

# THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

Volume 33, Number 7

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February 2026

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER – PASTOR IKE GRAHAM

### The Living Dead

#### Revelation 3:1-6

The building in which the people met was a large, ornate stone cathedral. It had high walls, an acoustically beautiful auditorium and lovely stained-glass windows. There was one very large problem – it was dead. The pastor got up on a Sunday morning to preach and proclaimed, “This church is dead! This evening, we will hold the funeral!” That evening, those who had been there in the morning along with many others gathered to see what was going to happen. At the front of the auditorium was a casket. After the pastor pronounced the church dead, he opened the lid of the casket and invited everyone to come and view the body. As people filed past the casket, they looked inside and there was a mirror. They could see themselves!

The church in Sardis was like an exploding star 30 light years away from earth. Five years after the explosion, the light could still be seen. So it was with the church in Sardis. After spiritual life was absent, only its reputation remained. It was like stuffed animals in a natural habitat. They looked good, but they weren't alive; there was very little spiritual reality. You probably know of churches like this. The scaffolding is there: worship, prayer, hymns, ordinances, gifts. No doubt all of those things were part of the church of Sardis. Believers met on the Lord's Day, they observed communion, so far as we know; they honored the Scriptures as they had heard them, and surely honored the words of our Lord as they knew them, they sang hymns, and they gave gifts. They gave of their substance, but the things that they did were things that did not reach reality. In other words, they worshipped, but their worship did not reach heaven. They prayed. Their prayer did not effectively reach heaven. How does that happen to a church? How can a church decline in spiritual vitality and end up nearly spiritually dead? Can it be revived? Is there any hope at all? Jesus says, “Wake up!” (v. 2), “strengthen the things that remain” (v. 2), “Remember therefore what you have received and heard and keep it” (v. 3), “and repent” (v. 3). Are you spiritually asleep? How is the world affecting you and your church? Do you review what you have heard, take it to heart, and pass it on to your brothers and sisters? We have received a great spiritual inheritance; wouldn't you agree? Is there a need to change our minds and our actions regarding those great biblical truths in order to strengthen ourselves and those around us? That is one of the purposes of Conference. It is a call to remember what we have received and heard and keep it. Join us in July of this year to participate in the instructions which we have received from Jesus Himself. We meet for His glory and for the good of His people. Lord willing, see you there!

## CONFERENCE DETAILS

Some of the features and benefits of the CGBCI 2026 Conference are as follows:

- There will be 2 golf carts to transport people from place-to-place. 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 if you want to have your picnic meal provided.
- 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.

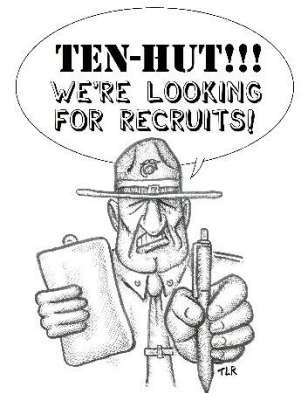
A Conference schedule is available online at [www.cgbc.org](http://www.cgbc.org) When you register and make your reservation, complete each page. Be sure to answer every line; that is, be sure the page is completely filled out even if it is a “no” answer. A complete registration, or lodging choice, or meal 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](mailto: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](mailto: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) could use your help with YCON! Pastor Chris is also 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**

Mark your calendars and 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.

If you would like to help with YCON 2026, please contact Pastor Chris Knight at (814)483-9384 or [chrisk4christ@gmail.com](mailto:chrisk4christ@gmail.com)

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

Pastor Gordy Harmon is answering the call of God to pastor Calvary GBC in Alto, MI. The Harmons are planning to move the last week in February and be in Alto before March 1. Please be in prayer for BFF in Mount Vernon, that the Lord over all would soon supply a shepherd for the church in Mount Vernon.

## **CORNERSTONE GBC – PASTOR PHILIP MOELLER**

On January 25, Orrville GBC hosted our second quiz rally. Ephesians 4-6 was the material covered. All who came were so encouraged - all 15 quizzers got a question at some point during the day! Special recognition goes to those who quizzed out: Quinn McAllister (3 times), Silas McAllister (3 times), Tina Smail (3 times), Micah McAllister (1 time), and Claire Zook (1 time). The quiz down was won by Tina Smail. The next quiz rally will be held on March 28. Please pray that the next generation will continue to put a priority on memorizing God's Word.

## **LISTIE GBC – PASTOR CHRIS KNIGHT**

We are grateful to the Lord for His goodness. Last Sunday (February 15) was a special Sunday for the church. Three deacons were appointed, two people were baptized, and three people joined the church. The church also hosted a Valentine's Banquet with sixty in attendance. God has been at work and we praise Him! Please be in prayer for our Spring Revival planned for March 15-18.



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>.

If you want to change the number of books you receive for your church, please let me know as soon as possible. To order a copy or give to help support this ministry, please use the QR code or email me at [pastorethan@outlook.com](mailto:pastorethan@outlook.com). Thank you!



**NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM (NET) – PASTOR DEL MILLER**

Thanks for uplifting NET 26 in your prayers. We are glad we can share the list of the names of this year's team members. This year's dates are May 30-June 11, 2026 with our training time split between Ohio and Pennsylvania and the outreach time at North Buffalo GBC in Kittanning, PA (June 5-10). Travel back to Orrville, OH is on the morning of June 11. Those on the team that are going to help at camp will have a grand total of a day and a half to reload and head to camp for staff training. Pray for those people. They will need extra strength!

Below are the names of the team members listed with their home state.

Pastor Del and Grace Miller	Ohio
Cookie Birkbeck	Ohio
Jethro Geiser	Ohio
Charis Kallberg	Vermont
Noelle Kallberg	Vermont
Will Kallberg	Vermont
Daron McAllister	Ohio
Micah McAllister	Ohio
Silas McAllister	Ohio
Sophia McAllister	Ohio
RuthAnna Miller	Oregon
Amy Vanderpool	Indiana

Please join us in praying that all the team members will be able to participate. Every year at this time there are some question marks about how everything will work out related to other events and employment opportunities. Over the years the Lord has worked out the details many times for individuals coming to NET. Sometimes He opens doors and sometimes He closes doors. So, please pray that His will is accomplished. Thanks again for your interest and your prayers!

Pastor Del and Grace Miller [pastordelmiller@gmail.com](mailto:pastordelmiller@gmail.com) Ph. 330-234-1602