

# THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 7

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MARCH 2018

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER- PASTOR DAVE BLEVINS

March 5 - 8 the Pastors of our fellowship met at the Grace Brethren Church in Orrville, Ohio. We had a productive time together as the various Panels met, and our College of Pastors' President, Pastor Larry Williams, challenged us with the importance of prayer. On the final day of our meetings, Tim Cover and Brian Maley both passed their ordination exams to become the two newest Pastors in our Fellowship. It was encouraging to hear what the Lord is doing in our CGBCI congregations, and Foreign and Home Missions. With just a little over 3 months to go, our attention now turns to our **25th anniversary CGBCI Conference June 29 - July 4** in Erlanger, Kentucky. If you have not already made your reservations to join us, I would encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Pastors were each given promotional material at our meetings in Orrville for Conference, Youth Conference and Children's Conference. Also, the Conference Poster can be downloaded from the [cgbc.org](http://cgbc.org) website.

### Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport

Important Conference Reservation Information Reservations: 888-294-5067

Deadline to receive Group rate: June 5, 2018

Group Name: Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International

Group Code: CGB

Please remember to check out the monthly promotional videos on the CGBCI YouTube page. Just go to Youtube and type "CGBCI" in the search bar. There you will find multiple videos for both the Adult and Youth Conferences. If you have the ability to show some of these as part of your worship service that would be great. If not, we would encourage you to announce both the Fellowship website and YouTube pages in your bulletin so your folks can check it out for themselves. Our Conference theme is **"Heroes of the Faith"**, with the following list of messages from Hebrews chapter 11.

Friday, June 29th Pastor Dave Blevins "By Faith: Noah"

Saturday, June 30 Pastor Tim Cover "By Faith: Rahab" Missions Night #1 - 7:00 - 9:30

Sunday, July 1 Pastor Scott Libby "By Faith: Abraham" Missions Night #2 - 7:00 - 9:00

Monday, July 2, AM, Pastor Larry Weigle "By Faith: Joseph"

Monday, July 2, PM, Pastor Jeff Eno "By Faith: Moses"

Tuesday, July 3 Pastor Mike Wingfield "By Faith: Enoch"

Wednesday, July 4 Pastor Chris Knight introduces the 2019 Conference Theme

For a full schedule go to the CGBCI website

## CGBCI CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Request for Photos-Pastor Dave Blevins, Conference President**

In keeping with our Conference theme, "Heroes of the Faith", we are putting together a photo presentation of folks who have been part of conference for the past 25 years who are no longer with us, to be shown on the opening night of Conference. If you have photos that could be used as part of this presentation, please send them via email attachment to [dblevins12560@gmail.com](mailto:dblevins12560@gmail.com). We will also make the Presentation available on our YouTube page for those unable to attend Conference.

### **Request for Musicians-Instrumental and Voice-Pastor DeLane Miller, Conference Coordinator**

At Conference this summer there will be an instrumental ensemble for the congregational singing. If you would like to join the group please contact me. Also a "Quick Choir" will do special music at one of the conference sessions. We will rehearse at conference but I can send music to you beforehand. The only requirement is being able to sing on pitch. (If in doubt, ask an honest friend or family member.)

Contact Pastor DeLane at [millerdelane02@gmail.com](mailto:millerdelane02@gmail.com) or [albanyorgbc@gmail.com](mailto:albanyorgbc@gmail.com) or 541-967-9357

### **CGBCI Conference Breakfast and Restaurant**

The Hotel has agreed to serve us breakfasts like they did last time we were there in 2016 at no additional cost. They are also offering a 15% discount in the Hotel Restaurant when wearing your name tag (which will be given out at registration.)

### **Missions in India**

Brother Paul Rajan will be with us at Conference to update everyone on the ministry in India.

## NEWS FROM CONFERENCE CHURCHES

### **New Troy GBC, MI-Pastor Bob Mensinger**

God is continuing to bless here at New Troy.

This was a very busy month. We continue to minister to our elderly in assisted living and those confined at home for health issues. Pastor Bob and his wife Lila administered communion for one of our elderly ladies in an assisted living facility. She was overwhelmed with joy and plans to attend our next communion service on March 25th.

We had our annual Valentine's Banquet at Cracker Barrel on the 11th and had 10 in attendance. We would have had more but the weather was not good.

The weather has improved but the furnace went on the blink last Sunday and we met in the old section of the church that still had heat. We crammed 27 people in that small room but everyone enjoyed the service. Also, we had our carry-in dinner in the same room since the rest of the church was about 50 degrees.

The repairman was called and fixed the furnace in less than a half hour so we are all set for next Sunday.

Pray that we will see some results from our outreach efforts in the community.

## NEWS FROM HOME MISSIONS PANEL

Jesus said, "...I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overpower it." Before Jesus left His disciples, He instructed them to make new disciples by going to where lost people were, by immersing those disciples once for their Father, once for their Savior, and once for the Holy Spirit, and by teaching them to do everything that Jesus had commanded. After Jesus ascended into heaven, this small group of believers lovingly obeyed their Christ. As they obeyed, disciples were made and churches were established. Jesus is still building His church. The plan has not changed. We have the privilege and joy of bringing glory to our Savior by putting into action His Great Commission.

The Home Mission Panel has a burden to put Christ's Great Commission into action here in the United States. Back in 2014, our fellowship set a vision of growth for 2020. As part of that vision, the HMP wrote out goals to see 5 new CGBCI churches planted in America. We want to see that vision realized according to the Lord's will. An updated version of those goals are:

2018 – Identify and research 10 potential church plants. Get a map out of all the churches in the CGBCI and find areas within 30-45 minutes from existing churches.

2019 – Start Bible studies in 8-10 of the target areas.

2020 – Send and pay for schools of theology students to the target Bible studies for 1 month of ministry

2021 – Involved evangelism teams to canvas in the target areas.

2022 – Build the Bible studies up to 3-5 families.

2023 – Research and identify building facilities for church services.

2024 – Begin Sunday morning services for 5 churches

At this year's mid-year meeting of the College of Pastors the Home Mission Panel completed the first goal. We made a map of all our churches and found the biggest cities within a 30-45 minute drive from existing churches to begin Bible studies. We identified **Johnson City** and **Greenville** near our church in Telford; **Johnstown** near our churches in Listie, Somerset, and Reading; **South Bend** near our churches in Elkhart, Niles, New Troy and Mishawaka; **Logansport** near our church in Peru; **Montpelier** near our churches in Irasburg and Morrisville; **Lansing** near our churches in Hastings and Alto; **Maumee** near our churches in Gibsonburg and Findley; and **Ashland, Shelby or Bucyrus** near our churches in Mansfield and Galion.

We are excited about the possibilities of starting these Bible studies. Do you see your church listed? Do you know of other cities that could be reached near you? Have you thought about being part of a Bible study in one of these target areas? Think of the lives that could be changed by Jesus Christ if He could reach into these target cities through us.

Here are some steps that you can take to see this vision happen:

1. Pray for people who need to hear the gospel in these target cities or other cities near you.
2. Talk to your pastor and your church about starting a Bible study in one or more target cities.
3. Pray for a Bible study teacher to be willing to go and begin the study (maybe you!)
4. Let the Home Mission Panel know of your plans so that we can help coordinate and communicate it to the fellowship.
5. Start a Bible study!

To help your church, two of our panel members are available to come to your church and present these goals, answer questions on how your church might start a Bible study, and challenge your church to be part of the Great Commission here in the United States. If you would like one of them to visit your church please give me a call at 802-888-3339 or email me at [pastorethan@lv gbc.net](mailto:pastorethan@lv gbc.net).

In Christ,

Pastor Ethan Kallberg, Chairman of the Home Mission Panel

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM

The NET '18 ministry is coming. The dates are August 6-21, 2018 and will include training at the North Buffalo GBC and outreach at Lamoille Valley Grace Brethren Church in Morrisville, VT and the GBC of Irasburg, VT. Below are listed the team members with the name of their home church as well.

Please be praying for the team members. If you have interest in adopting a team member, please contact Pastor Del Miller at Orrville GBC. So far, only 6 (\*) have been officially spoken for. You may notice Autumn Arp listed with the single girls. That will change on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Next time you see something in print about NET 18, Josh and Autumn Miller will be listed on the same line!

### **Pastor Del & Grace Miller NET '18 leaders**

**Orrville GBC: 330.683.3526, [pastordelmiller@gmail.com](mailto:pastordelmiller@gmail.com)**

#### **GUYS:**

**Pastor Philip Moeller** \*(Cornerstone GBC)

**Benjamin Miller** (Albany GBC)

**Isaac Hodgdon** (Orrville GBC)

**Gabriel Miller\*** (Albany GBC)

**Johnathan Steiner** (Orrville GBC)

**Nicholas Kelly** (North Bend COB)

**Joel Kuhns** (Orrville GBC)

**Ian McAllister** (Trinity GBC Columbus, OH)

**Simon McAllister** (Trinity GBC Columbus, OH)

**Camden Maley\*** (Calvary GBC)

**Josh Miller** (Orrville GBC)

#### **GIRLS:**

**Autumn Arp** (Orrville GBC)

**Patience Bolling\*** (Grace Brethren Chapel)

**Christina Elliot\*** (Cornerstone GBC)

**Hannah Hodgdon** (Orrville GBC)

**Abby Pearson** (Peru GBC)

**Rachel Steiner** (Orrville GBC)

**Amy Vanderpool\*** (Lakeland GBC)

## NEWS FROM THE FOREIGN MISSIONS PANEL

The Foreign Mission Panel endorsed the revised written plan for the Noyes. Remember that endorsement means that the FMP has put their stamp of approval on the plan, so the missionary has our OK to ask local CGBCI churches for support. The Noyes' support has dropped a little since they have been on the field. The support which is most important is prayer, so please keep on learning their needs and talking to the heavenly Father about them. This revised plan includes the Noyes' returning to the States in late September or early October. They will then work on team-building. Remember to pray for Josh and Autumn Miller, who will be married the end of March, as they continue working toward joining the Papua New Guinea church-planting team. The Noyes are currently working with Finisterre Vision. Pray for the Noyes, the Irasburg Brethren and the FMP as we consider allying with this mission for the help we need to labor in PNG."

## NEWS FROM AFRICAN MISSIONS

### CAMEROON

The Northwest District is planning to hold national conference April 5-8 at the Keyon GBC in Oku. Brother Martin Nchinda (planting the English speaking church in Biyem-assi in Yaounde) is scheduled to be ordained. The political situation is *still* unstable in that region so pray for safety in travel and for the Lord to bless their conference. The Theme is on Forgiveness.

Pastor Salomon (Yaounde) has been having serious sciatic nerve problems because of his back and also a recurring problem with laryngitis. Please pray for complete healing.

Pastor Raymond Olinga asks for prayer for the four new graduates who are struggling to survive in the ministry. (Pastor Jules, Pastor Godfroid, Pastor Paul and Pastor Blaise)

Pastor Isaiah Nchinda writes, "Greetings in the precious Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Though with a lot of sadness I am giving this report. Nobody in life love to be working and not see the result. Since these last months the church has been decreasing instead of increasing. All this due to the tension in Bamenda. Now is the waste as military and civilians are almost killed in a daily basis. The last family that left to Yaounde is the family of Godwill.

Well for now we are about twenty five persons that attend the church service and about fifteen for the Bible Study and prayers. The problems we face now is that those who are for baptism are always postponing. Waste of all somebody like Genesis who has received trine immersion argues against now, even in the hearing of those who are to be baptized. I am praying for understanding while teaching them. Our average Sunday offering is five thousands francs (\$10). For now the Church is not supporting me. We had our church evangelism once a month as personal is daily.

For now I had a teacher who has just started with the children in the house though expensive but I have no option. Our strong prayer request is that things should return to normality. Concerning the general report about North West I will write after the planning meeting at Ibal on the twenty fourth of this month. The Network remains off, on and poor.

I continue to say thanks for the support to all the brethren who have been sacrificing and especially to you who is at the forefront.

God bless you,  
Isaiah"

### UGANDA

Pastor Roger Yoda (Kampala) continues to teach practoriums in Akwarkwar and in Kampala and to oversee the African ministry in the East African countries. Pray for safety as he travels and wisdom as he works with all these pastors and churches.

Pastor Simon Peter Otudo (Akwarkwar) continues to teach his practorium men and oversee the churches he has established. Please pray for him for wisdom and strength.

## **RWANDA**

Pastor Roger Yoda and Pastor Protais (Gicumbi) are finalizing the paperwork for the CGBCI to be recognized in Rwanda. Pray that the government will provide the necessary (NGO- non-governmental organization) papers for the churches to operate legally.

## **TANZANIA**

Pastor Roger Yoda and Pastor Gilbert Amaswache will be travelling to Tanzania this week to meet with the leaders of the churches and to continue the registration process for the CGBCI to be recognized in that country.

## **KENYA**

Pastor Gilbert Amaswache shares,

"I am excited to share the following report on the progress and development of the CGBC Ministry in Kenya. Since we began the ministry the Lord has enabled us to open six churches here in Kenya, three in Nairobi, two in Kitale and one in Lokichoggio. In Nairobi the churches are at Kayole, Mathare and Soweto with Pastors Elisha and Vincent at Kayole and Walter Malela at Soweto and Meshack Okoth at Mathare. Last Sunday was a great and happy day in all of these churches. 14 adults accepted the faith and demonstrated it by receiving Baptism by trine immersion after going through the teachings on baptism and the Christian life on Saturday. They are much excited about serving the Lord. Their biggest challenge at the moment is finding a spacious place for the services. Since their homes are very small and cannot accommodate the growing number of believers, they are requesting for your prayers and support on the same.

In Kipsaina we have 10 adults who have received the baptism and accepted the faith. We are continuing with a series of teachings on the Christian faith and life and hopefully soon many will join the Church by accepting the baptism. Currently we have an average attendance of 40 regularly. There are five men that I am teaching in the practorium who are also helping in preaching and teaching whenever I am away. Their names are Mark, Richard, Joseph and Cleophas."

## **ZAMBIA**

Pastor Roger Yoda has been in touch with a brother from Lusaka who is interested in planting churches in that country. Pastor Roger and Pastor Gilbert will be travelling to meet with him on March 24th. Pray for wisdom and discernment for our brothers as they look into this church planting opportunity.

The Voice Newsletter" is the communication tool of the Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International. News or mailing updates should be sent to Tara Bradley at [stbradley84@comcast.net](mailto:stbradley84@comcast.net), or to 535 S Broadway, Peru, IN, 46970 by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.