



REPORT TO THE FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL OF THE FGBC FELLOWSHIP
JANUARY 29, 2014

The purpose of the AGBM is to encourage, support and strengthen leaders who belong to Grace Brethren Churches and to engage in activities for the benefit of its members as determined by its board of directors.

1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Joel Richards – President, Dan White – Secretary, Bud Olszewski – Treasurer,
Terry Daniels, Randy Weekley, Matt Wheelock, John McIntosh, Greg Howell, Mark Lingenfelter, Bob Comb, Robert Soto, Jonathan Carey, Doug Courtier

Executive Board: Joel Richards, Dan White, Bud Olszewski, Terry Daniel, Matt Wheelock, John McIntosh

Director of Pastoral Ministries: Mark Saunders

2. STANDARDS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Association members must continue as members in good standing with a member church of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches.

Category One - Men who are certified for license or ordination by a recognized examining board.

Category Two - Men preparing for licensed and ordained ministry.

Category Three - Men who qualify as elders and are approved to serve as ministry leaders in churches and agencies of the FGBC.

3. MEMBERS: 431 members as of January 10, 2014

4. REPRESENTATIVES: In order to better accomplish our purpose of encouragement, support and the strengthening of our leaders, we have divided up the US into regions. Each region has a seasoned pastor who serves as a representative of AGBM. His role is to minister to the leaders his region. We currently have 10 Representatives caring for our leaders. They are:

Roy Halberg/S.Cal.,
Joel Richards/N.Cal/Hawaii.
Greg Howell/N.West/W.Canada,
Larry Richeson/IN/MI,
Bob Combs/Ohio/E.Canada,

Larry Edwards/W.Penn
Dan White/N.Atlantic/Mid.Atlantic/Allegheny
Paul Mutchler/Chesapeake
Dan Gillette/Blue Ridge
Matt Wheelock/Fl/S. Chesapeake

5. DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL MINISTRIES' ROLE: The purpose of the Director is to coordinate the regional representatives for the purpose of encouragement, strengthening and support of the leaders of the FGBC. The Director also assists in administrative duties along with Sandi Avey (Admin. Assistant) as delegated by the President. The Director will attend the Focus Retreats and National Conference to accomplish his duties.

6. AGBM MINISTRIES

- **Yearly Awards:** These awards are given as a way of recognizing the accomplishments of our leaders in the FGBC.

2013 Pastor of the Year – Jeff Bogue; Grace Church of Greater Akron, Akron Ohio

2013 Lifetime Achievement Award – Terry White; Brethren Missionary Herald Co., Winona Lake, IN

2013 Excellence in Ministry Award – Jay Bell, Missions and Evangelism Pastor, WLGB, IN./ Regional Rep, Encompass World Partners

- **Focus Retreats Discounts:** A 20% discount was given to each member of AGBM who registered and requested the discount for a Focus Retreat. This was intended to encourage leaders to attend the retreats due to the significance of this year's discussion.
- **Leaders and Wives Meal:** AGBM has hosted a meal for leaders and their wives at conference each year. A challenge by a speaker and give aways are another way of encouraging our leaders and wives.
- **Dinner Out:** Each Representative for AGBM is authorized and encouraged to give a \$50 gift card to a pastor/leader in our fellowship who needs some encouragement to be used to take his wife out to dinner. This is a small way of giving back to our pastors/leaders who minister faithfully week by week.
- **Chaplains:** Each chaplain with the FGBC was given a free copy of Dr. Ken Bickel and Kevin Vanderground's book, *DOING RIGHT WHILE DOING GOOD, AN EXPLORATION OF MINISTERIAL ETHICS*.

We also made this book available to any pastor who wanted a copy. Ken's book is a more detailed explanation of the ethics document that can be found on the AGBM web site.
- **Honoring One Another:** members who have been involved in ministry for the Lord and as members of our association for 40+ years, and were in attendance at conference, were recognized and given a certificate of honor.
- **Promise Keeping:** We honored the commitments we have made to those who are still eligible for a gratuity upon their death.

7. Ministry Committees

Each board member serves on one of our four standing committees.

Honoring Members – recognizing the faithful service of our members

Cheering – Highlighting God's work among our members and creating ways for our members to know and encourage one another

Support – Finding ways to come along side our members to keep them growing and healthy

Leadership Development – Helping our current pastors reach excellence and finding and training new men for pastoral ministry

Conclusion

We are indebted to Tom Avey for his work with us in developing a daily e-mail that lists birthday and anniversaries of those in the handbook. Our original desire was to have that information available to all of our regional representatives as a way to connect with the pastors under their care. This daily e-mail is available to anyone who would like to receive it and it is one more tool that can be utilized to stay connected and deepen fellowship.

We are currently addressing how we might find ways to help those who being trained for Christian ministry. We are hoping to develop some kind of scholarship program.

God is at work among us and we are delighted to be a part of this team.