

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

Volume 30, Number 2

www.cgbci.org

October 2022

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR DAVE BLEVINS

We live in a world that is rapidly changing right before our eyes. If you were to make a checklist of all the things the Bible said would happen in the last days before Jesus Christ returns for His church, you would have to check off every single box. On the one hand we live in “scary” times, but on the other hand it is exciting for those who love the Lord, knowing that we may soon be in His presence! Should the Lord tarry, our Conference Theme for 2023 is “Transformed!”, which is taken from Romans 12:2. In the first two verses of Romans 12, Paul said, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” The Scripture is clear: Instead of being “conformed to this world”, we are to be “transformed”. Without a doubt one of the best witnessing tools that we have is living out our faith in such a way that the world will see the change that Christ has made in us. It is then (and only then) that they will see the need for Christ in their own life. Next summer we will be returning to the Marriott North West in Dublin, Ohio where we were this year. We are planning for a week that will both encourage and challenge us to live out our faith in these last days. Be sure to mark your calendar for June 30th -July 5th, 2023, and join us for a great time of fellowship, fun and focus on God’s Word, looking at lives who were truly Transformed! Be looking for more information and promotional materials in the coming months.

CHILDREN’S CONFERENCE – PASTOR LARRY (RED) WILLIAMS (Conference Vice-President)

I am eagerly awaiting my opportunity to teach the children enrolled in our Children's Conference. My title is *"Gone Fishin'"*, and will center on the life of Biblical fisherman Simon Peter. Peter was quite a character, and there's much our kids can learn from his life and ministry. We will have times for fun and frolic with recreation, music, and crafts. I'm hoping to arrange an outing for a picnic and some actual fishing. More information will follow.

CORNERSTONE GBC – PASTORS LES VNASDALE & PHILIP MOELLER

Bible quizzing is being offered again for those in the 3rd grade-12th grade. This year the quizzers will be memorizing and competing from various Psalms. For anyone interested in more information, please contact Pastor Philip Moeller at (419) 747-5012

ORRVILLE GBC

Livestream of Church History Course October 8, 2022—January 14, 2023

This will be taught by Pastor Ike Graham. Pastor Ike has been teaching this course since 1996. Because the time period of church history is so long and intricate, this is, by necessity, a survey course of the major movements and certain individuals of church history, though it covers the period from the beginning of the church up to the present day. The main text will be “A History of the Church from Pentecost to Present” by James North. You may want to purchase this book if you plan to take the course for credit. The syllabus is in electronic form since it is 600 pages long. The course can be audited or taken for credit. Credit students will have required reading along with 2 tests, 10 quizzes, and a written paper. If you are interested in auditing or taking it for credit, please contact Pastor Joshua Steiner by October 5, 2022. You can reach him at orrvillegrace@gmail.com or by calling 330-683-3526.

LISTIE GBC – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT

We are making plans to celebrate our church anniversary. The church is celebrating 130 years. There will be special services the week of October 9th. Pastor Nathan Bramlet (Pastor Chris’ brother-in-law) will be the guest speaker for Sunday as well as each night through Friday, October 14th. He will be bringing a series of messages from the book of Ruth titled, “Grace in a Barley Field”. A fellowship meal is planned for Sunday, October 9th at noon. A hymn sing is also planned for Sunday evening at 7pm. Please pray for this special week of services. Join us if you can!

HOME MISSIONS

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM – PASTOR DEL MILLER

It was good to see many of you at Conference in Dublin, Ohio this year. We were delighted that the entire NET 22 team could get there for our Sunday morning presentation. Conference ended on Wednesday and we left for our training week three days later. We were with Chris and Stephanie Knight at Listie, PA for the week of training. Pastors of other nearby churches helped with accommodations for the team. We had a good amount of interaction with the Weigles and the Johnsons during the week. On Thursday of that week we made the trip over to Lancaster, PA and were able to see “David” at the Sight and Sound Theatre. This was the third time NET has been able to see one of the presentations there. Others in the past were “Abraham and Sarah” and “Jonah.” The team enjoyed that excursion a great deal. We were quite surprised when our son spotted Alex Kendrick of the Kendrick brothers only about 50 feet away from us in the 2,000 seat auditorium. Many of the team were able to talk to him at the intermission and found him to be extremely approachable and gracious.

The team worked very hard that week on our music and drama presentations. We also were able to share our faith with some of the people of the Listie area. Pray that the Lord will use those words that were shared.

We have had inquiries about NET 23 and are already starting to talk about that event. We appreciate your prayers as well. We will bring more news from NET 22 next time, Lord willing! Pastor Del and Grace Miller Ph. 330-234-1602

FOREIGN MISSIONS UPDATES

UPDATES FROM AFRICA

Praise the Lord that Pastor Simon Peter Otudo (Eastern Uganda) had 41 baptisms! New converts from Kotimonga GBC, Komelekes GBC and from Kwarikwar GBC. Pray that these new believers will be faithful.

Pastor Roger Yoda and Pastor Simon Peter Otudo just finished 10 days of proctorium training in Tanzania. The leaders of the churches in Congo, Burundi, and Tanzania participated. Pastor Roger taught homiletics and hermeneutics, and Pastor Simon Peter taught on the ordinances. They had three-fold communion while there to show how to put into practice What We Believe. Three new leaders from Burundi and Tanzania were baptized by trine immersion. Please pray as we apply for official recognition for the CGBCI in Burundi.

Pastor Maurice Byondo leader of the ministry in Congo DRC brought his copy of the official recognition of the CGBCI in Congo DRC.

**If you do not receive updates via email for African Missions, please contact Pastor Keith Merriman by email – keithamerriman1998@gmail.com

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

News Articles and/or Mailing Updates:

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