

**Fellowship Council Mid-Year (Winter) Meeting  
Seal Beach, California GBC  
January 25-27, 2007**

**Thursday, January 25**

**PRESENT:** Doug Courter (E-07), Dan O'Deens (E-08), Larry Humberd (E-10), Stephen Joyce (E-09), Larry Edwards (C-07), Ron Smals (C-10), Nathan Zakahi (W-07), Robert MacMillan (W-08), Tom Hocking (W-09), Phil Sparling (W-10), Keith Shearer (Mod 06), Tim Boal (Mod 07), Jim Brown (Mod 08), John McIntosh (Mod 09), Oscar Chavez (consultant), Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), Joel Richards (AGBM President), and Greg Howell (Fellowship Council Secretary).

**ABSENT:** Dan Gregory (C-08), and Andy Wirt (C-09).

After of time of prayer the agenda was approved and time for the following additional items was requested:

- Blue Sky time like last year in Sacramento
- John McIntosh requested interaction time with what is going on in other districts/ministeriums/issues/etc for about 20 minutes.

Commission meetings were given the following assignments:

Finance:

- (1) Review Financial Reports
- (2) Review 2007 detailed budget
- (3) Work on new 2008 budget for delegates
  - (a) Including new membership fee scale and a contingency plan if the new membership fee basis fails.

Structures:

- (1) Fellowship Council member terms
- (2) Moderator terms and changes
- (3) Enduring Visionary Leadership Team
- (4) Committee appointments
  - (a) Nominating
  - (b) Membership Joyce, Chavez
  - (c) Parliamentary
  - (d) Secretary/treasurer
- (5) Nominating Committee chair for 2007

Membership:

- (1) New churches
- (2) Delinquent Churches
- (3) Daughter churches
- (4) 10:00 AM Cooperating Ministry app – Asia's Hope – Dave Atkins
- (5) Continued discussion: "Why associate with the FGBC?"

**070125-01 Asia's Hope Presentation**

After lunch Dave Atkins made a presentation of *Asia's Hope* Desiring to be a Cooperating Ministry

**070125-02 Structures Commission Recommendations**

1. Fellowship Council member terms: 5 reps from each region for 5 yr terms (See Constitution & Manual of Procedure suggested changes)
2. Moderator terms and changes  
Moderator & Vice-Moderator voted 3year terms as a ticket. They would be nominated by the Fellowship Council. 1<sup>st</sup> year training under past moderator and 3<sup>rd</sup> year training by next Vice-moderator who will not necessarily become the next moderator. The change needs to pass in time for the first to start with 2009 election to serve beginning 2010. Maybe need to change election to affirmation of one team with a "yes" or "no" rather than winners and losers

The Committee referred the Fellowship Council to their Bullet list on page 35 of the Fellowship Council advance reports with regard to

1 Changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure

- 2 • Increase the term of Fellowship Council members from 4 years to 5.
- 3 • Increase the number of Fellowship Council members to 15 – 5 from each region.
- 4 • Decrease the waiting period between terms from 4 years to 2.
- 5 • Increase the term of the moderator.
- 6 • Put the vice moderator on a single “ticket” with the moderator.
- 7 • Remove the provision for nominations from the floor for moderator.
- 8 • Establish advisory groups, who would aid the Moderator in establishing an on-going vision for
- 9 our Fellowship, consisting of the following:
  - 10 ○ An enduring vision dream team consisting of a group of visionaries selected by the
  - 11 Fellowship Council and the Moderator,
  - 12 ○ And a consulting team of representatives from each national ministry.

13 They are also processing Fellowship Council policies that would create an “Enduring Visionary  
14 Leadership Team”, approved by the Fellowship Council to function as a “cabinet” for the moderator.  
15 Discussion suggested that the vision be presented and then present needed changes to the Constitution &  
16 Manual of Procedure and then prepare a Moderator/V-Moderator ticket for next year. The Fellowship Council  
17 should move forward with leading this initiative. We need to put some time ahead of the decision. The vision  
18 needs to be put it out there, presented well, so it can be taken back to ministeriums.  
19  
20

21 How are we going to implement?

22 Discussion suggested that Fellowship Council pray and ask who God wants to lead us and this year or  
23 next year at the beginning of Conference announce that this is what Fellowship Council feels God is wanting us to  
24 do. Then throughout Conference the Fellowship Council can act as sponges who help delegates process and  
25 then at end of Conference vote up or down. Then the suggested changes in the Constitution and Manual of  
26 Procedure can be presented to show how the communicated vision can be accomplished by form.  
27

28 A Straw vote was called for to determine if anyone on the Fellowship Council has strong reservations against the  
29 6 recommendations (it was asked that this be a roll call vote). The vote was postponed to hear a presentation  
30 about the Enduring Visionary Leadership Team as outlined on page 50 of the Fellowship Council Advance notes.  
31

### 32 **070125-03      Enduring Visionary Leadership Team**

33 Ministry Description --The Enduring Visionary Leadership Team (EVLTL) of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren  
34 Churches (FGBC) consists of the following visionary persons who serve our Fellowship with the Moderator. They  
35 shall serve as advisors to the Moderator on issues of strategy, vision casting, direction, and joint programs  
36 engaged by the FGBC.  
37

38 The members of the Enduring Visionary Leadership Team of 10 shall consist of:

- 39
- 40 ➤ (2) The Moderator and Vice Moderator
- 41 ➤ (2) The Fellowship Coordinator and the Ministerium Coordinator (Pres.Min)
- 42 ➤ (2) Representatives From National Organizations / Ministries
- 43 (Nat.Orgs/Ministries vote on their own reps)
- 44 ➤ (1) Representative of The Fellowship Council (FC) appointed by the FC
- 45 ➤ (2) Pastoral Representatives from local church's appointed by FC
- 46 ➤ (1) The at-Large member appointed by the FGBC Moderator and FC
- 47
- 48

49 The Enduring Visionary Leadership Team shall be expected to accomplish the following tasks while  
50 serving the Moderator:

- 51
- 52 1 Communicate the plans of each organization to the Moderator so that the official spokesperson of the
- 53 FGBC might be knowledgeable with and understanding of the issues facing the FGBC's cooperating
- 54 organizations.
- 55
- 56 2 Communicate the vision and the needs of districts and local churches to the Moderator so that the official
- 57 spokesperson of the FGBC might be knowledgeable with the understanding of the issues facing local
- 58 churches that make up the FGBC.

- 3 Develop joint strategies that further the cause of Christ, reach lost people for the Savior, and establish the churches in their faith.
- 4 Serve the Moderator by providing joint communications to their various constituencies that further the cause of the FGBC.
- 5 Develop in conjunction with the Moderator the themes and publications of the FGBC.
- 6 Provide visionary ideas that national organizations and fellowship churches may be able to use and implement into their own specific strategic planning.
- 7 The Fellowship Council will ask the National Organizations to select 3 representatives to serve on the EVLT. The Fellowship Council will appoint 3 pastors serving in the local church to serve on the EVLT. The Fellowship Council 'may' at its will appoint 2 members at large to serve on the EVLT.
- 8 The EVLT shall serve throughout the (3-4) year term of the Moderator team. The EVLT may continue to serve the incoming Moderator team at the will of the Moderator, and Fellowship Council. Once the Fellowship Council has affirmed the representatives provided by the National Organizations and the remaining pastors and potential members at large, they will present this 'team' to the FGBC annual conference for ratification.

Discussion after the presentation consisted of these observations. This EVLT may not be as necessary with the lengthening of terms. The value of such a team is born out of the several groups that made up the "gatherings". These people ought to be the visionaries (like a Steve Jobs or a Bill Gates). The EVLT would be created to serve the Moderator but not constitutionally mandated. In the Leadership team meeting the National Organizations mentioned that past vision committees came up with visions and then told National Organizations what the goals were but the organizations didn't have a part in determining the vision. (The analogy was given that the Fellowship Council was the brain, but National Organizations are arms and legs.) They were created to begin with to be the glue to help the individual churches to work together to accomplish what we can't do alone. The EVLT will be like a moderator's cabinet serving at the pleasure of the moderator.

**070125-04** Discussion: The Fellowship Council needs to develop a policy manual of the procedures and policies that have been decided in the past so it can be passed on to future Fellowship Councils. There are a couple of ways to implement needed procedural changes (1) Begin to do informally what the new policy changes suggest prayerfully and relationally without waiting for all of the Constitution and/or Manual of Procedure to be in place. Instead of deciding just theoretically, we should begin identifying who should be on the team and ask them to be on an advisory group. The 1997 minutes indicate a similar need identified so maybe we just need to implement what we already identified. We seem to be going in the same circles rotating the same concepts. We need to give Tom Avey direction to be able to accomplish continuity.

Why can't we do it now? Between now and conference we need to commit to prayer and seek God as to who will be the right Moderator/Vice-moderator team and who is to be on the advisory team. John McIntosh and Jim Brown are the current Moderator and Vice Moderator. We need to determine the concept and then go after the procedure. ELVT has already been approved as an idea (consulting groups to the moderator). Do we agree to extend the terms for Moderator and Fellowship Council representatives and the philosophy and process of doing what God wants us to do? The structures Committee, together with Tom Avey, should determine what should be the implementation of this philosophy. We ought to pray for 60days(end of March) and then have the Structures Committee poll the Fellowship Council before making recommendations to the full Fellowship Council as to what they perceive God's Spirit is leading us to do. We can give the Structures Committee a great deal of latitude so that the Fellowship Council reception of their presentation does not turn into a nit picking discussion again. Maybe the Structures Committee can come back with names, and constitutional changes suggestions. The Committee can be the ears to hear and then formulate what Fellowship Council members report into a procedure, process, and presentation.

**A MOTION PREVAILED unanimously by Roll Call vote: to increasing Fellowship Council terms to 5 years and the number of representatives from each region to 5 and decreasing the wait between terms to two years. (those voting: RS, KS, LH, SJ, DC, NZ, PS, JB, DO, JM, OC, TH, RM, and LE)**

**070125-05** Moderator Boal declared a consensus on the first 3 recommendations by the Structures Committee. TH stated that we should pray together (phone, time together here,) and connect regionally, (buy skype phone conf ) The Moderators will pull together regional prayer (John McIntosh-West, Keith Shearer-E, Jim Brown-C). Structures Committee is Ron Smals, Nathan Zakahi, Dan O'Deens, and Robert MacMillan. The Fellowship Council will spend time on the day before conference to deal with the Structures Committee recommendation(s) (with the goal to approve). Tom Avey will get the proposal out to Fellowship Council early enough for review. Not going back to ministerium about this—just prayer. Tim Boal & Tom Avey will provide a written guide so that when we leave we will all know what our assignment and responsibilities are.

**070125-06 FINANCE COMMITTEE—Recommendations Larry Edwards**

1. Thank you notes to NATIONAL ORGANIZATION's for their voluntary donation to Fellowship Council for Fellowship Coordinator salary.
2. Letter to CE to ask them to increase their gift.
3. Receptive to recommendations from AGBM and moderator's team for future funding in the budget (08 and beyond), for additional leadership personnel to deal with 2 issues 1) continuity of the Fellowship Coordinator role, 2) more and better ministries to encourage pastors, churches, and districts.

**MOTION Prevailed to adopt Finance Committee Recommendations concerning National Organizations financial gifts and future funding requests for Fellowship Coordinator and AGBM Pastoral Care Coordinator.**

4. Recommend low end range of fellowship fee to encourage new church plants. The range we're considering is 0-25 for \$50 (instead of \$100). We estimate that this would be a loss income of about  $30 \times 55 = \$1650$ . Fees are "attender-based" and so the structure is fair. The Committee suggests that a cover letter be sent with the statistical requests this year in order to inform church treasurers and all local leadership.

If fees scale proposal FAILS committee recommends a \$.25/member increase when it is put to a vote at conference.

**070125-07 Celebration '08**

2008 Key note speaker is Mark Cahill, author of One Thing you Can't Do in Heaven, who, knows lots of Basket Ball greats, went to college with Charles Barkley, and is a great evangelism resource. John McIntosh, Jim Brown, Jeff Bogue, Scott Distler, Dan Gregory, and Ed Lewis are lined up to be other speakers. There will be afternoon blitzes led by Ed Lewis. GBIM will head up visiting local Synagogues/Temples. Delegates will purposely be on mission, toward waiters, housekeeping, etc. The staff is highly relational. This will be a different atmosphere. Dates are July 26—Aug 1 in Tampa, Florida at InnisBrook. Tom Avey and Jim Brown. tried really hard for a cruise, but such was not feasible financially. We are hoping we all grab a heart for winning people for Jesus. This will be one avenue to encourage us to win people to Jesus before we loose our purpose for existing. The actual main sessions will look different. Jim has lots of ideas for mixing up with people. We should start praying now for lost people during the next two years.

**070125-08** John McIntosh asked to hear how pastors interact in our ministeriums. *How do they sense what is needed in their churches for God to move among them? What is the heart of your district? What are the needs of your fellow pastors?*

S-Cal has gone to every other month – NCO regionals one month and the whole group every other month.

Meals for N-Cal every month, NW every month but summer, WPenn every month but conference time.

Chesapeake—evening for bi-vocational pastors, Heartland 5-6 times a year.

*What do you sense are the issues the guys are facing?* Stephen Joyce more active in outreach/get out of comfort zone, Larry Edwards—scheduled meetings so can fellowship, less business more fellowship. Larry Humberd fellowship, AGBM issue how to recognize others in ministry (credential/certification other than Licensure/Ordination), churches have full range from aggressive to struggling—lot of good guys but some in negative situations. Church planting is a big discussion—lot of talk but resources are so limited and area is so huge.

*How many would say churches are growing and healthy?* NCO (35% of FGBC and 20% of churches) NW closing Yakima, learning how to fight fair in ministerium, difficult situations in Hispanic churches, productive ministerium discussions/able to disagree. There are some really good things: Reading group, District Conference will be like an Equip conference with pastors leading the workshops.

We tend to have a fortress mentality—real echelon talking about food, sleeping conditions while the front line is talking about staying alive. Maybe some of the tension is because we are not focused on evangelism Robert MacMillan: I go to ministerium because I enjoy the guys, don't know if that is enough. I don't like to leave my church (to come to Fellowship Council) because that's where its happening. NCO coordinating team –come together to share. The way of packaging ministry is changing rapidly. We are constantly redefining what it means to be Grace Brethren.

Why do we need an AGBM full time coordinator? Because encouraging pastors is desperately needed. John McIntosh: We must make some major changes or we are going to die. I don't want Ichabod written over the FGBC.

### **Friday, January 26**

Tim Boal led Devotions from Matthew 11. Even John the Baptist was discouraged at times—greatest prophet by Jesus' own declaration (also John 1 the “take-aways” of Bible for superbowl Sunday)

#### **070125-09      New Realities at GBIM-- presented Dave Guiles**

“What will our interaction be with our peers around the world (not children because the North American GBC is only about 5% of total GBC)?” They are looking to us to see how we are going to relate. What is it that holds us together as GBC? It is time to reflect on what our role is as member of the FGBC movement? We operate on 4-self statements. What will happen when self-theologizing impacts the FGBC and how? Some think that GBIM should be the sending agency globally. How does our mission agency change since we have shifted and 19 of 20 FGBCers are outside of the USA? What has changed now is that we are embracing the realities?

#### **REALITY 1: The changing landscape of evangelicalism**

A growing mutualism among evangelical missions agencies.

#### **REALITY 2: The global shift in Christianity (and the FGBC!)**

19 of 20 FGBCers are outside USA, we're not the ones calling the shots any more.

#### **REALITY 3: The refocus of mission from geography to people groups.**

We need to put energy where the least reached people groups are. By 2015 GBIM's goal is to employ 250 people on multinational church planting teams to foster church planting movements among the least reached peoples of our world with 80 coming from USA. The teams themselves will be multinational so that we reflect a multinational diversity that manifests unity. Chad is multinational already (100 churches in 5 years for instance). The Mexico team is multinational (Argentine leaders 11 churches). It also means that we will be redeploying church planting force through out the world which will require pulling out of some fields to redeploy to others. How did Paul know when there was nothing more to do—when was his work done?

#### **REALITY 4: The evolving role of agencies among the “reached”**

**REALITY 5: The disparity between how many of us were formally trained and the realities of the world in which we minister today.** Missionaries are trained and the roles they are deployed to fulfill are often different. We need to retool to be equipped to meet the challenge of ministry in a rapidly changing world.

**REALITY 6: The growing understanding (and commitment!) to biblical unity as an indispensable aspect of effective mission work.** In John 17:23b unity shows the world that Jesus is sent from God. We don't do well at unity (joke about missionaries not getting along on field together—maybe because they did not learn unity at home church?) In recruiting, need to ask the question “what is their unity track record?”

#### **070125-10      Discussion of New Realities**

**Q&A** *Why the move to be working outside the Brethren?* Mutualism is the way to pool resources and accomplish more together than apart while still building their own type (denominational) church

*How many other fellowships outside US?* CAR, Chad, France, Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico have Fellowships that look amazingly like the first missionaries interpreted how the Fellowship looked to them at the time.

*How have you moved out of fear/protection (as we grew up) to mutualism and how is it different from ecumenicalism?* Ecumenicalism equals the lowest dominator but not trying to change anyone. Terry White: “Like Prison Fellowship often worked with ACLU and Catholics because they were on same side for prisoners rights, etc.” There are many levels of unity. There are going to be people who share the same doctrinal convictions but as we move out there are ways to bless others even if there is a lesser sense of intimacy.

The five year preparation starts at the time the missionary candidate starts to be trained. The pastor and local church help mentor and prepare the missionary. Robert MacMillan: M Maybe our cloistering in the past has

1 been more a maintaining of equilibrium than of protectionism because it seems that other denominations were  
2 also holding back in mutualism and when we all recognized that someone else's success did not  
3 automatically take away market share from some other church/ministry. Dave's closing word – "I greatly  
4 value my relationship with all of you."

5  
6 **Updates from other National Ministries**

7  
8 **070125-11 Brethren Missionary Herald**, Terry White (Shirley, corkscrew )—Remember BMH mission is:  
9 "To nurture Great Commission teamwork among the people and churches of the Fellowship of Grace  
10 Brethren Churches by building bridges of communication" (network & blogs) Feb 14 (Valentine massacre) the  
11 Bookstore announced that they wanted out of lease, but helped settle some of our future and led to new  
12 partnerships about book distributing. BMH took over Whitcomb, Davis, and Hiebert intellectual rights. We  
13 have a new editor (Liz Cutler Gates) of FGBC World. Communication is happening and helping draw us  
14 together---concentrating on the people and churches not Winona Lake entities. The sudden death of our 35  
15 year old daughter prompted an out pouring of FGBC love and college fund that has impressed our grandsons.  
16 Q&A: *Will there be more books by Grace profs?* Best sellers are Kent, Davis, Hoyt, and McClain. On-going  
17 dialog with several new profs but not as well known. "Theology and Trust" is our by line in all advertising. We  
18 are losing our traction because GTS is not graduating ThD's to go into Bible colleges, etc. We are working on  
19 some Spanish commentaries.

20  
21 **070125-12 CE National**, Ed Lewis —(Edna), all about the local church, want to help the local church and  
22 individual groups within church to be effective. How do we get people to reach out? James 1:22 "doers of  
23 Word...not deceivers." CE works closely with volunteers, cabinets are all volunteers, praise the Lord for the  
24 people who are partnering with us. God has blessed with the new training center (water problems with city).  
25 Focus at CE is checking how to work together with others who have resources. We have surrendered lots of  
26 publishing to BMH. Fireside dialogs on CDs focus on what do we teach in theologically areas videos, church  
27 issues, and practical issues. What do we need to do to cooperate (ie churches fighting about needing  
28 Sunday night but critics don't come)? BNYC: Fewer numbers of young people coming and there is about  
29 20% decline since 2000. Soon will be out pricing. Change in name (**Momentum** so we can market it to non-  
30 Brethren youth groups). Josh McDowell wants a partnership, Mel Walker (GARB) will maintain sense of  
31 FGBC Family but still have the numbers to operate, but be known outside of FGBC circles. We need to not  
32 be closed to the rest of evangelicals.

33 **Momentum** will be in Mississippi so teens will be able to help do clean up from Katrina and Gulf Port. Public  
34 school is supplying buses for the Blitz. The 412 commission is working. Students are learning mission and  
35 ministry. The students were asked to rate on a scale of 1-10 "how 412 helped you know you could be  
36 involved in mission?" Lots answered 10, 12, 13. Almost lost the program, because Moody does not have  
37 tuition so no funding for students—otherwise Moody was great, but we were able to switch to Liberty and able  
38 to get tuition aid because of their distance-ed already in place. It is making a difference in their lives. Urban  
39 Hope is a place where people can be trained to reach people and families. Lennie and Barb came from  
40 Urban Hope did 412 and now in training.

41 Q & A *Why Liberty and not Grace?* Grace does not have a distance-ed program, Soto working on it but 4-5  
42 years away from being able to operate outside of Indiana. But with 412 connected with Liberty they can step  
43 into Grace for second year. Uniqueness is that at each site they are being mentored.

44  
45 Lunch (Grace Village treated at a local restaurant Walt's Warf)

46  
47 **070125-13 Women of Grace USA**—Janet Minnix shared how local women's groups aren't just about  
48 missions anymore. Mentoring and discipling are a vital part too.

49  
50 **070125-14 Grace Village**—Jeff Carroll challenged pastors to prepare for the inevitable before the need for a  
51 nursing home or death comes. Grace Village is Involved in a 3Million dollar expansion for rehab therapy. 25  
52 more Robin Hood homes are being built. There are discounts to help past FGBC pastors (\$6000/mo) who can't  
53 afford the costs. Currently there are 355 residents, 20% FGBC and the highest % are Methodists.

54  
55 **070125-15 GBIF**—Ken Seyfert (Kendra, KaWow) Indianapolis Colts probable Super Bowl champs. The 3  
56 most recent loan projects involve about \$5 M and 5000 people. Do away with the temptation to put down one  
57 situation over another—celebrate all. Big/medium/small churches are all equally valuable. Zero delinquency rate  
58 from all loans. Able to give away most of profit again. Accountability is an issue, GBIF does not designate, but  
59 prayerfully asks that gifts be carefully used. Partnership with group whose money comes from mostly non-FGBC

1 money---because we can be believed. Fellowship Retirement Plan---there is great participation, 300 good cross-  
2 section. Advising new pastors about Social Security ---never opt out, rate things are going at retirement will  
3 receive more than paid in within about 10 years.  
4

5 **070125-16    GBNAM** --Tim Boal "Stewardship" is the key word for the year, as we seek to make sure funds  
6 get to where they need to go---church planting. Down-sized at end of 2006---eliminated duplication of ministries  
7 and double up on staff. Ultimate goal is that every penny that comes from gifts gets to church planters. We solicit  
8 funds that will care for support staff. School of Church planting (able to be a professor of Antioch School of  
9 Church Planting through former Moody professor---goal of 1000 students) Opportunity to raise up men in and  
10 through local churches. Cannot fight the battle without an army. Can't plant churches without church planters.  
11 Trying hard to get men into ministry. SoCal contemplating 2<sup>nd</sup> board for more traditional church planting. Still  
12 have matching funds for grants for church plants. 32 different pastors/churches in 2006 (see report) There are  
13 some 18 churches in the pipeline that Tim knows about Lots of good things happening. We need new churches  
14 in order to be healthy as a fellowship, in order to raise up more missionaries, in order to have teens that will be  
15 exposed to Grace and Missions. Momentum will also help in exposing an recruiting young people who might not  
16 know about FGBC until they visit our youth conference. Indian ministry taking on an indigenous leadership  
17 direction. Every employee has been treated individually in all of the restructuring according to each person's  
18 personal circumstances. Management positions in regions of the country that can benefit local churches. Invest  
19 energy where God seems to be working. Hearing a lot more about front line missionary church planters and a lot  
20 less about overhead staff. Directors in Northeast, Midwest, and South. Emphasis will be on helping those church  
21 planters on the frontlines.  
22

23 **070125-17**    Tim Asked Structures committee to come to next meeting (July 07) with the leadership change  
24 plan and process to present to the delegates at this year's conference with names after 30 days of prayer by  
25 Fellowship Council and feedback to the committee - deadline April 15.  
26

27 Phone meetings are planned between now and then so Structures is ready with recommendation for July  
28 meeting. We have all agreed that we want to extend Fellowship Council terms and numbers and Mod/V-Mod.  
29 change. Names should be obvious to Structures by comments given by Fellowship Council after 60 days of  
30 prayer. Come with the process and the people so the Conference can vote this year. This allows the Fellowship  
31 Council to put feet to faith, prayer, and counsel for the two business meetings for 2007  
32 We Can't communicate officially to ministeriums what we do not yet know. Our first communication needs to be  
33 clear and sharp and consistent. The Structures Committee is the ways and means of documents---so this change  
34 is top down. All we have to do is come up with something like "lets not elect a moderator-elect this year, but pray  
35 about the idea and the ticket to be put up next year."  
36 Two hours of prayer Saturday and then come up with plan? How do things actually work in councils and  
37 leadership settings? Entrusted with significant power to make the decision on behalf of the larger body  
38 (Structures has authority of Fellowship Council which has the power of the FGBC) So Fellowship Council should  
39 not pick it apart when they come back with plan and process. Tim Boal then will be the communicator to this  
40 conference and Jim will pick up continued implementation. After we finish discussion we need to go around the  
41 table again for affirmation. Dan O'Deens asked to shorten 60 to 30 days. --Pray Feb --Mar 1 last chance  
42 communication --phone mtg for face to face --something in mail by (April 15) to all ministeriums --everything  
43 out but the name (there will be a name coming with the motion)  
44

45 **070125-18**

46 **MOTION PREVAILED unanimously by Roll Call to ask Structures committee to come to next meeting (July**  
47 **07) with the leadership change plan and process to present to the delegates at this year's conference**  
48 **with names after 30 days of prayer by Fellowship Council and feedback to the committee deadline April**  
49 **15.**

50  
51  
52  
53 Structures Committee recommends Mike Jentes for chair of Nominating Committee this year 2007  
54

55 **070125-19**

56 **MOTION prevailed to name Mike Jentes as Nominating Committee Chair for 2007**

57  
58 **070125-20**

59 **MOTION prevailed to name Nominating Committee names to ballot if they agree to run**

1  
2      **070125-21**

3      **MOTION prevailed to present secretary (Tom Avey), Treasurer (Larry Edwards), and Assistant**  
4      **Treasurer (Andy Wirt), for ratification by the Conference.**

5  
6      **070125-22      Finance Commission recommendations:**

7      Larry Edwards – distributed a budget hand out and membership fee scales with reminder that if budget fails  
8      we will ask for an increase in the fee of .25. He also suggests the fee be “fellowship” instead of “membership”  
9      since it is the fee for a church to be a member church in the F(fellowship of)GBC.

10  
11      **070125-23**

12      **MOTION prevailed to present new fellowship fee scale to 2007 Conference for adoption**

13  
14      This info will go out with the fee request for this year to prepare them for next year. The battle might be  
15      communication by the Fellowship Council to the ministeriums (Tom A will give talking points sheet to  
16      Fellowship Council members)

17  
18      **070125-24**

19      **MOTION prevailed to present a .25/member increase if prior motion fails**

20  
21      **070125-25      Membership Commission recommendations**

22      3 new churches  
23      Elk Creek Church, Oxford, PA—Mike Silliman, Pastor  
24      Living Hope Grace Brethren Church, Saxton, PA –Bill Hall, Pastor  
25      Sunbury Grace Brethren Church, Sunbury, OH—Brian Williams, Pastor  
26      4 more from So FL    3 Haitian churches (wait just a bit longer til Tom A can personally visit).  
27      Grace Christian Union, Tamarack, FL—Henock Joseph, Pastor  
28      Oasis Chapel, Boynton Beach, FL—Michael Rardin, Jr., Pastor  
29      Providence of Grace, Boynton Beach, FL—Henry Mercy, Pastor

30  
31      **070125-26**

32      **MOTION prevailed to recommend that the Conference accept all seven with the 4 Florida churches**  
33      **being contingent upon final approval by Tom Avey**

34  
35      Q & A some concerns about written explanation of ordinances, explained not able to articulate in English on  
36      paper. Chuck Davis assures that they are all doing ordinances correctly. It is more of a language problem  
37      John McIntosh reminded us to be sure to make new churches welcome at conference. Stephen Joyce  
38      commented that it means a lot when visiting brethren show they care.

39  
40      **070125-27**

41      Delinquent churches  
42      Doug will contact Grafton  
43      Tom H will contact Neil Cole

44  
45      **070125-28**

46      **MOTION to recognize Gainesville’s desire to no longer be a member of FGBC based on lack of**  
47      **response for (4) years.**

48  
49      Phil Sparling will send certified letter to Gainesville and give a final chance to respond.

50  
51      **070125-29**      Charis recommendation from Dave Guiles (GBIM) for real international dialog but not US  
52      dominated conversation even though GBIM will pay for 80% of cost. Dave wants some one to be on this Charis  
53      planning committee—Keith Shearer willing to serve. Recommend Asia’s Hope as a Cooperating Ministry under  
54      the direction of Dave Atkins as a validation for his ministry.

55  
56      **070125-30**

57      **MOTION Prevailed to Recommend Asia’s Hope as a Cooperating Ministry under the direction of Dave**  
58      **Atkins.**



1  
2    **070125-31**

3    **COMMON Consent to approve Keith Shearer to be US representative on Charis planning Committee.**

4  
5    **070125-32**      Need a delegate and an alternate for the Charis Conference to represent the US. GBIM wants  
6 Fellowship Council to name a delegate to represent US and come back to report the philosophy of Charis to their  
7 Fellowship. Can be named at July meeting. Charis Conference to tie into the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brethren in  
8 Germany.  
9

10    **070125-33      The future of Equip**

11      After Equip 07 we need to evaluate if the every other year format is working and will it be valuable on into  
12 the future after 09.

13  
14      Tim polled the Fellowship Council for each man's first response—Yes or No to continue Equip conferences  
15 after 2009. Responses: 1 "no" and 1 "if it were changed" Tim assigned design of Equip 09 to the Fellowship  
16 Council leadership team.

17  
18      Optional prayer time Sat AM 8-10AM  
19

20  
21    Respectfully submitted,

22  
23    Gregory M. Howell,  
24 Fellowship Council Secretary  
25