winona is tremendous. Registration will be on-
21 going and pre-registration encouraged.
22
23 • Adults will take same test BNYCers do.
24
25 • Jim emphasized that the Billy Sunday reenactment will be a evangelistic event, hopefully every waitress,
26 maid, gas attendant, store clerk will be invited multiple times.
27
28 • Tom Stallter suggested simultaneous translation for Hispanics and Africans
29
30 ▪ **BIG TENT FOR BILLY SUNDAY TABERNACLE** Jeff asked about a big tent—Tom Avey suggested cost
31 would be about \$20,000, but could be less if used for multipurpose activities so we wouldn't need additional
32 smaller tents.
33

34 **012900-26 MOTION: A motion was made that we authorize Tom to secure a tent for the Winona Conference. The**
35 **motion was seconded and passed.**
36

37 **012900-14 Childcare at National Conference**

- 38
39 ▪ Childcare has been a tremendous expense. Columbus helped immensely. We will charge for the extras, Grace
40 clinic, etc. But we don't want to cut any corners. We want it to be the very best or we hurt future attendance. It
41 could be best for CE to take this on. Need to see the whole picture - not just the number of people in the worship
42 service, but all that is going on the whole campus. John suggested that Fellowship Council members take turns
43 manning the nursery as an example of servant leadership.
44
45 ➤ Miscellaneous Closing Items
46 ▪ Benchmarks need to be printed on the napkins and place mats. Good discussion around the tables concerning
47 our history and future.
48

49 **012900-15 CGBA and Ashland Brethren**

- 50
51 ▪ Should we invite Conservatives to the birthday party? Key is that we individually invite our CGBCI friends. Jim
52 is actively inviting the Ashland and Conservative Brethren leaders. After all it is their history too.
53

54 **012900-16 Delegates Luncheon at Conference 2000**

- At the **Delegates' Luncheon** we will expect Fellowship Council members have an active part.

012900-17 Next Fellowship Council meetings at conference.

- **Fellowship Council meetings:** Thurs. July 27 - 9-5 whole Fellowship Council plus supper with wives. Invite 10 key guests to join at lunch and afternoon) John suggested Jim and Tricene use the meal as an occasion to reflect on his year as moderator and provide written questions for use at tables.
- **Post-conference Fellowship Council** will meet Thurs, Aug. 3 from 9-2 with lunch together including all current and new members of the Council.
- **McClain Day and Miscellaneous Comments:** We need to maintain an ongoing pursuit of Bible excellence. Ron Boehm distributed an outline sheet. Need to hear men at McClain day. Read Keith's suggestion and minutes between now and Conference.

012900-21 Emerging Leadership

- **Emerging leadership.** Who are they? These are some of the men we should be encouraging to be involved: Scott Distler, Will Lohnes, Skip White, Tim Boal, Neil Cole, Ed Waken, Terry Hofecker, Phil Helfer, Terry Daniels, Jesus Munos, Jeff Thornley, Dan Gregory, Mark Soto, Bob Wagner, Rick Nuzum, Jim Brown (Goshen), Jim Brown (Phila), Dan O'Deens, Joe Cosentino, etc.
- ACTION ITEMS will be summarized at end of minutes
- Great appreciation was expressed to John and the folks at Simi. It is obvious they have learned servanthood.
- Between now and Easter call 12 pastors that have missed Conference, invite, buy their lunch, etc. Let new guys know that the Conference fee is free.
- Jim closed in prayer at 12:08pm
- Respectfully submitted,

Tom Avey
Fellowship Council Secretary
Gregory M. Howell
Secretary pro-tem

❖ ACTION ITEMS

- Fellowship Council to let Tom Avey know who are new pastors so he can extend invitations and forgive the conference registration fee.
- Tom A. to work with Jeff Carroll and Grace Village on a plan together to present to Conference.
- Finance Committee will recommend salary figure for Fellowship Coordinator at Fellowship Council summer meeting.
- That Fellowship Council develop increased ownership by E-mailing pastors a brief description of the direction of the moderators' leadership team and the benefits and challenges of being part of the Fellowship Council prior to or in conjunction with requests from the nominating committee for Fellowship Council nominations.
- That Fellowship Coordinator (Tom Avey) also periodically identify and highlight the names of each region's churches for council members to the churches of that region.
- That we stop using the term "representative", use "leader" or "council member" instead.
- **Structures Committee** will present appointments for Parliamentary and Membership and other special Committees at Summer meeting.
- Balloting early with ballot boxes (maybe at registration)
- Benchmarks need to be printed on the napkins and placemats. Good discussion around the tables concerning our history and future.

- 1 ➤ We individually should invite our CGBCI friends. Jim is actively inviting the Ashland and Conservative Brethren
- 2 leaders.
- 3 ➤ Fellowship Council members take turns manning the nursery as an example of servant leadership.
- 4 ➤ **Delegates luncheon** - Expect Fellowship Council members be an active part of this.
- 5 ➤ **Fellowship Council meetings:** Thurs. July 27 - 9 to 5 whole Fellowship Council / supper with wives.
- 6 ➤ **Post-conference Fellowship Council** will meet Thurs, Aug. 3 from 9-2 with lunch together including all current and
- 7 new Council members.
- 8 ➤ Read Keith's suggestion and minutes between now and Conference.
- 9 ➤ Between now and Easter call 12 pastors that have missed Conference, invite, buy their lunch, etc. Let new guys
- 10 know that the Conference fee for them will be waived.
- 11 ❖ Recommendations to Conference (should be on agenda for Annual Business Meeting)
- 12 ➤ To base church membership fees on attendance rather than membership.
- 13

Fellowship Council Meeting, January 2000

With representatives of Cooperating Organizations and Local GBC pastors

What were some milestones of the past ten years, dreams for the future and possible roadblocks?

Note: These responses were simply recorded as given. They are not officially adopted by the Fellowship Council.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Milestones <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Coming of peace b) Concern into other countries c) Nationalization of missions d) Establishment of Charis e) ACTS f) IUSA g) Focus Retreats h) Fellowship Coordinator i) Email, 1-800 number and Web Page j) Leadership Team k) Focus 2000 strategy l) Major change in National Conference m) Affirmations by people outside our fellowship. n) Development of BNYC to the largest denominational youth conference in the country. o) Expansion of Operation Barnabas p) Development of Children's ministries q) Revitalization of WMC r) Outward Focus s) Establishment of the Youth Institute. t) Pray initiative u) Church Planting emphasis v) Growth in worship w) Turn around of Grace Village x) Turn around of Grace College y) New seminary curriculum z) Distance learning aa) Move towards women's rallies and men's rallies. bb) Urban Hope cc) Spirit of Grace and peace = Unity dd) Ron Manahan becoming president of Grace Schools ee) Absence of loyalty to the Brethren Church with more allegiance to Christ | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ff) Paradigm shift in the definition of church - leading to "points of Light" gg) Trust of national leaders. hh) GBNAM strategy toward ethnic initiatives ii) World class cities jj) Cross-cultural ministry. kk) Recognition of leaders who are not seminary trained. ll) Increased cooperation between the Nat Orgs mm) WMC GO Team nn) CE National's seniors ministries oo) A mechanism for dealing with decent. pp) Development of Focus 2000 goals qq) Positive relationships, team work rr) Entrepreneurial spirit ss) West-coast is feeling more a part of things. tt) Our distinctives grow out of our identity rather than cause our identity. uu) Youth Institute <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Possibilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Look like cultural landscape of America b) A missions mindset - every new believer expected to be involved in some missionary experience. c) Regional practical and theological pastoral training sites. d) Revamp conference - Multi-tracks e) Initiate structures for supporting relationships. f) Greater Canadian penetration g) 75 additional Hispanic churches h) New vision for developing leaders. i) Tap into Senior resources for ministry. j) Grace Seminary teaching Theology in various languages. |
|--|--|

- k) Begin missions in 20 more countries. (add India and China)
- l) Greater ministry by women
- m) Defining consistency in diversity.
- n) Target the city
- o) Get back to publishing.
- p) Growing acceptance of the terms "Bishop" and "Apostle".
- q) Continue Distance Learning
- r) Continued education for pastors and missionaries
- s) Greater cooperation in mission.
- t) Organized prayer movement
- u) 1000 churches in America
- v) Leadership training for women.
- w) The Lord will continue to do unexpected things
- x) Become more progressive.
- y) A fellowship that better helps churches fulfill it's mission.
- z) Global Church mindset.
- aa) Freedom to grow rather than control
- bb) Following the Lordship of Christ rather than denominational leadership
- cc) Greater diversity - Ethnic
- dd) Accepting of groups that are different than us.
- ee) New methods of communication.
- ff) Shift from seminary trained pastors to men who are "Called of God"
- gg) Shift from theological qualifications to spiritual qualifications
- hh) Commitment to Christ being relational
- ii) A Fellowship-wide resource for pastoral training.
- jj) Greater Prayer emphasis.
- kk) Focused in Outreach (rather than inward)
- ll) Passion about mission
- mm) Local churches doing church planting by multiplication
- nn) Multiple churches within churches
- oo) Local training by Internet
- pp) We are connected to the new generation.
- qq) De-emphasize structures and emphasize relationships.
- rr) Greater resources for nationals.
- j) Maintain fellowship in growth
- k) Accepting class/age value differences
- l) Lack of church health in some cases.
- m) The way we count things in terms of success.
- n) A need to improve the way churches access our leaders or national organizations.
- o) Recruiting
- p) Relativity in Society and it's impact on us in our commitment to absolute truth.
- q) Miss-use of our Statement of Faith (becomes credal)
- r) Transition from Older leaders to younger leaders.
- s) Being secure in the Lords leadership rather than the way we have always done things.
- t) Discouraged pastors.
- u) Exclusiveness/Pride
- v) Focus on the word to the exclusion of living in Jesus
- w) Focus on popularity
- x) Inward focus
- y) Don't allow change.
- z) Lack of future leaders
- aa) Inability to cast a vision
- bb) Half the pastors retiring
- cc) Unbelief and complacency
- dd) A small base to build upon
- ee) Lack of innovation in planting churches
- ff) Waiting on someone else to do it.

3) Obstacles

- a) Racial Prejudice
- b) Integration of Women in the ministry.
- c) As we become multi-cultural, policing the limits will be a problem (how do you identify pure historic brethren) in
- d) Fear
- e) Prayerless People
- f) Failure to put into place methods to deal with inevitable controversy or confusion.
- g) Failure to raise up leaders.
- h) East/West prejudice
- i) City/Rural prejudice