

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER- PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT

Nehemiah's Heart

Throughout the first chapter of the book of Nehemiah, we see the aching heart of Nehemiah. God had burdened him with a daunting vision. This vision was concerning his homeland. From miles away, he learned of the vast ruins of the place where his people had bought and sold, raised families, made their livelihood, and worshiped

the One True God! Nehemiah received permission from the King of Persia to return home and follow God's plan! God took a cup bearer and made him a great leader. It all started with God working on his heart! Has God been working on your heart? Has our Lord called you to a specific ministry or service? Are you following His call? Have

you given Him your whole heart?

Please pray for the Executive panel as we meet at the Crowne Plaza in Grand Rapids, MI October 15-17th to plan the 2019 National Conference. Be praying and making plans for Conference! More information will be available soon for reservations, etc.

CGBCI WEBSITE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastors, Churches, Panels or Fellowship and District Organizations - We want to put your news on the CGBCI website. Cathy Burns and Chris Burns are working on the CGBCI Website and they want to make it user friendly and easily accessible for fellowship news. Let your CGBCI Family know what is happening in your church so we can keep you in our prayers.

If your church or organization would like to share news with the rest of the CGBCI family send your news and pictures (Pictures of children must have parental permission) to:

Cathy Burns - cburns2358@gmail.com

Chris Burns - chrisb90@juno.com

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM PASTOR DON FARNER

Pastor Don Farner is looking for his DVD teaching series entitled Soteriology/Salvation/Christian Life. If you have them or know who does, please contact him. Thank you!

NEWS FROM FELLOWSHIP CHURCHES

Listie GBC, PA-Pastor Chris Knight

We are praising the Lord for a great summer! The Lord gave many opportunities for picnics, fellowship, Church Camp, and a visit from Pastor Salomon. The Lord has blessed with a new mower for the parsonage and church cemetery and with a screened-in porch for the parsonage. We have just started our eighth year in Awana and are praying to have an impact on the children and youth in our community. God truly is good!

North Buffalo GBC, Kittanning, PA -Pastor Jim Rose

Please join us for a CGBCI Ordination Ceremony for Matthew Foreman – September 15th 2018 – 2 PM – at North Buffalo Grace Brethren Church, 135 Glade Run Rd., Kittanning, PA. 16201 Please call 724.763.7871 with questions. Refreshments after ceremony.

Hastings GBC, MI -Pastor Kevin Yoder

Thank you for the prayer support and encouragement for us after the tragedy that unfolded a few weeks ago at the home of Pastor Bob and Judy Wilson. Truly, we are able to breathe and stand because of the prayers for us. We celebrated their lives August 18th with a packed church. God is so faithful and good! He is working in so many ways. It is exhilarating to be part of His plan. The extended Wilson family has instantly become close family to us. Through this trial we have stepped out in faith, clinging to God's promises and character. We are eagerly and expectantly anticipating to see how God is going to make beauty come from this for His name's sake. He has not disappointed. Already He has brought us visitors, new brothers and sisters in Christ, whom we did not previously know, and encouragement from places we didn't expect. Be encouraged, our God goes before us in battle, as in Joshua 10. Best if we put on our armor and constantly be in prayer, firmly standing in Him. May He be glorified by us being poured out as a drink offering.

Thanking and praising God for everything He brings into our lives, as it results in Him being our deep, deep abiding joy! 1 Thess. 5:16-18.

Albany GBC, OR-Pastor DeLane Miller

Pastor DeLane Miller will be offering tutoring in Greek and Hebrew via Skype or phone to men in our fellowship (practorium students or others). He will have a number of comparison charts that help students see the patterns in morphology and oral reading of selected Biblical texts aiding comprehension of the languages in syntax and grammar. A one on one regularly scheduled interaction holds the student accountable. Contact DeLane Miller if interested (millerdelane02@gmail.com or 541.967.9357).

Calvary GBC, Alto, MI-

With the decision of Pastor Maley to move to the new mission in Vermont, we have an opening for Senior Pastor at Calvary Grace Brethren Church. Please be in prayer that the Lord will lead the right man to fill this need. If you have an interest in the position please reach out to Gregg Peters at greggkatie@yahoo.com or by Cell 616.307.1583

NEWS FROM NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM (NET)

A NET 18 "SNAPSHOT"

NET 18 included a number of experiences which will stay in our memories for quite some time. Thanks for your prayers as the team made the long trip to Vermont and back. We could certainly sense the support and encouragement that resulted from your prayers on our behalf. In coming issues of the Voice we aim to share additional details of the trip with you. Some of this year's team are already looking forward to the possibility of participating next year in NET 19, when the ministry focus week will be in Telford, TN.

On Saturday, August 18, 2018 the team was scheduled to be at the Farmer's Market in Newport, VT. During set up the sky was very overcast, and there were a couple of very random sprinkles of rain. We were glad to be under the roof of a 27 foot diameter gazebo at one end of the market. Brother Scott Rafferty of the Irasburg Church had heard that the electrical hook up at the gazebo can sometimes be unreliable. Consequently he borrowed a small generator from a friend "just in case" we would need it. After the lights on the equipment flashed off and on several times during set up we decided it was time to fire up the generator. It started on about the 5th pull by Camden Maley and purred like a contented kitten for the next hour.

We did 2 compact energetic presentations of about 25 minutes each with a short break in between. Songs, puppets, introductions, and a visit from Moses and Pharaoh were a part of the program. A few people came over and sat down on the benches in front of the gazebo, but most stayed busy with their Market activities. Afterward we were able to talk with some of the vendors. Of course one of the options was to buy some maple syrup (we were in Vermont after all) and several of us did that. We were able to talk about the Lord with the man and his assistant who were selling the syrup. We were delighted the next day when those 2 men and another family member showed up at the Sunday morning service at Irasburg. It is often hard to tell what is happening in people's hearts. Pray that God will continue to work in the hearts of Richard, Mike and the many other people whom we contacted in Vermont with the gospel.

NEWS FROM HOME MISSIONS PANEL

Brethren,

We are thrilled to share some exciting news from the CGBCI Home Missions Panel. On July 15, 2018 the Lamoille Valley GBC and the GBC of Irasburg submitted a written plan to the HMP. The written plan was approved by both churches to "revitalize" both the Lamoille Valley GBC and

the GBC of Irasburg with a focus on eventually planting new churches in the New England area. With their blessing the Calvary Grace Brethren Church in Alto, MI is releasing Pastor Bryan Maley to do the work of an Evangelist in Vermont. On August 15, 2018 the Home Mission Panel endorsed this written plan.

The team will consist of three ordained men from the CGBCI, Pastor Ethan Kallberg, Pastor Scott Libby and Pastor Bryan Maley, working together with the spiritual gifts given to them by our Lord Jesus. Each man will focus on his area of gifting, working together as a unit to equip and grow the local churches.

It is the hope and prayer of the HMP and churches of Vermont to put together a working model of revitalization for the United States. We need to strengthen our churches here at home in order to plant and support churches abroad. Following is an excerpt from the endorsed written plan:

Need: *Vermont is the least religious state in the union with 52% of its population claiming no religious affiliation whatsoever. The far political left has dominated the urban areas of the state, which throws Vermont elections. Political correctness and neo-paganism are overbearing, even infiltrating evangelical churches. In the midst of such spiritual darkness, we are on the brink of either a great awakening or total apostasy. Currently there is a severe need to revitalize the small struggling Grace Brethren churches in VT and elsewhere in our CGBCI Fellowship. The principle of strengthening established churches is seen in the ministry of the Apostle Paul who revisited churches he planted during his second and third missionary journeys (Acts 15:36, 41; 18:23; cf. Rev. 3:2). New outreach ideas and renewed heart energy and zeal are needed in numerous congregations. Therefore, we are striving to introduce a model to help rebuild our churches with the long-range aim of planting new CGBCI churches in the USA, beginning in VT. The model will consist of a team of three ordained men: an evangelist (Bryan Maley) and two lead pastors (Scott Libby and Ethan Kallberg). The local non-ordained elders along with any practorium students, resident or visiting will also contribute to the revitalization effort as secondary team members.*

Strategy: *Our strategy will involve calling evangelist Bryan Maley to northern VT to focus on the specific work of evangelism/outreach and connecting the two Grace Brethren churches to their respective communities. In a seven-year plan, we are envisioning a window of four to five years to see revitalization in our church bodies, and by years six and seven, to see a new church plant initiated. We dare not start a new church plant until our local GBC bodies are more able to support and sustain such a venture. Of course, this all depends upon Jesus Christ who said, "I will build My church." If it becomes quite clear that revitalization is not the Lord's will for us, then our Evangelist should move elsewhere.*

In this work we will strive to have other practorium students, laymen and ordained Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers join the team as needed. It will be our goal to train up men of God, improving our practorium efforts by utilizing technology and by having other willing men come to teach on a seminar basis for intense practical training. Students from other practoriums would be welcomed to come for short internships to take classes and to learn how to engage in evangelism in a difficult part of the country. We will also be involved with continuous ongoing training to grow ourselves in the Lord.

The team outreach/evangelism strategy will concentrate on, and becoming more involved with the community by participating in local outreach events by offering classes to the community that are relevant to the area that points to Christ, such as addiction recovery or sustainable living (cooking, canning, sewing, building, etc.). It will be our goal to become part of the community to the point that if something happens to one of our bodies of believers the community will notice. It will be imperative that whatever event, outreach or class we have, that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented not only through His inspired Word, but through our own personal lives.

God is at work in the CGBCI! The Home Mission Panel is excited about this new opportunity and the willingness of all the men and churches involved. To make this plan happen, we need your help and support. This is a giant leap of faith for the Maley family. It is also a leap of faith for the members of the Lamoille Valley GBC, Irasburg GBC and the entire fellowship. Plans have been written, put in place and acted upon in the past only to meet great opposition. Please join us in prayer support. We also ask you to prayerfully consider helping the work financially.

Support should be sent to Stephen Burns and marked, "Vermont Revitalization." Please encourage people not to designate funds to any one individual. Also, please note: When contributing to specific projects, donors acknowledge that the CGBCI has full authority to apply contributions designated for these projects to other projects in the event these projects are fully funded, changed, or no longer endorsed.

In the Service of Our Lord Jesus,

The CGBCI Home Mission Panel:

Pastors Ethan Kallberg,

Gordy Harmon

Del Miller

Matt Foreman

Bryan Maley

Philip Moeller

Jonathan Edwards

The "Voice Newsletter" is the communication tool of the Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International; EDITED by Pastors Ike Graham and Les Vnasdale. News or mailing updates should be sent to Tara Bradley at stbradley84@comcast.net, or to 535 S Broadway, Peru, IN, 46970 by the 20th of the month.