



**CHARIS**  
**FELLOWSHIP**

*Truth • Relationship • Mission*

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**2018 Statistical Form & Fellowship Fee Request**

# A NEW NAME FOR OUR FELLOWSHIP!

**We have a new name!** This past fall, after many months of hard work, brainstorming sessions, research, and professional input, the Fellowship Council announced the adoption of a new name for the Fellowship of Churches (FGBC). The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. will be doing business as Charis Fellowship.

Charis means 'grace' and is all about Jesus. As is stated in the Charis Commitment to Common Identity, our core declaration is "... 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."

Charis is global and is all about mission. The Charis Fellowship is part of the global Charis Alliance, a vibrant movement in more than 25 countries and 3,000-plus churches. Together we are committed to biblical truth, biblical relationships, and fulfilling our mission to plant churches, develop leaders, and do good for the sake of the gospel.

Names are significant, and while our legal name is still The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., we believe our public name must be one that accurately and concisely reflects who we are while opening fresh doors of cooperation with people who are not yet part of our family.

Name adjustments are nothing new to us. We have been known by many names including New Baptists, Tunkers, German Baptists, the Brethren Church, and the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches until the adoption in 1976 of the name Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

We believe the word Charis was the best candidate for an exciting new name because it has deeper roots. Charis is Greek, meaning grace. It allows us to define our values and mission in fresh ways. It acknowledges an alignment with our global movement and recognizes that we are part of something much larger.

The decision to retain the word Fellowship was all about consistency. In many ways, we had already rebranded ourselves when we casually referred to ourselves as the Fellowship.

The name Charis Fellowship calls back to where we have come from and assures that we are only getting stronger in what we have set out to do.

We are very excited about all that God is doing in the Charis Fellowship and look forward to seeing what He will do through us in the days ahead. We are developing practical and useful tools to communicate who we are to our churches and to those who may want to join our movement. Stand by for the new and exciting materials coming out this summer at [access2018 \(access2018.com\)](http://access2018.com).



Tom Avey; Charis Fellowship Coordinator



**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 Charis Fellowship in 2016)*

# access

JULY 24-26, 2018

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, FREMONT OHIO

ACCESS2018.COM

## FAMILY FINANCES

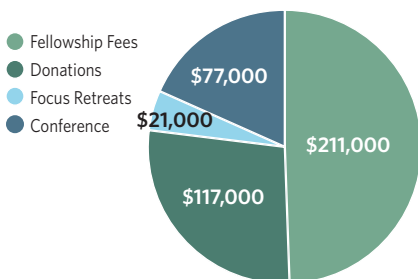
### Budgeting for a strong, growing family

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.

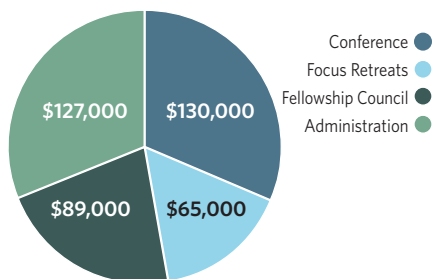
Much of the Charis Fellowship functions with volunteer leadership. Our national office is made up of one full-time person and a part-time operations manager. It is a vital link between the more than 300 ministries that make up the Charis Fellowship family, including churches, districts, national ministries,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

The financial records of the Charis Fellowship (a.k.a. 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 2017 conference approved a \$.20 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://charisfellowship.us/files/DelegateReports2017.pdf>.



Charis Fellowship Income



Charis Fellowship Expenses

## Charis Fellowship Statistical Form and Fellowship Fee

Please complete and mail this form as soon as possible but by May 15, 2018 to:

**Charis Fellowship**  
**P.O. Box 384**  
**Winona Lake IN 46590**

**Please include a check for  
your fellowship fee payable to  
Charis Fellowship**

Church Name	Email Address		
Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP
<b>1</b> Average weekly attendance for 2017			
<b>2</b> Average weekly Sunday School/small group attendance in 2017			
<b>3</b> Total conversions recorded in 2017			
<b>4</b> Total baptisms in 2017			
<b>5</b> Total membership as of December 31, 2017			

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

## Calculation of Fellowship Fee for 2018:

<b>10</b> Enter the average weekly attendance from line 1	
<b>11</b> Per person fellowship fee: (\$6.45 before May 15, \$6.95 after May 15)	\$6.45/\$6.95
<b>12</b> Multiply line 10 by line 11	
<b>13</b> Total fellowship fee - line 12 or \$8,300 (\$8,500 after May 15)	\$
Signature of Person Completing this Report:	
<b>For Charis Fellowship Office Use Only:</b>	
<b>Date received:</b> / /	<b>Check #:</b> <b>Amount: \$</b>



Please complete all blanks on the statistical form. Please note that the statistics for this report are from the year 2017. 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 Charis Fellowship. If your church is unable to pay the fellowship fee this year, complete the report and include a note of explanation.

**Please mail the report as soon as possible but by May 15, 2018 to:**  
**Charis Fellowship, P.O. Box 384, Winona Lake IN 46590**

Charis Fellowship is a family of diverse churches that is committed biblical Truth, Relationship, and a Mission to plant churches, train leaders, and do good for the sake of the gospel. 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@charisfellowship.us](mailto:tomavey@charisfellowship.us) or (574) 269-1269.