

FLINCHCONFERENCE.COM

FLINCH

CONFERENCE

NYC

2015

JULY 23 - 26

RISK.

That's the theme of the FGBC's
Vision Conference in 2015.

We can talk all we want.
We can develop our best plans.
But God's power is unleashed
when his people step out in faith.

Prepare to be challenged to
risk in the city that embodies it.

WILL YOU FLINCH?



FLINCH 2015

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thanks for flinching, and welcome to New York City!
(Okay, Newark. Don't get technical.)

If you're anything like me, just seeing the skyline as you look across the Hudson River gets your heart racing. I fell in love with this city when I first came here in the late 80s on college mission trips. The city has changed a lot since then, but it continues to hold the title of the world's most influential city.

When I chose the theme of "risk" for this year's conference, New York seemed like the obvious choice for location. What other place so embodies a spirit of risk and adventure? The place seems to inspire risk-taking, and we are hopeful that it will be that for you this week as well.

Flinch Conference is all about risk. Our goal this week is to raise everyone's risk quotient by a notch or two in an ongoing attempt to create a culture for movement in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. In every session we will be challenged by "riskologists" — people who know a thing or two about taking risks for God. On Saturday, we head out on "Riskursions" where we can learn from, and be inspired by, people who are taking risks for God right here in New York. We will take the time to pray and ask God to show us the risks we need to be taking, and if all of that is not enough — we will even have some interactive games of risk you can try in the hallways between sessions.



I'm extremely excited that we will be joined this year by well-known missiologist Alan Hirsch. Alan has been collaborating with our brothers Tim Boal and Neil Cole, and we are thankful to Go2 Ministries for connecting us with Alan for this event. If you've taken a look at Alan's recent book, *The Faith of Leap*, you know we're in for a treat.

Let me give you a few tips on getting the most out of this week.

1. RECONNECT! Get ready to spend time with the awesome people in our fellowship -- people who pray, serve, and cooperate with you in our larger family. Make a point of connecting with them at a heart level and don't hesitate to ask how God is speaking to them about risk. Pray spontaneously with them about the things you discuss.

WELCOME

2. HAVE FUN! As I said last year, you work hard all year, so this week is for you. Enjoy the city. Take advantage of the Riskursions on Saturday and be sure to come and hang out at Bryant Park afterward. We've got a special Friday night event planned for younger leaders (see page 29) and Erica Shelton is back to make sure your kids have an awesome experience. We'll also be continuing the Grace Olympics! Need I say more?

3. PARTICIPATE! Get in on any luncheons that may still have openings. Learn from those who are leading the workshops. When special opportunities to participate arise (and they will), dig in! Oh yes, and please stop and chat with our videographers as they roam around this week. You might just see yourself on the big screen.

4. STICK AROUND FOR THE LAST SESSION! Our Sunday morning session is the culminating event for Flinch Conference, and our beloved Ed Lewis, from CE National, will deliver the final challenge. You definitely don't want to miss that, so please make every effort to be there as we wrap up our time together.

Last year in D.C. we took the time to reconnect as we remembered why we enjoy our tribe so much. This year, my prayer is that you will reflect on the risks that the Lord is leading you to in 2015 and beyond. I ask you to take the time to pray right now and ask God to open your heart to the things he is going to show you.

This weekend could be life changing.


Bartley Sawatsky
Executive Director, FGBC

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OF THIS PROGRAM



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FLINCH 2015

VISION CONFERENCE 2015 JULY 23-26, 2016

THEME: FLINCH!

LOCATION: NEWARK LIBERTY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MARRIOTT , NEWARK, NJ



A SPECIAL NOTE

About Flinch Conference 2015 from Tom Avey, Coordinator
Last summer, "Fellowshift" was a blast! This year, I am pleased to welcome you to my favorite city, New York City. I grew up just 15 miles away and it was always a favorite place to visit. In my opinion, no city engulfs you like New York City. We are going to talk about something I am not very good at — RISK! More specifically, we'll discuss a theology of risk and how it impacts one's life mission. You will be challenged by our "Riskologists" and be changed by our "Riskursions."

Usually I say I want you to enjoy conference and I do! Let us know how we can help you.

However, I also want you to "up" your risk quotient. Walking around Bowery Street and the Bowery Mission, Ground Zero, the intensely ethnic communities in Queens, or the transitioning neighborhoods in Harlem will help.

— Tom Avey, FGBC Coordinator

WELCOME CENTER

The Welcome Center is in Lobby West and will be open on Thursday, July 23, from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sandy Barrett and her crew will be there to assist you with general Conference information, registration, Grace Kids, information about workshops and Riskursions. Tickets for dinner meal options may be purchased at the Welcome Center, if they are not sold out. Information about other options will also be available. Read this program and other printed materials carefully to find most information and instructions you will need.

If you pre-registered for Vision Conference (by mail or on-line), pick up your personal registration envelope upon arrival. This envelope will include your meal tickets. If you have not already registered, go to the Welcome Center as soon as you arrive.

Registration for Grace Kids may also be available if there is space. We work hard to provide an amazing children's program and want to make sure there is adequate supervision of your children.

ATTENTION FIRST TIME ATTENDEES!

Is this your first time at the annual conference of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? Stop by the Welcome Center for a welcome gift. Sandy Barrett looks forward to meeting you and is available to answer any questions you may have. Tom Avey, the Fellowship Coordinator, would love to meet you also. Welcome!

CONFERENCE

PERSONAL ID BADGES

You will receive a Flinch Conference ID badge in your registration envelope. This ID badge is provided for every registered attendee. Please wear your badge while attending any Flinch Conference event. The conference schedule is on the reverse side of your name badge.

FGBC MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH CREDENTIALS

Churches have been asked to send a list of their delegates in advance of conference. Those of you who are pre-qualified delegates will receive a ballot along with your conference registration. Business reports are available at the Welcome Center. If your church has not already submitted names for delegates, the membership committee will be at the Welcome Center on Friday from 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (before the celebration) and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (before the celebration). Delegates should bring their ballots to the FGBC business meeting at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

Fellowship business will be conducted on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. This event is also a meal (lunch) and fellowship time for delegates or anyone who is interested in the direction of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches (FGBC). We invite everyone to enjoy the meal (ticket required); however, delegates not wishing to participate in the meal may enter the room at 12:45 p.m. for the official business meeting.

GRACE KIDS

Grace Kids is our children's program (infant through 6th grade) and is provided daily during all the planned meetings, lunches, and evening meals. If your child is in child-care during a lunch or dinner that you are attending, your child also will be served a meal and it is included with their registration. Be sure to secure an information sheet at the Welcome Center for complete details about the times being provided. The Grace Kids programs are under the capable direction of Erica Shelton and her team. Grace Kids are available for families that are registered for Flinch Conference.

EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

Exhibits and displays are located in the foyer between the Grand Ballroom and the Junior Ballroom. You will want to spend some time at each of these exhibits and displays, meeting our fine exhibitors and getting better acquainted with the work of ministries of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches and other exhibitors. You might even find a few freebies there and some great books or other gifts to purchase. Our national ministries will have a place to sign up for free giveaways.

CONFERENCE LITERATURE

Special conference literature will be placed at the Welcome Center in the Lobby West. Only Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches official conference literature may be placed on that table. See Sandy Barrett if you have any questions.

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CONFERENCE PERSONALITIES



BARTLEY SAWATSKY / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / RISKOLOGIST

Bartley is the lead pastor and co-founder of Grace Community Church in Mississauga, Ontario. Formerly part of the original executive staff of GBCCanada, he has now served on the Board since 2004. Bartley serves the FGBC as Executive Director (2013 – 2016). Bartley speaks during the Thursday evening celebration on "Will You Flinch?"



TOM AVEY / FELLOWSHIP COORDINATOR

Tom has been the full-time Fellowship Coordinator since January 1998. He served as pastor at the Grace Brethren Church of Orlando, Fla., and as church administrator and pastor of church growth at the Grace Brethren Church of Lititz, Pa. He and his wife, Sandi, reside in Winona Lake, Ind. They have four adult children and seven grandchildren.



SANDY BARRETT / OPERATIONS MANAGER

As Operations Manager, Sandy assists Tom Avey in planning Flinch Conference. Among her duties are: registration, meals, child care staffing, exhibits, transportation, and general room use. Visit Sandy during conference at the Welcome Center. She and her husband, Steve, are members of the Winona Lake, Ind., Grace Brethren Church. They have three married children and five grandchildren.



ERICA SHELTON / GRACE KIDS DIRECTOR

Erica is the Director of NEXT, the Children's Ministry of Grace Fellowship in Pickerington, Ohio, where she has served in a full-time capacity for the last five years. Erica leads a staff of three, nearly 200 volunteers and more than 500 kids at Grace Fellowship. Erica is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Religious Education from Liberty University. She enjoys spending time with those in her community group and with the teen girls she mentors. Erica is our Grace Kids Director.



SCOTT AVEY / CONFERENCE WORSHIP LEADER

Scott is the Pastor of Worship at Grace Community Church of Frederick, Md. He is hopelessly in love with his bride of 13 years: Jennifer. They have three children, Canon, Cadence, and Coda. Scott has his undergraduate degree in Music Education (emphasis in percussion in 2003) from Grace College and his Masters in Ministry from Grace College and Theological Seminary (2012). Scott and his team will lead worship music during all the celebrations.

PERSONALITIES



ALAN HIRSCH / RISKOLOGIST

Alan is a South African-born missiologist, author, and a leader in the missional church movement. His recent book *Faith of Leap* speaks directly to the theme of "Flinch Conference." He has also authored *The Shaping of the Things to Come: Innovation and Mission for the 21st-Century Church*, *The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church* and *On the Verge: The Future of the Church as Apostolic Movement* among others. He speaks on Friday evening on the "Faith of Leap."



CAESAR KALINOWSKI / RISKOLOGIST

Caesar is a church planter, missional strategist and one of founding leaders of Soma Communities. He currently serves as the Director of the GCM Collective, an organization that helps catalyze missional community multiplication across North America. His new book, *Transformed*, was just published by Zondervan in February 2014. He has been married to Tina, his high school sweetheart, for 30 years; they have three children, Caesar, Christin, and Justine. Caesar talks on Saturday morning about "Birthright - Living Out Our Gospel Identity" and "Moving Mission from Additional to Intentional."



TIM BOAL / RISKOLOGIST

Tim is well known as a pastor with a passion for church planting. On Thursday evening, Tim Boal will talk about "Risk: the Spirit of the Apostle." Tim Boal has served as the executive director of Go2 Ministries since 2007. His career is rich with experience in church planting and directing missions boards. Since 1991 he has been senior pastor of the Penn Valley Church Multi-site Network in Telford, Pa. He is married to Tammy and they have three sons, Benjamin, Daniel, and Andrew.



BONNIE BEUGGERT / RISKOLOGIST

Bonnie and her husband, Christian, served in the Philippines with OMF International (formerly the China Inland Mission and Overseas Missionary Fellowship, founded by James Hudson Taylor in 1865). The Beuggerts returned to the Philippines with Grace Brethren International Mission in the summer of 2002. In 2007, they relocated to Thailand where they helped organize a Thai Fellowship, which has started to meet at the beginning of 2010. In 2014, they relocated to the U.S. They are currently pastoring Ghent Grace Brethren Church in Roanoke, Va. Bonnie talks on Sunday morning on "Faith=Risk: Trusting God with Your Most Precious Desires."

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HEIDI BOGUE / RISKOLOGIST

Heidi Bogue, was raised in Brazil, the daughter of missionaries Norm and Cleo Johnson, and is married to Pastor Jeff Bogue. Heidi and Jeff have six children Josiah, Isaac, Micah, Gabriel, Elias, and their princess, Naomi. Heidi is an avid CrossFit athlete and works as the Director of Development at Advanced Performance CrossFit. Heidi speaks during the Friday morning about "AMRAP – How CrossFit is Teaching Me to Take As Many Risks As Possible."



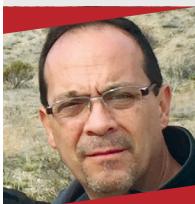
NATHAN WELLS / RISKOLOGIST

Nathan leads SEEDnet Church Planting, a ministry that takes Jesus to, and plants churches in "Spiritually, Economically, Emotionally, Developmentally (S.E.E.D.)" oppressed areas. Nathan is passionate about planting and multiplying churches in low-income, oppressed areas. He and his wife Jena have three crazy boys and live in rural Ashland with their dogs, sheep, and chickens, and way too many coyotes. [Nathan talks on Friday evening on "Planting Churches in Risky Places."](#)



KEVIN PINKERTON / RISKOLOGIST

In 1990, Kevin came to Grace Community Church as an Assistant Youth Pastor/Custodian. Three years later, he became the Lead Pastor. Since 1993, Grace has grown to an average Sunday morning attendance of 1,788 in the small town of Fremont, Ohio. Last year GCC "adopted" an independent church in Paulding, Ohio. Kevin and Pam, have three children; Zach, Brianne, and Karissa. Kevin enjoys pointing people to our Savior, spending time with his family, exercise, football, being in the mountains, and traveling. [Kevin speaks on Thursday about "Faith-Inspired Defiance."](#)



JAVIER FORERO / RISKOLOGIST

Javier Eduardo Forero was born in Colombia, South America. He is married with Pily Forero and they have three kids: Mateo, Abbie, and Ellie. Javier is the Senior Pastor at Iglesia La Esperanza located in Valrico, Fla. He's been in this position for almost five years and also he is an active church planter. [Javier talks on Friday evening on "El riesgo de hacer el ministerio étnico en América \(The Risk of Ethnic Ministry in America\)."](#)

PERSONALITIES



MICHEL FAULKNER / RISKOLOGIST

For more than 30 years, Michel has dedicated his life to serving God and his community. His community involvement has included participating as a 1992-1993 Coro Leadership New York Fellow and serving on Mayor Giuliani's Task Force on Police Community Relations. In 2005, he founded the Institute for Leadership and in June 2006 he founded the New Horizon Church of New York in Harlem. Michel was married to his wife, Virginia Faulkner, for 31 years before her untimely passing in early 2015 and together they raised three children in New York City. He recently married Dr. Sarai Padilla. [Michel speaks on Friday morning on "Guess Who's Staying For Dinner?" from Mark 6:30-42.](#)



DAVE GUILES / RISKOLOGIST

Dave has been an active participant in Charis International since its inception in 1994, and currently serves as Coordinator of the Charis Steering Committee. Dave and his wife, Sue, served in Argentina with Grace Brethren International Missions, from 1988-1999. In April 2000, he became the Executive Director of GBIM, which was recently renamed Encompass World Partners. Dave and Sue currently reside near the new mission headquarters in Atlanta, and in the margins of a busy life are committed to helping start new churches that reflect the DNA of our global family. [Dave, with Liz Gates will share "A History of Risk in the FGBC" on Saturday morning.](#)



LIZ GATES / RISKOLOGIST

Liz is Executive Director of GraceConnect, a media company that serves the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. She came to the position in 2010 following a career in journalism, nonprofit public relations, and higher ed communications. She is a graduate of Grace College and holds a master's degree in journalism from Ball State University. She and her husband, Doug, reside in Warsaw, Ind. [Liz, with Dave Guiles will share "A History of Risk in the FGBC" on Saturday morning.](#)



STEVE GALEGOR / RISKOLOGIST

Steve is a field leader with GO2 Ministries in partnership with BILD International for Albanophone church development. He lives in the shadow of Manhattan in Clifton, N.J., with his wife of 25 years, Melanie, and their three children, Jonah, Emma, and Caleb. They have worked in church planting among the ethnic Albanian Diaspora in the NY Metro region and the Northeast since 2000. Steve travels regularly to Alba-

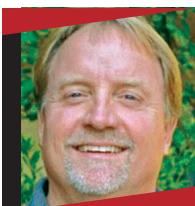
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nia and Kosova in partnership with BILD International and the Antioch School of Church Planting and Leadership Development. Steve will talk about "Not Flinching in the Face of Adversity" on Sunday morning.



ED LEWIS / RISKOLOGIST

Ed has served as Executive Director of CE National since 1985. CE National is a church effectiveness ministry. Ed is especially concerned about the poor and the overlooked. He is a leader in the Grace Brethren Fellowship of Churches and he often preaches, teaches or leads services. He especially enjoys serving with the Urban Hope Community Church in Philadelphia. Ed loves the Lord and likes to share his faith, disciple people, and challenge people to live "on mission" for the Lord. Ed will speak on Sunday morning on "Where are the Risk-Takers?"



PHIL SPARLING / RISKOLOGIST

Phil Sparling is pastor in northern California at Auburn Grace Church. In 1978 Phil's parents, along with two other families, began a Bible study in their home that eventually grew into a Grace Brethren Church. In 1994, Phil became lead pastor. Over the years the congregation has taken significant risks to stay alive and relevant in their community. Phil and Ruth have been married for over 30 years and have four adult children and one grandson. They have three boys, two of whom are married, and one daughter who lives in Alaska and attends the GBC in Anchorage.



VISION CONFERENCE PLANNING TEAM

Lock some young leaders (and one old guy) in a room and what do you get? Lots of energy, great ideas, and one confused old guy. The planning team for Flinch conference (picture above) is Tom Avey, Wade Rininger, Andrew Saunders, Scott Avey, Aaron Scantlen, Bartley Sawatsky, Andrew Wood, Charity Reeves, and Tim Park. If you see these folks, give them a fist-bump for their hard work. See if they flinch!



*The Association of
Grace Brethren Ministers*

Connecting. Growing. Resting. Restoring.

We Care! Pastors carry a heavy burden, so we pray, plan and work to do whatever we can to come alongside the pastors of our Fellowship. We recognize the importance of a well-trained and spiritually healthy pastor. We desire that they are able to effectively shepherd those under their care.

We are working to build greater **connection**.
Strong, healthy relationships are not optional.

We are working to help and encourage our pastors to
keep growing – to be lifelong learners. Stagnation is not acceptable.

We are working to remind our pastors to **take a break**. Sometimes we forget that even God rested. Burn out is not admirable.

We are working at **providing help** when a pastor is in need. It is "ok" to admit you're human. Pride is not productive.

Do not forget to pray for your pastor!



Association Of Grace Brethren Ministers

PO Box 694 | Winona Lake, IN 46590 | www.agbm.org



FLINCH 2015

CELEBRATIONS

There are five Celebrations during Flinch Conference. Each Celebration will be held in the Grand Ballroom. Worship will be lead by Scott Avey and his team.

THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

This opening session will set the stage for Flinch Conference. Bartley Sawatsky will talk about "Will you Flinch?" Tim Boal will talk about "Risk: the Spirit of the Apostle" and Kevin Pinkerton will talk about "Faith Inspired Defiance." We will also watch Jim Brown talk about his trip to Iraq. And back by unpopular demand — Grace Olympics will kick off!

FRIDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

We will hear from Phil Sparling about "When Risk Means Change, Don't Flinch!," Heidi Bogue on "AMRAP – How CrossFit is Teaching Me to Take As Many Risks As Possible" and from Michel Faulkner on "Guess Who's Staying For Dinner? (Mark 6:30-42)."

FRIDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

We are pleased to welcome Alan Hirsch to our conference! Alan will speak on "a Faith of Leap" and is brought to us by Go2 Ministries. So much of our lives is caught up in the development and maintenance of security and control. But as Helen Keller observed, "Security is mostly a superstition.... Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing." And when our only experience of Christianity is safe and controlled, we miss the simple fact that faith involves risk. In calling us to a life of adventure, Alan will challenge us to leave the idol of security behind and courageously live the adventure that is inherent in our God and in our calling. He will explores the nature of adventure, risk, and courage and the implications for church, discipleship, spirituality, and leadership. We will also hear from Javier Forero on "El riesgo de hacer el ministerio étnico en América" and Nathan Wells on "Planting Churches in Risky Places."

SATURDAY AT 9:30 A.M. – PRAYER!

We are pleased to welcome Caesar Kalinowski to our conference! Caesar will talk about "Birthright - Living Out Our Gospel Identity" and "Moving Mission from Additional to Intentional." We will also conduct a concert of prayer together. Dave Guiles and Liz Gates will talk about the history of risk in the Grace Brethren movement.

SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

Steve Galegor Jr will talk about "Not Flinching in the Face of Adversity" and Ed Lewis will ask "Where Are the Risk Takers?" We will hear from Bonnie Beuggert on "Faith=Risk: Trusting God with Your Most Precious Desires."

CELEBRATIONS

WOMEN'S CELEBRATION SPONSORED BY WOMEN OF GRACE USA FRIDAY AT 2:30 P.M. (JUNIOR BALLROOM)

For each of us, a time comes when we are haunted by the question, "Is God worth the risk?" Whether it's a sense of calling, a challenge to keep our integrity, or a death threat, how we answer that one question will determine our final decision. We are excited to invite all women attending Flinch Conference to this time of reflection, fellowship, and celebration. Join us to interact together with personal stories of women who have taken risks for God, and examine our theme for this year, "Stand Firm." You will leave with a desire to personally answer the question, "Is God Worth the Risk?"

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CPR-3 IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN HAITI THROUGH:

- Cultivating & Providing Nutrition through Moringa
- Water and Sanitation Initiatives
- Church to Church Partnerships and Church Planting
- Justice Initiatives for Restaveks
- Child Sponsorship
- Experience Trips to Haiti
- Microenterprise Initiatives

BREATHING
LIFE AND
HOPE INTO
THE WORLD



WE'RE PRAYING FOR A COUPLE OR INDIVIDUAL
TO JOIN US ON THE GROUND IN HAITI

COULD THAT BE YOU?

IT'S MORE THAN A CAREER.
SEE MORE INFORMATION AND APPLY AT CPR-3.COM/CAREERS



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graceconnect.us

bmhbooks.com

MEALS

MEALS

Tickets for sponsored meals have been ordered in advance. In some cases, tickets may still be available. Check with the Welcome Center in the West Lobby for availability. All meals are in the Junior Ballroom.

DINNER ON THURSDAY WITH GRACE BRETHREN INVESTMENT FOUNDATION AND OUR MILITARY CHAPLAINS – \$15

This year GBIF celebrates its 60th anniversary. Join them as they remember their past and share God's recent blessings at their annual corporation meeting. The Eagle Commission will be represented by various military chaplains who will share stories about God's work over the last year. *Thursday at 5:00 p.m.*

BREAKFAST ON FRIDAY WITH CE NATIONAL – \$13

CE National invites you on Friday morning to join Ed Lewis, Tim (TK) Kurtaneck, Jason Holt, and others to hear about the way God is using CE National to be a catalyst for all believers to be trained and mobilized to be on mission. Cost is for the first 100 tickets sold, after that, the price will go to \$28, so reserve your spot early! *Friday at 7:30 a.m.*

LUNCH ON FRIDAY WITH ENCOMPASS WORLD PARTNERS – \$14

Encompass World Partners is the cross-cultural ministries arm of The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. This luncheon will include a brief update from Encompass and lots of time to enjoy the food and the community. *Friday at 12:30 p.m.*

DINNER ON FRIDAY WITH GRACE COLLEGE AND SEMINARY – \$15

The Grace Schools Board of Trustees and administration invite you to a delightful evening meal. President Bill Katip will be there to give updates of the far reaching opportunities God is giving to Grace College and Seminary. Exciting things are happening on campus and we want to share them with ministry leaders at Flinch 2015. There will be a corporation meeting included, so members (individual donors of \$25/year or life members) are especially encouraged to attend.

Friday at 5:00 p.m.

PASTORS & WIVES BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY – \$5 (AGBM MEMBERS PRICE) OR \$13

The Association of Grace Brethren Ministers is committed to shepherding those who shepherd in our Fellowship. Ticket prices have been reduced for members and their wives as a way to thank you. The morning will include lots of fun, good fellowship, and a chance to be encouraged by a seasoned pastor, Paul Mutchler. See a list of members at www.flinchconference.com/agbm. *Saturday at 7:30 a.m.*

What's your
unflinching prayer
for how God will
use you in his
global mission?



Visit our booth to record a video
you can share online.

#EncompassWorld

MEALS

LUNCH ON SATURDAY WITH A BUS RIDE TO THE FERRY – \$20

Saturday is our day for Riskursions in Manhattan. At 12:30 p.m., board the bus to travel to the Staten Island Ferry for an iconic ride to lower Manhattan. This ticket includes a box lunch and the bus ride. *Saturday at 12:30 p.m.*

BREAKFAST ON SUNDAY WITH GRACE CONNECT – \$13

Celebrate With Us! Join the GraceConnect/BMH Books staff and board members as they celebrate The Brethren Missionary Herald's 75th Anniversary. Enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet, great fellowship, and a trip down memory lane from 1940 to 2015. *Sunday at 7:30 a.m.*

LUNCH ON SUNDAY FOR THE FGBC – \$14

This is the annual meeting of the FGBC, Inc. Delegates of member churches are encouraged to attend, though all are welcome. Delegates without tickets may attend the meeting at 12:45. *Sunday at 12:30 p.m.*

WHAT IS THREE STRANDS?

An ancient saying is bedrock for our mission statement, "*A cord of three strands is not quickly broken*" - Ecc.4:12.

What are our three strands?
Compassionate, Competent, and Christ-focused health care focusing on the physical and spiritual needs of the neediest people in the developing world.

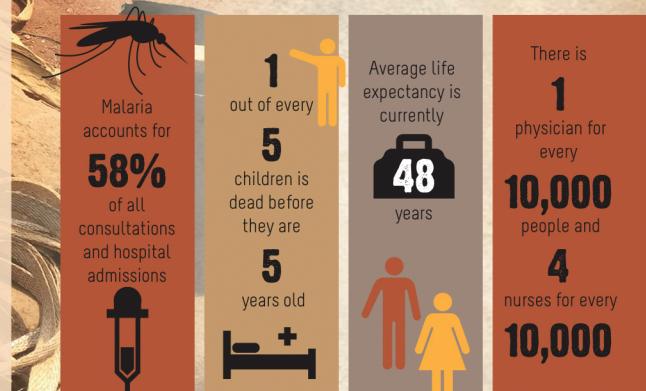
Three Strands' leaders have 25+ years of experience working in the Central African Republic (CAR), which at times seems all but forgotten. In spite of violence and insurrections, our teams stick to it.

Three Strands provides healthcare to anyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, tribe, religion, or social strata.



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DID YOU KNOW? IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,



WWW.THREE-STRANDS.ORG



FLINCH 2015

RISKURSIONS

On Saturday afternoon, we will travel to New York City for some incredible risk-based excursions called "Riskursions." You can travel to the city on your own and meet us at Riskursion locations or gather at the West Lobby at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday to take the bus to the Staten Island Ferry (ticket required). We will provide a guide, a gathering location, and an instruction page for each Riskursion at the Welcome Center. We will gather at Bryant park after the Riskursions. Come early and watch a outdoor play, Romeo and Juliet (6:30 - 8:30) or just come at 8:00 and go to the upper terrace. We will provide guides to help you return to the hotel on the NJ Transit system if needed.

ALBANIAN IMMERSION

GUIDE: PASTOR BENI PANGO

On this Riskursion you will enter the world of recent Albanian immigrants and initial church planting efforts among them. The Queens neighborhood of Ridgewood and Fresh Pond Road along the "M" Subway line has become the home of thousands of them since the country opened after Stalinist Communism in 1991. This Riskursion will be guided by Beni Pango, an Albanian colleague of Steve Galegor, Jr.

BOWERY MISSION

GUIDE: ADAM JOHNSON

Would you leave the doors to your house unlocked and open 24 hours a day 365 days a year in a rough part of New York City? Sounds risky right? Well this is exactly what the Bowery Mission in New York City has been doing for 137 years. Come with us as we pitch in and get dirty in the lives of the less fortunate men that find themselves homeless in New York City.

FLINCH FOOD ADVENTURE

GUIDE: JOHN WARD

Have a food adventure by visiting the diverse ethnic neighborhoods and food markets of Manhattan. You will have the opportunity expand your palate by trying foreign foods, while stepping into the multi-ethnic neighborhoods of Chinatown, Little Italy, and Koreatown. This Riskursion will be guided by John Ward of Encompass World Partners.

GROUND ZERO

GUIDE: DAN O'DEEENS

On September 11, 2001, a terrorist group plotted and executed what would be one of the greatest attacks on America. About 3,000 people died that day and

RISKCURSIONS

many other lives were shattered. Brave men and women risked their lives to help save many others. At this Riskcursion, you will have the opportunity to take a tour of the 9/11 Memorial. You will also have the opportunity to listen to first hand testimony from someone who was there as God used them to take a risk to step in and help.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN HARLEM

New Horizon Church is located in the heart of Harlem and under the leadership of Michel Faulkner has made a significant difference in this historic community. First the church will host a gospel concert in nearby park. Music has always been a powerful driving force in the African-American community. Then Pastor Faulkner and his folks will introduce their mission field and their ministry to help men get jobs and help local children through there "aftershock" program.

MOVING TOWARDS MUSLIMS

GUIDE: WAYNE HANNAH

Movement towards Christ among Muslims is happening more rapidly in the last ten years than it has in the last century. Understanding this reality means the time is right to move towards Muslims. During this time you will visit a mosque and have an opportunity to interact with Muslims through a question and answer time. This Riskursion will be guided by Encompass World Partners.

THE 'INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS'

GUIDE: STEVE GALEGOR

Did you know there is a subway in Queens that has been honored alongside the Appalachian Trail and the Alaskan Iditarod? It is the Number 7 subway line, which has been a vital connection for new immigrants to work in the center city since the opening of the subway in the early 1900s. Each group has carved out a 'home away from home' in Western Queens with their own life and culture becoming the face of these neighborhoods and street life. This Riskursion is led by Steve Galegor, Jr. of GO2 Church Planting Ministries.

TIMES SQUARE CHURCH

GUIDE: PASTOR DERRICK GRIFFIN

The best way to tell someone about Jesus is just to tell him or her. In 1987, Pastor David Wilkerson did just that. As he walked down the street of Times Square, what he saw broke his heart. Since then, Times Square Church has been preaching the good news and transforming lives through Christ. Come join the Times Square Ministry as they meet the people of New York to offer prayer, food for the homeless, and the good news of who Jesus is. This Riskursion will be led by Pastor Derrick Griffin.



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pleases. You hear its sound,
but you cannot tell where it
comes from or where it is
going. So it is with everyone
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WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS

A list of updated locations will be available at the conference welcome center and at flinchconferencemobile.com.

FRIDAY, JULY 24

A.P.E.S.T.

SALON B / FACILITATOR: ALAN HIRSCH

It has been said that God's church-growth method is leaders that He gives to the church. Ephesians 4:11 lists these "gifts" as Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds, and Teachers. How do these gifts work? Are they for today? What do they look like? How do they interact with each other? Join this workshop for a lively and relevant discussion about A.P.E.S.T.!

EQUIPPING AND COACHING: THE KEY TO GROWING YOUR CHURCH

SALON 3 / FACILITATOR: ED SHORT

What would happen if the majority of Christ-followers in your church served in one ministry area and intentionally looked for ministry opportunities within their spheres of influence? God stuff would happen! In this workshop, we will talk about creating a culture where everyone ministers and give you the practical steps to make that happen.

GOD'S HEART FOR THE ORPHAN

SALON A / FACILITATOR: JOHNSTON MOORE

In this workshop, we will explore what God's word says about His heart for orphans and His expectations of His people in light of His heart. We will examine the Church's response to orphans throughout history and we will look at some of the reasons that the Church has failed to meet the needs of orphans in today's world, thereby contributing to the world-wide orphan crisis. We will discuss how we can overcome these issues so that we, the Church, can better obey and answer God's clear call to love and care for orphans.

IDENTITY INITIATIVE: UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

SALON G / FACILITATORS: DR. JEFF GILL, DR. KEITH SHEARER

The global Grace Brethren movement is in the middle of a conversation called the "Identity Initiative." Leaders in the major regions of our movement (Africa, South America, Europe, North America, and South East Asia) have been working on "The Charis Commitment to Common Identity." In North America, more than 300 pastors and leaders have been involved in the discussion for two years. This workshop is designed to update participants on the progress of the Charis Commitment to Common Identity.

PARTNERSHIP: BEAUTIFUL IN THEORY, NIGHTMARE TO PRACTICE

SALON F / FACILITATOR: SCOTT FEATHER

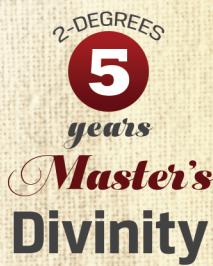
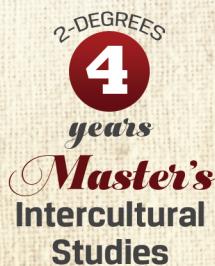
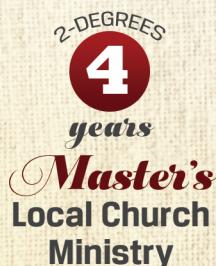
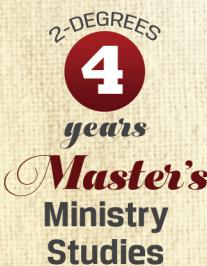
We all love the idea of "partnership" but too many times the difficulties of working together keep them at arm's length. We truly are "better together." In this

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interactive session, we will explore the good, the bad, and the ugly of partnerships and ways to avoid the bad and the ugly. Partnerships are crucial in today's landscape both for the church and for para-church organizations looking to make a difference in their communities and around the globe.

PLANTING CHURCHES IN DANGEROUS PLACES

SALON H / FACILITATOR: NATHAN WELLS

Come discuss the "ins and outs" of planting churches in dangerous places. Hear stories and principles from church-planters in SEEDNet.

SOCIAL SENSE

SALON 1 / FACILITATOR: LIZ CUTLER GATES

The world of social media can be confusing. On top of that, it always seems to change. It's hard to know where to begin – or whether to dive in at all. Join Liz Gates, executive director of GraceConnect, for a practical tutorial on social media options and how the local church can use them as part of a communications strategy.

THE APPLE OF GOD'S EYE: CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES ON ISRAEL

SALON 2 / FACILITATOR: DR. RANDY SMITH

As the Near East heats up continually, many in our churches don't recognize how their approach to Scripture informs their modern political and ethical positions. In fact, believers through the ages have struggled with the best way to understand God's apparent future promises to Israel in both the Old and New Testaments (cp. Romans 11). In this seminar, we will consider the implications of a view that theologically substitutes Israel's promises with those given to the church, and likewise show the connection between literal translation and an appearance to support contemporary inequity and injustice.

THE CANDID TRUTH ABOUT BI-VOCATIONAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

SALON C / FACILITATOR: MIKE JENTES

Since the beginning of the Church, her leaders have not all been fully salaried staff pastors. The Apostle Paul even made tents for a season in his ministry. One of the questions facing many of our leaders is "how to support my family and do the ministry that God has called me to?" We have a panel of leaders who have experienced the reality of bi-vocational ministry — earning income from the ministry and from some other source. So as we think about raising leaders and church planting, we should hear the stories of those who have embarked on the bi-vocational journey.

SATURDAY, JULY 25

DEVELOPING LEADERS WHO BLEED THE VISION OF YOUR CHURCH

SALON 3 / FACILITATOR: ED SHORT

Most leaders within the average church have a hard time articulating the vision of the church and the role they play in fulfilling that vision. This workshop is designed to help you raise up leaders who will do more than simply come to

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Ministry and ON
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for students and
adults in inner-city
Philadelphia

Four week and one
week ON MISSION
experiences for
students



meetings. You will be given practical tips to impassion leaders to understand and carry out the vision of your church.

HAVE WE LEFT THE ALTAR? (PART 1): A BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ETHICS

SALON 1 / FACILITATOR: DR. ADAM COHENHAVER

In the first session, we will survey what the Bible says about marriage and sexual ethics. We will work to build a definition of marriage that is simple and that adequately accounts for both the Bible's positive affirmations regarding marriage and for the Bible's numerous injunctions regarding sexual deviations.

HI-SPEED SOCIAL CHANGE:

HOW TO UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR VALUES

SALON F / FACILITATOR: DR. DON SHOEMAKER

Rapid legal and societal changes on same-sex marriage are but one of many challenges our churches, pastors, and laypeople face in our culture. What are other leading challenges? How can we respond to them in ways that are biblically sound, culturally appropriate, ethically responsible, and Christ honoring? Will we even need to change our paradigm on how we relate to our culture in light of these rapid changes?

WORKSHOPS

HOW TO EMPOWER AN ORPHAN CARE MOVEMENT IN YOUR CHURCH

SALON A / FACILITATOR: JOHNSTON MOORE

God's word is clear: He loves orphans and wants His people to meet their needs. In this workshop, we will look at ways God is using His church to meet the needs of orphans both here and abroad. We will then explore ways you can empower those in your church who are passionate about the cause of orphans to reach out and meet their needs in tangible and lasting ways.

LEADING THROUGH CHANGE

SALON 2 / FACILITATOR: DAVE GUILES

Leaders are agents of change. Using Encompass World Partners as our case study, we will explore principles and best practices related to implementing change in ways that embrace traditional values while adapting to a radically different ministry context.

MAPPING GENDER PERSPECTIVES: RISKS AND REWARDS

SALON B / FACILITATOR: RON AND CHERY BOEHM

The question of the role of women in leadership in our churches is fraught with ignorance, proof-texting, and misinformation. In this workshop, we will map the issues that determine the course of our journey into the wilderness of opinions over women in ministry. It's a risky topic to address, but in today's world of gender confusion, it is so necessary.

Attention young leaders! Don't miss City Stroll – your chance to discover some amazing attractions around Madison Square Park on Friday night after the evening session at Flinch. Your transportation in and out of the city is FREE and you'll have the chance to meet other young leaders from all across our great fellowship. Space is limited. Priority given to our younger leaders.



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PRAGMATIC WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

SALON H / FACILITATOR: JOSH ALAN

In preaching, pastors are used to crafting sermons to intentionally engage with primary and secondary demographics that comprise their audience. In worship leading, how do we intentionally craft a worship experience to not only glorify God and equip others to do the same utilizing creativity to strategically capture the mind and heart of a wide range of people? How do we connect with as many people as possible, drawing them in, and guiding them toward connecting with Jesus in a deeper way?

PRAYER ON THE EDGE

SALON G / FACILITATORS: DAVE KNIGHT, SHARON MACMILLAN, VIKI RIFE, R. GREENE

How would we pray if your life or family was in danger? How can we learn to celebrate the opportunities that hard times bring? Come explore with other men and women the prayer dynamic of the persecuted church. You will experience prayer like you never have before!

RISKING RELATIONSHIPS FOR LEADERSHIP

SALON C / FACILITATORS: MATT WHEELOCK, TODD MCQUEEN

The core charge to the Church is making disciples and the leadership must lead by example. Beyond exegesis, teaching, and revealing truth, the bull's-eye target is developing biblical relational equity. Leadership development must include serving elbow to elbow with those in whom we would invest the highest commodity — time. The risk is great but the best harvests are gathered in the rich ground of relational disciple making.

SUNDAY, JULY 26

A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE GRACE BRETHREN

LINCOLN / FACILITATOR: DAVE GUILES

Just who (and where) are the Grace Brethren in 2015? What is Charis and how it is redefining our identity? How can North America churches and leaders contribute in positive ways to our global movement?

A GREAT DEBATE: MISSIONAL VS. MISSIONS

SALON C / FACILITATORS: JOHN WARD, MIKE JENTES

The new word missional is now everywhere in Christian-ese. The word missions has been around for centuries. These two words often create very different ministry targets. You are invited to a lively debate highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of polarizing missional and missions.

COACHING COHORTS FOR STUCK LEADERS

SALON A / FACILITATORS: TIM SPRANKLE, GREG SERAFINO

No leader wants to admit he or she is stuck. But we all get trapped in routines and hallways that restrict our vision and reduce our impact. One of the greatest assets to leadership development is a fresh set of eyes and ears. In the Heartland District,

WORKSHOPS

several pastors have committed to serving as a sounding board to one another. Hear how we encourage, irritate, and coach one another in risky and reproducible fashion.

DURMIENDO CON EL MINISTERIO

SALON 2 / FACILITATOR: JOHN JADER ESCOBAR

(Sleeping with the Ministry) Have you seen the movie, *Sleeping with the Enemy*? Many times ministry becomes the enemy of our marriage and we ended up sleeping with it. Come and learn how Ministry and Marriage can be a blessing if we know how. (Note: this workshop will be taught in Spanish.)

HAVE WE LEFT THE ALTAR? (PART 2): A PASTORAL GUIDE TO MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ETHICS

SALON 1 / FACILITATOR: DR. ADAM COPENHAVER

In the second session, we will take a pastoral turn and consider how pastors can speak regarding marriage in light of contemporary sexual ethics and political winds. We will consider specific situations of marriage and sexual ethics (e.g. cohabitation, homosexuality, divorce, sexual identity, etc.) that pastors confront today and we will discuss how we can address these issues in a manner that is both faithful to a Biblical definition of marriage and at the same time compassionate and gracious.

THE NOT ALONE RESPONDERS

SALON F / FACILITATOR: BARB WOOLER

Find out how you, your church, and even your youth group can be part of a network of people serving in the wake of disaster, assuring hurting people that they are not alone in their trauma.

WORSHIP LEADERS PANEL

SALON H / FACILITATORS: JOSH ALAN, AARON SCANTLEN, SCOTT AVEY

What do you when you don't have enough quality musicians? How do you lead people into the presence of God? What Do I Say (i.e.: Verbal Transitions and Teaching as a Worship Leader)? What about equipping and shepherding my team? Join this workshop as three experienced worship leaders will talk about trends, lessons, and advice about leading our people in worship. Come with your questions and add to the conversation.

REDEEMING SEX: GENDER, SEXUALITY & THE GOSPEL

LINCOLN / FACILITATOR: DEB HIRSCH

Nothing has exposed the gap between the church and the broader society quite like the cultural argument over sexuality. Mores, relationships, identities, orientations, and even such seemingly straightforward concepts as gender, have cut battle lines between the church and the world and in the fog of war and the cloud of conflict, it's increasingly hard to see our way clearly. In this workshop we will discuss how we hold in constructive tension a concern for people created in God's image with a high view of the Bible's teaching on sexuality. A special focus will be on how we navigate this in the context of a local faith community.

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ATTENTION YOUNG LEADERS

Don't miss City Stroll (For Young Leaders) — your chance to discover some amazing attractions around Madison Square Park on Friday night after the evening session at Flinch. Your transportation in and out of the city is FREE thanks to Encompass World Partners and the Grace Brethren Investment Foundation. You will have the chance to meet other young leaders from all across our great fellowship. Space is limited. Priority given to our younger leaders. Gather at the West lobby immediately after the celebration (around 8:45 p.m.) to board the bus. You will leave the city at 1:00 a.m. on our bus.

ASSOCIATION OF GRACE BRETHREN MINISTERS

FRIDAY, JULY 24 AT 2:30 P.M. IN SALON 1,2,3

The Association of Grace Brethren Ministers (AGBM) will meet for their annual meeting. This is a time for pastor-to-pastor fellowship and encouragement. There are a lot of good things to share as the AGBM continues to develop ways to come alongside the pastors of our fellowship. One of the highlights of this meeting is the presentation of the Pastor of the Year award, the Excellence in Ministry Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

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SCHEDULE

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THURSDAY, JULY 23

- 5:00 p.m. Dinner with Grace Brethren Investment Foundation
and Grace Brethren military chaplains — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 7:00 p.m. Opening Celebration — *Grand Ballroom* 
- 9:00 p.m. Reception sponsored by GB Canada — *Foyer*

FRIDAY, JULY 24

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Breakfast with CE — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 9:30-11:00 a.m. Celebration — *Regency Ballroom* 
- 11:15 a.m. Workshops — *See pages 21-23*
- 12:30-2:00 p.m. Lunch with Encompass World Partner — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 2:30-3:45 p.m. Women's Celebration — *Junior Ballroom*
- 2:30-3:45 p.m. Association of Grace Brethren Ministers — *Salons 1-3*
- 5:00-6:30 p.m. Dinner with Grace College & Seminary — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. Celebration — *Grand Ballroom*

SATURDAY, JULY 25

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Pastors and Wives Breakfast — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 9:30-11:00 a.m. Celebration — *Grand Ballroom*
- 11:15 a.m. Workshops — *See page 24*
- 12:30 p.m. Box Lunch and a Bus Ride to the Staten Island Ferry —
Gather at the West Lobby 
- Afternoon Riskursions — *See page 18*
- 6:30 p.m. Romeo and Juliet at Bryant Park in the lawn
- 8:30 p.m. Gather at Bryant Park at the Upper Terrace
- 9:00 p.m. Groups begin to leave for Penn Station

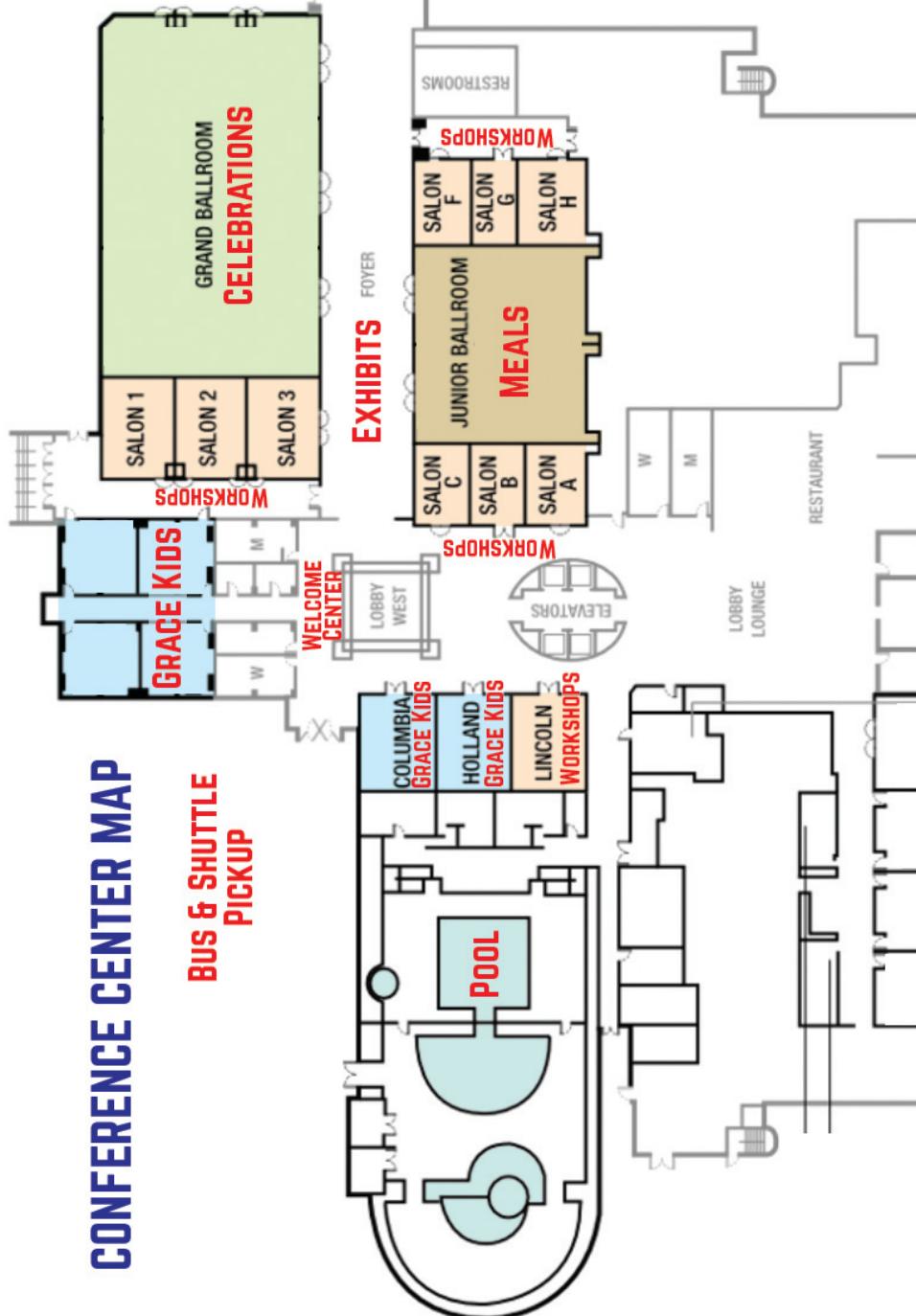
SUNDAY, JULY 26

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Breakfast with Grace Connect — *Junior Ballroom* 
- 9:30-11:00 a.m. Celebration — *Grand Ballroom*
- 11:15 a.m. Workshops — *See pages 26-27*
- 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. All Lunch on Sunday for the FGBC — *Junior Ballroom* 

FLINCH 2015

CONFERENCE CENTER MAP

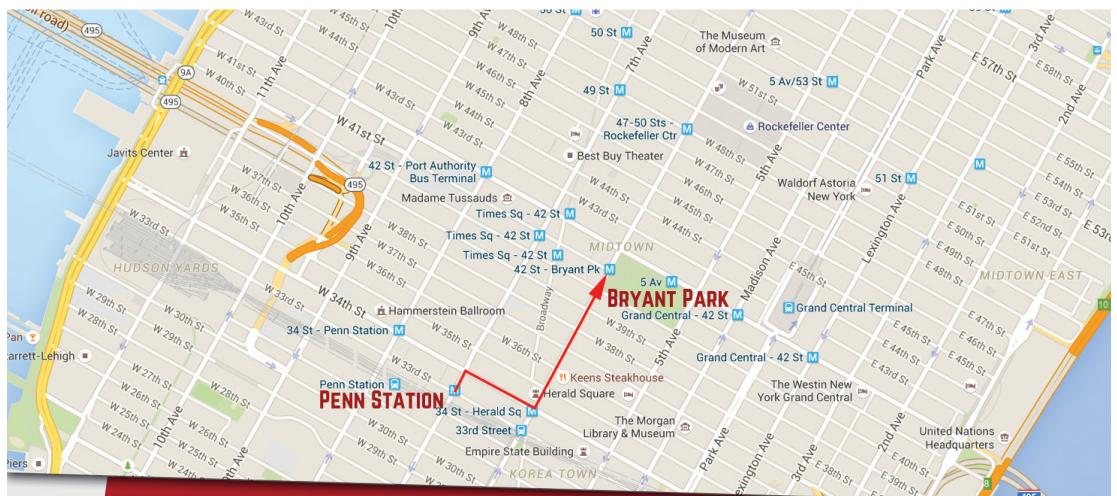
**BUS & SHUTTLE
PICKUP**



MAPS



BRYANT PARK is on 6th Avenue (also called Avenue of the America's) between 42nd and 40th Street. It's just a few blocks from Macy's (34th St) and an easy walk from Penn Station (7th Ave and 33rd St). Most of Manhattan is a grid: avenues run north and south, streets run east and west and Broadway is on a diagonal. There is a play (*Romeo and Juliet*) at 6:30 p.m. in Bryant Park on the Great Lawn and we will gather at 8:30 p.m. in the Upper Terrace at Bryant Park.



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