

General Schedule

(Location: Long Beach Hyatt - longbeach.hyatt.com)

Wednesday, January 25

- 6:00 - Dinner together and pray - Yard House in the Harbor Room - walking distance

Thursday, January 26

- 7-8 - Breakfast at Hotel on your own (turn in receipts)
- 8:00 - Meeting starts
 - National Ministry Reports
- 12:00 - Working Lunch at hotel
- 1:00 - Meetings continue
- 5:00 - Break for dinner - P.F. Changs 6:00pm, walking distance

Friday, January 27

- 7-8 - Breakfast at Hotel on your own (turn in your receipts)
- 8:00 - Meeting starts
- 12:00 - Working Lunch at hotel
- 2:00 - Finished

Agenda

1. Thursday
 1. 8:00 - Devotions
 2. 8:30 - [Approve Minutes](#)
 3. 8:45 - National Ministry Reports (10 minutes each)
 1. Grace College and Seminary
 2. BMH
 3. CE National
 4. [Go2 Ministries](#)
 5. [WGUSA](#)
 6. AGBM
 7. Encompass
 8. [Retirement Investment Plan](#) and [GBIF](#)
 4. 11:00 - Chaplaincy changes

1. [Memorandum From Larry Chamberlain](#)
 2. [Bank Resolution Needed](#)
 5. 11:30 - EVLC Report
 6. 12:00 - Working Lunch
 7. 1:00 - Report from Structures Commission
 1. [Introduction](#)
 2. Declaration of Common Identity
 1. [Short Version with changes from Structures](#)
 2. [Expanded Form with changes from Structure](#)
 3. Changes to Constitution and Manual of Procedure
 1. [Summary of changes](#)
 2. [Constitution and Manual of Procedure with changes redlined.](#)
 3. [Constitution and Manual of Procedure with changes incorporated.](#)
 8. 2:30 - Report from Membership Commission
 1. New Church Applications
 1. [Grasslands](#)
 2. [the Village](#)
 3. [White Stone](#)
 4. [GBC Jacksontown](#)
 5. [EastGate Mansfield](#)
 6. [EastGate Ashland](#)
 2. [New Membership Application](#)
 9. 3:00-5:00 - Commission Meetings
2. Friday
1. 8:00 - Devotions
 2. 8:30 - Discussion about proposals from Structures and Membership Commissions
 3. 10:30 - Break
 4. 10:45 - Action on previous items
 5. 11:00 - Report from Finance Team
 1. [Financial Review](#)
 2. [Budget for 2012 and 2013](#)
 6. 11:30 - Conference Report
 1. [2012 plans](#)
 2. 2013 options
 7. 12:00 - Lunch
 8. 1:00 - Focus Retreat Report
 9. 1:30 - Old Business
 10. 2:00 - Adjourn

1 **FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES**2 **Fellowship Council Minutes July 22, 2011**3 **Wooster GBC: Wooster, Ohio 1:30 - 5:00pm**4
5 PRESENT: Bob Fetterhoff(Moderator 11-13), Michael Saldivar(W-15), Dave Kennedy(E-15), Jonathan
6 Carey(C-12), Doug Courier(E-13), Tom Hocking(Moderator 09-11), Doug Black(E-11), Dan Jackson(E-
7 14), Nathan Bryant(C-13), Clancy Cruise(C-15), , Roy Halberg(W-14), Tom Avey(Fellowship
8 Coordinator), & Greg Howell(Recording Secretary) Bruce Barlow(C-14)by Skype
9 [Missing Phil Helfer(W-11), Bruce Barlow(C-14) Bob Wagner(E-12), Chris Ball(W-12), W-13 and C-11]10
11 Bob welcomed us and gave a brief history of Wooster GBC

12 Prayer in groups

13 110722-01 Approve Minutes14 17 **A MOTION PREVAILED to approve January 2011 minutes as published on the FC website.**18
19 110722-02 Conference Report 2011 (VISION 2020 Leadership Conference)

- 20
-
- 21 1.
- Registrations
- 273 full registrations better than last year Antioch & Women seminars
-
- 22 have good registrations , John Trent about 75 (wanted 200) lowest # of kids this year
-
- 23 – 15 maybe a reflection of less young families OR that Wooster location is close to
-
- 24 extended families (grandparents) who are providing child-care (and maybe housing).
-
- 25 Seems to have been a steady decline in recent years. It is a different day and so we
-
- 26 need to view things thru a different lens.

27 Q/A

28 Q: How does this year's attendance compare with an Equip conference? Equip
29 numbers are hard to count. Attendance numbers are not the same because Equip is a
30 series of chunks, rather than a concentrated sustained group as this year is more likely
31 to be.32 Q: What do you, Bob want them to walk away with after this National Conference? A: A
33 new vision, crystalized around the CCM (Commitment to Common Ministry). What
34 action steps that come will come from individual time with God. Each emphasis will
35 have its own day—leadership, church planting, integrated ministry36
37 110722-03 2012 plans Indian Wells, CA July 27-Aug 2 \$89 room rate38 Nathan B repeated what Bob F said at GBIM board. Promote Conference for getting
39 together. Accommodations are very nice. Good gathering areas to connect with others.
40 Used to be people came to National Conference "Just because", now we need to
41 provide relational and other reasons, such as: "What are they going to get?" "What are
42 they going to do?", at or around conference location.43 Maybe we need to encourage all the boards to have board meetings at National
44 Conference?45 Could we get "Driven" to have their meeting during conference during summer?
46 So Calif suggest speakers, musicians, Frances Chan—maybe he would speak on topic
47 of his new book48
49 110722-04 2013 options—in Ohio a lot in past years. Time to get back into 6 yr rotation, West Coast
50 every 6 yrs. Florida? Or DC? Will California appeal to people?— will people go and include
51 vacation?52 Guys want to see ministries—locate National Conference near several and have Sr pastor & staff
53 share. ie Willow Creek—youth leaders could meet with youth staff, music w/music, Sr with Sr
54 staff. House church guys with a house church situation near.

55

1 We should ask guys who are going to other conferences, "Why?" probably because of
2 resources—what they get (information and tangible stuff) and because their financial resources
3 are limited and they have to choose to attend where they think they will get the most for their time
4 and money. The big, publicized conferences appeal because they are across denominational
5 lines

6
7 110722-05 Focus Retreat Report for 2012

8 1. Theme - "Finding Your Way Forward"

9 Key verse: Eph. 2:10

10 Subtitle: "Vision thru the dangers, toils and snares". (comes from a phrase from
11 *Amazing Grace*)

12 Dan Allen has agreed to lead again. (Florida Feb-Mar not good time—Dave
13 Kennedy wants to get FOCUS Retreats in Florida district going again. (he reps
14 Florida and would attend) Tom A will work with Dave about scheduling

15 2. Dates —are all up on the website www.fgbc.org/focus

16
17 110722-06 EVLC Reports Enduring Vision Leadership Community

18 Chairmen: Leadership Development—Mike Yoder

19 Church Planting—Tim Boal

20 Integrate Ministry—Clancy Cruise

21
22 1. Leadership Development - new web site and brochure - www.fgbc.org/e-net

23 Mike Yoder, Tom Julien

24 6 pioneer churches this year working toward 60

25
26 2. Integrated Ministries Clancy Cruise

27 Summarizing traction so far

28 The strategic CCM international document, is now a decade old.

29 Integrated Ministries team Stephen Joyce, Jim Hocking, Dan O'Deens "what healthy
30 church wouldn't want to be doing all three of these things?" We are the story-tellers, not
31 initiators of IM. Integrated Ministry is not social justice, but bridges of salt & light

32
33 1) Help "them" connect with those doing gospel work in many communities. How are
34 they integrating—helping churches connect with other churches/ministries that are
35 ministering as bridges or salt & light in their or similar communities. "Here's an idea we
36 have, is there any one doing that? How do we connect with them?

37
38 2) Committee needs to help them tell their stories, stand behind those who are doing
39 Integrated Ministries, show how strategies can work for other churches to revitalize
40 and/or build bridges to be salt & light in their communities.

41
42 Gave out brochure of the Scripture demonstrating Salt & Light (not to argue about Social
43 Justice, etc.) just show how Bible shows Christians need to be nice to others

44
45 Two main thrusts of Integrated Ministries committee:

46 Help others 1) "see" Integrated Ministries and 2) support those who are doing Integrated
47 Ministries

48
49 3. Church Planting –Tim Boal

50 Committee: Tim Boal (Go2), Dave Guiles(GBIM), Nathan Bryant (GB Canada), Tony
51 Webb (Vision Ohio) & Neil Cole (CMA)

52 They discovered that they were tracking similarly how to measure church planting
53 One major accomplishment is that they made a pact not to speak ill of the others—they
54 want to present a common front and be working together

1 young leaders meeting—about the future of the “family” not structured, came up with 5?
2 “learnings”

3 There is a Cloud over our “family” many think they have to hold exactly to be part of the
4 FGBC family—so they hide and do not get involved. The committee has worked at
5 determining how to remove that perceived barrier.

6

7

8 110722-07 2012 Budget

9

10 **MOTION to recommend 2012 budget to Delegates for adoption. 2/p**

11

12 We have shifted to a per attender fee from the large categories. NAT/ORGS were asked to
13 increase gifts to FGBC, and some cooperating ministries also have given some gifts
14 Comments mentioned that the budget does not include any income from churches using
15 Brotherhood Mutual, yet. It will be interesting to find out how much that income will be. There
16 was a report that at least one church realized a 50% decrease in premium by changing to
17 Brotherhood Mutual.

18 110722-08 Tom's Housing Allowance - \$35k – Tom reported that his housing cost for 2012 would be
19 approximately \$35,000.

20

21 **MOTION to designate Tom's Housing Allowance for 2012 as \$35,000.00 2/p**

22

23 110722-09 Blue Ridge District correspondence

- 24 1. Invitation for dialog – Letter attached from Blue Ridge Ministerium about women in ministry
25 and “spiritual foundation” concerns.

26 A committee needs to meet with the ministerium, but they need to provide specific details. It
27 needs to be explained that the Fellowship Council does not control the National Organizations.
28 Discussion turned up several ministries or situations that may have been the catalyst for the
29 letter. Tom A stated that he knows that they can and would pay for expenses for a delegation to
30 visit. Did all of the ministerium really agree & sign? Need to know specifics. The letter is too
31 general, but it seems to be a NAT/ORG situation that Fellowship Council is powerless to change..

32 A committee of Tom Hocking, Dan Jackson, and Doug Counter will meet with Blue Ridge
33 ministerium members that are at Conference this year. And a committee should go to their
34 ministerium after they provide specific examples of their concerns at the ministerium's expense.

35

36 **MOTION to send a delegation led by Dan Jackson to chat with the Blue Ridge ministerium
37 requesting that they provide specifics prior to the meeting and that they cover the costs. 2/p**

38

- 39 2. About member churches

40 Chris Becker's related letter requests the Fellowship Council interaction with their question; “Will
41 our Fellowship permit churches to remain members of a local district or fellowship if they are no
42 longer members of the national fellowship?” Tom A responded “Technically churches cannot be
43 a district unless all churches are member churches.” Matter referred to the Membership
44 committee for recommendation back to Fellowship Council at January meeting.

45

46 110722-10 Declaration of Common Identity - First Draft

47

48 Crafted by Keith Shearer, Jim Custer, Tom Julien, and Keith Minier. It was just completed in
49 past 30 days. They know that the Fellowship Council will be reviewing and providing input. The
50 concept grew out of discussion from the Charis Movement. There has been a call by some
51 younger leaders for a document like this. This is still an early draft. The committee is still
52 formulating it.

1
2 Discussion: Tom Hocking state that he wants it to provide a tiered approach to affirmation (rather
3 than declaration) and wanted it to say 1st (non-negotiable) is more important than 2nd (practices),
4 which is more important than 3rd (preferences).

5 Fellowship Council expressed a VERY BIG THANK YOU to Keith and team who knows it is early
6 draft. He may have just wanted to know if he was on the right track. They expect to continue
7 fine-tuning until 2012. Fellowship Council needs to let National Conference know that it is
8 coming, without letting them know it is coming. Could present it next year and vote on it in 2013.
9 Maybe use 2012 Focus Retreats to unveil and get feedback. Declaration/Affirmation of Common
10 Identity is not a bad term. Might be good to roll some of the continuing Resolutions into the new
11 Constitution. GBIM is working on a tiered approach. Would be best if smaller, simpler.
12 What is the hope that this will accomplish? Open the door to wider membership?
13 Fellowship Council minutes provide direction—
14

15 **MOTION from Jan 2011**

16 Being compelled by our commitment to make disciples in North America across generational
17 lines and among all ethnic groups, we commission the executive committee to appoint a team to
18 develop guiding documents for our fellowship that are in alignment with this Biblical commitment.

21 Constitutionally is it allowed to make changes? Can delegates adopt a document that declares
22 our "Statement of Identity"? Yes, might need to re-write constitution if identity is drastically
23 different by what current constitution allows.

25 110722-11 New church applications - already approved by Fellowship Council

27 1. Elkhart, IN

29 2. Mt Stirling, OH

31 3. Virginia Beach

33 110722-12 New Church Applications since January

35 4. Greensboro, NC

37 **MOTION: TO recommend that we receive Greensboro, NC as a member church of the FGBC 2/p**

39 5. Tipp City, Ohio

40 Split off Dayton 1st –Mark wanted closer partnership than Ron & group wanted. Lost some
41 members from Dayton 1st. Has Ron made an effort to reconcile with Mark? Mark was hurt that
42 group asked Ron to be pastor without totally communicating with Mark. Mark is no longer pastor
43 of Dayton 1st. Clancy is rep for that district—could talk to Moderator of district and see if they can
44 reconcile. Clancy left message w/Ron to connect. Clancy will be glad to follow up on urging
45 Ron's finding a church-planting mentor or organization that will help.

47 **MOTION: to recommend that we receive Tipp City, OH as a member church in the FGBC, pending**
48 **Fellowship Council's liaison's (Clancy Cruise) knowledge of Ron's Sherenko' willingness to make**
49 **sure things are right with Mark Saunders. 2/p**

51 6. Harlem, NY

52 Golden opportunity for FGBC—inner city church in New York

54 **MOTION: TO recommend that we receive Harlem as a member church in the FGBC. 2/p**

1 110722-13 New Cooperating Ministry Application - Caribbean Vision

2
3 Are other Cooperating Ministries aware, are any concerned about Caribbean Vision's approval?
4 CPR3, GO2, GBIM all working in different areas (or already cooperating—GBIM).

5
6 **MOTION: TO recommend Caribbean Vision as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC 2/p**

7
8 110722-14 Recommendation for revision to new church application (Michael Saldivar)—not available yet

9
10 110722-15 Vice-Moderator

11 --We don't have a vice-Moderator yet—Jeff Bogue until end of this National Conference. Jeff
12 might be willing to serve until we find a replacement. Bob asked Tom to run the business
13 portion.

14
15 110722-16 January 2012 meeting

16 --Mid-year meeting in January in California, January 25-28. We will travel on 25th, meet Jan
17 26—27 (Thurs-Friday), travel 28 maybe at hotel in downtown or airport area LA to cut down on
18 transportation. Tom & Bob will decide based on where FOCUS is (maybe John Wayne—
19 Orange)

20
21 110722-17 Future agenda items

- 22
23 1. Cooperating Ministry designation and process. plus new church app—review by Membership
24 Committee—will meet preliminary Sun 2pm at Wooster Clancy will skype in to be a part
25 of discussion
- 26
27 2. Statistical Report—refer structures committee
- 28
29 3. Constitution revision—refer to Structures committee

30
31
32 Adjourned 5:12 for 5:30 - dinner at Wooster Inn.
33 Respectfully submitted,

34
35
36 Gregory M. Howell,
37 Recording Secretary

**Go2 Ministries Report
Submitted to the Fellowship Council of the FGBC
January 20, 2012**

Thank you for the opportunity to share this report with you regarding the ministry of Go2 and the Lord's work in 2011 as well as goals and projects being addressed in the present year.

Go2 has three primary initiatives. These are –

Evangelize through the starting and establishing of new churches.

Equip leaders for church planting ministries.

Engage issues of Biblical justice and mercy to alleviate suffering and gain an audience for the gospel and provide a platform for church multiplication.

Our ten year goals are -

Begin 5,000 churches in the United States and its People Groups.

Believe God for the conversion of 500,000 new believers.

Become a servant to 50 million Americans.

How Are We Attempting to Do This?

1. Prayer. We have created a prayer map and prayer apps that will enlist 500,000 people across the world to pray for the United States.
2. Partner. Our desire is to partner with 1,765 churches or groups in our Circles of Grace program, with each partner praying and working with us to see 2-3 churches started in that circle in the next decade.
3. Promote. We will be working with multiple “social entrepreneurs” who are marrying socially beneficial marketplace business with ministry initiatives. In so doing, we believe we can help serve others and meet pressing human need.

How Are We Doing?

- Our prayer initiative is underway, the map is available at www.go2ministries.com/pray To increase awareness of the map we held a Prayer Summit in Orlando on January 9,10 with representatives from the FGBC Districts. We had a total of 24 people representing 12 of our Districts. (1)
- We have signed on 27 local churches to pray to date and to partner with us for the Circles of Grace initiatives. We have 1,738 Circles to go. Our staff has 12 meetings scheduled this year to continue this effort and will be in conversations with more than 500 churches by year end in populating the map with prayer and church planting partners. (1)

- Last years connections led to three new Grace Brethren Churches making application to the FGBC. We are presently working with 12 church planters or groups that are considering membership. (1)
- We are in process with 7 of our partners in designing church planting plans for our circle partnerships. Our time will be spent helping each partner realize their church ministry dreams for the circle they choose. Go2 may at times function as an initiator of a project, but most efforts will be to facilitate or support the local church or ministry dream that emerges from the partnership. (1&2)
- We have partnered with business leaders to provide Grounds4Good coffee to the United States marketplace. www.grounds4good.com These coffees alleviate poverty in Laos, Uganda, and Guatemala. Proceeds from the sale of this coffee are also used to provide funding for church planters who partner with Go2 to reach one of the Circles of Grace. (3)
- Go2 continues to function as a ministry Start Up and is aggressively pursuing donors and building its donation lists. We continue to have enough to remain viable and are trusting God to provide, as He has shown Himself so faithful to do in support of our ministry needs. We appreciate our partner donors who make this possible as God leads. We are prayerful that we will continue to be able to operate as we move forward in 2012.
- Our Core Definition of a Local Church which defines our efforts is -

“A group of people desiring to be a church, under the Direction of Biblical Leadership as defined in 1 Timothy 3, who practice the ordinances, and who are committed to the proclamation of the gospel and missional practice.”

Sincerely,

Dr. Timothy Boal
Executive Director
Go2 Ministries



REPORT TO FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL
Janet Minnix, President
January 2012

"You do what you can, and God will do what you can't."

With these words, Priscilla Shirer challenged the audience at the Christian Leadership Alliance Conference in April 2011. Speaking from Joshua 3:1-5, she summarized Joshua's obedience to God's command to lead two million people across a river in flood stage. "Joshua could lead the people but he couldn't part the waters of the river. *But God could.*"

During the past year in Women of Grace, we saw both victories and challenges as we endeavored to fulfill the mission God has given us. But the principle Priscilla Shirer drew from Joshua 3 rang true: "If you act in obedience to God, you have a Father who loves you and has gone behind the scenes to enable you to be who [and what] he called you to be."

As a national ministry cooperating with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Women of Grace USA Inc. is grateful for the opportunity to report to the Fellowship Council on the work of WGUSA in the past year. We are even more grateful for what God does behind the scenes as we endeavor to be obedient to the calling and mission he has given to this ministry.

The WGUSA Board of Directors is comprised of ten women who live in the three geographic regions designated in the FGBC Bylaws and are members of churches affiliated with the FGBC. The mission of the organization is to *challenge women to be radically in love with Christ and actively engaged in God's mission to reach the world.* WGUSA seeks to help women understand how to truly become women of grace who reflect the character of God. That will happen as they are solidly grounded in God's Word, internalizing biblical values and understanding who they are in Christ. They will then be equipped to minister in a gracious, Christ-like servant spirit, as God calls all His people to do.

The Board of Directors desires to support the Commitment to Common Ministry in ways that are appropriate for our ministry and mission. The activities of WGUSA are primarily in the areas of Leadership Development and Spiritual and Ministry Development.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The first class of the **Women's Leadership Studies, Women and Scripture**, was offered as a 2011 pre-conference option at the Grace Brethren Church of Wooster, Ohio – the joy of seeing a vision become a reality. Praise God. Close to 20 individuals, including one pastor, participated in the class.

We are grateful to be partnering with Grace Seminary to facilitate the Women's Leadership Studies program through which a woman can earn a certificate in Women's Leadership Studies or, with additional pre- and post-course work and a Bachelor's Degree, class credits can be applied toward a Master of Arts in Local Church Ministry with a concentration in Women's Leadership Studies. Classes are taught by Dr. Christy Hill and offered on weekends in areas with a heavy Grace Brethren presence. The

next class, *Soul Care in Leadership*, will be February 3-4, 2012, at Community Grace Brethren Church of Long Beach.

We anticipate offering another Women's Leadership Studies class as a pre-conference option this year (2012), and a Women's Summit in Maryland in early November.

The **SMM/Girls of Faith** program continues to be a key part of our strategy for Leadership Development. The importance of the role of women in influencing the values of the next generation must not be underestimated. We believe that the greatest contribution SMM can make to the Commitment to Common Ministry is to equip women to raise and teach girls to know and love God and to understand how to serve Him by serving others.

The summer and fall of 2011 saw increased requests for information about SMM. While some churches are switching to midweek programs that combine girls and boys, a number of those who made that switch several years ago are now returning to gender-specific ministries. The SMM Cabinet continues to work with Grace Brethren Boys to promote gender-specific discipleship.

New SMM curriculum for grades 4, 5 and 6 is available on CD; new curriculum for grades 1, 2 and 3 will be available this summer. While the old curriculum can still be ordered this year from CE National, it will be phased out in the near future.

INTEGRATED MINISTRIES/CHURCH PLANTING

Our tagline, *Local Ministry with Global Impact*, describes the importance Women of Grace places on moving outside the walls of the church to serve in neighborhoods, cities, and around the world. Women are challenged to look for opportunities to minister to people in their own communities and cities who have physical, social and material needs.

Reaching beyond the city limits, many women support church plants and mission points with prayer, special offerings, and on-location work and ministry projects. Others contribute to development projects such as Bessie Betoney's rug-weaving classes that will provide Navajo women with a way to earn a living. During the 2010-2011 year, offerings were given to special projects for missionaries serving with Encompass World Partners and Go2 Ministries, and for CE National ministries, SMM, and the renovation of the Missionary Residence kitchen in memory of Doris Julien.

Short-term ministry opportunities are a part of the global focus of Women of Grace. Mary James, a Grace College student, received a \$1,000.00 scholarship toward a three-month summer internship with Encompass missionaries at the Chateau de St. Albain in France. And a women's team that will minister with Cindy Swain in Czech Republic is planned for June 17-30, 2012.

Three of our board members, Chery Boehm, Teressa Pierce and Cathy Webb, are church planters' wives who keep us alert to the needs and concerns of the women who are partnering with their husbands in planting new churches.

SPIRITUAL & MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

Supporting and encouraging women in their spiritual growth are foundational to equipping women for service and mission. Our publications are tools of encouragement. The monthly e-newsletter, **Grace Touch**, which has replaced the semi-annual print newsletter Women's Infoline, always includes a brief devotional thought or spiritual application. And the **Women's Spectrum** annual magazine, which provides inspirational stories and devotional themes, will this year include a Bible study on the theme passage. A future goal is to post downloadable Bible studies on our web site that will also teach women to do inductive Bible study.

God is using the web site (www.wgusa.org) to open doors for Women of Grace to minister elsewhere in the world. Last fall we were contacted by a woman from Cameroon who is a new believer and asked for help to grow in her faith. We have responded with recommendations of several web sites that she can use for Bible study and scripture memorization. Praise God for this long-distance ministry opportunity.

Spiritual support and encouragement also take place in community. To that end, plans are underway for a second **Women's Transformational Summit** in Anchorage, Alaska October 5-7, 2012, where the focus will be our identity in Christ.

Board member Teressa Pierce, who is experienced in developing women's mentoring programs, is available to lead **Mentoring Conferences** in local churches that will cover her expenses. She is leading two conferences in Virginia churches this spring.

Prayer is the most powerful weapon and tool we have. We are deeply grateful for nearly 60 women from around the world (the **Prayer Force**) who receive our monthly prayer updates and are supporting the ministries of Women of Grace. We thank God for them and for what he is doing in answer to their prayers. Moving beyond praying for Women of Grace, we are asking God for wisdom about developing a Prayer Watch where women will commit to praying about social issues such as victims of abuse, sex trafficking, and drug abuse, as well as responding to disasters with prayer.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

As you can see from this report, Women of Grace USA has much for which to praise God. In addition, we are grateful to him for the individuals who give offerings and contribute financially to the work of Women of Grace. Many people are now using the convenience of online giving to donate.

We are deeply grateful to the Grace Brethren Investment Foundation for their contributions that provide most of the funding to compensate our Communications Coordinator. All other officers and board members volunteer their time and frequently give sacrificially from their personal finances to support and maintain this ministry. We thank God for them.

And finally, we give thanks to God for Bob Fetterhoff, Moderator, Tom Avey, Fellowship Coordinator, and all the members of Fellowship Council, for your commitment to God's Word and His mission, your vision for what God can do through the FGBC, and for your wise and prayerful direction. We are grateful for your prayer support and encouragement of Women of Grace as we seek God's will and provision. It is our joy and privilege to partner with you and your ministries in reaching, equipping and mobilizing women for the glory of God.

To: FGBC Fellowship Council
From: Ken Seyfert
Date: January 9, 2012
Subject: FGBC Retirement Investment Plan

Happy New Year, Everyone!

In addition to my duties as Executive Director of Operations for Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, Inc., I have for the past 14 years served as chairman and overseer of the FGBC Retirement Investment Plan. I am assisted in this work by a committee consisting of Mr. Tom Avey, Mr. Bill Burby, Dr. Jim Custer, and Mr. Jim Johnson. Daily administrative support is provided by Mrs. Linda Leonard, coordinator of administration.

The FGBC established the Retirement Committee to administer both the 401(a)-employer contributed and the 403(b)-employee contributed plans. The committee acts on behalf of the FGBC, as administrator for each plan and reports officially on an annual basis to FGBC at annual national conference meetings. Written minutes of the meetings of the Retirement Committee are maintained in the Winona Lake office. Investment option alternatives are offered through American United Life Insurance Co. (One America Cos.) in Indianapolis. The most recent report of the Retirement Planning Committee is attached.

As part of its mission, GBIF provides annual "goodwill contributions" to FGBC-related ministries to help fund their purposes. The expenses related to the operations of the Retirement Investment Plan as a FGBC ministry to pastors have been funded through such contributions. GBIF stands ready to help as needed with any future contributions.

It is a privilege to be part of a vital ministry that is directed to assisting FGBC pastors and their families with planning for their financial future. I am grateful to the committee and to Linda Leonard with their helpful support of the plans. Where appropriate, we will continue to educate FGBC churches about their responsibility to include a fair contribution towards their pastors' retirement.

I will look forward to seeing you soon for meetings in Long Beach, CA and would be happy to entertain any questions at that time.

Respectfully in Him,



Ken Seyfert

Chairman, FGBC Retirement Investment Plan

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES
RETIREMENT INVESTMENT PLAN
PO BOX 587
WINONA LAKE, IN 46590
574-267-5161

Retirement Planning Committee

As of December 31, 2011, the total combined asset value of the Fellowship Retirement Investment Plan stands at \$ 8,822,350.92. We now have 338 active participants in the plans.

Thirty investment options are available to plan participants. Quarterly, individual reports are sent on a timely basis.

Account information is available on-line via a secure website at www.oneamerica.com. Other enhancements have been made to the new bookkeeping system which is very user friendly. We have met with One America representatives to review our plan and discuss ways to improve our cooperative services.

We send 9 checks monthly to elderly retirees under the "Promise of Honor" program. The monthly need is \$ 913.19. Total current funds on hand as of December 31, 2011 are \$8,720.73.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Kenneth A. Seyfert, Chairman
kseyfert@gbif.com

Committee Members:

Mr. Tom Avey
Mr. William Burby
Dr. James L. Custer
Mr. James W. Johnson

Coordinator of Administration:
Mrs. Linda Leonard



MEMORANDUM

To: Tom Avey and Fellowship Council
From: Dr. Larry N. Chamberlain, President and CEO
Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, Inc.
Re: Report to Fellowship Council
Date: January 10, 2011

Greetings, colleagues . . .

I am pleased to provide you with this courtesy update of our organization as a cooperating national ministry affiliated with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

Our board of directors is composed of fourteen individuals who reside in the several regions as prescribed in the FGBC by-laws. Re-elected to the board following the most recent board ballot are Josh Balmer, Robert MacMillan, Howard Mayes, and Jerry Michael. Newly elected to the board is Phil Sparling, filling the slot of Jerry Young. Ted Adomanis serves as the Chairman of the Board. Ken Seyfert is Vice-President, Treasurer, and Executive Director of Operations. Brenda Byers is Secretary of the Corporation, Chief Financial Officer, and Director of Finance and Administration.

Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, Inc. exists as a “church extension fund,” as defined by the North American Association of Securities Administrators. We are regulated by the securities laws (aka “blue sky laws”) of the 40+ states in which we have investors. The primary purpose of the Foundation is limited in scope by these regulatory authorities: “To enable individuals who support the objectives of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches to invest funds at a reasonable rate of interest and to provide thereby a source of funding, in the form of capital loans, for

acquiring, developing, and remodeling, land and buildings for Grace Brethren churches, schools, and other associated organizations.” We are precluded from making loans to individuals, and can only loan funds to 501(c)(3) churches and organizations within the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

The rate of interest paid to our investors is currently 2.50%. As of December 31, 2010, our investor accounts total \$80,628,784, or an increase of 5.39% from the January 1, 2010 total of \$76,506,849. Approximately 60 Grace Brethren churches have mortgage loans outstanding, all of which are paying as agreed and none of which are delinquent in their payment obligations at year’s end.

We are pleased to report that the continuing economic downturn of the financial markets has not affected our asset base. All of our loans outstanding are current and all of our reserve investments are placed in safe, short-term securities. We have long held to a very conservative investment portfolio, avoiding investments in equities and other price-sensitive securities that can be affected adversely by shifts in the financial markets.

GBIF is a long-standing member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), which calls its members to very high standards of financial integrity and fiduciary responsibility. Our records are periodically examined by ECFA’s field auditors, and we were pleased with a recent summary comment: *“We found Grace Brethren Investment Foundation in full compliance with ECFA’s Standards. You are to be commended for your continuing commitment to these Standards.”*

In addition to ECFA’s recent review, we continue to submit our financial records for annual audit by Capin Crouse, CPA’s. Their reports find us to be in full compliance with the high standards of the accounting profession for a financial institution. Further, we remain in good standing with state securities regulators to whom we are accountable with annual reports and registration renewals.

It has been our practice to make goodwill contributions to Grace Brethren ministries for the continued growth and viability of the Fellowship. We also make generous annual contributions toward the expenses of the office of the Fellowship Coordinator, including additional appropriations this past year to help underwrite the increased expenditures of the office of Moderator. In addition, we serve as the parenting agency for the FGBC Chaplaincy ministry and the office of the Endorsing Agent (see attached chaplains roster), raising funds through the Eagle

Commission and subsidizing the expenses with an annual contribution. Further, we provide voluntary, seconded leadership and staff support for the FGBC retirement plan and contribute toward the plan's administration expenses.

We support via goodwill contributions the financial needs of our Fellowship as categorized by the Commitment to Common Ministry: Church Planting, Leadership Development, and Integrated Ministry. Our contributions to these worthy initiatives totaled \$555,000 in 2010 from 2009 earnings, not including subsidized support of the Eagle Commission and subsidized administrative support re seconded personnel and contributions to the FGBC Retirement Investment Plan.

At our board meetings in Albuquerque, the directors adopted the below Statement of Vision that expresses our ministry's commitment to the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

Ken Seyfert and I are planning to join you for your meetings at Simi Valley in January. We will be eager to address any questions you may have at that time.

Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve as your colleagues in the awesome and powerful work of the Great Commission.

God bless you . . .

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom J. Miller".

GRACE BRETHREN INVESTMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF VISION – 2010-2015

Adopted by Board of Directors, September, 2010

- 1) Be the lender of choice among our Grace Brethren churches and affiliated organizations, by offering a Christ-honoring purpose, competitive rates, and affordable terms.
- 2) Be a ministry organization where Grace Brethren people can invest securely and provide capital financing for member churches and affiliated organizations.
- 3) Be a contributor to church planting and to other worthy ministries of the FGBC.
- 4) Be an organization committed to integrity and the highest of ethical standards and practices, including the guardianship and management of funds entrusted to our care.
- 5) Be an organization that participates in the advancement of cooperative initiatives associated with the FGBC and our community of affiliated organizations.
- 6) Be an organization that follows the purposes, expectations, and guidelines prescribed by regulatory agencies to which we are accountable as a church extension fund.
- 7) Be an employer of qualified and impassioned personnel who carry out our mission and purpose with efficiency and impact.
- 8) Be dedicated to the teachings of Christ as demonstrated in our workplace and lifestyles, serving as an exemplary model of organizational and individual behavior.
- 9) Be committed to creating a learning environment for our staff and board, providing for opportunities to stay current on matters supportive of our mission and purpose.
- 10) Be understanding of our distinctive role in a greater cause, that finances are but a means to an end, knowing that organizational prosperity should be clothed with humility, with a sense of caring and grace, shunning at all times arrogance, pride, and power.

CHAPLAIN ROSTER
NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES
Active Duty, Reserve, Veterans Affairs
November 22, 2010

Submitted by:

Dr. John W. Schumacher(Martha)
CH (COL) USA, Ret.
Chaplain Endorsing Agent, NFGBC
6289 W. Donald Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85310
H: 623-561-5485
C: 602-526-5810
chaplainsschumacher@cox.net

*Note: All emails to military email addresses must have a subject entered in the subject block or it will not go through.

ARMY (10)

***Captain John Arnoldbik (Jensen)**
HSB 1/37 FA BN
Fort Lewis, WA, 98433
Email: john.h.arnoldbik@us.army.mil
Home address:
1510 College St. Apt. D4
Lacey, WA 98503
Email: jharnoldbik@yahoo.com
Birthdays:
John: 21 Dec
PH:
John: 480-313-4343

*John has returned from Iraq and is serving again at Fort Lewis, WA., Will be reassigned to Fort Huachuca, AZ, in January 2011

Captain Bill Graham (Robyn)
RSS
11th Armored Cavalry Regt.
Fort Irwin, CA 92310
Phones:
Duty Cell: 760-287-8002
Robin's Cell: 616-560-5702
Email:
Duty: billy.graham@us.army.mil
Home: chapgrahamfam@yahoo.com
8120B Salerno Dr.
Fort Irwin 92310
Phone:
Home: 616-855-2871
Cell: 803-391-0237

Birthdays

Bill: 24 July

Robyn: 08 August

***Captain Richard Hurst (Star)**

TF SixShooters

6-6 (Aviation), Task Force Six Shooters

FOB Fenty

Jalalabad, Afghanistan APO AE 09310

Military Email: richard.r.hurst@us.army.mil

Richard.r.hurst@afghan.swa.army.mil

Militar Ph: 1-315-774-1303

Military cell: 1-315-836-6492

Home Address:

99406-B Timberline Drive

Fort Drum, NY 13602

Email: richardhurst777@yahoo.com

Phone: 904-303-4970

Star cell: 904-303-4097

Birthdays:

Richard: 24 Dec

Star: 23 August

Captain John Jacobsen (Marlene)

HHC 327 AHB

IACB

APO AE 09378

Home: 254-226

john.g.jacobsen@us.army.mil

H: 254-213-0640

6623 Todd St.

Fort Hood, TX 76544: 765-981-2552

Birthdays:

John: 3 March

Marlene: 12 June

Has redeployed to Fort Hood

*** Captain David Mvondo (Whitney)**

Duty: david.mvondo@us.army.mil

H: mrmvondo@hotmail.com

H: 706-617-6095 Whitney (work) 917-575-0646

109 Austin Loop

Fort Benning, GA 31905

Birthdays:

David: 30 May

Whitney: 21 June

SKYPE: mrmvondo.iraq

Ranger School now scheduled for January

***Lieutenant Colonel Mark Penfold (Robin)**

Garrison Chaplain's Office
Regimental Memorial Chapel
Deputy Garrison Chaplain
Bldg. 923, Lee Blvd
Ft. Eustis, VA

Military Email: mark.penfold@us.army.mil

Home: armychapfam@hotmail.com

O: 757-878-1316/1317

H: 757-258-2622

2800 Mockingbird Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23185-8026

Birthdays:

Mark: 25 Apr

Robin: 3 Oct

*Mark is being reassigned to the US Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson , SouthCarolina
New Address as of January:

1405 Confederate Avenue

Columbia, SE 29201-1913

Captain Charles Pridgen (Ada)

Military Email:

chuck.pridgen@us.army.mil

Personal: pridgencksr@otmail.com

Office: (Cell) 915-726-1239

Cell: 574-265-4899

Office of the Chaplain

3 Bde., 1st Armored Div.

Fort Bliss, TX 79916-0050

7104 Oval Rock Dr.

El Paso, TX 79912

Birthdays:

Charles: 1 July

Ada: 2 May

Major James Schaefer (Elizabeth)

Office of the Staff Chaplain
1st Theater Sustainment Command, Main

Fort Bragg, NC 28310

Duty : 910-396-7303

Personal Cell: 804-892-0190

Military: james.e.schaefer@conus.army.mil

Home: schaeferfamily4@yahoo.com

H: 910-221-0870

338 Sandwedge Dr.

Fayetteville, NC 28311

Birthdays:

James: 29 July

Elizabeth: 29 Dec.

Captain Pete Stone (Monica)
HC 4-227 Bn, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade.
1st Cavalry Division
Fort Hood, TX 76544

Duty: pete.stone@us.army.mil
Personal: peterpaulstone@gmail.com
Monica's email: monibravo@gmail.com
1245 Village Green Drive
Miami, FL 33175
Email: monibravo@gmail.com
Cell: 781-487-5715

Birthdays:

Pete: 12 June

Monica: 10 Aug

SKYPE: Peterpaulstone

Is now reassigned to Fort Campbell, KY. Home address as of August 29:
951 Ted A. Crozier Sr. Blvd
Apt. 1815
Clarksville, TN 37043

Captain Jeff Wirick (Mie)

Email:

H: wirick1125@aol.com

O - Military: jeffrey.d.wirick@us.army.mil

1/48 Infantry Battalion (Tng)

Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473

H: 576-433-5874

4 Sibert Lane

Leonard Wood, MO 65473

Personal email: Wirick1125@gmail.com

H: 576-452-2115

O: 573-596-2713

Cell phone: 576-433-5874

Birthdays:

Jeff: 5 June

Mei: 27 Aug

NAVY (2)

Lieutenant Louis Urban (Chong)
Chaplain, II MEF Headquarters Group
Camp Lejuene, NC 28542

Email:

Office: louis.urban@usmc.mil

Home : pulou@juno.com

Chong: chonghwa66@gmail.com

Phones:

Office: 910-451-2375

Cell: 9104788633

302 Westmont Rd.

Jacksonville NC 28540

Birthdays:

Lou: 23 Feb

Chong: 25 Jan

LTJG Justin Hayes (Becca)

Office of the Chaplain

MCB Camp Pendleton/MCI West

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron

Box 555024

Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-55024

Office: 760-763-8987

Cell: 417-893-1143

Military Email: Justin.m.hayes@usmc.mil

Email: hayesjm.hayes@gmail.com

Home:

714 Wharton St.

Oceanside, CA 92058

PH: 760-237-6698

Birthdays:

Justin November 20

Becca February 2

ARMY RESERVE (2)

1/Lt Jeff Mason

Ohio National Guard

1-134th Field Artillery Regiment

Email:

jeffrey.j.mason@us.army.mil

Cell: 574-453-7694

Home: 614-885-2392

6773 Bowerman Court

Worthington, Ohio 43085-2443

Birthday:

Jeff: 11 Nov

Deployint to Afghanistan Spring 2011 with 37th IBCT as chaplain for the 1-134th FA..

1/Lt James Murray (Ashley)

81st RSC Unit

Fort Jackson, SC

Youth Pastor, Aiken, SC, GBC

52 Vanderbilt Drive

Aiken, SC 29803

Cell: 803-761-2794

H: 803-642-3360

Email:

Duty: Jim.Drummond.murray@us.army.mil

Home: jim.ashley04@gmail.com

Military Email:

Birthdays:

Jim: September 25
Ashley: Dec. 27

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (1)

1/Lt Scott Shaffer (Jennifer)

38th Support Troops Bn.
Indianapolis, IN
Home address:
102 11th St.
Winona Lake, IN 46590
Ph: 574-268-1132
Cell: 574-333-8241
Personal Email: eliot09081@yahoo.com
Military Email: scott.shaffer1@us.army.mil

Birthdays:

Scott: 8 Dec.
Jennifer: 5 Jan

Other Birthdays:

Landers: Mar 11 '72

CHAPLAIN CANDIDATES (3)

ARMY RESERVE

2/Lt Mike Landers – US Army -- in seminary
At Liberty Seminary
With Dr. Chuck Smith at the Ocala GBC in
Ocala, FL

POTENTIALS (4)

Captain Ryan True, Air Force
In Seminary, Colorado Springs

AIR FORCE

Vacant

AIR FORCE RESERVE

2/Lt JP Prado
4242 E. Windrose Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85032

VETERANS AFFAIRS CHAPLAINS (3)

Chaplain Charles Card *(courtesy listing)
Department of Veterans Affairs

Pacific Island Health Care System
Spark M. Matsunaga Medical Center
459 Patterson Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-1522
(Office) 808-433-0270
FAX: 808-433-0259
(Home) 808-671-2978
94-680 Lumiauau St., APT H4
Wailpahu, Hawaii 96797
Email:
Office: charles.card@va.gov
Home: cardc001@hawaii.rr.com

**(Charlie is not assigned to the VA but is doing contract ministry with them.)*

LCDR Jack Galle, CHC, USN Ret. (Judy)

DMin

Palliative Care/Hospice Chaplain
VANTHCS
4500 Lancaster Rd.
Dallas, TX 75216
(214) 857-1070
FAX (214) 857-1079
Home:
6972 Sea Harbor Drive
Grand Prairie, TX 75054
Ph: 682-422-3508
Email:jagalle@mac.com

Chaplain Mike Jones

VA Desert Health Care System
Long Beach HCS (125)
5901 E. 7th St.
Long Beach, CA 90822
Office: 562-826-5418
Cell: 714-618-8360
Email: Michael.jones6@VA.Gov

CIVIL AIR PATROL (2)

LTC Bill Cochran

Captain Shawn Keyser

COURTESY LISING:

Dr. Larry Chamberlain

Assistant Endorsing Agent, FGBC

Executive Director, Grace Brethren Investment Foundation
Box 587, Suite 1
Winona Lake, IN 46590
O: 574-267-5161 x 11
H: 765-981-2552
lchamberlain@gbif.com

6151 E. 100 S.
LaFontaine, IN 46940

**There are a total of 21 names on this list that are FGBC Chaplains:
Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard
(15), Chaplain Candidates (3), Civil Air Patrol (2), Veterans Administration (3)., Twelve of these
men are on active duty.**



Dr. Larry N. Chamberlain, President

MEMORANDUM

To: Tom Avey, Robert Fetterhoff, and Fellowship Council
 From: Larry Chamberlain
 Re: Revision to Chaplaincy Policy and Procedure and Recommendation re Appointment of
 Endorsing Agent
 Date: November 28, 2011

It remains a high honor and privilege to provide administrative and subsidized support for the office of the Chaplains Endorsing Agent and the ministry of the Eagle Commission, per the working agreement dated February 7, 2005 (a copy of which is attached), following the restructuring of Grace Brethren North American Missions and Grace Brethren Investment Foundation.

While the attached agreement has worked very well (the original with GBNAM dating back to 1988), we have been made aware recently that GBIF can no longer solicit charitable contributions across state lines without registering under state charitable solicitation regulations, which is a costly venture. Working with legal counsel, however, we have modified the existing agreement to stipulate that solicitations for contributions for the chaplaincy ministry shall be made from the FGBC, which is a church-controlled organization, does not file an annual 990 report, and thereby is exempt from registration obligations, per John Butler, Attorney at Law, Capin Crouse. GBIF, on the other hand, is a self-governing not-for-profit and is required to file an annual 990 report and therefore subject to charitable solicitation registration requirements.

The modified agreement is attached, approved on November 19 by our Board of Directors in Long Beach, CA. We are submitting the modified agreement for your official approval. The letterhead for the Eagle Commission letters will indicate The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches in place of Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, with return envelopes addressed to a PO Box in the name of the FGBC. A separate checking account will be maintained for the deposit of those gifts. Our staff will continue to process the funds and provide periodic reports to the FGBC office. All of those details will be worked out with the Fellowship Coordinator. It is permissible for me to continue to write the monthly letters to the Eagle Commission, as I have done since 1988, so long as I do not sign as President of GBIF, nor is GBIF on the letterhead.

Also at our board meeting this month, we passed a motion to recommend to the Fellowship Council the appointment of Lt Col Mark Penfold, U.S. Army, to succeed Col John Schumacher as the FGBC Endorsing Agent, effective upon John's retirement from this position, probably in late 2013, which is the approximate date of Mark's planned retirement from the Army. I have personally known Mark since his days as Associate Pastor of Winona Lake GBC and throughout his chaplaincy career and recommend him highly for this position. His official bio and picture is attached. We recommend your approval of Mark at the January 2012 meeting of the Fellowship Council.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters . . .

Respectfully, with warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Schumacher".

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE
of the
CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY
FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES
(Amended Draft February 7, 2005)**

Statement of Purpose:

We understand the purpose of chaplain ministry to be the sending of qualified representatives from local churches to minister the Word of God in specialized settings.

Authority:

The Fellowship Council is authorized to name endorsing agents to function on behalf of all our churches. Specialized settings for which endorsing agents will serve include the military chaplaincy, the Veteran's Administration chaplaincy, and the Civil Air Patrol chaplaincy. Upon request, endorsing agents will also serve other settings such as fire, police, hospital, prison, and industrial chaplaincies.

Responsibility:

Endorsing agents shall serve indefinite terms by approval of the Fellowship Council under the sponsoring auspices of Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, Inc., hereafter called the parent organization.

- A. The parent organization will provide support for endorsing agents, and may employ its staff in support of chaplain ministry.
- B. The parent organization is responsible for the development of chaplain ministry. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the enlistment of chaplains, the raising and management of funds, and encouraging the prayerful support of Grace Brethren people.
- C. A "Chaplain Committee" will be formed by the parent organization to provide support for the chaplain ministry. The Committee will report to the Board of Directors of the parent organization, and the Board of Directors will report to the Fellowship Council on matters pertaining to chaplain ministry. The Committee will be composed of Board members from the parent organization. Endorsing agents and designated staff from the parent organization will serve as ex officio members of the Chaplain Committee.

Initial Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to grant initial endorsement for ministry in specialized settings according to procedures established by the Chaplain Committee and approved by the parent organization.

Continuing Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to grant continuing endorsements as he deems appropriate, and as additional endorsements are needed or required.

Withdrawal of Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to withdraw our endorsement for ministry in a specialized setting upon one or more of the following conditions:

- A. The transfer of a chaplain's credentials to another faith group.
- B. Persistent failure of the chaplain to faithfully represent our view of Christian faith and practice as expressed in our Statement of Faith, on condition that:
 - 1. Allegations of such failure are received from the chaplain himself, the chaplain's commander/supervisor, or at least two ministers familiar with the chaplain's life and work.
 - 2. The chaplain is personally notified of allegations of such failure by the Endorsing Agent or his representative.
 - 3. The allegations of such a failure are communicated to the Chaplain Committee to consider the withdrawal of our endorsement.
 - 4. If the Chaplain Committee agrees that the endorsement should be withdrawn, the Endorsing Agent will notify in writing the chaplain and the agency for which he works.
- C. Moral failure, following an investigation and determination by the Endorsing Agent, following the procedure as outlined above (B:1-4).
- D. Repeated failure to respond to requests for ministry updates from the Endorsing Agent.

Statement of Support:

We call upon Grace Brethren Churches in the United States of America to support fully all men called and commissioned to fulfill ministry in our national military services, and we encourage qualified pastors to prayerfully follow God's leading into effective ministry for Christ within the Active and Reserve components of our military services.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE
of the
CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY
FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES
(Amended Draft November 7, 2011)**

(Adopted by the Board of Directors, Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, 11/18/11)

Statement of Purpose:

We understand the purpose of chaplain ministry to be the sending of qualified representatives from local churches to minister the Word of God in specialized settings.

Authority:

The Fellowship Council is authorized to name Endorsing Agents to function on behalf of all our churches. Specialized settings for which Endorsing Agents will serve include the military chaplaincy, the Veteran's Administration chaplaincy, and the Civil Air Patrol chaplaincy. Upon request, Endorsing Agents will also serve other settings such as fire, police, hospital, prison, and industrial chaplaincies.

Responsibility:

Endorsing Agents shall serve indefinite terms by approval of the Fellowship Council and under the administrative support of Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, Inc., hereafter called the Administrative Organization (hereafter, AO).

- A. The AO will provide seconded administrative support for Endorsing Agents, and may employ its staff in support of chaplain ministry.
- B. The AO is responsible for the development of chaplain ministry. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the enlistment of chaplains and encouraging the prayers of Grace Brethren people for chaplains and their families.
- C. Funds raised for the Chaplaincy ministry shall be solicited from the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches and maintained in the name of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches – Chaplaincy Ministry and under the FGBC's tax identification number, separate from the AO's accounts and tax identification number.
- D. A "Chaplaincy Committee" will be formed by the AO to provide accountability and administrative support for the chaplaincy ministry. The Committee will report to the Board of Directors of the AO, and the AO will report to the Fellowship Council on matters pertaining to chaplain ministry. The Committee will be composed of Board members and designated staff from the AO. The Endorsing Agent shall be a member of the Committee.

Initial Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to grant initial endorsement for ministry in specialized settings according to procedures established by the Chaplain Committee and approved by the AO and FGBC.

Continuing Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to grant continuing endorsements as he deems appropriate, and as additional endorsements are needed or required.

Withdrawal of Endorsement:

The Endorsing Agent is authorized to withdraw our endorsement for ministry in a specialized setting upon one or more of the following conditions:

- A. The transfer of a chaplain's credentials to another faith group.
- B. Persistent failure of the chaplain to faithfully represent our view of Christian faith and practice as expressed in our Statement of Faith, on condition that:
 - 1. Allegations of such failure are received from the chaplain himself, the chaplain's commander/supervisor, or at least two ministers familiar with the chaplain's life and work.
 - 2. The chaplain is personally notified of allegations of such failure by the Endorsing Agent or his representative.
 - 3. The allegations of such a failure are communicated to the Chaplain Committee to consider the withdrawal of our endorsement.
 - 4. If the Chaplain Committee agrees that the endorsement should be withdrawn, the Endorsing Agent will notify in writing the chaplain and the agency for which he works.
- C. Moral failure, following an investigation and determination by the Endorsing Agent, following the procedure as outlined above (B:1-4).
- D. Repeated failure to respond to requests for ministry updates from the Endorsing Agent.

Statement of Support:

We call upon Grace Brethren Churches in the United States of America to support fully all men called and commissioned to fulfill ministry in our national military services, and we encourage qualified pastors to prayerfully follow God's leading into effective ministry for Christ within the Active and Reserve components of our military services.

Chaplain (LTC) Mark Penfold

Chaplain Mark Penfold, from Michigan City, Indiana, received his commission as a Chaplain Candidate on 11 November 1986. Upon completion of seminary and the Chaplain Officer Basic Course, he served 8 years in the Army Reserve. His assignments included the 601st MP Battalion, Fort Wayne, IN, the 384th MP Battalion, Fort Wayne and the 2d Battalion, 70th Training Brigade (IT) at Grissom Air Force Base.

He entered active duty as a chaplain in January 1995. His first active duty assignment was with the 2d Battalion, 22d Infantry, in the 10th Mountain Division (L), Ft Drum, NY. After three years at Ft Drum, he was assigned to Germany to the 94th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy), in Vilseck and deployed with the unit to Kosovo during KFOR 1A. He served as brigade chaplain in the 3d Brigade ("Iron Dukes"), 1st Infantry Division (FWD) in Germany from July 2000 to July 2002. He was selected for Advanced Civilian Studies and attended Duke University, completing a Master's degree in Ethics in May 2003. He served from 2003-2007 as Chaplain/Instructor at the U.S. Army Transportation School, Ft Eustis. In July 2007, he was assigned as Brigade Chaplain with the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Camp Taji, Iraq and Ft Hood). Shortly after returning from Iraq, he was assigned to Ft Lee, VA as the Deputy Installation Chaplain with a follow-on assignment as the Deputy Garrison Chaplain for Operations, Plans, and Mobilization Chaplain at Joint Base Langley Eustis, VA. He is currently assigned as the Chief, Training Execution Division, U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Ft Jackson, SC.

Chaplain Penfold holds a Bachelor of Arts from Grace College, Winona Lake Indiana. He also earned both the Master of Divinity degree and Master of Theology degree from Grace Theological Seminary and a Master of Theology degree in Ethics from Duke University. He is currently working on a Doctor of Ministry degree at Columbia International University.

Chaplain Penfold's military education includes the Chaplain Basic and Advanced Courses, Jungle Operations Training Course, NATO Staff Officer Orientation Course, Command and General Staff College, Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Course, Instructor Training Course and the Systems Approach to Training Basic Course, and the TRADOC Training and Education Middle Manager Course.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (w/3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (w/2 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (2), Army Superior Unit Award, Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal (2), Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon and the NATO Medal. Chaplain Penfold was named TRADOC Officer Instructor of the Year in 2004 and he has earned the Air Assault Badge. He is endorsed by the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

He is married to the former Robin Weik also of Michigan City, Indiana. They have two adult sons, John, who completed 6 years active duty in the Army assigned to Ft Bragg and Ft Huachuca and Matthew, who is in his first year of medical school at Debusk College of Osteopathic Medicine on scholarship with the Air Force.



BUSINESS RESOLUTION
(Deposit Accounts Only)

Page: 35
For Bank Use Only
Doc Date: _____
Application: _____
Account Number: _____

(Branch Name/Number)

(Type of Business)

(Name of Business)

(Address)

I, the undersigned, hereby certify to Lake City Bank, that I am the duly elected and acting officer/member of above named "Company" duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of _____, that the following are true copies of resolutions duly adopted by the Company at a meeting duly constituted and held or by consent pursuant to the provisions of its Articles, and filed with the official records of the Company, on _____, and that such resolutions have not since been rescinded or modified.

"Resolved, Lake City Bank is hereby designated as a depository of funds of this Company and that one or more deposit accounts be opened and maintained in the name of this Company with said Bank; that any _____ of the following:

(Use title only; namely President, Vice President, Treasurer, Partner, Member, etc.)

is/are hereby authorized to establish one or more deposit accounts with Lake City Bank and designate the authorized signatories for each such account without the necessity of further authorization of this Company; that the Company shall from time to time deliver to Bank a completely filled out signature card for each such account which shall contain the printed name and specimen signatures of each person or persons authorized, on behalf of this Company, and in its name, to sign checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money from said account(s); and to endorse or cash checks, notes, bills or other instruments in the name of this Company. Endorsements for deposit may be written or stamped without designation of the person making the endorsement; and

"Further Resolved, any _____ of the above-designated officials shall certify to said Bank the names of the present duly elected and qualified officials of the Company hereinabove authorized to so act for it and in its behalf, as well as to provide a signature card with the printed names and specimen signatures of all persons authorized to sign checks, drafts and other orders for the payment of money from each such account, and shall from time to time hereafter, as changes occur in the personnel of said offices, immediately certify such changes to the Bank, and said Bank shall be fully protected in relying on such certifications of a designated official and shall be indemnified and saved harmless from any claims, demands, expenses, loss or damage resulting from or growing out of honoring the signature of any official so certified or refusing to honor any signature not so certified; and

"Further Resolved, that Lake City Bank as a designated depository of this Company is hereby requested, authorized and directed to honor checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money drawn in this Company's name, including those payable to the individual order of any person(s) whose name(s) appear thereon as signer(s) thereof, when bearing or purporting to bear the facsimile signature(s) of any of the authorized signatories and Lake City Bank shall be entitled to honor and to charge to Company for such checks, drafts, or other orders, regardless of by whom or by what means the actual or purported facsimile signature(s) thereon may have been affixed thereto, if such signature(s) thereon may have been affixed thereto, if such signature(s) resemble the facsimile specimens duly certified to or filed with Lake City Bank.

"Further Resolved, the foregoing resolutions and any signature cards accepted in reliance thereon shall remain in full force and effect until written notice of amendment or rescission shall have been received and acknowledged by said Bank, and

"Further Resolved, the signer of this resolution, is authorized and directed to certify to said, Lake City Bank the foregoing authorization and that the provisions thereof are in conformity with the Articles of this Company."

I further certify that there is no provision in the Articles of said Company limiting the power of the Company to adopt the foregoing authorization and the same is in conformity with the provisions of said Articles.

I further certify that the following are the names and offices of the present designated officials/members/partners of said Company:

Office/Member/Partner

Name

I further certify that the Company's taxpayer identification number is

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Company, this .

Authorized Party

Printed Name

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification:

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that: (check appropriate boxes below)

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), AND
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding.
- That I am NOT a resident or a citizen of the United States.
- That a taxpayer identification number has not been issued to me, and that I mailed or delivered an application to receive a Taxpayer I.D. Number to the appropriate Internal Revenue Service Center or Social Security Administration office (or I intend to mail or deliver an application in the near future). I understand that if I do not provide a Taxpayer I.D. Number to the payor within 60 Days, the payor is required to withhold 28 percent of all reportable payments thereafter made to me until I provide a number.

Date

Signature/Title

**Introduction to proposed Declaration of Common Identity
and to changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure.**

January 19, 2012

During the winter of 2009/2010, Jeff Bogue presented the "[Path Forward](#)" which included a proposal to begin a process of revising the FGBC Constitution, Manual of Procedure, and Statement of Faith to executives of our National Ministries, the Fellowship Council and 60 leaders across the FGBC. General support for this idea was unanimous.

In 2011, Bob Fetterhoff asked Keith Shearer, Tom Julien, Jim Custer and Keith Minier to draft a proposed document that would better and more accurately describe the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. This group has drafted a "Declaration of Common Identity" in both a long and a short form. The Structures commission has considered those documents, made a few minor changes and is presenting them to the council.

The structures commission is also recommending changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure. A summary of changes, documents with changes marked, and documents with changes incorporated are provided.

Courtesy copies of the Declaration and the Constitution and Manual of Procedure will be provided to executives of our national ministries in advance of the council meeting.

Declaration of Common Identity

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches

Grace Brethren churches are self-governing bodies of believers voluntarily associated with a family of churches called the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. These churches seek to be faithful to the guiding principle heritage of their founders, whose guiding principle which was to establish churches that were expressions of the New Testament model, both in belief and practice, rather than imitate other church bodies. We intend and desire that our Declaration of Common Identity be applied as an attraction that will draw other believers to identify and cooperate with us and we with them, not as a barrier to repel or divide.

Formatted: Numbering: Continuous

Jesus - His Word: Our Commitment to Biblical Truth

The Bible. All truth emanates from Jesus Christ, the eternal living Word, and is expressed in the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament, which collectively, is the written Word of God, revealed through the Spirit, and is therefore inerrant. (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21).

Comment [T1]: "Guiding principle" is a stronger, more principled statement.

God. God has revealed Himself as [There is] one true God, existing eternally as three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

Comment [T2]: Copied from the longer document on "Biblical Relationships in Partnerships" to better capture the concept of a centered set verses a bounded set.

Creation. Man and woman were created directly by God in His image as fully developed persons. Man was given the responsibility to have dominion over the earth, in obedience to His Creator (Genesis 1:26-27). Angels were created to be ministering spirits for mankind (Hebrews 1:14). One of these powerful angels rebelled against His creator, becoming Satan, provoking the rebellion and spiritual death of man, and becoming the prince of the world (Genesis 3:1-7, Luke 4:5-7).

Comment [T3]: Grammar

Redemption. In order to redeem mankind from eternal separation from God, God's the Son allowed Himself to be born of a virgin and live as a human being (Luke 41:35-37), willingly laying aside the independent expression of His deity (Philippians 2:6-11). He won back what the first man lost, by suffering both physical and spiritual death on the cross, taking upon Himself the sin of mankind, stripping Satan of his authority (Colossians 2:13-15), and opening the gates of paradise to mankind by imputing on them His own righteousness (Luke 23:43, Romans 3:25-26).

Comment [T4]: To more clearly say that the trinity is not only about God's revelation but about his essence.

Church. God is calling out a people for His name throughout the entire world, bringing them together into families of believers called churches (Ephesians 3:10-11). This redeemed race of people called the church was born on the day of Pentecost when believers in Jesus Christ were filled by God the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4), who regenerates, indwells, fills and empowers those who receive eternal salvation as a gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His offering on the cross (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Comment [T5]: To clarify what we are separated from.

The Return of Christ. At the appointed time Jesus Christ will descend to rapture His church (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). They will give account of their lives to Him (2 Corinthians 5:10), and they will be united to Him as His eternal bride (Revelation 19:9). Jesus will return to this earth with His saints and will reign for a thousand years (Revelation 19:11-20:6). After the thousand years the earth with its heavens will be purified, and the saints will live with Him forever (Revelation 21:1-4).

Comment [T6]: To make sure we communicate that redemption comes from faith in Jesus, not knowledge of facts.

Jesus - His Church: Our Commitment to Biblical Relationships

Local churches are spiritual families of believers committed to the Lord and to each other. They are visible expressions of the body of Christ for the purpose of worship, fellowship, edification, and mission. The visible symbols of this commitment and unity are baptism and the Lord's Supper. Grace Brethren churches seek to maintain the original practice of these symbols, baptizing by triune immersion in the name of the Father, of the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19-20), and offering their members the privilege of joyfully experiencing our communion with the Lord and with each other in their full expression: the love feast (1 Corinthians 11:24), feet washing (John 13:12-17), and the bread and cup (1 Corinthians 11:23-25).

Our commitment to biblical relationships is not confined to life within our local churches. As members of the greater body of Christ, Grace Brethren churches seek to be a part of the mainstream of the evangelical movement by manifesting unity with churches of other fellowships faithful to the Scriptures, and as opportunities arise, by uniting with them in joint efforts of evangelism and service.

Jesus - His Mission: Our Commitment to Biblical Mission

A major focus of Grace Brethren churches is missions. In the Great Commission our Lord commands us to make disciples of all nations. This is both the purpose statement and life principle of the church. Because the church is a body of called out ones through God's Spirit, her continued existence is related to her faithfulness in calling others through the gospel. According to Acts 1:8, the mission of the church begins where each church is located and extends to the ends of the earth. Because of this Grace Brethren Churches have been faithful both in seeking to evangelize those who are near, and in sending ambassadors throughout the world to bring people to Christ and establish churches.

The primary mission of the church is to call people to salvation through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. To do this effectively, however, the people of the church are called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. On the positive side, this means that Grace Brethren Churches seek to have active involvement in meeting the social needs of their communities and the world by manifesting Christ's love in seeking to alleviate suffering of all kings/kinds (James 1:27, 2:14-17). On the negative side, Grace Brethren Churches oppose all deviations from the standards of God's Word with respect to social issues related to the sanctity of life, marriage, and the family.

Comment [T7]: To clarify.

Comment [T8]: Not needed and it sets a negative tone.

Formatted: Font: 9 pt

Formatted: Font: 9 pt

Comment [T9]: See comment T7

Formatted: Font: 9 pt

Formatted: Numbering: Continuous

1 |
2
3
4 **OUR DECLARATION OF COMMON IDENTITY (OUTLINE FOR**
5 **EXPANDED FORM)**
6
7

8 **OUTLINE**
9

- 10 I. Jesus – Our Identity in Christ
11
12 II. His Word – Our Identity in Biblical Truth
13
14 A. Biblical Truth in Our Evangelical Core (fundamentals)
15
16 B. Biblical Truth in Our Grace Brethren Heritage
17
18 C. Biblical Truth in Cultural Application
19
20 III. His Church – Our Identity in Biblical Relationships
21
22 A. Biblical Relationships in Principle
23
24 B. Biblical Relationships in Practice
25
26 C. Biblical Relationships in Partnership
27
28
29 IV. His Mission – Our Identity in Biblical Mission
30
31 A. Biblical Mission in Perspective
32
33 B. Biblical Mission in Presence
34
35 C. Biblical Mission in Power
36
37 D. Biblical Mission in Proclamation
38
39 V. Summary of Declarations
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53

54

55 OUR DECLARATION OF COMMON IDENTITY (EXPANDED VERSION)

56

57 | We believers in The-the Lord Jesus Christ associating as The Fellowship of Grace Brethren
 58 | Churches, offer this declaration with the desire of clarifying and promoting our common identity.

59

60

I. Jesus – Our Identity in Christ

61

62 | We declare that Jesus Christ is the only Savior (John 14:6-10, Acts 4:12) and Lord (I
 63 | Corinthians 12:3, Romans 10:9, Philippians 2:9-11). He is the center of our shared
 64 | experiences of true Biblical unity (Romans 15:5-7, Ephesians 4:3-6). Therefore we
 65 | welcome all who share this common center in Jesus Christ to identify with us. Our
 66 | identifying essence, the threefold commitment to Biblical Truth (Colossians 2:2-3)₁,
 67 | Biblical Relationships (First John 4:7-11), and Biblical Mission (Matthew 28:18-20),
 68 | originates in Jesus Christ.

69

II. His Word – Our Identity in Biblical Truth

70

A. Biblical Truth in Our Evangelical Core (fundamentals)

71

72 | We declare our commitment to the core Biblical truths historically shared by genuine
 73 | followers of Jesus Christ ...

74

75 | (1) THE ONE TRUE GOD: There is one, and only one, true God (First Timothy 2:5,
 76 | Deuteronomy 6:4, Isaiah 43:10), Creator and Lord of all that is (Genesis 1:1, John
 77 | 1:3, Colossians 1:16-17). God exists eternally as three Persons, never less and never
 78 | more; The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19, Luke 3:22, II
 79 | Corinthians 13:14).

80

81 | (2) THE BIBLE: The sixty-six books authorized by Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:17-18, Luke
 82 | 24:25-27, John 14:25-26, Luke 10:16), known as the Old and New Testaments, are
 83 | the written Word of God. God's inspiration and superintendence of the writing of
 84 | every word of the Bible (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:20-21) guaranteed that what was
 85 | written is His Word and therefore authoritative, true, and without error (Psalm 19:7-
 86 | 11). God's Word is powerful and effective to accomplish His purpose of salvation
 87 | among all nations (Romans 1:16, Romans 10:8-17, Romans 16:25-27). God's Spirit
 88 | illuminates the minds of believers in every culture to understand, apply, and disclose
 89 | the unchanging truth of Scripture in fresh and relevant ways for the benefit of the
 90 | whole Body of Christ (I Corinthians 2:9-16, Ephesians 1:17-23).

91

92 | (3) THE LORD JESUS CHRIST: Jesus Christ is both fully God (John 1:1-3, Titus 2:13)
 93 | and fully man -(I Timothy 2:5, I John 4:2); eternally God (John 8:58), incarnate (John
 94 | 1:14, I Timothy 3:16) by virgin birth (Matthew 1:18-23, Luke 1:29-35)₁. He fully
 95 | experienced humanity (Luke 2:42, John 19:28, Philippians 2:6-8) but never sinned
 96 | (Hebrews 4:15, I Peter 2:22), shed His blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew
 97 | 26:28, Hebrews 10:19), died a substitutionary death (Romans 5:8, II Corinthians 5:21,
 98 | I Peter 2:24-25), resurrected bodily (Luke 24:36-43, Romans 1:4, I Corinthians 15:3-
 99 | 8), and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9, Hebrews 4:14) where He is presently
 100 | ministering (Ephesians 1:19-23, Hebrews 4:15-16) until He will come again
 101 | personally and visibly (Acts 1:11).

102

103

104

105

- 106 (4) THE HOLY SPIRIT: The Holy Spirit is fully God (Acts 5:3-4) and as such is
107 personal (John 16:7-15). He was involved in Creation (Genesis 1:2) and the
108 inspiration of Scripture (II Peter 1:21). His works of convicting (John 16:8-11) and
109 regenerating (Titus 3:5) are essential to the believer's salvation. His works of
110 indwelling (Romans 8:9), baptizing (I Corinthians 12-13), and sealing (Ephesians
111 1:13-14) occur simultaneously with regeneration and are the possession of every true
112 believer. Believers have the benefit and joy of being filled (Ephesians 5:18) and
113 walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16) for empowerment in Christian life, service, and
114 mission (Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 3:16-21, Acts 1:8).
- 115 |
116 (5) MAN: God directly created Adam and Eve in His own image (Genesis 1:26-28)1.
117 therefore all people are bearers of that image (James 3:9). However, Adam's
118 subsequent sin resulted in a condition of spiritual death (Genesis 3:1-24) which all
119 people have also experienced (Romans 5:12), marring the beauty of God's image in
120 them in every facet of life. This condition of spiritual death (Romans 6:23, Ephesians
121 2:1-3) has rendered all people unable to save themselves (Romans 8:6-8), therefore
122 the new birth (John 1:12-13, John 3: 3-5) is a necessity for salvation.
- 123 |
124 (6) SALVATION: The salvation brought by God is a complete and eternal salvation by
125 His grace alone, received as the gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus
126 Christ and His finished work (Ephesians 2:4-9, Titus 3:5-7, I Peter 1:18-21).
- 127 |
128 (7) CHURCH: The one true Church is the Body and Bride of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23,
129 Ephesians 5:25-32), composed of all true believers of the present age (I Corinthians
130 12:12-13). Believers are to assemble as local churches for worship, mutual
131 edification, proclamation, and worldwide Gospel witness (Acts 2:42-27, Romans
132 15:5-7, Ephesians 4:11-16, Hebrews 10:24-25).
- 133 |
134 (8) CHRISTIAN LIFE: While the believer is justified by faith alone (Romans 4:5), the
135 faith that justifies is expected to produce obedience (Romans 1:5) and good works
136 (James 2:14-17, Titus 3:8) as evidence of its reality. The dimensions of Biblical ethics
137 are both individual and social, and extend to every facet of life (Matthew 22:37-40,
138 Colossians 3:172). God faithfully continues to finish the work of sanctification which
139 He has begun in the life of each believer (Philippians 1:6, Philippians 2:12-13) with
140 the goal of Christ-likeness (Romans 8:29, II Corinthians 3:18).
- 141 |
142 (9) SATAN: Satan exists as a created personal being who is the adversary of God and
143 His people (I Peter 5:8-9, Revelation 12:1-10). Jesus Christ has overcome him (I John
144 3:8) so that Satan's final doom is certain (Romans 16:20, Revelation 20:10).
- 145 |
146 (10) FUTURE LIFE: The Bible affirms the conscious existence of the dead (Luke
147 16:19-31, Philippians 1:21-23), the resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29) the
148 judgment and reward of believers (Romans 14:10-12, I Corinthians 3:12-15, II
149 Corinthians 5:10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Revelation 20:11-
150 15), the eternal life of the saved (John 3:16)3, and the eternal punishment of the lost
151 (Matthews 25:46, Revelation 20:15).
- 152 |
153
154
155
156
157
158

159 B. Biblical Truth in Our Grace Brethren Heritage

160
 161 We declare our appreciation and honor for our Grace Brethren heritage,
 162 demonstrated by our desire to preserve, obey, and promote Biblical truths shared
 163 throughout the history of the Grace Brethren movement.

164
 165 (1) CHURCH: Each local church is autonomous (Philippians 1:1, Hebrews
 166 10:24-25), but cooperating in fellowship and work (Romans 16:3-5, 16).

167
 168 (2) CHRISTIAN LIFE: While we desire to submit to all of the specific
 169 teaching of the New Testament regarding the Christian life, the
 170 following have been highlighted throughout Grace Brethren history: a
 171 life of righteousness, good works, and separation unto God from the evil
 172 ways of the world (Romans 12:1-2, I John 2:15-17), manifested by
 173 speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15, James 5:12), maintaining the
 174 sanctity of marriage and family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4), properly
 175 exercising church discipline (Matthew 18:15-35, I Timothy 5:19-21),
 176 settling differences between Christians in accordance with the Word of
 177 God (I Corinthians 6:1-8), showing a Christ-like attitude and behavior
 178 toward all men (Romans 12:17-21), including non-resistance in the case
 179 of persecution (Matthew 5:10-12, 39-41, 43-44), exhibiting the fruit of
 180 the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), and maintaining a life of prayer
 181 (Ephesians 6:18, Philippians 4:6) including the privilege, when sick, of
 182 calling for the elders of the church to pray and anoint with oil in the
 183 nName of the Lord (James 5:13-18).

184
 185 (3) THE SECURITY OF THE TRUE BELIEVER: Those who genuinely
 186 trust in Jesus Christ immediately receive eternal life (John 6:47) and are
 187 kept eternally secure by the promises and power of God (John 6:37, John
 188 10:27-29, Romans 8:38-39, Philippians 1:6, I Peter 1:3-5).

189
 190 (4) BAPTISM: Christians should obey the command of our Lord Jesus
 191 Christ to be baptized in water (Acts 8:36-38) which is the baptism of
 192 believers by triune immersion (Matthew 28:19).

193
 194 (5) COMMUNION: Christians should obey the command of our Lord Jesus
 195 Christ to visibly symbolize our communion with Him and one another
 196 through participation in a communion service which consists of the
 197 washing of the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), the Lord's Supper (I
 198 Corinthians 1:20-22, 33-34; Jude 12), and the communion of the Bread
 199 and the Cup (Matthew 26:26-28, I Corinthians 11:23-26).

200
 201 (6) ISRAEL: God's promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and
 202 Jacob will be fulfilled (Romans 9:4-5). While Gentile believers are
 203 “grafted in” to the promises to Israel's patriarchs (Romans 11:17-19),
 204 they do not replace Israel in the plan of God (Romans 11:26) since
 205 God's calling of Israel is irrevocable (Romans 11:29).

206
 207 (7) SECOND COMING: Jesus Christ will come in the air to remove His
 208 Church from the earth (I Corinthians 15:51-52, I Thessalonians 4:16-17)
 209 before the seven year period (Daniel 9:27; Revelation 11:2-3, 12:6) of
 210 God's wrath (I Thessalonians 1:10, 4:16-5:9, Revelation 3:10), and
 211 afterward will descend to the earth (Zechariah 14:4, Acts 1:11) with His

212 Church (Romans 8:19, Colossians 3:4, Revelation 19:14) to establish
 213 His millennial Kingdom upon the earth (Revelation 20:1-6).

- 214
- 215 (8) CREATION AND FLOOD: The first eleven chapters of Genesis are
 216 actual, true history. The days of creation week are real days revealed in
 217 Genesis as comprising a genuine historical time-block. Adam and Eve
 218 were real humans, the first two ever, not merely literary symbols nor
 219 vestiges of some pre-Adamic race of beings. The record of the fall of
 220 man and the events leading to the global catastrophic flood is accurate
 221 and the worldwide flood is factually true history.

222 C. Biblical Truth in Cultural Application

223 We declare that believers in every culture are responsible to biblically clarify and address issues
 224 and problems that face society and the Church in their culture. Such current statements currently
 225 needed in North America include . . .

- 226
- 227
- 228 (1) We affirm the sanctity of human life (Genesis 1:26-27, Genesis 9:5-6, Psalm 139:13-
 229 16), and therefore the responsibility to value and protect human life, including that of
 230 the unborn, the weak, and the aged. We, therefore, deny that actions such as abortion,
 231 genocide, active euthanasia, or similar means of harming human life have any ethical
 232 validity according to Scripture.
- 233
- 234 (2) We affirm the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman as ordained by
 235 God (Genesis 2:21-25, Matthew 19:4-9, Ephesians 5:31-33). Therefore, we deny that
 236 marriage constituted in any other way (polygamy, same-sex relationships) has an
 237 ethical validity according to Scripture. We further affirm that sexual activity which
 238 takes place outside of the context of heterosexual marriage between one man and one
 239 woman is sinful, whether it be fornication, adultery, incest, pedophilia,
 240 homosexuality, bestiality, etc. (I Corinthians 6:9-10, 18; I Thessalonians 4:3-8;
 241 Hebrews 13:4).
- 242
- 243 (3) We affirm a “complimentarian” view of the roles of men and
 244 women in the church and home (Genesis 2:18, Ephesians 5:22-33, I Timothy 2:8-15).
 245 We deny that the extreme “subordination” and egalitarian” views sufficiently reflect
 246 Biblical teaching or healthy relationships.
- 247
- 248 (4) We affirm the annual attachments of resolutions by our Social Concerns Committee
 249 as helpful in making cultural applications of Biblical truth.

250 III. His Church – Our Identity in Biblical Relationships

251 A. Biblical Relationships in Principle

252 We declare that the eternal inter-relationship between God tThe Father, God tThe Son,
 253 and God tThe Holy Spirit is the foundational principle of Biblical relationships (Genesis
 254 1:26, John 17:24). Because God is a relational Being, people made in God’s image are
 255 relational beings. The reality that the three Persons of the Trinity are one and yet each
 256 acts with individuality is the teaching of Jesus concerning unity with diversity in His
 257 Church (John 17:21-23, I Corinthians 12:12). According to Jesus, the world will validate
 258 the authenticity of His message and mission (John 17:23), as well as our discipleship
 259 (John 13:34-45) by observing the way His people relate to one another.

265
266
267
268
269

B. Biblical Relationships in Practice

We declare that the New Testament statements that include the phrase “one another” provide a basic description of the practice of Biblical relationships. These are: love one another (John 13:34-35, John 15:12, Romans 12:10, I Thessalonians 3:12, I Thessalonians 4:9, I Peter 1:22, I John 3:11, and 23, I John 4:7 and 11, II John 5), be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50), wash one another’s feet (John 13:14), give preference to one another in honor (Romans 12:10), do not judge one another (Romans 14:3), accept one another (Romans 15:7), admonish one another (Romans 15:14), greet one another with a holy kiss (Romans 16:16, I Corinthians 16:20, II Corinthians 13:12, I Peter 5:14), when you come together to eat, wait for one another (I Corinthians 11:33), have the same care for one another (I Corinthians 12:25), through love serve one another (Galatians 5:13), bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2), show tolerance for one another in love (Ephesians 4:2, Colossians 3:13), be kind to one another (Ephesians 4:32), forgiving each other (Ephesians 4:32, Colossians 3:13), speaking to one another, teaching and admonishing in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16), be subject to one another (Ephesians 5:21, I Peter 5:5), do not lie to one another (Colossians 3:9), comfort one another (I Thessalonians 4:18), build up one another (I Thessalonians 5:11), encourage one another (I Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 3:13, Hebrews 10:25), consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24), confess your sins to one another (James 5:16), pray for one another (James 5:16), as each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another (I Peter 4:10), and be hospitable to one another without complaint (I Peter 4:9).

290 |
291

C. Biblical Relationships in Partnership

292

We declare the value of mutuality in discipleship (John 13:34-35, II Timothy 2:2) and the necessity of cooperation with other believers for the fulfillment of the Great Commission (Philippians 1:3-8, 4:15-18). Each church or organization identified with us has the liberty to constitute itself and enter into cooperative relationships as led by the Holy Spirit under the Lordship of Jesus Christ (see section I. of this DECLARATION). We intend and desire that ~~our~~this Declaration of Common Identity be applied as an attraction that will draw other believers to identify and cooperate with us and we with them, not as a barrier to repel or divide. We do affirm that Biblical wisdom and purity require us to maintain distinctions that protect us from the evil of the world (Romans 12:2, II Corinthians 6:14-18) as well as harm and division ~~form~~from within (Acts 20:28-31, Romans 16:17-20, Jude 4:24).

305

IV. His Mission – Our Identity in Biblical Mission

307

A. Biblical Mission in Perspective

308

We declare that God, the Bible, and the Church are essentially missionary by nature. God the Father is a missionary-sending Father, sending His Son to be the Savior of the world (I John 3:9-10). God the Son came as a missionary into the world to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), and ~~sending~~sent His disciples as He Himself was sent (John 20:21). God the Holy Spirit empowers the Church for mission (Luke 24:46-49, Acts 1:8). The Bible communicates God’s desire that His glory be declared among all the nations (I Chronicles 16:24, Psalm 96:3) from which He is calling His people as His Own possession (I Peter 2:9, Revelation 5:9). The Church has the Great Commission as her

310

311

312

313 |

314

315

316

317

318 | motivation principles motivating principle (Matthew 28:18-20), with her focus on
 319 reaching the unreached and least-reached.

320 B. Biblical Mission in Presence

323 We declare that the presence of God's people as salt and light in the world is essential to
 324 Biblical mission (Matthew 5:13-16, James 2:18, I John 3:16-18). We affirm our
 325 agreement with the Charis Commitment to Common Mission, including its commitment
 326 to integrated ministries², stressing the impact of the Gospel upon the whole person and the
 327 whole Creation (Colossians 1:18-23).

328 C. Biblical Mission in Power

331 We declare that Jesus Christ, His Spirit, and His Gospel are powerful to accomplish His
 332 mission (John 14:12-14, John 15:4-5, Acts 1:8, Romans 1:16). We gratefully
 333 acknowledge His power in us (II Peter 1:3), and our complete dependence upon Him.

334 D. Biblical Mission in Proclamation

337 We declare the absolute necessity of the proclamation of the Gospel in both word and
 338 deed (Mark 16:15, Romans 1:16, Romans 10:14-17, I Corinthians 15:1-5, I
 339 Thessalonians 1:5-8).

V. Summary of Declaration

We declare:

- 346 1. that Jesus Christ is the only Savior and Lord.
- 347 2. our submission to the Bible, the Word of God, seeking to understand it according to its
 348 own intent, as it was written.
- 351 3. our commitment to the core Biblical truths historically shared by genuine Followers of
 352 Jesus Christ.
- 354 4. our appreciation and honor for our Grace Brethren heritage, demonstrated by our desire
 355 to preserve and promote Biblical truths shared throughout the history of the Grace
 356 Brethren movement.
- 358 5. that believers in every culture are responsible to biblically clarify and address issues and
 359 problems that face society and the Church in their culture.
- 361 6. that the eternal inter-relationship between God t²The Father, God t²The Son, and God the
 362 Holy Spirit is the foundational principle of Biblical relationships.
- 364 7. that the New Testament statements that include the phrase "one another" provide a basic
 365 description of the practice of Biblical relationships.
- 367 8. the value of mutuality in discipleship and the necessity of cooperation with other
 368 believers for the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- 370 9. that God, the Bible, and the Church are essentially missionary in nature.

371
372 10. that the presence of God's people as salt and light in the world is essential to Biblical
373 mission.

374
375 11. that Jesus Christ, His Spirit, and His Gospel are powerful to accomplish His mission.
376

377 12. the absolute necessity of the proclamation of the Gospel in both word and deed.
378

379

380

381

382

383

384

385

386

387

388

389

390

Recommendations for changes to the FGBC Constitution and Manual of Procedure

December 15, 2011

1) Background:

The Fellowship Council is considering changes to the Constitution and Manual of procedure to more effectively fulfill the purpose of the FGBC and the covenant we agree to:

- i) Purpose: The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches exists to encourage and enable member churches in equipping and uniting the saints in fulfilling the Great Commission.
- ii) Covenant: The sovereign congregations which are members of this corporation are united in accepting the Holy Scriptures as the sole guide and authority in all matters of faith, doctrine and practice.

These changes are being considered by the Structures Commission of the Fellowship Council and will be considered at the January 2012 Fellowship Council meeting. Recommended changes from the Council will be considered by delegates at the annual conference of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren churches.

2) Recommended Changes Categorized:

a) Statement of Faith

- i) Remove wording that required uniform statement of faiths in member churches. (see C.III.two)
- ii) Remove the special procedure for amending the Statement of Faith. (see C.XII.one and C.XII.two)
- iii) Dated the Statement of Faith. (see C.III.Two)

b) Membership Requirements

- i) Change "subscribe" to "agree to live harmoniously" (see C.IV.One.1)
- ii) Added the "Declaration of Common Identity" as option for agreement.
- iii) Add requirement that churches pursue the purpose of the FGBC (see C.IV.One.2)
- iv) Remove requirement that churches use "Grace Brethren" in their name or "otherwise indicate clearly its affiliation." (see C.IV.One)
- v) Remove the special membership requirement related to baptism and communion (see C.IV.One)
- vi) Clarified basis for dismissal (see C.IV.One.6)

c) Fellowship Council

- i) Council Members must subscribe to the Statement of Faith or Declaration of Common Identity (see C.VI.Three)

d) Moderator and Vice Moderator

- i) "Moderator" becomes "Executive Director" (multiple locations)
- ii) "Vice Moderator" becomes "Assistant Director" (multiple locations)
- iii) Role as moderator of business meeting – (see M.IV.One.1.c)
- iv) Remove the requirement for a vice moderator's address – (see M.IV.One.2.d)

e) Document organization

- i) Move the following sections from the Constitution to the Manual of Procedure
 - (1) Cooperating Districts
 - (2) National Ministries
 - (3) Cooperating Ministries
 - (4) Miscellaneous

f) National and Cooperating Ministries

- i) Change rules for removal of a National Ministry to a majority vote (see M.VII.One.4.)
- ii) Specify one way to meet qualification "controlled by members of FGBC churches" (see M.VI.Two.1.b.)
- iii) Add requirement that a cooperating ministry shows qualification every five years (see M.7.Two.4.)

g) Districts

- i) Section for Districts is included with National and Cooperating Ministries. (see M.V.Three)
- ii) Remove requirement that cooperating districts only have FGBC member churches
- iii) "Northwest" district becomes "Pacific-Northwest" (see M.V.Two.3)
- iv) "Southern Ohio" district becomes "Tri-States" (see M.V.Two.3)

h) General

- i) Remove reference to GBNAM (see M.I.One.1.)
- ii) Made various clarifications and removed redundancies
- iii) Capitalization of Fellowship Council, Secretary, and Treasurer throughout
- iv) Remove notification to all churches by mail of a Fellowship Council meeting – (see M.III.Four)

1 **CONSTITUTION AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE FOR THE FELLOWSHIP**
 2 **OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, INC.**

3
 4 **CONSTITUTION**

5
 6 **ARTICLE I**
 7 **OFFICES**

8 The principal office of the corporation shall be located at Winona Lake, Indiana. The corporation may
 9 have other offices as its business may require.

10
 11 **ARTICLE II**
 12 **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

13 The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches exists to encourage and enable member churches in
 14 equipping and uniting the saints in fulfilling the Great Commission.

15
 16 **ARTICLE III**
 17 **COVENANT AND STATEMENT OF FAITH**

18 Section One. Covenant. The sovereign congregations which are members of this corporation are
 19 united in accepting the Holy Scriptures as the sole guide and authority in all matters of faith, doctrine and
 20 practice.

21
 22 Section Two. Statement of Faith. The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches has a corporate
 23 commitment to a basic body of beliefs founded on God's revealed truth. **This** Statement of Faith is the
 24 **current 1969** expression of a never ending effort to clarify an understanding of the primary doctrines we
 25 accept.

26 It is the understanding of this Fellowship that, although individual Grace Brethren Churches remain
 27 distinct, autonomous legal entities, congregational church government relates alone to the incidental affairs
 28 of the local congregation and not to **doctrinal practices or tenets** which must be general or universal -- the
 29 same in all congregations. **The basic doctrines of one congregation shall be the same as the basic doctrines**
 30 **in every other.**

31 Accordingly, the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., believing the Bible, the whole Bible,
 32 and nothing but the Bible to be the infallible rule of faith and of practice and feeling the responsibility to
 33 make known the divine message of the Bible, presents the following articles as a statement of those basic
 34 truths taught in the Bible which are common to our Christian faith and practice.

Comment [DET1]: We seem to have few vital structures in place to make this paragraph a reality. Saying it should be without a plan seems to actually prevent productive discussion. How can we discuss possible differences or changes when we are required to be the same. I recommend deleting this entire paragraph so the "never-ending effort to clarify" is not separated from the current statement of our common beliefs.

- 35 1. **THE BIBLE.** The Word of God, the sixty-six Books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally
 inspired in all parts, and therefore wholly without error as originally given of God (2 Tim. 3:16; 2
 Peter 1:21).
- 36 2. **THE ONE TRUE GOD.** Existing eternally as three persons -the Father, the Son, and the Holy
 Spirit (Luke 3:22; Matthew 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).
- 37 3. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.** His preexistence and deity (John 1:1-3), incarnation by virgin birth
 (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18-23), sinless life (Heb. 4:15), substitutionary death (2 Cor. 5:21), bodily
 resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), ascension into heaven and present ministry (Heb. 4:14-16), and
 coming again (Acts 1:11).
- 38 4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** His personality (John 16:7-15), and deity (Acts 5:3-4), and His work in each
 believer: baptism and in-dwelling at the moment of regeneration (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 8:9), and
 filling (Eph. 5:18) to empower for Christian life and service (Eph. 3:16; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22-23).
- 39 5. **MAN.** His direct creation in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-28), his subsequent fall into sin
 resulting in spiritual death (Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 5:12), and the necessity of the new birth for his
 salvation (John 3:3-5).
- 40 6. **SALVATION.** A complete and eternal salvation by God's grace alone received as the gift of God
 through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; 1
 Peter 1:18-19).
- 41 7. **THE CHURCH.** One true church, the body and the bride of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-32),
 composed of all true believers of the present age (1 Cor. 12:12-13); and the organization of its

- 56 members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for world-wide gospel
 57 witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (Eph.
 58 4:11-16).
- 59 8. CHRISTIAN LIFE. A life of righteousness, good works and separation unto God from the evil
 60 ways of the world (Rom. 12:1-2), manifested by speaking the truth (James 5:12), maintaining the
 61 sanctity of the home (Eph. 5:22-6:4), settling differences between Christians in accordance with
 62 the Word of God (1 Cor. 6:1-8), not engaging in carnal strife but showing a Christ-like attitude
 63 toward all men (Rom. 12:17-21), exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), and maintaining a
 64 life of prayer (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6), including the privilege, when sick, of calling for the elders of
 65 the church to pray and to anoint with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:13-18).
- 66 9. ORDINANCES. The Christians should observe the ordinances of our Lord Jesus Christ which are
 67 (1)baptism of believers by triune immersion (Matt. 28:19) and (2)the threefold communion
 68 service, consisting of the washing of the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), the Lord's Supper (1 Cor.
 69 11:20-22, 33-34; Jude 12), and the communion of the bread and the cup (1 Cor. 11:23-26).
- 70 10. SATAN. His existence and personality as the great adversary of God and His people (Rev.
 71 12:1-10), his judgment (John 12:31), and final doom (Rev. 20:10).
- 72 11. SECOND COMING. The personal, visible, and imminent return of Christ to remove His church
 73 from the earth (1 Thess. 4:16-17) before the tribulation (1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 3:10), and afterward
 74 to descend with the Church to establish His millennial kingdom upon the earth (Rev. 19:11-20:6).
- 75 12. FUTURE LIFE. The conscious existence of the dead (Phil. 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), the
 76 resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgment and reward of believers (Rom. 14:10-12; 2
 77 Cor. 5:10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Rev. 20:11-15), the eternal life of the
 78 saved (John 3:16), and the eternal punishment of the lost (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15).
- 79

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

80 Section One. Requirements. Any congregation of believers desiring membership in the Fellowship of
 81 Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., shall meet the following conditions:

- 82 1. It shall agree to live harmoniously under subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith as
83 stated in Article III of this Constitution or the Declaration of Common Identity as stated in Article
84 III of this Constitution.
- 85 4.2. It shall actively pursue the purpose of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches in Article II
- 86 2.3. It shall have a basic organization consisting of elder(s) and deacon(s), or similar responsible
 87 officers.
- 88 3. It shall include the words "Grace Brethren" in its name or otherwise indicate clearly its affiliation
89 with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.
- 90 4. In the performance of the ordinances it shall practice baptism by triune immersion only and
91 threefold communion, consisting of feetwashing, the love feast and the bread and cup, the threefold
92 communion service only.
- 93 5.4. Requirements and responsibilities for membership by the several local churches shall be
 94 established by each church and shall not determine the church's membership in the Fellowship.
- 95 5. No church shall be denied membership in the corporation because of failure to support any or all
 96 institutions, ministries, or boards, either district, national, or cooperating recognized by the
 97 Fellowship.
- 98 6. Failure to comply with these membership requirements may subject the offending church to
99 dismissal. Only failure to comply with membership obligations as stated in Article II, Section
100 Three, points #2, 3, and 5 of the Manual of Procedure may subject the offending church to
101 dismissal.

Comment [DET2]: Clarification of what "subscribe" means

Comment [T3]: Adds an option for agreement.

Comment [DET4]: This is reason for membership and serves to curb attacking and divisive behavior.

Comment [T5]: This is hard to require in today's culture.

Comment [DET6]: The "only"s don't allow the very exceptions we have allowed for decades: hospital bed baptisms, feetwashing or fellowship meals apart from eucharist, and eucharist during special worship services.

Comment [DET7]: Cleaner to keep membership discussion in Constitution, not pointing to Manual.

102 Section Two. Voting Rights. Each member church shall be entitled to be represented at any meeting of
 103 the corporation through delegate(s) of its choosing.

- 110 1. Each member church shall be entitled to at least two delegates as specified in the Manual of
 111 Procedure. Additional delegates are designated as stated in Article II, Section Three, Point A of
 112 the Manual of Procedure.
- 113 2. Only persons who are members of the Grace Brethren Church they represent shall be seated as
 114 delegates to any meeting of the corporation. Representation at National Conference is based on the
 115 average attendance at the largest regular gathering of the local church.
- 116 3. Each member church shall be entitled to one vote per delegate on each matter submitted to a vote
 117 at any meeting of the corporation. (Exception: delegates from churches which receive members
 118 without triune immersion may not vote on any matter involving the subject of water baptism in
 119 relation to church membership. This limitation does not apply to medical exceptions.)

Comment [T8]: Simpler and more clear.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section One. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of members shall be held at the time and place recommended by the Fellowship Council and approved at a previous annual meeting of members. This annual meeting is referred to in this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure as "the annual meeting of the corporation" and "conference."

Section Two. Special Meetings. Special meetings of members may be called by the Fellowship Council for emergency needs at any time and place designated by it. Member churches shall be represented at any special meeting by the delegates who represented them at the last annual meeting or duly certified alternates.

Section Three. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at any meeting of the corporation.

Section Four. Delegates. The following shall be seated as delegates to any meeting of the corporation:

1. Officers. Officers of the corporation shall be delegates *ex-officio with voting privileges*.
2. Delegates shall be seated provided that the delegates meet the qualifications of Article IV, Section Two, points #1 and 2.

ARTICLE VI

FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Section One. General Powers. The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its board of directors which shall be known as the Fellowship Council.

Section Two. Number and Term. The number of members of the Fellowship Council shall be seventeen. Fifteen members shall be elected by the corporation, and each of the fifteen shall be elected and serve a term of five years. The fifteen elected members shall represent the three geographic regions of the United States described in Article V, Section Two, point #3 of the Manual of Procedure with five members to serve from each region. Only one member of any single church or two representatives from any single district shall serve on the Council at any one time, not including *ex-officio* members of the Council.

The remaining two members of the Fellowship Council shall be the Executive Director moderator and the vice moderator Assistant Director. They The moderator and vice moderator shall serve a one, two or three-year term to which they are elected as moderator Executive Director and vice moderator Assistant Director. Council members will begin their terms at the conclusion of the conference at which they are elected with the exception of the moderator Executive Director and vice moderator Assistant Director who shall begin their term one year following the conference at which they are elected.

Comment [DET9]: Capitalizations of fellowship council, council, secretary, treasurer, and the like have been adjusted throughout without notice.

Comment [DET10]: redundant

Comment [DET11]: Moderator has responsibility of CEO already (see Manual of Procedure) and Executive Director is a more understandable term to all those outside the Fellowship. Ditto for Assistant Director.

Section Three. Qualifications. All nominees for Council membership must be triune-immersed members in good standing of congregations who are members of affiliated with the FGBC of a member church recognized by the corporation. They must be men who have met the spiritual qualifications for an elder as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9. All nominees shall subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith or Declaration of Common Identity as stated in Article III of this Constitution. They

Comment [DET12]: Clearer than "recognized"

Comment [DET13]: Beliefs of Council members are important, more so than regular members.

166 must have given their consent to nomination and service. Members of the Council may not serve
 167 consecutive terms but may be re-elected after two years absence from the Council. This restriction shall
 168 not apply to members serving fewer than three years or to *ex-officio* members of the Council.

169 Section Four. Election.

- 170 1. Members of the Council shall be elected by majority affirmative vote of the delegates present,
 171 entitled to vote, and voting at the Conference from a ballot presented by the Nominating
 172 Committee. In the event that no nominee receives a majority affirmative vote, there shall be an
 173 additional ballot presented with the two nominees who have received the highest number of votes.
 174 2. Voting for nominees from each of the three regions shall be restricted to delegates from the
 175 churches in those regions.
 176 3. Nominees elected to the Council shall be the one from each region receiving the majority
 177 affirmative vote of the delegates representing those regions present, entitled to vote, and voting.

178 **ARTICLE VII**
 179 OFFICERS

180 Section One. Officers. The officers of the corporation shall be ~~a moderator~~ the Executive Director,
 181 ~~vice moderator~~ Assistant Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. The ~~moderator~~ Executive Director shall serve
 182 as chairman of the Fellowship Council, and the vice ~~moderator~~ Assistant Director as vice-chairman of the
 183 same body.

184 Section Two. Election. The ~~moderator~~ Executive Director and ~~vice moderator~~ Assistant Director shall
 185 be elected together on a single ballot question to a one, two, or three year term by majority affirmative vote
 186 of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at the annual meeting of the corporation one year prior
 187 to the beginning of their term.
 188 The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually by majority vote of the Fellowship Council at its
 189 annual meeting. These elections shall be ratified by the corporation at the annual meeting immediately
 190 following the election.

191 Section Three. Term. The ~~moderator~~ Executive Director and ~~vice moderator~~ Assistant Director will be
 192 installed at the conclusion of the conference one year after they are elected and will serve for ~~three~~
 193 conference years their elected term or until their successors are elected or appointed and installed. The
 194 Secretary and Treasurer will be installed at the conclusion of the conference at which they are elected and
 195 will serve for one conference year or until their successors are elected or appointed and installed.

Comment [DET14]: Correction, could be one, two, or three conference years

201 Section Four. Responsibilities and Duties. The officers shall have the powers and discharge the duties
 202 customarily and usually held and performed by like officers in similar corporations, including, but not
 203 limited to those outlined in the Manual of Procedure.

204 **ARTICLE VIII**
 205 COMMITTEES

206 Section One. Committees. The Fellowship Council, by resolution of a majority of the Council
 207 members, may designate one or more committees or persons to exercise the authority of the Fellowship
 208 Council to the extent provided in the resolution. The resolution shall include a termination date for the
 209 committee's service which may be extended only by specific action of the Fellowship Council or the
 210 Conference.

211 Section Two. Nominating Committee.

- 212 1. A nominating committee of six members shall be elected annually by the conference from
 213 nominees suggested by the Fellowship Council. All nominees shall be members in good standing
 214 of congregations ~~that are members or affiliated with~~ the FGBC and have agreed to nomination and
 215 service. Additional nominations from the floor may be accepted.
 216 2. The chair shall be selected by the Fellowship Council from among the elected committee
 217 members.

Comment [T15]: Affiliation is not well defined.

222
223 Section Three. Parliamentary Committee.

- 224
225 1. A parliamentary committee of three members shall be named by the Fellowship Council prior to
226 the conference.
227 2. It shall be the duty of this committee to interpret this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure
228 whenever questions concerning them shall arise and to assist the presiding officer in questions of
229 procedure and in the orderly conduct of the business sessions of the conference.

230 **ARTICLE IX**

231 **COOPERATING DISTRICTS**

232 **ARTICLE X**

233 **Section One. NATIONAL MINISTRIES**

234 **Section Two: COOPERATING MINISTRIES**

235 **ARTICLE XI**

236 **MISCELLANEOUS**

237 **Section One. Continuing Resolutions.**

238 **Section Two. Conference Year**

239 **Section Three. Affiliations**

Comment [DET16]: Moved this Article to Manual of Procedures and combined in same Article with National Ministries and Cooperating Ministries

Comment [DET17]: Moved this entire Article to Manual of Procedures

Comment [DET18]: Moved entire Article to Manual of Procedures

240 **ARTICLE XII**
241 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

242 Section One. Amendments ~~in General~~. This Constitution may be altered or repealed at any annual or
243 special meeting of the corporation by two-thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled
244 to vote, and voting at said meeting, provided that the proposed amendment had been presented to the
245 delegates at a previous business session of the conference and to the Fellowship Council for study and
246 recommendation. ~~Provided further, that the Statement of Faith set forth in Section Two of Article III may
247 be amended only by the procedure outlined in Section Two of this Article.~~

248 ~~Section Two. Amendment of Statement of Faith. The Statement of Faith set forth in Section Two of
249 Article III may be amended only through the following procedure:~~

Comment [DET19]: Removed separate procedure for Statement of Faith. It is meaningless to have provisions in a Constitution harder to change than the Constitution itself. Plus it signals that we don't really believe the Statement of Faith should ever be adjusted.

- 250 1. Any delegate wishing to see the Statement of Faith amended must present a written copy of the
251 proposed amendment to the secretary of the conference in a previous session of the conference
252 before the proposal is presented in the form of a motion. The conference shall have the right to
253 request that printed copies of the proposal be provided for the delegates before further action is
254 taken.
255 2. If an amendment is sustained by a two thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present,
256 entitled to vote, and voting in favor of the proposed amendment to the Statement of Faith, the
257 proposal shall then be sent by the secretary to all churches which have been approved as member
258 churches in that year's conference.
259 3. Each local church receiving a copy of the proposed amendment shall vote on the proposal within
260 twenty three months.
261 4. Before the call to order of the first business session in the second year following the offering of the
262 amendment, each church receiving a copy of the proposed amendment to the Statement of Faith
263 shall have submitted one vote per church to the secretary.
264 5. At least two thirds of the churches responding must favor the proposed amendment before a
265 second reading of the amendment is permitted, thereby allowing the conference delegates to place
266 on the floor a properly supported motion calling for the adoption of the amendment to the
267 Statement of Faith. A two thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to
268

277 | ~~vote, and voting shall be required to sustain the motion, thereby incorporating the amendment into~~
 278 | ~~the Statement of Faith.~~

283 | **MANUAL OF PROCEDURE**

284 | Adopted by Conference - July 1997

286 | **ARTICLE I** 287 | **MEMBERSHIP**

288 | **Section One. Procedure.**

- 290 | 1. Application for membership shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Fellowship
291 | Council accompanied by evidence of compliance with the conditions set forth in Section One,
292 | Article IV of the Constitution. Applications must be received before the first day of January 1st
293 | preceding the annual meeting of the corporation. The Fellowship Council may extend this
294 | deadline up to two months before the annual meeting if there is a written request for the extension
295 | from Grace Brethren North American Missions a national ministry, a cooperating ministry, a
296 | cooperating district, or a sponsoring church that is already a member of the FGBC, or a District
297 | Missions board.
- 298 | 2. The Fellowship Council will publish the names and locations of churches who are applying for
299 | membership at least one month in advance of the next annual meeting of the corporation.
- 300 | 3. A check for membership fees shall accompany the application.
- 301 | 4. The Fellowship Council (see Article III, Section One, point # 3 of this Manual of Procedure) shall
302 | recommend the appropriate action to be taken regarding the application at the next annual meeting
303 | of the corporation.
- 304 | 5. Upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, a congregation may be received by majority
305 | affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at the annual meeting of the
306 | corporation.

307 | **Comment [DET20]: Better English**

308 | **Comment [DET21]: Better to refer to groups**
309 | **defined in other sections of the Constitution and**
310 | **Manual of Procedures.**

311 | **Comment [DET22]: Unnecessary, redundant**

312 | **Section Two. Termination of Membership.** Should a member church fail to adhere to the requirements
313 | of Article IV, Section One of the Constitution at anytime or fail to submit statistical reports or pay
314 | membership fees for a period of three successive years, it shall be subject to dismissal from the Fellowship
315 | in the following manner:

- 316 | 1. Upon report of such failure, the Fellowship Council shall investigate the report and determine the
317 | validity of the charge. It shall be the intent of the Council to offer assistance to the offending
318 | church to enable it to comply with its membership obligations.
- 319 | 2. Upon satisfactory resolution of the problem, a report of the church's compliance shall be entered
320 | into the records of the Fellowship Council and may be announced to the Corporation at the
321 | discretion of the Council.
- 322 | 3. If no satisfactory resolution of the problem is agreed upon, the finding of the Fellowship Council
323 | shall be reported to the next annual meeting of the Corporation.
- 324 | 3. Upon the recommendation of the Fellowship Council the offending church shall be dismissed from
325 | the Fellowship by majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at
326 | the annual meeting of the corporation.

327 | **Section Three: Procedure for the Re-Instatement of Dismissed Churches.** Should a church that was
328 | previously dismissed from the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches desire to become a member again of
329 | the FGBC, the following procedures should be followed:

- 330 | 1. The Church seeking re-instatement should comply with all of the procedures for membership as
331 | outlined in Section 1 of the Manual of Procedure this Article.

332 | **Comment [DET23]: Clearer**

2. The only additional requirement of a church to be re-instated is that along with the application for membership there must be a written statement signed by at least three local church leaders/members that:
 - a. Describe the resolution to any past issues that lead to the dismissal.
 - b. Explain the church's reasons to become faithful members again with the FGBC.

ARTICLE II

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section One. Place of Meeting. The Fellowship Council may designate any place within or without the State of Indiana as the place of the annual meeting or any special meeting.

Section Two. Notice of Meetings. Written or printed notice stating the time and place of the meeting shall be given by the Secretary of the Fellowship Council to each member church at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The notice of any special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Section Three. Delegates. In order to seat delegates, each church must meet the following requirements.

1. The appropriate credential form must be filed with the Fellowship Coordinator by the date specified.
 2. The assigned membership fees, assessed by the previous annual meeting of members, shall be received by the Fellowship Coordinator by the date specified.
 3. The annual statistical report shall be submitted and received by the date specified.
 4. Delegates whose churches fail to meet these requirements shall be seated only upon a two-thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at any meeting based upon extenuating circumstances deemed worthy of exception.
 5. Member churches are expected to assume definite financial responsibility - pay membership fees whether or not they send delegates to any meeting of the corporation, and the treasurer is directed to notify delinquent members of this responsibility.
 6. Each member church shall be entitled to at least two delegates. Additional delegates are based on the average attendance at the largest regular gathering of the member church according to the following schedule:

Average Attendance	Number of delegates
0-50	2
51-100	3
101-200	5
201-300	10
301-500	20
501-1000	25
1001-2000	30
2001+	35

Section Four. Transaction of Business. The agenda for the opening session of the conference shall include the report of the Membership Committee, presentation of new churches for membership, approval of an agenda for the business sessions, and the election of officers for the next conference year. Additional reports of the Membership Committee shall be made only at the beginning of each session's business. The agenda of any special meeting shall be an early order of business at the first session.

Any member of a member church, not a delegate, shall have all privileges of a delegate, except that he shall not be allowed to make a motion or to vote upon any question. Persons desiring to speak in the conference must first address the Moderator and be recognized. No person shall speak upon the same question more than twice until others have had ample opportunity to speak. Debate shall be limited to ten

FGBC Constitution and Bylaws with possible amendments to be discussed by Structures Committee 12/2011.

377 minutes per speech. Standard rules of order, such as Robert's, shall be followed in all points not
 378 specifically provided for herein.

379
 380 Section Five. Dissent. In the event that divisive issues threaten to disrupt business sessions and subvert
 381 the purposes of the Conference, the ~~Moderator~~Executive Director shall:

- 383 1. Stop all further debate on the issue for that business session.
- 384 2. Call for a meeting of the Fellowship Council to be held before the next business session to
 385 formulate a recommendation on further procedures concerning this issue.
- 386 3. Present this recommendation as the first item of business at the next business session.
- 387 4. Call for an immediate vote on the recommendation of the Fellowship Council without further
 388 debate. Should a recommendation to stop debate fail to pass, debate shall resume.

390
ARTICLE III
 391 FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

393 Section One. Responsibilities. Specific duties of the Council include, but are not limited to, the
 394 following:

- 396 1. It shall be the duty of the Council to make full and complete arrangements for the conference (and
 397 any special meetings), including the preparation of the proposed agenda. The Council shall
 398 consult recognized National Ministries in its conference planning and may invite representatives of
 399 National and Cooperating Ministries to its planning sessions. (Expenses for these representatives
 400 shall be borne by their respective ministries.)
- 401 2. The Council shall select the time and place for the conference and shall report its plans to the
 402 conference at least two years in advance.
- 403 3. The Council shall receive and evaluate applications from churches seeking membership in the
 404 corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.
- 405 4. The Council shall investigate reports concerning a member church's failure to adhere to the
 406 requirements for membership in the corporation, determine the validity of the charges, and
 407 recommend the appropriate action to be taken, if any, by the conference.
- 408 5. The Council shall convene any special meetings of the Fellowship for emergency purposes.
- 409 6. The Council shall receive and evaluate applications for recognition from prospective districts of
 410 churches and recommend the appropriate action, if any, to be taken by the conference.
- 411 7. The Council shall receive and evaluate the requests of groups desiring recognition as national or
 412 cooperating ministries of the corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the
 413 conference.
- 414 8. The Council shall serve as the finance committee for the Fellowship, reporting to the conference
 415 the financial condition of the corporation and proposing an annual budget for the conference's
 416 approval.
- 417 9. At each annual meeting of the corporation, the Council shall report on its own activity, its plans,
 418 and recommendations for progress in the Fellowship. It shall alert the conference to potential
 419 problems, areas of concern, opportunities for ministry, etc., and shall recommend appropriate
 420 action with regard to these matters. Such suggestions may be conveyed to the conference, in
 421 consultation with the ~~moderator~~Executive Director, through his annual address.
- 422 10. The Council shall name the endorsing agents of the Fellowship for the military chaplaincy.
- 423 11. The Council may serve as an advisory board to ~~the Fellowship~~, its member churches, recognized
 424 districts, national and cooperating ministries, and other bodies who seek its counsel with no
 425 authority other than to offer counsel to these bodies.
- 426 12. Each elected member of the Council shall be responsible to communicate with one or more
 427 districts in his region as determined by the Council.
- 428 13. The Council shall be responsible for the soliciting and the receiving of statistical reports. It shall
 429 report significant statistical information at the annual meeting of the corporation.
- 430 14. When the ~~moderator~~Executive Director stops debate on a divisive issue at a business session of
 431 the conference, the Council shall meet to make a recommendation to the next business session. It

Comment [DET25]: Should not include Fellowship in this list, since Council does have authority in the FGBC, with much more than just a counseling role.

shall include in this recommendation: 1) whether or not to invoke a moratorium and, 2) if a moratorium is recommended, it shall also recommend procedures for conflict resolution.

15. The Fellowship Council and Nominating Committee shall make reasonable effort to include qualified laity in leadership positions in the Fellowship.
 16. The Fellowship Council shall present a name for ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director to the conference one year prior to the expiration of the current term for affirmation by the delegates. That ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director shall select ~~a Vice Moderator~~ an Assistant Director, that is approved by the Fellowship Council to be affirmed by the delegates on a single question ballot for a one, two or three year term.
 16. Contracts shall be established for employees of the Fellowship Council. Each employee shall be subject to periodic review.
 17. The Fellowship Council may consult National and Cooperating ministries in the development and implementation of strategic plans as appropriate to the mission of the FGBC, Inc.

Section Two. Meetings. The Council will hold an annual meeting just prior to the conference at the place designated for the annual meeting of the corporation. A mid-year meeting of the Council will be held approximately six months after each annual meeting of the corporation at a time and place specified by the Council. The mid-year meeting shall not be held if there is insufficient business to merit the expense and time. Other special meetings of the Council may be called by the chairman in consultation with the other Council members.

Section Three. Board Decisions. All actions of the Council must be sustained by a majority vote of the Council membership (nine or more affirmative votes).

Section Four. Notice. Notice of any meeting of the Fellowship Council must be given to each member of the Council ~~and all member churches~~ at least thirty days prior to the meeting. ~~They shall be notified by mail to all the membership.~~ The notice of any special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Section Five. Removal. Any member of the Fellowship Council who ceases to fulfill the Biblical guidelines for leadership as set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 shall be removed from office by majority vote of the remaining Council members. This action shall be ratified by the corporation at its next annual meeting. If a member leaves the region he represents, his position on the Fellowship Council is vacated.

Section Six. Vacancies. In case a vacancy occurs on the Council, the remaining members of the Council shall fill this vacancy by appointing a qualified representative from the region represented by the member being replaced. If the unexpired portion of the term remaining extends beyond the next annual meeting of the corporation, the Council's appointment shall be ratified at that meeting.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section One. Responsibilities and Duties. The officers shall have the powers and discharge the duties customarily and usually held and performed by like officers in similar corporations, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. ModeratorExecutive Director.**
 - a. He is the chief executive officer of the corporation during the years for which he is elected
 - b. He is a member, *ex-officio*, of the Fellowship Council and shall serve as chairman of the Council for the years of his term as ~~moderator~~ Executive Director.
 - c. He will serve as moderator, presiding over any and all business meetings of the conference, or he may select another person to serve as moderator. Should he choose another to serve as moderator, the Executive Director shall retain all rights, responsibilities, and authorities described in this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure. Anyone acting as ~~Moderator~~, if he is personally involved in a matter, shall defer to the Executive Director or Assistant Director. He may choose a Parliamentary Chairman to preside over any and all business meetings of the conference, or he shall preside at all sessions of the conference except when

Comment [DET26]: Current practice of notice in routine web and email news, not a special communication, is adequate.

Comment [DET27]: Term Moderator is a better term for this than Parliamentary Chairman.

488
 489 ~~he is personally involved in a matter, in which case he shall defer to the first moderator elect.~~
 490 ~~Should he choose a Parliamentary Chairman, the Moderator shall retain all rights,~~
 491 ~~responsibilities, and authorities described in this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure.~~

- 492 d. He shall present the annual ~~moderator~~ Executive Director's address on the general theme of
- 493 the spiritual state of the churches and the challenges facing the Fellowship. He may
- 494 incorporate recommendations to the Fellowship from the Fellowship Council.
- 495 e. Represent the FGBC as its official spokesperson for all matters related to the official
- 496 communication, public press releases, or other informational opportunities presented during
- 497 his term.
- 498 f. Adequately prepare the newly elected ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director for the position through
- 499 education and communication as deemed necessary to provide a smooth transition between
- 500 administrations.
- 501 g. The ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director must agree to the Statement of Faith of the FGBC, be a
- 502 member in good standing in one of the member churches in the FGBC and be committed to
- 503 the welfare and health of the FGBC.
- 504 2. **Vice Moderator Assistant Director.**
- 505 a. He is a member, *ex-officio*, of the Fellowship Council and shall serve as vice-chairman of the
- 506 Council for the years of his term as ~~vice moderator~~ Assistant Director.
- 507 b. He shall fulfill the functions of the ~~moderator~~ Executive Director in the latter's absence or
- 508 illness or when called upon by the ~~moderator~~ Executive Director to do so.
- 509 c. He shall assume the office of ~~moderator~~ Executive Director in the event of his resignation,
- 510 decease or inability to serve as the ~~moderator~~ Executive Director upon notification by ~~the~~
- 511 ~~chairman~~ or secretary of the Fellowship Council.
- 512 d. ~~He shall present the annual moderator elect's message at the annual meeting of the~~
- 513 ~~corporation on the subject suggested by the Fellowship Council.~~
- 514 e. Represent the FGBC when delegated to do so by the ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director in areas
- 515 deemed helpful by the ~~Moderator~~ Executive Director.
- 516 f. Adequately prepare the newly elected **Vice Moderator Assistant Director** for the position
- 517 through education and communication as deemed necessary to provide a smooth transition
- 518 between administrations.
- 519 g. The **Vice Moderator Assistant Director** must agree to the Statement of Faith of the FGBC, be a
- 520 member in good standing in one of the member churches in the FGBC and be committed to
- 521 the welfare and health of the FGBC.
- 522 4. Secretary.
- 523 a. He shall make and keep an accurate, written record of all Fellowship Council and conference
- 524 business and make records available for annual publication in a form approved by the
- 525 Fellowship Council.
- 526 b. He shall secure the service of an assistant secretary to facilitate the execution of his duties.
- 527 c. With the cooperation of the Minutes Review Committee he shall provide printed copies of the
- 528 minutes of each conference business session for publication.
- 529 The Conference may choose to amend published minutes at the first business session
- 530 succeeding publication.
- 531 5. Treasurer.
- 532 a. He shall receive and dispense all funds coming to the Fellowship and shall establish and
- 533 maintain a bank account in which said funds are to be kept.
- 534 b. He shall report to the Council as requested and annually at the annual meeting of the
- 535 corporation delineating the financial status of the corporation.
- 536 c. He shall invest available funds in such a way as to provide additional income to the
- 537 Fellowship.

538
 539 Section Two. Fellowship Coordinator & Administrative Staff.

- 540
 541 1. The Council shall employ a Fellowship Coordinator and Administrative Staff as needed. Their
- 542 remuneration shall be included in the budget proposed to the annual meeting. The Fellowship
- 543 Council shall establish necessary guidelines.

Comment [DET28]: This should be left as an option based on goals of the conference and giftedness of the person, not a requirement.

Comment [DET29]: Clarify conference, not council, business

- 544 | 2. They shall be directly responsible to the ~~Moderator~~Executive Director and the Fellowship Council
 545 and ultimately to the corporation.
 546 | 3. They may sit with the Fellowship Council by invitation but shall not have a vote in its
 547 proceedings.

548 |
 549 | Section Three. Removal. Any officer who ceases to fulfill the Biblical guidelines for leadership as set
 550 forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 shall be removed from office by majority vote of the Council. This action
 551 shall be ratified by the corporation at its next annual meeting.

552 |
 553 | Section Four. Vacancies. Other than the office of ~~moderator~~Executive Director, a vacancy may be
 554 filled by the Fellowship Council for the unexpired portion of the term. In the case of a vacancy in the
 555 office of ~~moderator~~Executive Director, the ~~first moderator elect~~Assistant Director will immediately
 556 succeed to the office and responsibility of ~~moderator~~Executive Director upon notification by the ~~chairman~~
 557 or secretary.

Comment [DET30]: Chairman doesn't seem to work here, since chairman would be the vacant Executive Director

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

Section One. Membership Committee.

1. A Membership Committee, consisting of three members, shall be appointed by the Fellowship Council. Members shall serve three year terms, arranged so that one new member is appointed each conference year.
2. The chairman shall be named annually by the Fellowship Council.
3. It shall be the duty of the Committee to provide appropriate credential forms to member churches and a place at which these forms and membership fees shall be received.
4. This Committee shall have no authority to withhold any delegate with properly executed credentials from the conference.
5. In the event of disputed delegations from member churches, the membership committee shall refer the question to the Fellowship Council which, in turn, shall make recommendation of the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.

Section Two. Nominating Committee.

1. The Nominating Committee shall present nominees to the conference for the annual election of the Fellowship Council.
2. Nominees shall be triune immersed members in good standing of congregations ~~that are members of affiliated with~~ the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. and shall give their consent to nomination and shall agree to serve, if elected.
3. The geographical regions which nominees are to represent on the Fellowship Council shall include the following recognized Districts:
 - a. Western: Arctic, Hawaii, Mountain-Plains, Nor-Cal, ~~Pacific~~Northwest, and Southern California-Arizona.
 - b. Central: Great Lakes Area, Heartland, Indiana, Iowa-Midlands, Northcentral Ohio, Northeastern Ohio, and ~~Southern Ohio Tri-States~~.
 - c. Eastern: Allegheny, Blue Ridge, Chesapeake, East Central Florida, Florida Suncoast, Mid-Atlantic, Northern Atlantic, South Florida-Caribbean, Southern, and Western Pennsylvania.
4. Each cooperating district may annually submit to the Nominating Committee the name of one member of a church within its district as nominees for the Fellowship Council. These names shall be placed on the ballot. If a district fails to submit a name in timely fashion, the committee may add a nominee of its own choosing from that particular district.
5. This committee shall submit nominations to the Fellowship Coordinator to be included on a printed ballot. The ballot is to be so arranged that only one nominee from each region shall be elected to the Fellowship Council.

Comment [DET31]: Update District names

Section Three. Parliamentary Committee.

599 | The duties of this committee are stated in the FGBC Constitution, [ARTICLE VIII](#), [ARTICLE VII](#),
 600 | Section Three.

Comment [DET32]: Correction

602 | **Section Four. Minutes Review Committee**

603 | A Minutes Review committee shall be appointed annually by the Fellowship Council to review
 604 | and approve the minutes of the Conference before they are published.

606 | **Section Five. Committee Expenses.** Expenses of any committee shall be defrayed by the corporation
 607 | upon receipt of proper reports to the treasurer.

610 | **ARTICLE VII**

611 | **Section One. NATIONAL MINISTRIES**

Comment [DET33]: This entire Article is moved
 from Constitution to Manual of Procedure.

- 612 | 1. Requirements. Although FGBC national ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities,
 613 | such ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a
 614 | national ministry shall meet the following requirements:
 - a. The ministry and its governing body must subscribe to the Statement of Faith set forth in
 Section Two of Article III of this Constitution.
 - b. The ministry must be sponsored and controlled by members of FGBC churches. The ministry
 shall not be a subsidiary of only one local church; it shall have representation on its governing
 board from each of the geographical regions of the Fellowship as identified in Article V,
 Section Two, Point #3 of the Manual of Procedure.
 - c. The ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries
 and exist to serve other Grace Brethren Churches.
 - d. The ministry must meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.
 - e. The ministry must be able to demonstrate a tradition of national influence that has consistently
 advanced the mission of the FGBC.
- 626 | 2. Procedure. National Ministries meeting the requirements of Section One of this Article may be
 627 | recognized by the Fellowship, upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by two-thirds
 628 | affirmative majority vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting.
- 629 | 3. Recognized National Ministries. Ministries recognized as national ministries of the Fellowship of
 630 | Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an integral part of
 631 | its organization. While FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does not in any way
 632 | control any of the recognized national ministries.
- 633 | 4. Review: The Fellowship Council has the responsibility to review national ministries regarding the
 634 | above qualifications. Recommendations for removal of a National Ministry's recognition shall be
 635 | approved by the delegates by a 2/3rds affirmative majority vote.

Comment [DET34]: The problem of the negative motion – if it takes 2/3rds to remove him, that means it only takes 1/3 to keep him. Better to only require a majority for this action. (It would be different if this were requiring a 2/3rds vote of confidence, but that doesn't fit the situation.)

637 | **Section Two: COOPERATING MINISTRIES**

Comment [DET35]: This clarifies one simple
 slam dunk way to meet the requirement. The
 ministry may also try to demonstrate GBC
 sponsorship or control some other way.

- 638 | 1. Requirements. Although FGBC cooperating ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities,
 639 | such ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a
 640 | cooperating ministry shall meet the following requirements:
 - a. The ministry and its governing body must subscribe to the Statement of Faith set forth in
 Section Two of Article III of this Constitution.
 - b. The ministry must be sponsored and/or controlled by members of FGBC churches. If a
majority of the board of directors are members of churches who are members of the FGBC,
that satisfies this requirement.
 - c. The ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries
and exist to serve other Grace Brethren Churches.
 - d. The ministry must meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.
- 649 | 2. Procedure. Ministries meeting the above requirements of Section Two of this Article may be
 650 | recognized by the Fellowship, upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by an affirmative
 651 | majority vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting.
- 652 | 3. Recognized Cooperating Ministries. Ministries recognized as cooperating ministries of the
 653 | Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an

Comment [DET36]: This sounds inward focused. A ministry might have total outward focus in church planting or evangelism and be a valid cooperating ministry.

Comment [DET37]: simpler

- 654 integral part of its organization. While FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does
 655 not in any way control any of the recognized cooperating ministries.
 656 4. Review: The Cooperating Ministry has the responsibility to demonstrate that it desires and
 657 qualifies for Cooperating Ministry status at least every threefive years. The Fellowship Council
 658 has the responsibility to review cooperating ministries regarding the above qualifications.
 659 Recommendations for removal of a Cooperating Ministry's recognition shall be approved by the
 660 delegates by a majority affirmative vote.
 661

Comment [DET38]: This adds a needed mechanism to achieve this periodic review.

Section Three: COOPERATING DISTRICTS

Requirements. Although FGBC Cooperating Districts remain distinct, autonomous legal entities, in order to be granted and to maintain the status of a FGBC Cooperating District, the following requirements must be met.

- 666 1. A district may be formed with a minimum of three churches.
- 667 2. The district may be organized for fellowship and cooperative ministry with area churches and the
- 668 FGBC.
- 669 3. The district and district officers shall subscribe to the FGBC Statement of Faith or the Declaration
670 of Common Identity.
- 671 4. All member churches of a district must be in good standing with FGBC.
- 672 54. The district shall have made application with FGBC for recognition as a cooperating district.

Comment [DET39]: This Section is moved from being a separate Article in the Constitution to being combined with National Ministries and Cooperating Ministries in one Article in the Manual of Procedure.

ARTICLE VII

MISCELLANEOUS

Section One. Continuing Resolutions. Continuing resolutions may be submitted at the annual meeting of the corporation by the Fellowship Council or from the floor. The resolution must be in writing. If the resolution is submitted from the floor, a written presentation must be given to the secretary during the same business session at which the resolution is presented.

Comment [DET40]: Need room here for the district to include developing churches, mission points, cell churches, ethnic churches, and other groups who might not (yet) be full members of the FGBC.

Section Two. Conference Year. The conference year shall begin with the conclusion of the conference and continue to the conclusion of the succeeding conference.

Comment [DET41]: Sections One, Two, and Four of this Article were moved from the Constitution to the Manual of Procedure.

Section Three. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall be November 1 through October 31.

Section Four. Affiliations. The Fellowship may affiliate with other fraternal, evangelical organizations only with the adoption of an appropriate resolution by the Conference. Cooperation with such organizations, without formal membership, may be approved by the Executive Committee of the Fellowship Council.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS TO MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

This Manual of Procedure may be amended by a majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at any business session.

1 **CONSTITUTION AND MANUAL OF PROCEDURE FOR THE FELLOWSHIP**
 2 **OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, INC.**

3
 4 **CONSTITUTION**

5
 6 **ARTICLE I**
 7 **OFFICES**

8 The principal office of the corporation shall be located at Winona Lake, Indiana. The corporation may
 9 have other offices as its business may require.

10
 11 **ARTICLE II**
 12 **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

13 The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches exists to encourage and enable member churches in
 14 equipping and uniting the saints in fulfilling the Great Commission.

15
 16 **ARTICLE III**
 17 **COVENANT AND STATEMENT OF FAITH**

18 Section One. Covenant. The sovereign congregations which are members of this corporation are
 19 united in accepting the Holy Scriptures as the sole guide and authority in all matters of faith, doctrine and
 20 practice.

21
 22 Section Two. Statement of Faith. The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches has a corporate
 23 commitment to a basic body of beliefs founded on God's revealed truth. This Statement of Faith is the
 24 1969 expression of a never ending effort to clarify an understanding of the primary doctrines we accept.

25 It is the understanding of this Fellowship that, although individual Grace Brethren Churches remain
 26 distinct, autonomous legal entities, congregational church government relates alone to the incidental affairs
 27 of the local congregation and not to doctrinal practices or tenets which must be general or universal -- the
 28 same in all congregations. Accordingly, the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., believing the
 29 Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible to be the infallible rule of faith and of practice and feeling
 30 the responsibility to make known the divine message of the Bible, presents the following articles as a
 31 statement of those basic truths taught in the Bible which are common to our Christian faith and practice.

- 32
 33 1. **THE BIBLE.** The Word of God, the sixty-six Books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally
 34 inspired in all parts, and therefore wholly without error as originally given of God (2 Tim. 3:16; 2
 35 Peter 1:21).
- 36 2. **THE ONE TRUE GOD.** Existing eternally as three persons -the Father, the Son, and the Holy
 37 Spirit (Luke 3:22; Matthew 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).
- 38 3. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.** His preexistence and deity (John 1:1-3), incarnation by virgin birth
 39 (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18-23), sinless life (Heb. 4:15), substitutionary death (2 Cor. 5:21), bodily
 40 resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), ascension into heaven and present ministry (Heb. 4:14-16), and
 41 coming again (Acts 1:11).
- 42 4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** His personality (John 16:7-15), and deity (Acts 5:3-4), and His work in each
 43 believer: baptism and in-dwelling at the moment of regeneration (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 8:9), and
 44 filling (Eph. 5:18) to empower for Christian life and service (Eph. 3:16; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22-23).
- 45 5. **MAN.** His direct creation in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-28), his subsequent fall into sin
 46 resulting in spiritual death (Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 5:12), and the necessity of the new birth for his
 47 salvation (John 3:3-5).
- 48 6. **SALVATION.** A complete and eternal salvation by God's grace alone received as the gift of God
 49 through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; 1
 50 Peter 1:18-19).
- 51 7. **THE CHURCH.** One true church, the body and the bride of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-32),
 52 composed of all true believers of the present age (1 Cor. 12:12-13); and the organization of its
 53 members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for world-wide gospel
 54 witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (Eph.
 55 4:11-16).

- 56 8. CHRISTIAN LIFE. A life of righteousness, good works and separation unto God from the evil
 57 ways of the world (Rom. 12:1-2), manifested by speaking the truth (James 5:12), maintaining the
 58 sanctity of the home (Eph. 5:22-6:4), settling differences between Christians in accordance with
 59 the Word of God (1 Cor. 6:1-8), not engaging in carnal strife but showing a Christ-like attitude
 60 toward all men (Rom. 12:17-21), exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), and maintaining a
 61 life of prayer (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6), including the privilege, when sick, of calling for the elders of
 62 the church to pray and to anoint with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:13-18).
- 63 9. ORDINANCES. The Christians should observe the ordinances of our Lord Jesus Christ which are
 64 (1)baptism of believers by triune immersion (Matt. 28:19) and (2)the threefold communion
 65 service, consisting of the washing of the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), the Lord's Supper (1 Cor.
 66 11:20-22, 33-34; Jude 12), and the communion of the bread and the cup (1 Cor. 11:23-26).
- 67 10. SATAN. His existence and personality as the great adversary of God and His people (Rev.
 68 12:1-10), his judgment (John 12:31), and final doom (Rev. 20:10).
- 69 11. SECOND COMING. The personal, visible, and imminent return of Christ to remove His church
 70 from the earth (1 Thess. 4:16-17) before the tribulation (1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 3:10), and afterward
 71 to descend with the Church to establish His millennial kingdom upon the earth (Rev. 19:11-20:6).
- 72 12. FUTURE LIFE. The conscious existence of the dead (Phil. 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), the
 73 resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgment and reward of believers (Rom. 14:10-12; 2
 74 Cor. 5:10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Rev. 20:11-15), the eternal life of the
 75 saved (John 3:16), and the eternal punishment of the lost (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15).

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

80 Section One. Requirements. Any congregation of believers desiring membership in the Fellowship of
 81 Grace Brethren Churches, Inc., shall meet the following conditions:

- 83 1. It shall agree to live harmoniously under the Covenant and Statement of Faith as stated in Article
 84 III of this Constitution or the Declaration of Common Identity.
- 85 2. It shall actively pursue the purpose of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches in Article II
- 86 3. It shall have a basic organization consisting of elder(s) and deacon(s), or similar responsible
 87 officers.
- 88 4. Requirements and responsibilities for membership by the several local churches shall be
 89 established by each church and shall not determine the church's membership in the Fellowship.
- 90 5. No church shall be denied membership in the corporation because of failure to support any or all
 91 institutions, ministries, or boards, either district, national, or cooperating recognized by the
 92 Fellowship.
- 93 6. Failure to comply with these membership requirements may subject the offending church to
 94 dismissal.

96 Section Two. Voting Rights. Each member church shall be entitled to be represented at any meeting of
 97 the corporation through delegate(s) of its choosing.

- 99 1. Each member church shall be entitled to at least two delegates as specified in the Manual of
 100 Procedure.
- 101 2. Only persons who are members of the Grace Brethren Church they represent shall be seated as
 102 delegates to any meeting of the corporation. Representation at National Conference is based on the
 103 average attendance at the largest regular gathering of the local church.
- 104 3. Each member church shall be entitled to one vote per delegate on each matter submitted to a vote
 105 at any meeting of the corporation. (Exception: delegates from churches which receive members
 106 without triune immersion may not vote on any matter involving the subject of water baptism in
 107 relation to church membership. This limitation does not apply to medical exceptions.)

ARTICLE V MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section One. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of members shall be held at the time and place recommended by the Fellowship Council and approved at a previous annual meeting of members. This annual meeting is referred to in this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure as "the annual meeting of the corporation" and "conference."

Section Two. Special Meetings. Special meetings of members may be called by the Fellowship Council for emergency needs at any time and place designated by it. Member churches shall be represented at any special meeting by the delegates who represented them at the last annual meeting or duly certified alternates.

Section Three. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at any meeting of the corporation.

Section Four. Delegates. The following shall be seated as delegates to any meeting of the corporation:

1. Officers. Officers of the corporation shall be delegates *ex-officio* with voting privileges.
 2. Delegates shall be seated provided that the delegates meet the qualifications of Article IV, Section Two, points #1 and 2.

ARTICLE VI

FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Section One. General Powers. The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its board of directors which shall be known as the Fellowship Council.

Section Two. Number and Term. The number of members of the Fellowship Council shall be seventeen. Fifteen members shall be elected by the corporation, and each shall serve a term of five years. The fifteen elected members shall represent the three geographic regions of the United States described in Article V, Section Two, point #3 of the Manual of Procedure with five members to serve from each region. Only one member of any single church or two representatives from any single district shall serve on the Council at any one time, not including *ex-officio* members of the Council.

The remaining two members of the Fellowship Council shall be the Executive Director and the Assistant Director. They shall serve a one, two or three-year term to which they are elected as Executive Director and Assistant Director. Council members will begin their terms at the conclusion of the conference at which they are elected with the exception of the Executive Director and Assistant Director who shall begin their term one year following the conference at which they are elected.

Section Three. Qualifications. All nominees for Council membership must be triune-immersed members in good standing of congregations who are members of the FGBC. They must be men who have met the spiritual qualifications for an elder as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9. All nominees shall subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith or Declaration of Common Identity as stated in Article III of this Constitution. They must have given their consent to nomination and service. Members of the Council may not serve consecutive terms but may be re-elected after two years absence from the Council. This restriction shall not apply to members serving fewer than three years or to *ex-officio* members of the Council.

Section Four. Election.

1. Members of the Council shall be elected by majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at the Conference from a ballot presented by the Nominating Committee. In the event that no nominee receives a majority affirmative vote, there shall be an additional ballot presented with the two nominees who have received the highest number of votes.
 2. Voting for nominees from each of the three regions shall be restricted to delegates from the churches in those regions.
 3. Nominees elected to the Council shall be the one from each region receiving the majority affirmative vote of the delegates representing those regions present, entitled to vote, and voting.

167
168 **ARTICLE VII**
169 OFFICERS
170

171 Section One. Officers. The officers of the corporation shall be the Executive Director, Assistant
172 Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Director shall serve as chairman of the Fellowship
173 Council, and the vice Assistant Director as vice-chairman of the same body.

174 Section Two. Election. The Executive Director and Assistant Director shall be elected together on a
175 single ballot question to a one, two, or three year term by majority affirmative vote of the delegates present,
176 entitled to vote, and voting at the annual meeting of the corporation one year prior to the beginning of their
177 term.
178 The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually by majority vote of the Fellowship Council at its
179 annual meeting. These elections shall be ratified by the corporation at the annual meeting immediately
180 following the election.

182 Section Three. Term. The Executive Director and Assistant Director will be installed at the conclusion
183 of the conference one year after they are elected and will serve for their elected term or until their
184 successors are elected or appointed and installed. The Secretary and Treasurer will be installed at the
185 conclusion of the conference at which they are elected and will serve for one conference year or until their
186 successors are elected or appointed and installed.

188 Section Four. Responsibilities and Duties. The officers shall have the powers and discharge the duties
189 customarily and usually held and performed by like officers in similar corporations, including, but not
190 limited to those outlined in the Manual of Procedure.

192
193 **ARTICLE VIII**
194 COMMITTEES

195 Section One. Committees. The Fellowship Council, by resolution of a majority of the Council
196 members, may designate one or more committees or persons to exercise the authority of the Fellowship
197 Council to the extent provided in the resolution. The resolution shall include a termination date for the
198 committee's service which may be extended only by specific action of the Fellowship Council or the
199 Conference.

200 Section Two. Nominating Committee.

- 201 1. A nominating committee of six members shall be elected annually by the conference from
202 nominees suggested by the Fellowship Council. All nominees shall be members in good standing
203 of congregations that are members or the FGBC and have agreed to nomination and service.
204 Additional nominations from the floor may be accepted.
- 205 2. The chair shall be selected by the Fellowship Council from among the elected committee
206 members.

208 Section Three. Parliamentary Committee.

- 209 1. A parliamentary committee of three members shall be named by the Fellowship Council prior to
210 the conference.
- 211 2. It shall be the duty of this committee to interpret this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure
212 whenever questions concerning them shall arise and to assist the presiding officer in questions of
213 procedure and in the orderly conduct of the business sessions of the conference.

216
217 **ARTICLE XII**
218 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

219 Section One. Amendments. This Constitution may be altered or repealed at any annual or special meeting
220 of the corporation by two-thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and
221 voting at said meeting, provided that the proposed amendment had been presented to the delegates at a
222 previous business session of the conference and to the Fellowship Council for study and recommendation.

223
 224
MANUAL OF PROCEDURE
 225 Adopted by Conference - July 1997
 226
 227

228 **ARTICLE I**
 229 **MEMBERSHIP**

230 Section One. Procedure.

- 231 1. Application for membership shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Fellowship
 232 Council accompanied by evidence of compliance with the conditions set forth in Section One,
 233 Article IV of the Constitution. Applications must be received before the first day of January
 234 preceding the annual meeting of the corporation. The Fellowship Council may extend this
 235 deadline up to two months before the annual meeting if there is a written request for the extension
 236 from a national ministry, a cooperating ministry, a cooperating district, or a sponsoring church
 237 that is already a member of the FGBC.
 238
 239 2. The Fellowship Council will publish the names and locations of churches who are applying for
 240 membership at least one month in advance of the next annual meeting of the corporation.
 241
 242 3. A check for membership fees shall accompany the application.
 243
 244 4. The Fellowship Council shall recommend the appropriate action to be taken regarding the
 245 application at the next annual meeting of the corporation.
 246
 247 5. Upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, a congregation may be received by majority
 248 affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at the annual meeting of the
 249 corporation.

250 Section Two. Termination of Membership. Should a member church fail to adhere to the requirements
 251 of Article IV, Section One of the Constitution at anytime or fail to submit statistical reports or pay
 252 membership fees for a period of three successive years, it shall be subject to dismissal from the Fellowship
 253 in the following manner:

- 254 1. Upon report of such failure, the Fellowship Council shall investigate the report and determine the
 255 validity of the charge. It shall be the intent of the Council to offer assistance to the offending
 256 church to enable it to comply with its membership obligations.
 257
 258 2. Upon satisfactory resolution of the problem, a report of the church's compliance shall be entered
 259 into the records of the Fellowship Council and may be announced to the Corporation at the
 260 discretion of the Council.
 261
 262 3. If no satisfactory resolution of the problem is agreed upon, the finding of the Fellowship Council
 263 shall be reported to the next annual meeting of the Corporation.
 264
 265 3. Upon the recommendation of the Fellowship Council the offending church shall be dismissed from
 266 the Fellowship by majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at
 267 the annual meeting of the corporation.

268 Section Three: Procedure for the Re-Instatement of Dismissed Churches. Should a church that was
 269 previously dismissed from the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches desire to become a member again of
 270 the FGBC, the following procedures should be followed:

- 271 1. The Church seeking re-instatement should comply with all of the procedures for membership as
 272 outlined in Section 1 of this Article.
 273
 274 2. The only additional requirement of a church to be re-instated is that along with the application for
 275 membership there must be a written statement signed by at least three local church
 276 leaders/members that:
 277 a. Describe the resolution to any past issues that lead to the dismissal.
 278 b. Explain the church's reasons to become faithful members again with the FGBC.

279 **ARTICLE II**

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section One. Place of Meeting. The Fellowship Council may designate any place within or without the State of Indiana as the place of the annual meeting or any special meeting.

Section Two. Notice of Meetings. Written or printed notice stating the time and place of the meeting shall be given by the Secretary of the Fellowship Council to each member church at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The notice of any special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Section Three. Delegates. In order to seat delegates, each church must meet the following requirements.

1. The appropriate credential form must be filed with the Fellowship Coordinator by the date specified.
 2. The assigned membership fees, assessed by the previous annual meeting of members, shall be received by the Fellowship Coordinator by the date specified.
 3. The annual statistical report shall be submitted and received by the date specified.
 4. Delegates whose churches fail to meet these requirements shall be seated only upon a two-thirds majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting at any meeting based upon extenuating circumstances deemed worthy of exception.
 5. Member churches are expected to pay membership fees whether or not they send delegates to any meeting of the corporation, and the treasurer is directed to notify delinquent members of this responsibility.
 6. Each member church shall be entitled to at least two delegates. Additional delegates are based on the average attendance at the largest regular gathering of the member church according to the following schedule:

Average Attendance	Number of delegates
0-50	2
51-100	3
101-200	5
201-300	10
301-500	20
501-1000	25
1001-2000	30
2001+	35

Section Four. Transaction of Business. The agenda for the opening session of the conference shall include the report of the Membership Committee, presentation of new churches for membership, approval of an agenda for the business sessions, and the election of officers for the next conference year. Additional reports of the Membership Committee shall be made only at the beginning of each session's business. The agenda of any special meeting shall be an early order of business at the first session.

Any member of a member church, not a delegate, shall have all privileges of a delegate, except that he shall not be allowed to make a motion or to vote upon any question. Persons desiring to speak in the conference must first address the Moderator and be recognized. No person shall speak upon the same question more than twice until others have had ample opportunity to speak. Debate shall be limited to ten minutes per speech. Standard rules of order, such as Robert's, shall be followed in all points not specifically provided for herein.

Section Five. Dissent. In the event that divisive issues threaten to disrupt business sessions and subvert the purposes of the Conference, the Executive Director shall:

1. Stop all further debate on the issue for that business session.

2. Call for a meeting of the Fellowship Council to be held before the next business session to formulate a recommendation on further procedures concerning this issue.
 3. Present this recommendation as the first item of business at the next business session.
 4. Call for an immediate vote on the recommendation of the Fellowship Council without further debate. Should a recommendation to stop debate fail to pass, debate shall resume.

ARTICLE III

FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Section One. Responsibilities. Specific duties of the Council include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. It shall be the duty of the Council to make full and complete arrangements for the conference (and any special meetings), including the preparation of the proposed agenda. The Council shall consult recognized National Ministries in its conference planning and may invite representatives of National and Cooperating Ministries to its planning sessions. (Expenses for these representatives shall be borne by their respective ministries.)
 2. The Council shall select the time and place for the conference and shall report its plans to the conference at least two years in advance.
 3. The Council shall receive and evaluate applications from churches seeking membership in the corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.
 4. The Council shall investigate reports concerning a member church's failure to adhere to the requirements for membership in the corporation, determine the validity of the charges, and recommend the appropriate action to be taken, if any, by the conference.
 5. The Council shall convene any special meetings of the Fellowship for emergency purposes.
 6. The Council shall receive and evaluate applications for recognition from prospective districts of churches and recommend the appropriate action, if any, to be taken by the conference.
 7. The Council shall receive and evaluate the requests of groups desiring recognition as national or cooperating ministries of the corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.
 8. The Council shall serve as the finance committee for the Fellowship, reporting to the conference the financial condition of the corporation and proposing an annual budget for the conference's approval.
 9. At each annual meeting of the corporation, the Council shall report on its own activity, its plans, and recommendations for progress in the Fellowship. It shall alert the conference to potential problems, areas of concern, opportunities for ministry, etc., and shall recommend appropriate action with regard to these matters. Such suggestions may be conveyed to the conference, in consultation with the Executive Director, through his annual address.
 10. The Council shall name the endorsing agents of the Fellowship for the military chaplaincy.
 11. The Council may serve as an advisory board to its member churches, recognized districts, national and cooperating ministries, and other bodies who seek its counsel with no authority other than to offer counsel to these bodies.
 12. Each elected member of the Council shall be responsible to communicate with one or more districts in his region as determined by the Council.
 13. The Council shall be responsible for the soliciting and the receiving of statistical reports. It shall report significant statistical information at the annual meeting of the corporation.
 14. When the Executive Director stops debate on a divisive issue at a business session of the conference, the Council shall meet to make a recommendation to the next business session. It shall include in this recommendation: 1) whether or not to invoke a moratorium and, 2) if a moratorium is recommended, it shall also recommend procedures for conflict resolution.
 15. The Fellowship Council and Nominating Committee shall make reasonable effort to include qualified laity in leadership positions in the Fellowship.
 16. The Fellowship Council shall present a name for Executive Director to the conference one year prior to the expiration of the current term for affirmation by the delegates. That Executive Director shall select an Assistant Director, that is approved by the Fellowship Council to be affirmed by the delegates on a single question ballot for a one, two or three year term.

16. Contracts shall be established for employees of the Fellowship Council. Each employee shall be subject to periodic review.
 17. The Fellowship Council may consult National and Cooperating ministries in the development and implementation of strategic plans as appropriate to the mission of the FGBC, Inc.

Section Two. Meetings. The Council will hold an annual meeting just prior to the conference at the place designated for the annual meeting of the corporation. A mid-year meeting of the Council will be held approximately six months after each annual meeting of the corporation at a time and place specified by the Council. The mid-year meeting shall not be held if there is insufficient business to merit the expense and time. Other special meetings of the Council may be called by the chairman in consultation with the other Council members.

Section Three. Board Decisions. All actions of the Council must be sustained by a majority vote of the Council membership (nine or more affirmative votes).

Section Four. Notice. Notice of any meeting of the Fellowship Council must be given to each member of the Council at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The notice of any special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Section Five. Removal. Any member of the Fellowship Council who ceases to fulfill the Biblical guidelines for leadership as set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 shall be removed from office by majority vote of the remaining Council members. This action shall be ratified by the corporation at its next annual meeting. If a member leaves the region he represents, his position on the Fellowship Council is vacated.

Section Six. Vacancies. In case a vacancy occurs on the Council, the remaining members of the Council shall fill this vacancy by appointing a qualified representative from the region represented by the member being replaced. If the unexpired portion of the term remaining extends beyond the next annual meeting of the corporation, the Council's appointment shall be ratified at that meeting.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section One. Responsibilities and Duties. The officers shall have the powers and discharge the duties customarily and usually held and performed by like officers in similar corporations, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Executive Director.
 - a. He is the chief executive officer of the corporation during the years for which he is elected
 - b. He is a member, *ex-officio*, of the Fellowship Council and shall serve as chairman of the Council for the years of his term as Executive Director.
 - c. He will serve as moderator, presiding over any and all business meetings of the conference, or he may select another person to serve as moderator. Should he choose another to serve as moderator, the Executive Director shall retain all rights, responsibilities, and authorities described in this Constitution and the Manual of Procedure. Anyone acting as moderator, if he is personally involved in a matter, shall defer to the Executive Director or Assistant Director.
 - d. He shall present the annual Executive Director's address on the general theme of the spiritual state of the churches and the challenges facing the Fellowship. He may incorporate recommendations to the Fellowship from the Fellowship Council.
 - e. Represent the FGBC as its official spokesperson for all matters related to the official communication, public press releases, or other informational opportunities presented during his term.
 - f. Adequately prepare the newly elected Executive Director for the position through education and communication as deemed necessary to provide a smooth transition between administrations.

- 434 g. The Executive Director must agree to the Statement of Faith of the FGBC, be a member in
 435 good standing in one of the member churches in the FGBC and be committed to the welfare
 436 and health of the FGBC.
- 437 2. Assistant Director.
- 438 a. He is a member, *ex-officio*, of the Fellowship Council and shall serve as vice-chairman of the
 439 Council for the years of his term as Assistant Director.
- 440 b. He shall fulfill the functions of the Executive Director in the latter's absence or illness or
 441 when called upon by the Executive Director to do so.
- 442 c. He shall assume the office of Executive Director in the event of his resignation, decease or
 443 inability to serve as the Executive Director upon notification by secretary of the Fellowship
 444 Council.
- 445 d. e. Represent the FGBC when delegated to do so by the Executive Director in areas deemed
 446 helpful by the Executive Director.
- 447 f. Adequately prepare the newly elected -Assistant Director for the position through education
 448 and communication as deemed necessary to provide a smooth transition between
 449 administrations.
- 450 g. The -Assistant Director must agree to the Statement of Faith of the FGBC, be a member in
 451 good standing in one of the member churches in the FGBC and be committed to the welfare
 452 and health of the FGBC.
- 453 4. Secretary.
- 454 a. He shall make and keep an accurate, written record of all Fellowship Council and conference
 455 business and make records available for annual publication in a form approved by the
 456 Fellowship Council.
- 457 b. He shall secure the service of an assistant secretary to facilitate the execution of his duties.
- 458 c. With the cooperation of the Minutes Review Committee he shall provide printed copies of the
 459 minutes of each conference business session for publication.
 460 The Conference may choose to amend published minutes at the first business session
 461 succeeding publication.
- 462 5. Treasurer.
- 463 a. He shall receive and dispense all funds coming to the Fellowship and shall establish and
 464 maintain a bank account in which said funds are to be kept.
- 465 b. He shall report to the Council as requested and annually at the annual meeting of the
 466 corporation delineating the financial status of the corporation.
- 467 c. He shall invest available funds in such a way as to provide additional income to the
 468 Fellowship.

471 Section Two. Fellowship Coordinator & Administrative Staff.

- 472 1. The Council shall employ a Fellowship Coordinator and Administrative Staff as needed. Their
 473 remuneration shall be included in the budget proposed to the annual meeting. The Fellowship
 474 Council shall establish necessary guidelines.
- 475 2. They shall be directly responsible to the Executive Director and the Fellowship Council and
 476 ultimately to the corporation.
- 477 3. They may sit with the Fellowship Council by invitation but shall not have a vote in its
 478 proceedings.

481 Section Three. Removal. Any officer who ceases to fulfill the Biblical guidelines for leadership as set
 482 forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 shall be removed from office by majority vote of the Council. This action
 483 shall be ratified by the corporation at its next annual meeting.

484 Section Four. Vacancies. Other than the office of Executive Director, a vacancy may be filled by the
 485 Fellowship Council for the unexpired portion of the term. In the case of a vacancy in the office of
 486 Executive Director, the Assistant Director will immediately succeed to the office and responsibility of
 487 Executive Director upon notification by the secretary.

490
 491 **ARTICLE V**
 492 **COMMITTEES**

493 Section One. Membership Committee.

- 494 1. A Membership Committee, consisting of three members, shall be appointed by the Fellowship
 495 Council. Members shall serve three year terms, arranged so that one new member is appointed
 496 each conference year.
 497 2. The chairman shall be named annually by the Fellowship Council.
 498 3. It shall be the duty of the Committee to provide appropriate credential forms to member churches
 499 and a place at which these forms and membership fees shall be received.
 500 4. This Committee shall have no authority to withhold any delegate with properly executed
 501 credentials from the conference.
 502 5. In the event of disputed delegations from member churches, the membership committee shall refer
 503 the question to the Fellowship Council which, in turn, shall make recommendation of the
 504 appropriate action to be taken by the conference.

505
 506 Section Two. Nominating Committee.

- 507 1. The Nominating Committee shall present nominees to the conference for the annual election of the
 508 Fellowship Council.
 509 2. Nominees shall be triune immersed members in good standing of congregations that are members
 510 of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. and shall give their consent to nomination and
 511 shall agree to serve, if elected.
 512 3. The geographical regions which nominees are to represent on the Fellowship Council shall include
 513 the following recognized Districts:
 514 a. Western: Arctic, Hawaii, Mountain-Plains, Nor-Cal, Pacific-Northwest, and Southern
 515 California-Arizona.
 516 b. Central: Great Lakes Area, Heartland, Indiana, Iowa-Midlands, Northcentral Ohio,
 517 Northeastern Ohio, and Tri-States.
 518 c. Eastern: Allegheny, Blue Ridge, Chesapeake, East Central Florida, Florida Suncoast,
 519 Mid-Atlantic, Northern Atlantic, South Florida-Caribbean, Southern, and Western
 520 Pennsylvania.
 521 4. Each cooperating district may annually submit to the Nominating Committee the name of one
 522 member of a church within its district as nominees for the Fellowship Council. These names shall
 523 be placed on the ballot. If a district fails to submit a name in timely fashion, the committee may
 524 add a nominee of its own choosing from that particular district.
 525 5. This committee shall submit nominations to the Fellowship Coordinator to be included on a
 526 printed ballot. The ballot is to be so arranged that only one nominee from each region shall be
 527 elected to the Fellowship Council.

528
 529 Section Three. Parliamentary Committee.

530 The duties of this committee are stated in the FGBC Constitution, ARTICLE VIII, Section Three.

531
 532 Section Four. Minutes Review Committee

533 A Minutes Review committee shall be appointed annually by the Fellowship Council to review
 534 and approve the minutes of the Conference before they are published.

535
 536 Section Five. Committee Expenses. Expenses of any committee shall be defrayed by the corporation
 537 upon receipt of proper reports to the treasurer.

538
 539 **ARTICLE VII**

540
 541 Section One. NATIONAL MINISTRIES

- 542 1. Requirements. Although FGBC national ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities,
 543 such ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a
 544 national ministry shall meet the following requirements:

- 545 a. The ministry and its governing body must subscribe to the Statement of Faith set forth in
 546 Section Two of Article III of this Constitution.
 547 b. The ministry must be sponsored and controlled by members of FGBC churches. The ministry
 548 shall not be a subsidiary of only one local church; it shall have representation on its governing
 549 board from each of the geographical regions of the Fellowship as identified in Article V,
 550 Section Two, Point #3 of the Manual of Procedure.
 551 c. The ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries
 552 and exist to serve other Grace Brethren Churches.
 553 d. The ministry must meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.
 554 e. The ministry must be able to demonstrate a tradition of national influence that has consistently
 555 advanced the mission of the FGBC.
- 556 2. Procedure. National Ministries meeting the requirements of Section One of this Article may be
 557 recognized by the Fellowship, upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by two-thirds
 558 affirmative majority vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting.
- 559 3. Recognized National Ministries. Ministries recognized as national ministries of the Fellowship of
 560 Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an integral part of
 561 its organization. While FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does not in any way
 562 control any of the recognized national ministries.
- 563 4. Review: The Fellowship Council has the responsibility to review national ministries regarding the
 564 above qualifications. Recommendations for removal of a National Ministry's recognition shall be
 565 approved by the delegates by a majority vote.

566 Section Two: COOPERATING MINISTRIES

- 567 1. Requirements. Although FGBC cooperating ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities,
 568 such ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a
 569 cooperating ministry shall meet the following requirements:
 570 a. The ministry and its governing body must subscribe to the Statement of Faith set forth in
 571 Section Two of Article III of this Constitution.
 572 b. The ministry must be sponsored or controlled by members of FGBC churches. If a majority of
 573 the board of directors are members of churches who are members of the FGBC, that satisfies
 574 this requirement.
 575 c. The ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries.
 576 d. The ministry must meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.
- 577 2. Procedure. Ministries meeting the above requirements may be recognized by the Fellowship, upon
 578 recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by an affirmative majority vote of the delegates
 579 present, entitled to vote, and voting.
- 580 3. Recognized Cooperating Ministries. Ministries recognized as cooperating ministries of the
 581 Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an
 582 integral part of its organization. While FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does
 583 not in any way control any of the recognized cooperating ministries.
- 584 4. Review: The Cooperating Ministry has the responsibility to demonstrate that it desires and
 585 qualifies for Cooperating Ministry status at least every five years. The Fellowship Council has the
 586 responsibility to review cooperating ministries regarding the above qualifications.
 587 Recommendations for removal of a Cooperating Ministry's recognition shall be approved by the
 588 delegates by a majority affirmative vote.

590 Section Three: COOPERATING DISTRICTS

591 Requirements. Although FGBC Cooperating Districts remain distinct, autonomous legal entities, in
 592 order to be granted and to maintain the status of a FGBC Cooperating District, the following requirements
 593 must be met.

- 594 1. A district may be formed with a minimum of three churches.
 595 2. The district may be organized for fellowship and cooperative ministry with area churches and the
 596 FGBC.
 597 3. The district and district officers shall subscribe to the FGBC Statement of Faith or the Declaration
 598 of Common Identity.
 599 4. The district shall have made application with FGBC for recognition as a cooperating district.

601
602 **ARTICLE VIII**
603 MISCELLANEOUS

604 Section One. Continuing Resolutions. Continuing resolutions may be submitted at the annual meeting
605 of the corporation by the Fellowship Council or from the floor. The resolution must be in writing. If the
606 resolution is submitted from the floor, a written presentation must be given to the secretary during the same
607 business session at which the resolution is presented.

608 Section Two. Conference Year. The conference year shall begin with the conclusion of the conference
609 and continue to the conclusion of the succeeding conference.

610 Section Three. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall be November 1 through October
611 31.

612 Section Four. Affiliations. The Fellowship may affiliate with other fraternal, evangelical organizations
613 only with the adoption of an appropriate resolution by the Conference. Cooperation with such
614 organizations, without formal membership, may be approved by the Executive Committee of the
615 Fellowship Council.

616
617 **ARTICLE IX**
618 AMENDMENTS TO MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

619 This Manual of Procedure may be amended by a majority affirmative vote of the delegates present, entitled
620 to vote, and voting at any business session.



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
White Stone

Church Mailing Address
102 Parkdale Dr

City Johnstown	Ohio	Zip 43031
-------------------	------	--------------

Phone 614-578-1501	Email twebb@visionohio.org
-----------------------	---

Meeting Place Various public areas: Coffee shops/meeting rooms	Web Site
---	----------

Pastor or principle leader
Tony Webb

Address
Same as above

City	State	Zip
------	-------	-----

Phone	Email
-------	-------

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

Not yet – will do so in Spring - NCO

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.

Cool. Met them.

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 been meeting as a missional community since March 2010. We have two groups currently meeting using the GSE approach to planting. I have spoken to both groups and they are comfortable belonging to the FGBC and being connected. There are not any "Grace Brethren" people in White Stone.

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

Some of the families involved:

Tony and Cathy Webb

Josh Brader

Josh Civiello

Jill Rudler

Michelle Groff

Christian DiMauro

Matt DiMaruro

Scott Brader

Roberta Melvin (to name some of them)

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

Through SOF, doctrine, connection and activity; through VO.

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

We will only practice Triune Immersion and Threefold Communion. We have not had a baptism yet, will wait until gets warmer here in Ohio – we have enjoyed Threefold communion a number of times.

To the best or 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?

None I am aware of.

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? ____12-15_____

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.

White Stone is based on Revelation 2:17, our mission or purpose is to help people get their white stone so that they can get their new name from Jesus. We are planting in the Polaris area of N Columbus (with Polaris' blessing – Dave Plaster and Dan Green gave it in Fall/Winter of 2009). We are missional communities – when we have 4-5 groups we will then begin meeting in a corporate worship gathering. We have 2 groups right now; one meeting on Wednesday nights in a coffee house (Caribou) and the other group meeting on Fridays at lunch time in a Realtor's Conference room. We have seen 5-6 transformed lives through the gospel thus far and enjoying the ride. White Stone is connected to VisionOhio. I attach pictures of both groups.





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

Grace Brethren Church of Jacksontown

Church Mailing Address

c/o PO Box 431 Jacksontown Oh 43030

City Jacksontown	State: Ohio	Zip 43030
---------------------	----------------	--------------

Phone 614-578-1501	Email twebb@visionohio.org
-----------------------	---

Meeting Place 6327 National Road Jacksontown Oh 43030	Web Site
--	----------

Pastor or principle leader

Tony Webb

Address

102 Parkdale Dr

City Johnstown	State Oh	Zip 43031
-------------------	-------------	--------------

Phone 614-578-1501	Email twebb@visionohio.org
-----------------------	---

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

Not yet, will do so in Spring with next Dist Miss Meeting - NCO

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.

Cool. We have met them.

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 met and discussed what it meant to be a GB church and all agreed that that is what we wanted to do.

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

Families involved:

Carey and Carmen Mairele
Bill and Chery Garvin
Wes and Libby Wilson
Tony and Cathy Webb

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

SOF, doctrine and activity; involvement and connection; through VisionOhio.

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

We plan to only practice Triune Immersion and practice Threefold Communion.

To the best or 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?

None of which I am aware.

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? ____10____

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.

When I was preaching at another church sharing about VO, I met Carey and Carmen. They have always had a burden to plant a church and the short version is we are using their house to meet in on Sunday nights. Over 3-4 months we met and prayed and networked and decided the Lord wants us to move ahead in planting this new church. Jacksontown is close to Hebron and Newark/Heath/Buckeye Lake area of Eastern Ohio. It is the Eastern most part of the NCO district. Jacksontown sits at the threshold of Appalachia for Ohio so it is a very strategic place.

I am attaching a picture of our first Threefold communion service and all who were there for it. It was held on December 18, 2011.





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
Eastgate Mansfield

Church Mailing Address
718 Wick Ave

City Ashland	State Oh	Zip 44805
-----------------	-------------	--------------

Phone 419-496-1281	Email Andyshank1@yahoo.com
-----------------------	-------------------------------

Meeting Place Eastgate Apartments in Mansfield	Web Site
---	----------

Pastor or principle leader
Andy Shank

Address
Same as above

City	State	Zip
------	-------	-----

Phone	Email
-------	-------

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

Not yet, plan to join NEO later in year.

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.

Yes.

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.?

As the church planter and pastor this is what I am teaching and preaching. It is what they know and are learning.

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

I Andy Shank am the church planter/pastor and have no other officers or leaders at this time.

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

Statement of Faith; relational connection with NEO; Eastgate Bible and Ashland West Main and VisionOhio.

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

We have had a number of baptisms and only practice triune immersion and our communion services are threefold.

To the best or 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?

None.

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? 14

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 multiplied by \$3.90

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.

For three years Pastor Nathan Wells has been going to Mansfield Ohio to a low income apartment complex to bring the Gospel to those people! He continued to saturate them with the Gospel in hopes that Jesus would radically save their souls and change the entire atmosphere! Then in the beginning of 2010 I came along side Pastor Nathan Wells and shared in the same vision for Eastgate Mansfield! Plant a church! Then in March of 2010, Eastgate Mansfield had their first conversion! Hank and Sherri (the managers of the apartment complex) both accepted Christ as there Lord and Savior! After accepting Christ into their lives, they opened up their home for a bible study! Since March, an additional six people accepted Christ! The Lord has also given us a few "believers in hiding" that have reengaged and now are walking with Christ!

We have seen God do some great things in East Mansfield! We have seen people with addiction problems turn away from their sin and embrace Christ! Fatherless men have found their "Daddies!" When Hank accepted Christ, with big tears in his eyes he said, "I finally know who my daddy is!" The stories of how Christ is changing not only the people, but the entire atmosphere in East Mansfield can go on and on, and we are in awe of it! God is using these people to expand His kingdom and bring glory to His name.

In addition to our Wednesday bible study, we have started a Sunday worship time! We meet Sunday mornings at 10 and worship God together! "Church" is happening here because Jesus showed up in East Mansfield and is forever changing this complex!





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
Eastgate Bible Church

Church Mailing Address
179 Holbrook st.

City Ashland	State Ohio	Zip 44805
-----------------	---------------	--------------

Phone 419-908-8181	Email njwells01@yahoo.com
-----------------------	------------------------------

Meeting Place 179 Holbrook st	Web Site
----------------------------------	----------

Pastor or principle leader
Nathan Wells

Address
1186 Township Rd 1106

City Ashland	State Oh	Zip 44805
-----------------	-------------	--------------

Phone 419-908-8181	Email njwells@yahoo.com
-----------------------	----------------------------

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

Not yet, but will join NEO later in year 2012

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.

Yes

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.?

Statement of Faith; relational connection with both mother church: Ashland West Main; NEO District and VisionOhio

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

Pastor Nathan Wells

Pastor Jim Norris

Mark Holsinger (Elder in training)

Andy Shank (Elder in training & Church Planter)

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

Connection through Statement of Faith and activities tied with FGBC.

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

We practice Triune Immersion as our only form of water baptism and practice Threefold Communion several times per year.

To the best or 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?

None.

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? 100

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 multiplied by \$3.90

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

EastGate Bible Church was planted out of a ministry of Ashland GBC in 2006. It originally started as a ministry to the multitude of children running around a low-income apartment complex in Ashland, OH. The Lord then provided an opportunity to begin a weekly Bible study with some of the adults who were hanging around the apartments as well. Right from the start the Lord began invading lives and saving individuals and families who all lived together in this apartment complex. Weekly “church” became floor seats in whatever apartment was empty that week. God continued to grow this “Spiritual Community” and soon a building at the rear of the apt complex was available. Through a miracle, God provided that building and land surrounding it which enabled the weekly apartment Bible study to expand to Sundays and give opportunity to reach the whole east side of Ashland. God has done amazing, miraculous things throughout the life of EastGate Bible Church. He has redeemed entire families, He has freed many from generational sins and habits, and He has infused this group of people with a fiery love for their true Savior, Jesus Christ!

The believers at EastGate Bible Church are a rare breed. They are experiencing daily freedom and daily dependence on their new-found “Daddy”. Their love and passion is raw and real. These believers worship from hearts that know the depths and emptiness of sin, and have instead received (for the first time in most of their lives) unmerited favor and overflowing love! They are bold, unafraid, and unapologetic for the way they share Jesus with everyone they meet. Many of the people at EastGate will say that this is the family and Jesus is the love they never knew. Starting with that Bible Study, God has saved almost 200 lives in the past 5 years. We are thrilled and blown away at His grace.

EastGate has also been instrumental in beginning a similar work in another low-income apartment complex down the street in Mansfield, OH. (led by Andy and Kim Shank). If the Lord is willing, EastGate Bible Church will be the first of many similar churches planted in low-income apartment complexes all across Ohio.



Our first VBS... some kids walked over alone and got saved and brought their parents!



Our second baptism! Whole families together!



Some of our 5th Birthday party outside!



Nathan and Jena Wells. EastGate Church Building on right, Stoney Creek apartments in rear.
Praise God!



KNOWNING 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

Church Mailing Address

City	State	Zip
------	-------	-----

Phone	Email
-------	-------

Meeting Place	Web Site
---------------	----------

Pastor or principle leader

Address

City	State	Zip
------	-------	-----

Phone	Email
-------	-------

Tell Us about Your Church and Its People . . .

Attach or give a brief history or testimony about your churches ministry, including any pictures that capture the heart of the congregation and mission.

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

Tell Us About Your Current and Future Connections to the FGBC Family . . .

The FGBC is committed to biblical relationships . . .

Is there another Grace Brethren Church, ministry or district that is helping you connect with the FGBC and process this membership application. If so, which one? Please describe your relationship with that church, ministry, or district.

Why does your church desire membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches?

To the best or 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?

In what ways does your church intend to continue its cooperation with other churches in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (For example, cooperative activities such as National Conference, District Ministerium, Focus Retreats, etc.)

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?

Tell Us About Your Church's Commitment to the Bible . . .

The FGBC is committed to biblical truth . . .

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. ***What questions does this raise for you and your church that we should discuss together?***

(Add the web site location for the Constitution and MoP)

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.? <note: Idea: "Have you already officially aligned with the Statement of Faith or the Declaration of Common Identity and are people in your church aware of this alignment?">

The Mission We Commit To Pursue Together . . .

The FGBC is committed to biblical mission . . .

Please read the Commitment to Common Mission (www.fgbc.org). Please comment on any ideas or dreams your church has in any of the three areas of ministry:

Developing Leaders

Planting a new church

Engaging in integrated ministry in your community?

We encourage you to consider reading "Restoring the Household" by Todd Scoles in order to become more familiar with the FGBC family. We welcome the opportunity to discuss any questions you might have as a result of what you learn.

How many people are presently members of this church? _____

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 multiplied by \$3.90

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

<note: idea: Delete this if constitution changes.>

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

<note: idea: Remove this if the constitution changes.>

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.
(A Not-For-Profit Organization)

Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

Year Ended October 31, 2011 and 2010

Table of Contents

Accountant's Report	1
Statement of Financial Position	2
Statement of Activities	3
Statement of Functional Expenses	4
Statement of Cash Flow	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6-8

Independent Accountant's Review Report

To the Board of Directors
Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches , Inc.
PO Box 384
Winona Lake, IN 46590

We have reviewed the accompanying statement of financial position of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches , Inc. (a nonprofit organization) as of October 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As disclosed in Note A to the financial statements, generally accepted accounting principles require that the cost of assets which have a useful life of greater than one year be capitalized. The organization has not capitalized such expenditures and the effect to the financial statements has not been determined.

Owens & Company, P.C.

December 22, 2011

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
October 31, 2011 and 2010

Assets		<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 62,924	\$ 69,960	
Prepaid Expenses	3,353	8,622	
Other Receivables	2,894	0	
Accounts Receivable	500	1,866	
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 69,671</u>	<u>\$ 80,448</u>	
OTHER ASSETS			
GBIF - Pension Investment	8,154	19,304	
PNC - Pension Investment	2,237	0	
LCB - Pension Investment	1,626	1,626	
Total Other Assets	<u>\$ 12,017</u>	<u>\$ 20,930</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 81,687</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 101,378</u></u>	
Liabilities & Net Assets			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 141	
Payroll Liabilities	256	456	
Accounts Payable	11,035	2,292	
Agency Funds, Current Portion	11,376	12,256	
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 22,667</u>	<u>\$ 15,144</u>	
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES			
Agency Funds, Net of Current Portion	\$ 29,543	\$ 43,106	
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$ 29,543</u>	<u>\$ 43,106</u>	
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$ 52,210</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 58,251</u></u>	
NET ASSETS			
Prior Period Adjustment	\$ (2,024)	\$ 0	
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(30,527)	(32,680)	
Unrestricted Net Assets	62,028	75,807	
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 29,477</u>	<u>\$ 43,127</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 81,687</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 101,378</u></u>	

See accompanying notes and accountant's report.

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches , Inc.
Statement of Activities
Year Ended October 31, 2011 and 2010

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Revenues		
Membership Fees	\$ 142,586	\$ 143,803
Conference Income	90,739	62,842
Contributions	61,067	56,568
Focus Retreats	23,979	20,149
Other Income	1,189	10
Total Unrestricted Revenue	\$ 319,560	\$ 283,372
Expenses		
Program Services		
Conference	\$ 124,275	\$ 98,666
Focus Retreats	48,757	47,187
Supporting Services		
Fellowship Council and Committees	67,261	44,970
General Administrative	93,046	96,214
Total Expenses	\$ 333,339	\$ 287,037
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$ (13,779)	\$ (3,666)
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Interest Income - Temporarily Restricted	\$ 350	\$ 1,042
POH Donations - Temporarily Restricted	8,303	6,188
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(6,500)	(35,175)
(Increase)/Decrease in Present Value of Benefit Obligation	0	(2)
CHANGE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$ 2,153	\$ (27,947)
Change in Net Assets	\$ (11,626)	\$ (31,612)
Prior Period Adjustment	(2,024)	0
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	43,127	74,739
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$ 29,477</u>	<u>\$ 43,127</u>

See accompanying notes and accountant's report.

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.
Statement of Functional Expenses
Year Ended October 31, 2011, with Comparative Totals for 2010

	Conference	Focus Retreat	Fellowship Council and Committees	Office and Administration	Totals	
					2011	2010
Operating Expenses						
Salaries and Benefits	37,251	21,286	6,087	47,894	112,517	111,386
Moderator	0	0	0	0	0	127
Facilities and Equipment	0	6,467	0	0	6,467	15,542
Office and Administration	882	71	425	24,412	25,790	27,275
Travel	4,371	3,203	57,577	11,239	76,390	35,555
Printing and Promotion	10,690	200	280	9,347	20,517	23,114
Special Events	70,928	17,531	2,892	154	91,505	73,458
Other	153	0	0	0	153	579
Total Operating Expenses	<u>124,275</u>	<u>48,758</u>	<u>67,261</u>	<u>93,046</u>	<u>333,339</u>	<u>287,036</u>

See accompanying notes and accountant's report.

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended October 31, 2011 and 2010

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Increase(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ (11,626)	\$ (31,612)
Adjustments to reconcile change in Net Assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Prior Period Adjustment	(2,024)	0
Decrease(Increase) in Operating Assets:		
Accounts Receivable	1,366	27,655
Other Receivable	(2,894)	(1,590)
Other Assets	8,913	0
Prepaid Expenses	5,269	5,655
Increase (Decrease) in Operating Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	8,743	2,292
Accured Payroll Expense	(200)	(109)
Accrued Expenses	(141)	(1,100)
Agency Funds	<u>(14,443)</u>	<u>578</u>
Total Adjustments	<u>4,589</u>	<u>33,381</u>
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	<u>(7,037)</u>	<u>1,769</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>69,960</u>	<u>68,191</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 62,924</u>	<u>\$ 69,960</u>

See accompanying notes and accountant's report.

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
October 31, 2011 and 2010

NOTE A – ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Ministries – The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. (the Organization) exists to encourage and enable member churches in equipping and uniting the saints in fulfilling the Great Commission. These member churches are located throughout the United States and are independently organized and locally controlled. The major programs include the annual conference of Grace Brethren Churches and local leadership retreats. The principal sources of funding are annual membership fees and registration fees for conferences and retreats.

Income Taxes – The Organization is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, income from certain activities not directly related to the Organization's tax-exempt purpose is subject to taxation as unrelated business income. In addition, the Organization qualifies for the charitable contribution deduction under Section 170(b)(1)(A) and has been classified as an organization other than a private foundation under section 509(a)(2).

Basis of Presentation – The financial statement presentation follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in its Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, "Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations." Under SFAS No. 117, the Organization is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

Cash and Cash Equivalents – For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Organization considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash and investments which have permanent restrictions placed upon them are included in other assets.

Accounts Receivable – Accounts receivable are primarily comprised of expenses to be reimbursed. The Organization considers accounts receivable to be fully collectible; accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts is required. Management closely monitors outstanding accounts receivable and charges off to expense any balances that are determined to be uncollectable.

Deferred Revenue – Registration and fees received in advance for conferences and retreats are deferred and recognized over the periods to which the registrations and fees are related.

Contributions – Contributions received are recognized as revenue in the period received. All contributions are available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor.

Agency Funds – The Organization has collected funds for the benefit of another organization and has listed these funds as a current liability. The agency funds are designated for "Promise of Honor."

Use of Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Restricted Resources – Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions expire in the reporting period in which the revenue is recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets from restrictions.

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
October 31, 2011 and 2010

NOTE A – ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

Membership – Membership in the Organization is made up of local Grace Brethren Churches, which subscribe to a common covenant and statement of faith. Membership fees are sent to the Organization based on the membership of the local church.

Property and Equipment – Generally accepted accounting principles require that the cost of assets that have a useful life greater than one (1) year should be capitalized and depreciated over its estimated useful life. The Organization has not capitalized such costs and the effects on the current financial statements have not been determined.

NOTE B – DONATED SERVICES

No amounts have been reflected in the financial statements for donated services. The Organization pays for services requiring specific expertise. However, many individuals volunteer their time and perform a variety of tasks that assist the Organization with specific assistance programs and various committee assignments.

NOTE C – RETIREMENT PLANS

Promise of Honor Plan:

The Organization sponsors a defined benefit plan. Participation in the plan was closed as of December 31, 1986. Benefits continue to be paid out of the plan assets. This plan has a non-interest bearing checking account through PNC and a savings account with Grace Brethren Investment Foundation earning 2.53% interest in 2011.

<u>Obligations and Funded Status</u>	<u>Pension Benefits</u>	
	<u>10/31/11</u>	<u>10/31/10</u>
Fair value of plan assets	\$ 10,391	\$ 19,304
Present value of benefit obligation	40,918	55,362
Unfunded status	30,527	36,058
Donations	6,500	6,188
Benefits paid	11,500	35,175

<u>Assumptions</u>	<u>Pension Benefits</u>	
	<u>10/31/11</u>	<u>10/31/10</u>
Weighted -average assumptions used to determine benefit obligations:		
Discount/Interest rate	2.79%	3.05%

Life Expectancy Estimates from Social Security Agency's statistical report for 2011
<http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/STATS/table4c6.html>

The following benefit payments, which reflect expected future service, as appropriate with the assumed life expectancy, to be paid without the assumption of interest earned over the years:

	<u>Pension Benefits</u>
10/31/2012	11,376
10/31/2013	10,976
10/31/2014	10,976
10/31/2015	4,010
10/31/2016	2,326
10/31/2017	<u>1,254</u>
Total	\$ 40,918

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
October 31, 2011 and 2010

NOTE C – RETIREMENT PLAN (cont.)

Employee Retirement Plan:

Also, the Organization sponsors a defined contribution retirement plan for its full time employees and for eligible pastors of member churches. Administrative expenses are paid out of plan assets. The Organization contributes to the plan a percentage of each eligible employee's salary. Contributions made during the years ended October 31, 2011 & 2010 were \$8,632 and \$8,592 respectfully.

NOTE D – RESTRICTIONS OF NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets consist of the following:

	<u>10/31/11</u>	<u>10/31/10</u>
Defined Benefit Plan "Promise of Honor"	\$ (40,918)	\$ (51,984)
Retirement Investment Plan	<u>10,391</u>	<u>19,304</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ (30,527)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (32,680)</u></u>

NOTE E – CONCENTRATION OF CONTRIBUTORS RISK

The Organization's contributions are received from many individuals as well as small churches. However there are 8 churches that give close to 30% of all contributions in each year. It is unlikely that all 8 churches would discontinue operations at the same time. Therefore there is not a perceived risk due to concentration of contributors.

NOTE F – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Tom Avey is a full-time employee of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, and is also a board member on the Retirement Investment Committee (approved by delegates at the annual conference) that oversees the interest of the 401(k) retirement plan and Promise of Honor pension plan for the Organization. Tom's position on the board is completely voluntary and he receives no form of compensation.

Budget for 2012

For the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.

		2011 Budget Nov2010-Oct2011	Actual 2011 Nov2010-Oct2011	Budget 2012 Approved	Budget 2013 Proposed
Revenues					
(1)	Membership Fees	\$ 140,000	142,586	147,000	162,000
	Conference Income	75,000	90,739	91,000	91,000
	Focus Retreats	25,000	23,979	20,000	24,000
(2)	Donations	50,000	54,567	60,000	60,000
(3)	Unused Moderator Project	14,000			
	Other Income	5,000	1,189	3,000	2,000
	Total Revenue	\$ 309,000	313,060	321,000	339,000
Expenses					
	Program Services				
(4)	Conference	\$ 105,000	124,275	136,000	136,000
(5)	Focus Retreats	50,000	48,758	40,000	50,000
	Supporting Services				
	Fellowship Council ***	7,500	18,886	12,000	17,000
(6)	Moderator				
	Honorarium *	13,000	13,000	12,000	12,000
	Travel *	7,500	12,496	7,500	7,500
	Assistant *	7,500	6,087	7,500	7,500
	Materials/Consultant *	3,500	3,260	3,500	3,500
	EVLC	15,000	13,532	15,000	15,000
	General Administration	96,000	86,546	87,500	90,000
	Total Expenses	\$ 305,000	326,840	321,000	338,500

Footnotes

(1) Fellowship Fee Schedule

Per attender	\$ 3.90	4.25
Max	\$ 6,000.00	6,500

Increase

(2) Donations From Nat Mins

Requested for 2012		
GCS	\$ 7,000	
BMH	\$ 7,000	
GBIM	\$ 7,000	
CEN	\$ 2,500	
Go2	\$ -	
GBIF	\$ 30,000	
AGBM	\$ 2,500	
Cooperating Ministries and other	\$ 4,000	
	\$ 60,000	

(3) Unused Moderator Fund

GBIF gave \$20,000 in 2009 and \$20,000 in 2010 for the moderator project. Of this amount, \$14,000 is unused as of the end of fiscal 2010 (October 31, 2010)

(4) National Conference Income and Expenses

Based on a preliminary budget for conference 2012, we should assume a \$15,000 loss. Additionally \$30,000 of office salaries are allocated to conference expenses in the budget and year end reports.

(5) Focus Retreat Income and Expenses

Focus Retreat income and expense amounts will change with the size (attendance) of the retreats. The difference between these amounts is the allocation of office salaries to focus retreats (\$15k) plus \$5,000 of anticipated loss due to financial aid and operation costs. The amount for retreats paid by participants is only for direct lodging and meal costs from the retreat center.

(6) Moderator Fund

Honorarium in 2012		
\$1000 per month for 12 months	\$	12,000.00
Total	\$	<u>12,000.00</u>
Assistant for 2012		
52 weeks @ \$142 per week	\$	7,800.00
Equipment/Supplies	\$	100.00
Total	\$	<u>7,900.00</u>
Travel in 2012		
Does not include travel to FC meeting based on \$625 per month for 12 months	\$	7,500.00
Materials/Consultant in 2012		
George Bullard phone consultations	\$	4,000.00
Total in 2012		<u>\$ 31,400.00</u>

EVLC

Each EVLC Team is allowed \$5k per year (including one all-EVLC meeting in the Fall)