

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES**Fellowship Council Minutes**

Location: Grace Brethren Church, Sacramento, CA

Thursday – February 2

The Leadership Team (The Four Moderators) met beginning at 9:00 AM. The full council met at 2:00 PM.

020206-01: Full Fellowship Council Meeting (2:00 pm)

PRESENT: Keith Shearer (Mod 06), Doug Courter [filling vacated term of Ron Smals] (E-07), Joel Richards (AGBM VP), Tim Boal (Mod 07), Ed Waken (W-06), Robert MacMillan (W-08), Dan Allen (Mod-05), C. Jim Brown (Mod 08), Tom Hocking (W-09), Mike Jentes (C-06), Jesus Munoz (Guest--Hispanic Ministries), Dan O'Deens [filling vacated term of Jim Brown-Phila.] (E-08), Larry Edwards (C-07), Andy Wirt (W-09), Dan Gregory (C-08) and Greg Howell (FC Recording Secretary)

ABSENT: Tom Avey (recovering from surgery), Nathan Zakahi (W-07), Vic Young (C-06), Mike Lee (E-09)

Keith Shearer opened the meeting with a time of worship and prayer.

Introductions of new Fellowship Council members where made by Keith Shearer: Doug Courter, Dan O'Deens, Andy Wirt, Tom Hocking.

Information details were gathered: Cell Phone numbers, lodging arrangements, Sunday assignments.

020206-02: Commission Meetings

The Commissions met to continue discussions initiated in pre-meeting conference calls.

Finance Commission - Larry Edwards (chair), Doug Courter, Andy Wirt, Tom Hocking

The Finance Commission met by phone on January 10. Agenda items include:

1. New Membership Fee System
2. Revisions to the financial report and budget
3. Promise of Honor
4. Avey's health insurance

Structures Commission - Robert MacMillan (chair), Vic Young, Nathan Zakahi, Dan O'Deens.

The Structures Commission met by phone on January 11. Agenda items include:

1. Committees and appointments: Nominating, Parliamentary; Membership; Secretary and Treasurer
2. Hispanic/Ethnic Advisor
3. Changes to the Cooperating Organization status
4. Changes to the membership fee structure.
5. District Liaison Assignments
6. Old discussion item: Changes to the Fellowship Council member and Moderator term
7. Formation of an Enduring Visionary Leadership Team
8. District Representation on the Fellowship Council
9. Special mid-year commission meetings.

Membership Commission - Ed Waken (chair), Mike Jentes, Dan Gregory

The Membership Commission met by phone on January 10. Agenda items include:

1. New Church applications
2. Delinquent churches
3. Changes to the Cooperating Organization status
4. Changes to the membership fee structure.
5. Inactive Churches and membership in the FGBC
6. "Why Associate Brochure"
7. Member churches that have relationships with other denominations.
8. How can we better connect churches to one another?

6:00 Dinner

Friday – February 3 (All day is for the Fellowship Council and leaders of Cooperating Organizations)

PRESENT: K. Shearer, Jim Brown, L Edwards, D. Courter, Tim Boal, Ed Waken, Robert MacMillan, Dan Allen, Tom Hocking, Dan Gregory, Dan O'Deens, Jesus Munoz, Mike Jentes, Andy Wirt, Nathan Zakahi, Greg Howell. COOPERATING ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES: Larry Chamberlain (GBIF), Ed Lewis (CE Nat), Ron Manahan (Grace Schools), Terry White (BMH), Janet Minnix (WOG), Dave Guiles (GBIM), Jeff Carroll (Grace Village), John Haller (GBM).

Devotions: Keith Shearer from Mt 9:35-39,. He noted the verbs with "said" last, a lot of doing by Jesus went on before He said anything. He also noted feeling. Why are we not broken more for the lost. Maybe we aren't because we don't see" the people. Ps 126:6 "...sowing in tears and reaping in joy" –connection between sorrow and joy. How do you sow in tears and reap in joy? Cf. Hospitals as we visit—one very happy place—maternity, sowing in tears and reaping in joy. We think about that in relation to evangelism also. Booth about evangelism success: "Try tears". Can't manufacture, but need tears. 10 reasons why not broken in this area: 1) fast pace of life—don't stop to see/help people in need, 2) Our unwillingness to be vulnerable or hurt by lost people,--CS Lewis "To love at all is to be vulnerable" 3) Our areas of immaturity, childish, but not childlike, 4) our isolation from people, 5) misplaced priorities, 6) Are too many of my needs met? Like Laodicea, 7) Is my perspective too narrow, --lost people around me? 8) Is it possible that I just get used to being unbroken? 9) We avoid painful situations, 10) We ignore the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Prayer time around table for lost. The Lord does not despise a broken heart.

Note: Cooperating Organizations were invited to submit a written report to the Fellowship Council in advance of this meeting. One strategic organization is invited each year for an in-depth report leading to extended questions and discussion about the focus of that ministry. This year Dr. Manahan was invited to report on Grace Schools and to introduce a discussion about leadership training in the FGBC.

020306-01: Dr. Manahan prepared the group for a focused discussion on pastoral leadership development.

Dr Manahan reviewed the written Grace report. Highlights included the following: Student involvement with service (Gulf Coast, rescue center, etc). Paid internships in orthopedic industries with the goal to be a clear witness. Modern language majors 38, 26 minors, 181 BA majors, a large pool of people studying different languages and cultures. Latino initiative with 25 school systems from Indiana, funding from non-believers friends of the school. The Bowen Center is requesting Latino students interested in mental health training (currently 2). The Orthopedic Capital Center with \$7.3 of \$9.2 needed already raised. The goal is to use the facility at the 2007 commencement. It will seat 3000 with break out rooms and will be used for College Chapel. The percentage of FGBC students is approximately 30%. The historical highest was 45%. Typically the student body represents 25 denominations and 41 people groups. Applications for 2007 surpassed all of applications for 2006 by Dec, 2006. Accepted applications include average ACT scores of 20-21 and SAT scores of 980. The Grace Presidential Scholars program attracted students with SAT scores of almost 1300 (130 students). The Seminary is up twice what it was year ago. MA in Counseling has 40-45 students. Prison programs have 260 students in them.

Leadership Development: Ron stated that He often goes back to read Articles of Incorporation, Grace College is not a Bible College it is a Arts and Science college and has been from the beginning. The focus of the founders was on evangelicalism. The schools strategic plan is to grow from the current total count of just under 1350 students, to 1850 in 7 years while increasing the academic quality significantly. The number graduating from seminary since 2000 was 140 and approximately 25-30% were FGBC which equals approximately 45. Many of these graduates are now in FGBC ministry but we still need more. Like Stephen Covey, Grace is are "seeking first to understand before seeking to be understood" The new M. Div. curriculum requires less languages, is more driven by technology, requirements are reduced from 93 hrs to 63 core with 18 concentrated and 12 electives and some new courses. The greatest changes come in adaptation. Women's ministry initiative: Typically 35-40% of evangelical seminaries are women, Grace is 11%. A new professor of women's ministries is being interviewed in 10 days. She has been Co-director of women's ministries at Chuck Swindoll's church (Fullerton CA) and grew up in FGBC. We have funding by 2 donors that is sufficient to fund 2 years salary for this person. Partnerships allow things that Grace couldn't do otherwise such as partnerships with GBNAM and Terry Hofecker in Church planting. Is there some role Grace can play in revitalizing traditional churches? Grace has begun to talk with Northridge Community Church in W. Detroit as a model for turnaround and a resource to help other churches. Grace is just about ready to finish a link up with Columbus area churches and the Seminary. Mark Soto is working on online education (very costly). Customization: what about a local church or region or zone that wants to provide specialized credits. Grace is linking with CEU specialist to be able to grant CEUs to legitimate providers.

Note: at the time of the printing of these minutes, the Professor for Women's Ministry development is Dr. Christy Morr.

020306-02: Follow-up discussion

How can we fast track leaders in evangelism? What kind of credentials do they need in order to do what they want to do (vocational or bi-vocational)? How then does the church makes a decision about what is it that they need to prepare and what are things that they can do at a distance to educationally prepare? For example: "John Smith has completed <name> program in church planting and receives <number> CEUs for it." BILD has proven track so it would fit. However, there needs to be room for customization for the individual church. Credentials may not be as important as endorsement by Grace Seminary on the process according to the person's sense or calling. The method currently is to use CEU's to affirm such a process. However Grace does not license or ordain. CEUs represent a learning experience and can be converted to degree credit at the conferring institution (however they can't be transferred to another school). World View development is critical.

Grace needs to deliberately drop a quality theologian into each district to make all the "boats rise" and develop life-long learning opportunities.

We need a more formal way to stay abreast of practical and theological trends. (Robert MacMillan is dependent on his daughters in Seminary and College to know what biblical issues are current.) Perhaps we are becoming franchise ministries.

Columbus area churches are ready to launch a church planter's class in 18 months (connected to Grace) Are they going to be ready and capable once they reach the field? AGBM needs to disciple men and release them into the ministry.

If we have 5.4 million hits on a website for church planters, some will take Terry Hofecker's class. Young adults graduating from the 4-12 Commission and are ready and eager to serve but they don't have life experiences to ensure success. We need pastors ready to step up to the plate and train and send. These others (4-12) are best suited as prep situations. It is not the Seminary's fault that we don't have more leaders/pastors. Let's be aware of the brands and encourage everyone. The key is not that we want everything uniform, but we must have some means to come alongside to help meet and verify benchmarks. Something like this will provide the glue to keep the Fellowship functioning. Do I know that I can trust Pastor _____? Yes, because I have fellowship with him and I know his heart. We need more glue to hold us together. Institution and organic both need to have freedom and structure.

Dave Guiles (Grace Brethren International Missions) On global perspective: We have planted churches around the world that are just like us—fiercely independent. How does GBIM minister to all these churches? The approach has been to find a person to be point man for each area, but they could not find a person like Tom Julian. So GBIM re-focused to study, analyze and identify godly men and women to be able to come alongside those who are doing it. Twelve Latin American leaders where asked "what is your vision and vision for leadership development." Our autonomy is both our blessing and bane. Chad has a small Bible school that is producing a certain kind of pastor and on the side a layman (ostracized for being a layman). Summer institutes for evangelists have produced 100 churches in 5 years. Now they have joined to work together. They need to co-exist even if they don't fit together perfectly. Summer Institute is 8 wks longs and then graduates go out and teach what they learned to as many as they can and come back next summer to get some more. Some students, after 3-4 summers, are realizing that they need more advanced training.

Janet Minnix (Women of Grace, USA) is really excited about the information from Grace about new women's ministry track. Women of Grace, USA have struggled in training women to be leaders of women's ministries in local churches. Grace's new program is the beginning of the answer. "Pastors, as good as you are, you are not equipped to train women to be leaders." A Youth Pastor is able to help in many ways but not to help a girl to become a godly woman. Grace's bible training and theology will be the greatest help. Women need to be able to lead a Bible study or at least have discernment about the Bible study material being used. This will change the perspective on women leading and will elevate the position. Her burden, passion will be able to be expressed just as much as Pastor's calling. She will have the ability to learn and develop leadership skills. They will be able to go out and pass on what they have learned to the women in their churches. Looking forward to what God is going to do as women learn to lead women. Dr. Manahan is obviously excited about it. Often women are a key to

positive ministry and lend a sensitivity that men often don't have. Janet has been invited to join Grace Board for this initiative as well as a number of other women.

Jesus Munoz : Materials are being translated into Spanish from Grace and are in use already in Argentina. GBIF has been providing funds each year to train pastors. We are no longer just reacting but now are able to be proactive. There is a website in Spanish with information about training. Approximately 50 have asked for more information. 16 have expressed interest in full-time ministry and 4 are ready. Jesus is encouraged by the increased interest.

T. Boal: The portfolio system tries to create a synopsis of life/ministry experiences and promoted the mentality of lifelong learning (rather than a finished education at graduation). We really have a need in the FGBC for creation of lifelong learning not just for pastors but for any people in any vocation to be able to defend and explain their faith and to be salt and light in their environment. It becomes almost a journal of lifelong experiences. There will be a class on the portfolio system at Equip-07. We need to start with our pastors and then to the people. We could call Larry Orme for help with portfolios (there are lots of examples). It can become a digital portfolio like Monster.com.

Question: How is the women's ministry program at Grace Seminary going to be presented?

Answer: We are beginning to talk about it in many settings like this meeting and are open to suggestions about ways to present this.

Discussion: The potential instructor is from Ashland GBC. Dan Allen (Pastor of Ashland GBC) said that she is a sharp, intelligent lady that grew up in FGBC and has worked outside fellowship.

Question: What about her theological understanding and practice

Answer: Manahan, both in practice and theory she is not advocating women as elders or pastors. Sunijian's wife has been her mentor.

Manahan: Grace is working on a Christian camping degree in association with a Camp in Wisconsin. Academically certified to prepare camp leaders for evangelistic ministry.

Question: O'Deens to Guiles- "How do you define women who act even as pastors. Terminology, function.

Answer: ACTS planters, 1 Cor. gifts are given to the church. Ephesians –"shepherd" not formally "pastor" as seen in US and authority is not connected with gifts. Function is the Bible's emphasis not authority. Authority is granted by the church and only to men. Women may function pastorally, but should not assume or be endowed with power of pastoral office.

What do you do with a woman on field who is the "spiritual leader" but not consider her a "pastor" but would not have solo ministry—partner and spiritual covering?

Lewis: Inconsistency in local church- She can teach Bible at Christian school, but can't teach SS class. Things we can do "over there" but not here. We need women in youth ministry. It is very difficult for a woman to address the subject. Men need to be the ones who can become advocates for women's ministry.

Minnix: 3 or 4 different times we have been asked as Women of Grace, USA "what is your position?. Women of Grace, USA does not believe that this is our place. It is your job (men/pastors).

The AGBM Certificate summit in March elicits lots of concern about the idea that women will be ordained. Yet no one in AGBM leadership is proposing that women be ordained as pastors with authority. However, just the idea of adjusting levels is cause for alarm out there. 50% of people we will develop may well be women so this topic fits discussion.

Church ministry holistically—Manahan: In the evangelical and FGBC community "ministry" means professional. But in the future and in many parts of world "ministry" is not seen as profession. We are quick to lament that there is a shortage of leadership, but many other professions are clamoring for credentialing in their profession as an influence for good in their work place/profession.

Script written in patriarchal society where women are viewed as possessions. What about Deborah and Barach, Ruth (non-Israelite), all the names in Romans 16. None of these passages talk about women in authority, but ministry is broad and there are many places to stand and do ministry.

MacMillan: It devolves to pastors of local churches to identify, promote and celebrate ministry. Maybe we need to be promoting the various expressions of leadership.

Waken: We need to cultivate these relationships around the table and not holding suspicions. We also need to be sure that we are not reactionary. We need to be able to embrace these things as they come down the pike, positively.

Allan: A staff lady in his church is not a Children's pastor, but "coordinator" but "pastors" more people than most pastors. We need to act on Janet's action item—"What is the FGBC position on women in ministry?"

020306-03: Cooperating Organization Questions and Answers

Larry Chamberlain (GBIF): GBIF will be dealing with their request to be considered a cooperating organization. He noted articles in newest edition of Valuelines about Jim Brown of Goshen, IN & Chip Heim of East Columbus, Ohio. He noted that GBIF raised interest rate from 3 ¼ to 3 ½% and just approved grants to FGBC cooperating organizations. Eagle Commission contributions allow John Schumacher to be able to visit our Chaplains who report that we do a tremendous job compared to other denominations. Carlton Fuller VA chaplain just died. In 1988 he had been flown in to DC for formal dinner and highest honor as Chaplain of the Year. Ken Seyfert attended the dedication of the new meeting facility of Hope Community in Raleigh NC (Mike Lee, Pastor).

Question: Concerning problems with liabilities of overseeing Chaplains.

Answer: Military is very strict and 501 c3 cares for other potentialities.

Ed Lewis (CE National): Developing leaders means helping them reach out of their comfort zones. Josh McDowell said to the Baptist conference that BNYC is the best youth conference. CE National is endorsing The Way of the Master (Ray Comfort) based on our understanding that 85% of "converts" don't stick because they are just adding Christ to life not depending on Him. CE is sponsoring Six Days Away, and Remix in March (Gary McIntosh). 412 Commission- Jay Bell calls them the Dream Team. There are two locations - Akron, Ohio and Sebring, Florida. The last two months are internships. Moody provides up to 26 credits. 412 is a foundational program that gives the opportunity to be discipled. The feedback has been strong. On a scale of 1-10 related to ministry preparation one said 13, another 10. We are doubling locations next year (Goshen and Lititz). All of CE's ministries relate to FGBC because that is our ministry.

Terry White (BMH) Our Mission is to nurture build cohesiveness, share ideas, provide platforms for people to communicate (FGBC World, BLOG, BMH Books). Terry is on the Brethren Encyclopedia Board. Volume 4 should be coming out soon. The board is gearing up for the 300th birthday of Brethren Church. BMH is almost completed with a cleanup of GBC Media assets. They published 11 new or republished works. They published a book by Keith Shearer on his moderator's theme. Tim Boal is writing a book on his theme and Jim Brown is planning a book. Terry met with a national consultant that will get BMH in to 1000 Christian Bookstores and Big Box (Costco) and Barnes & Noble, etc. They have about 10-12 projects planned this year. They just about finished a deal to begin distributing J Whitcomb's books. BMH sold 3000 Greatness of the Kingdom books by Alva J McClain, 500 each of Kent's commentaries on Mark, John, and James. They are will spending more dollars than making, however BMH will be positioned to make money on existing books to finance new projects.

Tim Boal: The disaster relief fund collected \$191,603 and all but \$9,000 has gone out to relief efforts. Most were hands-on projects by Grace Brethren Churches. The Disaster Relief Fund is an open-ended fund: it will remain in operation and available for future disasters. Dan O'Deens started relief efforts then GBIM and other Cooperating Organizations got involved with GBNAM overseeing funds. It would be good to put this in the budget for future disasters. RAB is for international relief. This fund (Disaster Relief Fund) is for USA disasters. It makes sense to have different funds.

O'Deens: We tend to give to catastrophes that we can't control or avert and ones we can we don't give to. I wonder if as a Fellowship we are prepared. What might be our niche in crisis? Maybe we need to establish a task force. Tom Avey and Tim Boal have discussed this matter, as to how this should be Fellowship driven. They will have more conversations.

1
2 GBNAM: We can't plant churches without leaders. There are lots of reasons why we don't have more leaders,
3 but still need to have more fishing poles. #1 priority: "How do we find more men and women for ministry? Pray.
4 Think through how young people would react to our mission, ministry, and heritage. Focus on finding, recruiting,
5 training, and releasing leaders. How would we find/identify leaders? GBNAM is trying to get a wider funnel of
6 initial opportunity so the likelihood is more positive. They partnered with Ridley and Phychometrics and created
7 16 online questions as a preliminary assessment and followed by 18 months of training ending with a church
8 plant. Today's church planters don't look like those of yesterday. Tim will ask every pastor to ask every person in
9 church to take the 16 question preliminary survey. And every day we need to pray for workers for the harvest.
10 Our fishing won't work if we don't pray. Will they be Theologically astute in 18 months? NO, so we need to make
11 opportunities for them to be life-long learners so they are disciplined. We are progressive so we will obviously see
12 changes along the way. We have a heritage so we need to stay within the boundaries of our stream when we
13 increase the flow. Need to find degrees of recognition for church planters that don't fit current licensure and
14 ordination. Need a middle step: "Credentialed Church Planter", indicating a certain level of training/experience.
15 There is a real desire to see funding for church planters even if it is just a token. The missionary is the hammer
16 who helps build the house. The house is the church that is established by the missionary sent. We want church
17 planters to be the emphasis. We need to create funding for front-line people. Kevin and Suchu Song in San
18 Francisco: GBIF just gave funds to buy a home out of which to operate. Out of that they hope to plant a GBC in
19 SF. Phil Bryant has moved to Vancouver to plant in Western Canada. There are about 20 churches that have
20 started and about 70 are in the pipeline. Church planting has been flat for the past decade. Questions: How do
21 we compare with other denominations? Are we counting Neil Cole's and other denominations counting? The
22 nature of a movement is not to count. The underlying assumption is not Biblical that more is better. It is not
23 enough to start a church, the goal is to establish it for multi-generational impact on community. A church that
24 lasts over multiple generations. A church that is really established, not just a mile wide, and inch deep. There is
25 no shame in starting as many churches as we can and no shame in some failures. We have two offices: Telford
26 and WL and will open an operational center in Ohio.

27
28 AGBM: Jerry's report will show attempts to provide longevity to leadership and expand membership to church
29 planters (and women in ministry). The Credential Summit in March will be about adding and expanding
30 membership and grant greater authority to the ministerium. As moderator, Tim Boal will ask Conference to
31 strengthen the AGBM so that it has a greater voice in encouraging ministers to advance themselves. We need an
32 environment to encourage learning and not just book learning. Well over 80% of churches exist out of USA and
33 decisions we make matters to them and affect them. We must keep this in mind as we make changes.

34
35 Janet Minnix (Women of Grace, USA)—Distributed Women's Spectrum and brochures and talked about the Six
36 Core Values of Women of Grace. Women of Grace sees itself, not as individual church groups, but like CE
37 National where we are a resource for local church groups. In order to get women involved in mission, we want to
38 give them opportunities to go. Share the Hope brochure: Mexico City 2 yr, Argentina 1y, this year CAR orphan
39 care (June), Fall went to Trinidad, 10th yr to Urban Hope Spring 2005 awarded 1st scholarships to Grace
40 Students for mission trips. Seed money from GBIF and gifts given in memory or honor are funneled into this fund.
41 Thankful for what God is doing. Statistics of groups continue to decline, but part of cafeteria mindset is looking for
42 what will meet their needs. Women of Grace wants to be a resource, helping mix ingredients to equip and
43 motivate women for ministry, mission and prayer.

44
45 Jesus Muñoz - Hispanic Ministries: There are 21 Hispanic churches in the US. They are looking for ways to
46 expand and support growth. Hispanics are now the largest minority in US yet only 5% attend church. The US
47 has the second highest Hispanic population (Mexico is number 1). We want to start church planting centers: 16
48 men as future church planters, 4 new church plants (Washington, California, Florida and Indiana). Many are
49 going back to their own countries and taking back what they have learned. Pray one day that many more
50 Hispanic people will be attending National Conf and FOCUS retreats. Jesus told of a lady who tried to kill herself,
51 couldn't cope with several children. Then after she recovered, children were taken away, but could say "God is
52 with me" and today she wants to be all that she can, not for her kids but for Christ. The government is working on
53 ways to send them back. God is using what they see as We are looking for ingenious ways to fund support for
54 pastors and are looking for new ways to start churches. 11 churches are meeting in non-Grace Brethren
55 buildings.

56
57 MacMillan: Hispanics are taking back California
58

Guiles: GBIM is experiencing a 20% increase in the number of churches, 13% increase in deployments and offerings are up 30%. GBNAM BHAG's (Big Holy Audacious Goals) are: 1) to see more US churches mobilized cross culture, 2) 50% of new leaders to be church planters. 3) every church world-wide to have access to materials and training.

A "Point of light" is a group of people committed together to become a GBC: "a church in process". Don't label them, but count them that are emerging churches.

What are trends of other missions organizations? Number of candidates, etc? Dave Guiles is a member of a group of 20 directors of small denomination's missions organizations. Our giving is more personalized.

How long can we sustain our missionaries? Our per capita is \$106/per year. Churches are maxed out. We need to help them with creative ways to add to their mission's budget.

Is GBIM satisfied with short-term missions? It has great value in raising awareness, but the most value is when it seen as part of discipleship program. GBIM is revamping the program. They are doing short term missions: passing responsibility to local churches. A critical step is follow-up of team members. We are good on the front end, but churches need help with debriefing, follow up and not let sickness, jetlag interfere. Dr. Lingenfelter has stats from a study that there is no difference in giving, ministry etc. after 5 yrs. 412 Commission is doing it right with ministry preparation followed my ministry interns after.

Question: How do we separate Bible-centered (training) and Jesus-Centered (relational)? New missions need to be oral (ie: Jesus Project). New ways to tell the Gospel (and in ways that we didn't learn—so need to learn how they learn so we can teach). Next GBIM staff..an Oral Training Specialist?

Saturday – February 4 (Fellowship Council and Leadership team only)

PRESENT: Shearer, Boal, Courter, Edwards, Hocking, MacMillan, Allen, Brown, O'Deens,

Devotions and Prayer (20 minutes)

020406-01: Approve Minutes of the July/August meetings of the Fellowship Council.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve July/August 2005 Fellowship Council Minutes.

020406-02: Future Meeting Dates: (suggestion: that we plan 4 years in advance so new FC members know what the meeting expectations are)

2006 - Friday, July 28, 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm in Indian Wells, CA

2007 Do we want to move off of Superbowl Sunday? Yes, for the next 3 years.

Discussion/ideas:

January 25-27, the week ahead of So Cal FOCUS retreat

Might be good to meet in So Cal for NAT/ORGS getting to/from FOCUS and more churches in SoCal

Some interest in being in Florida to encourage struggling churches

Probably will be in California—up to Tom Avey

Thursday, Feb 1 @ 2:00 pm - Sunday, Feb 4 @ 3:00 pm – Location TBA

Saturday, July 27 @ 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – location TBA somewhere in Winona Lake

2008 Do we want to move off of Superbowl Sunday? YES, start on the last Thursday of Jan.

Discussion/ideas:

Thursday, Jan 31 @ 2:00 pm – Sunday, Feb 3 @ 3:00 pm – location TBA

Friday, July 26 @ 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – location TBA

2009 Do we want to move off of Superbowl Sunday?

Discussion/ideas:

Thursday, Jan 29 @ 2:00 pm – Sunday Feb 1 @ 3:00 pm – location TBA

020406-03: Equip05 Evaluation:

1 After Equip 05 we need evaluate and consider the value of continuing alternate year training style conferences.

2
3 Zakahi: Equip 05 was very encouraging to men in our district especially those who are having trouble with the
4 direction of the Fellowship.

5 Courter: Mid Atlantic District had almost 100% participation of pastors.

6
7 Edwards: We seemed to rush the business.

8
9 Gregory: Women's ministry sessions were great. Is there value to making it regional(via satellite)? Very positive.

10
11 Edwards: Liked the balance of alternating purpose conferences.

12
13 Jentes: Is an advocate of regional locations to increase enrollment. For example:mid-year from FOCUS (EQUIP
14 Gatherings) that will help develop life-long learning and relationships.

15
16 Shearer: If regional then Moderators address, plenary sessions can be done via satellite. This is easier to do
17 today than ever before

18
19 MacMillan: Satellites' shouldn't be a replacement, but central location for live presentation

20
21 Wake: Sorry hadn't planned to be there for whole time, many good opportunities for our churches to learn—
22 something for every person and very type of need. Excellent material.

23
24 MacMillan: The bar is very high for women because of Equip 05

25
26 Allan: How encouraging this is: lunches together etc, made powerful response.

27
28 MacMillan: Equip05 was a bold and courageous step. 400 is not a giant number but it exceeded expectations and
29 we can build on it

30
31 **020406-04: Celebrate 06 –report**

32
33 Theme complements the Focus Retreat there: "Truth on Fire" - "Hearts on Fire"

34 Keith Shearer is getting good feedback from both segments.

35 Question: Will Jim Cymbala be safe for us? NO, but he is good.

36 He will be speaking twice: once to the Word and once to the Spirit, He does slice things a little different and has
37 been on the platform with Falwell and MacArthur. He has no theological training and is right where DL Moody
38 was with Baptism in Spirit (we would have had same trouble with Moody). He knows where we are and Keith has
39 asked him to speak to our weaknesses. New book chapter: "Of Cemeteries and Insane Asylums" (Charismatic's
40 and Us—FGBC types).

41 We need the fire in the boiler to keep everything cranking in directions we are going

42 Opening day is look back (1940's—1970's) Charles Ashman speaking. Doug Lee's music will concentrate on
43 only positive because some people think everything that happened in 20th Century was bad.

44
45 **020406-05: Equip07 – report**

46
47 Dates: Sunday July 29—Friday Aug 3

48 Theme: Continuing your Lifelong Pursuit of Wisdom

49 Understanding my Purpose

50 Understanding my Family

51 Understanding my Church

52 Understanding my World

53
54 Plus—Bible study methods, preaching and special plans for children and Seniors

55 Business meeting Tuesday night but not as a meal

56 New event center will probably be done, however planning does not assume its completion.

57 Open houses but on different nights

58
59 Open Discussion:

1
2 What is the average cost?

3
4 Why these dates? Some of schools start early Aug

5 Can you offer list of proven experienced leaders to walk through Equip07 with new attendees to hang out and
6 encourage new attendees? Who are some guys with whom we need to connect? If key leaders would give list to
7 Tim so they can be invited and involved in a cohort group. Create a web link for veterans to sign up and for new
8 guys to make requests.
9

10 We need to create a culture among our children so that our conversation/language filters down to next generation,
11 probably people in our fellowship that can put muscle to it if given a vision. We need to do more that just entertain
12 them—love to listen to Jim talk about evangelism. Someday they will be sitting here and need to know each other
13 and expand our vision. We need to make sure our kids know each other. “I grew up going to conf, need make
14 sure that happens.”
15

16 We need new blood to plan Equip09 so that keeps moving, talk to TA if interested in being involved, it is a lot of
17 work
18

19 Is there a way to encourage a guy who comes just to pray, match him up with an encourager?

20
21 At Celebrate06 there will be an opportunity at the end of every plenary session
22

23 Perhaps we should have a counselor on site for attendees needing a safe house to be able to talk about needs
24 and problems.
25

26 Getting men to conference is a problem. Some won't come and often can't afford to come. We have funds if
27 district can't totally help and AGBM has 6 scholarships. There is help for men to attend Focus retreats as well.
28

29 **020406-06: Celebrate08 – report**

30
31 Jim Brown: Hi first conf was at Heritage USA and went wanting to connect with pastors and people. Went to
32 session by Wayne Hannah who encouraged us to get to know waitresses, maids, etc. His family prayed with kids
33 and left generous tip every day and prayed for people as they went by. They went to a worship session where
34 Mike Lee asked for prayer for bass player because he didn't know Christ. The family prayed with kids and 2 days
35 later announced that he got saved. All in the context of pastors, speakers, and kids.
36

37 Wouldn't it be something if we gathered someday and when we left the conf location that a Pentecost occurred
38 while we were there?
39

40 Collecting and creating unity—think outside the box—how about a cruise and we are on mission, sitting around
41 tables with people we don't know, international workers, what if we played out the theme of evangelism while we
42 are learning about it. What if we launched from Tampa, showered love on that community and prayed and got on
43 this ship, captive audience for four days, and stopped at ports like Paul found a Dorcas or silversmith and led
44 them to Christ? What would happen if we all centered around modeling evangelism. What would it take to do
45 this? It is very expensive. But we would be global in a matter of four days about \$1000 per/person, plus \$300
46 per/child Theme: Get off the Boat, or Get out of the Boat. What's available and how does it fit families. It's
47 different. It's out of the Box, but it's out of this world. It involves families, and there are large rooms for plenary
48 sessions, break out rooms. <Watch out for top deck sun bathers.>
49

50 Open discussion:

51 This would be a great memory marker.

52 This would focus on Mission.

53 There will be liberty challenges (casino, drinks, topless bathing) but not all do, ship holds about 2600.

54 Would really unite us all being on mission.

55 Geographically we try to rotate location and it would be time for SE

56 All he needs is to make the details work

57 It would be a Deut 6, teachable moment

58 We need to be sure that we aren't alienating.

Perception is important, put out challenge now to change how it is funded (personally save now, so church can use conf \$ elsewhere if it is a problem)

The year 2008 is also the 300th Anniversary of the Brethren Movement. It should not be the theme of conference, but we need to include it somehow. Invite people from each of the other groups to show up for a day. If the overall theme is mission, we can trace the Brethren history and mission, could video tape the greetings. We should join the celebration in Philadelphia—Terry White is on The Brethren Encyclopedia board and is our best liaison. We want to encourage regional celebrations and get-togethers on the Web and in newsletters.

020406-07: Equip09 – dreams

If we go to a different location, it needs to be some place where Grace can give credits

020406-08: Focus Retreats in 2007/08

The formats/dates/locations will be similar to what they have been
Dates

Central – October 9-11, 2006

East – October 23-25, 2006

SW – Jan 29-31, 2007, 2006

South – Feb 26-28, 2007

NW – May 21-23, 2007

Theme – Tim Boal: “What does it mean to be a hermeneutical church community? Household texts? What kind of family things do we have? We need to explore the fellowship and family connection, with some historical context (“early days felt like family”)

Note: During your time on FC, FC will pay for one time to attend a FOCUS outside of your region.

Feedback from this year's FOCUS? Shearer: pretty direct both positive and negative. Every year we ask if we should continue to do them, and often an outcry if suggest to not do them.

Feedback is often overwhelmingly positive and attendance has been very good. But feedback may represent the attitude of the attendee more than the changes or format. It would be hard to tailor based on feedback.

020406-09: TAG Report

Keith Shearer: Was first called The Gathering”. TAG = “The Atlanta Group” and is a group of pastors and churches (larger ones) because of metropolitan church growth movement created a pulling effect. TAG has probably run its course.

We need to have other directed meetings (smaller churches complain not invited) and invite participants according to interest. Good movement and changes at GBNAM have come out of these Gathering (TAG) meetings. Except for TAG's expenses there, no funds or resources have been or will be coming from FC

020406-10: GBIF Recognition as a separate Cooperating Organization

Because of corporate structural changes and division of duties with GBNAM, GBIF is now a separate corporation. They would like to by-pass the beginning stages of becoming a Cooperating Organization, since they have been associated forever but not separate from GBNAM.

MOTION 020406-10 PREVAILED: That we recommend to the Celebrate06 Delegates the granting of Cooperating Organization status to The Grace Brethren Investment Foundation, recognizing their historic partnership with FGBC because of their association with Grace Brethren North American Missions.

Commission reports and motions

020406-11: Finance Commission

Committee Members: Larry Edwards (chairman), Andy Wirt, Tom Hocking, Douglas Courter, Keith Shearer.

Notes from Finance Commission meeting:

Discussion of Fee Restructuring: The rationale is to help budgeting for conference; to provide more realistic and attainable fees: the larger the church, the larger the fee (regardless of membership).

Presentation: We need a prior reading at conference; Keith suggested that we wait until the following year to vote on the constitutional change. Keith also noted that this would help delegates to actually feel and act like delegates with some significant decision-making opportunity.

Discussion: Doug asked whether this would mean "taxation without representation". Keith noted that in the NAD, each church gets its full complement of votes regardless of whether they have a full number of delegates at conference. The committee felt we needed to refer this to the full fellowship council and the coordinator's office. This is a separate issue but a significant one. We may not want to link these things together right away.

The Financial Report And Budget: To Larry's knowledge there have been no revisions since our phone conversation. Therefore the committee recommends to FC that we approve the detailed budget for 2006. Tom Hocking asked why the broad budget that is approved by the delegates at conference is prepared without the FC finance committee's input. His suggestion would be that as the 2007 budget is being developed in the leadership team/strategy committee that initial drafts of the budget be emailed to finance committee members to illicit their input. Andy asked about increases to the office staff salaries. Keith shared that Tom desires any salary increases to be in the form of decreasing his health insurance costs

Promise of Honor: Larry pointed out on the audit review that there is a discrepancy between our potential liabilities for Promise of Honor and what we budgeted. Ken Seyfert says we are sufficiently covered (in light of standardized life expectancy rates). GBIF will contribute more in the unlikely circumstance that more money is needed (if in fact some of the covered individuals live to 100+ years of age). On the financial report to Conference the Finance Committee recommends that we add an asterisk to the Promise of Honor figures specifying the number of surviving recipients of the POH funds.

Tom Avey's Health Insurance: John Teevan and Ken Seyfert have agreed to keep working to find insurance for Tom Avey (in light of his health condition, it is difficult to find affordable insurance). We recommend that they be authorized to continue their work in conjunction with Tom.

Leadership Transition: The committee appointed Andy Wirt to assist Larry Edwards in chairing the finance committee with the intention that he will take over the chairmanship of the finance committee (and become the Treasurer - with the approval of Conference) beginning in 2007-2008 (since Larry Edwards will be off the FC in 2007). Tom Hocking was appointed as Andy's assistant.

An Associate/Assistant for Tom Avey: In light of Tom's recent heart surgery and Charles Ashman's increasing age, we had a discussion about the importance of hiring and training an associate for Tom Avey. Keith reported that Tom probably won't be back in the office and "normal" for at least two months. Larry pointed out that we should encourage Tom to prepare some procedure manuals for doing the major things that he does. Keith also noted that future AGBM hiring could impact this discussion.

The following motions were approved by the full Fellowship Council:

MOTION 020406-12 PREVAILED: That we, the Fellowship Council, recommend to the delegates at the 2006 Conference the consideration of the new fee scale based on attendance affecting a change to the Constitution.

Suggested Fee Scale:

Average Attendance	Proposed Fee
-50	\$100
51-100	\$250
101-200	\$500
201-300	\$1,000
301-500	\$1,500
501-1000	\$2,500
1001- 2000	\$5,000

2001+ \$10,000

This motion requires changes to the FGBC Constitution requiring delegate approval after a first reading to the delegates at a business session. The 1st reading would be in 2006 and a 2nd reading & vote in 2007, to go into affect 2008. See motion 020406-21 for Changes to the constitution and Manual of Procedure

MOTION 020406-13 PREVAILED: To approve the detailed budget for 2007.

Note: The Finance committee from now on will work more closely with Tom Avey to construct the details.

MOTION 020406-14 PREVAILED: To appoint Andy Wirt as assistant treasurer.

The suggestion is that Tom Hocking assist Andy when he is approved as treasurer by the Conference in 2007.

Leadership team will pursue what to do to assist Tom

MOTION 020406-15 PREVAILED: That we designate \$30,000.00 as housing allowance for Tom Avey, Fellowship Coordinator for the calendar year 2006.

Discussion: In the future, we can designate a percentage of Tom's housing allowance (ie: 60%) rather than a dollar amount. This can be a standing motion.

Note: Tom's current contract designates 50% as housing allowance.

MOTION 020406-16 PREVAILED: To accept the Finance Committee report:

020406-17 Membership Commission Report

Commission Members: Ed Waken (chair), Mike Jentes, Dan Gregory, Tim Boal (from the Leadership Team), & Mike Lee--not present.

Notes from the Membership Commission meeting:

New Church Applications:

1. Encuentro Latino (Coatesville, PA) — Tim Boal has made contact with this church. The commission recommends that we accept their application
2. Crossroads Community Church of Philadelphia – Dan Gregory followed up. The commission recommends that we accept application.
3. Cocalico Creek Fellowship – Reamstown, PA – Ed Waken followed up. The commission recommends that we accept application.
4. Upper Arlington Grace Brethren Church, - Columbus Ohio – Mike Jentes followed up. The commission recommends that we accept application.
5. Cornerstone Grace Brethren Church – Springboro, OH – Mike Jentes followed up, The commission recommends that we accept application.
6. Sunbury Grace Brethren Church, OH – Tim Boal followed up. The commission recommends that we accept application.
7. Rialto Mosaic, CA – Ed Waken followed up. Pastor Mitch Cariaga led the church through a name change and a total re-start ("overhaul"), then they decided to be FGBC. The commission recommends that we accept application.
8. New Hispanic Church - Jesus Munoz, Pastor – Ed Waken followed up. We do not have an application yet. The commission recommends that we accept--contingent upon receiving satisfactory application and letter of recommendation.
9. NE Philadelphia – Brazilian church (Portuguese speaking)– Tim Boal followed up & knows, Paul Alancor, pastor. They intend to apply and are raising up an elder from within. The commission recommends that we accept--contingent upon receiving satisfactory application and letter of recommendation.
10. Hope Community GBC -- South Bend, IN --Mike Jentes followed up, the new fee structure would help them become part of the FGBC this year, but we probably need to have them wait a year.

Ed Waken shared that Kurt Miller reported approximately 75 churches in the pipeline.

Delinquent Churches

Des Moines – Ed Waken spoke to Howard Johnson and Gary Austin (both are leaders in their district). Howard Johnson said they will have a check for all of the back dues by conference this summer. They desire to keep this church name on the roll of churches so they can use it for a new church that is beginning. If the current church loses its current status, it will have to follow the dissolution clause in their constitution and give all of their assets (about \$100,000) to GBNAM. They would prefer to use the assets locally. Howard Johnson needs to be contacted regarding our discussions. Ed will follow up and we will receive their back pay for dues.

Other delinquent churches that need our attention: Our "informal" membership commission policy is that churches at least two years on the delinquent church report receive a contact from the membership commission.

1. Awakening Chapels (2002-2004): need to pay by conference, or FC recommends to dismiss as per the Manual of Procedure. Ed Waken will follow up.
2. Cedar Lake (2002-2004): needs to pay by conference, or FC recommends to dismiss as per the Manual of Procedure. Mike Jentes will follow up.
3. Day Mesa (2001-2004): needs to pay by conference, or FC recommends to dismiss per Manual of Procedure. Mike Jentes will follow up.
4. Lakeland--paid dues and stat report

2 years delinquent

1. Ft. Washington, MD; About My Father's Business-- Dan Gregory will follow up.
2. Gainesville, FL; Grace Chapel-- Mike J. will follow up.
3. Long Beach, CA; Cambodian Church-- Ed W. follow up

Cooperating Organization Revisions

The Membership Commission had a special 2 day meeting in September to draft revisions to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure that will create two categories for cooperation organizations: National Ministries and Cooperating Ministries. The commission is still in full agreement with that proposal.

Membership fees/delegates (see fee schedule under the Finance Committee Report):

Ideas:

1. Find a plan to implement that phases-in increases (suggestion – a two or three phase in so budgets can be adjusted to accommodate the changes that will be incurred).
2. Announce the change years in advance so people can prepare.
3. Recommendation: That newly joining churches for 2007 to do new fee structure if accepted by FC and Conference.

Letter to Ed Waken from Pat Phillips

A letter was sent to the membership committee suggesting that we contact some churches that maybe left during the conservative split to offer opportunities to rejoin the Fellowship. Ed Waken wrote back a letter to empower Pat Philips and Mike Jentes will contact him.

What is our policy about churches joining the FGBC that are members of other denominations / associations?

1. Churches join the Fellowship, not pastors or leaders.
2. There are difference between a denomination and an association.
 - a. Willow Creek Association, Mosaic Association, Purpose Driven Association
3. Can we stop a church from becoming FGBC and So Baptist?
4. Why would a church want to be "double" denominational?
 - a. Church Planting money, doctrine isn't the driver of connections

Recommendation: That we continue this conversation

Inactive Status for churches: We have had three churches this year that are in the process of re-birth. Discussion is needed to give guidance to these churches regarding their membership in the FGBC.

Examples:

- Brandon FL – Hispanic Church. What has been known as the Brandon church is have not submitted a membership fee and stat report and are cutting off relational ties with the FGBC. However a new

1 Hispanic church in Brandon is in the plans. They (Jesus Munoz) would like to transfer the membership to
2 the new church.

- 3 • Des Moines, IA – The church is no longer meeting. However, there are plans for a new church plant in
4 Des Moines. GBNAM has asked the old church to maintain its corporation status in Iowa so that it can be
5 transferred to the new start. The old church is approaching the three-year delinquency mark.
- 6 • South Bend, IN – the people are still meeting as a small group and are planning to re-launch in the future.
7 They have asked to not be considered a member church and will re-apply when they re-launch.

8 Question: How should we advise churches rebirthing themselves?

9
10 Recommendation from the membership committee: Don't have an inactive status. We don't want inactive
11 churches! We don't want to communicate to the FGBC Conference that we want to have inactive member
12 churches. Our three-year delinquency policy creates enough room/timeframe to accomplish "inactive-member-
13 type" efforts.

14
15 How to connect churches better?

16 Recommendation:

- 17 • Create unified communication back to the regions from the Fellowship Council.
- 18 • Reporting at a Board level must report the Board's decisions
- 19 • Possibly a common summary document for FGBC from G. Howell

20 Suggestion to have a conversation around:

21 What are the expectations of the Fellowship Council representatives?

22
23
24 Why Associate Brochure?

25
26 Dan Gregory and Tom Avey have done some work on this. We had planned to distribute in with the handbook
27 but did not get it done in time. The good news is we will be able to review it as a committee. Tom asked Ed to
28 make sure that we try to actually produce the text and general layout idea for the brochure. The River & Boats
29 illustration presented (Community of Hope is using) and could be an FGBC illustration. The fact we have to make
30 a brochure means that we aren't a doctrinal driven family. For example, people connected more to Promise
31 Keepers, than to district gatherings. Relationship, admiration, mission, passion, leadership -Message of the
32 Brethren Ministry...consider with Statement of Faith. Dan Gregory circulated the feedback that he got from an
33 email question-- "Why is it important for you to associate with the family of Grace Brethren Churches?" Dan will
34 pass this information on to Tom, for Tom to roll with what he has. Image and Movement clarity.

35
36 THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE TABLED:

37
38 Future

- 39 • What are some faces that the future church will have and should we begin to address these issues now
40 (cyber churches, simple churches, marketplace churches etc)? It is better to think ahead and address
41 challenges than to react late.
- 42 • Can we begin to model at conference what these changes may be? Let's help leaders and people see
43 the future and reach for it.
- 44 • Can we do more to turn conference towards the future – think cloud like, outside of the box?
- 45 • What if we had interactive discussions groups, prayer groups and worship groups and less talking heads
46 for our seminars?
- 47 • What if we created ideas of "Future Church" at conference, allowing people to experience what the future
48 might look like? This would help to bring a greater understanding and take away some of the fear of the
49 unknown. We could educate people on what future church might look like and possibly stave off
50 reactions of fear (which often includes knife throwing).

51
52 The following motions were approved by the full Fellowship Council upon the recommendation of the Membership
53 Committee:

54
55 **MOTION 020406-18 PREVAILED:** to recommend acceptance the following new churches: Encuentro Latino
56 (Coatesville, PA), Crossroads Community Church of Philadelphia, Cocalico Creek Fellowship – Reamstown, PA,
57 Upper Arlington Grace Brethren Church, (Columbus Ohio), Cornerstone Grace Brethren Church, (Springboro,
58 OH), Sunbury GBC, OH, Rialto Mosaic.

MOTION 020406-19 PREVAILED: to recommend acceptance of the new Hispanic Church (Jesus Munoz, Pastor) and the Brazilian Church (Philadelphia) contingent upon receiving a satisfactory application and letter of reference.

MOTION 020406-20 PREVAILED: to table action on delinquent churches until the July Fellowship Council meeting.

Revisions to Cooperating Organization definitions in the Constitution and Manual of Procedure: Changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure have been proposed by the Membership Committee to:

1. Create two categories of cooperating organizations called National Ministries and Cooperating Ministries.
2. Require National Ministries to have board representation from all three regions of the country.
3. Require National Ministries to be able to demonstrate a tradition of national influence that has consistently advanced the mission of the FGBC.
4. Require both National and Cooperating Ministries to subscribe to the Statement of Faith, be sponsored and controlled by members of Grace Brethren Churches, have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries and exist to serve other Grace Brethren Churches, and meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.
5. Make the Fellowship Council responsible to review cooperating ministries regarding the above qualifications.

Note: These changes also include a provision to change the requirement that conference plans (time and place) be announced 2 years in advance rather than the current 3 years in advance to allow the moderator for that year to be involved in these plans.

MOTION 020406-21 PREVAILED: to present these Constitution and MOP changes to delegates at 2006 Conference:

Change Article X of the Constitution to read:

ARTICLE X NATIONAL AND COOPERATING MINISTRIES

Section One. NATIONAL MINISTRIES

1. Requirements. Although FGBC national ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities, such ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a 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.

2. Procedure. National Ministries meeting the requirements of Section One of this Article may be recognized by the Fellowship, upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by two-thirds affirmative majority vote of the delegates present, entitled to vote, and voting.

3. Recognized National Ministries. Ministries recognized as national ministries of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an integral part of its organization. While

1 FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does not in any way control any of the recognized national
2 ministries.

3
4 4. Review: The Fellowship Council has the responsibility to review national ministries regarding the
5 above qualifications. Recommendations for removal of a National Ministry's recognition shall be approved by the
6 delegates by a 2/3rds affirmative vote.

7
8
9 Section Two: COOPERATING MINISTRIES

10
11 1. Requirements. Although FGBC cooperating ministries remain distinct, autonomous legal entities, such
12 ministries seeking recognition by the corporation and desiring to serve the Fellowship as a cooperating ministry
13 shall meet the following requirements:

14
15 a. The ministry and its governing body must subscribe to the Statement of Faith set forth in Section Two of
16 Article III of this Constitution.

17 b. The ministry must be sponsored and controlled by members of FGBC churches.

18 c. The ministry must have a scope of ministry broader than the immediate local church ministries and exist
19 to serve other Grace Brethren Churches.

20 d. The ministry must meet a recognized need related to the fulfilling of the Great Commission.

21
22 2. Procedure. Ministries meeting the requirements of Section Two of this Article may be recognized by the
23 Fellowship, upon recommendation of the Fellowship Council, by an affirmative majority vote of the delegates
24 present, entitled to vote, and voting.

25
26 3. Recognized Cooperating Ministries. Ministries recognized as cooperating ministries of the Fellowship of
27 Grace Brethren Churches, Inc. are not creations of the Fellowship, nor are they an integral part of its organization.
28 While FGBC, Inc. requests an annual report as a courtesy, it does not in any way control any of the recognized
29 cooperating ministries.

30
31 4. Review: The Fellowship Council has the responsibility to review cooperating ministries regarding the
32 above qualifications. Recommendations for removal of a Cooperating Ministry's recognition shall be approved by
33 the delegates by a majority affirmative vote.

34
35 Change the Constitution and Manual of Procedure as follows:

36
37 Manual of Procedure: Article III, Section One: Item 1:

38
39 Current wording:

40 It shall be the duty of the Council to make full and complete arrangements for the conference (and any special
41 meetings), including the preparation of the proposed agenda. The Council shall consult the Corporation's Boards
42 and Cooperating Organizations in its conference planning and may invite representatives of such Boards and
43 Organizations to its planning sessions. (Expenses for these representatives shall be borne by their respective
44 organizations.)

45
46 New wording:

47 It shall be the duty of the Council to make full and complete arrangements for the conference (and any special
48 meetings), including the preparation of the proposed agenda. The Council shall consult recognized National
49 Ministries in its conference planning and may invite representatives of National and Cooperating Ministries to its
50 planning sessions. (Expenses for these representatives shall be borne by their respective ministries.)

51
52 Manual of Procedure: Article III, Section One: Item 2:

53
54 Current wording:

55 The Council shall select the time and place for the conference and shall submit its proposals to the conference at
56 least three years in advance. Boards and Cooperating Organizations shall be consulted in the choosing of dates
57 and sites for the conference.

58
59 New wording:

1 The Council shall select the time and place for the conference and shall report its plans to the conference at least
2 two years in advance.

3
4 Manual of Procedure: Article III, Section One: Item 7:

5
6 Current wording:

7 The Council shall receive and evaluate the requests of groups desiring recognition as cooperating organizations
8 of the corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.
9

10 New wording:

11 The Council shall receive and evaluate the requests of groups desiring recognition as national or cooperating
12 ministries of the corporation, recommending the appropriate action to be taken by the conference.
13

14 Manual of Procedure: Article III, Section One: Item 11:

15
16 Current wording:

17 The Council may serve as an advisory board to the Fellowship, its member churches, recognized districts,
18 cooperating organizations, and other bodies who seek its counsel with no authority other than to offer counsel to
19 these bodies.
20

21 New wording:

22 The Council may serve as an advisory board to the Fellowship, its member churches, recognized districts,
23 national and cooperating ministries, and other bodies who seek its counsel with no authority other than to offer
24 counsel to these bodies.
25

26 Manual of Procedure: Article III, Section One: Item 17:

27
28 New item:

29 The Fellowship Council may consult National and Cooperating ministries in the development and implementation
30 of strategic plans as appropriate to the mission of the FGBC, Inc.
31

32 Constitution: Article IV, Section One: Item 6:

33
34 Current Wording:

35 No church shall be denied membership in the corporation because of failure to support any or all institutions or
36 boards, either district or national, or cooperating organizations recognized by the Fellowship except that failure to
37 comply with membership obligations as stated in Article II, Section Three, points #2, 3, and 5 of the Manual of
38 Procedure may subject the offending church to dismissal.
39

40 New wording:

41 No church shall be denied membership in the corporation because of failure to support any or all institutions,
42 ministries, or boards, either district, national, or cooperating recognized by the Fellowship. Only failure to comply
43 with membership obligations as stated in Article II, Section Three, points #2, 3, and 5 of the Manual of Procedure
44 may subject the offending church to dismissal.
45

46 Constitution: Article V. Section Two: Item 1

47
48 Current wording:

49 Each member church shall be entitled to one delegate for every twenty five members or major fraction thereof;
50 provided that every church shall be entitled to at least two delegates.
51

52 New wording:

53 Each member church shall be entitled to at least two delegates. Additional delegates are designated as stated in
54 Article II, Section Three, Point A of the Manual of Procedure.
55

56 Constitution: Article V. Section Two: Item 2

57
58 Current wording:

Only persons who are members of the Grace Brethren Church they represent shall be seated as delegates to any meeting of the corporation. Representation at National Conference is based on the total membership of the local church.

New wording:

Only persons who are members of the Grace Brethren Church they represent shall be seated as delegates to any meeting of the corporation. Representation at National Conference is based on the average attendance at the largest regular gathering of the local church.

Manual of Procedure: Article I. Section One: Item 3

Current wording:

A check for membership fees shall accompany the application. The fee to a member church is based on total membership.

New wording:

A check for membership fees shall accompany the application.

Manual of Procedure: Article II. Section Three: Item A.

Add new item and re-designate following items:

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	Assigned 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

End of changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure approved in motion 020406-21

020406-22 Items for future Discussion:

1. Consider new churches when do fee schedule
2. What about churches that might want to come back from the Conservatives?
3. What about churches with joint membership in other denominations. Recommend continue this conversation.
4. Brochure—Dan Gregory survey revealed relationship, need to promote where we are going and help get more “boats” in the “river” common mission, heritage, doctrinal stance Ready for Conf?

MOTION 020406-23 PREVAILED: To accept the Membership Committee report.

020406-24 Structures Commission Report

Members: Robert MacMillan (chair), Nathan Zakahi, Vic Young (not present), Dan O'Deens, Dan Allan, Jim Brown.

Notes from the Structures Commission Meeting:

Districts: Should Districts select Representatives? NO

Should we do more with strategic advisors to the council (ie: Hispanic, emerging leaders, other ethnic groups, women, lay)? Not officially! Only by special invitation. If we invite them we pay for them. The invitation of strategic advisors should only be done if we are trying to learn and connect with a particular movement in our fellowship.

MOTION (Structures Commission Motion only): Information and Communication will be listed on site – District Moderators should get raw data report from web page. Each FC Liaison will be available for personal touch. The burden is again on the District. The FC Representatives will make contact with each District with the hopes of having a few minutes on the District agenda for reporting and feedback. District liaison assignments will be:

- Hocking: SoCal, Hawaii
- Wirt: NEO, NOW
- Edwards: CEO
- Courter: Mid Atlantic, Allegheny, Western PA
- Jentes: Tri-State
- Gregory: Heartland, Glad
- Lee: Blue Ridge
- Waken: Iowa, Mountain Plains
- Young: Florida, Southern
- O'Deens: NAF, Chesapeake
- Zakahi: NW, Alaska
- MacMillan: NorCal

Question: What do we do with budgetary issues?

Communication Feedback Ideas: We ARE depending on the Website: Encourage getting on the site. Better distribution of ALL people in the directory.

THE BIG QUESTION: How is a movement led? We have great moderators with great ideas...that are somewhat disjointed.

Structures: Fellowship; Denomination; Network with Brands; Enduring Visionary Community: What are the components of each that we need to build into our development.

The term of Fellowship Council members needs to be addressed.

Also, need to begin a discussion about an Enduring Visionary Leadership Group for the FGBC. Need to begin with the Leadership Team.

A Vision Consulting Team - Involved are "all" these affinity (brand/style) movements and opinion leaders Determine the terms: Assess what God is doing? Confirm the Biblical warrant. Not methodology.

Potential Names:

- Terry White?
- Identified FC Members assigned to this task by the FC
- Ed Trenner?
- We cannot be having this cyclical discussion at FC level year after year.

Committees and appointments:

Nominating Committee –

We need to place 12 names on the ballot. 6 will be elected by the delegates to the nominating committee.

Current members are – Mark Saunders, John McIntosh, Jesus Munoz, Jeff Gill, Ron Boehm, Wayne Hannah. In the past we have asked retiring FC members to serve. This would be Vic Young, Mike Jentes, and Ed Waken. Recommendations for 2006/07 ballot: Vic Young, Mike Jentes, Ed Waken, Mark Saunders, John McIntosh, Jesus Munoz, Jeff Gill, Ron Boehm, Wayne Hannah, Bob Combs, Don Eshelman, Ken Bickel.

We also need to select a chair for this year: Mark Saunders

Parliamentary Committee - One new name needed. Appointed by the Fellowship Council. Present committee is Galen Wiley, Mark Soto and Jerry Young. Dave Plaster has served in the past.

Recommendations for 2006/07

- Dave Plaster (1st Choice)
- Charles Ashman (2nd choice)

Membership Committee - One new name is needed. Present Committee is ('05), Steve Shipley('06), Brad Kelley('06) and Dave Rosner('07).

- Don Eshelman (1st Choice)
- John McIntosh (2st Choice)

Secretary - Tom Avey is the present corporate secretary. Appointment requires delegate ratification. Recommendation: Tom Avey for corporate secretary.

Treasurer – Larry Edwards is the present treasurer. Tom Abbot is the primary check signer. Appointment requires delegate ratification. Larry will go off the Fellowship Council in 07 so we should begin to think about someone that can replace him. In discussions in the past, we have agreed that the Fellowship Council connection is important.

Recommendation:

- Larry Edward for Treasurer.
- Andy Wirt – Assistant Treasurer.

Hispanic/Ethnic Advisor – Invite Jesus Munoz for Winter 2006. Consider Carlos Peralta for future meetings.

MOTION 020406-25 PREVAILED: To approve the list of District liaisons recommended by the Structures Committee

VISON CONSULTING TEAM – for future agenda:

The Structures committee suggests that a Enduring Visionary Leadership Team be established to be an on-going consulting team that transcends FC terms (open end term of office) to provide continuity (opinion leaders that may not have office in FGBC, plus affinity leaders) NEEDS TO BE ON AGENDA FOR JULY (Terry White, Ed Trenner, names suggested and need to be forwarded to TA)

MOTION 020406-26 PREVAILED: to adopt structures report with recommendations (appointments)

District representation on the board: Reader's Digest version of discussion about not having Districts choose their own representatives, because districts already have a say via recommending names for FC.

020406-27: Leadership Team Report

In the process of this day we have accomplished everything that would have been in this report

020405-28: Session #10: Full Fellowship Council meeting: - Blue Sky and prayer.

Personal prayer time "If the FGBC could be anything you wanted it to be, fire ignited, orgs and ministries going, what would it look like." 10-15 minutes. Then share Dream List:

That our (FGBC) presence in the World would not go unnoticed even those who hate us would at least know who we are. And people at the Bema would say "you had a part in me being here"

Address Rev 22:17- attack thirsty people physically and spiritually, setting them up to be influential in their communities both ways. To see a platform, program, plane in place to be 1st responders locally and nationally. Learners from , Attacking the 5 global giants to provide peace in the world. Trust God for 5000 church born out of the USA (not in only)

Convicted by parable of talents, safe place to discuss, but also way to applaud and also say, but you can do better and help spur one another on. Hub in every major city in every state. History, strength to move on and stand for biblical truth in our world. Thirst for relationships. Body concept.

Amazing blue of today's sky with no clouds to get in the way of the view. Free flying birds, asked God how FGBC could be like that. Hurting pastors and churches. Every church having a plan to move in the direction of _____. Office where every pastor can turn to for help with personal, profession, or how to get his church moving forward.

Acts 4 prayer and dream with thoughts of my children. Eventually some day we would be known as :”followers of Jesus” not just Bible. Proclamation would be followed up and tied up by demonstration. Pictured as flowing river not stagnant, but free flowing and going in as many places as possible. Learn to ride this river in a way that shows we are more like Christ and that we would ride the rapids of life. Lots of boats that represent churches, affinity groups, riding it fast and we are connected in as many ways as possible.

2-3 study committee days CT said that we were departing from our roots. Now viewed as evangelical not fundamentalist resisted for long time. Now more relational, but strong basis on Bible, Tracy “family environment in all activities” explains why we do some things and don’t do other things. Need to maintain relational w/o leaving our commitment to Bible Whole.... Got to be a place where hurting people can go..not pity party, but safe to be real. Not to be left where they are hurting more important as world in spinning out of control. A place where we can help put lives together. Churches become again gathering place in communities. Something that allows us to come back together throughout our fellowship.

“Highly qualified in doctrine, lifestyle, character, education”

Pastors bold courageous, allowed to be, churches are reaching out, and have to turn people away because the Bible is taught and they can’t hold them. People coming to FGBC conferences and churches because we are leading the way. We don’t have to go elsewhere to see it happen.

Book uses river analogy “River will find the way” cf Jurassic Park even if pool –fills up and then finds a way. Jesus will find a way, we need to follow him. Discouraging to hear report from national ministries. Houses of prayer--bridges of peace Maybe doomsday people have it right, maybe PC will come to our land—preaching Bible against law, are my people ready to carry on business as usual. “We’re not doing church this Sunday, you are on your own—in your own home, neighborhood” Could they do it, would they. Do lip service to love, when push comes to shove we go our separate ways instead . Committed to pray for 1 person who doesn’t know Jesus and a person who doesn’t have or want a relationship with you. God will do an awesome work to bring about peace

Acts 4 when Paul went back to strengthen “churches were growing daily” a church a day. Lots has to happen for that to take place. Vision casting, disciples made, evangelism happening. Praying for state and city. I have to look at lots of things differently. Shared story about Robert Lewis Stevenson and asked what he was looking at – lamp lighter lighting lamp = “punching holes in the darkness”

To Grow, many years since increase. Focus on starting new churches , strengthening weak ones like church in Michigan—turn-around. Have a vision and follow it. FC doesn’t have a lot of power, Need steady vision (2000 churches in 2000, Go Grow Lead) Time to stop being complacent but go out and win people to Christ and planting churches. GBNAM can’t do what it wants/needs because churches are not helping/contributing. Ask how things are going, and then forget until see again and get up to date reports. Start doing something and show it. More than anything - consistency.

Rev 4 John’s vision of 24 elders, thrones, 4 living creatures, sea that’s caotic, distance between us and the Father—no one is worthy and then told Jesus is worthy. Passion for God –who he is and Christ alone is worthy, we have a borrowed worthiness. Become like Samaritan women ashamed of her life, but can’t help but go back and tell village about Savior. Can’t wait to share gospel with others. Be on bus to Mexico, dear old ladies “O my hope bus doesn’t break down in the bad neighborhood” But instead can’t wait for bus to break down so we can do ministry. Safe environment, strain gnats and swallow camels but not leave people behind,\

Desire for every pastor to be deeply satisfied and can only be when you understand the Gospel, power in it every day. You are a lot worse than you think and lot more loved than you can believe. You are nothing, but called by Almighty God to serve him, most satisfying calling, job. Create a model for young people to want to go into vocational ministry. Long for deep love among our pastors among one another that comes out of the gospel. It is hard work what we do but can also be deeply satisfying.

John Piper, most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him. Love God, Love Neighbor. Great Commission and Love Neighbor.

Sunday – February 5 – Worship or participate in NorCal Churches

Next Meeting – July 28 @ 1:00 PM, Grand Champions Hyatt in Indian Wells, CA

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Respectfully Submitted:

Greg Howell, Recording Secretary
Tom Avey, Corporate Secretary.
Charles Ashman, Proof Reader