



Family Matters

Five signs of a healthy church family.

What is family? It's easiest to see at the holidays, in a crisis, or at a special event such as a wedding or baby dedication. Relatives gather to celebrate, mourn, or just enjoy one another's company. It's important, because family matters.

Experts have noted five markers of a healthy family. You see them in a church family, too.

Families reproduce.

One plus one equals three, then four, then maybe more. A family of churches multiplies churches, ministries, and, ultimately disciples. Long-term, a family cannot survive without reproduction.

Families honor their faithful.

Mom, dad, grandpa, and grandma all have their special place at the table. In a family of churches, there are many faithful pastors, missionaries, and leaders. Each has his or her place of honor and respect.

Families cheer for each other.

Whether it's the five-year-old's t-ball game or dad's latest performance in the community theater, the family shows up to cheer him or her on. If the performance is especially

good, high-fives abound. If it's not, excitement still fills the air. A family of congregations celebrates effective ministry large or small. It's an important way to support each other. They are there through thick and thin.

Families support their weak.

From the child who is learning to walk to the grandparent who is having trouble with daily routines, others will step in with a helping hand when a family member needs support. In a church network, the congregations and pastors who are struggling need someone to come alongside and be of assistance.

Families bless other families.

Neighbors aren't just the people next door... they collect our mail when we are on vacation or lend us a shovel to till the garden. And the relationship is reciprocal. It's not all about us. We want to bless other churches and families of churches that love Jesus. Their success is our success. Their failure is our failure.

Is the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches a family? Absolutely! We honor our faithful, cheer for each other, and bless other churches.

Family Finances

Budgeting for a strong, growing family.

It takes funds to live as a family – to pay the bills, to finance celebrations, or look to the future.

With a family of churches, it is no different. Members of congregations gather to cheer on young people who are about to enter the ministry, to gain new insight into Scriptures, or learn how to better reach others. It does not come without cost – personally and financially.

While much of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches function with volunteer leadership, professional staff at our national office help our network of congregations run more efficiently. It provides one stop shopping for individuals who are interested in joining our fellowship, synchronization of efforts in times of emergency, and coordination of regional and national meetings.

An annual budget to support the national office is approved by the Fellowship Council, a group of representatives of member churches. This budget also supports the work of the Council and the Moderator. These funds allow us to come together annually for encouragement, visioning, and training, such as at Celebrate2010 and Equip11. It also makes possible regional meetings of church leaders, called Focus Retreats, that provide essential refreshment to pastors, staff, and congregational leaders. The national office is a link between the more than 300 ministries that make up the Grace Brethren family, including churches, districts, national ministries, and co-operating ministries.



FGBC 2010 Budget (\$326,000)



2010 Budget Allocations



The financial records of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches are reviewed annually. This review is available from the national office, (574) 269-1269.



FGBC Statistical Form and Fellowship Fee

Please complete and mail this form as soon as possible but by May 15, 2010 to:

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches

P.O. Box 384

Winona Lake IN 46590

Please include a check for your fellowship fee
payable to Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches

Church Name	Email Address	
Mailing Address	City	State ZIP
1. Average Attendance At Largest Regular Service/Gathering in 2009		
2. Average Sunday School Attendance during 2009		
3. Total Number of Conversions Recorded in 2009		
4. Total Number of Baptisms Recorded in 2009		
5. Total Number of Members as of December 31, 2009		
6. Total Number of Triune Immersed Members as of December 31, 2009		
Pastor's Name	Pastor's Email Address:	

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FGBC Statistical Form and Fellowship Fee

Please complete all blanks on the statistical form. Please note that the statistics for this report are from the year 2009. Please put 0 for None, NR for No Records kept, NA for Not Applicable. Do not leave any statistical blanks empty.

Please send the original report but be sure to keep a copy for your files. Don't forget to sign the form.

Please include a check for your fellowship fee payable to Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. If your church is unable to pay the fellowship fee this year, complete the report and include a note of explanation.

Calculation of Fellowship Fee for 2010:

From the figure on line #1, please place a check in the left column that best reflects the size of your church.

From line 1 at left	Fellowship Fee	Discounted Fee (if paid by May 15)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-25	\$50	\$47	Place the proper figure for your fellowship fee in the box to the right. Please include payment of this amount with this completed form and mail together per the instructions below.
<input type="checkbox"/> 26-50	\$105	\$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> 51-100	\$265	\$250	
<input type="checkbox"/> 101-200	\$525	\$500	
<input type="checkbox"/> 201-400	\$1,050	\$1,000	
<input type="checkbox"/> 401-800	\$2,100	\$2,000	
<input type="checkbox"/> 801-1600	\$4,200	\$4,000	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1601-Plus	\$8,400	\$8,000	
Amount Enclosed for 2010 Fellowship Fee:			\$
Signature of Person Completing this Report:			
FOR FGBC USE ONLY:			
Date received:	/	/	Check #: Amount: \$

Please mail the report as soon as possible but by May 15, 2010 to:

Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches

P.O. Box 384

Winona Lake IN 46590

The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches is a family of diverse congregations who are committed to Jesus, His Word, His Church, and His Mission. As a family we maintain a national office, send representatives to serve on a national board (the Fellowship Council), provide points of communication and connection, and seek to find new ways to work together in God's kingdom. A fee is asked of each member church to help fund this joint activity. Use the chart above to establish your amount of contribution based on the approximate size (average attendance or weekly gathering).

Questions? Contact Tom Avey at: tomavey@fgbc.org or (574) 269-1269.



The Fellowship of
Grace Brethren Churches

ANNUAL STATISTICAL FORM & FELLOWSHIP FEE REQUEST

