

Application for Ministries seeking Cooperation Ministry Recognition by the FGBC Inc.

VisionAlaska Inc., Alaska Brethren Ministries.

Please review the Constitution and Manual of Procedure for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. Note carefully ARTICLE II, ARTICLE III and ARTICLE X of the Constitution and ARTICLE III of the Manual of Procedure, which deal with the cooperation ministry requirements.

How does your ministry seek to serve the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches?

Answer:

- 1) By scheduling common activities with the Alaska FGBC to promote unity and a common focus on the Great Commission among the FGBC churches in Alaska. A Church Growth Workshop and two recent Church Planting Workshops were part of this activity.
- 2) To promote the establishment of Grace Brethren Fellowships throughout Alaska.
- 3) To provide Christian Conciliation (Christian Mediation) services to FGBC in this area. I have Doctor of Jurisprudence with many years of legal and mediation experience. I also have a certificate in mediation from the University of Washington, School of Law and also hope to complete my PhD in Christian Mediation from a seminary this Fall and a D.Min.
- 4) To facilitate legal counselling to FGBC and other Christian ministries when they need it.
- 5) VisionAlaska has adopted the FGBC Statement of Faith in its entirety.
- 6) I have read and understand the portion of the Manual of Procedure on Cooperating Ministry Requirements.

How did your ministry take official action to subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith as found in Article III of the Constitution of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.?

Answer:

- 1) The mission statement of VisionAlaska specifically addresses assisting FGBC churches.
- 2) The Statement of Faith of VisionAlaska is the FGBC Statement of Faith.
- 3) VisionAlaska Inc., Alaska Brethren Ministries is incorporated as a non-profit corporation with the mission statement embracing the FBGC.

List the present responsible officers of the ministry with titles:

Answer:

1. Roger E. Holl - President/Director
2. Charles A. Holl - Vice President
3. Melissa R. Holl - Secretary-Treasurer

Explain how the ministry is sponsored and controlled by members of FGBC churches?

Answer:

1. VisionUSA/VisionOhio has sent a statement of sponsorship. (attached).
2. Dimond Grace has expressed its support in an email. (attached)
3. Eagle River Grace and Kenai Grace have asked us to make a request in writing for the consideration of their elders
4. Peninsula Grace has said through their pastor that the elders support us, but want to wait until they have an official quorum.
5. Officers are members of FGBC churches.

Is the ministry a subsidiary of only one local church?

Answer:

No. However we have visited all FGBC in Alaska and feel they are friendly and supportive

in general. We do have close ties to VisionUSA and Dr. Tony Webb and his wife, Cathy Webb. We have hosted them for two trips to Alaska to introduce them to all churches and to preach and put on workshops. I have also introduced them to the bush ministry by having them meet with the leadership of flying ministries, such as Samaritan's Purse, Missionary Aviation Repair Center (MARC) and Artic Barnabas and also Amundsen Educational Center/Residential Life.

How does the ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries and exist to serve other Grace Brethren Churches?

Answer:

- 1) The Mission Statement points out that the purpose is to serve FGBC Churches and to promote the development of FGBC churches in Alaska.
- 2) I have now lead devotions for an Alaska Native Christian vocational school entitled Amundsen Educational Center. I am on the board there. Students cycle back to their villages each year, and we hope to establish connections with the bush communities in this way.
- 3) In June, 2013, VisionAlaska organized a national Chaplain's School with the State Guard Association of the United States that was held at Alaska Christian College in Soldotna, Alaska. 14 attended. I serve on the board of the foundation, which has funded two more one week Chaplain's Schools since then. I am President-Elect of the State Guard Association of the United States and hope to encourage chaplaincy nationally.
- 4) A church start in Sterling, Alaska has begun in our home.
- 5) A group is starting to meet in South Anchorage, with Grady Pennell III (Son of Pastor Pennell of Eagle River Grace).
- 6) We have sponsored the stay in Alaska of VisionUSA for their workshops and visit on two occasions and plan more workshops and exploration of Alaska for church planting.
- 7) With Dimond Grace, we are making an exploratory trip to Whittier, to look into a church plant there.
- 8) We hope to work with the ministerium (which I often meet with) to facilitate retreats and a youth canoe wilderness adventure, inviting all churches.
- 9) We have invited a Dimond Grace couple (elder), who is moving to Oregon to do a church start in Roseburg, Oregon in October.
- 10) Another man from the Kenai Grace Brethren Church does a Slope Ministry bible study for North Slope Workers. He also wants to use his boat in ministry to help FGBC people to get their subsistence salmon. I believe we can use this in FGBC retreats.
- 11) Each summer, I intend to travel Alaska to seek out new communities for church planting. I also cover Alaska as part of my military duties.
- 12) We also have a ministry of hospitality to missionaries and pastors, who need time off from the villages or need to come to our area for ministry at our log home retreat.
- 13) VisionAlaska Inc. facilitates legal counselling and Christian Conciliation/mediation services to churches. In the past, this has involved pastor/elder disputes, church construction projects, leases, governmental issues, personnel disputes, Christian School issues and has been provided for the past 35 years.

How does this ministry meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission?

Answer:

Alaska is a vast area with many hundreds of communities with no FGBC Churches. The need for Christ is great throughout Alaska. By going to these communities, or as many as possible and finding ties to these communities, we hope to create small groups to develop into churches or to support local churches. In fact, this is how most FGBC churches started in Alaska. I have been a member of the fellowship for about 32 years in Alaska, and feel a great need to establish more bible teaching FGBC churches in other communities in Alaska. Alaska is growing in population, and now is the time to continue what others, such as Ed Jackson did in the 1970s.

The last FGBC started in Alaska was about 30 years ago. Some churches have left the fellowship. We need to promote the FGBC in Alaska. That is part of my concern. But the main concern is fulfilling the Great Commission to reach the people of Alaska.

To the best of your knowledge, does your ministry or any leadership of your ministry have unresolved problems with another Grace Brethren church, leader, district or cooperating ministry? If so, who can we contact for clarification?

No. I have met with each church. I have personally either attended these churches or assisted them in their growth as a lawyer, deacon, Sunday School teacher, or preaching or music, etc. during the last 32 years on the Kenai Peninsula and in the Anchorage/Eagle River area.

In seeking to be a cooperating ministry of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, does the ministry recognize the obligation of mutual encouragement and cooperation with Grace Brethren churches, districts, national ministries and/or other cooperating ministries?

Answer:

Yes. I enjoy these contacts and enjoy the people in them. It is our wish to be nothing but a positive influence and helper to these entities. For example, one of the churches was worried about a church planting effort because they want to consolidate and grow their own congregation. So in that case, we recognized their concerns and have offered them a Church Growth Workshop designed for their own church only.

If accepted by the procedures outlined in ARTICLE X, Section 2 of the Manual of Procedure and the ministry becomes recognized as cooperating ministry of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., does the ministry understand that :

It is not a creation of the FGBC? Yes.

It is not an integral part of the FGBC? Yes.

It is not in any way controlled by the FGBC or Fellowship Conference? Yes.

The Fellowship Conference asks for an annual report only as a courtesy? Yes.

Please attach a brief history and description of the ministry to this application.

Attached. Also go to visionalaska.org for photos and more information.

General Instructions: Fill out this application form and send it with to the FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, P. O. Box 384, WINONA LAKE, IN 46590. The deadline for application is January 1st in order to be considered in the following annual conference.

Official Name of Ministry: VisionAlaska, Inc., Alaska Brethren Ministries.
Mailing Address 38800 Robinson Loop Road

City State Zip Steriing, Alaska 99672
Phone (907) 862-0336

Email akbrethrenministries@gmail.com

Website visionalaska.org
Person filling out this application: Roger Holl

Contact Person: Roger E. Holl

Attachment A

COVENANT AND STATEMENT OF FAITH

Section One. Covenant. The sovereign congregations which are members of this corporation are united in accepting the Holy Scriptures as the sole guide and authority in all matters of faith, doctrine and practice.

Section Two. Statement of Faith. The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches has a corporate commitment to a basic body of beliefs founded on God's revealed truth. The Statement of Faith is the current expression of a never ending effort to clarify an understanding of the primary doctrines we accept.

It is the understanding of this Fellowship that, although individual Grace Brethren Churches remain distinct, autonomous legal entities, congregational church government relates alone to the incidental affairs of the local congregation and not to doctrinal practices or tenets which must be general or universal the same in all congregations. The basic doctrines of one congregation shall be the same as the basic doctrines in every other.

Accordingly, the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., believing the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible to be the infallible rule of faith and of practice and feeling the responsibility to make known the divine message of the Bible, presents the following articles as a statement of those basic truths taught in the Bible which are common to our Christian faith and practice.

1. THE BIBLE. The Word of God, the sixty six Books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally inspired in all parts, and therefore wholly without error as originally given of God (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21).
2. THE ONE TRUE GOD. Existing eternally as three persons the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:22; Matthew 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).
3. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. His preexistence and deity (John 1:1-3), incarnation by virgin birth (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18-23), sinless life (Heb. 4:15), substitutionary death (2 Cor. 5:21), bodily resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), ascension into heaven and present ministry (Heb. 4:14-16), and coming again (Acts 1:11).
4. THE HOLY SPIRIT. His personality (John 16:7-15), and deity (Acts 5:3-4), and His work in each believer: baptism and in dwelling at the moment of regeneration (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 8:9), and filling (Eph. 5:18) to empower for Christian life and service (Eph. 3:16; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22-23).
5. MAN. His direct creation in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-28), his subsequent fall into sin resulting in spiritual death (Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 5:12), and the necessity of the new birth for his salvation (John 3:3-5).
6. SALVATION. A complete and eternal salvation by God's grace alone received as the gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; 1 Peter 1:18-19).
7. THE CHURCH. One true church, the body and the bride of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-32), composed of all true believers of the present age (1 Cor. 12:12-13); and the organization of its members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for world wide gospel witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (Eph. 4:11-16).

8. **CHRISTIAN LIFE.** A life of righteousness, good works and separation unto God from the evil ways of the world (Rom. 12:1-2), manifested by speaking the truth (James 5:12), maintaining the sanctity of the home (Eph. 5:22-6:4), settling differences between Christians in accordance with the Word of God (1 Cor. 6:1-8), not engaging in carnal strife but showing a Christ like attitude toward all men (Rom. 12:17-21), exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), and maintaining a life of prayer (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6), including the privilege, when sick, of calling for the elders of the church to pray and to anoint with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:13-18).
9. **ORDINANCES.** The Christians should observe the ordinances of our Lord Jesus Christ which are (1)baptism of believers by triune immersion (Matt. 28:19) and (2)the threefold communion service, consisting of the washing of the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:20-22, 33-34; Jude 12), and the communion of the bread and the cup (1 Cor. 11:23-26).
10. **SATAN.** His existence and personality as the great adversary of God and His people (Rev. 12:1-10), his judgment (John 12:31), and final doom (Rev. 20:10).
11. **SECOND COMING.** The personal, visible, and imminent return of Christ to remove His church from the earth (1 Thess. 4:16-17) before the tribulation (1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 3:10), and afterward to descend with the Church to establish His millennial kingdom upon the earth (Rev. 19:11-20:6).
12. **FUTURE LIFE.** The conscious existence of the dead (Phil. 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), the resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgment and reward of believers (Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Rev. 20:11-15), the eternal life of the saved (John 3:16), and the eternal punishment of the lost (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15).

Brief History of VisionAlaska, Inc.

VisionAlaska, Inc. started by incorporating in May, 2013. During August of 2013, Dr. Tony Webb and Cathy Webb and Roger and Melissa Holl embarked on a trip through out Southcentral Alaska to talk with not only all FGBC churches and leaders, but also with other ministries. In January 2014, we spent 11 days putting on workshops and preaching in Grace Brethren churches to emphasize the need for more churches and how to reach people for Christ.

Part of VisionAlaska is a continuation of offering legal counsel to ministries and Christian Conciliation and Mediation. I facilitate these services through another corporate entity, namely a professional corporation. But the important aspect of VisionAlaska is that we are connecting throughout the state, not only on the road system communities, but we will reach out to the rural areas. I will bring two aircraft to this ministry for its use.

Our goal is to put on retreats and youth canoe camps and to offer them to all FGBC churches to build unity and a vision for Alaska as a fellowship.

I have started a work in Sterling, Alaska. Another is starting in South Anchorage. We are actively visiting other communities to look into planting churches there. I am also providing devotions and presensce to Alaska Native Youth through the Residential Life Program (dormitories) of the Amundsen Educational Center in Soldotna.

I coordinate closely with the Ministerium for the Alaska District. Trips are now planned to other communities to investigate establishment of churches there. Possibilities are Girdwood, Seward, Ninilchik, a North Slope ministry for North Slope workers in the Arctic and Homer.

VisionAlaska, Inc., Alaskan Brethren Ministries

Mission Statement

The mission of VisionAlaska Inc., Alaskan Brethren Ministries is to bring the gospel of Christ to Alaska and the world as the gospel is revealed in the Word of God. To support Grace Brethren Fellowships, churches, Christian education, missions and communities in such a way that will bring hope and encouragement to those who serve Christ.

Conciliation.

A mission of VisionAlaska is to facilitate Christian Conciliation through education, counseling and Christian mediation in accordance with Matthew 18.

Legal Counseling to Christian Organizations.

A mission of VisionAlaska is to facilitate legal counseling to Christian organizations and churches.

Church Planting.

A mission of VisionAlaska is to promote the establishment of church fellowships associated with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

Mission Endeavors

1. To provide the teaching of God's word to villages, towns and cities throughout Alaska and to the world through bible study and church outreach.
2. To support other missions and provide relief and speakers to assist missionaries and churches
3. To assist church planting of Brethren churches in Alaska and throughout the world.
4. To provide Christian Mediation Services for dispute resolution to churches and church organizations when needed in order to bring glory and edification to the name of God and to the body of believers.
5. To provide legal services to churches, mission organizations and to affect Christian issues.
6. To develop means of communications with and among Christian organizations through websites, meetings, outdoor recreation, ministry, education, and conferences.
7. To advocate and teach to youth and adults basic Brethren teachings and distinctives, including adhering to the Word of God, triune baptism, communion including foot washing, Christian fellowship , peaceful relations among mankind, service to others, Christian hospitality and a holy Christian walk in life.

Summer Intern Program

1. The Alaska Brethren Ministries, Inc. shall provide coordination of a summer intern program for Brethren College students and Brethren seminary students, who aspire to Christian ministry, seminary degree or service to voluntarily serve Brethren churches, or other Brethren ministries during the summer.
2. Job Description:

The student is assigned to a Brethren Church to perform such duties as leading a bible study, participate in youth ministry activities, maintenance, church projects and church growth. At the conclusion of the summer, the student will give a talk on his or her summer service.
3. Support.

Summer interns will volunteer their services and be responsible for travel costs to and from the mission field. The hosting church or ministry will determine the stipend or honorarium and shall provide food and board.
4. Selection of Interns:
 - a. If reasonable, the interns shall be first selected by a Brethren college for nomination to the board of Alaska Brethren Ministries, Inc. The board and the hosting church or ministry will approve the nomination and enter into a contract with the student.
 - b. Nominees shall be members of a Brethren denomination or fellowship and shall agree in the contract to the Statement of Faith of Alaska Brethren Ministries, Inc.
 - c. Nominees shall possess a valid driver's license and automobile insurance.
 - d. Hosting churches and missions shall be Brethren churches or Brethren Ministries.

Letter of Support/Sponsorship from Dimond Grace Church received by email:



sermonater@aol.com Feb 9 (3 days ago)

to me

Brother- Let's talk on tuesday about next steps-we stand with you!... pcb & dimondGRACEfellowship

We are with you!

christopher a. ball , -)

Letter of Support from Dr. Tony Webb, VisionOhio and VisionUSA



Tony Webb Feb 4 (8 days ago)

to me

Hi Roger,

It is with great joy that Vision USA/VO supports, endorses and supports your effort to become a cooperating agency with the FGBC. I personally thank you for your wonderful and very effective work in moving GB church planting ahead in Alaska through Vision Alaska. Not only are you leading the way in church planting in Alaska, but you are doing great work in drawing all the current established churches together around the common vision to expand Jesus' kingdom.

Blessings to you my dear brother! Any more you may need from us, please let me know.
TW

Dr. Tony Webb
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