

THE VOICE NEWSLETTER

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November 2020

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Pastor Jonathan Edwards

“A Call to Keep Our Eyes on the King of Kings”

Daniel 4:34–35 “But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’”

Greetings, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ. As you read this, it's possible that our nation knows the results of the November 3rd election – or it's possible that our nation is paralyzed with uncertainty. No matter the outcome of the election, approximately fifty percent of the country will not be happy. As I write this on October 30, I have already witnessed that some are preparing for riots, unrest, and a small few have even whispered the dreaded words, “civil war.”

The unbelievers who live amongst us and with whom we interact have no hope beyond the man who controls the White House. They have placed all of their hopes and dreams, feelings of peace and assurance, and opportunities for prosperity upon the selection of a single man. I don't say this to minimize the significance of the election, for the different men and their parties represent very different versions of what our nation will become. Rather, I want to draw a point of contrast: while the world looks to a man for their hope, we must look to the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are far too quick to be drawn into the affairs of the world, to allow a subtle idolatry into our lives – worshiping and giving attention to a political figure rather than our eternal King.

I began by quoting King Nebuchadnezzar's words, for he was the most powerful man in the entire world, yet was humbled in an instant by our Almighty God. Let us remind ourselves and take comfort in the truth that no matter who rules the White House, our great God rules the world. The Lord sets up kings and He takes down kings; He does it according to His purposes and for His glory. May we take joy and comfort in knowing that we serve the King of Kings and that our kingdom is not of this world!

SOMERSET GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH - PASTOR TOM JOHNSON

We deeply thank each of you who read our article last month and prayed with us for the sale of our previous building. Our great Lord is working in answer to those prayers. We just got a contract which looks very likely to end up in a closing at the beginning of December. The buyer put up a 10% down payment, waved all inspections and is very qualified to secure a mortgage. Continue to pray with us for the deal to be completed.

ANKENYTOWN GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH

We, the congregation of Ankenytown Grace Brethren Church (located in north central Ohio) are seeking a pastor for our rural congregation.

In addition to the Biblical requirements for a pastor found in I Timothy 3:1-8, Titus 1:6-9, and I Peter 5:2-3...We desire a man whose preaching is based solely on the Holy Bible; “the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible in faith and practice” is our church motto. We are, and desire, to remain Brethren and want the pastor to embrace, preach and teach the ordinances of the Brethren church which include triune immersion and threefold communion. As a congregation, we enjoy discussion during teaching sessions and would like a man who encourages this type of open dialog and interaction. We are looking for a true shepherd; a man who cares about the individuals not only attending the services but their families who may not attend, as well as church shut-ins. We seek a man who is listening to and attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit—no matter when the Spirit might lead (even during an organized program). We have an on-site church secretary, currently a female, and we expect the pastor to be willing to work with the church secretary at the church office.

We are a congregational united church.

Interested candidates should contact the Ankenytown Grace Brethren Church at

ankenytowngbc20@yahoo.com.

Or:

Jerry Cook – Chairman, Pastoral Search Committee

(740) 694-6936

Jlcook342@gmail.com (740) 398-9081

MISSIONS GIVING – PASTOR STEPHEN BURNS

**As of December 30, 2020, all Foreign and Home Missions funds should be sent to the new treasurer, Pastor Tom Johnson at: 222 Marker Drive, Somerset, PA 15501.

HOME MISSIONS

NATIONAL EVANGELISM TEAM

Our theme for NET 20 was “The Bible Stands!” We were able to learn an encouraging song by the same title, and it grew to be a favorite among the team members. It is similar to the song in Favorite Hymns of Praise that you may have sung in the past, but it has a number of modifications. We prepared three presentations along the lines of our theme. They were “God’s Word is True,” “God’s Word brings

Life” and “God’s Word is our Guide.” Testimonies, drama, music, puppetry, object lessons and teaching from God’s word were all a part of each presentation. Again this year, our instrumentalists worked hard to put together accompaniment that helped the music to flow. A big thanks goes to Benjamin, Gabriel, Johnathan, and Joel for all their hard work!

With the theme of “The Bible Stands” we of course focused on that same theme in our team devotions. Every NET trip that time of our day is a highlight for us. This year we looked at Psalm 119, and portions from Jeremiah, Nehemiah, Matthew, 2 Timothy and James. Many hearts were encouraged through that daily time together.

We already have our first applicant for the team that will go to Indiana for NET 21. Please contact us if you would like more information about that upcoming trip. The application deadline is February 1st, 2021 but that date will be here quickly! That is only 13 weeks away as we write this. By the time this gets to your inbox or into your hands, the time remaining will be much shorter. Join us in praying that all the details can be processed and that the limitations related to virus concerns will be reduced in the coming months. Please pray for NET 21 as we begin working on those details already.

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FOREIGN MISSIONS UPDATES

MISSIONS UPDATES VIA CGBCI YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Here is the link for the CGBCI Mission Updates: [CGBCI 2020 Mission Updates](#). If you are reading this newsletter in paper form, please visit, www.youtube.com. When the page appears, type “CGBCI” in the search bar at the top. The update videos will appear with other videos from the past.

PNG TEAM #1

Hello from Papua New Guinea! As a team, we’re excited to update you all on the big picture of what’s happening, and how we’re moving forward in ministry here in PNG!

Visit the Newfields blog for updates <https://newfields.wordpress.com/> Email craigmnoyes@gmail.com

PNG TEAM #2

For updates on PNG Team #2 – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MillersinPNG/>

We’d love to hear from you! Send us an email: JoshAndAutumnMiller@gmail.com and let us know what you’re curious about or if you have a question (or two) that we could answer in a future blog post or email.

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