

## **Why increase the membership fee by .60 (per attendee)?**

by Tom Avey (July 17, 2014)

It is my opinion that the Executive Director position for a three year term has been positive for the FGBC and should be continued. The momentum and trust we have established must be nurtured. Benefits have included:

- More consistent leadership.
- Relational strengthening.
- The standard for excellence and impact at our annual conference has been increased.
- Focus retreats are seen more as a part of a larger strategy than an isolated event.
- Buy-in from young leaders of larger and growing churches (GoNet).
- Positive connections to younger leaders.
- While not a direct cause and effect, I believe we are on the cusp of a church starting movement in our fellowship. Consistent message is important to this movement.

We need to have a person to recommend at conference in 2015 to succeed Bartley as Executive Director after the 2016 conference. The proposed budget for 2015 demonstrates the value we place on this roll with an even stronger investment from our churches by...

- increasing the Executive Director honorarium from \$12,000 to \$18,000 per year.
  - Bob Fetterhoff and Bartley both estimate that they spend 15-20 hours per week on the FGBC on average.
  - Since August 1, 2013, Bartley has been away from his church at least 33 days
    - Central Focus - 3 days
    - East Focus - 3 days
    - DC Planning - 2 days
    - EVLC meeting - 2 days
    - GoNet/FGBC meeting - 1 very long day
    - Ministry Execs meeting - 2 days
    - SW Focus retreat, FC Meeting - 5 days
    - South focus retreat - 3 days
    - NW Focus Retreat and Young Church Planters meeting - 5 days
    - NYC - 1 day
    - FellowShift - 6 days
  - On average there is 1, 1 hour Skype meeting per week.
  - We have not increased this honorarium since 2010
- increasing the administrative contribution to the church from \$6,000 to \$16,000
  - Bellflower Brethren, Wooster GBC, and Bartley's church report programatic strain due to decreased access to lead pastor.
- Increasing the fellowship fee from \$4.40 to \$5 per attendee (based on average weekly attendance). Typical annual increases have been .25.

If the delegates approve this budget, it would impact member fees in 2015 and expenses starting November 1, 2014.