elders or overseers care for the spiritual needs of the church. Most churches also appoint a board of

deacons who serve the practical needs of the congregation and the needy community beyond.



erned through
the Conference
(an annual assembly of elders

and pastors rep-



Each local Bible Fellowship Church is autonomous, but not independent. The collective Bible Fellowship Church is gov-

resenting each church), which oversees the doctrine of the church, controls the ordination of its pastors, and directs its corporate witness through elected boards and committees.

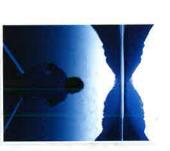
The Bible Fellowship Church oversees the Board of Church Extension, the Board of Missions, Pinebrook Bible Conference (a family camp and retreat center), and Victory Valley Camp (a children's camp).

The Future

The Bible Fellowship Church seeks to become "an expanding fellowship of churches united to make disciples of Jesus Christ." This simple phrase emphasizes our commitment

to church growth. Each local church along with our outreach departments are actively engaged in the proclamation of the gospel.

Every effort is being given to maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace within the Bible Fellowship Church. Our desire is equally about spiritual depth. Our endeavor is to make disciples of all the nations, strivir.g to bring every member to maturity in Christ.



Each Sunday, some ten thousand people gather in the worship of the Lord across the Bible Fellowship Church. We invite you to become a part of the Bible Fellowship Church and join us in serving the Lord Jesus Christ until He comes.

Historical photos inside, top, are William H. Stutzman a member of the Gospel Herald Society, photo taken around 1900, and the congregation at Bethlehem, also taken about 1900. The pastor was R. L. Woodring.

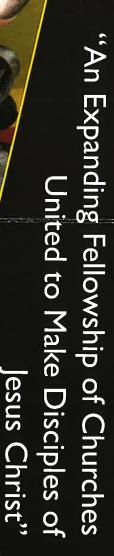
ntroducing

Bible Fellowship Church





"An Expanding Fellowship of Churches United to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"



A Rich Heritage

lievers in Jesus Christ set apart by the act of baptism. basic conviction that the local church is a group of be-16th Century Reformation. We maintain a strong, roots are in the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition of the churches centered in the Mid-Atlantic States. Our For this once revolutionary view of the church as a The Bible Fellowship Church is a group of about 65



1913 Annual Conference

belief today. and died. We hold true to this tians, our forefathers suffered community of true Chris-

in 1683, the Mennonites began to settle in eastern After coming to America

Pennsylvania. In 1858, the Evangelical Mennonite

of the early leaders, Eusebius and outreach. Of this group, one their commitment to revival about the new movement was in Zionsville, PA. God used just Mennonite background. eign missionary of American Hershey, became the first forlowship. The issue that brought seven men to form this new fel-Church, coming into existence Society left the Mennonite



Eusebius Hershey

is aggressively committed to planting new congregaand the Board of Missions. Our fellowship of churches through local church evangelism, Church Extension continues today in the Bible Fellowship Church This early emphasis on evangelism and missions

> to-member ratios among American churches. ship Church has one of the highest missionary-In foreign missions, the Bible Fellowtions in the United States.

and development. for His faithfulness for more than 150 years of growth ations. It continues today with gratitude to the Lord in 1959 as a church body distinct from previous affili-Today's Bible Fellowship Church came into existence

A Biblical Faith

sole head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Savior power in maintaining to the Holy Spirit as its only sources of guidance and of man. It submits to the written Word of God and "the Bible Fellowship Church acknowledges as its The preamble to the Faith and Order states that

work in the world." its redemptive life and The Bible Fellowship

of the Bible, who expeevery land who confess unity with all those in Church celebrates its rience the New Birth faith in the triune God



receive the Scriptures as the inerrant Word of God. through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, and who

The Bible Fellowship Church gladly shares with all

Church approaches such topics by asking the queswhich such believers differ. The Bible Fellowship there are some issues addressed in Scripture over tral, saving truths of the Gospel. However, Bible-believing Christians in the cen-

changed our conclusions on several issues as we have

tion: "What does the Bible teach?" Historically, we have

studied the Scriptures more carefully.

negating human responsibility, agreeing in this with Jesus Christ to earth at the end of the age. baptism and we believe in the premillennial return of sion of the believer in water as the scriptural form of John Calvin. As stated before, we practice the immerthe theology of the reformers Martin Luther and confesses the sovereignty of God as supreme without In matters of salvation, the Bible Fellowship Church

Leadership

of elders (including any pastors) who are identified by the congregation as scripturally qualified. These through elders. Each local church is led by a group New Testament pattern of local church leadership Christ as the Head of the Church, and receives the The Bible Fellowship Church confesses Jesus