

# THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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February 2021

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Pastor Jonathan Edwards**

Greetings brethren! We have some exciting news to share regarding 2021's National Conference. For the first time in CGBCI history, a local church will be hosting our conference. Many thanks to the Grace Brethren Chapel, located in Gibsonburg, OH, for their willingness to have us.

Conference dates: July 2 - July 6.

Conference Cost: There is no cost to attend the CGBCI National Conference; however, you will be responsible for your own hotel and meals while attending.

Hotel information: Expect to get hotel information by the middle of March. There are several hotels within 15 minutes of the church. We're researching right now to see which ones would accommodate us for this event.

Reservation information: Also in March, expect an online reservation option which will confirm your attendance at the Conference and allow you to select the various activities that you want to do. We will also have a paper registration option for those who may not have access to the internet.

Lord willing, we'll be able to gather together, worship our Creator God, and enjoy sweet fellowship this July!

## **NEW TROY GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH – PASTOR ROBERT MENSINGER**

God is continuing to bless here at New Troy.

We had our first Three-Fold Communion Service for the New Year on January 24<sup>th</sup> and had eleven attend. Some are still hesitant to attend communion due to Covid 19.

We lost two of our dearest members this past month, Cecil Stice on January 14 and Marjorie Gahris on January 19. Cecil was 89 years old and had been a member of our church since 1971. Marjorie was 99 years old and had been a member since 1966.

I am preaching through 1 Peter in the morning services and 2 Kings in the evening services. We continue to put my morning messages on Facebook and YouTube and on the church website under sermons.

We had two visitors this past month, and our attendances and offerings continue to stay consistent. Praise God! So far we have not had any Covid related health issues since resuming live services. Praise the Lord for His protection in that matter.

### **ORRVILLE GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH – PASTOR IKE GRAHAM**

I tested positive for the sin virus on January 9, 1953. It was nearly 18 years later that I was made aware that I had this lethal problem. The vaccine, I learned, is the blood of Jesus Christ. So, in December of 1970, I received the vaccine. My life was transformed and I was given eternal life. I recommend all to receive this vaccine as soon as possible.

### **PASTORAL RETREAT OPPORTUNITY – PASTOR TOM & CATHY JOHNSON, SOMERSET, PA**

Calling all pastors: Black Rock Retreat Center near Lancaster, Pennsylvania offers a getaway for pastors and their families. The facility was started by a Mennonite couple for the purpose of ministering to children and young people living in Lancaster. It has expanded to providing retreat opportunities to Christian organizations.

My husband and I went there for a getaway after Christmas. We thoroughly enjoyed our time there. The facilities offer a lot to families and summer campers with their pool, water slide, ball fields, nature center, climbing wall, zip line, playgrounds, volleyball courts, basketball courts, picnic pavilions, outdoor swings, etc. The available dates for pastors and their families for 2021 are as follows: April 5-7, July 5-7, October 11-13, and December 6-8.

Meals are free for the pastor but not for the wife or children. Also, there is a room charge of \$30 a night. For more information or to reserve a room, call: 717-529-3232.

### **CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE 2021 – VICE PRESIDENT, PASTOR GORDY HARMON**

CGBCI Workers Needed for Children's Conference 2021!! We are gearing up for Children's Conference, and it will be here before we know it! We are excited about our theme of CONSTRUCTION ZONE—WORKING TO BE LIKE JESUS. We are praying that some/many of you will come alongside and help us teach the next generation about being like Jesus. It is not necessary for you to commit to every hour or every day. Just let us know how Jesus is moving you to help, and we will trust Him to put it all together. Please prayerfully consider helping, serving, and ministering in caring for and growing our children. WE NEED YOU!! There is hourly compensation for Children's Conference workers. Please feel free to contact us! Pastor Gordy Harmon (text or call) 740-504-7932, email [bffpastorg@gmail.com](mailto:bffpastorg@gmail.com); or Jessie Harmon (text or call) 740-504-2248, email [jharmon18203@icloud.com](mailto:jharmon18203@icloud.com).

### **BEREAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP – PASTOR GORDY HARMON**

Choir Festival at Berean Faith Fellowship—Save the Date! Please make plans to join us on Sunday, May 16th, at 6:00 p.m. Meet with us in beautiful Mount Vernon for a wonderful evening of singing, praise, worship, and of course, sweet fellowship. We are located at 103 Madison Street, Mount Vernon, OH, and we would fully enjoy your presence. Contact either Pastor Gordy Harmon ([740-504-7932](tel:740-504-7932), [bffpastorg@gmail.com](mailto:bffpastorg@gmail.com)); or Jesse Bryant (740-390-1402, [bryant05@icloud.com](mailto:bryant05@icloud.com)) for questions/directions, etc. Look for more information to be coming in next month's Voice Newsletter!

## HOME MISSIONS

### NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM – PASTOR DEL MILLER

Time is marching on! We have a good number of applications for NET 21 and are expecting more to arrive soon. We have only a short time before the application deadline of Feb. 15 arrives. If you have interaction with Benjamin Miller, do not tell him about that date. Usually the deadline is Feb. 1 and usually we get his application by email at 11:58 or so on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>! It has become a tradition that we joke about and look forward to. Benjamin has been on 12 NET trips already and has been a major contributor to the ministry. We appreciate his involvement very much. This year if he doesn't realize that we changed the deadline he may actually get his application in somewhat early!

This year NET will begin with training at the Peru GBC from June 12-18, 2021. We will then transition to the Solid Rock GBC near South Whitley, IN from June 19-27, 2021 for the ministry focus week. The training week will be "maxed right out" as the Peru church has asked us to help them with their VBS from 6-8:30 PM, five of the nights that we are there. In the past we have seen that training and ministry have a lot of "overlap."

Join us in praying that all the details of this event can be worked through and that people in Indiana will be reached with the gospel. Also pray that scheduling conflicts can be resolved for some applicants with their employers, so they can participate in NET 21. As always, there are many aspects of the trip that take a great deal of thought and prayer. Please do contact us with any questions you have. [pastordelmiller@gmail.com](mailto:pastordelmiller@gmail.com) Ph. 330-234-1602

### REVITALIZE VERMONT – UPDATE BY PASTOR GORDY HARMON

Dear brethren, We praise God for His faithfulness as we see the Revitalize Vermont Work now well into its second year. We praise the Lord for the lives that have been touched and eternally changed. There have been a number of salvations and baptisms. There has been growth, both spiritually and numerically. Pastor Scott continues to have the opportunity to enter people's home and lives by way of Bible Study Groups. This is made possible in part by the labor, sacrifice, and focus of Pastor Bryan. The Lord has sustained the work with wonderful stories of His provision. To God be the Glory!! The passage serving to motivate the churches to "Connect, Grow, Serve" is Colossians 1:28-29. The passage reads, "We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me".

Dear brethren please watch and pray with us!! Our Vermont churches have prayerfully determined the work there is worthy of another man to come alongside and work with Pastor Ethan at Lamoille Valley. May the Word of God flow freely and be unbound, even though our adversary is pushing back and casting many fiery darts. The Lord promised He would build His church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it!! Pray—Pastor Scott continues to lead small group Bible studies most every week. Pray for Pastor Bryan as he seeks the Lord's will daily on how best to use his time and energy. Pray for Pastors Scott, Ethan, and Bryan and their families. Thank you for praying for the Malesys and the work going forth in our Vermont churches. Please consider being a financial supporter. Send your support to GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH (REVITALIZE VERMONT): Pastor Tom Johnson, 222 Marker Drive—Somerset, PA 15501

**MISSIONS OFFERINGS – PASTOR TOM JOHNSON**

I am Pastor Tom Johnson your NEW Financial Secretary for Home and Foreign Missions. May the Lord bless each of you who give either through your church or by sending your support directly to me at 222 Marker Drive, Somerset, PA 15501.

I did get one letter sent to our old Felgar Rd. address. Please don't use that address as the Post Office refuses to forward that mail if it has my name on it. Please note that I only handle Home and Foreign Missions. I do not handle Pastor's dues, conference dues, etc. Also, in the blank on your check following "Pay to the order of" should not have my personal name on it. I assume that those of you who did that really wanted it to go to Missions and not my golf club fund. You can put "Grace Brethren Church" or "CGBCI Home Missions" or "CGBCI Foreign Missions." Most of you have been great about designating where you want your support to go to. I appreciate that. Thank you.

**MIDYEAR MEETINGS – DR. RUSS SIMPSON, COP PRESIDENT**

Midyear Meetings are scheduled for March 16-18, 2021 at Orrville GBC. If you have any questions about the schedule, please contact me directly. If you have any questions about reservations, please contact Pastors Ike Graham, Del Miller, or Joshua Steiner.

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"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 [cgbcivoicenews@gmail.com](mailto:cgbcivoicenews@gmail.com) Snail mail to: PO BOX 58, Listie, PA 15549