



KNOWING JESUS ... MAKING HIM KNOWN

Application for Membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches:

General Instructions: Fill out this application form and send it with your membership fee to the FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, P.O. Box 384, WINONA LAKE, IN 46590 and send a file copy as an attachment to tomavey@fgbc.org. The deadline for application is January 1st in order to be considered in the following annual conference. If you wish to request an extension of this deadline, include a letter of reference from a cooperating district missions board, a sponsoring church that is already a member of the FGBC, or Grace Brethren Missions.

Official Name of Church
ClearView Church

Church Mailing Address
PO Box 629

City	State	Zip
New Albany	OH	43054

Phone	Email
614.578.0676	info@clearviewgrace.com

Meeting Place	Web Site
YMCA, Gahanna, OH	www.clearviewgrace.com

Pastor or principle leader
Andy Wirt

Address
4132 Guston Place

City	State	Zip
Columbus	OH	43230

Phone	Email
614.578.0676	andy@clearviewgrace.com

Has your church joined a cooperating district? If so, which one and when?

We have not filed formal paperwork to join the North Central OH District. We will do so in January of 2009. ClearView is supported financially by the North Central OH District Mission Board and I (Andy Wirt) participate regularly in ministerial functions within the NCO District.

Please review the Constitution and Manual of Procedure for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. Note carefully ARTICLE III and ARTICLE IV of the Constitution and ARTICLE I of the Manual of Procedure that deal with the membership requirements new FGBC churches are to meet.

How did your local church 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.?

☐ We have clearly denoted in our official paperwork filed with the state of OH and the IRS that we are affiliated with the FGBC.

List the present responsible officers (or leaders) of the congregation with titles:

- ☐ Andy Wirt, Pastor/Church Developer
- ☐ Martin Guerena, Secretary
- ☐ Brian Ethridge, Treasurer
- ☐ John Ward, Worship Team Champion
- ☐ Laurie Carrick, KidView Team Champion
- ☐ Mesarat Grimm, WOW Factor Team Champion
- ☐ David Carrick/Ron Van Winkle, Administration Team Co-Champions

How will you identify your affiliation with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (ie: on a church sign, letterhead, church bulletin, etc).

- ☐ Website (under about us/"What is ClearView?" And "What Do We Believe?")
- ☐ Personal conversations/interactions
- ☐ Practicing distinctive ordinances (trine immersion/three-fold communion)
- ☐ Membership classes
- ☐ By missions/causes/organizations we support
- ☐ Active participation in FGBC national, district, and youth/children's activities/conferences

Describe your practice of Triune Immersion and the Threefold Communion Service.

- ☐ We teach and practice biblical baptism spontaneously and/or as needed- immersing saint 3 times in water, "in the name of the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit."
- ☐ We teach and practice biblical communion several times/year, washing of the saints feet commemorating the present ministry of Christ, enjoying a fellowship meal together commemorating the future ministry of Christ, and sharing the bread and the cup commemorating the past ministry of Christ.

To the best of your knowledge, does your church or any leadership of your church have unresolved problems with another Grace Brethren church, leader, district or cooperating organization? If so, who can we contact for clarification?
No

In seeking membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, does your church recognize the obligation of mutual encouragement and cooperation with other congregations and agree to fulfill the membership requirements as stated in the Constitution and Manual of Procedure?

YES

How many people are presently members of this church? _____

We do not have a formal membership structure at this point. In our launch strategy, we are forming a team to position ClearView for Grand Opening Celebration on April 12, 2009. At this point, we would consider there to be about 30 people on our launch team (20 adults and 10 children).

A check payable to FGBC based on the chart below for the current year membership fee should be included with this application. Use your church's average attendance for 2007.

Attendance	Fee
Less than 25	\$ 50
26-50	\$ 105
51-100	\$ 265
101-200	\$ 525
201-400	\$ 1,050
401-800	\$ 2,100
801-1600	\$ 4,200

Attach or give a brief history or testimony about your churches ministry, including pictures of the church or church leadership that we can use to introduce your church to the FGBC family.

Please find attached a recent report released by the NCO District Mission Board that details our journey to this point. I can furnish numerous pictures of events/worship and team gatherings at any point.

NCO Outreach

December 2008

... the church. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness. Colossians 1: 24, 25 (NIV)

This issue presents some answers that **Andy Wirt**, has given about planting **Clearview GBC** northeast of Columbus in the **New Albany** area.



Andy and Tricia Wirt, Seth, Silas, Sara

How long have you been working in the ClearView area?

2 years

What led you to the ClearView area in the first place?

We felt led to this area for multiple factors:

- ❑ There are thousands of people that don't know or follow Jesus in every direction, all around us.
- ❑ There was once a GBC in New Albany (one of our principle target communities) that closed. Hundreds of thousands of dollars and much prayer was invested in Rocky Ridge GBC by Northwest Chapel and the NCO district... so we felt it would be an opportunity for God to answer prayers prayed many years ago by beginning a new, thriving, GBC in New Albany today.
- ❑ Our sponsor church, Northwest Chapel, desired to see a GBC on the northeast side of town. God called us to church planting and meshed our path with NWC.
- ❑ We love the people of northeastern Franklin County.

"ClearView" is a great name for a church...who came up with it?

Originally, we wanted to name our new church "Focus Point". Our emphasis is focusing clearly on Jesus (centering our lives around Him) and His mission. As we discussed this with advisors

(principally Terry Hofecker), we felt "Focus Point" might be too abrasive. We wanted a name that would still allow us to keep the mission of focusing clearly on Jesus and mission... but something a bit softer and more inviting. Hence- "ClearView" was born. Our mission is to "love people to a clear view of Jesus and His mission."

What was your most effective tool in reaching into that culture with the Gospel?

One of our central values is to "go where people are already gathered and be the light and hope of Jesus there." Thus, our most effective tool for reaching our community has been to get involved in every community activity that we can- both personally and corporately (as ClearView). Thus, our family is involved in our neighborhood, local schools, local sports programs, Chambers of Commerce, etc. Also, ClearView frequently volunteers at festivals and events, giving away free stuff and serving people with love.

Would it possibly be effective in other cultures?

Yes- but a warning to the faint of heart: Starting a church from scratch and making contacts through acts of kindness is hard work. Initial (visible) return on the investment is slow. But, we're confident that the longer we're around and the more we serve, God will lead us to spiritually receptive people, allow us to be of spiritual influence in their lives, and use us to tangibly impact the spiritual climate of our target communities.

What presentation of the Gospel works best for you?

Serving people opens up opportunities to share about why we are doing what we are doing- Jesus is love! Also, we work to connect with people relationally and look for moments of spiritual sensitivity in those relationships where we can share about the beautiful mystery of the Gospel.

How did you motivate people to pray for you?

We ask everyone we know and meet to pray for us. Right now, over 400 people and churches get our updates. Hopefully that many are praying! We send out regular updates on how to pray and update our blog (www.wirt-prayer-team.blogspot.com) weekly.

What benefit was your family in reaching hearts in that area?

I couldn't do what we do without my family. My wife supports me and encourages me in the many dark valleys of this journey. She serves and she frees me up to serve as I work in the community. Our kids are some of the best missionaries we have. Seth (6) frequently helps me hang door hangers or serve at community events. We meet many people through our children's activities (school, soccer, swimming lessons), etc.

What "breaks" if any did the Lord give you in doing outreach?

God has given us favor with community leaders and organizations. He has opened many doors for ministry in Gahanna and New Albany. Honestly, though, I'm praying for more breaks from God. We need His increased favor and visible work in helping us build a launch team and see people come to Christ in our communities.

Anything else?

Significant highlights of this mission to this point are:

- ❑ 150 people in our backyard for an Operation Barnabas program this summer.
- ❑ Over 70 people at the block party we hosted this past September.
- ❑ Participation in numerous key festivals in our community where we have assisted community leaders with set-up/tear-down and served/loved people through offering free face-painting, hot chocolate, balloons, crafts/games for kids, water, etc. God has given us the opportunity to touch thousands of lives in New Albany and Gahanna through acts of kindness.
- ❑ An invitation for me to be part of the New Albany Events board and help plan community activities.

As we have seeded our family into the activities of the community, God has opened doors and is teaching us how to be more effective missionaries. We look for opportunities to tell others about Jesus and our work with ClearView through being active in the community. God has opened the following doors to make contacts:

- ❑ Serving as a block-watch captain in our neighborhood.
- ❑ Serving as a room parent in Seth's kindergarten class.
- ❑ Coaching soccer in the community.
- ❑ Hosting Backyard Bible Clubs and other events in our home.
- ❑ Actively participating in Gahanna and New Albany Chamber of Commerce events/meetings.

- ❑ "Renting office space" at gathering places like Caribou Coffee or Panera Bread.

Over the last 2 years, we've met and interacted with thousands of people. We've hung over 10,000 door hangers, participated in community events, worked our own contact making streams and worked hard to show Jesus' love...*making the most of every opportunity*. Through these contacts, God has been building ClearView's Launch Team. We currently meet for weekly worship gatherings at the Gahanna YMCA on Sunday mornings. On average, just over 30 people participate with us and we count 11 family units currently on our team. Together, we are preparing for ClearView's "*Grand Opening*" gathering on April 12, 2009 (Easter Sunday).

We're excited to see our team develop with quality, friendly people that jump in and serve freely, invite, give, pray for, and own the vision of ClearView Church with our family. As God brings team members, we're seeking to build the infrastructure of a healthy Sunday morning ministry (in preparation for our launch service). God is providing leaders in the areas of worship, children's ministry, guest welcome services, administration/finance, and set-up/tear-down. Praise God for the people He has brought to team ClearView!

As we move towards April 12, our family and our baby church could use your prayers in several targeted areas. Key requests for the next few months would be:

- ❑ Spiritual intimacy for our family and launch team members.
- ❑ That our family and our team would make a tangible difference in the spiritual climate of our target communities (we want to see people come to Jesus and lives transformed).
- ❑ For adequate funding for 2009 salary and ministry and for adequate health insurance for our family.
- ❑ That (a minimum) of 10 more families would join our team by the end of March, 2009.

If you would like to learn more about ClearView Church, check www.clearviewgrace.com. To learn more about our family and regular ministry updates/prayer requests, please visit: www.wirt-prayer-team.blogspot.com. To receive a monthly prayer update via e-mail, e-mail me at andy@clearviewgrace.com and put "add me to the prayer team" in the subject line.

Thanks for praying with us!