



The purpose of the Association is to encourage, support and strengthen leaders who belong to Grace Brethren Churches, and to engage in activities for the benefit of its members as may be determined by the board of directors.

Association Membership

Currently our membership is around 430 pastors and ministry leaders.

We continue to provide a complimentary one year membership for newly licensed or ordained men.

We are encouraging men in our association to mentor younger men in the ministry of the FGBC.

Transitions

Loss of Ministry Director

We operated throughout the year without the physical presence of Jerry Young. In December God called him home to heaven. Even though Jerry could not be with us for our annual executive meeting and at conference he faithfully carried out his responsibilities from his home in Tucson, Arizona.

Jerry's illness forced us to consider our future without him. Additionally, Jerry was already working toward using a project manager to help with many of the administrative duties of his office. Now that we are without Jerry we will be looking at how we to replace him and also take care of the administrative side of our organization.

New Web Page

The issue of a web page keeps showing up in our reports and in our discussion among our leaders. We think we have finally solved this issue. We currently have a whole new approach to the web page. It contains what can really be called "static" information, what you might call "just the facts." However, it is now filled with dynamic information that is highly useful for our members. We are hoping it becomes a place where our members will go often because it is filled with useful information.

Annual Awards

Lifetime Achievement: Martin Garber

Excellence in Ministry: Roger Peugh

Pastor of the Year: John Smith

Something New

At our annual Board meeting we established four committees that correspond to the four markers of a healthy family described in the FGBC's statistical form (families reproduce, they honor their faithful, they cheer for each other and they support one another). These four committees will enable us to more effectively carry out the vision we have for our association. The committees, their focus and the (chairmen) are:

Leadership/training (Randy Smith)

–Helping our current pastors reach excellence, plus finding and training new men

Honoring our Faithful (Bud Olszewski)

–Recognizing the faithfulness and faithful service of our members

Cheering for Each Other (Mark Saunders)

–Highlighting God's work among our members and creating ways for our members to know and encourage one another

Supporting our Members (Ken Bickel)

–Finding ways to come alongside our members

Commitment to Common Ministry

The question has been asked on how our national ministry will interact with and support the priorities of our commitment to: Church Planting, Leadership Development and Integrated Ministry. The basic answer to that question is that we are on board with what the Fellowship is doing and will do everything we can to be supportive and communicate that support to our membership.

The most obvious way we will be supporting and helping in this process is in the area of leadership development. There are things we can do that would fit under the umbrella of church planting and integrated ministry but our main focus as an organization is in developing and supporting the pastor leaders in our fellowship. We are already integrally connected to the Leadership team and are making great strides to avoid any duplication of effort and to be as efficient and effective as possible. We are excited about the current direction we are heading as a fellowship.