

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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May 2023

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR DAVE BLEVINS

Without question, one of the most well-known events in history is the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. It is interesting to see the different effects that this single event has on people. To many people, it is all “foolishness.” 1 Corinthians 1:18 says, “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” Sadly, for many, they are “perishing” because the cross to them is “foolish”. For others, the cross has “power”, which is experienced by “faith”, and ONLY faith!

As we look to our Conference Theme, “Transformed,” a fascinating character of genuine transformation emerges from the Easter story. In Luke 23:39-43 we read, “Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, ‘If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.’ But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, ‘Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done a nothing wrong.’ Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.’” Although you may not think of the thief on the cross as being “transformed”, with one simple statement of faith his eternal destination changed. Because his decision is part of Scripture, lives are still being impacted by it. His story is living proof of what Paul writes in Romans 10:9, “that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Not only did he confess Jesus as Lord, but he acknowledged that Jesus would rise again as a “King with a kingdom.” Based on Romans 10:9, those who have those two ingredients will be saved. In turn, Jesus’ response to him, “today you will be with Me in Paradise,” was the only thing He could have said. I look forward to meeting him some day.

By the time you read this, Conference will be about a month away. We are planning a great week of life changing messages from God’s Word, along with plenty of fellowship opportunities. The facilities are top notch, with great amenities, including a free breakfast each morning. There is also a variety of restaurants within walking distance. The reservation deadline is June 7th, so don’t miss it. Plan to join us June 30th-July 5th in Dublin, Ohio at the Columbus Marriott NW, by calling 1-888-801-7133. Be sure to tell the operator that you are with the CGBCI. See you there!

On Sunday, July 2nd, our Conference outing will be attending a Clippers game. The last time we went to a ballgame together was in 2005 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, which was one of the most popular activities we've ever had. For those who are going to Conference this year, I hope you will plan to join us for another evening of food, fun and fellowship. For those who choose the meal before the game, here is the menu: Hot Dogs &

Choice of: Bratwurst w/ Sauerkraut or Italian Sausage w/ Peppers & Onions.

Choice of: Pulled BBQ Chicken or Pulled BBQ Pork

Choice of: Baked Beans or Macaroni & Cheese

Choice of: Potato Chips or Popcorn

Choice of: Potato Salad or Pasta Salad or Garden Salad served with Ranch and Italian Dressings

Assorted Cookies

Assorted Soda & Bottled Water

Be sure to go to cgbc.org and register. Just click on the Conference Poster, which will take you to the Conference 2023 Event Signup link. Just click on the link and fill out the form. You will also find links for Ladies Luncheon and Children / Nursery Registration. Money will be due at registration.

GOING TO THE ZOO AT CONFERENCE

There will be a Columbus Zoo option for Free Time on Sunday, July 2. We can get a group rate if we have 25 or more commit. If you are interested in going to the zoo, contact Pastor Gordy Harmon by email (bffpastorg@gmail.com) or by call or text at 740-504-7932. Please let him know by June 15. The prices are as follows: 2 and under are free, children 3-9 cost \$13.99, ages 10 -59 cost \$16.99, age 60 and up cost \$15.99, and an additional \$7 for the discounted parking pass per vehicle. When you place your order for tickets, please include the ages of every individual going in your vehicle. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Gordy. You can pay for the zoo tickets at the registration table at conference with cash or check.

CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE - FISHERMAN HUCKLEBERRY FINN (PASTOR LARRY WILLIAMS)

Here are some of our plans: Bible lessons on Jesus' disciple Peter, arts and crafts, music, recreation and snacks. I'm still hoping to arrange a time to take them to a nearby lake for a picnic lunch and some actual fishing. ***Please fill out the registration form on our CGBCI website.***

YOUTH CONFERENCE – PASTORS KEVIN YODER & ROB COVER

YCON is quickly approaching!. Be praying for a year of great spiritual growth for us all. Any questions, please email me at, yoderk1974@gmail.com.

BEREAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP – PASTOR GORDY HARMON

We are praising the Lord Jesus for the powerful and blessed work of the Holy Spirit for adding to our number. Sunday, May 21, we had three baptisms! Five more were baptized on Sunday, May 28th! We are enjoying a sweet spirit as these disciples of Jesus bear the testimony of those in Acts 2:41, “those that gladly received His word were baptized”! May our Light shine brightly for Jesus!! Continued prayers needed for recovery from my hip surgery May 30.

CAMP ALBRYOCA – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT

There is still time to register for Camp Albryoca. The deadline for registration is June 10. The cost is \$100. The dates and grades are as follows:

July 10-15 – Jr High/Sr High – Grades 7-12

July 17-22 – Junior Camp - Grades 4-6

If you would like a registration, you can call/text (814) 483-9384, or send an email at, chrisk4christ@gmail.com

NEW TROY GBC – PASTOR ROBERT MENSINGER

Our attendances and offerings have been holding up well despite our small numbers. Our dear brother Jon White was called into the presence of the Lord on May 16. A Celebration of Life service was held on May 23. He will be greatly missed.

Praise God, we reached our goal of \$30,000 to have our roof re-done. An anonymous check came in that pushed us over our goal. The roofing company is scheduled to replace the roof this week.

I am still recovering from an accident last month. I struggle to focus on things and have low energy trying to get things done. Thank God, I am still able to do the work of the ministry. Praise God for His faithfulness in keeping the work at New Troy going.

PASTORLESS CHURCHES/AVAILABLE MEN – PASTOR PHILIP MOELLER

The Coolville Grace Brethren Church (Ohio) is looking for a pastor following the retirement of Pastor George Horner. If interested, please contact either Dana Aldridge (740) 667-6697 or Pastor Philip Moeller (419) 631-9720.

HOME MISSIONS

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM – PASTOR DEL MILLER

Thank you for continuing to pray for NET 23. We are putting together as many details as we can anticipate as the calendar just keeps flying by. Below are some times and places for presentations that we will be doing, Lord willing. These programs will involve music, testimonies, Bible reading, Bible teaching, puppetry, object lessons and more. If you or someone you know is in the area where we will be, we would love to have you join us.

The Grace Brethren Chapel
1820 North State Route 590
Gibsonburg, OH 43431

June 14 at 7:00 PM
(Wednesday)

Listie Grace Brethren Church
179 Village Rd.
Listie, PA 15549

June 18 at 9:30 & 10:30 AM
June 18-23 at 6:30 PM nightly
(Sunday-Friday)

North Buffalo Grace Brethren Church
135 Glade Run Rd
Kittanning, PA 16201

June 25 at 10:45 AM
(Sunday)

National Conference
Marriot Columbus Northwest
5605 Blazer Pkwy
Dublin, OH 43017

July 2 at 11:00 AM

There are some other possibilities that are pending and most of those do not have a date and time assigned to them yet. In addition to scheduled presentations the team will reach out in the communities around the churches as they have opportunity. They will also have good opportunities to be of encouragement to other believers. Please pray for the strength and endurance of the team. We will need to all work together to share the gospel well with others. Thanks again for your interest and your prayers!

Pastor Del and Grace Miller pastordelmiller@gmail.com
Ph. 330-234-1602 Orrville Grace Brethren Church, 2200 Paradise Rd., Orrville, OH 44667

CGBCI CONFERENCE 2023

JUNE 30 TH – JULY 5 TH

“TRANSFORMED”

**AT THE COLUMBUS MARRIOTT
IN DUBLIN, OHIO**

RESERVATION NUMBER 1-888-801-7133

\$129 +TAX (includes complimentary breakfast buffet)

RESERVATION DEADLINE – JUNE 7 TH

CALL AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY 1-888-801-7133

TELL THE OPERATOR YOU'RE WITH THE CGBCI

“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:

Please forward all info to Pastor Chris Knight at cgbcivoiceupdates@gmail.com

Snail mail to: PO BOX 58, Listie, PA 15549