

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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February 2022

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR GORDY HARMON

Greetings dear sisters and brothers! When March 1st arrives, we will be 80 days from the start of our conference. I am looking forward to gathering together as the people of God who love the Truth. We live in difficult days. Our brother Habakkuk lived in difficult days too. His days were filled with violence, iniquity, sorrow, plundering, strife, and contention. He sought the Lord diligently for relief and things got worse (Habakkuk 1). He comes to a conclusion in verse 4, realizing the Law is powerless, there is no justice, the wicked are winning, and perverse justice reigns. Sounds like today! In verse 5, the Lord gives an answer that is amazing! The Lord says, "I will work a work in YOUR days, which you will not believe, though it be told you." God reveals He is not dead, He is not asleep, not on a coffee break. "I am working...just not like you would expect." Look closely at Habakkuk's response. He listened to God's response. God said hard things, He doesn't offer Habakkuk the easy answer. The Lord puts forth the Truth, and Habakkuk has to wrestle with it and decide which way he is going to go. Will Habakkuk walk away? Will he come up with his own version of the truth that lowers the bar? Will he gird up his loins, dig in, and contend? After wrestling with his options, he chooses NOT to trust what he sees! Then he chooses to NOT follow the way of the world. He finds a quiet place to do business with God. He shuts his mouth and opens his heart and expects God to bring a fix. Habakkuk 2:1 says, "I will watch...to see what HE will say to me, and what I shall answer when I am corrected"! This was an agonizing moment of decision for Habakkuk. Remember, do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good! Contending, contending, contending!! You and I cannot raise the white flag of defeat! Jesus promised, did He not, that He would build His church, and the gates of hades would not prevail against it!

Dear brethren, the trumpet has not sounded yet. Yes, it could be today, but there is still work to be done!! The Living Word of God exhorts us to press on, to not shrink back, but to let our light shine to the Glory of the Father! Let us be diligent to pray one for another, to encourage one another, to love one another, and not quit!

"EARNESTLY CONTEND"

June 17-21, 2022

Marriott NW, Dublin, OH

NATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS AND UPDATES – PASTOR GORDY HARMON

Please check the CGBCI Website for two easy-to-use links to properly register for conference. One link is strictly for the hotel. It will walk you through the process of making your room reservation.

If you do not want to reserve your room online, please call the hotel's reservation hotline at: 888-801-7133. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MAY 25, 2022**

When making your reservation, the Executive Panel strongly recommends that you do not use your debit card. The hotel has a **DEBIT / CHECK CARD NOTICE** posted which says the following:

“Use of a debit / check card as security or payment for your room immediately places a hold on the funds in your checking account. The amount of the authorization / hold requested will be for up to seven days room and tax plus an estimate for incidentals. Your financial institution may continue to hold these funds for 3-5 business days after you checkout. The hotel cannot accept responsibility for holds placed on debit / check card account.”

Our counsel to you is to reserve your room with a credit card, if at all possible. Should you have any questions, please call or send an email to me at bffpastorg@gmail.com.

There is second link that is equally important for you to use, it is the Eventbrite link. It is very similar to the one we used last year. This link registers you for conference and helps the Executive Panel make sufficient plans for your arrival and participation. It is here that you can register your children for Children's Conference. Ladies can sign up for The Ladies Luncheon (deadline for registration is May 25th). How many Zoo Tickets do we need? How much ice cream to buy? How many are coming for YCON? How many for the Golf Outing?

It is so important for you to fill out the Eventbrite Registration Form so that we can be ready! If you have any questions regarding any of these links, contact Pastor Jonathan Edwards or myself, Pastor Gordy Harmon.

Other big news...The hotel is offering a Complimentary Breakfast Buffet included with your room reservation. The staff and management at the Marriott NW in Dublin have worked tirelessly with great enthusiasm and ideas to help make our stay with them as enjoyable as possible.

YCON 2022 – PASTORS KEVIN YODER AND ROB COVER

Greetings brethren! We are happy to announce that we are making plans for YCON 2022! It has been way too long since we were able to see each other. We are looking forward to our time together in Ohio this summer. Be sure to put YCON on the calendar for 2022. Stay tuned for more information! Please pass this along to parents, grandparents, friends, young adults, pastors and youth group leaders. Be thinking of ways that we can encourage and help support the next generation of the church. We are so thankful that they are our future. It is our privilege to help prepare and encourage them for the world ahead.

We are planning to hold a special Sunday designated YCON offering. At Conference 2021 at Gibsonburg, we heard your collective comments and reviews. The fellowship has made a commitment for the next generation. We are asking for your help, as the Lord leads. Your gifts will be used to benefit this year's YCON. There will be a packet coming in the mail to your church including the date for the special offering. In the packet will be a short video (thumbdrive) for announcements, time, and a bulletin insert. Please continue to personally encourage and pray for the youth. It means a lot to them to have you build into their life.

In addition to the special offering, YCON is offering family discounts. We also allow the YCON youth to stay with their family, to help them save on costs.

CGBCI CONFERENCE EMAIL UPDATES – JOY STEINER

Hello Everyone, I am excited to be helping the Executive Panel with promotional materials for the 2022 CGBCI Conference this summer. We have created an email address so we can deliver updates straight to your inbox on a regular basis! Don't worry, our goal isn't to swamp your email with messages! If you would like to keep up-to-date on conference announcements plus other fun content please send an email to CGBCIConference@gmail.com to be added to the update list. We have started to compile a contact list of those who would appreciate this information. If you know of others that would like to be included please send us their email addresses. Pastors, if you already have an updated email list for your church, you are welcome to upload that list and attach the file to an email to send to me. If you need help with that process, please let me know!

COP MEETINGS – PASTOR TOM JOHNSON

The COP (Mid-Year) Meetings at the Galion GBC are coming up soon! Along with our usual Panel Meetings and business, our subject for discussion will be, "Convincing others to be Trine Immersed". I do plan on this being a discussion and not a lecture, so bring all your ideas. If you need information about housing/hotel, please contact Pastor Jeff Pennington. If you need a copy of the schedule for the meetings, please let me know.

CORNERSTONE GBC – PASTORS LES VNASDALE & PHILIP MOELLER

On January 22, Orrville GBC and Cornerstone GBC enjoyed competing in the 2nd quiz rally of the school year. Quizzers have been working hard to memorize from the book of James. Special recognition goes to those who quizzed out: Obie Geiser (3 times), Nathaniel Studer (1 time), and Gabriel Zirkle (1 time).

NEW TROY GBC – PASTOR ROBERT MENSINGER

We added two new members to our congregation this past month. Pastor Ron Welsh and his wife Donna decided to move their membership to our church. They have been attending for the past couple of months and decided to join our church as members. We welcome them with open arms. Praise the Lord! God is continuing to bless here at New Troy GBC.

READING GBC – PASTOR LARRY WEIGLE

The following article appeared in the local newspaper, The Daily American, Somerset, PA,:

“The Rev. Larry Weigle and his wife, Joyce, will be marking the beginning of their 51st year of faithful service to the Reading Grace Brethren Church in Stoystown, on Jan. 2nd. The Reading Church was Weigle’s first and only pastorate. He graduate from Grace College in Winona Lake, Indiana, in 1968 with a B.A. degree and with a history major and minors in Greek and Bible. He went on to graduate from Grace Theological Seminary, cum laude, in 1971 with a Master of Divinity degree. He has served in various offices in the Allegheny Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, including district moderator numerous times, Camp Albryoca Corporation Board of Trustees president, and junior high camp director for over 40 years. He has also served the CGBCI Fellowship as conference secretary and served on various panels. His interests include history and baseball; particularly the Pittsburgh Pirates. He and his wife, Joyce, reside in the Stoystown area and celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary this year [2021]. They have three children and eight grandchildren. “

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM (NET) – PASTOR DEL MILLER

As we shared in the last edition of the Voice, we now have NET 22 dates that will have us reaching out July 3-9 at Cornerstone GBC in Mansfield, OH. We are looking forward to having good re-connection with our brothers and sisters there. Our training week, before that, will be at the Listie GBC in Listie, PA. The entire set of dates for NET22 are June 25-July 10, 2022. NET starts up just a few days after Conference ends so it will be a very busy time for some of us. As always, we greatly appreciate your prayers for this ministry.

Pastor Philip Moeller will be organizing the outreach efforts for our time at Cornerstone GBC. It is quite a blessing to have former team members at any church where we are ministering. Pastor Philip was on 7 NET trips and his wife Elizabeth was on 3 of them as well. In addition to the Moellers, there are several other individuals from Cornerstone who have served on the team in years past. We look forward to seeing them and finding out what God has been doing in their lives.

We recently reserved a 15 passenger van for our trip from a small local rental company that we have worked with in the past. I got a big “kick” out of telling the owner that I personally know 13 men named David Miller. He is the 13th one. I have met all thirteen and can tell you something about each one if you ever care to hear about it!

Please be praying for us as we begin to gather materials and information for our upcoming NET 22 ministry. We involve a number of the team members in working through details and putting together presentations and the schedule. It seems that every year the time goes by faster as we work on the specifics of the trip. Lord willing, we will share with you the names of the NET 22 members in the next issue of the Voice.

“The Voice Newsletter” is the communication tool of the Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International; and edited by Pastors Ike Graham and Les Vnasdale.

News Articles and/or Mailing Updates:

Please forward all info to Pastor Chris Knight at cgbcviceneews@gmail.com Snail mail to: PO BOX 58, Listie, PA 15549