

FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL
Jan 29-30, 2015
Grace Community Church, Seal Beach, CA

PRESENT: Roy Halberg, Phil Bryant, Clancy Cruise, Richard Todd, Michael Saldivar, Dan Thornton, Greg Serafino, Joe Cosentino, Mark Lingenfelter, Tim Hodge, Bartley Sawatsky (Executive Director), Kevin Pinkerton, Larry Orme, Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), and Greg Howell (Recording Secretary).

ABSENT: David Kennedy & Randy Weekley

GUESTS: (National Ministry leaders & Committee Chairs): Ed Lewis-CE National, Tim Boal—GO2, Liz Gates—Grace Connect, Viki Rife—Women of Grace, Joel Richards--AGBM, Dave Guiles--Encompass, Ken Seyfert--GBIF, Bill Katip—Grace Schools, Don Shoemaker—Social Concerns and John Schumacher—Eagle Commission.

Tom asked the new Fellowship Council Representatives to introduce themselves. Kevin Pinkerton, Larry Orme, Tim Hodge. Tom also announced that Randy Weekly expressed regret that he could not attend because he is preparing for foot amputation. He thinks the deterioration has been caused by being exposed to things like agent orange in Vietnam.

Phil Bryant opened with a devotional and Joe Cosentino opened with prayer.

Approve Minutes of the July 2014 meeting

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve minutes of July 2014 as distributed.

NATIONAL MINISTRY REPORTS:

BMH - Liz Gates Emphasized that GraceConnect's mission is: Communication-Conversation-Conservation, for the FGBC. 2015 is the 75th anniversary of the Brethren Missionary Herald. We are trying to make it easy to connect together by stressing the "fellowship" side of the FGBC. Notice the Email address at end of articles so you can send a note of encouragement, comment, etc.

Encompass - Dave Guiles – Report Attached

Dave started with a Video report—Paul Klawitter explained 5 new ministry areas, he is director of church planting. Encompass not only has this new name but also a new structure. The world is not simply geographical any more. We need to think and acts globally. With the new structure each missionary has a coach and director who are specialists practitioners. He then showed another video, this time featuring Florant Vorak.

- Church Planting—Klawitter
- Church Equipping—Florant Vorak
- Crisis Response Network—Barb Wooler
- Mobilization Services—Blaine Horst

AGBM - Joel Richards

Mark Saunders resigned as pastoral ministries coordinator after conference to partner with Encompass. Matt Wheelock stepped up to fill in temporarily until now. The Executive Board just met and asked him to continue with probably the new title Director of Regional Shepherds. He connects well with young guys. He has been helping AGBM regional reps to build networks with pastors in their region. The AGBM wants to help pastors get and stay healthy. We have begun to provide educational scholarships

to men going into ministry. The recipient must be connected to a mentor who is an AGBM member. Scott Feather was just awarded the first scholarship to work on his M.Div. AGBM gave 20% discounts to Focus Retreat attenders who are AGBM members these past two years during the Identity Initiative. We have for several years hosted a Pastors and Wives Breakfast at conference with a greatly reduced cost for members. We have begun working on credential criteria and need to keep reminding everyone that it is the local church that licenses or ordains not district or national. We believe that every FGBC pastor ought to be a part of the AGBM, but also every pastor ought to be moving toward credentials. We see the need to help pastors move along the process. Within the next 2 years the president of AGBM will be 25 younger than I am.

CE National - Ed Lewis - Report

Ed Told the board that he plans to lead 4 more years. Even so, he still won't stop ministering. Ed told of sharing with a retired man in East Los Angeles and encouraged him to move there and minister, because older people are valuable, experienced, and driven. The older we become the more we have to put into others' lives. Ps 71:18 is the 2015 theme at CE. Ed said he learned it at a youth workers retreat. Younger leaders need older leaders to stand up and direct and correct younger ones. "no longer live for self." North-of-55 events need to learn the language of younger and better adapt because it is the culture. Urban Hope (often referred to as CE East) has seen over 1200 people trained going back home having learned how to reach overlooked people in their own communities. These are groups from as far away as California and Hawaii, going back home changed. Ted Kirnbauger said he is going to send 10 every year (a tithe of his people). It is wonderful to see FGBC churches embracing what we are doing. Momentum is life changing for youth who then go back home to minister differently. Five Haitian boys went back changed. What do our churches need to reach the overlooked? Most people in churches do not see the needs. Urban Hope training is designed to go back home and meet the needs of the overlooked. Teams go home with a white board that is titled "help us reach the overlooked". Now some of those helped at Urban Hope are now middle class. God wants leaders that are workers first. If people are not willing to get their hands dirty, then they are not really equipped to be leaders.

GBIF and R.I.P. - Ken Seyfert - GBIF Report; R.I.P. Report

Technology for good has been a blessing for GBIF and churches. We have the same number of staff today as 18 years ago when we were managing only \$30 million and now we are responsible for over \$100 million. We are responsible for conservation of funds. And by the way we just got the auditor's report—clean bill of health. We are not marketing or looking for new money we have plenty. But we are still busy. Akron large building project. Marysville—Clancy well planned building complex. Pickerington up to 2500 thriving ministry. Celebrating with Phil Sparling—Auburn CA 1000 thriving, almost closed 18 years ago. Fremont 1800 attendance in a town of 16,000. Kevin's son Zach is his youth pastor. They will be breaking ground in the fall. It is awesome to see a group of Gen-X pastors on fire for the Lord, full of vision. Great building projects—tools the Lord uses to reach and integrate the 1000's in our communities. Ken reminded that buildings are only tools not to be elevated above the people being worked with. These young pastors deserve a lot of attention. Love smaller churches also. The FGBC has more than our share of larger churches. GBIF is keeping our "powder dry" for churches on horizon ready to expand facilities that will allow us to take more risks. We are still able to give 2% on passbook savings. We look on that as a ministry also. And we are delighted to be able to give \$675,000 to FGBC this year to church planting, leadership training, integrated ministries and benevolent giving—we still have poor churches that will always need some help.

Retirement Investment Plan is not under GBIF, but under the Fellowship Council as a subcommittee. GBIF provides the staff and financial support, but the responsibility belongs to the Fellowship Council. Just like Eagle Commission—GBIF is infrastructure to keep chaplaincy functioning, the Endorsing Agent answers to the Fellowship Council.

Stock market rally didn't just help the "rich", but helped RIP because of investments. We are locked in with a fixed option that will never go below 4%. Periodically letters go to elder boards not Senior

Pastor, so local leadership will consider being part of this valuable program. Contact Ken if you want a letter about RIP to go to your leadership.

Go2 - Tim Boal

2014 the year of Partnership and Patience

NYC 2016 headed up by same group that put on Lausanne---All geared to helping find workers for the harvest. Steve Galegor jr is reaching Albanians in New York City. Grounds for Good is coffee company that has just been given to GO2. The company is designed for sustainability for long term results which is the same in church planting. For both the questions should be asked 20 years later is it (coffee tree or church) healthy? Is it reproducing? He likened church-planting to foundation work in construction business. Hard, ground work, slow, can't see progress, but results will show up in the future especially if faulty foundation. Allan Hirsch of Future Travelers(M100)—is a partner with GO2 helping make silo works next to churches to reach the 60% that will never visit church—coffee shops, etc. Navajo ministry, Arnold Betoney moved back to Albuquerque to help pull churches back into the FGBC.

Grace College and Seminary - Bill Katip

Expressed thanks for the team spirit. He then reviewed the PPT handout, noting that all areas have increased enrollment (even though it is only an increase of 1 in the seminary). He commented on a few large bequests that come unexpectedly such as the gift of over \$1million from Males for the Seminary building “Measure of Grace” Pricing changes have increased new enrollments. And returning students will pay \$500 less tuition each year they return. Grace has also introduced free book rentals. The seminary took a hit in the 90's and now Liberty Online seems to have captured the seminary market. Grace did not always have the “truth” and “relationship” and “mission” legs of the stool balanced. We are still struggling about how to do Seminary best.

Women of Grace, USA - Viki Rife - Report

We are really challenged that we can't keep up with the demand for classes. These are Bible foundation courses given over 10 hour weekend (Fri-Sat = 1CEU). Dr. Christy Hill is main instructor and can't travel enough so she has trained 11 women to facilitate these classes. And there are 10 more women who want to be trained. We also have one woman willing to teach in French as soon as materials are available. These classes are awakening a hunger. Women want a solid biblical foundation. Most women's groups have in the past been lead by detail leaders. We are trying to help them recover from detail leaders to visionary leaders. Women of Grace is appealing to younger women. Eight of the 17 leaders are under 35. Several women interested in interning. Need prayer for the financial aspect and the many ethnic needs in this country. The current issue of Spectrum's theme is reconciliation. We are writing Bible studies to go along with the theme. Churches should consider an “Equipping fund” to send not just elders but others including women to be able to attend training times. Because women lead too. Consider: What is the vision for women of the FGBC? Willing to submit, but want clarity about what that part is. Prayer requests integrity in personal walk of board members and discernment what to do and ability to stand firm and teach/model children how to stand.

Eagle Commission - John Schumacher

This was an all time record at the Conference Chaplains dinner with 120. He exclaimed that the people love their chaplains. He encouraged FC to Read details of the individual chaplains in his report. John also asked FC to wrestle with women military chaplains. He gave a packet of information and ideas.

Charis Identity Project - Report from Dave Guiles

In November qualified reps from each country from the five continents where FGBC exist. They will meet in Thailand to combine and distill all of the comments so Charis can come up with a working document that expresses who Grace Brethren are all over the world.

Jeff Gill addressed FC via Skype—representing North America (w/K Shearer). He announced that he has experienced surprisingly calm discussions—even when participants are not happy with some of the contents. Many of the concerns expressed are theological in nature but seem to fall into 3 categories: 1) How does this relate to Statement of Faith?, 2) the lack of a pre-tribulational rapture, 3) the phrase “preferably” and “practice” not strong enough related to ordinances.

Social Concerns - Don Shoemaker - Report

He mentioned that several have suggested that the North America 4th cluster would be our continuing resolutions. He agrees but added it might be more that are not just Social Concerns issues. He mentioned that a recent poll revealed that “religious liberty” eclipsed “right to life” as the greatest interest among Christians. Time July 23 issues points to a trend toward churches declaring and defending religious freedom. Make sure that the ministerial deduction (housing allowance) is in local church documentation [annually in advance] so you have something to appeal back to. John Schumacher mentioned policy paper distributed last year to the Fellowship Council about what chaplains can or can’t do as FGBC endorsed chaplains. Don mentioned the Fire Chief who was fired because of a publication he wrote as a leader in his church that differed with Mayor’s views.

SELECTING DELEGATES FOR THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL CHARIS MEETING

We have set aside \$10,000 to send our delegates (this is why we temporarily raised the membership fee \$.60 this year)

Dave Guiles mentioned that in past some delegates came because they wanted to travel, not because they were duly chosen by their national group. This time we want to make sure delegates are there because they can properly represent their group. Charis has established a Delegate review committee. The following are the agreed criteria:

Qualifications for Delegates

The Charis Steering Committee has established the following criteria to be used as the churches and leaders select the delegate(s) that will represent their country:

1. Good testimony: A leader with a solid testimony with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches of his country, and is clearly identified with its doctrines and practices.
2. Understands Local Ministry: A leader with a good grasp of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and needs of the church in his or her country.
3. Understands Regional Ministries: A leader who has participated in Regional Charis Encounters or who has traveled enough in his or her region so as to understand the needs of the Grace Brethren of that region.
4. Committed to Preparation: A leader who is committed to preparing himself or herself for the Charis International Encounter by fulfilling assignments.
5. Committed to Communication: A leader who is committed to effectively communicating the results of the Charis Int’l Encounter to the churches and leaders he or she is representing.
6. Committed to the ongoing work of Charis – A leader who is willing and able to advance the goals and projects that arise from this encounter.
7. Understands a Common Language: A leader who is able to communicate in one of the principal languages of Charis – English, Spanish or French.

MOTION: Bartley (Canadian), next Exec Dir, Tom A, Mike Yoder be NA delegates. 2/p

Back up suggestions: Don Shoemaker, Jeff Gill because of their NA involvement and their platform for disseminating after meeting. In that order.

Note: in May, the fellowship council approved a motion via email to amend this motion and ask Clancy Cruise, Keith Minier and Mike Yoder to be our delegates. Tom Avey will attend as an observer. This motion needs to be ratified at the Summer meeting.

MOTION: Alternates Don then Jeff to replace any of the delegates. 2/p

MOTION: FC looks with favor upon the next Executive Director to be given authority to pick his own team subject to approval by FC. 2/p

STRUCTURES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Recommended Manual of Procedure Amendment (additional section)

Motion: To add the following to ARTICLE V COMMITTEES of the Manual of Procedure...

Section Four. Social Concerns Committee.

A Social Concerns Committee shall be appointed by the Fellowship Council. Members shall serve indefinite terms. The chairman shall be named by the Fellowship Council. It shall be the duty of the Committee to recommend annual resolutions to the conference for approval by the delegates according to the following guidelines:

1. Resolutions should address societal issues from the standpoint of biblical values.
2. Resolutions are prepared and submitted by the Social Concerns Committee. Resolutions can be proposed to the Social Concerns Committee subject to policies on their focus, style and deadline.
3. Resolutions shall be submitted to Fellowship Council for affirmation at least one month before National Conference.
4. Resolutions affirmed by Fellowship Council should be made available to delegates at least a day before the opening of Conference business.
5. Resolutions are open to discussion but not alteration (except by the chair, for purposes of clarity or corrections of grammar or fact).
6. Resolutions are voted either up or down. "Division of the Question" is permitted.
7. Resolutions are to be communicated to the local churches.

2) Appoint the following people as members of the Social Concerns Committee:

Don Shoemaker (chairman), Mark Abel, Mark Combs, Scott Henry, Mike Jentes, Jesus Munoz

MOTION PREVAILED: That above recommendation be adopted.

MOTION PREVAILED: to Appoint the following people as members of the Social Concerns Committee: Don Shoemaker (chairman), Mark Abel, Mark Combs, Scott Henry, Mike Jentes, Jesus Munoz, Rich Schnieders, and John Teevan

The Structures Team recommended the following nominations and appointments:

Nominations for Nominating Committee (6 are elected at conference) – Clancy Cruise, Dave Kennedy, Bruce Barlow, Nathan Bryant, Tim Boal, Joe Cosentino, Galen Wiley, Tom Hocking, Mark Artrip, Dan Allan, Brad Gromis, Jeremy Wike

Parliamentary Committee – Appoint any three of the following: Galen Wiley, Bud Olszewski, Doug Courter, Larry Edwards, Steve Galegor (jr), Dan Gillette, Fenton McDonald, Doug Sabin, Terry Daniels, Beau Stanley.

Membership Committee – Appoint any two of the following: Roy Halberg (California), Terry Daniels (California), Larry Edwards (PA), Roland Maust (PA), Christian Becker (Virginia), Don Eshelman (VA), Steve Shipley (Florida), Richard Todd (California), Ron Smals (Ohio).

MOTION PREVAILED: to appoint committees passed

MOTION PREVAILED: Appoint Phil Bryant to fulfill Matt Householder's unfulfilled term extending him to 2017

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Membership team member are calling some churches and filling in statistical info for them. They trying to keep everyone in good standing who wants to be
- 2) We have one new church connected to Haitian churches in Florida. It is sponsored by Mispah Community Church. Mark Lingenfelter will follow up on a couple of missing blanks details.
- 3) The committee met with Neil Cole to explain organic churches how we can better track and connect with them.
- 4) The committee reviewed the Beaverton GBC history and the Pacific NW Districts action to removal from district cooperating churches.

MOTION: recommend to delegates the affirmation of PNWFGBC action of removing Walker Road GBC from being a coop church "for not living harmoniously" and dismiss them from membership in the FGBC.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT THE CHARIS COMMITMENT TO COMMON IDENTITY

note: SoF = Statement of Faith, CCCI = Charis Commitment to Common Identity

What if CCCI is approved by Charis and then by FGBC? What then?

Time line: The Charis Gathering (delegates from each country) happens November 2015 then it comes to Fellowship Council in January 2016 and the conference in July 2016

PB—depends on what it becomes instructions or just information guide to where we are going. Just historical or directive

BS—probably will become the “in or out” document though Jeff said he didn’t think it would.

RH—confusing, if they are different. How will it not replace Statement of Faith?

DT—it shows that we are part of worldwide movement not the Dog wagging the tail. But not sure what the end product is, so it is hard to determine how we will use it. Some expect big changes before its done.

LO —what's different between SoF and CCCI? The SoF is in Constitution. The CCCI is Global. The SoF is supposed to be reviewed. It is difference in tone. In the SoF all 12 statements are equal. The SoF was handed to our mission fields without the preamble. The CCCI has clusters.

DG—the CCCI is a highly aspirational document

RH—I grew up with SoF. We “were right, everyone else is wrong”. This (CCCI) is less arrogant

TH— The CCCI is inclusive and attractive to those not associated who may want to join us when they see who we are. Tim grew up Baptist in Australia and would have loved to be part of FGBC. We have that ability to be connected. Other orgs and individuals will see us better with this less restrictive doc. If we need to protect and make sure everything is in will foster fear. Especially if forced to replace, but good if given choice to retain SoF.

DT—many churches use SoF as creed and test of fellowship, credentials. CCCI is not evaluating our SoF, but evaluating our identity. Better to live with it for a while and gradually many will automatically replace.

PB—We should not use the argument that we are not replacing the SoF, but present that we've always been able to review SoF.

DG—good point

KP—SoF not big enough even for North America let alone global. The SoF is not who we are—but who most of us are.

RH—many differences on church websites show many of GBCs aren’t in total agreement with SoF

KP—churches have often chosen differences—CE’s policy brochures

TA—the web is not the best place to judge a churches doctrine.

PB—We need to think and deal with those who will see this as a separating doc—large concern that we are causing a division. People will read and say I’m not in that, so they have written me out.

KP—greater % of people out, rather than % of churches

BS—It’s show we use doc, not what it says. Moving right back to where we were.

DG—This is as much about the process as the product. This is really cool, what we started the process for—wrestling with issues & identity we should have done 25 yrs ago.

FB—how much weight does the FC have over FOCUS notes?

DG—The CCCI is astonishingly aspirational, challenging identity and evangelistic and global center core is Jesus. Our movement above all wants to identify with Jesus being most import. Not about splitting hairs doctrinally. Hugely aspirational

Not here to be a fortress, but to penetrate our communities, will live in interdependency.

Describing who we are or who we want to become? 4-5 yr might look back and see that it is elementary.

ML—Dave Guiles will need to go to ministeriums and explain cause “you’re the guy”

PB—let’s take what we can, knowing that we can’t bite off more than we can chew. Down the road may be able to take on more

BS—some are already outside the box, but if the council has authority to say how we use. Suggests a line between clusters 2 & 3. Use cluster 3 relationally with some latitude. Kind of what we do in exams already “like you, read this book, check in next year”

Nobody is talking about eschatology, will go the way of holy kiss.

BS - If we really value the third cluster, we will talk about it (train towards it). Most of the stuff in the third category is held relationally already.

PB - We need to be able to say to churches that if you color outside the lines, “we still love you and want to have a relationship with you.” If we are saying, “you can be outside the lines and still be in”, then we need to say it.

DT –We do not yet have a way to talk theology, this doc will not solve the problem.

KP—more how to handle, Word of God over culture, cant drift much that way

DT—Many of our positions are not written anywhere, only handed down by these kinds of discussions.

CC—agrees that Dave Guiles needs to be the spokesman,

DG—I'll take it as far as you want, but need to increase ownership. Lot of talk about those to whom it is limited, but not much about those who say it needs more. 1880's split came about because of rural to urban movement. Not to single out rural, but some may need more time. Don't want to just garner votes. Can we bring along those who want to learn?

RH—Southern California exam board in the 1980's examined young man from Roy's youth group. But he had strong Ppost-trib statement, so declared they can't examine. This doc is freeing and could have kept him in and brought him along.

TA—haven't taught ordinances for a long time. No wonder this looks like a gatekeeping fail. We can't make a doc that will keep the gate.

PB—we are grieving for loss of Plaster who can gently teach what and why. People are leading GBCs outside the SoF, but we don't want to confront because we don't want the mess of 80's

CC—coloring outside the line --Jesus? Or SoF? If slightly outside of SoF, we are moving in right direction.

TT—This is not us deciding if they are in or out. They are deciding.

DG—Personalities sometimes mean more than doctrine

KP—Does a guy coming in have to say ordinances are the only way or just the way in this church/fellowship. But if started saying you have to teach this.

MS—Isn't that reason for change from “subscribe” to “live harmoniously”

DG—clarify, is that what is happening or cautioning us that it might? He read front page to remind what purpose of document is—attempt to try to answer

PB—how weighty is our voice (FC)?

DT—historic under 4, progressive in practice (not understanding—doc) “commit to growing in our understanding and”

TA—how do 26 countries make it better. Shouldn't it become part of our Constitution? Recommends changes encouraged in the preamble statements in each cluster that speak to how that cluster will be applied.

DG—This is an unscientific way of gathering info (cards will mostly be critical) if like, no one would make comments. We have tech to easily set up a survey that goes to every NA leader. Could give us a whole lot more balanced info. Silence is affirmation—but not on cards. Need to commission someone else (not me) to conduct survey. Would help guide NA task force. Don Belcher's company could maybe help.

BS—surveymonkey would be easy.

DG—results might say “500 FGBC's surveyed & 4 said_____” whole lot more clear than cards that were screaming reps

MOTION: FC commission survey to measure agreement/support & input on 3 rd cluster. B Swat to oversee. 2/p

Discussion—Who should be polled? --all in blue pages, by May 1 so that North American Task for can incorporate by Conf. Statement in beginning of survey should indicate purpose and global not just replace SoF

DG--Be careful not to make too much promise about where it goes from here. Just ratify 2016 that this is just expression of GBC globally. Study for 2017. Review 2020 might be really cleaned up by then.

ML—Can I talk about potential pathway and that it is not set in stone? We are going to work on it together.

TH—positive about process, but not promise too much while we are figuring out how it will pan out.

TA—re-craft the “we” new for us that we are global. Not just about NA. Just get people to think and train globally.

MS—less worried about church, more likely with board (see themselves as gatekeepers) Pastors may leave because boards may send them away

DT—reason we can have 3 SoF over the years is that the purpose changes. (23—ministerium, 39—seminary, 69—FGBC) now global.

Note: in April, the Council approved a motion (by email) to rescind this action to do a survey on the advice of GoNet and the North American Task Force.

FINANCE COMMISSION REPORT

MOTION: to accept financial review 2/p

MOTION: “Finance Commission requests the Fellowship Council grant authority to establish the guidelines and procedures for receiving and distributing emergency relief funds.” 2/p

Discussion: Encompass is in charge of RAB right now. In our restructuring making this part of new networks. This will help other organizations be able jump in and help. This would provide a more general holding fund. Motion doesn’t answer who makes quick distribution decisions. This will add to the players at the table beyond Barb & Dan O. This will create something that can centralize receiving and distributing FGBC \$. The Committee who determine requests To Be Determined. This gives authority to move ahead.

REPORT: FELLOWSHIFT DC 2014

Sowed a recap video from FellowShift DC 14

Report from Bartley -

- We had over 400 goal was 350 (we had 300 in 2013).
- We lowered age of attenders by 3 years.
- Wanted it to be fun, kick back a little. Getting to hang out appreciate one another. Some of the off-the wall stuff set tone for relationships.
- Survey results:
 - Multiple replies that we need more Bible—so this year 1 each day instructed to open Bible.
 - Overall very positive feedback.
 - Ted talk format worked, will use again.
 - Liked that women were involved more—not as many this year because of outside speakers.
 - Some thought one woman was a little too close to preaching.
- Great to work with creative team this year. Pulled it off well, not just advanced planners. Not like working with teenagers. Proud to have great young leaders coming up.
- Determined to not create a divide between ages.
- Olympics tried to show unity.
- Variety of ages in speakers.
- Starfish dynamic of Fellowship and keep using that metaphor. What will bring us down is the wrong culture.
- Identity initiative is very good because it is causing us to talk.

General Comments: Great to employ a lot of fun, good to keep each audience interested, not just one prize/time. So many different parts that you have to bring together. Great job. Good energy. Very conducive to family of little kids. Great location, walk to restaurants, Zoo, etc Appreciated the way you

honored older set without ignoring younger. Worship team did a wonderful job. Invited back this year. Extra confidence to bring younger set now. Lived up to promise. Can we to change branding from a pastors conference to a leaders conference Bring leaders. NY will be very accessible to many of our churches. Not expecting larger, but keeping the momentum.

REPORT: FLINCH CONF—NY

Showed website noting videos and creative team

Won't need a car. Newark airport property. Can hop on train and get to hotel. Easy access into city from there. Sound team not best—not invited back.

Suggestions:

- On Registration form list riskiest thing you've done—put name and thing on screen at sessions.
- The time taken to affirm the folks. Volunteers, etc. ways to highlight everybody.
- Show dots on the map locating our bigger picture.
- Nationally whose doing what.
- Trying to tell stories on video—challenge is to collect and control quality.
- Vimeo/YouTube need to be edited so can use in churches who haven't been at Conf. Need to leave some.
- Ed Lewis is the crazy uncle in FGBC.
- Need to drop acronyms.

FOCUS RETREATS—Clancy Cruise will lead

REPORT: VISION CONFERENCE 2016

July 22 - 25, 2016

Toronto

20th anniversary of Team Canada

Adults will have to have a passport

Hotel—Downtown Sheraton right over “the Path”

Room rate will be \$169 Canadian / \$130 US (based on current exchange rate)

Theme: Ministering in a Post-Christian World

We will use Florent Vorak

“the Everyday Church” (book) might be primer.

60% of americans will never go to church.

Dave Guiles closed in prayer 11:03am

Respectfully submitted

Gregory M. Howell,

Recording Secretary

