

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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April 2026

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR IKE GRAHAM

The Church in Philadelphia

Revelation 3:7-13

Not Philadelphia, PA; Philadelphia in Asia Minor in the first century. Here is a church very closely akin to us; the CGBCI. In light of this spiritual kinship, let's answer 4 questions related to this church and us.

1. What is our DESTINY as a Fellowship? 3:7

Our Master is the holy and true One. Jesus Christ is holy in His character, His words, His actions, and His purposes. As the Holy One, He is uniquely set apart from everything else, and nothing can be compared to Him. He is true. That is, He is the real deal. He's the genuine article. He is the original, not a copy; the authentic God and not a manufactured one. This truth amazes and humbles me. He is the key to my salvation. He opened the door for me to be saved...and you. You're not here today because you're so beautiful or handsome. No, it is by the grace of the One who holds the key to your destiny. You and I are not here today because we have great faith. No, it is because of the holy and true One who brought us to faith by His matchless plan and sacrificial death. Jesus is the key to your eternal life and your life here on earth. Now, He has opened a door for us. What will we do? How will we respond to this open door?

2. What is our DOOR of opportunity? 3:8

This phrase, "open door" is used in Acts 14:27 of how God brought non-Jews to faith in Christ. Paul and Barnabas reported how God had opened a door to the non-Jews and they saw them come to faith in Jesus. It is used in 1 Corinthians 16:9 and 2 Corinthians 2:12 to mean an opportunity to serve the Lord. The door is still open for us. We have opportunities in Cameroon, in India, in Myanmar, with NET, in each of the places where you work, or go to school, or shop, or work out; doors of opportunity to witness. We are not a group of thousands. We aren't monetarily rich. We don't have great political clout and we are not social elites. But Jesus says, "because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name..." and then He gives us 2 more promises in addition to an open door. The door will not always remain open, however.

3. What is the DURATION of our opportunity? 3:9-11

Jesus promises to keep us from the time of tribulation that will come on planet earth before Jesus returns. I really think that time is very near. A recently-published book entitled, *The New Depression*, by Richard Duncan makes it clear the economic collapse of the U.S. and the world is only a matter of time. We should be a lot about the business of telling people how to get right with God rather than pursuing the American dream. The door of opportunity is open, but it is beginning to close. Have you ever watched one of those Indiana Jones movies where the door is closing and he runs and barely gets under the door before it closes? So it is for us. The door is closing. Will we stand by and say, "Will you look at that!" Or, will we say, "wow, let's do all we can while we can."

4. What is your DECISION? 3:12-13

Notice here what promises the Lord makes to those who hold fast; that is, they continue in the faith unmoved, stable and moving forward. First, that individual is made a pillar. No, I didn't say "pillow." Have you been to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.? The pillars are impressive and immovable. So, our place in the Lord's kingdom will be fixed forever. And we receive inscriptions. All the creatures of heaven and earth will know that we are His. His banner over us is love. Actually, this reward is being determined right now. Once today is over, your opportunity to serve the Lord today is gone. What you have done is history and the Lord knows how you and I have used this day; what our attitude has been; what we have said and how we have served. Our reward is being determined moment by moment.

So, what will you decide? Will you determine to overcome? Will you give your all to witnessing, serving, being a good example to others, teaching your children/grandchildren, loving the brethren, and giving monetarily to the Lord's work?

I read that there used to be a sign in the registrar's office at Dallas Seminary which read, "Salvation is by grace ... Graduation is by works." So it is with the Christian life.

CONFERENCE DETAILS

We are headed down the stretch toward Conference! Are you excited?

- Pastors, please, please, please send in your church dues as soon as possible. Multiply \$25 times the number of church members and send the total to Grace Brethren Church – 2200 Paradise Rd., Orrville, Ohio 44667.
- There will be 2 golf carts to transport people from place-to-place at Laurelville. Call Nathan (330-234-0943), or Nancy (330-201-3649) to get a ride. You can drive your car, or ride in the golf cart.
- Weather permitting (aka, Lord willing), we will begin Conference with a picnic on Thursday, July 2. Sign up for supper that night online if you want to have your picnic meal provided. Or, order it by telling Pastor Ike at ikeg327@gmail.com
- There will be a concert on Friday night, July 3. The Merrill Evangelistic team will be providing the concert in "The Gathering Place."

- On Saturday, July 4, after supper, we will take wagons up to the top of the hill to watch fireworks, have a bon fire, and a singspiration.
- Dr. Kevn Zuber of the Master’s Seminary will be our keynote speaker.
- A Conference schedule is available online at www.cgbc.org
- When you register and make your reservation, complete each page. Be sure to answer every line; that is, be sure the page is completely filled out even if it is a “no” answer. A complete registration, or lodging choice, or meals choices will not register properly without the page being completely filled out. You also have the option of calling or texting 330-749-0545 to register, or make your room reservation and meal choices. You can also e-mail ikeg327@gmail.com Then, send a check to:

Grace Brethren Church
2200 Paradise Rd.
Orrville, Ohio 44667

- For the ladies’ luncheon on Friday, July 3, Stephanie Knight is now handling those registrations. Please contact her at ibelieve_01@yahoo.com or 814-483-9389. You purchase your meal the same way that you purchase a lunch.
- Remember, Pastor Terry Reese (814-254-6734) needs help with the Kids’ Conference and Pastor Chris Knight (814-483-9384) is looking for special music and instrumentalists to assist our song times together.

We pay a fee to allow you the convenience of purchasing rooms and meals online. If you prefer, you can simply call 330-749-0545 to make your reservation and meal choices and send a check to the address above. This will reduce our costs.

YOUTH CONFERENCE – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT & BROTHER REUBEN AUTEN

Have you registered for YCON yet? Check out the online registration on the CGBCI website! Our theme will be “Complete in Christ” taken from Colossians 2:10. We will focus on the sufficiency of Christ and how that affects our daily walk.

There are three options to choose from:

1. Full YCON – \$275 Includes: lodging (Cottages), all meals, activities, t-shirt, & booklet
2. Day YCON - \$175 Includes: all meals, activities, t-shirt, & booklet
3. Limited YCON – \$50 Includes: activities, t-shirt, & booklet

We have planned a Guided hike on the McCune Trail in the beautiful Laurel Highlands. This trail is a 3.7-mile trail in the Ohiopyle State Park. The guide, Brother Todd Stockslager, attends Listie GBC. We will then have a picnic supper and devotions along the rapids of the Youghiogheny River! You can register on the CGBCI website.



BEREAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP

Dear saints: Please remember Berean Faith Fellowship in prayer as we are in need of a pastor! Dear pastors: Is God stirring in you to answer the call to Mount Vernon? Contact Pastor Jeff Eno at 740-403-1951 or pastorjeffeno@hotmail.com. There are some faithful saints who are waiting to hear from you.

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM (NET '26) – PASTOR DEL MILLER

Thanks for taking time to read about NET '26 in the Voice! This year's dates are May 30-June 11, 2026 with our main training time at Somerset, Pennsylvania and the outreach time at North Buffalo GBC in Kittanning, PA (June 5-10). Our main training time is certainly not our only training time. Some team members get assignments well in advance and are working to put together Bible character impersonations or object lessons. Others are working on music or drama, and still others are working on additional details. This year it took some extra work to track down the green shirts that we needed for the guys. My wife and daughter did an outstanding job of seeing that through!

As you can see below, the response to adopting team members (\$325.00) has been very encouraging. We have only a couple lines to fill.

Pastor Del and Grace Miller	Calvary GBC
Cookie Birkbeck	Orrville GBC
Jethro Geiser	Listie GBC
Charis Kallberg	The Pierce Family
Noelle Kallberg	Irasburg GBC
Will Kallberg	Reading GBC
Daron McAllister	_____
Micah McAllister	Cornerstone GBC
Silas McAllister	New Troy GBC
Sophia McAlister	_____
RuthAnna Miller	Cornerstone GBC
Amy Vanderpool	Lakeland Conservative GBC

There are 2 cases above in which the adopting church is also the "home" church of the team member. The rest of the adoptions were made possible by generous sources from other places in our fellowship. Thanks again for your interest and your prayers!

Pastor Del and Grace Miller pastordelmiller@gmail.com Ph. 330-234-1602



Grace
FOR LIVING

Thank you to all who have been supporting this ministry. If you haven't checked out Grace for Living online, you can view it at <https://www.cgbc.org/grace-for-living>.

