

PASSIONATELY FULFILLING THE
GREAT COMMISSION

BFC CONFERENCE REPORT BOOK

143rd Conference
April 27-29, 2026



For livestream links, Conference minutes, and more visit BFC.org/Conference

Guest Speaker Sean Cooper



Sean Cooper has spent the last 17 years traveling the entire Continental U.S. casting mission vision to the church at large. He has a degree in communications, has short term mission experience, and is finishing up his Masters Degree at a seminary. He currently works with a church planting missions agency that has unique opportunities for sharing the gospel in hard to reach places.

He has a passion to see people discipled and developed for Great Commission work.

Conference Addresses from Sean Cooper

- Monday, 2:30pm - A Biblical Theology for Mission: A People from All Peoples
- Monday, 6:30pm - A Biblical Mandate to Church Plant
- Tuesday, 8:45am - The Apostolic Pattern: Proclaim, Plant, and Pastor
- Wednesday, 8:45am - The Task Remaining: Unreached People Groups and the Training Needed to Get There

Mission: Possible

Which young adults in your congregation are taking initiative to serve the Lord? Please personally invite them to Mission: Possible, a one-day conference for 18-30s year olds so they can explore the many ways to turn the world upside down for Christ!

Sean Cooper, speaker

**A Conference for Ages 18-30s
Saturday, April 25
9:00am - 4:00pm**



Register at BFCBOM.org

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Introduction to the 143rd Conference

“Passionately Fulfilling the Great Commission”

(BFCON 150 - Vision Pt #1)

In Matthew 28:18-20 we read, “*And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’*”

The first word of verse 19 in English is “Go.” For those of you who prefer the original language translation, πορευθέντες, is a verb with a masculine plural ending. It is an aorist passive participle. The literal translation would be “having gone, you all.” OK, that’s southern Greek lingo. The conjunction οὖν, normally translated as “therefore” or “so then,” ties back to v. 18, where Jesus said that all “authority or power,” ἐξουσία, had been given to Him, and as a result He is telling His disciples what they are to do—not in the future, as in “at some point when it is appropriate, I want you to go,” but, “you are already going, so keep going and disciple all the nations.” That emphasis changes everything. The disciples were being discipled; they had lived with Jesus and experienced His love, forgiveness, and glory. They were equipped to do what was to become their commission: proclaim the gospel and disciple other people, wherever they were. We are to do the same. That is what Article 19 of our Articles of Faith reiterates: “***The Church has been commissioned by Jesus Christ to preach the gospel to all nations. Each Particular Church and every believer bear responsibility for this commission.***” The disciples were passionate about this calling. They gave their lives for this calling, fulfilling this mission of preaching the gospel and making other disciples (compare Mark 16:15).

We understand the action point of the commission: “to go, having gone”—do something. What are we to do? Many English translations add the word “make” to the verb “disciples,” i.e.: make disciples. The word μαθητεύσατε is a verb, aorist active imperative, second person plural. It’s what you do. It’s not passive, it’s active; and it’s an imperative. Do you do it?

We claim that we are ***An Expanding Fellowship of Churches United to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.*** We have been expanding. Church Extension Ministries has done a good job of seeing that happen. We are a Fellowship of Churches—actually a denomination according to the best definition of the word. And we seem to be more united than we had been, which is a good thing! But are we actively, passionately making disciples of Jesus Christ? You can answer that.

This Conference is centered around the theme of “Passionately Fulfilling the Great Commission.” To help us become more passionate about fulfilling the Great Commission, we have invited Sean Cooper from Global Serve International to join us and discuss with us how we can be better at what we claim to do. Sean will be speaking on “A Biblical Theology for Mission: A People from All Peoples” in our first session. “A Biblical Mandate to Church Plant” is our Monday evening session topic and will be followed by the reception of two new Particular Churches: Hope BFC of Milford, DE and Grace Community Church of Chestertown, MD. On Tuesday morning, Sean will address, “The Apostolic Pattern: Proclaim, Plant, and Pastor.” Then on Wednesday morning his topic will be, “The Task Remaining: Unreached People Groups and the Training Needed to Get There.” The summation of these talks will be presented on

Wednesday by James D. MacArthur, the director of the BFC Board of Missions, as he challenges all of us to get going and keep going.

Cooper has spent the last 18 years casting a mission vision to the church at large. He graduated from the University of Arkansas with a degree in Communication and has short-term mission exposure in India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Ukraine. He serves on staff with Global Serve International a mission-sending agency that works to plant churches among the hardest unreached language groups in the world. Cooper has a passion for seeing men disciplined and developed for Great Commission work. Currently working on a Master's Degree from Reformed Theological Seminary, Cooper and his wife Meredith have four kids: Haven (10), Harlie (8), Sullivan (4), and Cass (2).

In addition to the normal business of our annual meeting and times of corporate prayer, we will hear from our study committees as to their progress and the results of their efforts to answer the questions that they were tasked to complete. Our departments will share what the Lord has been doing through them and how they are fulfilling their part of making disciples of Jesus Christ in church planting, world-wide missionary efforts, and children/youth ministries. Jeremy L. Harkins will be leading us in musical worship and we will witness the ordinations, or the recognition of previous ordinations, of several men. May our Lord be honored by our diligent efforts and may all glory be to God as we gather for our 143rd BFC Conference.

Orientation Material

The Committee on Agenda and Arrangements provides the following material to assist the members of the BFC Conference as we meet at Pinebrook Bible Conference from April 27-29, 2026. If followed, this information will contribute to a smooth-running Conference. Please direct any questions related to these suggestions to the members of the Committee on Agenda and Arrangements (their names are located at the end of their report).

Please Note: The Franconia Mennonite Camp Association owns and operates the Pinebrook Bible Conference, which also operates Spruce Lake Retreat. We are guests at Pinebrook and ought not to be presumptuous in the way we conduct ourselves or in the use of the facilities.

Procedures for the 143rd BFC Conference

1. Registration

- a. Every voting member and all attendees at BFC Conference should register in advance, using the form provided by the Registrar.
- b. Every pastor and delegate who is a voting member must report to the registrar table upon arriving at BFC Conference in order to sign in and to receive a name tag, a name plaque, and other relevant materials.
- c. Name tags are not required for entrance to meals.
- d. Every voting member who will need to leave one or more sessions of BFC Conference must inform the Registrar in order to ensure accurate voting records and to allow alternate delegates to vote in their place.
- e. Missionaries, pages, representatives of other organizations, and other official guests also should report their presence to the Registrar.
- f. Name plaques are used by the Registrars in keeping attendance and may be used to call a page to provide service.
- g. BFC Conference provides lodging and meals for all members of the BFC Conference, BFC missionaries and those under the care of either the Ministerial Credentials Committee or the Ministerial Candidate Committee, as well as pages. BFC Conference also provides meals for guests of Conference.
- h. The Bible Fellowship Church pays the room and board of voting members and officers during BFC Conference for the approved agenda day(s) while they are lodging at BFC Conference. Voting members and officers desiring accommodations before or after the approved agenda day(s) are personally responsible for such charges.
- i. Others, including wives and children, may make lodging arrangements in advance by directly contacting Pinebrook Bible Conference. The conference host, and not BFC Conference, establishes the cost of meals and lodging.

- j. Those staying overnight at BFC Conference must report to the Guest Services Building for room assignments, room keys, etc. Pinebrook Bible Conference requests that room keys be returned to the Guest Services Building no later than the morning break on the last day of Conference. Please plan to pack your belongings in your vehicle before the first session of the last day of Conference.

2. Priority Seating

- a. The Moderator of BFC Conference has the right to establish Priority Seating.
- b. Please send special requests for seating to the Registrar.

3. Addressing BFC Conference

- a. Members of the Bar wishing to address BFC Conference should do so as mandated in the Faith & Order, Article 508-2.
- b. In summary, this states that to speak on an issue, one is to rise, wait to be acknowledged by the Moderator, and respectfully address the Moderator when a page provides you with a microphone, permitting all voting members of Conference to hear your contribution to the matter at hand. Under normal circumstances, one addressing BFC Conference has a maximum of ten (10) minutes to speak on any issue. The Timekeeper will indicate when one's time has expired. One is not to speak a second time until all others who desire have spoken, and then only after gaining permission.
- c. Anyone making a motion from the floor of BFC Conference must provide a written copy of his motion, by email, to the secretarial crew in order to aid in projection as well as in preparing the Conference minutes.

4. Pages

- a. Ryan J. Diffenderfer will serve as the Overseer of the Pages and as the Head Page.
- b. Pages are selected from individuals who are generally not members of the Conference bar.
- c. The responsibilities of the pages includes the distribution of reports, Conference minutes, memoranda, manning roving microphones, etc.
- d. To obtain a page, raise your name plaque.

5. Reserving Tables in the Dining Hall: Dining Room tables may be reserved by a representative of any department, board, or committee. This request must be submitted in writing to the Registrar no later than the coffee break before that meal.

6. Reserving Display Tables

- a. Display tables within BFC Conference are at a premium. Because of this limitation, only BFC departments, boards, or committees are guaranteed a table. Contact the BFC Office (email communications@bfc.org) prior to BFC Conference to reserve one.
- b. Outside vendors and other entities may seek to reserve a spot at BFC Conference. Contact the BFC Office (email communications@bfc.org) prior to BFC Conference. Approval is at the

discretion of the BFC Office; outside vendors and others agree to provide their own table(s) if approved.

c. Materials desired to be distributed at BFC Conference must be printed and ready for distribution prior to Conference.

d. Printed materials should be presented to the Registrar, who will discuss their appropriateness for distribution with the Moderator.

7. Show and Tell

a. During most sessions of BFC Conference, information which is important for the members of BFC Conference, labeled as “Show and Tell,” may be communicated at the discretion of the Moderator.

b. Each request for a “Show and Tell” must go to the Registrar, who will work with the Moderator concerning its presentation to Conference.

8. Cell phones: Cell phone rings and other alerts are both annoying and disruptive to the flow of BFC Conference. Please silence all electronics!

9. Copies

a. Materials to be distributed at BFC Conference must be printed and ready for distribution before bringing them to Conference.

b. These printed materials need to go to the Registrar, and the Registrar will discuss their appropriateness for distribution with the Moderator.

c. The Registrar will take approved materials for distribution to the Head Page.

d. The onsite printer is reserved for official BFC Conference use.

10. Internet Access

a. Our host provides free internet access throughout the property.

b. Please be respectful of others and exit your internet browser when you’ve completed your business.

c. Bandwidth for internet connections is limited, so please refrain from remaining connected with multiple devices simultaneously.

11. BFC Conference Voting

a. Each voting member of BFC Conference should bring his *silenced* cell phone and tablet or computer to each session of Conference.

b. The Moderator or Conference Secretaries will advise those voting members who are present at that session of the electronic voting procedure whenever Conference votes electronically.

Conference Agenda

143rd BFC Conference

Bible Fellowship Church: An expanding fellowship of churches united to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Theme: **Passionately Fulfilling the Great Commission** (BFCOn 150 – Vision Point #1)

Moderator: Randall A. Grossman

Monday, April 27, 2026

11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Registration for room assignments (in Guest Services Building)

11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Registration for the 143rd Conference (in Fellowship Hall)

2:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Session

Call to Order and Prayer

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Report of Registrar and Roll Call

Establishment of Conference Bar as recommended by
the Registrar

Report of the Committee on Agenda & Arrangements

R. Daniel Wagner

Appointment of Conference Roles

- Committee on Examination of BFC Conference Minutes (143rd)
- Committee on Resolutions
- Parliamentarian
- Timekeeper

Appointment of Secretarial Team

Ronald L. Kohl

- Assistant Secretary: Timothy S. Radcliff
- Assistants to the Secretary: Samuel Janney,
Shawn Rohrbach

Welcome from the Conference Host

Richard B. Brewer

Approval of Minutes of 142st BFC Conference

Ronald L. Kohl

Introduction of New Delegates to Conference

Time of Prayer – Prayer Committee

Reports of Elected Boards and Committees:

Daniel W. King

Nominating Committee:

- Nominations for all elections
- Prayer for the upcoming elections

Ministerial Credentials Committee

S. Wayne Rissmiller

- Consideration of recommendations regarding Ordination

Musical worship led by Jeremy L. Harkins

Keynote Address: “A Biblical Theology for Mission: A People from All Peoples”

Sean Cooper

4:45 p.m. Adjournment for Dinner

5:00 p.m. Dinner

Voting members of Conference and those with proper credentials (name tags) admitted free. Others need to reserve meals ahead of time & purchase tickets at the Guest Services Building.

6:30 p.m. Monday Evening Session

Call to Order

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Musical worship led by Jeremy L. Harkins

Address: “A Biblical Mandate to Church Plant”

Sean Cooper

Recommendations of new Particular Churches

David E. Gundrum

- Recommendation to receive Hope BFC, Milford, DE
- Presentation of Hope BFC, Milford, DE
- Recommendation to receive Grace Community Church, Chestertown, MD
- Presentation of Grace Community Church, Chestertown, MD

Closing prayer

William G. Schlonecker

Reception in honor of our new Particular Churches in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

7:45 a.m. Breakfast

8:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Session

Call to Order

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Musical worship led by Jeremy L. Harkins

Address: “The Apostolic Pattern: Proclaim, Plant, and Pastor – 1 Corinthians 3:10”

Sean Cooper

Time of Prayer – Prayer Committee

10:15-10:35 a.m. Morning Break

10:35 a.m. BFC Executive Board, Business

David T. Allen

- Consideration of Recommendations regarding Budgets, Assessment
- Revised 2026 budget presentation and vote
- Recommendation of 2027 Assessment
- 2027 Budget presentation and vote

Consideration of Legislation at Second Reading (see page notations in Yearbook)

- Executive Board – Article 8-1, Gender (p. 32, 2024 Yearbook)
- Youth & Young Adults – Article 511-1.7 (3) (pp. 22-23, 2025 Yearbook)
- Prayer Committee – Article 511-1.7 (6) (pp. 23-24, 2025 Yearbook)
- Ebenezer petition – Article 701-4 (p. 26, 2025 Yearbook)
- Implementation of a Legislative Facilitator (p. 35, 2025 Yearbook)
- Northern Lehigh request – Article 202-3.2 (5)(7) (p. 36, 2025 Yearbook)
- Choosing Leaders Other than Elders and Deacons – Article 404-6 (p. 37, 2025 Yearbook)

Elections

12:15 p.m. Adjournment for Lunch

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Session

Call to Order

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Board of Church Health Report

Robert A. Sloan, Jr

Reports from Study Committees:

- Report on Mode of Believer’s Baptism with Regard to Membership
- Report on Strengthening our Position on Abortion
- Report on Examining Articles 24-27 (Millennium)

3-3:20 p.m. Afternoon Break

3:20 p.m. Reports from Study Committees (continued):

- Report from Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living
- Report on Civil Government
- Report on Stewardship

Consideration of any Petitions from Churches or Requests from Boards of Elders

4:45 p.m. Recognition of BFC Missionaries present at BFC Conference

James D. MacArthur

5:00 p.m. Adjournment for Dinner

5-5:15 p.m. Beneficiary Society (for pastors)

5:30 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Session (Service of Ordination)

Musical worship & Ordination Service

Address

Jesse A. Benack

Ordinations and recognition of previous ordinations

8:15 p.m. Reception in honor of our newly-ordained men – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

7:45 a.m. Breakfast

8:45 a.m. Wednesday Morning Session

Call to Order

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Musical worship led by Jeremy L. Harkins

Address: “The Task Remaining: Unreached People
Groups and the Training Needed to Get There”

Sean Cooper

Time of Prayer – Prayer Committee

10-10:20 a.m. Morning Break

Report of elections

Elections (if necessary)

Report of the Board of Missions

James D. MacArthur

Reports of Elected Boards and Committees

- Ministerial Candidate Committee
 - Consideration of list of men under care of the MCC
 - Introduction of men under care of the MCC

Joshua P. Miller

- Ministerial Relations Committee

Timothy J. Schmoyer

- Report of the Conference Pastor

Ralph M. Soper

- Darlene J. Mahurin Memorial Fund offering

12:15 p.m. Adjournment for Lunch

12:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Wednesday Afternoon Session

Call to Order

Randall A. Grossman,
Moderator

Report of Elections (if necessary)

Report of Church Extension Ministries David E. Gundrum

Report of Victory Valley Camp Curtis A. Cutler

Report of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation Andrew T. Crossgrove

3:30-3:50 p.m. Afternoon Break

Consideration of Recommendations of Committees

Other Reports

- BFC Life Committee William G. Schlonecker
- Report of Conference Judicatory Ronald W. Reed
- Communications Committee Ronald L. Kohl
- Historical Committee Jill Davidson
- Prayer Committee Michael W. Walker
- Youth & Young Adults Cory E. Arnold

Other Reports

- Ministerial Convention Committee
- Beneficiary Society Philip G. Norris

Report of the Registrar Joel B. Klase

Appointments by Moderator

- Registrar & Assistant Registrar
- Committee on Agenda & Arrangements
- Appointment of Study Committees (as necessary)
- Announcement of the Secretary of Conference Judicatory
- Announcement of Secretary of Special Appellate Judicatory

Report of the Committee on Resolutions

Unfinished Business

5:15 p.m. Adjournment with Prayer

First Reading Legislation

Legislation proposed by the Study Committee on Mode of Believers' Baptism with Regard to Membership

Whereas, the practice of baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is required to be by the mode of immersion, and

Whereas, pastors and elders in the Bible Fellowship Church are required to be “in agreement” with the Articles of Faith and not just “in sympathy” with them, therefore be it

Resolved, that we require that any man who seeks to serve as a pastor or elder at a Bible Fellowship Church be required to have been baptized by immersion as a believer, and further

Resolved, that any pastor or elder candidate who has not yet been baptized by immersion be required to be rebaptized in order to align with the requirements of Article 20-1 of our Articles of Faith.

Article 204- Elders, Deacons, Staff

Article 204-1 Elders

We propose introducing a new 204-1(8), thereby requiring the renumbering of the current 1.7 to 1.8:

“Because of the qualifications and dignity of the position of Elder, including minister, and because baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is practiced by immersion, each elder and minister must be required to be baptized by immersion. If he was baptized as a believer by another mode, he would be required to be rebaptized so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

Article 204-2 Ministers

We propose this addition as a new 204-3(7), Personal Qualifications:

“Because of the qualifications and dignity of the position of minister, and because baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is practiced by immersion, each minister must be required to be baptized by immersion. If he was baptized as a believer by another mode, he would be required to be rebaptized so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

Legislation proposed by the Study Committee to Examine Articles of Faith 24-27 (Millennium)

Whereas, the Bible Fellowship Church has historically maintained a premillennial interpretation based on the authority of Scripture and the importance of good hermeneutics, and

Whereas, modern day amillennial interpretations admit that in the past, their hermeneutics have not always been precise and they have sought to rectify these previous weaknesses through faithful practice of grammatical-historical exegesis, and they have rejected spiritualizing or allegorizing the text, and

Whereas, the issue of the millennium has been debated down through church history, with faithful godly believers falling on both sides of the issues, and

Whereas, the nature of prophecy, inaugurated eschatological fulfillment, figures of speech, and apocalyptic literature leave room for reasonable debate and variance between positions that do not impinge upon the doctrines of the clarity, sufficiency, and authority of the Word of God, and

Whereas, the Bible Fellowship Church has already granted exception on the issue to men who were previously ordained, and their change in belief on the millennium has not been considered to be a breach in doctrine, character, or conduct that disqualifies them from ministry in the BFC, therefore be it

Resolved, that we amend the Articles to allow for the premillennial and amillennial views as proposed below.

Article 7

Current

Change

<p>7-1 Satan is a created angelic being who fell from his first estate.¹ He is the god of this age, ruling by the permissive will of God.² He exercises authority over the unsaved, tempts the believer to sin, and continually accuses the brethren before the throne of God.³</p> <p>7-2 He has been defeated by the finished work of Christ on Calvary. During the millennium he will be confined to the abyss,⁴ to be released at the end of that period to lead the armies of evil against God. He will be finally judged and doomed to the lake of fire.⁵</p>	<p>7-1 Satan is a created angelic being who fell from his first estate.¹ He is the god of this age, ruling by the permissive will of God.² He exercises authority over the unsaved, tempts the believer to sin, <u>roams around like a roaring lion, and continually attacks the brethren.</u> and continually accuses the brethren before the throne of God.³</p> <p>7-2 He has been defeated by the finished work of Christ on Calvary. During the millennium he will be confined to the abyss,⁴ to be released at the end of that period to lead the armies of evil against God. He will be finally judged and doomed to the lake of fire.⁵</p>
<p>Footnotes 1-2 and 4-5 remain the same. One addition for</p>	

Article 24

Current

Change

24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of man.¹ At the return of the Lord the bodies of the righteous dead will be raised, and the living believers will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.² Believers will, at the resurrection, receive spiritual and immortal bodies like Christ's own glorious body.³

24-2 The event of the resurrection is divided into two stages, separated by a period of a thousand years and differing in respect to both their subjects and their issues.⁴ The first resurrection includes only the righteous dead.⁵ The second resurrection is universal and occurs at the close of the millennium when all the unregenerate dead are raised to be brought before the great White Throne for judgment.⁶

***Preface:** The Bible Fellowship Church has historically been, and still is, premillennial in its eschatology. Our Articles 24-28 fit into that framework. We do, however, recognize that the specificity of prophecy is open to legitimate discussion among God's people. We can accept as ministers and elders those who have a reservation concerning our position and instead prefer an amillennial position, provided they recognize the premillennial position is within orthodoxy, do not denigrate it, interpret the Scriptures according to their grammatical-historical meaning, and affirm future aspects of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants to be fulfilled on earth after Christ's return. We reject any form of eschatology in which the believer does not live waiting in active anticipation of Christ's return or in which the church experiences an age of earthly peace and prosperity before the Lord returns.*

24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of His people of man.¹ At the return of the Lord the bodies of the righteous dead will be raised, and the living believers will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.² Believers will, at the resurrection, receive spiritual and immortal bodies like Christ's own glorious body.³

24-2 The event of the resurrection is divided into two stages.⁴ ~~separated by a period of a thousand years and differing in respect to both their subjects and their issues.~~⁴ The first resurrection includes only the righteous dead.⁵ The second resurrection is universal and occurs at the close of the millennium when all the unregenerate dead are raised to be brought before the great White Throne for judgment.⁶

No changes to the footnotes.

Article 25

Current	Change
<p>25-1 The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is the personal, visible, bodily return of our Lord to this earth¹ to conform believers to His image and to establish the millennial kingdom. In connection with Christ’s return there will be the resurrection of the righteous dead,² the rapture of the saints,³ the salvation of Israel,⁴ the great tribulation,⁵ and the inauguration of the millennial reign.⁶ Following the millennium will be the resurrection and judgment of the unrighteous. The righteous will be eternally glorified with Him; the unrighteous will be eternally punished.</p>	<p>25-1 The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is the personal, visible, bodily return of our Lord to this earth¹ to conform believers to His image² and <u>visibly manifest the</u> to establish the millennial kingdom.³ In connection with Christ’s return there will be the resurrection of the righteous dead,^{2,4} the rapture of the saints,^{3,5} the salvation of Israel,^{4,6} the great tribulation,^{5,7} and the inauguration of the millennial reign.⁶ Following the millennium will be the resurrection and judgment of the unrighteous.⁸ The righteous will be eternally glorified with Him; the unrighteous will be eternally punished.⁹</p>
<p>25-2 The Second Coming is the believer’s source of encouragement and comfort inspiring him to active service for Christ, and is a motive for purification and holy living.⁷</p>	<p>25-2 The Second Coming is the believer’s source of encouragement and comfort inspiring him to active service for Christ, and is a motive for purification and holy living.^{7,10}</p>
<p>¹ In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also (John 14:2,3). “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).</p> <p>² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1Jo. 3:2). Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1Cor. 15:51,52).</p> <p>³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words (1Thes. 4:13-18).</p> <p>⁴ A partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness</p>	<p>Footnote 1 remains the same.</p> <p>Footnotes 2-3 are new additions.</p> <p>The current Footnote 2 becomes new 4 and adds 1 Thes 4:16.</p> <p>The current Footnote 3 becomes new 5 and adds Matt 24:31.</p> <p>The current Footnote 4 becomes new 6 with no changes.</p> <p>The current Footnote 5 becomes new 7 with no changes.</p> <p>The current Footnote 6 is dropped.</p> <p>A new Footnote 8 is added with 2 Thess 1:7-9.</p> <p>A new Footnote 9 is added with Matt 25:46.</p> <p>The current Footnote 7 becomes new 10 and adds Col 3:4-10.</p> <p>¹ In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also (John 14:2,3). “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).</p> <p>² <u>But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. (Phil 3:21).</u></p>

of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved (Rom. 11:25b, 26a).

⁵ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be (Mat. 24:21).

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:6).

⁷ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure (1Jo. 3:3).

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. (1 Jn 3:2).

³ When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. (Matt 25:31). And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one. (Zech 14:9). (see also Isa 2:4,11:4).

²⁴ Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:2). Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1Cor 15:51-52). For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (1 Thess 4:16).

³² But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words (1Thess 4:13-18). And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Matt 24:31).

⁴⁶ A partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved (Rom 11:25b, 26a).

⁵⁷ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be (Matt 24:21).

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:6).

⁸ ...and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ²They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might (2 Thess 1:7-9).

⁹ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (Mat. 25:46).

^{7,10} And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure (1 John 3:3). When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity,

passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. (Col 3:4-10).

Article 28

Current

28-1 There are two final, eternal destinies for man: heaven for the righteous and penitent, and hell for the unrighteous and impenitent.¹ At the great white throne judgment, all of the enemies of God will be consigned to the place of eternal conscious punishment, from which there is no escape.² The new heavens and the new earth shall be created³ as the final state in which the righteous shall dwell forever in the presence of God.⁴

Change

28-1 There are two final, eternal destinies for man.¹: ~~heaven for the righteous and penitent, and hell for the unrighteous and impenitent.~~ At the great white throne judgment, all of the unrighteous and impenitent, the enemies of God, will be consigned to the lake of fire, a place of eternal conscious punishment, from which there is no escape.² The new heavens and the new earth shall be created³ as the final state in which the penitent righteous shall dwell forever in the presence of God.⁴

No changes to the footnotes.

Legislation proposed by the Committee to Review the Biblical Principles for Living

Article 153 – Harmful Indulgences

Whereas, alcohol and tobacco are not the only substances that can lead to addiction and destruction of the Christian testimony, and

Whereas, the amount of substances that are harmful if misused or abused continues to grow as mankind continues to invent new and increasingly harmful substances, and

Whereas, the goal of the Biblical Principles for Living is to give guidance to elders and members of local churches and not to be a list of every sin or potential danger to be avoided, and

Whereas, Article 104-4.2, Christian Liberty & Servanthood, already speaks to the need for limiting freedom for the sake of others and lists many of the same biblical texts as found in Articles 153-1 and 153-2, and

Whereas, the Committee to Review the Biblical Principles for Living has agreed that it is desirable to have a concise article covering all harmful substances and indulgence in them and further, that it is more in keeping with the original intent to speak broadly to multiple cultures, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Article 153 be revised as follows (all changes marked in bold):

As listed in 2024 BPLs	Proposed Legislation
<p>Article 153 – Harmful Indulgences</p> <p>153-0:1 All believers are saved through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. God calls His people to live by faith.¹ This life of faith is an obedient response to the revealed truth of God in the Scriptures.²</p> <p>153-0:2 At salvation believers are baptized into the Church, the body of Christ, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit.³ They are to be filled and led by the Holy Spirit.⁴ This filling and leading by the Holy Spirit progressively transforms believers into the Lord’s likeness.⁵</p> <p>¹ Col. 2:6-7; 2 Cor. 5:7 ² 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet.1:19-21 ³ 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13,14; Rom. 8:9 ⁴ Rom. 8:14; Eph. 5:18 ⁵ 2 Cor. 3:8</p> <p>Article 153-1 – Alcoholic Drinks</p> <p>153-1.1 The abuse of alcoholic beverages is one of the most serious problems in many parts of the world. This abuse has led to personal and family suffering, serious physical and mental health problems, and increased rates of accidental and criminal injury and death. The financial cost and the consequences of such abuse are a tremendous and unnecessary burden on all of society.</p> <p>153-1.2 The Scriptures teach that drunkenness is sinful.¹ Due to the addictive quality of alcohol, even the moderate use of alcoholic beverages may lead to serious consequences.² This is especially true because the alcoholic content of some beverages has been tremendously increased since biblical times. Furthermore, moderate use may be a stumbling block for believer and unbeliever alike.³</p>	<p>Article 153 - Harmful Indulgence</p> <p>153-1 All believers are saved through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. God calls His people to live by faith.¹ This life of faith is an obedient response to the revealed truth of God in the Scriptures.²</p> <p>153-2 At salvation believers are baptized into the Church, the body of Christ, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit.³ They are to be filled and led by the Holy Spirit.⁴ This filling and leading by the Holy Spirit progressively transforms believers into the Lord’s likeness.⁵</p>

~~153-1.3 Therefore, the BFC strongly and persistently warns its people of the dangers of alcoholic beverages and urges all members of the BFC to consider abstaining voluntarily from the use, manufacture and distribution of them.~~

~~¹Rom. 13:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:18-21~~

~~²Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23:31-35~~

~~³Matt. 18:6-7; Rom. 14:20-21; 1 Cor. 8:9-11, 8:13~~

Article 153-2—Tobacco

~~153-2.1 Because the use of tobacco is harmful to the body and addictive, it is inconsistent with Christian living.¹ Its use may negatively affect the believer's ministry to the saved² and unsaved.³ Consequently the church should warn its people of the dangers of tobacco products and strongly urge complete abstinence from them.⁴~~

Article 153-3—Drugs and Other Substances

~~153-3.1 The misuse of, and overindulgence in, drugs and other substances, including prescribed and non-prescribed, are sin and are not of faith. Such abuse controls the believer and gratifies the sinful nature.¹ Both misuse and overindulgence cause the believer to live by feelings, not by faith in God's revealed Word.² The continued abuse of drugs and all other substances destroys self-control, leads to addiction³ and makes it impossible for the believer to live for the will of God.⁴~~

~~153-3.2 Sinning in this way affects the thinking, attitudes, and passions of the believer.⁵ This results in the believer falling deeper and deeper into sin,⁶ and can damage the body and the mind. Encouraging or aiding others to misuse or overindulge in drugs or all other substances is sin. Selling drugs or~~

153-3 The misuse of, and overindulgence in, **alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or any substance—including legal and illegal**, prescribed and non-prescribed—is sin and is not of faith. This sin destroys self-control, gratifies the flesh,⁶ causes the believer to live by feelings rather than by faith in God's revealed Word,⁷ leads to addiction,⁸ and makes it impossible for the believer to live for the will of God.⁹

153-4 Sinning in this way affects the thinking, attitudes, and passions of the believer.¹⁰ This results in the believer falling **progressively** deeper into sin,¹¹ damaging the body and the mind. **Not only does this sin harm the individual, but it also damages relationships within the family, church, and the world.**¹² **Additionally**, encouraging or aiding others to misuse or overindulge in any substance is sin.¹³

~~other substances to a person for the purpose of gratification of the sinful nature is sin against God and may be against the law.⁷ The Lord Himself holds those who do this responsible⁸ and has many ways to exercise His justice.⁹~~

153-3.3 The Church must warn against the dangers of the misuse of, and overindulgence in, ~~drugs and all other substances~~, provide counsel to those enslaved, direct them to places of treatment, help them to rebuild their lives, and determine ~~when~~ such a person is free for ministry in the church.¹⁰

¹ Rom. 8:5-13; Gal. 5:16-17

² Eph. 2:1-3; 4:20-24

³ Rom. 6:16; 2 Pet. 2:19

⁴ Col. 1:9-10; 1 Pet. 4:2

⁵ Eph 4:17-19; Titus 3:3

⁶ Prov. 23:29-35; Rom. 7:14-24; Col. 3:5-10

⁷ Luke 17:1-3; ~~Gal. 5:19-21~~

⁸ ~~Prov. 4:14-19, 5:22; Hab. 2:15-16~~

⁹ ~~Zeph. 3:5~~

¹⁰ 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-16

153-5 **Therefore**, the Church must warn against the dangers of the misuse of, and overindulgence in, **any** substance, provide counsel to those enslaved, direct them to places of treatment, help them to rebuild their lives, and determine **how** such a person is free for ministry in the church.¹⁴

¹ 2 Cor. 5:7; Col. 2:6, 7

² 1 Thes. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21

³ Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13,14

⁴ Rom. 8:13-14; Eph. 5:18

⁵ 2 Cor. 3:**18**; **Phil. 1:6**

⁶ Rom. 8:5-13; Gal. 5:16,17

⁷ Eph. 2:1-3; 4:20-24

⁸ Rom. 6:16; **1 Cor. 6:12**; 2 Pet. 2:19b

⁹ Col. 1:9,10; 1 Pet. 4:2

¹⁰ Eph. 4:17-19; Titus 3:3

¹¹ Pro. 23:29-35; Rom. 7:14-24; Col. 3:5-10

¹² Rom. 14:15-21; 1 Cor. 8:9-13; 1 Cor. 9:12

¹³ Matt. 18:6-7; Luke 17:1-3

¹⁴ 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-16

Proposal to Form a Study Committee on Issues of Digital Technology

The Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living also recognizes the use of technology potentially moving from being a helper or servant of man to becoming a tool that may isolate people-to-people interpersonal contact, perhaps even to the point of affecting fellowship within the Church, the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, the Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living brings the following Resolution to the 143rd BFC Conference for consideration at First Reading:

Resolved, that the BFC Conference appoint a Study Committee to examine and prepare a statement on the issues of digital technology (digital, gaming, or computerized devices), Artificial Intelligence, and social media and/or a believer's online presence by considering the following questions:

1. Where does the use of technology belong in presenting the biblical story of redemption? Worship? Teaching/preaching? What are the benefits and detriments corporately and/or personally?
2. What guidance does the Bible offer to individual believers on the use of digital technology (such as Bible versions on smartphones and tablets during corporate teaching and/or worship), Artificial Intelligence (for Bible reading and/or study, etc.), and the believer's online presence (posting and/or information resources) regarding personal testimony and faithful dependence upon the leading of God the Holy Spirit?
3. How might it be possible for the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ to lead the way in using technology internally and externally to the honor and glory of God?

Legislation proposed by the BFC Executive Board

Article 408 – Church Properties

(Strikeouts indicate current language of Article 408 that is to be removed. Proposed changes are indicated in bold face italics.)

408-1 The title of church property where the church is incorporated shall be conveyed directly to the Corporation. In cases in which the church is not incorporated, ~~the conveyance shall be made to a Board of Trustees duly elected according to the Rules of the BFC Conference (setting forth their names), their successors, and assigns:~~ ***the BFC Executive Board shall hold title to that property until the church becomes a Particular Church within the BFC, self-incorporates, and elects officers, after which the BFC Executive Board shall transfer the title to the Particular Church Corporation.*** Whether the title is conveyed to a corporation or ***is held by the BFC Executive Board*** to a Board of Trustees, the title shall contain a trust clause in the following words:

In trust for the use of the ministry and membership of the Church (name of the Bible Fellowship Church) at (location) subject to the doctrines, laws, usages, and ministerial appointments of the BFC Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church incorporated under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as from time to time established, made and declared by the lawful authorities of the said church, and if the said property shall be sold or encumbered, the proceeds of the sale or the encumbrance shall be applied for the use of the aforesaid, subject, however, to the provisions of the law of the church relating to abandoned church properties and of that forbidding mortgaging of real estate for current expenses. ***If the congregation controlling this property shall be disbanded or dissolved, the property and assets shall be controlled and disposed of according to the rules of the Bible Fellowship Church.***

408-2 The title to parsonages shall be conveyed in like manner as that for the churches and shall contain the following clause of trust:

In trust, that said premises shall be kept, maintained, and disposed of as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the preachers of the Bible Fellowship Church who are from time to time duly appointed in said place according to the rules and usages of said church, and if sold, the proceeds to be used according to the rules of said church. If the congregation controlling this property shall be disbanded, the property shall be controlled and disposed of according to the rules of the Bible Fellowship Church.

408-3 In instances where a Particular Church loses its corporate officers, votes to close, and abandons its property ***and assets***, the BFC Executive Board is authorized to appoint surrogate elders ***who become the officers***, to settle its affairs in closing the church, and to ~~sell its properties-~~ ***dispose of its assets***, with any residual proceeds going to the Bible Fellowship Church, ***Inc., a non-profit 501c3.***

Second Reading Legislation

While Second Reading legislation should appear in connection with the reports that appear throughout this year's Report Book, in an attempt to centralize legislation and make the process a bit easier, we are here presenting a "running tab" on all legislation that will be considered for adoption at Second Reading at the 143rd BFC Conference. See below for the proposed legislation as well as where you can find it in either the 2024 or 2025 Yearbooks.

Executive Board, Article 8-1, Gender (see 2024 Yearbook, p. 32)

While the original legislation that proposed changes to Article 8-1 of the Articles of Faith was adopted at First Reading by the 140th BFC Conference and was approved by a two-thirds majority by the Boards of Elders of our Particular Churches, changes in verbiage at the 141st BFC Conference, as agreed upon by substitute motion, were adopted at First Reading by a 133-20 margin, thus returning the below legislation to the respective Boards of Elders for their approval.

Boards of Elders were given 24 months to vote upon these proposed changes to Article 8-1. That two-year period has passed, and the margin of votes greatly exceeded the two-thirds majority necessary for consideration of adoption at Second reading.

The proposed changes from the current Article 8-1 are in bold face and are underlined. The Conference Secretary has taken the liberty of inserting the word "which" in the last sentence in order to add clarity to the statement.

Article 8-1

God, by a special, instantaneous act, created man in His image—holy, righteous, and possessing true knowledge—by forming him out of the dust of the earth and breathing into his nostrils the breath of life. Thus man became a living soul. **In creating man in His image, God created them male and female. Males and females each have unique and complementary physical attributes determined by their God-given biological sex and which serve to form and distinguish a person's God-given sexual identity and function.**

Article 511-1.7 (3), Youth and Young Adult Committee, Purpose (see pp. 22-25, 2025 Yearbook)

Whereas, the Youth and Young Adults Committee does not feel the current purpose statement is specific enough in supporting the local church ministries, and

Whereas, the Youth and Young Adults Committee desires to serve the local church ministries more effectively and practically, therefore be it

Resolved, that we adopt the following resolution, replacing current purpose statement 511-1.7 (3):

Purpose: The Youth and Young Adults Committee exists to glorify and honor God by primarily equipping churches to effectively reach and disciple students and young adults for Christ. This includes (1) training leaders, (2) providing relevant insights and trends in culture, (3) hosting discipleship and outreach events, and (4) promoting unity among the churches.

Article 511-1.7 (6), Prayer Committee, Composition and Election, Finances (see pp. 23-24, 2025 Yearbook)

Whereas, the composition of the BFC Prayer Committee as specified in the Principles of Order currently states, “(1) The BFC Prayer Committee shall be composed of four ministers and three laypersons. Laypersons must be members in good standing at a BFC church,” and

Whereas, it also states that, “(3) No member of the committee may serve more than two consecutive terms. A member may be elected to a new term after a minimum of one year’s time following two consecutive terms,” and

Whereas, the Committee has found it difficult to find laypersons who are both passionate about prayer and are able/willing to serve on the committee, and

Whereas, the current composition of the committee consists of six ministers and two laypersons, and

Whereas, the Committee is seeking to undertake two separate Days of Prayer (North and South) and needs more members in order to facilitate the Days of Prayer effectively, therefore be it

Resolved, that 511-1.7 (6), under “Composition and Election” be changed to the following:

(1) The BFC Prayer Committee shall be composed of members in good standing of a BFC church.

(2) The committee shall elect its own members, subject to the ratification of the BFC Executive Board.

(3) No member of the committee may serve more than two consecutive terms. A member may be elected to a new term after a minimum of one year’s time following two consecutive terms.

(4) The members of the committee shall be elected for a term of three years.

(5) The committee shall organize itself at the call of the chairman of the previous year, at which time new officers shall be elected.

Whereas, the BFC Office has adequate personnel to effectively administrate the finances of the Prayer Committee, and the BFC Executive Board prefers to have the BFC Office administrate such funds of the BFC Committees; and

Whereas, the duties of the Prayer Committees treasurer have been absorbed by the BFC office for the past few years, therefore be it

Resolved, that the BFC Prayer Committee no longer be required to have a member serve in the role of treasurer, and that the Committee will have sufficient communication with the BFC office in regards to the administration of funds.

**Article 512-2.1, Church Extension Ministries, Purpose & Process
(see p. 56, 2025 Yearbook; First Reading was in 2024 – see pp. 16-17,
2025 Yearbook)**

Church Extension Ministries exists to expand the Bible Fellowship Church by planting new churches and incorporating existing (non-BFC) churches. New churches are planted by evangelizing in communities where Bible Fellowship Churches do not exist, forming and nurturing them to maturity. Existing churches desiring to affiliate with the Bible Fellowship Church will meet with Church Extension Ministries to determine the church's doctrinal and organizational compatibility and its future viability. If approval is granted, the church would come under the care of Church Extension Ministries until recommendation can be made that it be presented for recognition as a particular church to the BFC Conference

**Legislation proposed by Ebenezer BFC via petition at the 142nd BFC
Conference (see p. 26, 2025 Yearbook)**

Article 701-4 – Amendments to the Articles of Faith

Resolved, that Article 701-4 be modified to require all churches to provide a vote either for or against the resolution, and as such, the 2/3 count is from the churches that provide the vote.

**Implementation of a Legislative Facilitator
(see p. 35, 2025 Yearbook)**

In conjunction with the petition from Ebenezer BFC, the 142nd BFC Conference adopted the following resolutions and implemented them on a one-year probationary status, appointing Keith A. Strunk to serve in the new position up to the 143rd BFC Conference.

Whereas, recently many proposed amendments to the Articles of Faith have been approved at First Reading by Conference and

Whereas, these amendments have been sent to the Boards of Elders for their approval, but the Conference Secretary has often not received enough response from the churches, and

Whereas, Article 701-3 says that “the Board of Elders of each church shall vote,” requiring our elders boards to do this task, be it therefore

Resolved, that Conference elect a Legislative Facilitator for a term of one year to implore the churches to turn in the result of their votes to the Conference Secretary. And be it further

Resolved, that the duties of the Legislative Facilitator be as follows:

1. He shall send monthly email reminders to the pastors and delegates to turn in the result of their votes to the voting webpage.
2. Beginning in December he shall review the responses from the churches and compile a list of those churches which have not yet responded to his reminders. He shall call each of the pastors whose church is on this list in order to personally encourage a response from their elder board.

3. He may refer a church and/or committee-of-origin to the other so that the elder board can gain enough information to take an informed vote.
4. He shall report to Conference on his findings from this temporary role as well as a list of those churches who have not yet responded by the time of his report. He shall submit his report to the Secretary of Conference by February 15, 2026.
5. He shall continue to encourage response from the remaining churches during the period between February 15 and the start of the 143rd Conference.

And be it further

Resolved, that Conference instruct the Agenda and Arrangements Committee to add an item to the Agenda of the 143rd BFC Conference to supply us with time to discuss the results of the role of the Legislative Facilitator with a view to add that position as a permanent office of Conference.

Legislation proposed by Northern Lehigh BFC via request at the 142nd BFC Conference (see p. 36, 2025 Yearbook)

Article 202-3.2 (5) (7) – Qualifications and Duties of Church Membership

Whereas, the elders of Northern Lehigh BFC (Walnutport, PA) want to make sure our members abide by the BFC Faith and Order without failure while not hindering anyone from becoming a member who is faithful in the Lord, therefore be it

Resolved, that we make these changes to Section 202-3, Qualifications and Duties of Church Membership in the Faith & Order:

Resolved, that we change the fifth duty from “To pray *daily* for the elders and ministries of the church” to “To pray *consistently* for the elders and the ministries of the church.”

And be it further

Resolved, that we change the seventh duty from “To submit to those God has ordained as *rulers* in the Church” to “To submit to those God has ordained as *overseers* in the church.”

Legislation proposed by Northern Lehigh BFC via request at the 142nd BFC Conference (see p. 36, 2025 Yearbook)

The following joint resolution proposing an addition to Article 404 was adopted at First Reading at the 142nd BFC Conference:

Article 404-6

Preaching and teaching in the church’s gathered worship is to be done by qualified men, typically elders or elders in training, and ruling authority is exercised by elders who must give an account to God. Women are not permitted to function as elders over the church. Women are encouraged to exercise their gifts of teaching and administration in God-glorifying ways in the life of the body. The Board of Elders of each particular church shall determine such settings in accordance with Scripture.

Report of the Legislative Facilitator

The 142nd BFC Conference elected a Legislative Facilitator to implore churches to vote promptly on amendments to the Articles of Faith and report their vote to the Conference Secretary. Changes to Article 8-1 had been approved at First Reading and thus required the votes of each particular church's boards of elders in order to be considered for adoption at Second Reading at BFC Conference.

While the "Legislative Facilitator" position might be considered successful in this case, it was so only because of the technological wherewithal and diligence of Pastor Timothy J. Schmoyer, and his wife Rachel, who set up a website that could be sent to churches to easily facilitate the required vote. This effort by the Schmoyers achieved the required number of votes for the legislation to receive Second Reading consideration. The Legislative Facilitator himself had very little significance in the role.

A second reminder was sent on February 19, 2026, gaining additional votes.

Churches that have still failed to vote or to contact the Facilitator or the Conference Secretary for guidance are listed below.

This position could be more effective if filled by someone with more administrative capacity and not consumed with pastoral responsibilities, and might well be a function that could be performed by the BFC Executive Office.

Churches failing to vote on the amendment to Article 8-1:

Brick, NJ
Carmel, NY
Denville, NJ
Merida, Mexico
Newark, NJ

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith A. Strunk
BFC Conference
Legislative Facilitator

Report of the Committee on Agenda and Arrangements

The committee met three times in the Conference Room at the BFC's denominational office in fulfilling its mandate to prepare the agenda and worship and to oversee the logistics and hospitality of the 143rd BFC Conference. In addition to the seven "official" members of the committee, Ryan J. Diffenderer, Overseer of the Pages and Head Page, attended as an *ex-officio* member. The committee also invited Richard B. Brewer, the Site Director at Pinebrook, for his assistance in coordinating the logistics and hospitality of the BFC Conference at Pinebrook Bible Conference. Other guests whose input was greatly valued included Samuel Janney (Assistant to the Secretary), Rachel Schmoyer (BFC Communications Coordinator), and Julie Sebastian (BFC Office Manager).

143rd BFC Conference. This year's BFC Conference will convene at 2:30 p.m., on Monday, April 27, 2026 at Pinebrook Bible Conference, East Stroudsburg, PA and will conclude on Wednesday, April 29. The theme of this year's Conference is "Passionately Fulfilling the Great Commission." The theme is based on Vision Point # 1 of BFCCon 150.

Speaker. Sean Cooper of Global Serve International will address BFC Conference this year.

Orientation. Orientation materials have been placed in the front of the Report Book that is distributed to each pastor and delegate. We ask that each man read and review the information prior to Conference, especially those who are Conference voting members for the first time.

Livestreaming. Everyone may view the livestream sessions of BFC Conference over the internet. This is an asset allowing interested BFC folks from around the globe to view the worship and deliberations of BFC Conference. Please inform your congregations of this opportunity, which can be accessed through the website: www.bfc.org. BFC Conference may "mute" or "suspend" delicate or extremely personal issues on the floor of BFC Conference at the discretion of the BFC Conference Moderator. Please allow us this grace if it should become necessary.

Roles. Joel B. Klase will serve as Registrar with Jules J. Hull III as Assistant Registrar. Ryan J. Diffenderfer will serve as Overseer of the Pages and as Head Page.

Appointments. Appointments for the Committee on Resolutions, Timekeeper, and Parliamentarian will be made at Conference.

Recommendations for the 143rd BFC Conference

1. **Resolved**, that the proposed agenda for the 143rd BFC Conference be accepted as the guide for our deliberations.
2. **Resolved**, that the Registrar be authorized to seat alternate delegates as required during the Conference and report them to Conference in his report at the conclusion of Conference.
3. **Resolved**, that the 144th BFC Conference be held at a site and a date to be determined.

4. **Resolved**, that committee reports for the 144th BFC Conference be sent in digital format to the BFC Conference Secretary by February 15, 2027 at sportspastor33@gmail.com.

Committee on Agenda & Arrangements: Ronald L. Kohl, Chairman; R. Daniel Wagner, Secretary; David T. Allen, Executive Director; Randall A. Grossman, Moderator; Steven J. DelDuco, Vice Moderator; Joel B. Klase, Registrar; Timothy S. Radcliff, Assistant Secretary. Ex-officio member: Ryan J. Diffenderfer, Overseer of the Pages and Head Page. Guests: Richard B. Brewer, Samuel Janney, Rachel Schmoyer, Julie Sebastian.

Report of the Committee to Examine 142nd Conference Minutes

The work of editing what appears in the annual Yearbook is fairly equally divided throughout the year between the Conference Secretary, the BFC's Communications Coordinator, and members of the proofreading team that works through each session of BFC Conference before making the minutes available to the public.

Philip G. Norris has been an invaluable asset in taking the time, prior to Conference, to look through the 2025 Yearbook. A year ago, this report stated, "Philip G. Norris has retired from this role after many years of faithful service." Wrong! While his eyesight is not as good as it used to be, Brother Norris continues to contribute his grasp of details to serve in proofing the Yearbook and the BFC Conference minutes. We are grateful for his contributions!

See below for a list of corrections to the 2025 BFC Yearbook:

- p. xxi Change the header spelling from "Cowan" to "Cowen" in the "In Memoriam" for Timothy S. Cowen

- p. 16 In the fourth paragraph, "King of kings" should be "King of Kings"

- p. 27 First paragraph, change "a thumbnail sketches" to "a thumbnail sketch."

- p. 39 At the bottom of the page, Article 103-6.6, "bears his image" should be "bears His image" – so as to be consistent with the capitalization of pronouns signifying divinity that is used through the Faith & Order.

- p. 122 The header should read "141st" instead of "140th."

- p. 124 The list of committee members has been omitted and should read as follows: "**Committee to Examine 141st BFC Conference Minutes:** Thomas P. Shorb, Richard E. Taylor, R. Daniel Wagner."

- p. 175 In the membership portion of the Statistical Report for Freedom BFC, Dauphin, PA, the membership should be listed as 43. Freedom BFC 2024 Membership should be 43.

- p. 208 Newark, NJ: Newark BFC's Disbursements calculations should be corrected as follows: Operating Costs - \$43,586, Total Operations Disbursements - \$43,586, Total Disbursements - \$43,711, Grand Total Disbursements - \$84,986.

Committee to Examine 142nd BFC Conference Minutes: Joshua P. Gibson, Philip G. Norris, Thomas P. Shorb, R. Daniel Wagner.

Report of the Committee on Nominations

The following are nominees for the Bible Fellowship Boards and Committees for 2026-2027.

(i) indicates incumbent.

BFC Executive Board

Choose 2 Ministers



Randall A. Grossman (i) recently retired from being senior pastor of Grace BFC in Reading PA since 1990. Before that, he was the founding pastor of the Kutztown church. He is married to Nancy and the couple has two married daughters and five grandchildren.



Ronald L. Kohl (i) has served as the Senior Pastor at Grace Bible Fellowship Church in Quakertown, PA since 2004. A former sportswriter and the editor of three books, he is happily married to Kendra since 2003. He has also served as the chairman of the Quakertown Conference on Reformed Theology since its inception in 2008.



Timothy J. Schmoyer has pastored in the BFC for 23 years—the last 16 at Whitehall, PA. Schmoyer earned his Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Change in 2018 from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, PA. He has served the BFC on various committees and teams, the longest of which have been Victory Valley Camp (since 2007) and the BFC's Ministerial Relations Committee (since 2011). He also served as Moderator of BFC Conference from 2019-2022.

Choose 2 Elders



Sean McNamara is an elder at Covenant Reformed Fellowship, Pottstown, PA (formerly Faith BFC, Spring City, PA), where he chairs the missions committee and teaches adult Sunday school. He currently serves as chairman of the BFC Board of Missions.



John W. Sullivan (i) is the owner of Capital Planning Wealth Management. He is a member at Saucon Community BFC in Hellertown, PA, where he serves as an elder, teacher, and small group leader.



William J. (Bill) Walters (i) has been an elder at Cedar Crest BFC in Allentown, PA since 1999. There he has served or is serving in teaching ministries (children, students, and adults), on the Pastoral Relations Committee, the Finance Committee, the Steering Committee, Building Committees, the worship team (drums), Worship Tech Team, et al. He is married to the lovely Lora, has three grown/married children and eight grandchildren, all of whom, to his exceeding joy, attend Cedar Crest. He is the Vice President of Quality and Engineering for a packaging company, Tricor Braun Flex. He has served on the BFC Executive Board for three years.



Ricky D. Whitmire has served at Cedar Crest BFC in various ministries, including Sunday School/Discipleship Institute instructor, choir member, College Ministry, Youth Group, Deacon, and Elder. He previously served as a member of the BFC Executive Board for six years. He is married to Keri and has two children, Halle Jo and Caleb. He works as a Vice President of Wealth Management for Trustage (formerly CUNA Mutual Group).

Ministerial Credentials Committee

Choose 2 Ministers



Daniel W. King serves as Senior Pastor of Royersford Bible Fellowship Church in Royersford, PA. He has been in pastoral ministry since 2000 and has been married to Christine since 2004.



Andrew J. (AJ) Miller serves as the pastor of Welsh Road Church in Horsham PA.



Mark R. Orton serves as the pastor of Graterford BFC in Graterford PA. His responsibilities include preaching, counseling, administration, visitation, and more.

Ministerial Candidate Committee

Choose 3 Ministers



Joshua P. Gibson is the Senior Pastor of Emmanuel BFC in Sunbury, PA. He is responsible for preaching and casting vision for the church. He also trains new leaders, makes disciples who make disciples, and shepherds the flock in a variety of ways. He has served at Emmanuel BFC for 21 years. He is married to his wife, Erica. They have three children (Carissa, Noah, and Judah).



David E. Gundrum (i) served as the Director of Church Extension Ministries for 25 years where he directed and oversaw all aspects of church extension in the BFC including the recruitment of new church planters. On April 1, 2026, he will transition into the role of Director of Expansion and Development for the BFC.



Joshua P. Miller (i) has served as Pastor of Preaching and Teaching at Grace Bible Fellowship Church in Harrisburg, PA for 14 years.



Juan Carlos Morales was the Church Planting Pastor and is the current pastor of Christ Alone Fellowship in Lancaster, PA.



Ralph E. Ritter is the Pastor of Wissinoming (PA) BFC. He is responsible for preaching, administration, and counseling at the church, along with various other duties. He has served with the BFC since 1991 and is a graduate of The University of Pennsylvania and Gordon-Cromwell Seminary.

Ministerial Relations Committee

Choose 2 Ministers



Daniel Z. Krall (i) served for four years as Assistant Pastor at Ephrata Bible Fellowship Church in Ephrata, PA before being called to his current role of Lead Pastor. He is passionate about preaching the Word of God and in leading God’s people in prayer. He and his wife Lynnea have four children.



Timothy J. Schmoyer (i) has pastored in the BFC for 23 years—the last 16 at Whitehall, PA. Schmoyer earned his Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Change in 2018 from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, PA. He has served the BFC on various committees and teams, the longest of which have been Victory Valley Camp (since 2007) and the BFC’s Ministerial Relations Committee (since 2011). He also served as Moderator of BFC Conference from 2019-2022.



Dennis W. Spinney describes himself as a “follower of Jesus, husband to Sue for 45 years, father and grandfather, and small church pastor for over 30 years.” He retired from paid ministry on May 1, 2022 and is looking forward to serving Him “in new ways and new places.”



Daniel L. Williams has served as an ordained pastor in the Bible Fellowship Church since 2006. He currently serves as the lead pastor of Trinity BFC in Blandon, PA. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities at Trinity, Dan is a member of the Executive Board and the secretary of the Board of Church Health. He and his wife Laurie have three children: Gabbie, Luke, and Jonah.

Choose 1 Elder



Mark Hargrove is an elder at the Whitehall (PA) BFC. Mark leads adult Sunday school, chairs the deacon board, plays piano for the worship team, and leads the T&T group for Awana. Mark and his wife Mary have been married for 40 years and have two adult children.



Glendon R. LeSuer Jr. (i) and his wife Jeanne have been active members at Faith BFC in Harleysville, PA for over 40 years. Glen has served in many roles over the years at Faith, from being on the elder board to teaching in many different capacities. He currently serves on the BFC’s Ministerial Relations Committee and is thankful for the years of experience at Harleysville which have aided him as he serves on the MRC.

Committee on Nominations

Choose 2 Ministers



Mark A. Barninger was the church planter and is currently the Pastor of Freedom Bible Fellowship Church of Dauphin, Pa. since 2009. He has served on a number of boards and committees within the BFC, including Youth and Young Adults, Pinebrook Bible Conference, and the Ministerial Candidate Committee. Mark currently serves on the Board of Church Extension Ministries and is the Chairman of the Personnel Committee.



Brad L. Boyer serves as the pastor of Cape Community Church in Cape May Court House, NJ.



Jacob J. (Jake) Susek Jr. recently retired after having served for over 16 years as the Senior Pastor at Royersford (PA) BFC and later serving as Vice President of Pastoral Care at Fellowship Community in Whitehall, PA. He also ministers as a guest speaker in BFC churches.

Choose 1 Layperson



Susan Biebl is a member of Community Bible Fellowship Church in Red Hill, PA. On Wednesday evenings she teaches the Little Lambs class (ages three through kindergarten) during the church's kids' clubs program. She also leads the Hearts and Hands Together group, a fellowship group for widows within the church. In addition, she occasionally works with children ages three through kindergarten during Sunday worship services. Prior to her retirement, Susan served for 23 years as an administrative assistant to the principal at a school in the Central Bucks School District..



R. Edward Snyder-Ritter has been an elder at Living Bible Fellowship Church since the church's graduation in 2024; prior to that, he was a member of the church's Transitional Leadership Team (TLT). He first served as an elder in 2013 in Brooklyn, NY. Edward is an insurance underwriter and resident of Gettysburg, PA.



Angela Vaughn has been actively involved in the BFC for about 35 years. She is the wife of Rob Vaughn, who has served on various BFC committees over the years and is currently an elder at Community BFC in Red Hill, PA, where both of them are founding members. She is the mother of three and grandmother of 10 and rejoices that all of her children are actively in leadership and teaching roles in their respective churches. Angela has helped lead music on the worship team, taught children's church, and led women's Bible Studies from the very start of the church; she still continues in these ministries.

Conference Judicatory

Choose 2 Ministers



Scott A. Allison serves as the pastor of New Life BFC in Oley, PA.

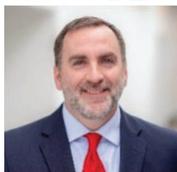


Stephen Diaz serves as the pastor of Salem BFC in Lehighton, PA.



Larry W. Davies grew up in the BFC (in the Catasauqua and Emmaus BFC churches). He and his wife served as missionaries with TEAM in the Czech Republic for eight years and served for another 11+ years mentoring/discipling new missionaries. For the last five years, they have been a part of the work at Redeemer BFC in Topton, where he currently is the full-time Associate Pastor.

Choose 2 Elders



Michael Gangwer and his wife Amy have been part of the Royersford, PA BFC family for 27 years. They have three adult children and a daughter finishing up high school. Mike currently serves as an elder and has served as a deacon, youth leader, and adult Sunday school teacher during his many years at Royersford.



Sean McNamara is an elder at Covenant Reformed Fellowship, Pottstown, PA (formerly Faith BFC, Spring City, PA), where he chairs the missions committee and teaches adult Sunday school. He currently serves as chairman of the BFC Board of Missions.

Special Appellate Judiciary

Choose 1 Minister



Phillip E. Morrison served as a BFC pastor before moving to Kenya in 1992, where he served in theological education and pastoral care. He served on the Board and as a trainer with the Child Safety and Protection Network. Presently, he is Africa Inland Mission's Child Safety Assistant and does consulting for organizations and churches in cases of abuse and in developing child safety policies.

Choose 1 Elder



Robert A. Moreau (i) has been married to Patricia Moreau for 45 years; they have three adult children and three grandchildren. They have been members of Calvary BFC in Coopersburg, PA for 13 years; he has served as an elder for the last four years.



Steven Ramos serves as an Elder at Salem BFC in Lehighton PA.



R. Edward Snyder-Ritter has been an elder at Living Bible Fellowship Church since the church's graduation in 2024; prior to that, he was a member of the church's Transitional Leadership Team (TLT). He first served as an elder in 2013 in Brooklyn, NY. Edward is an insurance underwriter and resident of Gettysburg, PA.

Moderator: *Choose 1 Man*



Randall A. Grossman recently retired from being senior pastor of Grace BFC in Reading PA since 1990. Before that, he was the founding pastor of the Kutztown church. He is married to Nancy and the couple has two married daughters and five grandchildren.



Timothy S. Radcliff is the church planter/revitalizer at CROSSroads, a BFC in Elverson, PA. He previously served as an associate pastor at Grace BFC in Quakertown, PA. Tim is pursuing a doctorate in church revitalization. He has served as Assistant Conference Secretary, a member of the Study Committee to Review the Biblical Principles for Living, and recently joined the Board of Church Health. He is married to Kaylena and the couple has two children.



Keith A. Strunk has been the pastor of the Saucon Community Bible Fellowship Church in Hellertown, PA for over 11 years, having served previously as a church planter in Cape May, NJ and as a full-time pastoral intern at Ebenezer BFC in Bethlehem, PA, where he began his ministry as a lay elder. Keith is married to his wife Terrienne for over 27 years; they have two adult children. Keith enjoys theology, ministry, the outdoors, watching sports, and playing golf.

Vice-Moderator: Choose 1 Man



Keith M. Long has served on staff at Faith BFC in Lancaster, PA since 2007. He began as Youth Pastor, transitioned to Pastor of Discipleship, and was called to the role of Lead Pastor in 2020. He currently serves on the TLT for Christ Alone Fellowship in Lancaster, PA and is part of the Ministerial Credentials Committee; he previously served on the Committee on Nominations. He has been married to Rebekah since 2003, and they have three children. Colossians 1:28 captures Keith’s desire for his ministry, both at home and in the church.



Timothy J. Schmoyer has pastored in the BFC for 23 years—the last 16 at Whitehall, PA. Schmoyer earned his Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Change in 2018 from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, PA. He has served the BFC on various committees and teams, the longest of which have been Victory Valley Camp (since 2007) and the BFC’s Ministerial Relations Committee (since 2011). He also served as Moderator of BFC Conference from 2019-2022.

Conference Secretary: Choose 1 Man



Ronald L. Kohl (i) has served as the Senior Pastor at Grace Bible Fellowship Church in Quakertown, PA since 2004. A former sportswriter and the editor of three books, he is happily married to Kendra since 2003. He has also served as the chairman of the Quakertown Conference on Reformed Theology since its inception in 2008.

The Committee on Nominations desires to thank each person who suggested names for consideration of nomination throughout the past year. At every BFC Conference, there are committees that have openings which need to be filled by elders and laypeople. Each of our particular churches has gifted men and women who would be valuable contributors to the committees of our denomination. Since you men know your people better than we know them, we greatly appreciate your help in identifying candidates who are qualified and willing to serve the larger BFC family in these capacities. We have listed committee openings for ministers, elders, or laypersons for the elections which will be held at the 144th BFC Conference in 2027. Please email suggestions to Jill Davidson at jilladavidson@gmail.com.

Executive Board

- 1 Ministers
- 2 Elders

Committee on Nominations

- 2 Ministers
- 2 Laypersons

Ministerial Credentials Committee

- 3 Ministers

Conference Judicatory

- 2 Ministers
- 2 Elders

Ministerial Candidate Committee

- 3 Ministers

Special Appellate Judicatory

- 1 Minister
- 1 Elder

Ministerial Relations Committee

- 1 Minister
- 1 Elder

Committee on Nominations: Daniel W. King, Chairman; R. Daniel Wagner, Secretary; Jill Davidson, Lynn Gilmartin, Jules J. Hull III, Mark L. Morrison, Nancy Yerrington.

Report of the Ministerial Credentials Committee

The Ministerial Credentials Committee held three meetings since the last BFC Conference.

The Faith and Order questionnaire was available to fill out online again and an email was sent by way of bfc-pastors@emailedodo.com to the ministers holding Ordination Credentials with the Bible Fellowship Church. We are thankful for the responses from our pastors. If you are a pastor or probationer and not signed up to receive bfc-ac and bfc-pastors@emailedodo.com emails, it is important that you get signed up. This is the main communication by the BFC to our pastors and delegates. It is easy to be added to the contact list by emailing Rachel Schmoyer or Jodi Shorb.

The Lord, in His providence, has chosen to take home T. James Bigley Jr., Glenn R. Felty, Gene W. Smith, and David A. Thomann. We thank God for the many years of ministry these men had and for so faithfully serving Jesus Christ. One day in glory we will worship our Savior with them again. Please be in prayer for their families.

The Ministerial Credentials Committee has the privilege of attending local church recognition services of the men who are ordained, or had their previous ordinations recognized, and credentialed at our BFC Conferences. It is a wonderful time to celebrate what the Lord has done in bringing more quality, God-fearing men to the ministry. Attending an ordination service in your local region continues to be an important opportunity to show love and support of men called of God to minister alongside us as brothers. We are grateful for those who are present at the services of recognition. We strongly encourage all our pastors to make ordination and installation services in their region a priority. Please put these services on your calendars and affirm these brothers in the Lord's call on their lives.

When a man desires to enter military chaplaincy, he is required to have an endorser. The Ministerial Credentials Chairman, or another BFC Ordained minister other than the Chairman appointed by and under the authority of the Ministerial Credentials Committee, shall be the endorser for the BFC to the General Commission on Chaplains and Armed Forces Personnel. We are grateful for Pastor Robert A/ Johnson's willingness to be the endorser.

The Ministerial Credentials Committee approves men to serve in the military as chaplains as representatives of the BFC. Therefore, we thank those who serve in the military and recognize that chaplaincy provides a unique opportunity in reaching the lost. Any ordained pastor interested in military chaplaincy should contact the Credentials Committee Chairman.

The following changes in status were approved:

Walter M. Johnston was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Board of Missions of the BFC to Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Disability.

Adam K. Crain was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Bible Fellowship Church to Ordained Ministers Working in Other Christian Ministries.

Robert A. Johnson was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Bible Fellowship Church to Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Disability.

Jacob J. Susek Jr. was changed from Ordained Ministers Working in the Chaplaincy Under the Sponsorship of the BFC to Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Disability.

Ezekiel R. Mack was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Bible Fellowship Church to Ordained Ministers in the Chaplaincy Under the Sponsorship of the BFC.

Daniel Istrate was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Board of Missions of the BFC to Ordained Ministers in the Chaplaincy Under the Sponsorship of the BFC.

Sandy H. Holbert was changed from Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Bible Fellowship Church to Ordained Ministers Between Calls.

Thomas H. Morrison was changed from Ordained Ministers Between Calls to Ordained Ministers Working in Non-BFC Churches.

Timothy S. Hogan was changed from Ordained Ministers Between Calls to Ordained Ministers on Leave of Absence.

Whereas, it states in our BFC Principles of Order Article 301-2 that “Doctrinal or moral discipline is an effort to prevent and correct beliefs and actions contrary to the Word of God. The purpose of doctrinal or moral discipline is to vindicate the honor of Christ, to promote the purity of the church and to restore the offender,” and

Whereas, Michael C. Meadows has confessed to the sin of improper moral conduct from his past and deception to try to cover up those sins in the BFC Credentialing process, and

Whereas, it has been revealed that those sins of improper moral conduct had not been adequately resolved in previous churches and have resurfaced in the present, and

Whereas, he has expressed his sorrow and willingness to be reconciled to his Lord, his wife and his children, and

Whereas, it appears as if he is repentant by seeking help from a faith-based treatment facility, and

Whereas, the Elders of Red Hill Bible Fellowship Church and Michael C. Meadows met and came to the agreement that he should resign as pastor, therefore be it

Resolved, that we commit ourselves to pray for our brother that he be reconciled to Christ and to his family, and further

Resolved, that, with great sadness, we remove the credentials of Michael C. Meadows, and further

Resolved, that we do not recognize his previous ordination, and further

Resolved, that his name be dropped from the list of men eligible to receive a call to pulpit supply in the Bible Fellowship Church.

The Committee met with Jacob B. Dearmon and Benenz J. Hitchcock for ordination examination and also met with Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan for recognition of previous ordination. The Ministerial Credentials Committee gives thanks to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who has given these gifted men for the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church.

Whereas, the Ministerial Candidate Committee has recommended ordination for Jacob B. Dearmon and Benenz J. Hitchcock, and

Whereas, the Ministerial Candidate Committee has recommended Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan for recognition of previous ordination, and

Whereas, these brethren have served acceptably as ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church for the required period of time or the equivalent thereof, and

Whereas, after examination, the Ministerial Credentials Committee believes these men to be called of God to the gospel ministry and to be in accord with the Faith & Order of the Bible

Fellowship Church, therefore be it

Resolved, that Jacob B. Dearmon and Benenz J. Hitchcock be ordained to the gospel ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church, and that Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan be recommended for recognition of previous ordination, and

Whereas, Jeremy L. Harkins was approved for ordination in 2024, but due to unfortunate circumstances, he could not attend the Conference and therefore missed the ordination service, and

Whereas, Jeremy L. Harkins has expressed his desire to be involved in a service of recognition at the BFC Conference, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Credentials Committee has wholeheartedly approved Jeremy L. Harkins to be involved in the 2026 Conference ordination service.

The Ministerial Credentials Committee has placed our Ordained Ministers in the following categories as of the date of this report. These men are eligible to serve a Bible Fellowship Church:

I. Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the BFC (Voting Members)

Allen, David T.	Gundrum, David E.	Reff, James D. II
Allison, Scott A.	Haines, Tracy D.	Ritter, Ralph E.
Barnes, Andrew W.	Hanner, John J.	Rissmiller, S. Wayne
Barninger, Mark E.	Harkins, Jeremy L.	Rodriguez, Carlos G.
Benack, Jesse A.	Harvey, Paul S.	Schmoyer, Timothy J.
Bertolet, Raymond R.	Hebel, Andrew R.	Siegrist, Roger L.
Bickel, Mark A.	Herb Jr., Eric E.	Smith, Aaron D.
Bickings, Richard F.	*Hitchcock, Benenz J.	Smith, David A.
*Bogert, Peter C.	Hoffstetter, Daniel J.	Soper, Ralph M.
Boyer, Brad L.	Hoy, Jason L.	Strunk, Keith A.
Brush, R. Jerome	Hull, Jules J. III	*Sullivan, John P.
Bunting, Wesley H.	Kauffman, Jeffrey A.	Susek, Aaron J.
Burgess, Ronnie	King, Daniel W.	Sweet, L. Marc
Burkholder, Jared M.	Kirkpatrick, Kevin W.	Triestman, Benjamin J.
Burton, William A. III	Klase, Joel B.	Verdon II, William C.
*Cali, Daniel A.	Kohl, Ronald L.	Von Holt, Christopher M.
Chi, Freddy A.	Krall, Daniel Z.	Walker, Michael W.
Coffman, Beau E.	*Limm, Jonathan	Wagner, R. Daniel
Crossgrove, Andrew T.	Long, Keith M.	Williams, Daniel L.
Cruise, Jarrod J.	*MacArthur, James D.	Wright, R. Scott
Davies, Larry W.	Madara, Ferdie R.	Yerrington, Philip E.
*Dearmon, Jacob B.	Miller, Andrew J.	Zuck, Timothy M.
DelDuco, Steven J.	Miller, Joshua P.	
Diaz, Stephen A.	Morales, Juan Carlos	<i>* Contingent upon approval</i>
Dobrowolski, Richard L.	Morton, Steven J.	<i>of recommendation of their</i>
Dupiche, Joshua A.	Nessler, Timothy R.	<i>ordination in this report</i>
Farver Jr., James L.	Notary, Michael J.	
Filbert, Jason A.	Orton, Mark R.	
Franklin, Neil J. Jr.	Poland, David M.	
Gibson, Joshua P.	Radcliff, Timothy S.	
Grossman, Randall A.	Ramirez, Marcos G.	

II. Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Board of Missions of the BFC: (Voting Members)

Evans, Scott B.
Head, Jim D.
H., D.
Moyer, Jerry L.
Riddell, David W.
Studenroth, John C.

III. Ordained Ministers Working in the Chaplaincy Under the Sponsorship of the BFC:

Istrate, Daniel – Nursing Home in Ohio
Mack, Ezekiel R. – Military

IV. Ordained Ministers Working in Other Christian Ministries: (May be voting members)

Bertolet, Timothy J. Crain, Adam K.
Bomgardner, Clyde D., Jr. Dunn, William J.
Brandt, David E. Eyster, Jordan K.
Clineff, Kevin W.

V. Ordained Ministers Working in Non-BFC Churches: (Advisory Members)

Curcio, Louis S. (2015; 2025) Ramos, Elliot H. (2020)
LeTowt, Nathaniel C. (2025) Vargas, Ricardo M. (2024)
Morrison, Thomas H. (2016; 2022; 2026)
Peters, David J. (2023)

VI. Ordained Ministers Between Calls: (Voting Members)

Holbert, Sandy H. (2026)
Martin, Carl T. (2015; 2018; 2020; 2021; 2025; 2026)

VII. Ordained Ministers on Leave of Absence: (Advisory members)

Arcieri, James (2024; 2026)
Hogan, Timothy S. (2024; 2026)

VIII. Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Permanent Disability: (May be voting members)

Aukamp, William A.	Herb, John H.	Norris, Philip G.
Baker, Delbert R. II.	Hoyle, Ronald W.	Paashaus, Richard T.
Barber, Kenneth F.	Johnson, Robert A.	Parsons, Barry T.
Boone, Clifford B.	Johnston, Walter M.	Plows, Keith E.
Buck, Leonard E.	Jones, David H.	Pollock, Thomas A.
Cahill, Dennis M.	Kappes, W. Scott	Prontnicki, Louis
Clapier, G. Wayne	Kuntzman, Donald E.	Ravis, Richard B.
Cole, Charles E.	Lawrence, Dennis J.	Reed, Calvin T.
Coulbourn, Hugh C., Jr.	Lenahan, Frank E.	Reitz, Roger L.
Dodson, Richard C.	LoRusso, John R.	Ruhl, Jeffrey L.
Ellingson, Bruce A.	Mahurin, Ronald C.	Schlonecker, David K.
Erb, Ronald C.	Manney, David L.	Schlonecker, William G.
Fischer, Carl J., Jr.	Moyer, Duane E.	Schoen, David N.
Gehman, Richard J.	Moyer, Richard A.	Shorb, Thomas P.
Harris, Richard D.	Morrison, Mark L.	Sloan, Robert A., Jr.
Heller, LeRoy S.	Morrison, Philip E.	Smith, Ronald B.

Spinney, Dennis W.
Susek, Jacob, J., Jr.
Tannous Michael J.
Taylor, Richard E.

Uhrich, Gregory A.
Vandegriff, John C., Jr.
Way, David R.
Weller, Dana E.

Wells, Howard N.
Widger, Byron
Zimmerman, Paul G.

IX. Ordained Inactive Ministers: (Advisory members)

Fox, Sean A. (2022; 2025)

Annual Agreement with the Faith and Order of the Bible Fellowship Church

Each year all ordained men under the care of the Ministerial Credentials Committee are required to submit a form indicating their agreement with the Articles of Faith of the Bible Fellowship Church and any reservations they might have. They are to state these reservations each year. The reservations reported this year are:

- Article 25-1 – Rapture - 1
- 24-2; 25; 27-3 – pre-millennialism/millennialism – 4 plus 1 – “the BFC is too strict”

We have allowed the above reservations with caution. Our Faith & Order states what the Bible Fellowship Church believes. We have agreed, as a Conference (Fellowship of Churches) that what we have written is what we believe God’s word teaches.

Our Faith & Order states the following:

511-5.2(4.1) No minister shall be allowed to hold credentials in the Bible Fellowship Church who does not subscribe to our Articles of Faith and endeavor to follow the Rules of Order except as allowed by the Ministerial Credentials Committee. Those who are allowed to hold reservations must teach in accordance with the Articles of Faith.

God is pleased when brothers work together; “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1)

Therefore, our caution is that we do not allow these reservations to divide us. Having a different doctrinal view is not necessarily wrong or sinful but can be if it brings about division in the body of Christ. Where differences exist, God’s grace is to be shown in the body of Christ. A man may, and can, have a reservation with our Articles of Faith, but they are essential, not only as our agreed-upon statement of doctrine, but as that which guides our teaching and unifies our churches; as our Faith & Order states, we “must teach in accordance with the Articles of Faith.” If a pastor cannot do that, he is to contact and meet with the Ministerial Credentials Committee.

The Credentials Committee Makes The Following Additional Recommendations:

1. **Resolved**, that an Ordination Service be held at the 143rd BFC Conference, and be it further
2. **Resolved**, that Calvary Bible Fellowship Church, Coopersburg, PA, and Zionsville Bible Fellowship Church, Zionsville, PA., be encouraged to hold services in recognition for the ordinations of Jacob B. Dearmon, and Benenz J. Hitchcock, respectively, and that Calvary Bible Fellowship Church, Coopersburg, PA., Denville Bible Fellowship Church, Denville, NJ., the Bible Fellowship Church of Newark, DE, New Life Bible Fellowship Church, Oley, PA., and Grace Bible Fellowship Church, Nazareth, PA., be encouraged to hold services in

recognition of previous ordination for Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan, respectively, and that they be encouraged to invite the Ministerial Credentials Committee to send representation to be present at these services.

Ministerial Credentials Committee: R. Scott Wright, Chairman; Jason L. Hoy, Vice-Chairman; Ralph M. Soper, Secretary; Jesse A. Benack, Keith M. Long, S. Wayne Rissmiller, Keith A. Strunk.

Report of the Executive Board

The theme of the 143rd BFC Conference is focused on the first of our BFCON150 vision points: ***Every church passionately focused on fulfilling the Great Commission and the BFC Mission.*** We are all aware of the Great Commission given by our Lord in Matthew 28:19: to “make disciples of all nations.” At the end of Mark’s Gospel, it is written that Jesus said, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:9). That is also our mission: to be “A Fellowship of Churches United to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.” It is what should be a driving force for each church and person in the Bible Fellowship Church. It is a core value of our denomination:

We Value the Church’s Mission: The Mission of the church is the Great Commission, a commitment to reaching the lost of the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ and making disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them to obey the commandments of God. Therefore, we support and coordinate the efforts of our churches in making disciples of Jesus Christ both near and far.

This theme, this mission, has helped us focus the work of the BFC Executive Board throughout the past year. We have affirmed, supported, and encouraged the efforts and plans of all of our departments: Board of Missions, Church Extension Ministries, Church Health, Pinebrook Educational Foundation, and Victory Valley Camp. We wanted each of them to advance the spreading of the gospel and have been pleased with the progress that each has made toward that mission. Each department reports separately and is reviewed every time the Executive Board meets. The emphasis on proclaiming the gospel is most visible in our missionary and church planting efforts, but the foundation is being built at Victory Valley Camp, which is training young people to make evangelism a part of their lives as they communicate to children in both its summer and winter programs.

Since all of our members and churches should be proclaiming the gospel in word and deed, we have determined to make this, our 143rd BFC Conference, a reminder of the evangelistic mission of the church.

As a reminder, BFCON150 includes a series of six specific items that represent goals for painting a picture of the Bible Fellowship Church by our 150th BFC Conference. They include the following:

1. Every church passionately focused on fulfilling the Great Commission and the BFC Mission.
2. The leadership of each church spiritually and practically equipped to lead its people.
3. A harmonious unity in our shared beliefs with respect for local church autonomy.
4. An expanding influence of the Bible Fellowship Church.
5. The BFC empowering indigenous church planters who partner with the Bible Fellowship Church in planting churches that are contextually appropriate.
6. Expanded ministry opportunities for children and youth in evangelism and discipleship.

These objectives were approved at our 141st BFC Conference and have guided our efforts as we have begun the process of fulfilling each vision point.

The year 2025 saw three of our ministering brethren make the transfer from this earth to heaven (Glenn R. Felty, Gene W. Smith, David A. Thomann), as well as two widows of pastors (Marilyn Coble, Jacqueline Ziegler), one former missionary (T. James Bigley), and the teenage son of one of our pastors (Ashton Crossgrove). The BFC Beneficiary Society was able to give each family a defined love gift from the dues that our pastors donate each year.

The BFC Executive Board takes seriously its responsibilities to stay aware of the conditions of our departments and churches, rejoicing when appropriate and taking steps to remedy situations that require our attention. Along with the regular regimen of our BFC denominational responsibilities, some of the more interesting events that occurred during the year included the following:

- On March 14, we signed the papers that gave our Milford, DE Hope Church a new church home just east of town. Funding was provided by attendees, friends of the church, Church Extension Ministries, and the Executive Board, with a small loan from a local bank. This connects with our Vision Point #4.
- We have continued discussions with the Milford Park Association in Zionsville, PA concerning the transfer of its property to us so that we can expand our children's day camp ministry on that piece of land. The children who attend Victory Valley's day camp are mostly non-churched children and need to hear the gospel. Several constructive meetings with Ronald P. Mahurin of Design Group International, a capital campaign consultant and son of Rev. Ronald C. Mahurin, were conducted concerning the costs of development of the Milford Park property and the need to develop significant funds. This connects with our Vision Point #6.
- We officially welcomed Christ Alone Fellowship of Lancaster, PA as a Particular Church within the BFC. This connects with Vision Point #4.
- Daniel L. Williams and the Executive Director met with Jason Garcia at Kutztown University last May to investigate the possibility of moving a future BFC Conference to that location. The facilities were determined to be acceptable; the timing, however, only permits a Spring Break time slot in mid-March or an early summer time slot in late June.
- In June, our BFC Realtor, John Rapp of Berkshire Hathaway Realtors, and I visited a potential church property in Muhlenberg Twp., east of Reading, PA, for the use of a church plant from New Life Bible Fellowship Church in Oley. The investigation led to an offer placed on the property, but ultimately it did not come to fruition.
- After several elders meetings and much negotiation with another evangelical church, we attended the sale of the property owned by Faith Bible Fellowship Church of Spring City, PA. The congregation officially moved toward Pottstown, to the Sanatoga Ridge Community, where that church is currently meeting for worship services.
- We were honored to participate in the installation services for Stephen A. Diaz at Salem Bible Fellowship Church in Lehigh, PA and Jason D. Falzarano at Christ Community Church in Piscataway, NJ.
- In August, the personnel committees of both Church Extension Ministries and the Executive Board conducted interviews for two of the candidates seeking to fill the position of Director of Church Extension Ministries. The Committees passed one name onto the Executive Board for its consideration. Timothy M. Zuck was selected and offered the directorship, which he accepted.
- Along with Steven J. DeDuco, we attended an auction for a church building in Mechanicsburg, PA, only to be outbid. But the winner of the bid died the very next day, so the property went up for public sale and has not yet been sold because the asking price is considered to be too high.
- On October 5, we conducted the final Congregational Meeting at our Kutztown (PA) Bible Fellowship Church. At it, the congregation decided to close, but the building and residual finances were turned over to surrogate elders who are the officers of the still-existing KBFC Corporation and are holding them until a newly-planted BFC church in Kutztown is planted and becomes a Particular Church in the BFC.
- At its October 2025 meeting, the Executive Board provided raises of approximately 3% to the staff starting in January, 2026.

- In order that we could be in Wittenberg, Germany on the 508th Anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of 95 theses on the chapel door in that town, the *No Other Foundation Tour* celebrated that event and the 500th Anniversary of the Anabaptist movement in Europe. Pastor Randall A. Grossman and I conducted the tour as we visited sites that were significant to the Reformation and Anabaptist movements in Germany and Switzerland.
- Recognizing both the abilities of David E. Gundrum and our need for someone to serve as a Director of Expansion and Development, Gundrum accepted the part-time position and has begun serving in that capacity.

As it is our practice to desire to be above reproach, we held ourselves accountable to the standards of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) by successfully completing an audit for 2023 and finishing an audit for 2024.

As it maintains a position of being above reproach in all of its dealings, the Executive Board has created a Conflict of Interest policy which each member has signed. The written policy may be found at our www.bfc.org website and would be worth considering for adoption by each local church's board of elders.

Corporate Officers: William G. Schlonecker, President; Robert A. Sloan, Jr., Vice President; John W. Sullivan, Treasurer; Ronald L. Kohl, Secretary.

Personnel Committee: L. James Roberts, Ronald W. Reed, Gary E. Karch.

Finance Committee: Byron D. Roth, John W. Sullivan, William J. Walters.

During 2025, the Executive Board retained the following:

- Indicon, Inc., as our Health Insurance Administrators
- iSolve as our payroll processing firm
- Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company as the preferred church liability insurers
- American Bank of the Lehigh Valley as the major depository of our funds
- Molinari, Oswald, LLC as our CPA firm

Based on the 2025 financial statements the Executive Board is requesting the following: **Resolved**, that the 2026 revised BFC Executive Board budget be adopted by the 143rd BFC Conference.

Based on the 2025 Statistical Report submitted by each church, the Executive Board is requesting the following:

Resolved, that an assessment rate of two (2.0) percent be adopted by the 143rd BFC Conference for the budget year 2027 (based on assessable receipts from 2025).

Based on the 2026 Budget or Revised 2026 Budget the Executive Board is requesting the following:

Resolved, that the 2027 proposed Executive Board budget be adopted by the 143rd BFC Conference.

PENSIONS FUND (MRF) Report

2025 Review and Status: The total of Ministers' Retirement Fund (MRF) annuity payments to the 20 beneficiaries in 2025 was \$92,780, as compared to \$99,719 in 2024, \$98,094 in 2023, \$96,005 in 2022, \$121,626 in 2021, \$131,839 in 2020, \$135,581 in 2019, \$141,175 in 2018, \$147,765 in 2017, \$153,735 in 2016, \$155,926 in 2015, \$168,000 in 2014, and \$170,830 in 2013. There were six beneficiaries who went home to be with the Lord in 2025: Rev. Glenn R. Felty, Rev. Gene W. Smith, Rev. David A. Thomann, Marilyn Coble, Jacqueline Ziegler, and Ashton Crossgrove. Based on the current mortality assumptions, the final year of MRF payments to beneficiaries is still projected to be 2038. Between now and then, it is estimated that the MRF will distribute future benefits totaling nearly \$1,100,000.

Annual Funding: 2025 was the 15th year that the Executive Board funded the Board of Pensions on a monthly "pay as you go" basis in an amount roughly equal to each month's payments to beneficiaries. Funding for the Pension Fund is still one of the largest expenditures of the BFC Executive Board budget and is supported by a portion of the BFC Conference-wide assessments.

Planned Giving: The benefits of planned giving blessed us when we received a bequest of \$225,000 several years ago. The Executive Board urges other members of the Bible Fellowship Church to consider including the MRF in their estate planning arrangements. The simplest and most tax-efficient method would be to name the MRF as a contingent or primary beneficiary (for married or singles, respectively) of a portion of an IRA or 403(b) account. This arrangement can be adjusted or revoked at any time and does not involve changing one's Will. For more information, please contact the BFC Treasurer, John W. Sullivan, or the Executive Director.

The Executive Board recommends the following resolutions to 143rd BFC Conference:

Whereas, the MRF annuity rate for 2026 is \$221 per year of service, and
Whereas, cost-of-living adjustments no longer apply to MRF payments, therefore be it
Resolved, that the MRF annuity rate for calendar year 2027 be \$221 per year of service.

Resolution Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Ministers of this Conference for Calendar Year 2027:

Whereas, the religious denomination known as The Bible Fellowship Church has, and functions through, Ministers of the Gospel who are duly ordained or licensed, and

Whereas, the practice of The Bible Fellowship Church is to provide a parsonage or a rental allowance as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed ministers, and

Whereas, pensions paid to retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers of The Bible Fellowship Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers in consideration of previous, active service, and

Whereas, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that The Bible Fellowship Church is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this Conference, therefore be it

Resolved,

1. An amount equal to 100% of the pension payments received during the year of 2027 be and is hereby designated as a rental/housing allowance for each retired and disabled

ordained or licensed minister of The Bible Fellowship Church who is or was a member of the Bible Fellowship Church Minister's Retirement Fund.

2. This rental/housing allowance shall apply to each retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister who has been granted the retired relationship or placed on disability leave by the BFC Conference and whose name and relationship to the conference is recorded in the Yearbook of BFC Conference and in other appropriate records maintained by the conference.

3. The pension payment to which this rental/housing allowance applies shall be the pension payment resulting from all service of such retired or disabled ordained or licensed minister from all employment by any local church, BFC Conference or institution of The Bible Fellowship Church or of any former denomination that is now a part of The Bible Fellowship Church, or from any other employer who employed the minister to perform services related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension funds of The Bible Fellowship Church for such retired minister's pension.

Note: The rental/housing allowance which may be excluded from a minister's gross income is limited to the lesser of (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the minister's employer or other appropriate body, (2) the amount actually expended by the minister to provide his housing, or (3) the legally-determined fair rental value of the parsonage or other housing provided. As specified in Rev. Rul. 71-290 C.B. 92, "the only amount that will qualify for exclusion under section 107(2) of the Code as a 'rental allowance' is an amount equal to the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities."

The Bible Fellowship Church Executive Board has recognized that credentialed BFC pastors who were not members of the MRF at the time when the MRF was closed, but still receive pension benefits that were paid by their church into a 403(b) Retirement Plan, should be able to receive the same recognition as those who receive pension benefits under the MRF.

Whereas, the religious denomination known as The Bible Fellowship Church has, and functions through, Ministers of the Gospel who are duly ordained or licensed, and

Whereas, the practice of The Bible Fellowship Church is to provide a parsonage or a rental allowance as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed ministers, and

Whereas, contributions paid to an authorized 403(b) plan for the benefit of retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers of The Bible Fellowship Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers in consideration of previous, active service, and

Whereas, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that The Bible Fellowship Church is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for retired and disabled ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this Conference, therefore be it

Resolved,

1. An amount equal to 100% of the proceeds drawn from a 403(b) plan during the year of 2027 be and is hereby designated as a rental/housing allowance for each retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister of The Bible Fellowship Church who is or was a member of the Bible Fellowship Church.

2. This rental/housing allowance shall apply to each retired and disabled ordained or licensed minister who has been granted the retired relationship or placed on disability leave by the BFC Conference and whose name and relationship to the conference is recorded in the Yearbook of BFC Conference and in other appropriate records maintained by the conference.

3. The pension payment to which this rental/housing allowance applies shall be considered the pension payment resulting from all service of such retired or disabled ordained or licensed minister from all employment by any local church, BFC Conference or institution of The Bible Fellowship Church or of any former denomination that is now a part of The Bible Fellowship Church, or from any other employer who employed the minister to perform services related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension funds of The Bible Fellowship Church for such retired minister's pension.

Note: The rental/housing allowance which may be excluded from a minister's gross income is limited to the lesser of (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the minister's employer or other appropriate body, (2) the amount actually expended by the minister to provide his housing, or (3) the legally-determined fair rental value of the parsonage or other housing provided. As specified in Rev. Rul. 71-290 C.B. 92, "the only amount that will qualify for exclusion under section 107(2) of the Code as a 'rental allowance' is an amount equal to the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities."

Bible Fellowship Church 403(b) Plan: Refer to the 2009 Yearbook for details or see the BFC Website under the tab "Resources." There are no known changes in IRS requirements for 2026.

At the request of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation, the Executive Board **Resolved**, that Stephen C. Cassel and John J. Hanner be ratified to serve as members of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation for the class of 2029.

The BFC Executive Board proposes the following changes to the BPLs and Principles of Order of the BFC for Adoption at **First Reading** (note pages in the 2025 Yearbook):
Article 408-1, 408-3 Church Properties, p. 57

The BFC Executive Board proposes the following changes to the BPLs and Principles of Order of the BFC for Adoption at **Second Reading** (note pages in the 2025 Yearbook):
Article 202-3 Qualifications and Duties of Church Membership, fifth duty, p. 36
Article 202-3 Qualifications and Duties of Church Membership, seventh duty, p. 36
Article 404-6 Choosing Leaders Other than Elders and Deacons, p. 37
Article 511-1.7(3) Youth and Young Adult Committee, p. 23
Article 511-1.7(6) Prayer Committee, p. 23
Article 511-1.7(6) Prayer Committee, p. 24
Article 512-2.1 Church Extension Ministries, p. 56 (First Reading was in 2024)
Article 701-4 Amendments to the Faith & Order, p. 26
Article 701-3 Legislative Facilitator, One-year probationary status, p. 35

In addition to our own report, several committees and funds report directly to the Executive Board. These reports, written and financial, have been reviewed and accepted by the Executive Board. They include the following: BFC Life Committee, Communications Committee, Historical Committee, Pinebrook Educational Foundation, and the Youth & Young Adults Committee.

In addition to our own report, the departments of the Bible Fellowship Church report directly to the Executive Board. These reports, written and financial, have been reviewed and accepted by the

Executive Board on a regular basis. They include the BFC Board of Missions, Church Extension Ministries, the Board of Church Health, Pinebrook Educational Foundation, and Victory Valley Camp.

Bible Fellowship Church Executive Board: William G. Schlonecker, President; Robert A. Sloan, Jr., Vice-President; John W. Sullivan, Treasurer; Ronald L. Kohl, Secretary; David T. Allen, Executive Director; Steven J. DelDuco, Randall A. Grossman, Gary E. Karch, Ronald W. Reed, L. James Roberts, Jr., Byron D. Roth, William J. Walters, Daniel L. Williams.

Bible Fellowship Church
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2025

	Dec 31, 25	Dec 31, 24	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
100 · Executive Board			
1000 · American Bank - Checking	111,791.98	58,239.50	53,552.48
1005 · American Bank - Payroll Account	23,374.93	45,428.22	-22,053.29
1074 · American Bank - Pensions	11,064.44	11,645.81	-581.37
1076 · Ambk - MoneyMarket - 12/2/22	282,104.98	327,788.15	-45,683.17
Total 100 · Executive Board	428,336.33	443,101.68	-14,765.35
102 · BFC/ChExtn Co-signed Accounts	200.00	150.00	50.00
103 · BFC ExBrd Committees			
1013 · American Bank - Medical	14,115.90	25,464.38	-11,348.48
1031 · AMBK- Youth & Young Adults-Chk	52,252.50	43,876.11	8,376.39
1032 · AMBK-Youth & Young Adult-MM	3,634.09	4,586.95	-952.86
1048 · American Bank - BFC Life Comm	36,022.75	27,509.26	8,513.49
Total 103 · BFC ExBrd Committees	106,025.24	101,436.70	4,588.54
105 · Pinebrook Education Foundation			
1051 · American Bank-Checking	11,558.25	11,126.11	432.14
1055 · Brokerage Accounts	721,368.88	659,958.34	61,410.54
Total 105 · Pinebrook Education Foundation	732,927.13	671,084.45	61,842.68
1060 · Petty Cash	30.00	30.00	0.00
1077 · Darlene Mahurin Mem. Fund	8,057.45	9,673.52	-1,616.07
Total Checking/Savings	1,275,576.15	1,225,476.35	50,099.80
Accounts Receivable			
1100 · A/R Church Assessments	17,118.50	10,986.03	6,132.47
1110 · A/R Communications Publications	201.00	496.60	-295.60
1120 · A/R Medical Insurance	1,767.53	206.80	1,560.73
1130 · A/R Payroll	4,129.51	159.86	3,969.65
1140 · A/R Workers Comp. Ins.	2,076.80	2,100.13	-23.33
1145 · A/R Credit Card	0.00	66.00	-66.00
1150 · Other Receivables	0.00	16.00	-16.00
Total Accounts Receivable	25,293.34	14,031.42	11,261.92
Other Current Assets			
12000 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	175.00	-175.00
1300 · Pre-Paid Expenses	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
2271 · BFC Life Prepaid Expense	1,909.95	0.00	1,909.95
Total Other Current Assets	3,909.95	175.00	3,734.95
Total Current Assets	1,304,779.44	1,239,682.77	65,096.67
Fixed Assets			
1410 · Real Estate - Milford DE	429,552.24	0.00	429,552.24
1450 · Real Estate - Victory Valley	1,830,032.44	1,905,888.83	-75,856.39
1460 · Real Estate - Lancaster City	215,161.65	219,903.51	-4,741.86
1470 · Real Estate - Allentown City	963,364.07	983,788.75	-20,424.68
1500 · Real Estate - Elverson, PA	69,764.84	71,281.47	-1,516.63
1520 · Real Estate - Adams County, PA	164,385.00	168,480.00	-4,095.00
1560 · Real Estate - Chestertown, MD	612,675.00	632,125.00	-19,450.00
1570 · Office Equipment Purchases	4,184.37	6,417.56	-2,233.19
Total Fixed Assets	4,289,119.61	3,987,885.12	301,234.49

Bible Fellowship Church
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2025

	Dec 31, 25	Dec 31, 24	\$ Change
Other Assets			
1610 · Office Lease Security Deposit	2,990.00	2,990.00	0.00
1630 · C/P - Notes Receivable	33,710.75	33,710.75	0.00
1635 · Mortgage Rec - ChExtn	132,351.44	141,403.59	-9,052.15
1640 · Note Rec. - Victory Valley	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00
1665 · Notes Rec - Welsh Road	80,000.00	80,000.00	0.00
1670 · Note Rec. - Long Neck, DE	175,000.00	175,000.00	0.00
1680 · Note Rec. - Beraca, Phila	20,191.23	23,035.03	-2,843.80
1685 · Note Rec. - Phila-Wissinoming	38,107.83	38,107.83	0.00
1691 · Note Rec - Adams County	143,688.00	146,868.00	-3,180.00
1697 · SLR/Pinebrook Ministry Reserve	41,537.62	89,295.10	-47,757.48
1698 · Less C/P - Notes Receivables	-33,710.75	-33,710.75	0.00
1699 · Bad Debt Reserve	-50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.00
Total Other Assets	783,866.12	846,699.55	-62,833.43
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>6,377,765.17</u>	<u>6,074,267.44</u>	<u>303,497.73</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
2260 · BOM Due To (From) Pensions	1,088.99	1,145.16	-56.17
2310 · Payroll Due To (From) ChExtn	-1,922.45	5,644.71	-7,567.16
2320 · Payroll Due To (From) BOM	0.00	-847.55	847.55
Total Other Current Liabilities	-833.46	5,942.32	-6,775.78
Total Current Liabilities	-833.46	5,942.32	-6,775.78
Long Term Liabilities			
2500 · C/P-LTD	15,866.28	15,866.28	0.00
2553 · Mortgages Owed by VV	456,912.84	464,828.08	-7,915.24
2555 · Bnk Mortgage Owed - City Light	390,484.07	397,965.91	-7,481.84
2600 · Less C/P-LTD	-15,866.28	-15,866.28	0.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	847,396.91	862,793.99	-15,397.08
Total Liabilities	846,563.45	868,736.31	-22,172.86
Equity			
3000 · General Equity	1,851,399.00	1,548,503.00	302,896.00
3100 · Unrestricted-ExecBrd Designated			
3110 · Church Assistance Fund	4,990.92	4,990.92	0.00
3150 · Special Projects Fund	2,737.76	5,037.76	-2,300.00
3197 · Future BFC Conference Arrangemt	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Total 3100 · Unrestricted-ExecBrd Designated	32,728.68	10,028.68	22,700.00
3200 · Unrestricted Net Assets	-249,167.18	-249,167.00	-0.18
3201 · Unrestricted - Other Designated	159,267.00	159,267.00	0.00
3300 · Temporarily Restricted Funds			
3310 · Pinebrook Education Foundation	158,491.00	105,443.00	53,048.00
3330 · Education & Training Committee	24,391.00	24,266.00	125.00
Total 3300 · Temporarily Restricted Funds	182,882.00	129,709.00	53,173.00
3350 · Darlene Mahurin Memorial Fund	8,072.52	9,673.52	-1,601.00
3400 · Permanently Restricted Funds	346,639.00	322,923.00	23,716.00
3600 · Real Estate Equity	3,315,067.11	3,214,591.11	100,476.00
Net Income	-115,686.41	60,002.82	-175,689.23
Total Equity	5,531,201.72	5,205,531.13	325,670.59
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>6,377,765.17</u>	<u>6,074,267.44</u>	<u>303,497.73</u>

Bible Fellowship Church
Statement of Revenues & Expenses
January through December 2025

	Jan - Dec ...	Jan - Dec ...	\$ Change
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Church Assessments	465,199.05	447,432.15	17,766.90
4100 · Department Asessments	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00
4150 · Brotherhood Dividends/Credits	10,520.90	10,000.00	520.90
4200 · General Interest Income	6,407.95	10,351.18	-3,943.23
4201 · Revenues from Sub-Committees			
4210 · Communications Com. Revenues	6,174.86	6,871.06	-696.20
4230 · Education & Training Committee	125.00	125.00	0.00
4240 · Youth & Young Adult Revenues	117,648.44	114,896.37	2,752.07
4250 · Day of Prayer	0.00	50.00	-50.00
4290 · BFC Life Committee Revenues			
4290-1 · Ladies Retreat	3,552.32	0.00	3,552.32
4290-2 · Finishers	50,128.00	0.00	50,128.00
4290-3 · Family Camp	3,127.20	0.00	3,127.20
4290-4 · Foundation Tour	25,850.00	0.00	25,850.00
4290 · BFC Life Committee Revenues - Other	8,200.00	11,733.65	-3,533.65
Total 4290 · BFC Life Committee Revenues	90,857.52	11,733.65	79,123.87
4450 · PEF Investment Income	16,322.82	15,127.56	1,195.26
4460 · PEF Contributions Received	20,875.00	18,000.00	2,875.00
Total 4201 · Revenues from Sub-Committees	252,003.64	166,803.64	85,200.00
4500 · Mortgages & Notes Paid			
4520 · Current Note Inc. - Adams Co	4,404.00	4,452.00	-48.00
4560 · Current Mortgage Interest Rec'd	5,491.37	5,845.75	-354.38
Total 4500 · Mortgages & Notes Paid	9,895.37	10,297.75	-402.38
4800 · Honorarium Income	100.00	200.00	-100.00
4950 · Miscellaneous Inc	2,990.00	25,918.45	-22,928.45
Total Income	754,616.91	678,503.17	76,113.74
Gross Profit	754,616.91	678,503.17	76,113.74
Expense			
5010 · Executive Director Salary	96,103.92	93,760.08	2,343.84
5015 · Executive Director Benefits	14,071.68	13,409.48	662.20
5020 · Conference Pastor Salary	26,000.00	26,000.00	0.00
5025 · Conference Pastor Other	24,000.00	24,000.00	0.00
5035 · DEaD Other (Dir of Exp & Dev)	2,495.00	0.00	2,495.00
5050 · Executive Board Expenses			
5051 · Payroll Taxes & Processing	16,004.16	15,166.65	837.51
5052 · Administrative Assistants	52,507.48	51,010.56	1,496.92
5053 · 403B Employer Contribute-Admins	1,485.12	1,442.15	42.97
5060 · Executive Board Rent/Utilities	27,810.18	26,860.63	949.55
5070 · Executive Board Office Supplies	5,555.60	4,179.20	1,376.40
5050 · Executive Board Expenses - Other	7,404.74	9,051.61	-1,646.87
Total 5050 · Executive Board Expenses	110,767.28	107,710.80	3,056.48
5080 · Insurance & Accounting	24,649.49	24,498.35	151.14
5085 · Legal Fees	61.25	5,956.31	-5,895.06
5090 · Dues & Subscriptions	1,540.00	1,651.25	-111.25
5100 · BFC Conference Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00
5110 · BFC Conference Arrangements	6,279.50	4,543.81	1,735.69
5200 · BFC Committee Expenses			
5115 · BFC Conference Agenda Comm	33.64	0.00	33.64
5120 · BFC Conference Study Committees	615.28	245.78	369.50
5220 · Ministerial Credentials Comm	331.09	114.41	216.68
5225 · Ministerial Candidate Comm	2,363.31	1,667.17	696.14
5241 · Prayer Committee	118.89	1,020.04	-901.15
5242 · Conference Judicatory	0.00	104.52	-104.52

Bible Fellowship Church
Statement of Revenues & Expenses
January through December 2025

	Jan - Dec ...	Jan - Dec ...	\$ Change
5243 · Nominating Committee	0.00	30.79	-30.79
Total 5200 · BFC Committee Expenses	3,462.21	3,182.71	279.50
5201 · Expenses of Sub-Committees			
5203 · Education	185.35	0.00	185.35
5204 · Youth & Young Adults	110,224.91	105,229.44	4,995.47
5210 · Communications	52,270.31	43,924.55	8,345.76
5290 · BFC Life Committee Expenses			
5290-1 · Ladies Retreat	2,503.58	0.00	2,503.58
5290-2 · Finishers	50,324.03	0.00	50,324.03
5290-3 · Family Camp	6,808.52	0.00	6,808.52
5290-4 · Foundation Tour	25,735.35	0.00	25,735.35
5290 · BFC Life Committee Expenses - Other	418.89	14,849.42	-14,430.53
Total 5290 · BFC Life Committee Expenses	85,790.37	14,849.42	70,940.95
5460 · PEF Scholarships Awarded	44,500.00	36,000.00	8,500.00
5465 · PEF Expenses	1,056.72	1,986.88	-930.16
Total 5201 · Expenses of Sub-Committees	294,027.66	201,990.29	92,037.37
5240 · Board of Church Health Expenses	8,535.83	4,706.70	3,829.13
5245 · Beneficiary Society	500.00	500.00	0.00
5247 · Annual Contribution-PEF	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
5500 · Ministerial Pensions	92,779.72	99,719.18	-6,939.46
5950 · Miscellaneous Expenses	59.92	46.90	13.02
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.22	-0.08	-0.14
7105 · Budgeted Amount for Future Conf	10,000.00	6,648.00	3,352.00
Total Expense	716,333.24	619,323.78	97,009.46
Net Ordinary Income	38,283.67	59,179.39	-20,895.72
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
4300 · Medical Insurance Fees	53,428.23	40,458.86	12,969.37
4650 · Real Estate Transferred to BFC	15,397.08	134,340.18	-118,943.10
4975 · PEF Unrealized Gains (Losses)	70,201.58	78,784.21	-8,582.63
Total Other Income	139,026.89	253,583.25	-114,556.36
Other Expense			
5300 · Medical Insurance Prem	53,140.69	39,687.59	13,453.10
5301 · Medical Insurance Expenses	75.29	0.02	75.27
5425 · Special Gifts - Churches/Others	58,000.00	0.00	58,000.00
5600 · Real Estate Expense	0.00	2,450.00	-2,450.00
5650 · Bank Mortgage Interest	0.00	50,788.46	-50,788.46
5999 · Non-Operating Expenses			
6000 · Depreciation Expense	134,023.51	128,317.75	5,705.76
6200 · Loans Forgiven	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 5999 · Non-Operating Expenses	134,023.51	128,367.75	5,655.76
7100 · BFC Conference SLR Reduction	47,757.48	31,466.00	16,291.48
Total Other Expense	292,996.97	252,759.82	40,237.15
Net Other Income	-153,970.08	823.43	-154,793.51
Net Income	-115,686.41	60,002.82	-175,689.23

2025 BFC Combined Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

2025	ExecBrd	BOM	ChExtn	VV	Totals
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 534,591	\$ 155,578	\$ 389,969	\$ 139,336	\$ 1,219,474
Investments	\$ 256,334	\$ 853,544	\$ 848,987	\$ 5,294	\$ 1,964,159
Restricted Investments	\$ 484,651	\$ 74,852	\$ 26,638		\$ 586,141
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 3,910				\$ 3,910
Other Receivables	\$ 25,293			\$ 3,885	\$ 29,178
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,304,779	\$ 1,083,974	\$ 1,265,594	\$ 148,515	\$ 3,802,862
Property And Equipment					
Land	\$ 564,229				\$ 564,229
Buildings	\$ 4,673,621			\$ 975,586	\$ 5,649,207
Other Fixed Assets	\$ 4,184		\$ 38,351	\$ 39,413	\$ 81,948
Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$ (943,192)		\$ (34,708)	\$ (41,490)	\$ (1,019,390)
Property And Equipment, Net	\$ 4,298,842	\$ 0	\$ 3,643	\$ 973,509	\$ 5,275,994
Other Assets					
Notes Receivable	\$ 659,977	\$ 94,937	\$ 475,871		\$ 1,230,785
SLR/Pinebrook Ministry Reserve	\$ 41,538				\$ 41,538
Mortgages Receivable	\$ 132,351				\$ 132,351
Bad Debt Reserve	\$ (50,000)				\$ (50,000)
Total Notes Receivable, Net	\$ 783,866	\$ 94,937	\$ 475,871	\$ 0	\$ 1,354,674
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,387,487	\$ 1,178,911	\$ 1,745,108	\$ 1,122,024	\$ 10,433,530
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts Payable			\$ 2,182	\$ 8,249	\$ 10,431
Advances and Deposits			\$ 12,461	\$ 15,323	\$ 27,784
Other Current Liabilities	\$ (833)	\$ 292,609	\$ 50,000		\$ 341,776
Deferred Income					\$ 0
Total Current Liabilities	\$ (833)	\$ 292,609	\$ 64,643	\$ 23,572	\$ 379,991
Long-Term Debt, less Current Maturities	\$ 847,397	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 456,913	\$ 1,304,310
Total Liabilities	\$ 846,564	\$ 292,609	\$ 64,643	\$ 480,485	\$ 1,684,301
EQUITY					
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 4,927,020	\$ 478,837	\$ 1,066,461	\$ 425,516	\$ 6,897,834
Unrestricted, But Designated Funds	\$ 200,068	\$ 314,702	\$ 437,587		\$ 952,357
Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 182,882	\$ 74,852	\$ 41,850		\$ 299,584
Restricted Funds	\$ 346,639		\$ 26,638		\$ 373,277
Net Income	\$ (115,686)	\$ 17,911	\$ 107,929	\$ 216,023	\$ 226,177
Total Equity	\$ 5,540,923	\$ 886,302	\$ 1,680,465	\$ 641,539	\$ 8,749,229
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 6,387,487	\$ 1,178,911	\$ 1,745,108	\$ 1,122,024	\$ 10,433,530

2025 Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenses, Change in Net Assets

	ExecBrd	BOM	ChExtn	VV	Totals
REVENUES					
Contributions					
Churches	\$ 465,199	\$ 73,442	\$ 723,151	\$ 48,671	\$ 1,310,463
Individuals	\$ 20,875	\$ 76,104	\$ 448,253	\$ 194,564	\$ 739,796
Other Gifts and Bequests	\$ 3,060	\$ 1,493	\$ 288	\$ 425	\$ 5,266
Total Contributions	\$ 489,134	\$ 151,039	\$ 1,171,692	\$ 243,660	\$ 2,055,525
Other Revenues					
Retreats and Conferences	\$ 208,506			\$ 339,842	\$ 548,348
Program Fees	\$ 7,500	\$ 10,227		\$ 6,866	\$ 24,593
Rental Income				\$ 181,462	\$ 181,462
Program Sales	\$ 6,175				\$ 6,175
Interest and Dividends	\$ 26,218	\$ 34,615	\$ 8,489	\$ 2,819	\$ 72,141
Net Realized and Unrealized					
Gains on Investments	\$ 86,525	\$ 64,119	\$ 126,892		\$ 277,536
Gain on Sale of Property					\$ 0
Medical Insurance Contributions	\$ 53,428				\$ 53,428
Other Income	\$ 731	\$ 3,583		\$ 187,704	\$ 192,018
Total Other Revenues	\$ 389,083	\$ 112,544	\$ 135,381	\$ 718,693	\$ 1,355,701
Net Assets Released from Restrictions and Other Transfers					
		\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0
Total Revenues	\$ 878,217	\$ 263,583	\$ 1,307,073	\$ 962,353	\$ 3,411,226
EXPENSES					
Salaries/Benefits/Payroll Taxes	\$ 232,667	\$ 182,114	\$ 190,618	\$ 270,429	\$ 875,828
Program Expenses	\$ 262,245	\$ 16,130	\$ 766,033	\$ 177,816	\$ 1,222,224
Program Food Expenses			\$ 2,983	\$ 81,850	\$ 84,833
Conference and Meetings	\$ 102,070	\$ 8,929	\$ 22,846	\$ 1,360	\$ 135,205
Marketing/Communications	\$ 52,270	\$ 5,213	\$ 14,853	\$ 8,948	\$ 81,284
Office Expenses	\$ 14,500	\$ 5,183	\$ 18,878	\$ 20,680	\$ 59,241
Rents/Real Estate Taxes	\$ 27,810	\$ 15,600	\$ 9,792	\$ 8,488	\$ 61,690
Buildings and Grounds Maintenance				\$ 102,460	\$ 102,460
Insurance	\$ 53,216	\$ 8,651	\$ 5,366	\$ 42,766	\$ 109,999
Designated	\$ 58,000	\$ 3,852	\$ 147,600	\$ 25,386	\$ 234,838
Legal/Accounting/Fees	\$ 24,711		\$ 8,874	\$ 3,858	\$ 37,443
Other Expenses	\$ 38,096		\$ 7,698	\$ 2,289	\$ 48,083
Total Expenses	\$ 865,585	\$ 245,672	\$ 1,195,541	\$ 746,330	\$ 3,053,128
Ordinary Gain (Loss)	\$ 12,632	\$ 17,911	\$ 111,532	\$ 216,023	\$ 358,098
Depreciation	\$ 128,318	\$ 0	\$ 3,603	\$ 0	\$ 131,921
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (115,686)	\$ 17,911	\$ 107,929	\$ 216,023	\$ 226,177

Revised 2026 Budget

	2026 Budget	Revised 2026 Budget	Plus Minus
Anticipated Receipts			
Assessment from Churches (2%)	480,000	480,000	\$0
Department Contribution	7,500	7,500	\$0
Investments\Dividends	10,000	10,000	\$0
Mortgage Interest	10,000	9,900	(\$100)
Communications Reimbursements	5,000	5,000	\$0
Miscellaneous/General Contributions	10,000	10,000	\$0
Other	18,800	17,475	(\$1,325)
Total Anticipated Receipts	541,300	539,875	(\$1,425)
Anticipated Expenses			
Minister's Retirement Fund	98,094	88,050	(\$10,044)
Board of Communications	30,000	40,000	\$10,000
Beneficiary Fund	500	500	\$0
<i>Ministerial Convention</i>	0	0	\$0
Pinebrook Educational Foundation	1,000	1,000	\$0
BFC Conference Expense	5,000	7,500	\$2,500
Chaplaincy Expenses	1,000	1,000	\$0
Committee Mtg Expenses	10,000	10,000	\$0
Church Health Director	30,000	30,000	\$0
Conference Pastor Salary	26,000	26,000	\$0
Conference Pastor Expenses/Benefits	24,000	24,000	\$0
Executive Director Salary	96,104	98,025	\$1,921 2% raise
HealthCare & Benefits	13,302	13,500	\$198
Development Director	50,000	40,400	(\$9,600) combined sal&ben
Taxes & Administrative Costs	70,000	72,100	\$2,100 3% raise
Rent & Office Expense	27,500	29,000	\$1,500
Dues & Subscriptions	1,800	1,800	\$0
Legal & Accounting	25,000	25,000	\$0
Reserved for Future BFC Conferences	10,000	10,000	\$0
Miscellaneous Board Expense	12,000	12,000	\$0
Executive Board Expense	10,000	10,000	\$0
Total Anticipated Expenses	541,300	539,875	(\$1,425)

Proposed 2027 Budget

	2026 Budget	Revised 2026 Budget	Proposed 2027 Budget	Plus Minus
Anticipated Receipts				
Assessment from Churches (2%)	480,000	480,000	510,000	\$30,000
Department Contribution	7,500	7,500	7,500	\$0
Investments\Dividends	10,000	10,000	10,000	\$0
Mortgage Interest	10,000	9,900	9,500	(\$400)
Communications Reimbursements	5,000	5,000	5,000	\$0
Miscellaneous/General Contributions	10,000	10,000	10,000	\$0
Other	18,800	17,475	20,000	\$2,525
Total Anticipated Receipts	541,300	539,875	572,000	\$32,125
Anticipated Expenses				
Minister's Retirement Fund	98,094	88,050	88,050	\$0
Board of Communications	30,000	40,000	40,000	\$0
Beneficiary Fund	500	500	500	\$0
<i>Ministerial Convention</i>	0	0		\$0
Pinebrook Educational Foundation	1,000	1,000	1,000	\$0
BFC Conference Expense	5,000	7,500	28,416	\$20,916
Chaplaincy Expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	\$0
Committee Mtg Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,000	\$0
Church Health Director	30,000	30,000	30,000	\$0
Conference Pastor Salary	26,000	26,000	26,000	\$0
Conference Pastor Expenses/Benefits	24,000	24,000	24,000	\$0
Executive Director Salary	96,104	98,025	98,025	\$0
HealthCare & Benefits	13,302	13,500	13,000	(\$500)
Development Director	50,000	40,400	50,000	\$9,600
Taxes & Administrative Costs	70,000	72,100	73,500	\$1,400
Rent & Office Expense	27,500	29,000	30,000	\$1,000
Dues & Subscriptions	1,800	1,800	1,800	\$0
Legal & Accounting	25,000	25,000	25,000	\$0
Reserved for Future BFC Conferences	10,000	10,000	10,000	\$0
Miscellaneous Board Expense	12,000	12,000	11,709	(\$291)
Executive Board Expense	10,000	10,000	10,000	\$0
	541,300	539,875	572,000	\$32,125

Report of the Board of Church Health

The Board of Church Health continues its work of monitoring the overall health of our churches. Each year we review the statistical reports, read the minutes submitted by every church, and maintain regular contact with pastors and elders. Our goal is to encourage our churches, to identify those who may need help, and to recognize resources within stronger churches that can be shared with others.

We actively assist churches in several categories:

- **Churches with fewer than two elders**, for whom we appoint surrogate elders from the region.
- **Churches that ask for help**, beginning with an interview with the Church Health Director.
- **Churches with fewer than 20 members and insufficient funds**, where we explore merger possibilities or begin preparing for closure if needed.
- **Churches in decline**, using outside consultants for larger churches and BFC personnel for smaller ones.
- **Churches showing downward trends over three years**, where we meet with the church's elder board.
- **Churches in turmoil**, where the Ministry Resource Committee provides the initial response.

This year we continued developing a standardized Assessment Plan that is available to all churches. It provides a preliminary review of trends, finances, ministry balance, membership, and online presence, followed by a structured on-site review of facilities and key ministry areas. The result is a clear, actionable health report for the local church.

We also began to form a plan of care for new Particular Churches under Board of Church Health supervision. This includes quarterly check-ins and formal evaluations at the one-year and two-year marks before moving a church from supervisory care to regular status.

The Board reviewed updated policies and procedures for church closure, distributed by the Executive Director.

We welcome Timothy S. Radcliff and Byron D. Roth to the Board, and we express our thanks to Aaron D. Smith for his faithful service.

Board of Church Health: Steven J. DelDuco, Chairman; Beau E. Coffman, Vice chairman; Timothy S. Radcliff, Secretary; Clyde D. Bomgardner, Jr., Michael C. Meadows, Byron D. Roth, Daniel L. Williams. *Ex-officio* members: David T. Allen, BFC Executive Director; Robert A. Sloan Jr., Interim Church Health Director.

Report on Study Committee of Mode of Believers' Baptism

The committee first presented its report and introduced legislation at the 140th BFC Conference in 2023. Its proposed legislation was adopted at First Reading by a 136-14 vote. However, in 2024, said legislation failed to receive the necessary two-thirds majority (the vote was 93-54 in favor of our legislation) and as such failed. However, the Study Committee on Mode of Believers' Baptism for People with Disabilities and Infirmities introduced the exact same legislation—word for word, we might add!—for Article 202-3.1, and it was adopted at First Reading by a 108-24 vote. In 2025, that legislation was adopted at Second Reading by a 127-5 vote (2025 Yearbook, p. 40, with the addition of the parenthetical expression “including modes not practiced by the BFC but approved by the local church elders”). As such, it is now part of our Principles of Order. Men and women may become members of Bible Fellowship Churches who have been baptized, as believers, by modes other than the mode of immersion that we believe most accurately portrays the Scriptural picture.

One question, however, remains and led us, as a committee, to meet once more in early January, 2026. Since baptism as practiced in the Bible Fellowship Church is by immersion (Article 20-1 of our Articles of Faith reads, “Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...”), what about those who aspire to positions of leadership within the BFC—pastors and elders, in other words? While we no longer require immersion for membership, our practice in the BFC is still believers' baptism by immersion. So shouldn't we require that for pastors and elders, since they are held to a higher standard as leaders in the church?

In our original report's “possible objections and responses” (2023 Yearbook Objection # 8, p. 146), we noted, “In order for a man to serve as an elder or a pastor in a BFC church, he must affirm that he is ‘in agreement with the Articles of Faith’ (401.1.8 and 1.9), and not just ‘in sympathy’ with them. That means he would have to be in agreement with Article 20, which states that we believe the mode of baptism taught in Scripture to be immersion.” We concluded, in the same objection/response, “So, if a man, wishing to serve as an elder or pastor, has been baptized by another mode, he would need to be rebaptized by immersion to demonstrate his agreement” (2023 Yearbook, pp. 146-147).

With that in mind, the committee presents the following legislation for adoption at First Reading at the 143rd BFC Conference, with legislation for Articles 204-1, Elders, and 204-2, Ministers.

Whereas, the practice of baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is required to be by the mode of immersion, and

Whereas, pastors and elders in the Bible Fellowship Church are required to be “in agreement” with the Articles of Faith and not just “in sympathy” with them, therefore be it

Resolved, that we require that any man who seeks to serve as a pastor or elder at a Bible Fellowship Church be required to have been baptized by immersion as a believer, and further

Resolved, that any pastor or elder candidate who has not yet been baptized by immersion be required to be rebaptized in order to align with the requirements of Article 20-1 of our Articles of Faith.

204-1 Elders

We propose introducing a new 204-1(8), thereby requiring the renumbering of the current 1.7 to 1.8:

“Because of the qualifications and dignity of the position of Elder, including minister, and because baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is practiced by immersion, each elder and minister must be required to be baptized by immersion. If he was baptized as a believer by another mode, he would be required to be rebaptized so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

204-2 Ministers

We propose this addition as a new 204-3(7), Personal Qualifications:

“Because of the qualifications and dignity of the position of minister, and because baptism in the Bible Fellowship Church is practiced by immersion, each minister must be required to be baptized by immersion. If he was baptized as a believer by another mode, he would be required to be rebaptized so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

Study Committee on Mode of Believers’ Baptism with Regard to Membership: William G. Schlonecker, Convener; Ronald L. Kohl, Secretary; Mark R. Orton, S. Wayne Rissmiller.

Study Committee to Strengthen Our Position on Abortion

The Study Committee on Abortion had a difficult year with our assignment to strengthen the BFC Biblical Principles of Living, Article 152. We struggled with coordinating schedules, demands from our local congregations, and some significant medical issues. We therefore were unable to meet and will need an additional year to present a proper report and improved language to strengthen this principle.

One idea to contemplate would be to expand the scope of this committee to address the dignity of life not only at its inception but at its natural end. The rapidly growing acceptance and legalization of active euthanasia is alarming (now legal in 13 states, with legislation pending in 12 more). The Bible Fellowship Church did not address the abortion issues until late in its expansion and it may be prudent to now address the growing assisted suicide movement.

Study Committee on Abortion; Ronald W. Reed, Chairman; Beau E. Coffman, W. Scott Kappes, Juan Carlos Morales, Philip E. Morrison, John C. Studenroth, Mary Tannous, Gregory Tuke.

Report of the Study Committee to Examine Articles of Faith 24-27

This Committee was created by the 141st BFC Conference in 2024 by a proposal of the Executive Board. That year, Conference approved the following:

Resolved, that the Moderator appoint a committee of seven ordained pastors who will study Articles of Faith 24-27 with a view to possibly revising, moving, or removing our statements on the millennium, and who will bring recommendations to the next BFC Conference.” (2024 Yearbook, page 15).

Because of the significant changes to our longstanding doctrine, the committee did not bring legislation to the next Conference. Instead, we brought a substantial paper making the case that significant strains of 21st century amillennialism are not so far off from our premillennialism, and therefore BFC Conference should make changes to the Articles of Faith that would allow both views to be held within our churches. The 2025 BFC Conference then assigned us to work on proposing changes to the Articles of Faith that would flow from the findings of our paper.

Last year, Conference passed the following two resolutions:

Resolved, that Conference instructs the Study Committee on the Millennium to continue its work. And be it further

Resolved, that Conference encourages the committee to bring to the 2026 BFC Conference proposed changes to the Articles of Faith consistent with the sentiments of the committee’s 2025 report.” (2025 Yearbook, page 25).

The Committee met five times between 2025 and 2026 BFC Conference. During the course of the year, we continued with our assignment. Based on the study paper presented last year, we worked on a proposal for recommended changes to the Articles of Faith.

On November 1, 2025, we held “Making Room for the Millennium,” a series of presentations that included the following:

- (1) “Definition of Terms and Statement of Intent,” by Timothy J. Schmoyer.
- (2) “The Redemptive-Historical Approach to Interpreting Scripture,” by Timothy J. Bertolet.
- (3) “A Present-Day Amillennial Interpretation of Eschatology,” by Aaron J. Susek.
- (4) “Two Views on Revelation 20,” by Aaron J. Susek and Timothy J. Bertolet.
- (5) “Theological Triage,” by Daniel J. Hoffstetter.

We concluded the session with a time of questions and answers. If you were not able to attend and you still have questions about the work of the committee and related issues, we encourage you to go to www.BFC.org/millennium to view the presentations and to download the notes. We wish to thank Trinity Bible Fellowship Church, Blandon, PA for hosting the event.

After the “Making Room for the Millennium” presentation, we distributed our proposed changes to the Articles of Faith via email to the pastors and delegates. We urged you to give us feedback, and based on the feedback we received, the committee felt that our proposed changes to the Articles gave the appearance that we were moving to a position that was exclusively amillennial, which was never our intention. Therefore, we have amended the first draft of our proposed changes to make it clear that the denomination is still premillennial while granting exception for certain amillennial views.

Thank you for assigning us this task. The hours spent in research and conversation were a privilege you afforded us.

Study Committee to Examine Articles of Faith 24-27: Andrew T. Crossgrove, Chairman; Timothy J. Bertolet, Secretary; Daniel J. Hoffstetter, S. Wayne Rissmiller, Timothy J. Schmoyer, Aaron J. Susek.

Whereas, the Bible Fellowship Church has historically maintained a premillennial interpretation based on the authority of Scripture and the importance of good hermeneutics, and

Whereas, modern day amillennial interpretations admit that in the past, their hermeneutics have not always been precise and they have sought to rectify these previous weaknesses through faithful practice of grammatical-historical exegesis, and they have rejected spiritualizing or allegorizing the text, and

Whereas, the issue of the millennium has been debated down through church history, with faithful godly believers falling on both sides of the issues, and

Whereas, the nature of prophecy, inaugurated eschatological fulfillment, figures of speech, and apocalyptic literature leave room for reasonable debate and variance between positions that do not impinge upon the doctrines of the clarity, sufficiency, and authority of the Word of God, and

Whereas, the Bible Fellowship Church has already granted exception on the issue to men who were previously ordained, and their change in belief on the millennium has not been considered to be a breach in doctrine, character, or conduct that disqualifies them from ministry in the BFC, therefore be it

Resolved, that we amend the Articles to allow for the premillennial and amillennial views as proposed below.

Article 7

Current

Change

<p>7-1 Satan is a created angelic being who fell from his first estate.¹ He is the god of this age, ruling by the permissive will of God.² He exercises authority over the unsaved, tempts the believer to sin, and continually accuses the brethren before the throne of God.³</p> <p>7-2 He has been defeated by the finished work of Christ on Calvary. During the millennium he will be confined to the abyss,⁴ to be released at the end of that period to lead the armies of evil against God. He will be finally judged and doomed to the lake of fire.⁵</p>	<p>7-1 Satan is a created angelic being who fell from his first estate.¹ He is the god of this age, ruling by the permissive will of God.² He exercises authority over the unsaved, tempts the believer to sin, <u>roams around like a roaring lion, and continually attacks the brethren.</u> and continually accuses the brethren before the throne of God.³</p> <p>7-2 He has been defeated by the finished work of Christ on Calvary. During the millennium he will be confined to the abyss,⁴ to be released at the end of that period to lead the armies of evil against God. He will be finally judged and doomed to the lake of fire.⁵</p>
<p>Footnotes 1-2 and 4-5 remain the same. One addition for</p>	

footnote 3.

³ For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain (1Thess 3:5). For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down (Rev 12:10b). Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.(1 Pet 5:8)

Rationale for the changes in Article 7.1:

- All the views affirm that Satan currently attacks believers and roams around seeking those he might devour.
- There is debate on the interpretation of Revelation 12. Many premillennial and amillennial interpretations would see that Satan is not in heaven right now to accuse, as he was in Job 1-2, but that the cross accomplishes some sort of defeat that casts Satan out of heaven.
- There is debate over the timing of Revelation 12 and exactly how symbolic it is. A premillennialist might wish to hold that the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Christ cast Satan out of heaven during this age.
- We have sought to balance the biblical truths that Satan is still active and attacks believers with the truth that the death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ is a major eschatological victory that seals his yet-to-be-prosecuted final fate.

Article 24

Current	Change
<p>24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of man.¹ At the return of the Lord the bodies of the righteous dead</p>	<p><i>Preface: The Bible Fellowship Church has historically been, and still is, premillennial in its eschatology. Our Articles 24-28 fit into that framework. We do, however, recognize that the specificity of prophecy is open to legitimate discussion among God's people. We can accept as ministers and elders those who have a reservation concerning our position and instead prefer an amillennial position, provided they recognize the premillennial position is within orthodoxy, do not denigrate it, interpret the Scriptures according to their grammatical-historical meaning, and affirm future aspects of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants to be fulfilled on earth after Christ's return. We reject any form of eschatology in which the believer does not live waiting in active anticipation of Christ's return or in which the church experiences an age of earthly peace and prosperity before the Lord returns.</i></p> <p>24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of <u>His people</u> of</p>

<p>will be raised, and the living believers will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.² Believers will, at the resurrection, receive spiritual and immortal bodies like Christ’s own glorious body.³</p> <p>24-2 The event of the resurrection is divided into two stages, separated by a period of a thousand years and differing in respect to both their subjects and their issues.⁴ The first resurrection includes only the righteous dead.⁵ The second resurrection is universal and occurs at the close of the millennium when all the unregenerate dead are raised to be brought before the great White Throne for judgment.⁶</p>	<p>man.¹ At the return of the Lord the bodies of the righteous dead will be raised, and the living believers will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.² Believers will, at the resurrection, receive spiritual and immortal bodies like Christ’s own glorious body.³</p> <p>24-2 The event of the resurrection is divided into two stages.⁴ separated by a period of a thousand years and differing in respect to both their subjects and their issues.⁴ The first resurrection includes only the righteous dead.⁵ The second resurrection is universal and occurs at the close of the millennium when all the unregenerate dead are raised to be brought before the great White Throne for judgment.⁶</p>
<p>No changes to the footnotes.</p>	

Rationale for the changes in Article 24:

- The doctrinal statement would continue to affirm the importance of premillennialism for the denomination.
- In keeping with our paper presented at the 2025 BFC Conference, the doctrinal statement would affirm that amillennialists and premillennials can work together at the elder and pastoral level. Pastors who are amillennial could be welcomed into the denomination as an exception.
- The preface would safeguard and limit the types of eschatological views allowed. Postmillennialism would not be granted an exception.
- Only amillennialists who affirm we must interpret the Scriptures according to their grammatical-historical meaning, and that there are future aspects of the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants to be fulfilled on earth after Christ’s return, would be permitted.
- Those who take vows of ordination or subscribe to the statement as elders would affirm that we will act lovingly and graciously and serve without contention with others who disagree.
- “The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of His people” –the original Scripture proof of John 11:25 speaks more to the concept of eternal life with Christ, not the general resurrection. Christ’s resurrection is shared as the firstfruits of those who are in Christ. Christ’s resurrection is a resurrection *unto life*, and only his people share in that.
- We deleted the phrase “separated by a period of a thousand years and differing in respect to both their subjects and their issues” because it is redundant to what already appears in Article 27-3.

Article 25

Current	Change
<p>25-1 The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is the personal, visible, bodily return of our Lord to this earth¹ to conform believers to His image and to establish the millennial kingdom. In connection with Christ’s return there will be the resurrection of the righteous dead,² the rapture of the saints,³ the salvation of Israel,⁴ the great tribulation,⁵ and the inauguration of the millennial reign.⁶ Following the millennium will be the resurrection and judgment of the unrighteous. The righteous will be eternally glorified with Him; the unrighteous will be eternally punished.</p>	<p>25-1 The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is the personal, visible, bodily return of our Lord to this earth¹ to conform believers to His image² and <u>visibly manifest the</u> to establish the millennial kingdom.³ In connection with Christ’s return there will be the resurrection of the righteous dead,^{2,4} the rapture of the saints,^{3,5} the salvation of Israel,^{4,6} the great tribulation,^{5,7} and the inauguration of the millennial reign.⁶ Following the millennium will be the resurrection and judgment of the unrighteous.⁸ The righteous will be eternally glorified with Him; the unrighteous will be eternally punished.²</p>
<p>25-2 The Second Coming is the believer’s source of encouragement and comfort inspiring him to active service for Christ, and is a motive for purification and holy living.⁷</p>	<p>25-2 The Second Coming is the believer’s source of encouragement and comfort inspiring him to active service for Christ, and is a motive for purification and holy living.^{7,10}</p>
<p>¹ In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also (John 14:2,3). “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).</p> <p>² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1Jo. 3:2). Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1Cor. 15:51,52).</p> <p>³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words (1Thes. 4:13-18).</p> <p>⁴ A partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness</p>	<p>Footnote 1 remains the same.</p> <p>Footnotes 2-3 are new additions.</p> <p>The current Footnote 2 becomes new 4 and adds 1 Thes 4:16.</p> <p>The current Footnote 3 becomes new 5 and adds Matt 24:31.</p> <p>The current Footnote 4 becomes new 6 with no changes.</p> <p>The current Footnote 5 becomes new 7 with no changes.</p> <p>The current Footnote 6 is dropped.</p> <p>A new Footnote 8 is added with 2 Thess 1:7-9.</p> <p>A new Footnote 9 is added with Matt 25:46.</p> <p>The current Footnote 7 becomes new 10 and adds Col 3:4-10.</p> <p>¹ In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also (John 14:2,3). “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).</p> <p>² <u>But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. (Phil 3:21).</u></p>

of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved (Rom. 11:25b, 26a).

⁵ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be (Mat. 24:21).

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:6).

⁷ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure (1Jo. 3:3).

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. (1 Jn 3:2).

³ When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. (Matt 25:31). And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one. (Zech 14:9). (see also Isa 2:4,11:4).

²⁴ Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:2). Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1Cor 15:51-52). For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (1 Thess 4:16).

³⁵ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words (1Thess 4:13-18). And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Matt 24:31).

⁴⁶ A partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved (Rom 11:25b, 26a).

⁵⁷ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be (Matt 24:21).

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:6).

⁸ ...and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might (2 Thess 1:7-9).

⁹ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (Mat. 25:46).

⁷¹⁰ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure (1 John 3:3). When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity,

passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. (Col 3:4-10).

Rationale for the changes in Article 25

- We didn't want to convey that the premillennial position is a new kingdom different than the reign that Christ has now. Rather, right now He reigns in heaven and at His return, He brings that reign to earth and visibly reigns in the midst of His enemies. It is a visible manifestation and a new phase but not a different kingdom.
- We deleted the words “millennium” here because we believe they are strongest in 27-3. A person taking an exception as an amillennialist only has to take a minimal number of exceptions. It allows the amillennialist to find some other areas of greater agreement.
- It does not change our clear premillennial stance.

***Please note that we are proposing no changes to Articles 26 and 27—particular 27-3, which is our strongest statement on the millennium and the nature of it.**

Article 28

Current	Change
<p>28-1 There are two final, eternal destinies for man: heaven for the righteous and penitent, and hell for the unrighteous and impenitent.¹ At the great white throne judgment, all of the enemies of God will be consigned to the place of eternal conscious punishment, from which there is no escape.² The new heavens and the new earth shall be created³ as the final state in which the righteous shall dwell forever in the presence of God.⁴</p>	<p>28-1 There are two final, eternal destinies for man.¹: heaven for the righteous and penitent, and hell for the unrighteous and impenitent. At the great white throne judgment, all of <u>the unrighteous and impenitent</u>, the enemies of God, will be consigned to the <u>lake of fire</u>, a place of eternal conscious punishment, from which there is no escape.² The new heavens and the new earth shall be created³ as the final state in which the <u>penitent</u> righteous shall dwell forever in the presence of God.⁴</p>
<p>No changes to the footnotes.</p>	

Rationale for the changes in Article 28

- We clarified terms and ideas here.
- Changing the reference from “hell” to “lake of fire” brings it into consistency with Article 26-3. It uses the biblical language directly and avoids confusion of difference phases of hell (condemnation in hell at death of unregenerate vs. condemnation in hell after the judgment).
- We avoided inclusion of the phrase “heaven for the righteous” so that we could emphasize the new heavens and the new earth. Many Christians think the final destiny of “heaven” is that believers are disembodied. The final destiny *is* heaven in the sense that heaven comes down to earth and creation is recreated in eschatological glory. This makes our doctrinal expression more clear and robust so that we might teach our people better as to their destiny and the final state of the righteous. This also reminds us that amillennialists are very passionate about the New Heavens and the New Earth, which is the full fulfillment of the promises of God in the Old Testament.

Future Changes to the Principles of Order

If these proposed changes are approved at First Reading, the Committee will propose further changes to bring the following Articles in line at the 2027 BFC Conference:

511-4.2 (4.1) Ministerial Credentials Committee

511-3.3 (5) Ministerial Candidate Committee

401-1.9 Local Church Bylaws Regarding Elders

501-4.1(3) Form for Ordination of Ministers

401-1.8(2) Local Bylaws Regarding Installation of Elders

512-4.3(3) Duties of the Board of Church Health (to examine church minutes and records)

Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living

The 142nd BFC Conference established the current Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living in April 2025. The committee met three times at CROSSroads Mission Church in Elverson, PA. Our first meeting included a discussion of the method with which we would proceed in carrying out our responsibilities to BFC Conference.

Timothy S. Radcliff, the committee's convener and chair, posed two questions for the committee's consideration:

Question 1: Do the BPLs adequately express what we believe the Bible teaches?

- Are changes to the Faith and Order updated in the BPLs?
- Are the BPLs sufficiently supported by biblical texts?

Question 2: Do the BPLs adequately address believers and the cultures in which they live?

- Are these truly biblical principles for all people everywhere?
- Are there issues missing/needing updates because of cultural changes?

The Committee's first task was taking up a review of Article 153, Harmful Indulgences, in order to strengthen it and broaden it to include additional potentially addictive practices and things. The committee did this through wording, not through adding additional items to existing lists. The committee sent proposed revisions to our BFC regions and asked for our men to review and send their thoughts. These thoughts proved quite valuable and were incorporated into this legislation for First Reading consideration:

Whereas, alcohol and tobacco are not the only substances that can lead to addiction and destruction of the Christian testimony, and

Whereas, the amount of substances that are harmful if misused or abused continues to grow as mankind continues to invent new and increasingly harmful substances, and

Whereas, the goal of the Biblical Principles for Living is to give guidance to elders and members of local churches and not to be a list of every sin or potential danger to be avoided, and

Whereas, Article 104-4.2, Christian Liberty & Servanthood, already speaks to the need for limiting freedom for the sake of others and lists many of the same biblical texts as found in Articles 153-1 and 153-2, and

Whereas, the Committee to Review the Biblical Principles for Living has agreed that it is desirable to have a concise article covering all harmful substances and indulgence in them and further, that it is more in keeping with the original intent to speak broadly to multiple cultures, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Article 153 be revised as follows (all changes marked in bold):

As listed in 2024 BPLs	Proposed Legislation
<p>Article 153 – Harmful Indulgences</p> <p>153-0:1 All believers are saved through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. God calls His people to live by faith.¹ This life of faith is an obedient response to the revealed truth of God in the Scriptures.²</p> <p>153-0:2 At salvation believers are baptized into the Church, the body of Christ, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit.³ They are to be filled and led by the Holy Spirit.⁴ This filling and leading by the Holy Spirit progressively transforms believers into the Lord’s likeness.⁵</p> <p>¹ Col. 2:6-7; 2 Cor. 5:7 ² 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet.1:19-21 ³ 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13,14; Rom. 8:9 ⁴ Rom. 8:14; Eph. 5:18 ⁵ 2 Cor. 3:8</p> <p>Article 153-1 – Alcoholic Drinks</p> <p>153-1.1 The abuse of alcoholic beverages is one of the most serious problems in many parts of the world. This abuse has led to personal and family suffering, serious physical and mental health problems, and increased rates of accidental and criminal injury and death. The financial cost and the consequences of such abuse are a tremendous and unnecessary burden on all of society.</p> <p>153-1.2 The Scriptures teach that drunkenness is sinful.¹ Due to the addictive quality of alcohol, even the moderate use of alcoholic beverages may lead to serious consequences.² This is especially true because the alcoholic content of some beverages has been tremendously increased since biblical times. Furthermore, moderate use may be a stumbling block for believer and unbeliever alike.³</p>	<p>Article 153 - Harmful Indulgence</p> <p>153-1 All believers are saved through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. God calls His people to live by faith.¹ This life of faith is an obedient response to the revealed truth of God in the Scriptures.²</p> <p>153-2 At salvation believers are baptized into the Church, the body of Christ, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit.³ They are to be filled and led by the Holy Spirit.⁴ This filling and leading by the Holy Spirit progressively transforms believers into the Lord’s likeness.⁵</p>

~~153-1.3 Therefore, the BFC strongly and persistently warns its people of the dangers of alcoholic beverages and urges all members of the BFC to consider abstaining voluntarily from the use, manufacture and distribution of them.~~

~~¹Rom. 13:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:18-21~~

~~²Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23:31-35~~

~~³Matt. 18:6-7; Rom. 14:20-21; 1 Cor. 8:9-11, 8:13~~

~~Article 153-2 — Tobacco~~

~~153-2.1 Because the use of tobacco is harmful to the body and addictive, it is inconsistent with Christian living.¹ Its use may negatively affect the believer's ministry to the saved² and unsaved.³ Consequently the church should warn its people of the dangers of tobacco products and strongly urge complete abstinence from them.⁴~~

~~Article 153-3 — Drugs and Other Substances~~

~~153-3.1 The misuse of, and overindulgence in, drugs and other substances, including prescribed and non-prescribed, are sin and are not of faith. Such abuse controls the believer and gratifies the sinful nature.¹ Both misuse and overindulgence cause the believer to live by feelings, not by faith in God's revealed Word.² The continued abuse of drugs and all other substances destroys self-control, leads to addiction³ and makes it impossible for the believer to live for the will of God.⁴~~

~~153-3.2 Sinning in this way affects the thinking, attitudes, and passions of the believer.⁵ This results in the believer falling deeper and deeper into sin,⁶ and can damage the body and the mind. Encouraging or aiding others to misuse or overindulge in drugs or all other substances is sin. Selling drugs or~~

153-3 The misuse of, and overindulgence in, **alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or any substance—including legal and illegal**, prescribed and non-prescribed—is sin and is not of faith. This sin destroys self-control, gratifies the flesh,⁶ causes the believer to live by feelings rather than by faith in God's revealed Word,⁷ leads to addiction,⁸ and makes it impossible for the believer to live for the will of God.⁹

153-4 Sinning in this way affects the thinking, attitudes, and passions of the believer.¹⁰ This results in the believer falling **progressively** deeper into sin,¹¹ damaging the body and the mind. **Not only does this sin harm the individual, but it also damages relationships within the family, church, and the world.**¹² **Additionally**, encouraging or aiding others to misuse or overindulge in any substance is sin.¹³

other substances to a person for the purpose of gratification of the sinful nature is sin against God and may be against the law.⁷ The Lord Himself holds those who do this responsible⁸ and has many ways to exercise His justice.⁹

~~153-3.3~~ The Church must warn against the dangers of the misuse of, and overindulgence in, ~~drugs and all other~~ substances, provide counsel to those enslaved, direct them to places of treatment, help them to rebuild their lives, and determine ~~when~~ such a person is free for ministry in the church.¹⁰

¹ Rom. 8:5-13; Gal. 5:16-17

² Eph. 2:1-3; 4:20-24

³ Rom. 6:16; 2 Pet. 2:19

⁴ Col. 1:9-10; 1 Pet. 4:2

⁵ Eph 4:17-19; Titus 3:3

⁶ Prov. 23:29-35; Rom. 7:14-24; Col. 3:5-10

⁷ Luke 17:1-3; ~~Gal. 5:19-21~~

⁸ Prov. 4:14-19, 5:22; Hab. 2:15-16

⁹ ~~Zeph. 3:5~~

¹⁰ 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-16

153-5 Therefore, the Church must warn against the dangers of the misuse of, and overindulgence in, **any** substance, provide counsel to those enslaved, direct them to places of treatment, help them to rebuild their lives, and determine **how** such a person is free for ministry in the church.¹⁴

¹ 2 Cor. 5:7; Col. 2:6, 7

² 1 Thes. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21

³ Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13,14

⁴ Rom. 8:13-14; Eph. 5:18

⁵ 2 Cor. 3:18; **Phil. 1:6**

⁶ Rom. 8:5-13; Gal. 5:16,17

⁷ Eph. 2:1-3; 4:20-24

⁸ Rom. 6:16; **1 Cor. 6:12**; 2 Pet. 2:19b

⁹ Col. 1:9,10; 1 Pet. 4:2

¹⁰ Eph. 4:17-19; Titus 3:3

¹¹ Pro. 23:29-35; Rom. 7:14-24; Col. 3:5-10

¹² Rom. 14:15-21; 1 Cor. 8:9-13; 1 Cor. 9:12

¹³ Matt. 18:6-7; Luke 17:1-3

¹⁴ 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-16

The Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living also recognizes the use of technology potentially moving from being a helper or servant of man to becoming a tool that may isolate people-to-people interpersonal contact, perhaps even to the point of affecting fellowship within the Church, the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, the Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living brings the following Resolution to the 143rd BFC Conference for consideration at First Reading:

Resolved, that the BFC Conference appoint a Study Committee to examine and prepare a statement on the issues of digital technology (digital, gaming, or computerized devices), Artificial Intelligence, and social media and/or a believer's online presence by considering the following questions:

1. Where does the use of technology belong in presenting the biblical story of redemption? Worship? Teaching/preaching? What are the benefits and detriments corporately and/or personally?

2. What guidance does the Bible offer to individual believers on the use of digital technology (such as Bible versions on smartphones and tablets during corporate teaching and/or worship), Artificial Intelligence (for Bible reading and/or study, etc.), and the believer's online presence (posting and/or information resources) regarding personal testimony and faithful dependence upon the leading of God the Holy Spirit?
3. How might it be possible for the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ to lead the way in using technology internally and externally to the honor and glory of God?

Committee to Review the Biblical Principles of Living: Timothy S. Radcliff, Chair; Rick Dobrowolski, Vice-Chair; R. Daniel Wagner, Secretary.

Report of the Study Committee on Civil Government

The 142nd BFC Conference instructed us to review Article 104-3, Civil Government, and prepare a statement on the issue of Christ's church and national politics by considering the following questions: 1) How does nationalism/patriotism function in view of Christ's love for the world and His present/coming kingdom? 2) How can leaders in Christ's church address and promote biblical conduct regarding political issues without polarizing the body of Christ?

The committee members met four times throughout the past year to discuss these questions considering BPL Article 104-3 and Article 23 of our Articles of Faith. After prayerful consideration of these questions, we felt no need to propose any legislature to amend or adjust these articles, but include a statement in the form of a paper to offer assistance to our churches in the changing landscape of politics, specifically Christian Nationalism.

Our committee enjoyed the privilege of interviewing noted author, theologian, and church historian Dr. Peter Lillback, through connections made by Andrew J. Miller. The interview provided a wonderful opportunity to glean from his knowledge and expertise on government and the church.

It is our desire that each church and its leadership will find our collective paper informative and valuable as a resource when dealing with issues of church and state, patriotism, and understanding Christian Nationalism.

Upon the acceptance of our report, we request that the 143rd BFC Conference dissolve our committee.

Study Committee to Review BPL 104-3 Civil Government: Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Chairman; Jared M. Burkholder, Secretary; Larry W. Davies, Convener; Andrew J. Miller, Rick Whitmire.

Study Committee on Civil Government - Paper

Abstract

The relationship between the church and the state has been, at times, tumultuous or peaceful, but the two have always been deeply intertwined—that is, until you get to the American Revolution. How the Founding Fathers of America separated the church and the state was radical and a first in human history. In our day, there is an idea being pushed by some called “Christian Nationalism.” That term, however, is ambiguous, and the term “Christian Nationalism” finds its strength in being nebulous. But the church is not left without help concerning the topic. Within the pages of Scripture, we are given many principles that govern our thoughts, words, and actions. Simply put, if Christians were to live out these biblical principles within their respective society, without binding the conscious of any other Christian, then we would see a society that flourishes.

Although the Church or any local church should not become political, i.e. endorsing candidates, holding rallies for a specific party, attempting to enact political laws, etc., individual Christians who are citizens of the state should be involved in the state and should “render to Caesar that which is Caesar’s.” The committee does not believe that our Articles of Faith or Biblical Principles for Living need to be adjusted, corrected, amended, or changed. The committee hopes that this paper brings clarity to individuals and will be helpful to churches as we seek to honor Christ within our nation.

Introduction

In this report, we will explore the relationship between the church and the state by looking at two specific areas of interest. First, how does nationalism/patriotism function in view of Christ’s love for the world and His present/coming kingdom? Second, how can leaders in Christ’s church address and promote biblical conduct regarding political issues without polarizing the body of Christ?

History of Government¹

Much of the early church is defined by its relationship with Rome. Although the Roman civil and political system allowed for the expansion of Christianity in the beginning, the relationship was defined by the Romans, who considered the early church as a sect of Judaism and treated it as such.

Christianity began in a cultural setting defined by three circles of influence: 1) Roman culture—law, government, infrastructure, and the Latin language; 2) Greek culture—the Greek

¹ This section referenced the following two books: Everett Ferguson, *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to Pre-Reformed* (Zondervan, 2005), and John D. Woodbridge and Frank A. James III, *Church History, Volume Two: From Pre-Reformation to the Present Day* (Zondervan, 2013).

language, teaching methods, and philosophy, primarily developed and taught by Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, and 3) Jewish religion—the Scriptures of the Old Testament and New Testament, the Septuagint, synagogues, and other central theological convictions. With the church’s expansion from Jerusalem, traditions about the work of particular apostles became associated with specific locales by the end of the first century, most notably James (the brother of Jesus, often called “James the Just”) in Jerusalem Peter and Paul in Rome, John in Ephesus, and Thomas in Syria.

Early Christianity was not uniform, yet a common faith in Jesus and a common core of apostolic traditions helped shape a specifically Christian set of doctrinal commitments, worship practices, and ethical expectations² such as baptism, the Lord’s Supper, visiting widows and orphans, Sunday assemblies, and moral emphases.

Roman persecution of the church prior to the mid-3rd century was sporadic and localized, not systematic. Emperors at this time included Nero, who blamed the Great Fire in Rome on the Christians, and Domitian. Partly in response to internal and external pressures, the early church developed a three-fold defense of what is apostolic: the episcopate, the rule of faith and creed, and the canon. Due to leadership, size, location, and role in the controversies of the age, the church at Rome rose in prominence to become the chief church by about the end of the second century. The church was known for advocating high standards of personal morality, including sexual behavior and charity.

During a period of imperial reform in the late third and early fourth centuries, Emperor Diocletian created districts and tried to set up magistrates throughout the Roman Empire. At this time, Christians underwent the most severe and widespread persecution yet. Christian buildings were leveled and Scriptures were burned. Bishops were imprisoned but could be released if they sacrificed to pagan gods. Sacrifice to the gods was obligatory. Civil war ensued. Though the person and motives of Emperor Constantine the Great are complex and somewhat mysterious, he achieved sole authority in the Roman Empire. He ended the persecutions, favored Christianity, and ushered in Christendom throughout the Empire. The church and the state were essentially one. In AD 312, Constantine had his famous vision to put a Chi-Rho³ on his soldiers’ shields. The church was largely unprepared for the many challenges accompanying the change in church-state relations. Many see this as the decline or “the fall of the church,” citing such factors as a decline of commitment among church members.

The growth of the church in the third century had already brought accommodation with Roman society, and entanglements with the state steadily increased after Constantine’s time. The Church started to have bishops appointed by the emperor. The church began to get paid by the

² Woodbridge and James, *Church History, Volume Two: From Pre-Reformation to the Present Day*, 1:27.

³ ☩ - Formed from the letters χ and ρ in the Greek, the first two letters in χριστός—Christ

government. The church and the state became much more entwined. Monks emerged at this time in response to the new linking of the church with social status.

In the fourth century, the Donatist controversy characterized the dangers of entwining the church and state by the way in which the state's involvement could affect church affairs, as opposing factions faced off in North Africa and experienced the impact of imperial intervention. The bishop of Alexandria began to be called "Pope" at this time.

In the period following the First Council of Nicaea in AD 325, and after Constantine's death, the Roman Empire was divided into three parts: one piece to each of Constantine's sons Constantine II (Spain, the Gauls, Britain), Constant (Africa, Italy, Illyricum), and Constantius II (the East). Magnus Magnentius, known as Magnentius the Usurper, assumed power in AD 353 and united the Empire again. He was an Arian sympathizer; the Arian controversy continued to create disunity in the fourth century church, which saw many councils and at least four different major positions on the relationship of the Father to the Son.

The Church was one of the principal institutions in Western Europe to survive the collapse of the ancient Roman Empire, a collapse that came about when largely Germanic peoples started invading and eventually sacked Rome. There are many political reasons and theories for what happened but suffice it to say, Rome was finished as four great waves of migration and invasion carried into the old Roman Empire: first the Germans, especially in the fifth century; second, the Mongol Avars and Slavs, who moved into the Balkans in the beginning of the sixth century; third, the Muslim Arabs beginning in the seventh century; and fourth, the Northmen and Vikings from Scandinavia in the eighth and 10th centuries.

In AD 410 Alaric, leader of the western Goths, attacked and sacked Rome. In AD 430 Augustine died, and Hippo in North Africa fell to the Vandals. In AD 451 Attila and the Huns swept through western Europe but were persuaded by Pope Leo to turn back from Rome. This was also the same year as The Council of Chalcedon. In AD 455, Rome was sacked again by the Vandals, a Germanic people from modern-day Poland.

A combination of circumstances and strong leadership contributed to the elevation of the role of the Roman bishop (the pope) to a status of primacy among Western bishops. Pope Leo I carried authority over councils and over emperors, and was hailed as the successor of the apostle Peter, thus becoming "the first pope" as we know that role today. Leo I argued that the bishop in Rome now stands between Christ and all other bishops; that he is the Chief Priest of Rome, "*Pontifex Maximus*." Leo is the first bishop buried in Rome. So we see that the church had authority over kings. This was the primary view held throughout the Middle Ages. The West now regarded the kingdom of Jesus Christ as embodied by the church, whereas the East persisted in the Eusebian ideal of a Christianized empire, embodied in the rule of Justinian.

The rise of Islam and its dramatic spread in the seventh and eighth centuries transformed the shape of the empire and posed significant challenges to the church, prompting a series of

Christian responses. In the end, the church lost three strategic locations to Islam: Jerusalem, Antioch, and Alexandria. This created the need for the Frankish kingdom to look north and west for political support. When Muslims came saying “Muhammed was the last of the prophets,” people accepted the new religion. Much of Christianity at that time was bound up with former pagan beliefs and practices, prayers to the saints, reverence for Mary, and the use of amulets and other features of magic. The purified ethical monotheism and opposition to superstitious practices and pictorial representations seemed to represent a higher religious ideal.

The reign of Charlemagne and the Carolingian Empire marked a season of relative peace and stability for much of Western Europe, with significant developments in Christian expansion and church-state relations, Benedictine monasticism, scholarship, theology, and church organization. During this time, private papal lands and the “Patrimony of Peter” were turned into papal civil jurisdiction. “The Republic of St. Peter” had been taking shape for some time and was now given larger legal recognition.

Charlemagne came to power in AD 771 and sought to create a Frankish-Roman Empire inspired by Augustine’s *City of God*. It was at that time (AD 754) that the pope officially aligned himself with the west, both militarily and politically. Charlemagne snatched western Europe from decline and brought a brief cultural revival. He expanded lands. He fought many battles with Saxony. And during his reign, the baptism of infants under one year of age became a law. If you hid a child from the church and did not baptize your infant, you were guilty of a crime punishable by death. *Charlemagne saw his role as using the state to submit the world to the church*. Baptism was seen as “christening” (making one a Christian) and included giving the child a “Christian” name under the sponsorship of godparents. Music became a bigger part of the Church. Schools were opened in every monastery and diocese.

On Christmas Day, AD 800, Pope Leo III in Rome crowned Charlemagne as emperor, beginning what is often referred to as “The Holy Roman Empire.” Archbishops emerged as bishops of metropolitan areas.

From the seventh to the ninth centuries, the papacy moved decisively toward papal monarchy and the groundwork was laid for the medieval synthesis of church and state. This was done by the collecting of the *Pseudo-Isidorian Decretals*, a collection of canons, papers, and letters supposedly written by popes. What came from this was the understanding that the pope is the supreme ruler over all rulers, even above the Roman emperor.

Although the First Crusade contributed to the deterioration of many relationships, the capture of select targets brought western military rule to the Holy Land for a period of time under the protection of the Lord Protector Godfrey. Knightly monastic orders arose to protect conquered lands and to safeguard pilgrims, such as the Knights Templar founded in AD 1118 under Hugh de Payens. Although taking the common vows of monks—among them vows of

poverty, chastity, and obedience—the plunder of warfare did not highlight poverty. In fact, the Templars were envied for their wealth.

Fast forward to the Reformation, when the Church’s control was waning and the state was becoming more autonomous and powerful. Martin Luther did not initially intend to break from the Catholic Church when he posted his Ninety-Five Theses in AD 1517; he merely wanted to begin a discussion over the practice of selling indulgences. Luther’s distinctive theology, including his doctrine of justification by faith alone, developed over time and his opposition to Rome hardened as he was provoked by the Catholic Church and refused to recant what he believed to be the Bible’s clear teaching. While the Reformation centered on theological convictions, it also involved cultural, socioeconomic, and political factors that enabled Luther’s ideas to spread, take hold, and divide Europe in the 16th century.

The Reformation’s establishment in 16th century Switzerland was influenced by the region’s unique political situation as a confederation of autonomous “cantons” or states, as well as by Geneva’s history as an independent city with close ties to the Swiss Confederation. Huldreich Zwingli’s leadership in Zurich embraced a “magisterial reformation” that helped establish Protestantism in the Swiss territories, and was a key precursor to the Reformed tradition. John Calvin first arrived in Geneva in AD 1536. When he arrived, he didn’t intend to become the church leader that he became, let alone the foremost theologian and reformer for future Protestants. In fact, his stay in Geneva was supposed to be temporary, but the local reformer, William Farel, implored (or threatened) Calvin to stay and help with the Reformation in Geneva.

Calvin’s first attempt at reform ended in conflict, especially in matters of church discipline and liturgy. Less than three years after his arrival, he was exiled by the Genevan council in AD 1538 and went to Strasbourg, France, but the governing authorities who ran Calvin out of Geneva realized the city was in sharp moral decline in his absence. By AD 1541, the Genevan council invited Calvin back—not just to preach but to help shape the *spiritual* and *legal* (church and state) foundations of the city. The same secular authorities who removed Calvin now empowered him to establish a system of church governance, education, and worship grounded in Scripture.

Calvin returned in humility, courage, and conviction, knowing that God opened this door in an unexpected way and through unexpected people. Calvin’s work in Geneva would become one of the most influential movements in church history, laying foundations not only for theology but also for the state. Calvin’s leadership in Geneva contributed to the consolidation and expansion of the Reformed branch of Protestantism, of which Calvin himself emerged as an important theological source among several early leaders, among them Martin Bucer, Heinrich Bollinger, and Peter Vermigli.

The English Reformation emerged from both native developments and the influence of the wider continental Reformation. King Henry VIII broke from Rome in AD 1534 largely for pragmatic and political reasons, but also appointed reform-minded officials who facilitated England's embrace of Protestantism. He wanted to divorce Catherine of Aragon (the mother of Queen Mary) by annulment so he could marry Anne Boleyn (the future mother of Elizabeth I). Two factions emerged in Henry's court: conservatives who favored the ways of the old church and staunch Catholics, and progressives who leaned toward Protestant beliefs.

The English Reformation proceeded to ebb and flow until it was finalized during the long reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603), who established both a Protestant settlement in England and English power abroad through her skillful leadership over both political and religious affairs. Her reign firmly restored Protestantism to England via the Act of Supremacy (AD 1559) and the Act of Uniformity (AD 1559)—the so-called Elizabethan settlement. This was Parliament's attempt at a middle-of-the-road approach. Out of these acts came a group of dissenters who wished to hold more tightly to the preaching of the Word. The Puritans arose and wanted to purify the Elizabethan settlement of all Catholic semblance.

The relationship between the church and the state has been marked by many variations over the last 2,000 years. There were some peaceful times and some violent times, but the issues always boiled down to the relationship between the church and the state, and so when people started travelling to the New World in search of religious freedom within Christianity, the Founding Fathers of America knew that they had to get the relationship between church and state right.

History of America and the Constitution

The American Constitution, like any man-forged document, is fallible and incomplete. Even so, it does stand as a unique framework for government at its inception. The Founding Fathers set forth to establish a mixed government, with a limited monarch (the Executive branch), courts to interpret the law (the Judicial), and a representative republic to make laws (the Legislative). These three branches act as a "checks and balances" system and provide the framework for political and religious freedom. The addition of the amendments, particularly the First Amendment, established true freedom of religion and the separation of church and state. The Establishment Clause in the First Amendment prohibits the government from naming a state-sanctioned religion. It guards against the creation of a Church of America or the United States Church, as was witnessed in the Church of England. This clause, along with the Free Exercise clause allows each citizen to exercise their own religious beliefs and not face government sanctioned persecution or interference. This clause also protects against persecution faced by fellow citizens on the basis of religion.

As important as it was to the Founding Fathers to allow for this level of separation of church and state, it must also be noted that they were aware of the importance and necessity of strong morals to uphold the application of this precious document. James Madison, the primary author of the Constitution, wrote, “As there is a degree of depravity in mankind which requires a certain degree of circumspection and distrust, so there are other qualities in human nature which justify a certain portion of esteem and confidence. Republican government presupposes the existence of these qualities to a higher degree than any other form.”⁴ “Madison understood the inclination of the human heart toward depravity, declares Peter Lillback. “Left to our own devices, without the influence of morals, the constitution and the nation cannot stand.”⁵

The Founding Fathers understood that the church is from God. They agreed with Calvin that the magistrate should be kept out of the church. Philip Schaff says, “The United States furnishes the first example in history of a government deliberately depriving itself of all legislative control over religion.” The First Amendment is quite radical in the history of the world. “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”⁶ When Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury (CT) Baptists on January 1, 1802, he basically encouraged them that they need not worry about government interference because the First Amendment acts like a wall of separation. Jefferson did not tell them that the church could not speak about the Bible or encourage the government to act in a biblical manner. Jefferson even handed out Bibles to the schools of Washington, DC with government money, and he worshipped on Sundays in the Supreme Court chambers that were used to hold Sunday Morning church services. Clearly, Jefferson and the Founding Fathers recognized that the government needed the influence of the Church.⁷

George Washington said that the necessity of what government seeks to accomplish will only succeed with the presence of religion and morality. Religion and morality are indispensable supports for our political prosperity, and Washington disagreed with the deist idea that you can have moral people without the influence of religion. At the end of the Revolutionary War, Washington wrote 13 letters, one to each state’s governor, stressing that it was his “earnest prayer that you would do justice, love mercy,” quoting Micah 6:8. However, instead of finishing that verse (“...and walk humbly with your God”) Washington concluded, “and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.” For Washington, what Americans needed to

4 James Madison, “*Federalist No. 55*,” in *The Federalist*, ed. George W. Carey and James McClellan, Liberty Fund, 2001. Madison was greatly influenced by his studies at Princeton under John Witherspoon.

5 Peter Lillback, personal interview, July 15, 2025.

6 First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

7 Lillback, personal interview, July 15, 2025.

do was to imitate Christ in humility, love, and a commitment to peace, and if those Christian characteristics are absent, the new nation was never going to succeed.⁸

If the separation of church and state was established to keep the state in check and to ensure the free exercise of religion, what is the role of the church? Or more specifically, Christians in the nation? The government is to remain out of the affairs of the church, only to support and recognize the church. The church, as an entity, is to remain out of the state: to not endorse political candidates or parties or form any political parties of its own. The individual Christian is to be “salt and light”⁹ and to be a positive influence on the morals of society. The church is to focus on spiritual formation within people and, as people become more godly and more Christlike, their actions within society will promote a healthy and upright society. To focus on effecting societal changes before developing spiritual formation within a heart is to put the cart before the horse. Gospel transformation will lead to cultural transformation; it is never the other way around. This is similar to God’s call to the exiles to “seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”¹⁰ The reason exiles can seek the welfare of the city is because they already have the spiritual formation as revealed by their action to pray for the city.

A fine line is debated as to how much a church should influence the affairs of the state. Lillback notes, “John Murray spoke on the imperatives in which the church ought not to remain quiet. If the Bible speaks on it, then it should be spoken of from the pulpit.”¹¹ The Bible says much about good government, about the formation and direction of the family, and about how a moral, God-glorifying society ought to look and act. The church cannot and should not remain silent on issues of the state when God speaks clearly for or against them. The key is speaking for them and not mandating or trying to control them. Part of our role as Christians is to pray for our leaders in all spheres of government. The church should lift up in prayer those who are in authority because God has placed them there for His purposes and for His glory.

Define Christian Nationalism

The following questions were to be matters for consideration by this study committee:

Question # 1: *How does nationalism/patriotism function in view of Christ’s love for the world and His present/coming kingdom?*

Defining the term “Christian nationalism” is not an easy task. Since there is no widely

8 Ibid.

9 Matthew 5:13-18.

10 Jeremiah 29:7.

11 Lillback, interview. See also John Murray, “*The Relation of Church and State*,” in *Collected Writings of John Murray, Vol. 1: The Claims of Truth* (Banner of Truth, 1976, reprint 2001) for a beautiful exposition on how a church ought to handle the political sphere.

accepted definition, it is often used to promote or denigrate an ideological stance that may be more associated with political viewpoints. In particular, it is often meant to show how Christians relate to this nation and to undermine any engagement Christians may take in the public sphere. According to Lillback, “It is a phrase that has been invented so that an opprobrium can be cast upon believers. No one knows what it is and that’s its advantage... I think Christian nationalism was designed to be a confusing term right from the beginning.”¹²

Nonetheless, underlying any definition entails how one views the role of the church and government. Andrew Naselli’s taxonomy of seven views on religion and government is helpful in order for us to see the different viewpoints, however, it may seem like there are only two options available rather than the seven Naselli mentions.¹³ As Patrick Schreiner states, “With all the frustration and confusion, we are tempted to turn toward one of two extremes in terms of political engagement: nationalism or nonconformity. Either we combine our Christian hope with the state, or we avoid politics altogether.”¹⁴

With such an ambiguous term that is left to various interpretations, is it even possible to offer a definition or a more concrete description of Christian nationalism? Perhaps, as Jonathan Leeman does, we may offer a way to describe it by using two qualifying words: identify and influence.¹⁵ If in some manner we define Christian nationalism in terms of the word “identify,” we would say that a nation *identifies* with a particular worldview or religion. For those who would prefer the term “identify,” at its core, Christianity would be the identified or established religion by the government. This identity greatly affects all public policies and affairs, much like we might say Iran is greatly affected by its ties to or identity in Islam. However, even within an “identify” camp, there are, of course, nuances that may not go as far as wanting the government to establish a religion. They may simply be far more pessimistic that the current system can be changed and thus seek more significant philosophical changes.

To use the term “influence,” to say that America is *influenced* by Christianity is different than saying it is *identified* by Christianity. Our nation was heavily influenced by men who many identified as Christian and who espoused a Christian worldview, which influenced the way they drafted our Constitution and public policy. Similarly, there are those today who would hold to an influential role of Christianity upon a nation. Leeman describes advocates of this view as those who “have in mind Christians opening their Bibles; doing their best to understand what

¹² Lillback, personal interview, September 30, 2025.

¹³ Andrew Naselli, “What is the Spectrum of Major Views on Political Theology? A Proposed Taxonomy of Seven Views on Religion and Government,” in *ChristOverall*, Oct. 31, 2025. <https://christoverall.com/article/longform/what-is-the-spectrum-of-major-views-on-political-theology-a-proposed-taxonomy-of-seven-views-on-religion-and-government/>

¹⁴ Patrick Schreiner, *Political Gospel: Public Witness in a Politically Crazy World* (B & H Publishing, 2022), 55.

¹⁵ Jonathan Leeman, “‘Christian Nationalism Misrepresents’ Jesus, so We Should Reject It,” in *9Marks*, Nov. 4, 2025. <https://www.9marks.org/article/christian-nationalism-as-influence-or-identity/>

God requires of a nation; and then stepping into the public square and seeking to pass laws, establish practices, and encourage traditions in keeping with a biblical view of justice and righteousness.”¹⁶ The desire is not to bring change by dominance or power but by influence or persuasion.

In his analysis of Christian nationalism, Josh Daws, like Leeman, describes two similar categories of Christian nationalists: Practical Christian Nationalists and Theoretical Christian Nationalists:¹⁷ the Practical Christian Nationalist would draw similarities to Leeman’s “influencers” while the Theoretical Christian Nationalist would roughly compare to Leeman’s “identifiers.” Daws concludes, “That’s the Christian Nationalism debate in very broad strokes. Most folks aren’t going to fit neatly into any one of the aforementioned categories.”¹⁸ This is why Christian nationalism is hard to define and why, as Lillback has stated, it is a confusing term. It is not that nationalism or patriotism are bad terms, for that matter, and should not be mentioned by any Christian; that should not be our position. However, when taken to an extreme, they can elevate one’s nation and its values above God’s Kingdom and His values.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we take to heart Jesus’ words about being salt and light in this world. Like Paul wrote in Philippians 3:20, believers realize that their citizenship is in heaven. The goal is not to spread America’s values and ideals in this world, as if America is God’s chosen nation, but rather to spread the good news of Jesus Christ as citizens of His kingdom. In the words of John Piper, “In every nation, we are exiles! ... God does not endorse or encourage any kind of nationalistic or ethnocentric focus in his people. We belong to his kingdom first and foremost. That shapes everything... I want my life to count for the world, not just for my national or ethnic or geographic or cultural tribe. That shapes everything.”¹⁹

Question # 2: *How can leaders in Christ’s church address and promote biblical conduct regarding political issues without polarizing the body of Christ?*

It is interesting that the common thought in our nation is that there are two issues that a polite society does not discuss: religion and politics. Here we have been tasked with tackling both of those issues in one question. How do we as believers deal with those issues that we often hold close to our hearts and yet may disagree with others who share our same faith perspective? This is not a new issue within the body of Christ. As the body of Christ expanded from only a Jewish sect to a faith system that also included Gentiles, there were numerous points of conflict that needed to be worked out between this new organization known as the church.

16 Ibid.

17 Daws, “Christian Nationalism: A Primer for the Layman,” in *American Reformer*, Nov. 14, 2025. <https://americanreformer.org/2023/10/christian-nationalism-a-primer-for-the-layman/>

18 Ibid.

19 Tony Reinke, *Ask Pastor John: 750 Bible Answers to Life’s Most Important Questions* (Crossway, 2024), 53.

Gentiles had many different ideas, about how God should be worshipped and followed, that either were not included in God's law or were seemingly in contradiction to the law of God. How do you deal with these matters? The Apostle Paul wrote to numerous churches about how they ought to deal with these types of matters. In Paul's day, some of these issues included which day was the right day to worship, eating meat sacrificed to idols, whether or not to be circumcised, and other issues. Our topics are a bit different today but no less heartfelt. We believe it all comes down to what Paul wrote to the churches in Corinth and Rome, two bodies of believers that were known to be made up of a mix of Jews and Gentiles. In Romans 12, Paul states that we ought to offer our bodies as living sacrifices and be transformed by renewing our minds and not conforming to the pattern of this world; in the rest of the chapter, he explains a bit about what this looks like: that our love for one another ought to be genuine, that we should strive to outdo one another in showing love to each other, and that believers are to live in harmony with one another. In Romans 12:18, he says that, if possible, as it depends on us, we ought to live peaceably with one another. He stresses the importance of peace both within and outside the body of Christ.

Later, in Romans 14, Paul deals with some of the issues the congregation in Rome was facing: the eating of meat sacrificed to idols and the proper day to worship: Saturday or Sunday. We who are strong, he says, ought to bear with those whose faith is weaker. For this to take place, we need to view one another with true humility. Paul also addresses similar issues in his letter to a divided church in Corinth. In 1 Corinthians 1:10 Paul writes, "I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment." He appeals to the Corinthian believers to live in unity and not division. Then, after dealing with many issues the Corinthian church was facing, Paul in 1 Corinthians 13 defines what it means to truly love one another.

There are hints in some of Paul's other epistles that the churches to whom he was writing were also dealing with division. For instance, in Philippians 2:3-4, he writes, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." In Colossians 3:12-14 he adds, "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

Paul commends each church to set aside its differences and strive to live at peace with one another. James also writes, in James 1:19-20, "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God." This attitude helps to end disputes between brothers and sisters in

Christ. All this flows from the instructions that Christ gave to the disciples in the Upper Room prior to His crucifixion in John 15:12-13—“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” These Scriptures serve as a background as we strive to live in a highly polarized world.

So how do we, as leaders in Christ’s body, help encourage those under our care to live and think biblically in these areas? It begins with doing what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:1, where he writes, “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.” We need to set the standard in humility and unity. There will always be issues that strive to divide the body of Christ, but if we focus on prayer and humbly loving one another, we can lead our churches in true Christian unity. There may be times when we need to admit that we don’t have all the answers and so we must seek to learn more about the other person’s position in these polarizing issues. It takes humility to open yourself up to the possibility that you might not be right. We then need to continue to bring our people back to the Word of God in order to show them how God desires for us to set aside those matters that might be close to our hearts and strive to love each other as Christ loved us.

Current BPL – Examination

Article 23-1, Civil Government

Our BFC Article of Faith 23-1 reads, “God ordained and instituted civil government for the welfare of society, to promote and to protect the good and restrain and punish the evil. It is the duty of Christians to pray for those in authority, to render due loyalty, respect, and obedience to them, and to pay taxes and customs demanded of them. Where demands of civil law militate against the supreme and higher law of God, Christians should obey God rather than man.”

The committee believes that our existing Article of Faith aligns with Scripture and so no revisions, alterations, or changes need to be made. There are several key reasons why we believe this. First, the Article states that civil government was ordained and instituted by God. Throughout history, God is the one who raises up kings and brings down kings,²⁰ even if that “king” is a constitutional federal republic. Second, our Article highlights the fact that government is to promote and protect the good and restrain evil, which is what Paul teaches in Romans 13:1-3. Third, as Christians, we are to pray for our leaders—whether you voted for them or not. Fourth, we are to be patriots. Patriotism comes from the Latin word *pater*, and we understand in Scripture that we are to honor our father and mother. When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, His answer was “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the

²⁰ Daniel 2:21.

Law and the Prophets.”²¹ One way we love God and love our neighbor is by honoring them. The first tablet of the Ten Commandments speaks to God’s children honoring God as their father; the second tablet speaks to us honoring one another and begins with “Honor your father and mother.”

As Christians, we are commanded by God to be honorable citizens of the country we call home. This means that we “render to Caesar that which is Caesar’s.”²² It also includes paying taxes, obeying the speed limit, voting in elections, serving on jury duty, etc. We honor God when we honor our civic duties. However, as our Article states, when the civil laws militate against God’s law, then we must honor the greater authority. God’s law always surpasses man’s law, but so long as man’s law does not violate God’s law or cause us to sin, then we must obey man’s law.

BPL 104-3, 104-4 – Civil Government, Christian Liberty & Servanthood

The committee believes that our Biblical Principles for Living 104-3 is thorough in helping believers understand and navigate the Christian life and our responsibilities in society. But we would also like to highlight Article 104-4 on Christian Liberty and Servanthood. Throughout Paul’s writing, he speaks often about a person’s conscience.²³ We understand that within theology there is what is called “theological triage.” For instance, the doctrine of the Trinity is of greater importance to salvation than, say, the doctrines of supralapsarianism and infralapsarianism. The same triage should be applied to issues of public policy. When we come to issues of public policy where we believe the Scriptures are abundantly clear and we are compelled to speak, we must establish a position decently and in order²⁴ and communicate that position to our congregation. Some current examples of this would be same-sex marriage, abortion, and euthanasia. But will there be issues that are neither right nor wrong, issues that do not touch doctrinal integrity: issues of minor importance where believers can disagree and keep the unity of peace? Absolutely. For example, one believer may think that we should remove all speed limits while another believer thinks that speed limits should be lowered. In such cases, we have the liberty and freedom to hold our opinion without it affecting the unity of the church.

Conclusion

The late Harry Reeder, in his book *3D Leadership*, while speaking to the responsibilities of a pastor leading his local congregation, says, “Genuine leaders exercise leadership to exalt the Lord and shepherd their families and the church while thoughtfully committing to influence the

21 Matthew 22:37-40.

22 Matthew 22:21a.

23 See Acts 23:1; 24:16; Rom. 2:15; 9:1; 13:5; 1 Cor. 10:25-29; 1 Tim. 1:5, 19; 2 Tim. 1:3. This is a partial list.

24 1 Corinthians 14:40.

world for Christ and reproduce leaders who will shake the world.”²⁵ This quote gets at the heart of how the church and state ought to relate to one another. As Christians, our first priority is God, His Word, His Kingdom, the edification of the saints, and the evangelism of the world. This is the greatest commandment: to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. Second, we seek to honor the authority that God has put over us by loving our neighbor as ourselves. As long as we have the proper order of addressing spiritual formation first, then our spiritual formation will begin to have a positive influence on society and culture.

The church, the state, and the family all have their own spheres of sovereignty and authority and no other sphere can or should have control of another. The church cannot mandate or dictate public policy; nor should the church replace the role of husbands and wives, or fathers and mothers. The state cannot mandate church doctrine or policy, nor can the state usurp the role of fathers and mothers or redefine the family and its roles. Likewise, the family cannot determine the doctrine or policies of the church, nor can the family carry out the duties and responsibilities of the state. Each sphere has authority to handle its God-given responsibilities. However, each sphere will interact with one another, and when each sphere is fulfilling its God-designed function, all three spheres flourish. Trouble occurs when one sphere relinquishes its duties or another sphere attempts a hostile takeover. May we be a denomination that honors the Lord in how we speak and interact with the world around us.

Resolutions

The committee met four times throughout the year. After reviewing Article 23 and BPL 104-3, the committee believes that our current verbiage is sufficient and does not need to be revised, altered, or changed.

Appendix – Ezra 7:25-26

Ezra the priest was God’s chosen man (as was Artaxerxes) to bring revitalization to the people of God in Jerusalem 80 years after the first remnant group returned under King Cyrus. Ezra’s main purpose in returning to Jerusalem is revealed in Ezra 7:25-26. “And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand, appoint magistrates and judges who may judge all the people in the province Beyond the River, all such as know the laws of your God. And those who do not know them, you shall teach. Whoever will not obey the law of your God and the law of the king, let judgment be strictly executed on him, whether for death or for banishment or for confiscation of his goods or for imprisonment.”

Ezra was tasked with appointing magistrates and judges in the province Beyond the River—that is, the land west of the Jordan River under Persian control. Ezra was acting governor of

25 Harry Reeder, *3D Leadership* (Christian Focus Publications, 2018), 49.

Judah, although he never held that official title. But like Joseph in Egypt, Ezra was working for a foreign government and was given the authority to enact sanctions upon the people for non-compliance. But notice the punishments that Ezra was allowed to impose: the death penalty, banishment, confiscation of property, or imprisonment. Those are matters of *Persian* jurisprudence. Israel, for instance, had no penalty of imprisonment. Nowhere in the Old Testament does it say that the punishment for a crime is imprisonment. Dungeons were used, but they were primarily used to hold someone awaiting trial. So in this we are seeing that Ezra is calling the people to live under God *and* under the state. God has authority over you, *and* the state has authority over you.

In the above passage, Derek Thomas says six things may be observed:²⁶

One thing Ezra is not doing is turning Jerusalem into a theonomistic society, where God and His Word are the sole authority over the people. Although the people will be held accountable to the Word of God, they will also be held accountable to the laws of the king of Persia. The same was true in Jesus' time, where the people were held accountable to the Word of God and to the laws of Rome. Today, we are held accountable to the Word of God but we are also accountable to the laws of the United States.

Second, we see that respect for civil law was important in Jewish society. The law of God has three categories: the moral law, the ceremonial law, and the civil law. Civil law was meant to be a blueprint for a healthy society.

Third, we see that the office of civil magistrate is an honorable one. While at present it is difficult to look at our government and say there are honorable people in office, nonetheless, the office is honorable. Consider the office of judge: Why, when judges are introduced, do bailiffs declare, "All rise for the *honorable* judge so-and-so"? The office is honorable because the person holding that office is appointed as one who is responsible for appropriately implementing the sanctions and punishments of the legal code—a responsibility placed on the office by God. By extension, resisting the lawful authority of those in those offices is equivalent to resisting God, for Paul says in Romans 13, "Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad." Christians are to honor appropriately those in authority over us, and the state has authority over its citizens.

Fourth, Christians should accept the office of civil magistrate in a secular society as an honorable office. Christians can and should serve in government. Joseph did, Daniel did, Ezra did, Nehemiah did, not to mention people like King David, King Solomon, Queen Esther: people who *were* the government. But you may say, those are all Old Testament characters. Well, in the New Testament we see that Zacchaeus and Cornelius, among others, held significant positions in

26 Derek W. H. Thomas, *Ezra and Nehemiah*, Reformed Expository Commentary (P & R Publishing, 2016), 129-30.

the government. As John Calvin has remarked:

The Lord has not only testified that the office of magistrate is approved by and acceptable to him, but he also sets out its dignity with the most honorable titles and marvelously commends it to us... It has not come about by human perversity that the authority over all things on earth is in the hands of kings and other rulers, but by divine providence and holy ordinance. For God was pleased so to rule the affairs of men, inasmuch as he is present with them and also presides over the making of laws and the exercising of equity in courts of justice.²⁷

Fifth, we must always remember that no amount of enforcing punishments for wrongdoing can change the human heart. The state cannot coerce men and women into the kingdom of God. For instance, what if the U.S. passed a law that said, “Everyone must attend church on Sunday or face severe punishment”? Would that law grow the kingdom? No. Because only the Spirit of God regenerates the heart.

Just like the state cannot grow the kingdom of God, so too should the church not become distracted in its mission of preaching the gospel to take on secular matters. John Murray wrote, “To put the matter bluntly, the church is not to engage in politics. Its members must do so, but only in their capacity as citizens of the state, not as members of the church. The church is not to create or foster political parties or blocs.” The church’s mission focuses on the gospel, not public policy. But individual Christians should be involved in matters of the state, as conscience allows. If the church aims for cultural transformation, we will miss gospel transformation. But if we aim at gospel transformation, we will also hit cultural transformation. The purpose and function of the state and of the church are different, and we must always keep this difference in mind. Great injury and strife are created when both the state and the church ignore or confuse their respective roles.

In the providence of God, God has created what is known as “sphere sovereignty,” a term originated by Abraham Kuyper. Simply put, the spheres of life, such as the family, the church, the state, industry, agriculture, etc. are distinct, yet each sphere will have influence upon the other.²⁸

For our purposes concerning Ezra 7, there is a rightful authority that the Word of God has over our lives, and there is a rightful authority that the state has over our lives. But all spheres of sovereignty are under the all-encompassing sovereignty of Christ. Remember Jesus’ famous line from Matthew 22:21—“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that

²⁷ John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 4.20.4.

²⁸ Abraham Kuyper, *Our Program: A Christian Political Manifesto*, from Abraham Kuyper Collected Works in Public Theology (Lexham Press, 2015), 70, 380-381.

are God's." Christians must honor and respect authority because God calls us to do so. But when the state requires something of us that breaks God's laws, such as a law prohibiting our gathering for worship, then "We must obey God rather than men"—even if it leads to our arrest.

The point is, biblically grounded Christians will be praying for those in government, will support the state, will not be rebellious, and will obey because our obedience to the state is an expression of our obedience to Christ. As long as laws are not sinful or opposed to God, then we must obey. Drive the speed limit. Pay your taxes. Vote in elections. Serve on jury duty. Render to Caesar the things that are Caesars.

Sixth and finally, it is important that we understand the nature of Ezra's office. Ezra was being established as a new Moses; he was to enforce and teach the Law of God, just as Moses did before him. Ezra was to arrive in Jerusalem and appoint magistrates and judges—something Moses did at the advice of his father-in-law Jethro in Exodus 18. Although Ezra is a priest and a scribe, Ezra is also a diplomat who serves the people of God and the Persian monarchy.

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Additional Resources to the Bibliography

Disclaimer: The committee does not endorse the ideas in every resource listed below.

The purpose of this list is to help provide further reading on this topic from authors who hold different perspectives.

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10. Walker, Andrew. *What does "Christian Nationalism" even mean?* <https://wng.org/opinions/what-does-christian-nationalism-even-mean-1666700202>
11. Wilson, Douglas. *Mere Christendom*.
12. Wolfe, Stephen. *The Case For Christian Nationalism*.

Report on the Study Committee on Stewardship

At the 139th BFC Conference, the Study Committee to Review the Biblical Principles for Living proposed a revised schedule of motions in which new study committees would be formed to address various pertinent issues as well as BPL Articles which needed review (See 2022 Yearbook, pp. 123-24). In that schedule, a study committee to examine our statement on Stewardship was to be formed in 2024. For various reasons, that motion did not reach the floor of BFC Conference until 2025, where Conference voted in favor of the motion (See 2025 Yearbook, p. 26).

The motion was as follows:

Resolved, that the BFC Conference appoint a committee to re-examine its statement on Stewardship (104-1) by considering the following questions:

1. What should be the church's position with regard to climate change, its causes, and cures?
2. Are current environmental concerns consistent with the biblical concept of human stewardship of the earth and its resources?
3. Should the church express environmental concerns? Is so, to what extent?

The committee formed as a result of that favorable vote met five times and benefited from Bible study, the sharing of resources, and energetic conversations. We are not yet ready to present the conclusion of our study but plan to do so, Lord willing, at the 144th BFC Conference in 2027.

We ask you to pray for us and invite you to contact any of us with input you deem helpful.

Study Committee on Stewardship: Joshua P. Gibson, Chairman; Clifford B. Boone, Secretary; Tracy D. Haines, Edward Snyder-Ritter.

Report from the Board of Missions

The purpose of the Board of Missions (BOM) is outlined in Article 512-3.1 of the Principles of Order. In general, we are tasked by Conference to develop and oversee the missions program of the Bible Fellowship Church.

The immensity of this task is clearly expressed in Mark 16:15. “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” We believe this is the mission of God. Jesus said, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you,” and in Acts 1:8, He told His followers, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Every believer, therefore, is both a witness and one who is sent. For some, being sent means crossing cultural, geographical, and linguistic boundaries.

The Board of Missions was challenged by the Executive Board, through the BFCCon150 plan, to help achieve the goal of “having every church passionately focused on fulfilling the Great Commission and the BFC mission.”

Here is how the Board of Missions has been working toward this goal:

Proclamation

We proclaim God’s heart for the nations to the churches of the BFC in order to raise awareness of our role in obeying the Great Commission, and to call BFC churches to pursue intentional involvement in God’s global, cross-cultural work.

This past year, Director James D. MacArthur visited 36 BFC churches, speaking or giving a short report at 15 of them. The Board of Missions organized three meetings in Emmaus, PA, Harrisburg, PA, and Ephrata, PA in order to introduce AIM USA Director Colin McDougal, who shared about the unreached in Africa and AIM’s work there. In 2026, we hope to sponsor additional agency introductions to continue educating our churches about God’s global work through these partners.

Strategic Planning

We seek to foster strategic thinking for BFC Global Outreach with the goals of evangelism, church planting, and strengthening the global church, especially among unreached and unengaged peoples.

At last year’s BFC Conference, MacArthur challenged Conference by asking, “What can we do better together than apart to fulfill the Great Commission?” Your feedback was summarized and distributed to you. These ideas continue to be reviewed as we consider ways to elevate awareness and participation through strategic collaboration in pursuing the mission of God.

One vision MacArthur has for the BFC is that we come together to select an unengaged people group and to raise up, equip, support, and send out BFC teams to that people group, taking it off the Unengaged Peoples group list. He would also love to see additional units raised up to join existing BFC workers or teams, such as those in the nation of Chad, in north-central Africa. But how can this happen? What must change or be developed in order for this to happen?

Mobilization

We seek to mobilize future workers from our BFC churches. We come alongside churches to provide resources, training, and guidance in the selection of agencies under which personnel will serve. We also vet candidates seeking membership with the Board of Missions. If approved, they become our official representatives on the field.

In recent years, we have seen a downturn in supported workers due to retirements and ministry transitions. This trend must be reversed so that new workers begin to outpace the loss of existing workers. We call upon our churches to look among their own people and discern those in whom God is at work. Ask God to reveal those He is directing toward missions, as seen in Acts 13.

At present we are tracking with 12 different singles and couples who are at various stages of the process. In addition, we maintain a presence at events such as Sno-Glo and organize other opportunities to make connections and begin conversations with those whom God may be calling. One such event is the *Mission: Possible* event that will be held on Saturday, April 25. *Mission: Possible* is a one-day conference for 18-30 somethings. The event will bring young adults together and will present the deeper challenge of walking with God in order to use their gifts and abilities for the advancement of the family of God. Please pray that God would work through the event and that God would lay on your heart the names of one, two, or more young adults to personally invite.

Shepherding Care

In partnership with local BFC home-sending churches, we provide care for BOM-supported workers. Needs may arise from changes in ministry direction, times of crisis, or for other reasons. We believe the local church bears primary responsibility for the care of its sent workers. For some, this represents a shift in thinking, as responsibility is often delegated to an agency. While agencies play an important role, we are reminded that the church is God's primary instrument for evangelizing the world.

To stay informed, MacArthur maintains regular contact with our workers through various means. When workers are in the area, he seeks to meet personally with them for debriefing and encouragement. One of our greatest joys is praying for and with them.

It is our goal to return to a semi-annual reporting model, requesting updates in several key areas. These reports are then shared with the missionaries' home-sending churches.

Prayer across the BFC is encouraged and facilitated through our weekly Friday Prayer emails and monthly prayer calendar. You may sign up to receive these by emailing office@bfc.org.

Consulting

When requested, we come alongside churches to assist them in developing or strengthening their missions programs. To better understand what is already in place, MacArthur has been attending churches' missions committee meetings in order to listen and learn.

We also provide resources to support missionary development and care. We occasionally publish articles addressing missions-related topics. At the 2026 BFC Conference, pastors and delegates will receive a copy of *Missions on Point* by David Meade, along with the accompanying workbook.

Additionally, on September 26, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Calvary BFC in Coopersburg, PA, we will hold an equipping workshop for all BFC churches. Our desire is for pastors and missions committee members to attend from each of our churches. The day will include teaching followed by guided work time for our churches to apply what they have learned to their own missions program. The training will be provided by Propempo International, an equipping organization led by David Meade. Please plan for this now. Whether your church is large or small, we can all benefit from thinking more strategically about missions.

Financial Services

We provide a streamlined method for churches to support Board of Missions workers by allowing all BOM support to be combined into a single check mailed to the BOM. We also stabilize workers' monthly support by distributing regular payments based on each church's annual budgeted amount, divided into 12 equal monthly payments and disbursed at the beginning of each month.

Except for those directly serving under the BOM, no funds given for worker support are used for administrative purposes. Our administrative budget is supported through donations from churches and individuals, as well as income from investments. We ask for your prayerful consideration in supporting this work.

The BOM office serves as the hub for donor and church information and all financial processing. We compile and maintain necessary records to keep churches informed of the financial needs of our entire missionary family. Addresses and birthdays are kept current for missionary committees and societies, and all financial donations are carefully receipted for both donor and missionary records.

Additional financial and statistical information is included elsewhere in this report, along with an updated list of missionaries and sending boards in the BFC Conference Yearbook.

We praise God for our workers and give thanks for the eternal impact God is making through their ministries.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Board of Missions: James D. MacArthur, Director; Sean McNamara, Chairman; Craig Tress, Vice-Chairman; Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Secretary; Stephen Large, Treasurer; John C. Elias, Swannie Griffin, Barry Miller, Lesa Miller, Thomas H. Morrison, Kim Stengele.

Board of Missions Facts

	2024	2025
Adult Envoys In Active Service		
• Couples	42	39
• Singles	15	16
Total Envoys in Active Service	99	94
New Envoys Deployed	1	6
Appointees	1	0
Applicants Under Consideration	4	0
Agencies fielding BFC missionaries	30	29

Distribution of our Missionary family

ACTIVE ENVOYS ONLY

Area	Households	Adults	Countries
North America	26	47	United States Canada
Latin America	7	12	Mexico Costa Rica Bolivia Ecuador
Europe	10	19	France Italy Greece Germany Czech Republic Serbia Canary Islands
Africa	6	8	Chad Kenya Morocco South Sudan Togo
Asia	6	8	Thailand Indonesia Malaysia Central Asia Japan

Financial Facts 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Number of churches supporting missionaries through the Board of Missions:	45
Contributions of churches through the BFCBOM:	\$1,387,159
Contributions of individual donors through the BFCBOM:	\$343,566
Total contributions to Missions projects through the BFCBOM:	\$1,730,726
Total disbursements to Missions projects during 2025:	\$1,564,378
Buttress disbursements:	\$3,850

Missionary Directory

Adams, Samuel and Melissa



1229 N. 23rd Street, Allentown, PA 18104
(610) 349-7434
wordoflifesam@yahoo.com
CMTS Ministries
Providing needed supplies and vehicles to missionaries

Chmil, Dr. Steven and Bethany



Contact BOM for mailing address
2-289-239-2503
steven.chmil@outlook.com
ABWE
Bible institute professor and church planting in Mango, Togo

B., Lisa



Contact BOM for contact info
CMCUS
Mobilizing students and future missionaries especially on college campuses

Cyr, Jeff and Kim



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Director of Student Life at Black Forest Academy

Beal, Bruce and Heather



7500 W. Camp Wisdom Road, Dallas, TX 75236
214-316-4527
bruce_beal@wycliffe.org
Wycliffe Bible Translators
Training linguists, caring for missionary children, and linguistic consulting for translators

working in Mexico

Dalavai, Sanjay and Keren



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Life Change Ministries International
Reaching children through Christian camping in India,

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Blauser, R. Glenn and Leah Ruth



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Warehouse manager handling deliveries of needed supplies to missionaries around the world

de Souza, Fernando



Call BOM for contact information
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Africa Inland Mission
Ministering to an unreached people group in Chad through English teaching, sports, and community health

Campbell, Mark and Jasmin



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de Souza, Francisco and Eliane



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mary.diede@aimint.org

Africa Inland Mission
Partnering with a ministry serving international refugees through ESL, friendship evangelism, hospitality, and discipleship in downtown Calgary, Canada

Elijas, Jaroslav and Natalija



Novohradska 15, 21470 Backi,
Petrovac, Serbia
family.elijas@gmail.com

Yugoslavian Evangelistic Society
Evangelism, discipleship, church planting, relief work and radio ministry in Serbia

Evans, Scott and Robin



225 Pearl Street, Lancaster, PA
17603
(484) 797-4816
scott.evans.326@gmail.com

Coalition for Christian Outreach
Campus ministry to student athletes and coaches at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA

Everett, Amy



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Allentown, PA 18103
aeverett@bfc.org
BFC Board of Missions
Developing ESL outreach ministries in BFC churches

Franka, Ondrej and Milina



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Serbia
ofranka@icloud.com

Yugoslavian Evangelistic Society
Evangelism, discipleship, church planting, relief work and radio ministry in Serbia

Gudeman, Andrew and Trisha



16453 E. Clark Road #4, Palmer,
AK 99645
teamgudeman@gmail.com
Kingdom Air Corp
Repair, maintenance and modification of aircraft serving missionary aviation needs around the world from Alaska

Hartranft, Alex



Contact BOM for contact information
alex.hartranft@aimint.org
Africa Inland Mission
Ministering to an unreached people group in Chad through English teaching, sports and community health

Head, Jim and Lynne



3012 Arsdale Road, Waxhaw, NC
28173
(282) 447-9105
Jim.Head@worldteam.org

World Team
Training and counseling missionaries serving with World Team, Wycliffe, and JAARS

Kelly, David and Kristy



1175 Chemin Thomas Woodward,
Sherbrooke Quebec, J1M 0B4
davidk@paroledevie.ca

Word of Life
Director WOL Quebec, Coordinating summer and winter camps, and discipleship with students at Word of Life Bible Institute in Quebec oversee language institute

Kline, Cheryl



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Chiang Mai 50230

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Bethany Fellowship Missions
Teacher at Bethany Fellowship International School in Thailand

Knaub, Kimberly



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Pioneers International
Administrative work for Pioneers East Africa, children's and discipleship ministry African International University

L., Brian and Carol Ann



Canada
Contact BOM for more info

Madara, Katie



Doel Nagara, Apartment 102,
50-1 Iwase, Matsudo shi, Chiba
Ken, Japan 271-0076
kathryn.madara@abwego.org
ABWE
Language learning in a suburb of Tokyo, Japan to engage in evangelism and discipleship

Merkey, Kyle and Jenny



5932 Meadowmere Drive,
Monroe, NC 28110
(803) 285-0710
kyle_merkey@jaars.org
Wycliffe Bible Translators
Aircraft maintenance

Merrick, Chris and Beckie



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19506
(610) 488-6085
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BFC Board of Missions
Coordinator of small group missions trips and projects

M., Hannah



Contact BOM for contact info
CMCUS

Merrick, Stephen and Alexandra



10101 Dellwood Drive, El Paso,
TX 79924
(610) 698-2316
stephen_merrick@ntm.org
Ethnos360
Maintenance of mission properties and construction, support of tribal missionaries

Miller, Karena



34 Waverly Avenue, Apt 4,
Lancaster, PA 17601
karena.miller@crossworld.org
CrossWorld
In Canary Islands, evangelism and discipleship, preparing new missionaries prior to initial field deployment, supporting and encouraging others in language and cultural adaptation

Moussa, Joseph and Thana



3727 Wheatland Drive, Dover, PA
17315
(301) 661-8044
moussamission@gmail.com
World Team
Arabic language evangelism in Eastern and Central PA

Moyer, Jerry and Carolyn



37B, rue de la Gerbe d'Or, 78114
Magny-Les-Hameaux, FRANCE
jerry.moyer@worldteam.org
World Team
Jerry is Europe Area Director and Carolyn is Global Mobilization Coordinator

Murrin, Tony and Joanna



Casilla 553, Cochabamba,
Bolivia, 011-591-424-6792
tjmurrin@gmail.com
International Tribal Missions
Missionary aviation, evangelism and discipleship

Nicely, John and Judy



0s054 Cottonwood Drive, Wheaton,
IL 60187
(630) 653-6793
galatia30@hotmail.com
The Evangelical Alliance Mission
Global Services Projects, training and caring for TEAM MKs

Ramos, Temo and Melea



4300 S Business Highway 281,
Edinburg, TX 78539
melesashaeffer@gmail.com
Rio Grande Global
*Mobilizing global workers from
Latino churches*

Robison, Laura



c/o SIL Juba, PO Box 44456-
00100, Nairobi, Kenya,
laura_robison@sil.org
Wycliffe Bible Translators/SIL
*Bible translation teams, develop-
ing materials, training people so
that every member of a communi-
ty can engage meaningfully with*

Scripture; based in South Sudan

Randolph, Nelson and Robyn



1705 Reading Drive, Bethlehem,
PA 18015
(484) 201-1246
kosovakid@hotmail.com
BFC Board of Missions
*Assisting BFC churches with
short-term mission projects,
creating opportunities to serve*

through Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Schlonecker, Chico and Denise



Maugenhard Dorm, Feuerbacher
Strasse 29,
Kandem, Germany 79400
chico.schlonecker@gmail.com
TEAM
*Black Forest Academy house
parents*

Rauch, Joshua and Rebekah



PO Box 248, Waxhaw, NC 28173
(717) 858-7559
joshua_rauch@wycliffe.org
Wycliffe/JAARS
Aircraft mechanic
Pray for finances, our family life
in the RV, and for a house.

Sefiane, Nathan and Cindy



B.P. 17, 53100 Azrou, Morocco,
North Africa
nathandcindy@yahoo.com
MissionGo
*Maintenance, teaching, and house
parents at Children's Haven*

Reimer, Nate



2147 Becker St, Allentown, PA
18106
(610) 751-1787
nate.reimer@dm.org
Disciplemakers
*Outreach ministry to college cam-
puses in the Lehigh Valley*

Shelly, David and Sherry



52513 CR 425, Fresno, OH 43824
(740) 545-0110
Dave.Shelly@mmsaviation.org
**Missionary Maintenance Ser-
vices Aviation**
*Preparing people and planes for
worldwide missionary service*

Reyes, Arthur and Vicki



Apdo Postal 106, San Jose del
Cabo, BCS, 23400, Mexico
artvickireyes@hotmail.com
**The Evangelical Alliance
Mission**
*Church planting through disci-
ple-making*

Shogren, Dr. Gary and Karen



49 Germantown Avenue, Christi-
ana, PA 17509
(717) 663-8577
gsshogren@gmail.com
World Venture
*Professors of New Testament and
Women's Ministries at Seminario
ESEPA and ministry to victims of*

sexual abuse

Riddell, David and Rebecca



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Osny, FRANCE
david.riddell4@orange.fr
World Team
*International Director of World
Team, mentoring, coaching, lead-
ing workers throughout World
Team in multiplying disciples and
communities of believers*

Sioukiouroglou, Efthemes and Eirini



PO Box 454, Koropi - 19400,
Greece
loveforgreece@yahoo.gr
**Fellowship International Mis-
sion**
*Outreach to Muslim refugees and
church planting*

Solt, Lillian



Los Lagos de Heredia, Casa 58C,
Heredia 3003, Costa Rica/Central
America
lillian@cedcas.org
**Mesa Global (previously United
World Mission)**
*Medical ministry, community ser-
vice, and evangelism in support of church planting*

Studenroth, Dr. John and Laura



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19510
(610) 914-7289
chaplain.john.s@gmail.com
BFC Board of Missions
*Reaching faculty, staff, and stu-
dents and Kutztown University*

Vargas, Luis and Haleigh



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75068
(214) 458-2658
passionwithcompassion@gmail.
com
International Tribal Missions
*Part of a church planting initiative
in a tribal village in Bolivia*

Zikanovi, Ondra and Melissa



Vlárská 1416/51, 104 00, Praha 10
– Uhřetěves,
Česká republika
Melissa.Zikanova@team.org
**The Evangelical Alliance Mis-
sion**
*Disciple makers and church de-
velopers amongst a predominantly*

atheistic people

G.P.

World Team

*language learning, providing language support to new
team-members and collecting language resources, primarily
developing relationships with locals and evangelizing.*

J & B

Ethnos360

*Ministry to a tribe of people, full-time dorm parents for this
year at the international school*

D & A

Global Serve International

Learn the language, build a team, make local relationships

D&J

PI

*Business as mission, discipleship, leadership development,
prayer*

T.F.

OMF

*Consultant to a local non-government organization
that works with people with disabilities now referred to
neurodivergent individuals*

K&R

Team Expansion

Working to establish a disciple-making movement

Report of the Ministerial Candidate Committee

The Ministerial Candidate Committee met nine times since the last BFC Conference in order to interview 17 men. The list of men under the care of the committee stands at 60. Several men are working through the Equivalency Training Program.

An orientation seminar was held at Victory Valley Camp on June 4-5, 2025. Eighteen men participated in this seminar.

The following men were approved as probationers eligible to receive a call: Manuel Brambila, Laszlo Onody, Connor A. Roskowski, Tirus T. Twyne, Joshua P. Von Holt, Gary L. White, Judah E. Wise.

The following men were licensed as probationers: Shawn C. Rohrbach, Connor A. Roskowski, Joshua P. Von Holt, Judah E. Wise.

The following men were recommended to the Ministerial Credentials Committee for ordination or recognition of previous ordination: Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jacob B. Dearmon, Benenz J. Hitchcock, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, Benjamin C. Ross, John P. Sullivan.

We have begun to explore the possibility of partnering with Bible Mesh to create a theological training program that would be useful in preparing men for pastoral ministry. The plan would be for this program to be used for men referred to the Equivalency Training Program as stated in the BFC Faith & Order (511-3.6), as well as other men seeking theological training in order to be ordained in the BFC.

Resolved, that the following list of men under the care of the Ministerial Candidate Committee be approved:

Probationers

(Probationers have completed all preliminary testing and are approved for service in a Bible Fellowship Church. Licensed probationers are serving under a call and are indicated by the year of their licensure in parentheses.)

Beltran, Luis E.	Reading, PA
Bogert, Peter C. (2024)	Center Valley, PA
Brambila, Manuel	Cannes, France
Cali, Daniel A. (2024)	Denville, NJ
Crawford, Daryl A. (2024)	New Tripoli, PA
Dearmon, Jacob B. (2024)	Hellertown, PA
Falzarano, Jason D. (2025)	North Brunswick, NJ
Haruna, John D. (2022)	Harleysville, PA
Hitchcock, Benenz J. (2023)	Zionsville, PA
Lefko, Christian D. (2025)	Reading, PA
Limm, Jonathan (2025)	Newark, DE
MacArthur, James D. (2024)	Oley, PA
Miller, Nathanael A. (2025)	Columbia, PA

Myers, Steven K. (2025)
Olbrys, Brandon D. (2024)
Onody, Laszlo
Paquette, Richard J. (2024)
Parsons, David J. (2024)
Rohrbach, Shawn C. (2025)
Roskowski, Connor A. (2025)
Ross, Benjamin C. (2023)
Sullivan, John P. (2024)
Trommler, Nathan G. (2024)
Twyne, Tirus T.
Vasel, Andrew J. (2024)
Von Holt, Joshua P. (2025)
White, Gary
Wise, Judah E. (2025)

Topton, PA
Phillipsburg, NJ
Catasauqua, PA
Easton, PA
Denver, PA
Fleetwood, PA
Royersford, PA
Shillington, PA
Nazareth, PA
Allentown, PA
New Holland, PA
Pottstown, PA
Catasauqua, PA
Reading, PA
Myerstown, PA

Candidates

(Candidates have been interviewed and approved to take the Open Book Examination.)

Clark, Harrison J.
Cobb, Logan T.
Cooley, Wayne V., Jr.
Diffenderfer, Ryan J.
Folks, Jayonn C.
Giampa, Jeffrey G
Gibson, DaQuan T.
Hard, Michael E.
Herb, Benjamin M.
Kabakjian, Daniel M.
Lintner, Andrew J.
Lockhart, William T., Jr.
McNamara, Sean
Mease, Jordan T.
Measell, Adam J.
Noll, Matthew D.
Orlowski, Nathanael M.
Reichard, Caleb M.
Schwenig, Christian
Solórzano, L. Daniel
Swanson, Thomas J.
Tower, Brad
Vega, Isaias
Vetterani, Thomas A.
Webb, Cameron E.

Newark, DE
Coopersburg, PA
Lancaster, PA
Reading, PA
Harrisburg, PA
Murrieta, CA
Elkton, MD
Saylorsburg, PA
Newhall, CA
Quakertown, PA
Harrisburg, PA
Fleetwood, PA
Gilbertsville, PA
Oley, PA
Parkesburg, PA
Denver, PA
Harleysville, PA
Boyertown, PA
Kutztown, PA
Tapachula Chiapas, Mexico
Denver, PA
Spring City, PA
Wernersville, PA
Coopersburg, PA
Allentown, PA

Weber, Kevin M.
Welsh, Stephen M.

Reading, PA
Lancaster, PA

Applicants

(Applicants have indicated their interest in serving in a Bible Fellowship Church.)

Gonzalez, Benjamin
Herb, Zachariah
Massaquoi, William N.
Saleb, Samuel
Sisto, Josiah

Kunkletown, PA
Jonestown, PA
Philadelphia, PA
Broken Arrow, OK
North Hollywood, CA

Ministerial Candidate Committee: Joshua P. Miller, Chairman; Andrew T. Crossgrove, Secretary; Andrew W. Barnes, Applications Secretary; Wesley H. Bunting, David E. Gundrum, Richard E. Taylor, Christopher M. Von Holt.

Report of the Ministerial Relations Committee

The Ministerial Relations Committee assists churches and pastors during transitions in ministry. The committee normally holds three regular meetings per year; we met three times in 2025. We conducted the remainder of our normal business via email. In addition, committee representatives conversed throughout the year with pastors and churches seeking a pastor. We also met with elders and pastors to seek the strength of the relationship between them.

The following **resignations** occurred according to our rules this year:

Church	Pastor	Effective Date
Lehighon, PA	Robert A. Johnson	July 1, 2025
Allentown, PA	Stephen A. Diaz	July 7, 2025
Quakertown, PA	Ezekiel R. Mack	September 9, 2025
Kutztown, PA	Sandy H. Holbert	October 5, 2025
Reading, PA	Randall A. Grossman	January 31, 2026
Red Hill, PA	Michael C. Meadows	January 11, 2026
Forks Township, PA	Timothy M. Zuck	March 31, 2026

The following **calls** were issued according to our rules this year:

Church	Pastor	Effective Date
Newark, DE	Jonathan Limm	February 18, 2025
Church Extension	Christian D. Lefko	March 20, 2025
Executive Board	Timothy M. Zuck	April 1, 2026
Piscataway, NJ	Jason D. Falzarano	May 1, 2025
Church Extension	Shawn C. Rohrbach	June 1, 2025
Lancaster, PA	Juan Carlos Morales	June 29, 2025
Lebanon, PA	Judah E. Wise	July 6, 2025
Lehighon, PA	Stephen A. Diaz	July 7, 2025
Mechanicsburg, PA	Steven J. DelDuco	September 7, 2025
Bethlehem, PA	Joshua Von Holt	November 6, 2025
Whitehall, PA	Laszlo Onody	December 7, 2025
Royersford, PA	Connor Roskowski	December 22, 2025
Reading, PA	Gary L. White	February 1, 2026

The following churches are in need of a Senior Pastor: Carmel, NY; Clinton Corners, NY; LaGrangeville, NY; Red Hill, PA; West Norriton, PA.

Pulpit supply and interim pastoral ministry have been graciously provided by the Lord to each of these churches. At the same time, the committee routinely prays for God's provision of a pastor for each church. and we ask BFC Conference to do the same.

As a reminder to boards of elders, during times of pastoral transition, the board of elders needs to obtain the approval of the Ministerial Relations Committee before hiring an interim pastor who does not hold BFC credentials (see 409-1.1(1)).

Conference Pastor

Conference Pastor Ralph M. Soper continues his ministry to our pastors; he is now in his 10th year in this role. We commend him for his compassionate support to our ministering brothers and their families.

Pastoral Compensation Proposals

The committee reminds our churches of three resource booklets: *Guidelines for the Pastoral Relations Committee*, *Guidelines for the Pastoral Search Committee*, and *Guidelines for Preparing for Pastoral Retirement*. Copies are available online at <https://www.bfc.org/resources/documents-for-pastors-and-churches/>

The committee reminds churches' Pastoral Relations Committees to meet twice a year with each of its pastors, and once a year to consider the adequacy of his compensation package and to adjust where necessary (see 402-1.1 Duties 1 and 2). The committee reminds each church of its responsibility to fulfill the terms of the pastor's call with respect to Social Security tax, parsonage and/or housing allowance, health insurance, and reimbursement for car and professional expenses. The committee recommends that the church structure the pastor's salary package to provide maximum tax advantage to him.

Ministerial Relations Committee: Timothy J. Schmoyer, Chairman; Daniel Z. Krall, Secretary; Randall A. Grossman, Glen LeSuer, Ronald W. Reed, William G. Schlonecker, Ralph M. Soper.

Report of the Conference Pastor

“Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him, Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!” Psalm 34:8-9

What a precious reality to know that the Lord is good. He is our protection and supplies what we need. He is good, kind, gracious, loving, merciful, and so much more! He has granted us the privilege of serving Him and has gifted us as under shepherds to labor for His glory.

The Lord has given me another year to serve alongside each one of you, and serving together in harmony, according to His Word, brings glory to God. Thank you for your faithfulness in the highs and lows of ministry as you shepherd the people the Lord has given to you. To Him be the glory!

Once again, Sharon and I thank you for the blessing it has been over the last 10 years to get to know you a little more, and to pray with and for you and your families. We are grateful for the time spent with you.

The regional prayer meetings have been a blessing to me. I am thankful for the way you men show care and concern for one another. I very much urge each man in his region to put these regional dates on your calendar and participate in sweet fellowship. We get the opportunity to pray for and encourage others in the group and build those relationships to please the Lord.

It also is a joy to have seven men being ordained or having their previous ordinations recognized this year at BFC Conference. I encourage you to attend and support the men in your region, if you're able, when local churches hold their own ordination service. I know it's an encouragement to our men and their families.

At the time of this writing, we have five churches without a senior pastor. We also have some churches looking to add to their staff. Please remember to pray for the elders and the body of Christ at each of these churches and to give thanks for the Lord's faithfulness as our churches continue to serve their communities and to seek the Lord's wisdom in recognizing the man He is leading to them.

After many years of serving the Lord, T. James Bigley Jr., Glenn R. Felty, Gene W. Smith, and David A. Thomann are now worshipping our faithful God in His presence. It is bittersweet because we miss their fellowship, but they are present with the Lord. I am thankful for their years of service and their love for Jesus. Please pray for their families and friends to know God's grace and comfort.

We also have fellow pastors and wives, over this past year, whose loved ones have passed away or are struggling with health issues. Please pray for them in the loss of these dear ones.

I would like to remind you again of the Darlene J. Mahurin Memorial Fund and the assistance it provides for our ministers. This is a tax-deductible fund under the umbrella of the BFC. Any donations may be made by check payable to "Bible Fellowship Church," with a notation that it is for the Memorial Fund. If you have a financial need or know of another BFC pastor who has a need, please contact me.

I am thankful that, since our last Conference, the memorial fund was able to financially assist some pastors and their families totaling \$3,100. We would like to help when needs arise so please get in touch with me. Thank you for contributing to this fund that provides help to fellow pastors.

Sharon and I are grateful we can serve our Lord and you men and your wives. We look forward to how God will use us for His glory and to be of help to you.

Blessings,

Ralph M. Soper
Conference Pastor

DARLENE J. MAHURIN MEMORIAL FUND

Give to meet your brothers' needs



BFC.org/Give



Make checks out to “Bible Fellowship Church” with a memo or note that the gift is for the
Darlene J. Mahurin Memorial Fund

Checks can be mailed to Bible Fellowship Church
PO Box 3555
Allentown PA 18106

or

placed in the offering basket at Conference

or

handed to Julie Sebastian or Rachel Schmoyer at Conference

Report of Church Extension Ministries

“...a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem; and they were all scattered...” Acts 8:1

One major theme characterizes my 25 years of serving as Director of Church Extension: the church (BFC) on the move. I have often used the Jerusalem church as an example of how churches can become tall and narrow without a plan for moving out of their comfort zone and into community after community. In the case of the Jerusalem church, it took the martyrdom of Stephen and the persecution of the church by Saul for the Jerusalem church to scatter into Judea, Samaria, and eventually to the uttermost parts of the world (Acts 13).

Several years ago, the Vision and Strategy Committee of Church Extension Ministries formulated the Mission to Multiply plan. The focus of this plan was to approach a targeted number of BFC regions and challenge them to plant new BFC churches in their regions. All the regions we targeted have planted or are in the process of planting new BFC churches. Grace Bible Fellowship Church of Harrisburg, PA has planted, is planting, and plans on planting more daughter churches in the Capitol Region. New Life Bible Fellowship Church of Oley, PA has planted and is planting a daughter church in the Berks Region. The Delmarva Region has supported the Mission Churches in Milford DE, Chestertown MD, and Elkton MD. The Lehigh Valley Region is continuing its discussions on church planting in its region. Churches in the Lancaster Region and other churches in the Capitol Region (in addition to Harrisburg) are making plans to plant daughter churches. All this church planting activity will lead to people being reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ and new churches being planted that will make disciples of Christ.

Reaching people with the gospel and planting new churches will continue to be priorities as we take note of the developing trends, particularly here in America. Author and speaker Carey Nieuwhof began his ministry post, “7 Disruptive Church Trends That Will Rule 2026,” with this statement: “As you lead your church in 2026, the world—and the church—is shifting faster than anyone expected. Even more surprising, the shifts include a lot of positive movement—surges in faith among the next generation and rising commitment to Christ. Yes, there are warning signs, but this year’s church trends are as much a story of hope as they are of caution.” Please read the full blog post, take note of the trends he describes, and discuss how your church will respond with the gospel. Our BFC churches need to be on the move, out and about in community with the gospel, seeing the Lord save His people, and planting churches to make disciples.

I praise the Lord for the 25 years He blessed me with while serving as the Director of Church Extension. I have now served the BFC for 41 years—in two churches and as Director of Church Extension Ministries—and I give our precious Lord all the praise for His faithfulness regarding my ministry. I will conclude my role as Director of Church Extension as of March 31, 2026, and I have been appointed as Director of Expansion and Development, a new ministry role in the BFC. I will work with non-BFC churches who desire a connection with us, and I will assist churches who want to plant daughter churches. I will be involved with raising funds for various BFC projects, including funds for Church Extension. Timothy M. Zuck is our new Director of Church Extension Ministries. He takes on this position with a strong vision and with the expertise needed to carry on the charge given to Church Extension.

REVIEW OF 2025 MINISTRY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The BFC Mission Churches recorded 26 people making professions of faith and the conducting of 29 baptisms! All glory to God!

Finances and Administration

- The year began with the blessing of reaching our 2024 Christmas Gift Month goal of \$200,000. We received over \$220,000.
- Church Extension gave financial assistance to five Mission Church projects totaling over \$100,000.
- Our Summer 25 fundraiser was successful; it reached its goal of \$25,000.
- Church Extension was blessed with meeting its budget and was able to pay all the BFC church planters, even those who had deficits, while giving several financial grants for property needs and planters' needs.
- Total giving from BFC churches decreased in 2025. Several BFC churches are not able to give support for Church Extension. For 2026, Church pledges are at a net \$37,000 decrease, which is a concern!
- Our donor list and donor giving increased in 2025.
- Administrative Assistant Laurie Kuhns continued her duties in the office. Rachel Schmoyer assisted in the office and works on communications, marketing, and our branding. Ruth Richards remains an asset, assisting our plants with bookkeeping needs. What a blessing to serve with this great team.
- Numerous mailings, communications, and prayer letter updates were sent out in addition to the weekly Antiochan email, the quarterly *It Happened Like This* newsletter, and the bi-monthly Prayer Calendar.

Church Extension Ministries Team

- The Vision & Strategy Committee monitored the Mission to Multiply regional church planting plan and held discussions on regionalization, revitalization, and an urban church planting initiative.
- The Church Extension staff made presentations at over 48 church services and other gatherings in 2025.
- Timothy M. Zuck was endorsed by the Board of Church Extension for the position of Director of Church Extension.
- The Personnel Committee met with each planter for an annual review. Mark E. Barninger led the meetings.
- Over 30 volunteers from Calvary BFC in Coopersburg, PA and Fellowship Community in Whitehall, PA assisted us with prayer letter mailings. They were thanked at a volunteer appreciation luncheon.
- Assistant Church Planter Raymond R. Bertolet mentored James D Reff II and Joshua A. Dupiche, reviewed the properties under CE, met with non-BFC churches to connect with us, helped in several other assessments, and conducted numerous demographic studies.
- The Landes family completed its ministry as an Aquila and Priscilla Team at the Elverson, PA Mission Church and returned to its home church.
- Richard E. Taylor completed his service as Chair of the Board of Church Extension Ministries after many years, and Aaron D. Smith took his place.
- Development Committee Chairman Mark L. Morrison continued building our donor base, encouraging estate and legacy giving, and worked closely with Everence to learn about donor giving. The Development Committee met several times to monitor our invested funds and to discuss funding strategies.

- Several new men were added to our Transitional Leadership Teams (TLT).
- The Staff met monthly and worked on several projects.

Church Planting Across Cultures

- Marcos G. Ramírez, our church planting director in Mexico, is overseeing the mission churches in that nation. The Villa Magna Mission Church in Mexico, under the leadership of church planter Freddy A. Chi, recently acquired a new facility.
- At this time, the Tapachula Mission Church is in a dormant state until a church planter is trained and sent by Merida BFC.
- La Roca de Reading in Reading PA, under the leadership of Carlos G. Rodriguez and his elders, is planning for the church's future ministries. Rodriguez is Director of BFC Hispanic Ministries.

Graduations

- Christ Alone Fellowship in the city of Lancaster, PA graduated as a particular church at the 2025 BFC Conference.
- Mission Churches in Milford, DE and Chestertown, MD were assessed for graduation at the 2026 BFC Conference.

Current Mission Churches and Church Planters

- We assisted Grace BFC, Harrisburg, PA with the planting of a daughter church on the West Shore of Harrisburg in Mechanicsburg, PA. The mission church is led by Steven J. DelDuco. Church Extension assumed oversight of this mission church in mid-year 2025; it began under a church planting partnership with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Harrisburg BFC and Church Extension.
- We assisted Topton (PA) BFC with its effort to plant a church in Kutztown, PA after the Kutztown BFC closed. We called Shawn C. Rohrbach to be the planter and agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding with Topton BFC.
- The Elkton, MD Mission Church, with Church Planter Stephen J. Morton and Assistant Church Planter DaQuan T. Gibson is making progress in reaching the Elkton community with the gospel. A merger brought Morton and Gibson to minister together.
- We continued mentoring and assisting the Harmony, NJ BFC.
- We continued our partnership with Faith BFC (Harleysville, PA) in revitalizing the Welsh Road Mission Church in Horsham, PA (formerly the Maple Glen BFC).
- We formed a daughter church planting partnership via a Memorandum of Understanding with New Life BFC (Oley, PA) to form the Muhlenberg, PA Mission Church with Church Planter Christian D. Lefko.

New Works/Prospective Works

- Church Extension investigated and did demographic studies for Selbyville, DE, Whitehall, DE, South Smyrna, DE, Muhlenberg Township, PA, Salisbury, MD, and Homosassa, FL.
- Daughter Church contacts were made with the Berks Region, Capitol Region, Lancaster Region, Lehigh Valley Region, Bucks/Mont Region, DELMARVA Region, and Merida, Mexico.

Prospective Planters and Interns

- Judah E. Wise and Zachariah Herb completed internships at the Elverson, PA Mission Church with Timothy S. Radcliff.
- L. Daniel Solórzano completed an internship with Pastor Marcos G. Ramirez at La Roca de Merida, Mexico.

- We met with several prospective church planters including Tirus Twyne, Will Turner, and L. Daniel Solórzano. Many others had an initial 30-minute introductory meeting with Timothy M. Zuck, who began handling recruitment in 2025.

Connection and Revitalization

- We were called upon by the Board of Church Heath to assist Redeemer BFC in West Norriton, PA. We met with Grace Bible Church in Phoenixville, PA to discuss its compatibility with the BFC for connection with the BFC. During this process, we were able to facilitate the merger of Redeemer with Grace Bible, and the two churches are meeting together and finalizing the merger. Tirus T. Twyne has been called as the pastor of Redeemer BFC.
- CE dialogued with non-BFC churches for connection in Milford, DE, Millsboro, DE, Selbyville, DE, Salisbury, MD, Homosassa, FL, Cannes, France, and Phoenixville, PA regarding connection.

Training/Counseling

- We held two Training Days—one in Quakertown, PA and one in Newark, DE—and a roundtable discussion with the planters at Victory Valley Camp.
- Church Extension sent new planters to the Passion4Planting Boot Camp in Virginia for four days of training. All new men will be required to attend this training.
- Several planters and wives were offered counseling and are doing well. Praise God!

Special Events

- A Planters' Wives Month was held in June, focusing on the importance of planters' wives and families. We held a CE family picnic at which the wives were honored.
- Our Pentecost Sunday Prayer Day was promoted and numerous churches participated by praying for Church Extension on Pentecost Sunday.
- We held a Donor Appreciation Banquet for our Hall of Faithful donors.

PROJECTIONS FOR 2026 IN CHURCH EXTENSION

Hispanic/Multi-Cultural Church Planting

- Marcos G. Ramirez is looking at sites around Merida and in Tapachula.
- Carlos G. Rodriguez is looking into connections with churches in Reading PA, Mexico, and Costa Rica.

Daughter Church Planting

- Lancaster Region – Possibly from Christ Alone BFC in Lancaster.
- Bucks/Mont Region – Assisting the Welsh Road Mission Church and the Elverson Mission Church.
- Lehigh Valley Region – Discussing regional church planting.
- Berks County Region – In process with Muhlenberg Township and Kutztown.
- Harrisburg, PA – Mechanicsburg, PA plant and possibly another plant.
- DELMARVA – Millsboro, DE and Selbyville, DE.

Connectional Projects

- Staten Island, NY – Dormant
- Phoenixville, PA
- Homosassa, FL
- Cannes, France

Recruitment

- Carlos G. Rodriguez and Marcos G. Ramirez are looking for more Hispanic men to plant Hispanic churches.
- We are using our marketing plan to recruit and seek out qualified men to plant churches. We also dialogue with current men in the BFC about church planting.

Church Planting Training

- The Passion4Planting Boot Camp will be our main training platform for new planters. Find out more at Church-Planting.net.

Graduation Preparations

- Lord willing, we will be prep the Horsham, PA (Welsh Road) Mission Church and Mechanicsburg, PA Mission Church for graduation in 2026.

Forward Planning

- The new Director, Timothy M. Zuck, will be working with his teams to have a forward plan in place.

The list of things accomplished by Church Extension in 2025 could go on. Church Extension continues its active agenda to serve the BFC and its vision of becoming “An Expanding Fellowship of Churches.” I am very thankful to the BFC churches for their prayers and financial support for this vital mission. Reaching people with the gospel and planting new churches will need to be prioritized and supported for the future of the Bible Fellowship Church. Evangelistic church planting is God’s means for building His church, and we need to stay focused on His plan; we give all glory to Him. May all our BFC Mission Churches and our Particular Churches see a harvest of souls for the kingdom in 2026.

Pray for your BFC church plants and for the BFC planters and their wives and families. Pray for the Church Extension team: for the Board of Church Extension; Raymond R. Bertolet, Assistant Church Planter; Laurie Kuhns, Administrative Assistant; Ruth Richards, Bookkeeper; Rachel Schmoyer, Communications Coordinator; Mark L. Morrison, Development Manager; Carlos G. Rodriguez, Hispanic Ministries Director; and for our volunteers. Please pray for Timothy M. Zuck as he takes on the key role of Director of Church Extension Ministries, and pray for me as I follow the Lord’s lead to expand the BFC and support our endeavors.

In His Grace & Service, Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Gundrum, Director of Church Extension Ministries (2025)

Board of Church Extension Ministries: David E. Gundrum, Director; Aaron D. Smith, Chairman; Mark L. Morrison, Vice-Chairman; William G. Schlonecker, Secretary; Ken Klein, Treasurer; Scott A. Allison, Mark E. Barninger, Eric Herb, Sr., James D. MacArthur, Carlos G. Rodriguez, Richard E. Taylor, Timothy M. Zuck.

Misson Church Directory

Please seek partnerships with one or more of these Misson Churches, committing prayers and financial gifts.

Joshua A. Dupiche – Milford, DE Mission Church

GRADUATING IN 2026

Hope Community BFC
103 S. Maple Ave. Milford, DE 19963
scholarlyspirit@gmail.com
267-273-4171
HopeBFC.church

Freddy A. Chi – Villa Magna, Mexico Mission Church

Tapachula, Mexico Mission Church
Email CEMoffice@bfc.org for more info

Jason A. Filbert – Naples, FL Mission Church

Covenant Bible Fellowship
11250 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34113
jason@cbfnaples.com or 239-910-0766
CBFnaples.com

James D. Reff II and Assistant Tracy D. Haines – Chestertown, MD Mission Church

GRADUATING IN 2026

Grace Community Church
400 Morgnac Rd, Chestertown, MD 21620
jamesreff81@gmail.com or 410-778-0390
tdhaines95@gmail.com
GCChestertown.org

Timothy S. Radcliff - Elverson, PA Mission Church

CROSSroads, a Bible Fellowship Church
2672 Ridge Rd. Elverson, PA 19520
tsradcliff@gmail.com or 267-498-8266
crossroadselverson.org

Stephen J. Morton and Assistant DaQuan T. Gibson – Elkton, MD Mission Church

Elkton Bible Fellowship Church
Elkton Community Center, 121 East Stockton St
Elkton, MD 21921
SteveMorton@elktonbfc.org or 443-945-9480

Andrew J. (AJ) Miller – Horsham, PA Mission Church

Welsh Road Church
700 Welsh Road Horsham, PA 19044
AMiller@faithbfc.org

Steven J. DelDuco – Mechanicsburg, PA Mission Church

Living Hope BFC
West Shore Elks, 108 St. John's Church Rd
Camp Hill PA 17011
sdelduco@livinghopebfc.org

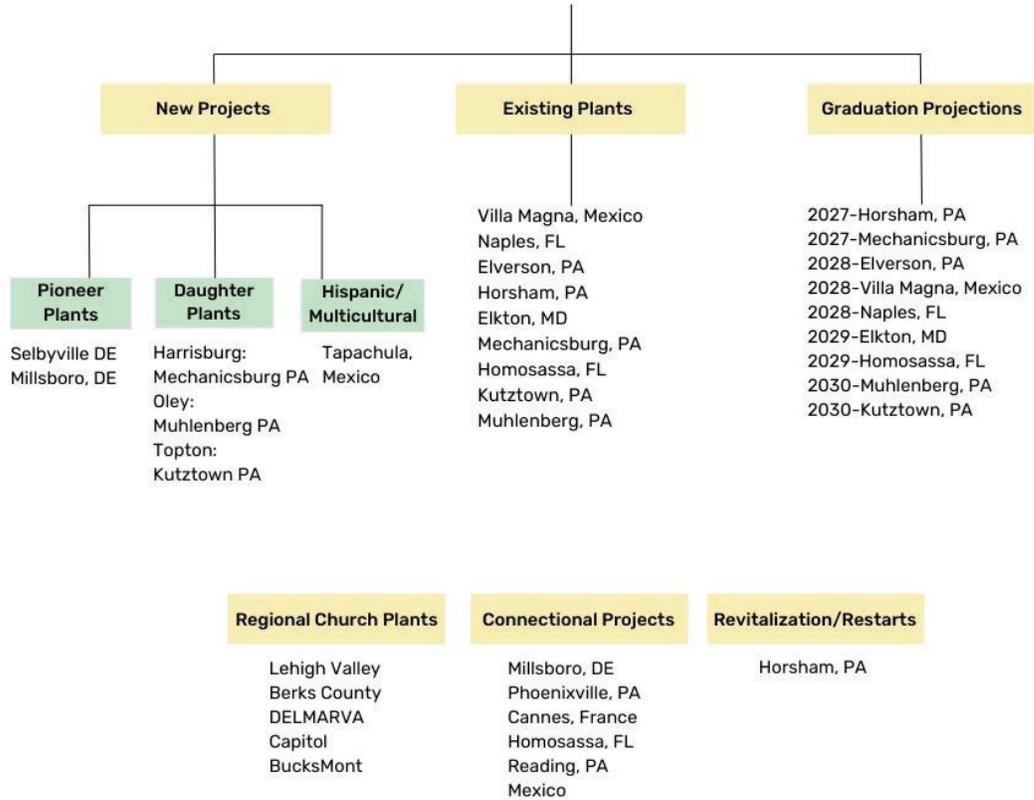
Shawn Rohrbach – Kutztown, PA Mission Church

Heritage BFC
Kutztown Grange, S. Kemp St, Kutztown, PA 19530
srohrbach@hbfc.church or 484-202-0620
HBFC.church

First Christian Church – Homosassa, FL

7030 W. Grover Cleveland Blvd.,
Homosassa Springs, FL 34446
FCHomosassa.com

CHURCH EXTENSION ACTIVITY CHART 2026





Report of Victory Valley Camp

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Winter 2025

The new year began in the middle of a capital campaign. Goliath, the ropes course originally built in 2006, had reached the end of its useful life and needed replacement. In the fall of 2024, the old structure was removed and a contract was signed to build its replacement at a cost of \$300,000. With less than half of the needed funds donated at the turn of the year, and construction scheduled to begin in three months, we once again looked to the Lord for provision and direction, trusting that He would make a way while focusing on the upcoming ministry of Winter Blast.

Our theme for Winter Blast was “Fruit From the Root,” where we explored the theme of bearing fruit as described throughout the New Testament, particularly in the words of Jesus. Rather than teach on the actual fruit, we looked at the metaphor itself: how healthy fruit is an indication of a healthy tree, and that for us this fruit comes from the Holy Spirit, not our own efforts. On Saturday night, we looked at a warning Jesus gives the Pharisees in Luke 6:43-45 about the fruit indicating the condition of our hearts. We looked at other passages, including James 3:8-12, Matthew 12:33-37, and then wrapped back to Luke 6:46-49 to help campers see that we cannot produce good fruit on our own but we must surrender our lives to Christ to be saved so that He can bear healthy spiritual fruit through us. On Sunday we went to a familiar passage, John 15:1-17, focusing on what it means to abide and encouraging campers to stay rooted in Jesus as they left camp, so that they might bear fruit in the world.

The Lord was faithful in providing 49 returning staff from the summer of 2024, as well as three new junior staff and two volunteers. For Winter Blast, we had an astonishing 10 staff move up from junior to senior staff roles. One incredible blessing was being overstaffed every week! An even more incredible blessing was the Lord working through these staff to bring five campers (Savanna, Chloe, Javon, Zoe, and Avery) to place their trust in Christ for the first time! The counselors also rejoiced over many wonderful spiritual conversations about campers’ faith as they grew in knowledge and relationship with Christ.

Spring 2025

As Winter Blast ended and registration for summer opened, we rejoiced in what the Lord had already done and looked with anticipation to what the Lord would do in the summer. In spring 2024, our staff was able to visit with the staff of Beachmont, a camp in MD that has specialized in effective day camp ministry for over 30 years. The staff at Beachmont was gracious and excited to share ideas and tips to allow us to expand our day camp program from

60 to 80 campers each week through changes in our programming—which we were able to implement prior to the 2025 camping season. While we weren't sure if we would have enough staff to grow the program, we were thrilled to know that if the Lord provided, we could grow that program by 30 percent!

As we worked through the busy registration season, the start date for replacing Goliath finally arrived. Shortly before Easter, work began in earnest with huge construction equipment, massive poles on tractor trailers, and a large team from Experiential Systems Inc (ESI) arriving. The ESI team toiled in the rain for over three weeks to complete the new and very much improved Goliath. By God's grace, and the support of so many faithful churches and members of the body of Christ, we were able to mark Goliath both complete and "Paid in Full" just days before our open house in early May. God is so good!

With Goliath completed and new programming in place, we looked to summer with great anticipation. By the end of May, we knew we had the largest staff in history (84) as well as the largest returning staff in history (53). We were ready for the Lord to bring the campers!

Summer 2025

As our first week of summer began, we rejoiced at what the Lord had already done in providing an amazing team of high school and college students who were deeply committed to the Lord and passionate about helping campers to *know* Jesus. Each summer these staff grow tremendously in their walk with Christ as we not only teach them but give them the opportunity to put into practice what they have learned. This is a ministry training ground. We guide and correct as they share the gospel, tell their story of how God rescued and restored them, and point campers to the Word and to Christ. And God in His goodness uses the "loaves and fishes" that they bring to reach and save the lost.

"The staff had a very strong culture of gospel perspective this year. Our culture statement talked about having this gospel perspective on people, trials, and rest. I saw staff care for people in two major ways: by seeing campers, especially difficult or unchurched campers, as people to be loved and not problems; and by how they loved one another. Our DP program focused on 1 Peter, and Peter's teaching on trials gave staff a perspective that ministry is hard, but joyful. Lastly, I saw a staff that was healthy in how they rested and spent their free time... God was faithful to raise up mission-focused and joyful staff this year!"

*Our theme this summer was Your Kingdom Come. It was focused on The Lord's Prayer and the intention behind it. Sunday opened with talking about how God hears our prayers and wants us to pray. Monday focused on how God is our **Father**, not some distant deity, and how we first begin prayer by seeking to **Hallow**, or recognize as holy, His name. Tuesday is the heart of the summer theme. First, that His **Kingdom** come, and what the Kingdom of God is, and then surrendering to His **Will** be done, teaching that our prayers, lives, and hearts should seek what God wants, not what we want. When we pray like this, we can trust that God will provide our **Daily Bread**, giving us what we need, not what we want, each day as we live for His Kingdom. Thursday focused on how God **Forgives Us**, so we live in right relationship with Him, and so we then **Forgive Others** in order to be in right relationship with them. Lastly, Friday taught that as campers leave, they pray that, as they live this Kingdom ideal, God would **Lead Us** not into temptation or trials, but when we do face them, that He will **Deliver Us**."*

– Grayson Ausley, VVC Program Director

God was so good as He worked through these staff members to bring 30 additional campers (Thiago, Caroline, Alli, Savanna, Giuliana, Amelia, Leon, Will, Thomas, Liliana, Jace, Aleena, Elouise, Rowyn, James, Nolan, Zoey, Thomas, Cody, Ja'Neil, Jackson, Jace, Leah, Myla, Autumn, Logan, Zoe, Claire, Alexandra, Zeke) into the body of Christ!

This year, for the first time, through the help and support of the Executive Office, we were able to offer connections with local churches to these campers and their families. May the Lord continue the good work He started here in the lives of these campers by calling their families into Godly community!

While we praise God for His work through us, rejoicing in what He has already accomplished, we also petition Him to increase our reach. He has blessed us with a tremendous facility that is perfectly suited to reach this next generation, many of which still dwell in spiritual darkness. Our prayer is that God would allow us to use as much of camp as possible, for as much of the year as possible, to reach as many as possible in Jesus' name.

We reworked our Day Camp program for this exact reason. With years of waitlists, we joyfully anticipated that we would be able to reach many more campers with the gospel this summer. Yet, for the first time since I joined staff, our Day Camp wasn't full. We had no waitlist and fewer day campers than last year (369 in 2025, 421 in 2024). But for the second year in a row, we saw dozens of day campers shift to an overnight program—which is a huge praise! Yet we also believe many Day Camp families chose to not return after the summer of 2024, when the state forced the closure of old Goliath for most of the summer.

While we rejoice in the growth of Cabin Camp, we long for the Lord to fill His ministry to capacity as we constantly seek for ways to reach this next generation with the Gospel. Would you pray with us that the Lord would fill our Day Camp, and even our overnight camps, to overflowing this summer and provide the staff we need to effectively minister to these many campers?

Fall 2025

The final months of the year, September through December, are often months to rejoice in what the Lord accomplished over the summer while seeking intentional time to rest and recover from the non-stop pace of camp. While that was still true this past fall, sorrow also mingled with our joy as our full-time cook, Coree, departed our camp staff in early October. Once more we found ourselves asking the Lord to provide for a position that is critical to the effectiveness of His ministry here at camp.

Closing Thoughts

God is so good. In the ups and downs of life and ministry, He remains steadfast, faithful, loving—our Rock. This year saw the completion of an expensive critical element of camp in Goliath and the continued improvements of the facility in the replacement of two roofs (Chapel and Barn), which were enabled by the generosity of a local Christian company who donated their time and expertise in order to install them. We were also blessed to have a donor support the cost of the initial building shell and concrete floor of a new maintenance building, a 72-foot by 40-foot pole barn which will be placed near the barn. This incredible blessing will replace our aging trailer and some of our sheds while providing heated space to work on vehicles and various projects throughout the cold and rainy months—a needed space to enable effective maintenance of the property for years to come.

In all these things, we stand amazed at what God has already done. His provision and grace continue to be clearly seen. We serve a good Father who knows our every need. He is faithful and He is good.

We stand on the front lines in the battle for the hearts and minds of this next generation. We seek to be an outreach and discipleship ministry focused on sharing the gospel boldly with all those the Lord brings to these grounds. So many of our campers, and even staff, bring deep hurt and a lack of hope to camp each year. They may be looking for an escape from their reality

at home, or the emotional and spiritual high that camp brings, but what they truly need, and we pray they find, is a transformational relationship with the Creator of the universe, who spoke the world into being yet knew their name and their entire story before this world came to be. That is our highest calling: to help these campers and staff know a God who made them on purpose, for a purpose, and to encourage them to faithfully participate with the Lord as He seeks to not only rescue them from their sins, but to restore them to the person He designed them to be, living a life of righteous freedom while calling others to the Savior.

Let us rejoice as brothers and sisters in service to the King! And let us continue to petition Him to allow us to reach ever-more campers and staff in Jesus' name so that their lives would be eternally changed and that they too would join the mission of bearing the light of Christ in a dark world.

Curt Cutler, Director
Victory Valley Camp

Victory Valley Camp Board: Curt Cutler, Director; Timothy J. Schmoyer, Chairman; Colin Bartholomew, Vice-Chairman; Kelly Moono, Treasurer; Carolyn Cruise, Secretary; James Crosley, Jason J. Englehart, Rachel Kessler, John Masters, Mark R. Orton, Craig Peoples, Michael W. Walker, Ricky D. Whitmire.



Report of Pinebrook Educational Foundation

The Board of Directors of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation met twice in 2025.

The foundation received gifts from individuals and BFC Churches totaling \$20,875 in 2025. A number of gifts were given in memory of Mary Dotts, the wife of the late Rev. Raymond R. Dotts. Together, Rev. & Mrs. Dotts were instrumental in the establishment and advancement of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation. We thank the Lord for their ministry and desire to encourage Christian students in their pursuit of higher education.

The Board approved funding for scholarship grants totaling \$44,500 as listed on Attachment (A).

The Board continues to rejoice in the privilege of being able to encourage Christian students to use their gifts and interests for the glory of Christ in their particular vocation. Since the Foundation was established, by God's grace, over 344 scholarships have been awarded, totaling over \$330,050 of scholarships.

We are thankful to those churches that have prayed for and have supported the Pinebrook Educational Foundation.

Pinebrook Educational Foundation Board: Stephen C. Cassel, Chairman; Andrew T. Crossgrove, Director; Helen L. Gemmill, John J. Hanner, Byron D. Roth, Rachel Schmoyer, John W. Sullivan.

Attachment A

Applicant	Church	College/ University	Expected Degree/Major	Award Amount	PEF Fund
Levi Baehr	Faith BFC, Lancaster, PA	Geneva College	Bachelor's Degree/English	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Ariana Bechtel	Faith BFC, Harleysville, PA	Moravian University	Bachelor's Degree/Nursing	\$1,500	Luke 10:33 – Nursing/Healthcare Fund
Jacob Diaz	Citylight Bible Church	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Deg./Early Education	\$1,000	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Kyley Harper	Grace BFC, Wallingford, PA	Cairn University	Bachelor's Degree/English	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Sydney Herb	Lebanon BFC, Lebanon, PA	Reformed Theological Seminary	Master's Degree/ Biblical Studies	\$1,000	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Zachariah Herb	Lebanon BFC, Lebanon, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/ Pastoral Studies	\$1,000	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Kaitlyn Hughes	Saucon Community BFC, Hellertown, PA	Moravian University	Bachelor's Degree/History, Secondary Education	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Kayleigh Kaiser	Grace BFC, Wallingford, PA	Harrisburg University of Science and Technology	Bachelor's Degree/ Computer Science	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Gavin Kirkpatrick	Grace BFC, Harrisburg, PA	Liberty University	Bachelor's Degree/Digital Arts	\$1,500	Ungerer Memorial Fund
Aidan McLean	Grace BFC, Wallingford, PA	West Chester University	Bachelor's Degree/Business Management	\$1,500	PEF Memorial Fund
Trina Meadows	Community BFC, Red Hill, PA	Faith Bible Seminary	Master's Degree/ Biblical Counseling	\$1,500	Rev. & Mrs. Reichenbach Fund
Madeline Miller	Grace BFC, Harrisburg, PA	Cedarville University	Bachelor's Degree/ Mathematics	\$1,000	General Fund
Nora Miller	Grace BFC, Harrisburg, PA	Cedarville University	Bachelor's Degree/ Elementary Education	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Lillian Morton	Elkton BFC, Elkton, MD	York College of PA	Bachelor's Degree/Nuclear Medicine	\$1,000	Luke 10:33 – Nursing/Healthcare Fund
Jackson Noll	Calvary BFC, Sinking Spring, PA	Cairn University	Bachelor's Degree/Accounting	\$1,500	General Fund
Denton Reff	Grace Community, Chestertown, MD	Williamson College of the Trades	Associate's Degree/Landscape and Construction Management	\$1,000	General Fund
James Reff	Grace Community, Chestertown, MD	Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary	Master's Degree/ Systematic Historical Theology	\$1,000	Daniel K. Ziegler Fund

Applicant	Church	College/University	Expected Degree/Major	Award Amount	PEF Fund
Melissa Renzi	Bethel BFC, Emmaus, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/Biblical Counseling; Psychology	\$1,000	General Fund
Connor Roskowski	Royersford BFC, Royersford, PA	Cairn University	Master's Degree/ Bible, Theology, Pastoral Ministry	\$1,500	Rev. & Mrs. Reichenbach Fund
Alyssa Shanely	Ebenezer BFC, Bethlehem, PA	Liberty University	Bachelor's Degree/English Education	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Evelyn Schmoyer	Whitehall BFC, Whitehall, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/Ministry Leadership	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Olivia Seetoo	Good Hope Pres. Church, Fulton, MD	Geneva College	Bachelor's Degree/Sports Management	\$1,000	The Berean Bible School Fund
Madisyn Servais	Bethel BFC, Emmaus, PA	University of Pittsburgh	Bachelor's Degree/Undecided	\$1,500	Ungerer Memorial Fund
Hannah Shane	Trinity BFC, Blandon, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/Communications	\$1,000	General Fund
Sadie Shane	Trinity BFC, Blandon, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/Psychology	\$1,000	General Fund
Lydia Snyder	Freedom BFC, Dauphin, PA	Geneva College	Bachelor's Degree/Nursing	\$1,500	Luke 10:33 – Nursing/Healthcare Fund
Nathaniel Spinney	Community Evangelical Free Church, Harrisburg, PA	Geneva College	Bachelor's Degree/Music Business	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Sarah Stortz	St. George's Episcopal Church, Durham, NH	University of New Hampshire	Bachelor's Degree/Linguistics	\$1,500	The Berean Bible School Fund
Evan Sunday	Grace BFC, Harrisburg, PA	Lancaster Bible College	Bachelor's Degree/ Business Admin.	\$1,500	General Fund
Dacia Weaver	Cornerstone Bible Church, Denver, PA	Bob Jones University	Bachelor's Degree/Nursing	\$1,500	The Berean Bible School Fund
Robert Westlake	Southwest Baptist Church, Lake Havasu City, AZ	West Coast Baptist College	Master's Degree/Education (for missions)	\$1,000	Laura M. Didden Fund
Gabbie Williams	Trinity BFC, Blandon, PA	Kutztown University	Bachelor's Deg./Elementary Educ.	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Makayla Yellets	Trinity BFC, Blandon, PA	Messiah University	Bachelor's Deg./Graphic Design	\$1,500	Charles D. Weaver Fund
Philip Zettlemoyer	Grace BFC, Quakertown, PA	Liberty University	Bachelor's Deg./Financial Planning	\$1,000	General Fund

Pinebrook Educational Foundation
 Statements of Financial Position
 December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2025

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 11,126	\$ 11,558
Investments	659,958	721,369
Verizon Stock	0	0
Total assets	<u>\$ 671,084</u>	<u>\$ 732,927</u>
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	\$ 921	\$ 916
Board designated	251,350	207,212
Total net assets without donor restrictions	<u>252,271</u>	<u>208,128</u>
With donor restrictions		
Temporarily restricted	72,175	193,385
Permanently restricted	346,638	331,414
Total net assets with donor restrictions	<u>418,813</u>	<u>524,799</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 671,084</u>	<u>\$ 732,927</u>

Pinebrook Educational Foundation
 Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets
 December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2025

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
REVENUES AND EXPENSES		
Investment income (loss)	93911	86,525
Contributions received	18000	20,875
Scholarships awarded	-36000	-44,500
Administrative expense	-1987	-1,057
Other (prior yr award)		
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	<u>73,924</u>	<u>61,843</u>
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	597,160	671,084
NET ASSETS, ENDING	<u>671,084</u>	<u>\$ 732,927</u>

Report of the BFC Life Committee

The purpose of the BFC Life Committee is to promote spiritual growth and fellowship within the Bible Fellowship Church by providing ministry, training, and recreational opportunities within the denomination [511-1.7(5)]. In 2025, the committee organized many events with this purpose in mind.

Selah: Ladies Retreat

Niki Morton from One In Christ mission church in Elkton, MD joined the BFC Life Committee specifically to organize the BFC Ladies Retreat. The retreat is now called Selah to remind ladies of the purpose of the retreat: to pause your routine, rest in Jesus, and rise in hope. Selah was held on May 2-4, 2025 with speaker Krista Harmuth from Lebanon (PA) BFC; she spoke on the word “abide” from John 15. Musical worship was led by Judy Barnett of Hope BFC mission church in Milford, DE. Judy Barnett led a workshop on Scripture memory and Corinne Rollins from BFC of Newark, DE led a workshop on grandparenting. About 100 ladies attended which was almost double from the year before.

Selah was held at Pinebrook Bible Conference in the White Chapel. Becca Lorenzi from Lebanon BFC helped with the planning, led some activities, and emceed for the weekend. The committee is extremely grateful to Niki Morton and her desire to minister to women and her gift at organizing Selah with prayer and thoughtful intension.

For 2026, Niki and her team have organized a Women’s Ministry Leaders Roundtable on February 28 at Victory Valley Camp. At the time of this writing, 50 BFC women have registered. Selah 2026 will be held April 17-19 at Black Rock Christian Camp & Retreat Center in Quarryville, PA with speaker Laura Sommons, who is the Women’s Ministry Coordinator at Ebenezer BFC in Bethlehem, PA.

Summer Conference

Three weeks of Family Camp were held at Pinebrook Bible Conference in 2025.

- Week 1: July 6-11 with evening speaker Aaron J. Susek and morning speaker Christopher M. Von Holt
- Week 2: July 13-18 with evening speaker Michael C. Meadows and morning speaker Jesse A. Benack
- Week 3: July 20-25 with evening speaker Brandon Olbrys and morning speaker Ronald L. Kohl

For 2026, two weeks of Summer Conference Family Camp will be held. Assistant Church Planter DaQuan Gibson from One In Christ BFC, Elkton, MD will speak during Week 1. Pastor Tirus Twyne from Redeemer BFC in Phoenixville, PA will speak during Week 2. See BFC.org/Events for more details.

A Tour of Biblical Proportions Bus Trip

On September 15-18, Dana E. Weller led a bus trip to visit the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum, as well as some other stops. A total of 46 people went on the tour—almost filling the bus. Elite Tours of Ephrata, PA was easy to work with for the trip. The trip was mostly made up of senior saints, but some younger BFCers also took part. Thank you to Dana for leading the trip and for handling all the registration behind the scenes.

No Other Foundation Tour

Pastors David T. Allen and Randall A. Grossman led the *No Other Foundation: Reformation and Anabaptist Tour* from October 29 – November 7, 2025. The trip featured an additional optional Rhine river cruise from Basel to Amsterdam. Most of the group were from Grace BFC in Reading, PA. Allen, a licensed travel agent, made all the arrangements for the tour. They visited places important to Martin Luther's life and ministry, as well as other sites important to Anabaptist history in order to the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism.

Senior Saints Cruise

During a brainstorming session aimed at finding a solution for dwindling attendance at the traditional Senior Saints Retreat, someone mentioned in jest, "How about a BFC cruise?" After we all laughed, we entertained the idea and said, "Wait, what if we actually did a BFC Senior Saints Cruise?" It's now apparent that it was a great idea! At the time of this writing, there are 80 people registered for the September 12-19, 2026 Canada and New England cruise on the Norwegian Cruise Line's ship Escape. Each day will begin with worship and devotions in a private room just for our group with Pastor William G. Schlonecker leading. A huge thank you to Richard T. and Arlene Paashaus for doing the behind-the-scenes planning for the cruise! Natalie Holland from Mint on My Pillow is the travel agent who is working with Rick and Arlene.

Future Planning

Visit BFC.org/Events for details on BFC-wide events for 2026. The committee is always interested in hearing your ideas for future events that will give the members of the BFC opportunity to fellowship with one another. Please contact chairman William G. Schlonecker at Schlonwg@aol.com or 302-383-4067 if you have any ideas for future events or if you are interested in joining the committee. The committee is especially interested in having additional members who have a heart for planning events for Senior Saints.

The Committee is grateful for the continued support of various BFC churches. While some of our BFC-sponsored activities are self-funded, others need additional support to offer quality opportunities for the people of the Bible Fellowship Church. If your desire is to support these BFC-sponsored ministry opportunities, donations should be earmarked for the BFC Life Committee and sent to BFC Life Committee, P.O. Box 3555, Allentown PA 18106.

Thank you to Julie Sebastian, Office and Accounting Manager of the BFC, for attending the meetings and providing financial reports.

BFC Life Committee: William G. Schlonecker, Chairman; Rachel Schmoyer, Secretary; David T. Allen, Treasurer; Niki Morton, Richard T. Paashaus, S. Wayne Rissmiller, Dana E. Weller, Jeanna Werner.

Report of the Conference Judicatory

The Conference Judicatory received no communications from any of the churches, departments, or individuals of the Bible Fellowship Church during this year. Therefore, there was no need to convene the Conference Judicatory.

Conference Judicatory: Ronald W. Reed, Chairman; Clyde D. Bomgardner Jr., Secretary; Randall A. Grossman, Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, James R. Knapp, James D. MacArthur, Donald D. McKinney, Richard T. Paashaus, L. James Roberts, Jr.

Report of the Communications Committee

The stated purpose of this committee's primary publication, *BFC OneVoice*, is "to connect, inform and promote" the Bible Fellowship Church to the thousands of men, women, and children who attend our BFC churches. This is no small task.

It is our desire to present a balanced informational tool to our people. Each issue features an editorial, some theological content, events from our various churches, and feature stories focusing on the lives and ministries of BFC folks who do interesting things.

Take the issue you received in December. The editorial focused on the benefit of visiting other churches within our denomination as a means of connecting with your BFC brothers and sisters and appreciating the rich unity-in-diversity that is the Bible Fellowship Church.

The issue also highlighted the life-journey of a couple from our Forks Township, PA mission church, an article written by a young lady from our Blandon, PA church, how our Grace BFC-Harrisburg, PA church has experienced gospel growth, the transition of Church Extension Ministries from its current director to his successor, and a story connected with our Mennonite heritage.

Over the course of 2025, *BFC OneVoice* also told the story of on-air missionary Bill Early from our Ephrata, PA church, how Sawyer Moranville of our Graterford, PA church is teaching biblical Hebrew and Greek, a memorial to David A. Thomann, the longtime pastor of our Lancaster, PA church, and how Brandon Olbrys went from being a state championship-winning high school baseball coach to pastoring our church in Finesville, NJ.

That's a lot of content representing several of our churches.

This committee met three times in 2025 and has already met once in 2026. Much of our time together is spent in discussing *OneVoice* and contents for the next issue, although we also receive updates on our social media outlets and other publications overseen by the committee.

There's exciting news on the print media front as new Spanish-language versions of the BFC Articles of Faith and Biblical Principles for Living (BPLs) are now in print and available to our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters. The Communications Committee has thus far developed six brochures highlighting who we are, what we believe, and how we practice what we believe—a valuable resource for our churches as they introduce new people to the Bible Fellowship Church.

And yes, even this Report Book falls under the aegis of the Communications Committee, with the Conference Secretary collecting and editing reports and BFC Communications Coordinator Rachel Schmoyer supplying formatting and layout.

Ralph E. Ritter continues to serve as editor of *BFC OneVoice* while his wife Carolyn oversees the Fellowship News that is sent to our churches as a frequent bulletin insert. Rachel Schmoyer works hard as our Communications Coordinator. She updates *OneVoice* content on the denominational website and also maintains our social media connections on Facebook, YouTube, X, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

Greg Alderfer and Kaylena Radcliff have faithfully served on this committee for several years while we're thankful for the willingness of John Crouch, Andrew Orteon, and Rob Vaughn to come aboard in 2026. Our Executive Director, David T. Allen, also attends our meetings and is frequently called upon to supply articles.

Please do not hesitate to make contact with any Communications Committee member if you have questions, want to offer advice or content, or want to suggest someone in your church for a future article in *OneVoice*. We're always open to new article ideas!

Communications Committee: Ronald L. Kohl, Chairman; Ralph E. Ritter, Editor, *BFC OneVoice*; Rachel Schmoyer, Social Media; Greg Alderfer, David T. Allen, John Crouch, Andrew Orton, Kaylena Radcliff, J. Rob Vaughn.

Report of the Historical Committee

When you look at history, you can choose to see it through the lens of the differences between then and now—OR—you can choose to see the common strand that unites yesterday to today. Let us rejoice in the common centerpiece of the 168 years of our church’s existence: the born-again experience caused by Jesus’ blood taking affect in a sinner’s heart. In 1952, Pastor C. Leslie Miller of our Allentown church said about it, “The benefits of atonement and divine redemption are applicable only to those who have come to a definite, personal heart knowledge of, and faith in, Jesus Christ as their very own personal Savior. This faith in Christ demands repentance and an acceptance of Him as Saviour and Lord” (*Gospel Banner*, September 25, 1952).

This emphasis on personal faith is what led our forefathers to start their prayer meetings in the Mennonite Church. As they told their story of our origins, “many that attended the meetings became awakened and deeply convicted of their sinful condition, found peace in the wounds of Jesus, and were transplanted into the freedom of the children of God” (Doctrine 3-4, as recorded on p. 25 of Harold P. Shelly’s *The Bible Fellowship Church*. This same centerpiece of our faith stands as resolute today—“You must be born again!”—as we say in our Article on Salvation: “Salvation centers in a person, Jesus Christ, and receiving Him includes the remission of sins on the grounds of His shed blood on the cross...” As easy as it is to notice what distinguishes us from our past, let us not forget what has always held us together—the Good News that, in Christ, one is born again!

Work This Year

This year, with financial help from the Executive Board, we procured digital copies of our *Gospel Banner* newspaper (1884-1952). We will post these papers to our website over the next few months for researchers and casual browsers to enjoy. Here is a snippet from Pastor A.G. Woodring for the New Year:

Here are a few suggestions for your New Year resolutions: Endeavor by the help of God to have unbroken fellowship with Him in prayer and the reading of His Word; to have a Christian home, and teach your children the path of life; to live an exemplary life among the unsaved; to be a faithful witness for the Master; to win some souls for Christ; to fill your place regularly in the church; to be earnest in the prayer meetings and active in the Sunday School. Let us make this the best year of our Christian career.

(p. 4, *Gospel Banner*, January 5, 1939).

Every fall, we facilitate the annual meeting of the BFC Historical Society. The Society is open to anyone interested in the history of the church, whether you are a member or not. Members receive our quarterly newsletter in paper or by digital format. The 2025 meeting was held at Trinity BFC in Blandon, PA. Pastor Daniel L. Williams shared his paper on the history of the Blandon congregation. Pastor Timothy J. Schmoyer presented on the subject of denominational mergers—both those that happened and those that might have.

Both videos and papers are on the Historical Society website at BFCHistory.org/ society. We invite you to our next annual meeting on Saturday, October 31, 2026 at the BFC in Finesville, NJ. Pastor Richard T. Paashaus will present the history of that congregation and Jill Davidson will present “Who Was Who?” on notable figures throughout our history.

Ways to Help the Cause

You can participate in the effort of historical preservation by sending church records to the Historical Archives. We love minutes of congregational meetings, boards and committees, as well as photos (please mark a date and names of people and the church on the back of the photo), and knickknacks like a shirt, a hat, or a cup from some big church event. Please email the committee at Society@BFCHistory.org to arrange for your donation of physical or digital artifacts for the archives.

Another way for historically-interested people to get involved is by joining the Historical Committee. We meet twice a year to plan our efforts; we also meet periodically to bring continued organization to the Historical Archives.

Historical Committee: Jill Davidson, Chairperson; Timothy J. Schmoyer, Secretary and Acting Archivist; Ronald W. Hoyle, Jason Musselman, C. Robert Roth, Richard E. Taylor.

Report of the Prayer Committee

According to the Principles of Order of the BFC—Article 511 1.7 (6)—the purpose of the Prayer Committee is basically threefold. Beyond providing a day of prayer for the Conference, the committee is also to assist pastors and others in developing a culture of prayer in the BFC, and to represent our Conference’s dependence on God and stress a desire to seek His face.

In order to fulfill this purpose, the committee organized a Day of Prayer on the morning of March 22, 2025. Two locations served as hosts: Cedar Crest BFC in Allentown, PA and Bible Fellowship Church of Newark, DE. Both locations saw good attendance, with members of the committee leading prayer based on Romans 10:1. In order to increase the access to this wonderful time of seeking the face of the Father, this year’s Day of Prayer will be held in three different locations, Cedar Crest BFC in Allentown, Grace BFC in Harrisburg, PA and Grace Community Church in Chestertown, MD. All three locations will host the event from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 14. This year’s theme passage is Jeremiah 29:13, “You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” The link to register is found on the denominational website, www.bfc.org/prayer.

Also, the committee oversees prayer times before and during BFC Conference so we can prepare our hearts for the day of both worship and work. Finally, the prayer committee encourages all pastors and members of Conference to engage with us during our two weekly zoom prayer meetings, which are held on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and on Wednesday at noon. The links to these meetings are sent through both the BFC-pastors and BFC-AC email chains.

During the year, the committee added both Stephen A. Diaz and Ronald B. Smith to replace other members who had to step away. The committee continues to look for those who have a heart to lead others to seek God’s face. Anyone is interested in joining us in this venture can contact our chairman, Michael W. Walker.

The Committee submits the following legislation for adoption at Second Reading at the 143rd BFC Conference in to assist the members in fulfilling their duties.

Article 511-1.7 (6), Prayer Committee, Composition and Election

Whereas, the composition of the BFC Prayer Committee as specified in the Principles of Order currently states, “(1) The BFC Prayer Committee shall be composed of four ministers and three laypersons. Laypersons must be members in good standing at a BFC church,” and

Whereas, it also states that, “(3) No member of the committee may serve more than two consecutive terms. A member may be elected to a new term after a minimum of one year’s time following two consecutive terms,” and

Whereas, the Committee has found it difficult to find laypersons who are both passionate about prayer and are able/willing to serve on the committee, and

Whereas, the current composition of the committee consists of six ministers and two laypersons, and

Whereas, the Committee is seeking to undertake two separate Days of Prayer (North and South) and needs more members in order to facilitate the Days of Prayer effectively, therefore be it

Resolved, that 511-1.7 (6), under “Composition and Election” be changed to the following:

- (1) The BFC Prayer Committee shall be composed of members in good standing of a BFC church.
- (2) The committee shall elect its own members, subject to the ratification of the BFC Executive Board.
- (3) No member of the committee may serve more than two consecutive terms. A member may be elected to a new term after a minimum of one year’s time following two consecutive terms.
- (4) The members of the committee shall be elected for a term of three years.
- (5) The committee shall organize itself at the call of the chairman of the previous year, at which time new officers shall be elected.

Prayer Committee finances/treasurer

Whereas, the BFC Office has adequate personnel to effectively administrate the finances of the Prayer Committee, and the BFC Executive Board prefers to have the BFC Office administrate such funds of the BFC Committees; and

Whereas, the duties of the Prayer Committee’s treasurer have been absorbed by the BFC office for the past few years, therefore be it

Resolved, that the BFC Prayer Committee no longer be required to have a member serve in the role of treasurer, and that the Committee will have sufficient communication with the BFC office in regards to the administration of funds.

BFC Prayer Committee: Michael W. Walker, Chairman; Dennis W. Spinney, Secretary; Greg Cromeans, Stephen A. Diaz, Kevin W, Kirkpatrick, Stephen J. Morton, James D. Reff, Michelle Sallee, Ronald B. Smith.

Report of the Youth and Young Adult Committee

Over the course of 2025, The Youth and Young Adults Committee of the Bible Fellowship Church met four times to conduct its business, and its work teams met as needed. Our committee has again seen some personnel changes throughout the year. Jared M. Burkholder, Jarrod J. Cruise, and Jules J Hull III all fulfilled their terms of service and decided to step down from the committee. We appreciate their years of faithful service on the committee and pray that God continues to use them in other ministry opportunities. We also welcomed Jacob A. Dearmon to our committee. He took on the role of chairman of the Sno-Glo Work Team.

Last year, our Vision Work Team presented a resolution to Conference in order to update our purpose statement. This was adopted at First Reading (see 2025 Yearbook, pp. 22-23). We submit it here again for consideration at Second Reading.

The current purpose statement in the BFC Principles of Order reads as follows:

511-1.7 (3) Youth and Young Adult Committee, Purpose

To bring glory and honor to God as it ministers to adult youth leaders, teens, and young adults of the BFC. This will be done by:

- (1) Promoting unity in youth and young adult ministry with the BFC*
- (2) Providing training and resources for youth and young adult ministries of Particular Churches within the BFC*
- (3) (3) Being a catalyst for networking of youth and young adult ministries of Particular Churches within the BFC*

As a committee, we present the following resolution:

Whereas, the Youth and Young Adults Committee does not feel the current purpose statement is specific enough in supporting the local church ministries, and

Whereas, the Youth and Young Adults Committee desires to serve the local church ministries more effectively and practically, therefore be it

Resolved, that we adopt the following resolution replacing current purpose statement 511-1.7 (3):

Purpose: The Youth and Young Adults Committee exists to glorify and honor God primarily by equipping churches to effectively reach and disciple students and young adults for Christ. This includes (1) training leaders, (2) providing relevant insights and trends in culture, (3) hosting discipleship and outreach events, and (4) promoting unity among the churches.

Sno-Glo 2025 Recap

The theme for Sno-Glo 2025 was “Deep Roots.” Alex Kocman encouraged our students to develop Deep Roots with God, Deep Roots at Home, Deep Roots in the Church, and Deep Roots in the World. We had 670 attendees representing 30 churches (including six non-BFC churches) over the course of two weekends (January 24-26 and January 31-February 2). *On The Way* from Cairn University led us in musical worship. Ben Armstrong continued as the program director,

creating activities for students to enjoy throughout the weekend. We also hired Micah Trostle to create new promotional videos for Sno-Glo.

The 2026 Sno-Glo weekends were January 23-25 and January 20-February 1. Pastor Juan Carlos (Los) Morales of Christ Alone Fellowship, Lancaster, PA served as the speaker for both weekends. *On the Way* once again provided musical worship.

Youth and Young Adults Committee: Cory E. Arnold, Chairman; Bekah Manwiller, Secretary; Curtis A. Cutler, Jacob A. Dearmon, Loren Skinker, Joshua P. Von Holt.

Report of the Beneficiary Society

The Beneficiary Society was founded in 1899 to coordinate the love and concern that the pastors in the denomination had for one another as brothers serving the Lord together. Our forefathers set up this financial society to provide quick assistance to grieving families of pastors, their wives, or their children who entered eternity and left a hole in both a church's and family's life. This combined effort of the ministering brethren enabled one of the Beneficiary Society members to both attend the funeral service of the departed and to give a financial gift to the widow/widower/parent on behalf of the rest of the pastors who serve in the Bible Fellowship Church denomination. It was, and is, a love gift to a bereaved comrade in the service of the Lord. These gifts have always been received with thankfulness and gratitude for the love we share with and for one another.

This past year the Beneficiary Society was able to give gifts of \$6,000 each to the widows/families of our retired brothers Rev. Glenn R. Felty (Shirley), Rev. David A. Thomann (Patricia), and Rev. Gene W. Smith (Sara). We were also able to give gifts of \$5,000 each to the families of our pastors' widows: Jacqueline Ziegler (Rev. Daniel Ziegler through Sarah Weaver) and Marilyn Coble (Rev. Bernard Coble through Evelyn Brown). To the family of Ashton Crossgrove, son of Andrew and Alicia Crossgrove, we gave a gift of \$2,500. Thus, a total of \$30,500 was gifted to our grieving BFC pastoral families this past year.

As fellow members of the Society, we are sure that your integrity would want to stay true to the Word of God and the written tenants of the BFC, and you would not ignore the written requirement of the BFC Faith & Order (Principles of Order, p. 205) that states, "On becoming licensed as a probationer in the ministry of the BFC, one shall become a member of the Beneficiary Society beginning at the succeeding BFC Conference, at which time one shall be responsible to pay into the fund. Every probationer/ordained man licensed or ordained by the BFC must be a member of the Beneficiary Society of the BFC ..."

The assets of the BFC Beneficiary Society continue to be managed by Asset Planning Management of Harleysville, PA, with a portion of the funds held by Wells Fargo Investments. We are grateful to them for their expertise in overseeing these investments.

Due to a recent inquiry and discussion, the Beneficiary Society is adding the following to the end of the Miscellaneous Rules section of our rules and regulations in Part IV: Resources in the Principles of Order:

If a retired or disabled man 65 years or older chooses to forfeit his potential benefits, he should contact the Beneficiary Society and declare in writing his desire to remove his name from the Society and forgo any future benefits. His gratuitous gesture will remain anonymous to the members of the Society (except for the officers) and a letter of appreciation will be sent by the Secretary to the man thanking him for blessing the Society with the funds paid by him during his time as a member of the Beneficiary Society. This act of kindness enables the Society to retain its fiscal solvency further into the future.

The officers of the Beneficiary Society are committed to retaining the current dues of \$100 per year, which can be contributed in one payment (\$100 in April) or two payments (\$50 in April and \$50 in October) made during the year. Checks should be made payable to the BFC Beneficiary Society and sent to the BFC Headquarters, PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106.

Credit card payments may also be made at BFC.org/beneficiarysociety, or by contacting our Administrative Assistant, Jodi Shorb, who can be reached at jshorb@bfc.org or 610-398-8776. Remember, this is a prepaid love gift to your brothers which has a reciprocal benefit to you and to your family!

Beneficiary Society: Philip G. Norris, Chairman; David T. Allen, Secretary/Treasurer;
Daniel L. Williams

Beneficiary Society Financials

	Dec 31, 25	Dec 31, 24	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
American Bank - Checking	2,246.54	4,757.10	-2,510.56
Fidelity Investments	256,060.93	238,234.97	17,825.96
Wells Fargo Investment Accounts			
Wells Fargo Securities	25,875.07	28,641.60	-2,766.53
Wells Fargo Cash	29,943.57	26,684.14	3,259.46
Total Wells Fargo Investment Accounts	55,818.64	55,325.71	492.93
Total Checking/Savings	314,126.11	298,317.78	15,808.33
Accounts Receivable			
Dues Receivable	4,500.00	3,700.00	800.00
Total Current Assets	318,626.11	302,017.78	16,608.33
TOTAL ASSETS	318,626.11	302,017.78	16,608.33
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Equity			
Retained Earnings	302,017.78	288,155.65	13,862.13
Net Income	16,608.33	13,962.13	2,746.20
Total Equity	318,626.11	302,017.78	16,608.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	318,626.11	302,317.78	16,608.33

Income and Expenses

	Jan - Dec 25	Jan - Dec 24	\$ Change
Receipts			
Dues Received	10,800.00	9,600.00	1,300.00
Other Receipts	500.00	520.00	-20.00
Investment Income			
Checking Account Interest	22.41	85.90	-63.49
Investment Account Interest	11,359.41	10,878.55	480.86
Total Investment Income	11,381.82	10,964.45	417.37
Investment Inc/Dec Market Value	24,438.83	20,957.38	3,481.45
Total Revenues	47,120.65	42,041.83	5,178.82
Expense			
Board Expenses	12.32	79.70	-67.38
Benefits Distributed	30,500.00	28,000.00	2,500.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0	0	0
Total Expense	30,512.32	28,079.70	2,432.62
Net Income	16,608.33	13,962.13	2,746.20

Report of the Ministerial Convention Committee

The Ministerial Convention Committee is not currently active and has no news to report to the 143rd BFC Conference.

Conference Statistics

Membership

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	Jason Hoy	8	11	12	15	580	44	60	-16	564
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	Richard Dobrowolski	1	4	2	1	45	6	1	5	50
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	Scott Wright	5	11	11	11	312	11	29	-18	294
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	Dan Williams	3	8	11	7	244	24	9	15	259
Boyertown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	Andrew Vasel	1	3	6	4	52	1	4	-3	49
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	Benjamin Triestman	3	7	7	9	115	9	2	7	122
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	Marc Sweet	0	4	5	2	27	0	0	0	27
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	R Daniel Wagner	1	3	1	0	20	4	1	3	23
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church	Brad Boyer									
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church	Joe Waldvogel (interim)									
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	David Way	1	2	1	0	12	0	0	0	12
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	Peter Bogert	3	8	10	12	214	20	26	-6	208
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	Mark Barninger	1	4	3		0	6	4	2	45
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	Daniel Cali	1	5	0	0	12	0	0	0	12
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	David Smith	5	8	7	0	236	15	16	-1	235
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	Daniel Krall	4	7	9	8	185	33	12	21	206
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	Bill Burton	0	5	8	12	80	14		14	94
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church	Brandon Olbrys	2	3	3	2	51	2	0	2	50
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	Timothy Zuck	0	3	3	2	26	10	0	10	36
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC	John Hanner									
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	Mark Orton	1	5	8	7	80	6	4	2	82
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	Andrew Crossgrove	4	11	4	10	132	7	5	2	134
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC	Rick Paquette	1	4	0	0	20	3	2	1	21
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC	Joshua Miller	4	4	7	7	151	29	3	26	180
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC	Joel Klase	1	5	6	1	89	3	0	3	92
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC	Keith Strunk	1	3	2	18	63	4	2	2	65
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	Evan Climpson	0	2	0	0	18	1	3	-2	16
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	Keith Long	4	9	12	1	273	14	16	-2	271
Lancaster City, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship	Juan Carlos Morales									
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	David Poland	1	2	5	3	32	1	0	1	33
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	Jarrod Cruise	6	14	7	6	226	16	11	5	231
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC	Steve Diaz									
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	Richard Bickings	2	3	3	1	58	3	3	0	58
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Biblica La Roca	Marcos Ramirez	1	3	3	8	59	13	5	8	67
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	Roger Siegrist	1	3	1	4	47	0	5	-5	42
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	James Farver	2	3	1	1	36	3	4	-1	35
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	John Sullivan	1	4	1	0	53	5	7	-2	51
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	Andrew Hebel	4	9	8	15	311	11	10	1	312
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	Ron Burgess		4	2	1	38	2	0	2	40
Oley, PA: New Life BFC	Scott Allison	1	9	26	17	359	20	15	5	364
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	Jesse Benack	3	5	5	3	80	7	3	4	84
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC	Ralph Ritter									
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	Jason Falzarano									
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	Jeff Kauffman	1	4	1	4	39	2	13	-11	28
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	Ron Kohl	5	7	7		139	9	2	7	146
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	Gary White	4	9	11	10	214	16	15	1	215
Reading, PA: La Roca	Carlos Rodriguez Gonz	1	3	0	0	44	17	7	10	54
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC	Michael Meadows	1	5	7	13	128	18	2	16	144
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	Dan King	2	4	4	4	60	17	2	15	75
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	Ferdie Madara	3	6	0	0	83	0	23	-23	60
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC	S. Wayne Rissmiller	2	9	21	29	681	52	151	-99	582
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	Beau Coffman	1	5	5		89	9	13	-4	85
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	Joshua Gibson	3	8	11	9	235	2	49	-47	188
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	Kevin Kirkpatrick	2	4	2	0	56	1	0	1	57
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	Daniel Hoffstetter	4	6	9	15	67	21	3	18	85
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	Aaron Susek	3	8	10	13	166	34	5	29	195
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	Aaron Smith	1	4	6	6	55	4	2	2	57
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC	Tirus Twyne (interim)									
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	Timothy Schmoyer	5	10	13	7	128	14	5	9	137
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC	Timothy Nessler	1	3	2	0	25	0	0	0	25
York, PA: Faith BFC	Wesley Bunting	2	3	6	14	81	15	11	4	85
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	Benenz Hitchcock	1	4	0	4	37	3	2	1	38
TOTAL		119	300	315	316	6,663	581	567	14	6,720
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church	James Reff	2	0		3				0	0
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC	Steve Morton									
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC	Tim Radcliff									
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	Andrew Crossgrove	3	11	6	2	50	7	5	2	52
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC	Shawn Rohrbach									
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	Steven DelDuco	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC	Joshua Dupiche									
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship	Christian Lefko									
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship	Jason Filbert									
Tapachula, Mexico	vacant									
Villa Magna, Mexico	Freddy Chi									
TOTAL		6	11	6	8	50	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		125	311	321	324	6,713	581	567	14	6,720

Attendance

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth 18 years old and younger who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size (all who consider your church their home church)	Total number of small groups (including adult Sunday School, Bible studies, prayer meetings, etc)	Total number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of church life ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	677	130	1,300	35	300	200	900
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	90	26	121	9	81	56	225
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	459	71	669	46	503	200	374
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	300	100	425	21	210	225	385
Boyetown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	82	25	110	3	45	30	220
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	221	49	315	14	135	120	176
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	40	6	50	5	30	16	225
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	15	0	25	3	6	7	90
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church							
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church							
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	13	3	20	1	9	3	125
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	246	75	350	33	295	100	275
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	85	38	106	9	90	30	120
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	14	0	14	3	11	14	130
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	272	56	486	21	251	150	475
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	262	50	315	13	123	200	400
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	164		236	12		130	
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church	48	4	80	5	12	20	80
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	91	22	145	3	38	46	95
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC							
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	119	40	160	12	63	80	175
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	214	106	338	8	103	175	340
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC	25	0	25	0	0	19	100
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC	236	161	363	17	204	120	278
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC	80	6	120	12	61	45	160
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC	144	60	198	6	98	71	225
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	20	5	31	2	10	10	70
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	300	75	400	17	150	150	506
Lancaster City, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship							
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	50	10	75	3	30	30	88
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	239	80	404	8	92	160	500
Lehigh, PA: Salem BFC							
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	45	6	55	4	40	35	100
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Biblica La Roca	110	45	140	5	60		110
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	47	11	62	5	38	24	300
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	41	1	60	4	25	18	220
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	81	27	100	6	65	66	250
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	360	70	694	30	250	150	540
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	28	6	58	4	12	22	75
Oley, PA: New Life BFC	571	138	1,000	20	230	250	340
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	93	24	129	11	70	56	225
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC							
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church							
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	30	7	30			20	150
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	167	30	219	16	80	75	350
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	150	60	225	15	125	100	350
Reading, PA: La Roca	92	18	110	6	15	32	300
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC	231	70	240	20	120	43	250
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	100	30	125			55	265
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	75	10	110	3	15	20	250
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC	1,036	156	2,241	33	755	476	661
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	121	50	150	10	70	100	200
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	205	30	400	15	130	95	700
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	54	10	86	5	50	49	200
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	135	40	210	10	100	100	225
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	267	60	487	22	279	274	330
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	89	13	137	10	65	90	165
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC							
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	284	35	414	12	146	116	300
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC	30	5	35			30	70
York, PA: Faith BFC	160	50	197	10	71	80	233
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	45	19	65	4	17	40	120
TOTAL	9,153	2,219	14,660	601	5,778	4,823	14,016
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church	48	15		5	31	19	125
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC							
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC							
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	60	8	80	4	40	40	182
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC							
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	65	9	85	8	71	30	130
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC							
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship							
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship							
Villa Magna, Mexico							
TOTAL	173	32	165	17	142	89	437
GRAND TOTAL	9,326	2,251	14,825	618	5,920	4,912	14,453

Debt and Income

Name of Church	Rent or Own	Parsonages	Total debt on facilities	Unrestricted Offerings	Total Income from All Sources
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$1,898,622	\$2,156,524
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	Own	0	\$390,484	\$190,709	\$363,405
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$1,153,062	\$1,262,498
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	Own	0	\$1,311,685	\$769,367	\$1,047,560
Boyetown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	Own	0	\$0	\$243,143	\$255,095
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	Own	0	\$404,370	\$510,178	\$533,673
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	Other	0	\$0	\$37,690	\$70,510
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	Own	0	\$0	\$58,965	\$59,252
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church					
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church					
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$31,289	\$33,909
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	Own	0	\$133,189	\$857,448	\$118,740
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$226,471	\$226,471
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	Own	1	\$0	\$45,527	\$45,527
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	Own	0	\$443,000	\$897,904	\$1,247,798
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	Own	0	\$0	\$513,443	\$524,781
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	Own	2	\$0	\$347,056	\$442,852
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church	Own	1	\$0	\$186,000	\$308,000
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	Rent	0	\$0	\$234,026	\$249,026
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC					
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	Own	2	\$0	\$280,435	\$283,281
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	Own	2	\$0	\$582,757	\$628,024
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC	Own	0	\$0		
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$770,823	\$859,655
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$239,853	\$302,241
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$326,256	\$344,114
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$92,040	\$92,040
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$1,338,257	\$1,511,735
Lancaster, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship					
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	Rent	0	\$0	\$132,342	\$133,393
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	Own	0	\$1,219,794	\$809,409	\$923,322
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC					
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$111,693	\$126,585
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Bíblica La Roca	Own				
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$91,018	\$122,142
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$97,634	\$157,377
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$299,325	\$309,185
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	Own	0	\$737,751	\$1,287,181	\$1,627,014
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$72,424	\$111,381
Oley, PA: New Life BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$1,336,304	\$1,551,476
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$230,830	\$239,812
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC					
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church					
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	Rent			\$78,000	\$121,000
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$496,348	\$775,392
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$522,680	\$563,658
Reading, PA: La Roca	Other	0	\$0	\$100,447	\$132,610
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$448,755	\$469,241
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$268,054	\$281,718
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$150,232	\$160,363
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC	Own	0		\$2,372,183	\$2,372,183
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$223,059	\$224,701
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	Own	0	\$0	\$491,725	\$678,670
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$121,865	\$131,721
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	Rent	0	\$0	\$243,681	\$274,795
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	Own	2	\$0	\$787,197	\$979,218
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	Own	0	\$73,624	\$155,223	\$170,493
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC					
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	Own	0	\$334,132	\$399,061	\$514,627
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC	Rent		\$0	\$39,508	\$39,830
York, PA: Faith BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$317,724	\$317,724
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	Own	0	\$0	\$115,173	\$175,014
TOTAL		23	\$5,048,029	\$23,630,396	\$26,651,356
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church	Own	0	\$0	\$95,190	\$101,524
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC					
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC					
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	Own	0	\$80,000	\$179,803	\$203,421
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC					
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	Rent	0	\$0	\$139,000	\$139,000
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC					
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship					
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship					
Villa Magna, Mexico					
TOTAL		0	\$80,000	\$413,993	\$443,945
GRAND TOTAL		23	\$5,128,029	\$24,044,389	\$27,095,301

Conference Disbursements

Name of Church	BFC Assessment	Board of Missions	Church Extension Ministries	BFC Life Committee	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	\$42,856	\$114,460	\$30,056		\$12,000	\$0	\$199,372
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	\$24,121	\$87,980	\$23,800	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$146,701
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	\$12,632	\$38,050	\$30,112		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$82,794
Boyertown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	\$4,833	\$0	\$5,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,233
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	\$8,731	\$4,200	\$3,600	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$18,031
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	\$1,450	\$2,400		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,850
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	\$1,911	\$2,712	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$8,123
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church							
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church							
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	\$662	\$4,474	\$2,880	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,016
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	\$17,639	\$87,884	\$13,000	\$0	\$3,300	\$1,000	\$122,823
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	\$3,700	\$4,500	\$3,300	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$11,700
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	\$19,727	\$49,980	\$500		\$1,000		\$71,207
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	\$8,050	\$55,348	\$2,813	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$66,211
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	\$8,133	\$500	\$1,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,433
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church		\$13,000	\$1,000		\$1,000		\$15,000
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	\$0	\$500	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC							
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	\$7,912	\$48,129	\$11,500	\$0	\$1,800	\$125	\$69,466
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	\$12,022	\$43,700	\$17,300	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	\$76,022
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC							\$0
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC							\$0
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC	\$6,444	\$19,375	\$3,430	\$700	\$1,000		\$30,949
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC	\$4,578	\$3,000	\$12,000				\$19,578
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	\$1,783	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,283
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	\$22,717	\$63,360	\$10,460		\$700	\$2,500	\$99,737
Lancaster, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship							
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	\$1,739						\$1,739
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	\$8,190	\$58,555	\$22,231		\$1,000		\$89,976
Lehighon, PA: Salem BFC							
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	\$4,716	\$0	\$1,850	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,566
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Bíblica La Roca							\$0
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	\$2,361	\$10,375	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,936
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	\$1,863	\$4,260	\$2,160	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,283
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	\$5,159	\$12,750	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$18,909
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	\$25,259	\$14,920	\$47,700	\$1,000	\$4,500	\$0	\$93,379
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	\$1,464	\$250	\$250				\$1,964
Oley, PA: New Life BFC	\$30,077	\$115,837	\$11,582		\$52,000		\$209,496
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	\$5,080	\$51,084	\$2,441	\$400	\$750	\$0	\$59,755
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC							
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church							
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	\$4,476	\$3,390	\$2,000				\$9,866
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	\$10,234	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$1,750	\$0	\$121,984
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	\$11,013	\$57,400	\$13,400	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$84,813
Reading, PA: La Roca	\$2,436	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,436
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC	\$7,770	\$7,460	\$4,900	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$21,630
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	\$4,408	\$505	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,913
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	\$3,285	\$10,800	\$500	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$15,185
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC	\$47,444	\$56,808	\$4,800				\$109,052
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	\$3,960	\$0	\$600	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$4,660
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	\$9,270	\$21,000	\$5,000	\$500	\$1,500	\$0	\$37,270
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	\$2,749	\$4,300	\$3,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,549
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	\$0	\$1,200	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,200
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	\$14,800	\$3,400	\$10,200	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$29,200
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	\$3,312	\$3,600	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,112
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC							
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	\$8,112	\$27,275	\$9,700	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$45,337
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC	\$952						\$952
York, PA: Faith BFC	\$5,486	\$18,900	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$36,886
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	\$2,310	\$10,444	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$15,754
TOTAL	\$438,826	\$1,231,065	\$375,765	\$7,400	\$96,450	\$10,925	\$2,160,431
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church			\$39,000				\$39,000
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC							
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC							
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	\$0	\$2,925	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,425
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC							
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC							
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship							
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship							
Villa Magna, Mexico							
TOTAL	\$0	\$2,925	\$40,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$43,425
GRAND TOTAL	\$438,826	\$1,233,990	\$416,265	\$7,400	\$96,450	\$10,925	\$2,203,856

Ministry Salary and Benefits

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health Benefits)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	\$61,280	\$23,454	\$45,000	\$651,713	\$781,447
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	\$40,840	\$5,958	\$36,000	\$52,262	\$135,060
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	\$60,800	\$20,713	\$40,000	\$566,136	\$687,649
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	\$69,150	\$5,850	\$29,000	\$192,854	\$296,854
Boyertown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	\$43,545	\$19,586	\$34,800	\$28,378	\$126,309
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	\$44,049	\$34,680	\$40,000	\$45,303	\$164,032
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	\$28,943	\$16,967	\$19,500	\$0	\$65,410
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	\$11,558	\$7,200	\$21,000	\$0	\$39,758
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church					
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church					
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	\$80,362	\$7,313	\$6,000	\$210,799	\$304,474
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	\$64,726	\$5,576	\$18,000	\$27,000	\$115,302
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	\$35,195	\$8,125		\$0	\$43,320
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	\$38,444	\$3,189	\$41,279	\$388,629	\$471,541
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	\$0	\$12,358	\$83,111	\$100,983	\$196,452
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	\$48,651	\$18,186	\$5,000	\$148,049	\$219,886
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church	\$44,000		\$2,200	\$13,000	\$59,200
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	\$58,013	\$9,959	\$25,000	\$53,559	\$146,531
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC					
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	\$72,675	\$13,705	\$0	\$20,743	\$107,123
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	\$87,747	\$32,060	\$17,630	\$221,667	\$359,104
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC					\$0
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC					\$0
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC	\$50,812	\$20,045		\$24,848	\$95,705
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC	\$68,240	\$3,930	\$30,000	\$22,478	\$124,648
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	\$45,600	\$5,900	\$0	\$0	\$51,500
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	\$61,399	\$37,948	\$27,845	\$429,242	\$556,434
Lancaster, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship					
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	\$37,704	\$3,528	\$12,000		\$53,232
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	\$30,700	\$27,951	\$32,500	\$219,016	\$310,167
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC					
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	\$25,083	\$2,730	\$35,208	\$9,042	\$72,063
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Biblica La Roca					
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	\$40,289	\$20,441	\$0	\$0	\$60,730
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	\$0	\$8,049	\$27,950	\$0	\$35,999
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	\$57,358	\$15,342	\$18,110	\$0	\$90,810
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	\$54,277	\$27,619	\$50,000	\$438,552	\$570,448
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	\$9,600	\$0	\$24,000	\$4,000	\$37,600
Oley, PA: New Life BFC	\$74,500	\$20,110	\$30,000	\$489,889	\$614,499
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	\$50,892		\$25,000	\$9,600	\$85,492
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC					
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church					
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	\$49,000		\$20,000		\$69,000
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	\$74,457	\$30,926	\$16,800	\$149,846	\$272,029
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	\$51,300	\$35,186	\$22,410	\$122,381	\$231,277
Reading, PA: La Roca	\$27,255	\$1,203	\$33,509	\$7,200	\$69,167
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC	\$80,000	\$4,588	\$35,000	\$63,825	\$183,413
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	\$58,200	\$6,000	\$32,000	\$86,000	\$182,200
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	\$48,500	\$17,331	\$15,000	\$11,677	\$92,508
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC	\$91,588	\$23,413	\$25,750	\$529,933	\$670,684
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	\$53,999	\$7,215	\$13,051	\$22,986	\$97,251
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	\$72,500	\$6,112	\$23,000	\$12,312	\$113,924
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	\$35,050	\$12,523	\$7,990		\$55,563
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	\$39,050	\$18,185	\$24,000	\$89,440	\$170,675
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	\$67,805	\$30,156	\$19,000	\$205,952	\$322,913
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	\$46,000	\$17,190	\$20,000	\$24,800	\$107,990
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC					
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	\$54,591	\$27,655	\$24,000	\$60,641	\$166,887
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC	\$19,000		\$20,000		\$39,000
York, PA: Faith BFC	\$53,913	\$24,465	\$0	\$65,836	\$144,214
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	\$57,000	\$6,253	\$27,000	\$0	\$90,253
TOTAL	\$2,475,640	\$706,873	\$1,154,643	\$5,820,570	\$10,157,726
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church					\$0
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC					
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC					
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	\$45,344	\$23,017	\$24,750	\$17,364	\$110,475
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC					
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	\$71,000	\$4,500	\$24,000	\$8,000	\$107,500
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC					
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship					
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship					
Villa Magna, Mexico					
TOTAL	\$116,344	\$27,517	\$48,750	\$25,364	\$217,975
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,591,984	\$734,390	\$1,203,393	\$5,845,934	\$10,375,701

Total Disbursements

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements (Conference, Ministry Staff, Operations)	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
Allentown, PA: Cedar Crest BFC	\$0	\$80,000	\$1,182,232	\$1,555,937	\$2,536,756	\$2,536,756
Allentown, PA: Citylight Bible Church	\$26,005	\$5,427	\$44,008	\$77,140	\$212,300	\$269,509
Bethlehem, PA: Ebenezer BFC	\$0	\$22,667	\$273,334	\$389,667	\$1,224,017	\$1,332,691
Blandon, PA: Trinity BFC	\$350,689	\$20,046	\$279,627	\$702,214	\$1,081,862	\$1,095,625
Boyetown, PA: Harvest Fellowship	\$0	\$2,108	\$59,223	\$83,054	\$219,596	\$219,596
Breinigsville, PA: Orchard Hills Church	\$36,032	\$15,398	\$62,829	\$129,812	\$311,875	\$311,875
Brick, NJ: Growing Faith Church	\$0	\$500		\$500	\$69,760	\$69,760
Camden, DE: BFC of Camden	\$0	\$1,500	\$14,319	\$19,114	\$66,995	\$69,980
Cape May, NJ: Cape Community Church						
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church						
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	\$0	\$2,729	\$12,007	\$14,736	\$22,752	\$29,245
Coopersburg, PA: Calvary BFC	\$11,546	\$2,098	\$473,546	\$555,506	\$982,803	\$1,469,879
Dauphin, PA: Freedom BFC	\$0	\$5,000	\$242,923	\$252,123	\$379,125	\$242,923
Denville, NJ: BFC of Denville	\$0	\$2,819	\$17,536	\$20,555	\$64,875	\$64,875
Emmaus, PA: Bethel BFC	\$102,561		\$175,204	\$356,656	\$899,404	\$1,247,798
Ephrata, PA: BFC of Ephrata	\$0	\$17,465	\$158,590	\$178,471	\$441,134	\$441,134
Exeter, PA: Exeter BFC	\$0	\$15,197	\$154,417	\$206,633	\$436,952	\$436,952
Finesville, NJ: Finesville Church		\$1,000	\$15,000	\$16,400	\$90,600	\$66,000
Forks Twp, PA: Forks Community Church	\$0	\$1,205	\$98,790	\$100,495	\$249,026	\$249,026
Gettysburg, PA: Living BFC						
Graterford, PA: Graterford BFC	\$0	\$0	\$80,992	\$101,821	\$278,410	\$357,166
Harleysville, PA: Faith BFC	\$0	\$0	\$181,759	\$202,594	\$637,720	\$637,720
Harmony, NJ: Harmony BFC				\$0	\$0	
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC				\$0	\$0	
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC		\$7,329	\$223,715	\$253,799	\$380,453	\$380,453
Hellertown, PA: Saucon Community BFC		\$4,797	\$144,343	\$149,140	\$293,366	\$293,366
LaGrangeville, NY: Valley BFC	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$7,500	\$65,283	\$12,000
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC		\$165,408	\$337,597	\$503,005	\$1,159,176	\$1,324,864
Lancaster, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship						
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church		\$1,427	\$64,946	\$77,498	\$132,469	\$132,496
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	\$318,000	\$4,000	\$173,755	\$503,603	\$903,746	\$903,746
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC						
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	\$0	\$749	\$33,200	\$34,549	\$113,178	\$113,178
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Biblica La Roca				\$0	\$0	
Mt. Carmel, PA: Bethany BFC	\$0	\$725	\$45,391	\$48,516	\$122,182	\$122,182
Mt. Pocono, PA: Pocono Mountain BFC	\$0	\$8,327	\$65,797	\$103,609	\$147,892	\$169,958
Nazareth, PA: Grace BFC	\$0	\$8,306	\$183,899	\$202,126	\$311,845	\$311,845
Newark, DE: BFC of Newark, DE	\$342,487	\$26,093	\$422,728	\$1,010,187	\$1,674,014	\$1,647,321
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	\$0	\$0	\$39,762	\$39,762	\$79,326	\$118,283
Oley, PA: New Life BFC		\$23,923	\$282,787	\$405,094	\$1,229,089	\$1,416,775
Paradise, PA: Paradise BFC	\$0		\$48,526	\$49,776	\$195,023	\$212,657
Philadelphia, PA: Wissinoming BFC						
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church						
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	\$2,610		\$31,308	\$35,418	\$114,284	\$114,284
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	\$0	\$1,625	\$151,274	\$155,793	\$549,806	\$742,468
Reading, PA: Grace BFC	\$0	\$16,492	\$130,527	\$181,819	\$497,909	\$481,896
Reading, PA: La Roca	\$0	\$3,500	\$29,115	\$32,615	\$116,218	\$116,218
Red Hill, PA: Community BFC		\$4,000	\$131,185	\$159,624	\$364,667	\$364,667
Royersford, PA: Royersford BFC	\$0	\$1,800	\$35,100	\$65,040	\$253,153	\$253,153
Shamokin, PA: Calvary BFC	\$0	\$1,840	\$4,576	\$26,326	\$134,019	\$160,204
Sinking Spring, PA: Calvary BFC		\$61,641	\$1,236,155	\$1,426,912	\$2,206,648	\$2,268,288
Stroudsburg, PA: Berean BFC	\$0		\$84,115	\$122,790	\$224,701	\$224,701
Sunbury, PA: Emmanuel BFC	\$0	\$7,200	\$112,374	\$221,156	\$372,350	\$680,442
Terre Hill, PA: Terre Hill BFC	\$0	\$1,000	\$51,889	\$55,389	\$121,501	\$259,316
Topton, PA: Redeemer BFC	\$0	\$5,660	\$61,648	\$73,978	\$250,853	\$265,431
Wallingford, PA: Grace BFC	\$0	\$10,002	\$258,981	\$400,876	\$752,989	\$854,949
Walnutport, PA: Northern Lehigh BFC	\$0	\$3,272	\$73,845	\$78,317	\$194,419	\$194,419
W. Norriton, PA: Redeemer BFC						
Whitehall, PA: Whitehall BFC	\$51,501	\$19,731	\$284,924	\$362,084	\$574,308	\$574,308
Woodbury Heights, NJ: New Beginnings BFC			\$3,600	\$3,600	\$43,552	
York, PA: Faith BFC	\$0	\$6,178	\$112,643	\$140,321	\$321,421	\$321,421
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	\$0	\$250	\$27,230	\$27,480	\$133,487	
TOTAL	\$1,241,431	\$591,935	\$8,413,271	\$11,921,131	\$24,239,288	\$25,786,799
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church		\$1,009		\$1,009	\$40,009	\$40,009
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC						
Elverson, PA: CROSSroads, a BFC						
Horsham, PA: Welsh Road Church	\$0	\$0	\$53,925	\$70,760	\$185,660	\$185,660
Kutztown, PA: Heritage BFC						
Mechanicsburg, PA: Living Hope BFC	\$0	\$800	\$20,000	\$20,800	\$128,300	\$129,000
Milford, DE: Hope Community BFC						
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship						
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship						
Villa Magna, Mexico						
TOTAL	\$0	\$1,809	\$73,925	\$92,569	\$353,969	\$354,669
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,241,431	\$593,744	\$8,487,196	\$12,013,700	\$24,593,257	\$26,141,468