

# THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER- PASTOR DAVE BLEVINS

It is hard to believe that it is almost Christmas! In just a little over 6 months we will be assembling for our 25th annual CGBCI Conference in Erlanger, Kentucky, June 29 - July 4, 2018. Our theme is going to be Heroes of the Faith from Hebrews chapter 11. I have had a number of folks contact me, asking, "When are you going to promote Conference?" When I respond by saying, "Have you not seen any

of the promotional videos on the CGBCI YouTube page?" The response is, "We have a

Youtube page?" To which I reply, "Yes! We've also been advertising in the Voice." The next statement I find most shocking! "What's the Voice?" Now obviously if you fall into this category you are not reading THIS article either, however for those who are, I am asking for your help. Please let your Pastor, or whoever, in your church that is in charge of making sure your folks, get this information know about this publication. A great deal of work is being put into this Newsletter every month, and it is our main method of getting news and information to our fellowship. Communication is

key! We have always had a decent amount of people at conference, but just imagine how many more we might have if people just knew about it. Sorry to be rambling on about this, but when you hear people asking "What's the Voice?" it causes great concern! We can't drop the ball here. Thinking about our focus for conference, can you imagine if the Heroes in Hebrews chapter 11 had

"dropped the ball" how differently things would have turned out? "Noah, build an ark" "Sure Lord, when I get around to it I'll

get right on that."

"Abraham...offer your son, Isaac." "I'm really busy right now Lord, maybe tomorrow, or next week." I think you get the point. I grew up in a Christian home, and I am so thankful to the Lord for my parents. My mother, who went home to be with the Lord in 2001, always quoted Bible verses to my brother and me, but she didn't just quote them, she "lived" them. One verse that she encouraged us with often was Colossians 3:23, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men". My mom was a real hero to me because she, through her



### 2018 CGBCI CONFERENCE LOCATION

Northern  
Kentucky Holiday  
Inn-Cincinnati  
Airport

Erlanger, KY

June 29<sup>th</sup>-July 4<sup>th</sup>,  
2018

Call the Holiday  
Inn to reserve your  
room (Mention  
that you are with  
the CGBCI  
Conference)

1-859-746-5608

Room Rate: \$89 +  
tax per night

example, led me to the Lord. Does anyone look to you as hero?

Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! See you in 2018! Be sure to subscribe so you will receive email notifications each time a new video is posted.

## NEWS FROM FELLOWSHIP CHURCHES

### Albany GBC, OR-Pastor DeLane Miller

We will be having our Christmas program on Sunday evening Christmas Eve. Please pray for us, as we join with another church to put on a program. We also want to reach out with Christmas caroling and witnessing.

**CGBCI National Conference:** Pastor DeLane will be the music coordinator for conference. He will be looking for musicians for the ensemble. If you are interested, please let Pastor DeLane know of your interest.

### Peru GBC, IN-Pastor Dave Jodry

**Pastoral Position Available:** Peru GBC is seeking a man who has thorough Biblical training/education to join our team of Elders as a full-time Associate Pastor. We would like for him to have a heart for family/children's ministries and in particular, lead our youth ministry. He will also share in the preaching,

teaching and worship service ministries with the Senior Pastor. This Associate position includes, but is not limited to, these areas of responsibility. Please send letter of interest and resume to: The Council of Elders, Peru Grace Brethren Church, 430 South Broadway, P O Box 552, Peru, IN, 46970.

## NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

### African Ministry Update

Dear beloved brethren,

The African ministry is exploding! More people are being saved and baptized this year than in any year I can remember. More men are studying for the ministry. More churches are being planted. Pastor Martin Nchinda (Biyem-assi) Yaounde writes that they have 18 men now studying with Pastor Salomon in Yaounde. Pastor Roger Yoda (Uganda) has 15 men from 4 countries (Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya). Pastor Gilbert Amaswache is helping to establish two new churches in Kenya. He is also training about a half dozen men. Pastor Raymond Olinga continues to train men in the East in Cameroon.

Pastor Salomon's ministry has been so exciting these past few months. New churches being established, new preaching opportunities and the challenge to train all the men in Yaounde practorium. The Ekounou (Yaounde) church needs a permanent place to meet. The Biyem assi (Yaounde) group needs to find a place to rent as well.

Pastor Simon Peter Otudo is reaching out to Kumi another new village to plant a CGBCI church in eastern Uganda.

Pastor Isaiah Nchinda and the ministry in Bamenda continues to suffer the ravages of the political conflict in the southwest and northwest in Cameroon. Many of the saints have moved away, others are discouraged. Isaiah's children have still not gone back to school. This is the second year!

Please pray the Lord will intervene and bring peace and stability to Cameroon.

Our financial need for the African ministry currently is \$7,000 per month. We are averaging about \$5,000. There is much more we could do to help if we had the funds. Pastor Gilbert and Pastor Salomon have both expressed the need for increased financial support because of the new church plants and the additional men they are training. Pastor Martin Nchinda has also asked for help with rent for a building for the new church plant in Yaounde. Pastor Simon Peter is traveling more and wants to plant more churches.

Thanks to all of you who give and pray and have made this ministry possible.

God bless,  
Keith

## Newfields Update

Dear Saints

By now most of you should be aware of the struggles that have been going on here in PNG (Papua New Guinea). I won't try to describe the long journey except to summarize a few main points. While we love the Swensons and stay in touch with them, they have stepped out of the Newfields team as well as our fellowship and sending church. This was not due to a conflict between our families but is a result of different decisions we made going through this conflict with NTM-PNG (New Tribes Mission-Papua New Guinea). Also, during the conversations with NTM-PNG it was made clear that I would be required to be willing to teach some things that would violate my conscience in my understanding of scripture. When I made it clear that I would not be able to do that, we were graciously but firmly told that we would not be able to continue with NTM-PNG as church planters.

We have not felt personally mistreated by anyone in NTM-PNG, in fact quite the opposite has been true. We feel they have tried very hard to make things work out, but in the end, our church and NTM-PNG hold some different interpretations and values. While both our church and NTM-PNG bent as far as they could, the sides could not meet in the middle without stepping off each one's values and interpretations.

Another important note; the written plan that we previously submitted to the Foreign Missions Panel had, as fundamental elements, us working with the Swensons and NTM-PNG. Since neither of these two parts are in place any longer, the plan has been nullified. Therefore, we are currently unendorsed. We are however, working on a new written plan that will include doors God seems to be opening with other teammates as well as a different mission here in PNG, *Finisterre Vision*. These elements would both allow us to teach what we believe to be true as well as plant churches and translate the Bible in the mother tongue of a previously unreached people group, the same goal we've always had. We hope to have this new plan approved in March at the next Foreign Missions Panel meetings.

So, what are we doing while we work on developing a new team and are discussing things with *Finisterre Vision*? We are doing 2 basic things; taking time to heal as a family and positioning ourselves the best we can for this future church planting ministry. This will involve staying in PNG until the fall of 2018 and then coming back to the US to finish team development before returning to PNG to move into a tribe.

The first goal; healing for our family. Our family has moved at least 13 times in the last 2 years. This along with all the stresses that come from moving to a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country with 3 little kids and the incredible stresses that have come from working through this conflict with NTM-PNG, has left our family worn out. What we really want right now is stability and predictability. About a month ago we moved down from the NTM base in the highlands to a small compound FV (*Finisterre Vision*) has in Madang (the coastal city we first moved to when we came to PNG.) We will be here until the fall of 2018 when we return to the US to finish putting together the team. Because there is very little we can do for team formation until next fall, the need FV had for someone to fill their logistics coordinator role, the opportunity working in this role provides to get to know the organization before we committed to working together, and the stability this role would provide for our family, it was an easy decision for us and our church. FV is a very small organization and for the 10 months we are in this role, I'll basically be overseeing/doing all the support ministry for the organization. There isn't a lot of work in any given area, but there are many areas to cover; tax compliance, accounting, supply-buying, receiving of inbound shipments, evangelistic teaching with our security guards, orientation and oversight for new missionaries, networking for the young organization, planning and execution of new surveys, etc. Along with the big hole we are filling for FV, this will provide great experience for us and intimate knowledge of the organization.

The second thing we are trying to accomplish is positioning ourselves for future church planting ministry. We are excited about the idea of working with Josh Miller and Autumn Arp (soon to be Miller ☺) and we are in preliminary conversations with a possible third unit. However, even if these teammate ideas work out, they aren't going to happen immediately. Josh and Autumn will be graduating from the missionary training school this month, and then they will be preparing for a wedding in March, then support raising. Because of the timetable the Millers are on, we feel this support role in PNG is the very best next step to set us up for success when we come back as a team. Along with that, we have the privilege of contributing to the Gospel getting to those who've never had it, **"...the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice."** Phil 1:18b

While missionary support roles are good and necessary, it is not what we feel God has gifted or called us to for the long term. We will be doing this role until the fall of 2018 and then returning to the states for a while before we come back to move into the tribe.

This has been the hardest time in my adult life. For the last 14 years, I have been committed to going on the mission field. With a singular focus, I've made every major life choice around that commitment. Then shortly after arriving to the field God asked a question of me through these circumstances, "Do you know who you are if I take missions away from you?" As we are coming through the other side of this storm I can say with confidence I do know who I am. I am God's son, and everything else is under that, even being a missionary, **"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the Children of God! And that is what we are!"** I John 3:1a

As we go forward, please pray for us to continue to draw near to God and let Him bring healing and maturity to our lives. Pray for God to open doors for the Gospel in PNG by providing teammates and the right organization to assist us in reaching the unreached. Please pray and ask the Lord what part He may have you play in getting Josh and Autumn here.

Don't be discouraged by these trials; remember we are not at the front lines of this fight against Satan and his kingdom, we are far behind enemy lines. We are trying to infiltrate territory where his flag has flown for thousands of years! Peter also gives us perspective, **"So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold.... So, when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."** 1 Peter 1:6, 7

If you don't get our email updates or are Facebook friends with us, please let us know as lots more information is regularly posted to those locations, email [craigmnoyes@gmail.com](mailto:craigmnoyes@gmail.com). Check out Finisterre Vision's website to get to know them better, [www.finisterrevision.org](http://www.finisterrevision.org). Finally, NTM-PNG has "loaned" us to FV while we do the logistics coordinator role. Without being "loaned" to FV we couldn't have done this role. Practically what that means is nothing needs to change with giving, NTM is still going to be processing our support until after we return to the US.

Love, Craig & Sara – Ambassadors of the Lord among the unreached.

Contact information:

Craig and Sara Noyes  
Finisterre Vision  
P O Box 765  
Madang, 511  
Papua New Guinea

## NEWS FROM BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE FELLOWSHIP

### Mike Wingfield

Mike Wingfield will be hosting a 9-day tour to the Holy Land this March. If you are interested in additional details, please give him a call ASAP at 1-540-798-5110.

### Jeff and Marlene Kran

First, our conference in California, where I was the major apologist speaker, went phenomenally well. This is especially true because part of the way through the conference I ended up with a virus very similar to the shingles and had to do four hours of teaching per day physically a little under the weather. Also during this weekend I was interviewed for a Christian radio program that runs on the Calvary Chapel radio station, and I also had the opportunity to broadcast again via satellite TV on a radio program geared towards reaching Muslims throughout the world. One of the callers was from London, England and the other from the Mideast. It is interesting that Dr. Glaser himself noted in the letter he sent out for us, "This is an exciting time of transition for the Krans as they combine more of the teaching and apologetic facets of Jeff's calling into the ministry in Arizona." We are busily posting sessions from the conference in California with me speaking on our website [www.zionsbanner.org](http://www.zionsbanner.org). We encourage you to visit the website where you will continue to find videos of material from my various speaking ministry and apologetic events.

God continues to open interesting doors. Hillside Southern Baptist is looking forward to our annual Hanukkah event which is hosted by their church. We are excited because the attendance at this event continues to grow from year-to-year. Truly, Hillside is a Jewish-hearted church, honoring God, who stated the gospel is to the Jew first and also to the Greek. We continue to look to the Lord for our final direction in this upcoming year, and hope to be able to share more in the upcoming months. In the meantime we have some major prayer requests to share with you. One is that a van will be found that we can afford soon. We have been using one car and that means Marlene is on the road a lot. Second is that God will provide the finances that we lost, through others giving and new supporters coming on. This is a critical need for us! Third, is that God would provide a Helper for me as I learn my way around the social media aspect of getting my materials out on the web. I have been slowly learning this but having someone who already knows how will be a big asset for us. Lastly, but certainly not the least of them, is prayer for us as a family as we go through all the transitions we need to and for God to be glorified in all we do.

### Pastor Larry Williams

We are thoroughly enjoying retirement while living in my boyhood home in Elkhart, IN (56801 Best Ave., 46516.) I'm grateful to the Lord for a new mission field: Hundreds of teenagers in Concord and Jimtown schools, while serving as a substitute teacher. I usually print my name on the board, then show them how it would look in Greek and in Hebrew. Sometimes I even give them a little language lesson ("boker tov lekah" and "shalom lekah" ["good morning to you" and "peace to you"]). I even use a bit of the Spanish I learned in California in addressing the growing number of Hispanics. Once in a while, the Lord opens some discussion from that or other issues (such as the dying out of dinos), and so forth. Here's what I see: This generation is sadly lost, not only spiritually, but also in the world. They are perplexed by a culture that doesn't make sense. Naturally, I have to be quite cautious and am not permitted to speak of God or Jesus unless it is pursued by the student. If they ask some questions, I'm quite glad to answer. Please pray for this new venue of ministry. These kids need it desperately.

**Live-Stream Class on HERMENEUTICS**

The class will be held Saturday mornings 8:30-10:30am from January 27, 2018 to April 28, 2018.

This course will be taught by Dr. Gary Kochheiser and will cover the basic elements of Bible interpretation. The student will learn how to interpret the Bible historically, grammatically, and contextually. Different parts of the English language will be taught for the purpose of biblical interpretation as well as differing figures of speech and how to recognize them. This is an entry level course and is, therefore, recommended for anyone in the church. Those taking it for credit will have two text books to read and ten projects to complete but no exams or quizzes. If you are planning to take this course, please register with Pastor Joshua Steiner by January 15, 2018 so that you can obtain the required course materials on time for the first class. You can reach him at [strivingforphilippians314@gmail.com](mailto:strivingforphilippians314@gmail.com) or by calling 330-683-3526.



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