

One Hundred
Forty-Third
Annual Meeting
of the
Bible Fellowship Church
Conference
2026



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**Announcing:
144th BFC Conference**

Convenes: TBD

Place: Pinebrook Bible Conference

Officers:

Randall A. Grossman - Moderator

Timothy J. Schmoyer - Vice-Moderator

Ronald L. Kohl - Secretary

Reports Due: February 15, 2027

Convened at Pinebrook Bible Conference
East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania
April 27-29, 2026

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Ronald L. Kohl, Editor

Officers of the 143rd BFC Conference:

Moderator, Randall A. Grossman

Vice-Moderator, Steven J. DelDuco

Secretary, Ronald L. Kohl

~ ~ ~

Assistant Secretary, Timothy S. Radcliff

Assistants to the Secretary:

Samuel Janney

Shawn Rohrbach

Publisher, Rachel Schmoyer

Photographers, Andrew Orton and Loren Skinker

Corporate and Denominational Address:
1011 Brookside Road, Suite 145
PO Box 3555
Allentown, PA 18106

BFC Regions

Berks PA Region

Leader: Scott A. Allison, sallison@newlifebfc.org

Blandon, Exeter, Kutztown, La Roca de Reading, Muhlenberg, Oley, Reading, Sinking Spring, Topton

BuxMont PA Region

Leader: Joel B. Klase, joel.klase@gmail.com

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Lehigh Valley Region

Co-Leaders: Scott Wright, scott@aplaceforyou.org,

Adam Crain acrain@shepherdingcare.org

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Mid-Hudson NY Region

Clinton Corners, Carmel, LaGrangeville

Northumberland County PA Region

Mt. Carmel, Shamokin, Sunbury

Pocono PA Region

Lehighton, Mt. Pocono, Stroudsburg

South/West Region

Las Cruces, NM; Naples, FL; Homosassa Springs, FL; Merida, Mexico; Villa Magna, Mexico

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Directory of Boards and Committees

BFC Elected & Ratified Positions

BFC President - William G. Schlonecker (2027)

BFC Executive Director - David T. Allen (2028)

Conference Pastor - Ralph M. Soper (2028)

Directory of Boards & Committees

(Elected by BFC Conference)

BFC Executive Board

(2027) Gary E. Karch, Ronald W. Reed, Robert A. Sloan

(2028) Steven J. DelDuco, L. James Roberts, Jr., Byron D. Roth,
Daniel L. Williams

(2029) Randall A. Grossman, Ronald L. Kohl, John W. Sullivan,
William J. Walters

President- William G. Schlonecker (2027), schlonwg@aol.com

Vice-President of Corporation - Robert A. Sloan, 777rasjr@gmail.com

Secretary of Corporation - Ronald L. Kohl, sportspastor33@gmail.com

Treasurer - John W. Sullivan, jsullivan@capital-planning.com

Executive Director - David T. Allen (2028), dallen@bfc.org

Ministerial Credentials Committee

(2027) Jason L. Hoy, Ralph M. Soper, R. Scott Wright

(2028) Keith M. Long, Keith A. Strunk

(2029) Jesse A. Benack, Daniel W. King

Chairman - Scott Wright, scott@aplaceforyou.org

Vice-Chairman - Jason L. Hoy, jhoy@cedarcrest.church

Secretary - Ralph M. Soper, conferencepastor@bfc.org

Ministerial Candidate Committee

(2027) Andrew T. Crossgrove, Christopher M. Von Holt

(2028) Andrew W. Barnes, Wesley H. Bunting

(2029) David E. Gundrum, Joshua P. Miller, Juan Carlos Morales

Chairman - Joshua P. Miller, jmiller@gracebfc.com

Secretary - Andrew T. Crossgrove, acrossgrove@faithbfc.org

Applications Secretary - Andrew W. Barnes, abarnes@gracebfc.com

Ministerial Relations Committee

- (2027) William G. Schlonecker, Mark Hargrove
 (2028) Randall A. Grossman, Ronald W. Reed
 (2029) Glendon R. LeSuer, Jr., Daniel Z. Krall, Timothy J. Schmoyer

Chairman - Timothy J. Schmoyer, PastorTim@whitehall.church
 Secretary - Daniel Z. Krall, dzkrall@ephatabfc.com

Committee on Nominations

- (2027) Mark L. Morrison, Nancy Yerrington
 (2028) R. Daniel Wagner, Jill Davidson
 (2029) Mark A. Barninger, Brad L. Boyer, Angela Vaughn

Chairperson - Jill A. Davidson, jilladavidson@gmail.com

Conference Judiciary

- (2027) Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Richard T. Paashaus, Ronald W. Reed,
 L. James Roberts, Jr.
 (2028) James D. MacArthur, Donald D. McKinney
 (2029) Scott A. Allison, Stephen Diaz, Michael Gangwer, Sean McNamara

Chairman - Ronald W. Reed, ronfilreed@msn.com
 Secretary - Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, terrehillbfc@gmail.com

Special Appellate Judiciary

- (2027) Timothy Faust, Joshua P. Miller
 (2028) Daniel Z. Krall, Ken Lord, Ronald Miller, Scott Wright
 (2029) Robert A. Moreau, Phillip E. Morrison

Secretary - Daniel Z. Krall, dzkrall@ephatabfc.com

Officers of 144th BFC Conference

Moderator - Randall A. Grossman, randallagrossman@gmail.com
 Vice-Moderator - Timothy J. Schmoyer, pastortim@Whitehall.Church
 Secretary - Ronald L. Kohl, sportspastor33@gmail.com

Directory of Other Committees

(Self-Elected/Appointed and Ratified by Executive Board)

BFC Life Committee

David T. Allen, John Crouch, Niki Morton, Richard T. Paashaus, S. Wayne Rissmiller, William G. Schlonecker, Rachel Schmoyer, Dennis W. Spinney, Jeanna Werner, Dana E. Weller

Chairman - William G. Schlonecker, schlownwg@aol.com

Secretary - Rachel Schmoyer, rschmoyer@bfc.org

Treasurer - David T. Allen, dallen@bfc.org

Communications Committee

Gregory Alderfer, Ronald L. Kohl, Andrew Orton, Kaylena Radcliff, Ralph E. Ritter, Rachel Schmoyer, J. Robert Vaughn

Chairman - Ronald L. Kohl, sportspastor33@gmail.com

Fellowship News Editor - Carolyn Ritter, fellowshipnews@bfc.org

OneVoice Editor - Ralph E. Ritter, onevoice@bfc.org

Historical Committee

Jill A. Davidson, Ronald W. Hoyle, Mark L. Morrison, Jason Musselman, C. Robert Roth, Richard T. Paashaus, Timothy J. Schmoyer, Richard E. Taylor

Chairperson - Jill A. Davidson, jilladavidson@gmail.com

Secretary and Acting Archivist- Timothy J. Schmoyer,
pastortim@whitehallbfc.org

Pinebrook Educational Foundation

(2027) Rachel Schmoyer, John W. Sullivan

(2028) Helen L. Gemmill, Byron D. Roth

(2029) Stephen C. Cassel, John J. Hanner

Chairman - Stephen C. Cassel, scassel@ptd.net

Vice-Chairman - John W. Sullivan, jsullivan@capital-planning.com

Secretary/Treasurer - Helen L. Gemmill, HGemmill@mcneeslaw.com

Director - Andrew T. Crossgrove, acrossgrove@faithbfc.org

Prayer Committee:

Gregg Cromeans, Stephen A. Diaz, Daniel W. King, Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Stephen J. Morton, James D. Reff II, Michelle Sallee, Ronald B. Smith, Dennis W. Spinney, R. Daniel Wagner, Michael W. Walker

Chairman - Michael W. Walker, mwalker@faithbfc.org

Secretary - Daniel W. King, dking460@gmail.com

Youth and Young Adults Committee

Cory E. Arnold, Curtis A. Cutler, Jacob A. Dearmon, Rebekah Manwiller,
Loren Skinker, Joshua P. Von Holt

Chairman - Cory E. Arnold, c.arnold453@gmail.com

Vice-Chairman - Joshua P. Von Holt, josh@aplaceforyou.org

Secretary - Rebekah Manwiller, bfcbyya@gmail.com

Directory of Study Committees

(Appointed Committees)

Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living:

Timothy S. Radcliff, Convener; Richard L. Dobrowolski, R. Daniel Wagner

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 on Abortion (per Stroudsburg request):

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

Study Committee to Examine Articles of Faith 24-27:

Andrew T. Crossgrove, Convener; Timothy J. Bertolet, Secretary; Daniel J.
Hoffstetter, S. Wayne Rissmiller, Timothy J. Schmoyer, Keith A. Strunk,
Aaron J. Susek

Study Committee on Stewardship

Joshua P. Gibson, Convener; Clifford B. Boone, Trace Haines,
Edward Snyder-Ritter

Study Committee on Digital Technology

Scott A. Allison, Richard Dobrowolski, John J. Hanner, Todd Heath,
Daniel W. King, Edward Snyder-Ritter, John C. Vandegriff, Jr.

Directory of Departments

(Self-appointed & ratified by Executive Board)

Board of Church Health

Clyde D. Bomgardner, Jr., Beau E. Coffman, Steven J. DelDuco, Keith M. Long, Bryon Kauffman, Timothy S. Radcliff, Byron D. Roth, Robert A. Sloan, Jr. *Ex-officio* members: David T. Allen, Executive Director; Daniel L. Williams, Interim Church Health Director

Interim Director of Church Health - Daniel L. Williams,
danwilliams1717@gmail.com

Chairman - Steven J. DelDuco, sdelduco@livinghopebfc.org

Vice-Chairman - Beau E. Coffman, pastorbcoffman@gmail.com

Secretary - Timothy S. Radcliff, tsradcliff@gmail.com

Board of Church Extension Ministries

Scott A. Allison, Mark E. Barninger, David E. Gundrum, Eric Herb, Sr., Ken Klein, Mark L. Morrison, James D. MacArthur, Carlos G. Rodriguez, William G. Schlonecker, Aaron D. Smith

Director - Timothy M. Zuck, tzuck@bfc.org

Chairman - Aaron D. Smith, pastoraaron@northernlehigh.org

Vice-Chairman - Mark L. Morrison, mlbamorrison@gmail.com

Secretary - William G. Schlonecker, schlonwg@aol.com

Treasurer - Ken Klein, diverklein@yahoo.com

Board of Missions

Grayson Ausley, Larry Davies, John Elias, Swannie Griffin, Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Stephen Large, John LoRusso, Barry Miller, Lesa Miller, Thomas H. Morrison, Sean McNamara, Kim Stengele, Craig Tress

Director - James MacArthur, jmacarthur@bfc.org

Chairman - Sean McNamara

Vice-Chairman - Craig Tress

Secretary - Kevin W. Kirkpatrick

Treasurer - Stephen Large

Board of Victory Valley Camp

Colin Bartholomew, James Crosley, Carolyn Cruise, Jason J. Englehart, Rachel Kessler, John Masters, Kelly Moono, Mark R. Orton, Craig Peoples, Timothy J. Schmoyer, Michael Walker, Ricky Whitmire

Director - Curtis Cutler, director@victoryvalleycamp.org

Chairman - Timothy J. Schmoyer, pastortim@whitehall.church

Vice-Chairman - Colin Bartholomew

Treasurer - Kelly Moono

Secretary - Carolyn Cruise

Directory of BFC Conference Committees

(Appointed Committees)

Committee on Agenda and Arrangements:

Ronald L. Kohl, Chairman; David T. Allen, Randall A. Grossman, Joel B. Klase,
Timothy S. Radcliff, Timothy J. Schmoyer, R. Daniel Wagner

Committee to Examine the Minutes of 143rd BFC Conference

Philip G. Norris, Thomas P. Shorb, R. Daniel Wagner

Registrars for the 144th BFC Conference

Joel B. Klase, Registrar

Jules J. Hull III, Assistant Registrar

Adjunct Committees

Beneficiary Society

(Elected by Beneficiary Society)

Chairman - Steven J. DelDuco (2029), sdelduco@livinghopebfc.org

Secretary/Treasurer - David T. Allen (2028), dallen@bfc.org

Daniel L. Williams (2027), danwilliams1717@gmail.com

Ministerial Convention Committee

(Elected by Ministerial Convention)

Beau E. Coffman, Barry T. Parsons, Scott Wright

Chairman - Scott Wright, scott@aplaceforyou.org

Advisor - Ralph M. Soper, conferencepastor@bfc.org

Conference Payments and Report Deadlines

BENEFICIARY SOCIETY:

Beneficiary Society - \$100 per member (or \$50 paid semi-annually April 28 & Nov. 1)

Payment should be paid at BFC Conference, mailed, or paid online:

Beneficiary Society, c/o Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

or give online at BFC.org/BeneficiarySociety

BFC DEPARTMENTS PAYMENTS:

Conference Assessment - find out how much you owe by visiting BFC.org/Resources under Resources for Churches or call BFC Office and Accounting Manager Julie Sebastian at 610-398-8776.

Make checks payable to Bible Fellowship Church and mail to:

Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

Church Extension - make checks payable to Church Extension Ministries and send to:

Church Extension Ministries

PO Box 3534

Allentown, PA 18106

or give online at ChurchPlantingBFC.org/Donate

PLEDGE SHEET DUE DEC. 1: ChurchPlantingBFC.org/pledge

Missions - make checks payable to Board of Missions and send to:

Board of Missions

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

or give online at BFCBOM.org

BUDGET FORM DUE JAN 1: bfcbom.org, resources for BFC churches
tab, password: Eusebius

Victory Valley Camp - make checks payable to Victory Valley and send to:

Victory Valley Camp

7352 Salem Bible Church Road

Zionsville, PA 18092

or give online at VictoryValleyCamp.org

PLEDGE SHEET DUE JAN. 1st: VictoryValleyCamp.org/pledge

BFC COMMITTEES:

Education Training Committee - make checks payable to

Bible Fellowship Church & mail to:

Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

Youth and Young Adults Committee - make checks payable to

Board of Youth and mail to:

Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

Pinebrook Educational Foundation - make checks payable to

Pinebrook Educational Foundation and mail to:

Pinebrook Educational Foundation

c/o Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown PA 18106

BFC Life Committee - make checks payable to BFC Life Committee & mail to:

BFC Life Committee, c/o Bible Fellowship Church

PO Box 3555

Allentown, PA 18106

CONFERENCE REPORT DEADLINES:

Board and Committee reports due by February 15, 2027 to Conference Secretary Ronald L. Kohl at sportspastor33@gmail.com

Statistical Reports and Particular Church Minutes due by February 28, 2027. See BFC.org/Stats for more info or contact Communications@bfc.org

Table of Ordained Ministers

Ordained Active Ministers	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Allen, David T.	2000	2003	2010
Allison, Scott A.	2019	2021	2019
Barnes, Andrew W.	2013	2015	2014
Barninger, Mark E.	2006	2007	2008
Benack, Jesse A.	2018	2020	2018
Bertolet, Raymond R.	2005	2007	2005
Bickel, Mark A.	2009	2012	2009
Bickings, Richard F.	2010	2013	2024
Bogert, Peter C.	2024	2026	2024
Boyer, Brad L.	2015	2018	2015
Brush, R. Jerome	1988	1992	1991
Bunting, Wesley H.	2019	2021	2019
Burgess, Ronald	2017	2018	2016
Burkholder, Jared M.	2013	2021	2019
Burton, William A., III	2020	2023	2020
Cali, Daniel A.	2024	2026	2024
Chi, Freddy A.	2018	2023	2018
Coffman, Beau E.	2013	2016	2017
Crossgrove, Andrew T.	1999	2002	2002
Cruise, Jarrod J.	2017	2020	2017
Davies, Larry W.	2017	2020	2017
Dearmon, Jacob B.	2024	2026	2024
DelDuco, Steven J.	2007	2009	2011
Diaz, Stephen A.	2015	2017	2015
Dobrowolski, Richard L.	2023	2025	2023
Dupiche, Joshua A.	2013	2016	2016
Farver, James L., Jr	2023	2025	2023
Filbert, Jason A.	2015	2019	2015
Franklin, Neil J., Jr	2021	2024	2021
Gibson, Joshua P.	2013	2015	2013

Grossman, Randall A.	1981	1983	1990
Gundrum, David E.	1986	1988	2026
Haines, Tracy D.	2022	2025	2022
Hanner, John J.	2017	2020	2017
Harkins, Jeremy L.	2022	2024	2022
Harvey, Paul S.	2019	2020	2019
Hebel, Andrew R.	2020	2024	2020
Herb, Eric E., Jr.	2023	2025	2023
Hitchcock, Benenz J.	2023	2026	2023
Hoffstetter, Daniel J.	2020	2023	2020
Hoy, Jason L.	2011	2014	2021
Hull, Jules J., III	2017	2020	2022
Kauffman, Jeffery A.	2018	2020	2018
King, Daniel W.	2016	2020	2023
Kirkpatrick, Kevin W.	2001	2004	2001
Klase, Joel B.	2013	2016	2019
Kohl, Ronald L.	2004	2007	2004
Krall, Daniel Z.	2017	2020	2022
Limm, Jonathan	2025	2026	2025
Long, Keith M.	2010	2013	2020
MacArthur, James D.	2024	2026	2024
Madara, Ferdie R.	2006	1995	2006
Miller, Andrew J.	2021	2024	2021
Miller, Joshua P.	2007	2010	2012
Morales, Juan Carlos	2019	2021	2019
Morton, Stephen J.	2015	2017	2023
Nessler, Timothy R.	2015	2017	2017
Notary, Michael J.	2022	2024	2022
Orton, Mark R.	2009	2006	2009
Poland, David M.	2018	2020	2018
Radcliff, Timothy S.	2015	2017	2021
Ramirez, Marcos G.	2008	2011	2007
Reff, James D. II	2016	2019	2016

Ritter, Ralph E.	1991	1994	2017
Rissmiller, S. Wayne	2015	2018	2016
Rodriguez, Carlos G.	2008	2010	2004
Schmoyer, Timothy J.	2004	2007	2009
Siegrist, Roger L.	2018	2020	2018
Smith, Aaron D.	2012	2016	2016
Smith, David A.	2011	2014	2018
Soper, Ralph M.	1985	1987	2016
Strunk, Keith A.	2011	2014	2011
Sullivan, John P.	2021	2026	2024
Susek, Aaron J.	2008	2011	2009
Sweet, L. Marc	2015	2017	2015
Triestman, Benjamin J.	2015	2018	2015
Verdon II, William C.	2020	2021	2020
Von Holt, Christopher M.	2019	2021	2019
Wagner, R. Daniel	2014	2016	2016
Walker, Michael W.	2012	2015	2015
Williams, Daniel L.	2006	2009	2014
Wright, R. Scott	2009	2012	2023
Yerrington, Philip E.	1978	1981	2019
Zuck, Timothy M.	2008	2011	2026

Ordained Ministers Working in Other Ministries	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Bertolet, Timothy J.	2004	2007	2020
Bomgardner, Clyde D., Jr.	1997	2000	2012
Brandt, David E.	2006	2009	2023
Clineff, Kevin W.	2001	2004	2020
Crain, Adam K.	2021	2023	2025
Dunn, William J.	1999	2002	2020
Eyster, Jordan K.	2011	2014	2016

Ordained Ministers in Retirement or Permenant Disability	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Aukamp, William C.	1985	1988	2016
Baker, Delbert R., II	1976	1979	2013
Barber, Kenneth F.	1985	1971	2006
Boone, Clifford B.	1989	1992	2020
Buck, Leonard E.	1958	1970	1997
Cahill, Dennis M.	1986	1984	2021
Clapier, G. Wayne	1980	1981	2012
Cole, Charles E.	1996	1970	2016
Coulbourn, Hugh C., Jr.	1977	1970	2001
Dodson, Richard C.	2013	2015	2020
Ellingson, Bruce A.	1963	1966	2005
Erb, Ronald C.	1981	1983	2024
Fischer, Carl J., Jr.	1990	1985	2025
Gehman, Richard J.	1964	1971	2002
Harris, Richard D.	1976	1978	2023
Heller, LeRoy S.	1955	1958	2017
Herb, John H.	1962	1966	2005
Hoyle, Ronald W.	1978	1954	1998
Johnson, Robert A., II	2002	1990	2025
Johnston, Walter M.	1987	1987	2025
Jones, David H.	1978	1983	2015
Kappes, W. Scott	2012	2015	2020
Kuntzman, Donald E.	2003	2006	2022
Lawrence, Dennis J.	1993	1996	2024
Lenahan, Frank E.	2005	2009	2020
LoRusso, John R.	2012	2015	2024
Mahurin, Ronald C.	1960	1959	2001
Manney, David L.	1961	1976	2011
Morrison, Mark L.	1996	1999	2025
Morrison, Philip E.	1980	1982	2023
Moyer, Duane E.	1998	2001	2014

Moyer, Richard A.	1995	2000	2020
Norris, Philip G.	2004	2007	2015
Paashauss, Richard T.	1988	1990	2020
Parsons, Barry T.	2019	2021	2025
Plows, Keith E.	1966	1968	2000
Pollock, Thomas A.	1996	1999	2024
Prontnicki, Louis	1983	1985	2022
Ravis, Richard B.	1990	1985	2024
Reed, Calvin T.	1982	1984	2024
Reitz, Roger L.	1972	1974	2011
Ruhl, Jeffery L.	1997	2000	2021
Schlonecker, David K.	2012	2014	2020
Schlonecker, William G.	1985	1988	2021
Schoen, David N.	1982	1987	2023
Shorb, Thomas P.	1977	1979	2015
Sloan, Robert A., Jr.	1988	1986	2016
Smith, Ronald B.	2011	2014	2025
Spinney, Dennis W.	1984	1993	2022
Susek, Jacob J. (Fellow. Comm.)	1994	1983	2026
Tannous, Michael J.	2001	2004	2024
Taylor, Richard E.	1973	1975	2016
Uhrich, Gregory A.	1989	1983	2017
Vandegriff, John C., Jr.	1974	1972	2013
Way, David R.	1989	1993	2010
Weller, Dana E.	1972	1974	2014

Ordained Ministers Working in the Chaplaincy under the Sponsorship of the BFC	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Istrate, Daniel	2014	2017	2026
Mack, Ezekiel R. (Military)	2015	2018	2026

Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Board of Missions	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Evans, Scott B.	2005	2007	2008
Head, Jim D.	1994	1996	1998
H., D.	2019	2024	2019
Moyer, Jerry L.	1992	1994	1997
Riddell, David W.	1985	1987	1987
Studenroth, John C.	1991	1976	2000

Ordained Ministers Working in Non-BFC Churches	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Curcio, Louis S.	2002	2004	2015
LeTowt, Nathaniel C.	2018	2021	2025
Morrison, Thomas H.	2005	2008	2026
Peters, David J.	2008	2011	2023
Ramos, Elliot H.	1998	2001	2020
Vargas, Ricardo M.	2021	2024	2024

Ordained Inactive Ministers	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Fox, Sean A.	2018	2020	2025

Minister Between Calls	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Holbert, Sandy H.	2022	2025	2025
Martin, Carl T.	1983	1986	2020

Ordained Ministers on Leave of Absence	Year of BFC License	Year of Ordination	Year of Present Status
Arcieri, James	2009	1988	2025
Hogan, Timothy S.	2015	2017	2026

In Memoriam Glenn R. Felty September 25, 1942 - June 20, 2025

When Glenn and Shirley Felty left the mission field and returned to the U.S., he sought out a pastoral position and inquired about ministry at Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship Church in Allentown. When Cedar Crest's senior pastor, Cliff Boone, checked out Felty's references, he looked up David Schlonecker, a longtime missionary who had served alongside Felty at a children's school in Venezuela. Though their conversation took place many years ago, Boone remembers it word-for-word: "We were talking about this guy Glenn Felty, and at one point he [Schlonecker] said, 'Glenn Felty is pure gold.' And then he said, 'If you hire Glenn Felty, you will not regret it.'"



Boone did – hire Felty, that is. And he didn't regret his decision for a moment as Felty faithfully serve on the pastoral team at Cedar Crest for 15 years.

On several occasions over the course of those 15 years, Felty would express to Boone his gratitude about serving where he was, and Boone would respond, "Glenn, hiring you was one of the best decisions I ever made as senior pastor." Of course, it was not a unilateral decision, but it was one of our best decisions."

Glenn Felty was a man of deep spiritual convictions and dogged determination. He was a man with a deep and abiding commitment to missions and to pastoral ministry. John LoRusso, a former missionary as well as a co-worker of Felty's at Cedar Crest, said, "Glenn's passion for the lost unreached people groups of the world is a bit of a legacy for him, and it's what he helped instill in me, and I'm very, very grateful for that."

Felty, who died of complications related to cancer at age 82 on June 20, 2025, was born in Lebanon, PA, the oldest of four children born to Glenn and Alberta Felty. His was a life of gospel ministry, serving alongside his wife Shirley for almost 60 years. Felty spent 13 years as the principal of Christiansen Academy in Rubio, Venezuela, overseeing a boarding school for missionary children. He also spent 10 years as pastor of Grace Church in Clifton, NJ, 13 years as Director of TEAM mission agency in Wheaton, IL, and finally served on the pastoral staff at Cedar Crest for 15 years.

A graduate of Moody Bible Institute, Columbia International University, Houghton College, and Azusa Pacific University, Felty was a well-rounded Christian

whose interests ranged from tennis to fishing to reading. Two passions come immediately to mind, however: God's Word and missions.

At his memorial service, his daughter Sheri Felty said, "From an early age, my Dad's passion for God's Word and the teaching of it impacted me and ultimately changed my life as I recognized that I was a sinner...and accepted the gift of salvation from Jesus Christ with a simple child's faith."

"Glenn was just a godly man and a friend who exuded his love for the Lord," said Schlonecker, who along with his wife Roxy served alongside Felty at Christiansen Academy. "What stands out to me was his love for the truth of the Word. He was always about the truth of God's Word."

At Cedar Crest, Felty's commitment to world missions lined up well with a church where pastors Boone and John LoRusso had served as missionaries among the Sandawe people group in Tanzania. "Glenn's passion for the lost unreached people groups of the world is a bit of a legacy for him, and it's what he helped instill in me, and I'm very, very grateful for that," LoRusso explained.

Felty was 100 percent committed to his bride Shirley. "He loved Mom fiercely," said eldest son Glenn Felty Jr. "In over 59 years of marriage, I can't recall a single time that he wasn't singing her praises, defending her, and making sure that she was totally cared for." Schlonecker added, "He was so proud of his family. Every time that we would get together I would get a report about everything that was going on in the Felty household, and it was fabulous."

In addition to his wife, Felty was survived by children Glenn Felty Jr. (and wife Kim), Greg Felty (wife Diane), and Sheri Felty, as well as grandchildren Grace, Luke, and Margaux, brother Terry (Joyce) Felty, sister Gloria Noll, and several nieces and nephews.

Introduction to the 143rd BFC Conference

“Passionately Fulfilling the Great Commission”

(BFCON 150 - Vision Point #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 discipled 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.



Sean Cooper from Global Serve International spoke four times, challenging the members of BFC Conference to passionately fulfill the Great Commission.



Raymond R. Bertolet speaks with Ron Miller, delegate from Pocono Mountain Bible Fellowship Church.



Geoffrey Sobeck, delegate from Graterford Bible Fellowship Church, talks with Philip G. Norris.

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BFC Conference Proceedings – 2026

First meeting

Monday, April 27, 2026, 2:30 P.M.

The 143rd Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church was called to order by Conference Moderator Randall A. Grossman at 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Pinebrook Bible Conference. Grossman welcomed the pastors and delegates and prayed for the weighty matters to be considered over the next three days. “This is God’s call for us today and for these three days, because we’re theologically convinced that we are accountable to one another and we’re interconnected, and the expression of that is right here in this room,” Grossman said.

Report of the Registrar:

Resolved, that the roll of eligible members of the 143rd BFC Conference constitute the Conference Bar for the 143rd BFC Conference.

Christopher M. Von Holt prayed for assistant registrar Jules J. Hull III, who was unable to attend and to fill his role at BFC Conference this year due to serious debilitating illness.

The roll of the 143rd BFC Conference was established as follows:

Allentown, PA (Cedar Crest)	Jason L. Hoy, Jules J. Hull III, Christopher M. Von Holt, Nathan G. Trommler (Probationer), Scott Allen, Peter J. Everett, David Tress, Daniel D. Waterman
Allentown, PA (Citylight)	Richard L. Dobrowolski, John C. Elias, Michael Whiteford
Bethlehem, PA	Scott Wright, Jeremy L. Harkins, Michael J. Notary, Josh Von Holt (Probationer), Swannie W. Griffin III, Travis Schanely, Will Alpaugh (alt.)
Blandon, PA	Daniel L. Williams, R. Jerry Brush, Brad D. Kunkle
Boyertown, PA	Andrew J. Vasel (Probationer), Lucas Parsons
Breinigsville, PA	Benjamin J. Triestman, Jon Fisher
Brick, NJ	L. Marc Sweet, Donald W. Salafia, Jr.
Camden, DE	R. Daniel Wagner, Albert F. Biddle, Jr.
Cape May Court House, NJ	Brad L. Boyer, Gordon Oeschger
Carmel, NY	(Vacant)

Chestertown, MD*	James D. Reff, Tracy D. Haines
Clinton Corners, NY	(Vacant), Wayne M. Chadwell
Coopersburg, PA	Peter C. Bogert (Probationer), Jacob B. Dearmon (Probationer), David E. Speel, Robert A. Moreau
Dauphin, PA	Mark E. Barninger, Scott Bogdon
Denville, NJ	Daniel A. Cali (Probationer), Steven Kay
Emmaus, PA	David A. Smith, Jared M. Burkholder, Scott A. Hoffman
Ephrata, PA	Daniel Z. Krall, David J. Parsons (Probationer), Jonathan D. Grassi
Exeter, PA	William A. Burton III, Andrew C. Eichelberger
Finesville, NJ	Brandon D. Olbrys (Probationer)
Forks Twp., PA	(Interim), Daniel F. Mazzeo, Greg Swigart
Gettysburg, PA	John J. Hanner, R. Edward Snyder-Ritter
Graterford, PA	Mark R. Orton, Geoffrey Sobeck
Harleysville, PA	Andrew T. Crossgrove, Michael W. Walker, Andrew J. Miller, Rick Lutz
Harmony, NJ	Richard J. Paquette (Probationer), Robert W. Burnett, David W. Heller, Donald C. Jackson, Jr.
Harrisburg, PA	Joshua P. Miller, Andrew W. Barnes, Richard Prensner
Hatfield, PA	Joel B. Klase, Robert King
Hellertown, PA	Keith A. Strunk, Dwayne M. Kemmerer
LaGrangeville, NY	(Interim), Evan T. Climpson
Lancaster, PA	Keith M. Long, Neil J. Franklin, Jr., William C. Verdon II, Nathaniel A. Miller (Probationer), Chris Young
Lancaster City, PA	Juan Carlos Morales, Wayne V. Cooley, Jr.
Las Cruces, NM	David M. Poland
Lebanon, PA	Jarrod J. Cruise, Eric E. Herb, Jr., Judah E. Wise (Probationer), Eric E. Herb, Sr
Lehighton, PA	Stephen A. Diaz, Steven Ramos
Long Neck, DE	Richard F. Bickings, Richard M. Petrecca

Merida, MEXICO	Marcos G. Ramirez
Milford, DE*	Joshua P. Dupiche, Alton Hester
Mt. Carmel, PA	Roger L. Siegrist, A. Mark Cassel
Mt. Pocono, PA	James L. Farver, Ronald E. Miller
Nazareth, PA	John P. Sullivan (Probationer), James W. Preslar
Newark, DE	Andrew R. Hebel, Jonathan Limm (Probationer), Ronald L. Bove, Kenneth J. Klein
Newark, NJ	Ron Burgess, Melvin Hinton
Oley, PA	Scott A. Allison, Christian D. Lefko (Probationer), Todd Heath, William S. Ryan
Paradise, PA	Jesse A. Benack, Daniel J. Eckman
Philadelphia, PA	Ralph E. Ritter
Piscataway, NJ	Jason D. Falzarano (Probationer), Mark C. Baker
Pottstown, PA (formerly Spring City)	Jeffrey A. Kauffman, Sean P. McNamara
Quakertown, PA	Ronald L. Kohl, Robert E. Smith
Reading, PA (Grace BFC)	Gary L. White (Probationer), Greg C. Tuke
Reading, PA (La Roca)	Carlos G. Rodriguez, Vladimir L. Caba, Alexis Ramirez
Red Hill, PA	(Vacant), J. Robert Vaughn, Jr.
Royersford, PA	Daniel W. King, Connor A. Roskowski (Probationer), Michael Gangwer
Shamokin, PA	Ferdie R. Madara
Sinking Spring, PA	S. Wayne Rissmiller, Paul Harvey, Donald D. McKinney, Donald M. Eenigenburg, Timothy P. Stump, John R. Weller
Stroudsburg, PA	Beau E. Coffman, Michael D. Murphy
Sunbury, PA	Joshua P. Gibson, Douglas A. Gaugler
Terre Hill, PA	Kevin W. Kirkpatrick, Andrew S. Littlejohn
Topton, PA	Daniel J. Hoffstetter, Larry Davies, Steven K. Myers (Probationer)
Wallingford, PA	Aaron J. Susek, Mark A. Bickel, Mark E. Kessler
Walnutport, PA	Aaron D. Smith, Jason P. Musselman

W. Norriton, PA	(Interim), Tirus T. Twyne
Whitehall, PA	Timothy J. Schmoyer, Daryl A. Crawford (Probationer), Philip E. Yerrington, Laszlo Onody (Probationer), Mark Hargrove
Woodbury Heights, NJ	Timothy R. Nessler, Harry Nessler
York, PA	Wesley H. Bunting, Alex Kocman, Joshua Vann
Zionsville, PA	Benenz J. Hitchcock (Probationer), Jim Pruitt

*Contingent upon their graduation as a particular church at this Conference

Ordained Ministers Serving in Bible Fellowship Ministries:

BFC Executive Director — David T. Allen

Conference Pastor — Ralph M. Soper

Church Extension — Timothy M. Zuck (Director), David E. Gundrum (Director of Expansion and Development), Raymond R. Bertolet, Freddy A. Chi, Steven J. DelDuco, Jason A. Filbert, Mark L. Morrison, Stephen J. Morton, Timothy S. Radcliff, Shawn C. Rohrbach (Probationer)

Board of Missions — James D. MacArthur (Director)

Ordained Missionaries:

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

Ordained Ministers Working in the Chaplaincy Under the Sponsorship of the BFC: Ezekiel R. Mack, Daniel Istrate

Ordained Ministers Working in Other Christian Ministries:

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

Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Permanent Disability:

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

David K. Schlonecker, William G. Schlonecker, David N. Schoen, Thomas P. Shorb, Robert A. Sloan, Jr., Ronald B. Smith, Dennis W. Spinney, Jacob J. Susek, Jr., Michael J. Tannous, Richard E. Taylor, Gregory A. Uhrich, John C. Vandegriff, Jr., David R. Way, Dana E. Weller, Howard N. Wells, Byron Widger, Paul G. Zimmerman

Ordained Ministers Between Calls:

Sandy J. Holbert, Carl T. Martin

Additional Lay Members of the BFC Executive Board:

Gary E. Karch, Ronald W. Reed, L. James Roberts, John W. Sullivan II, William J. Walters

Report of the Committee on Agenda & Arrangements: (see page 64)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Resolved, that the proposed agenda for the 143rd BFC Conference be accepted as the guide for our deliberations.

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.

Resolved, that the 144th BFC Conference be held at a site and date to be determined.

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.

The Conference Moderator announced the following appointments:

Timekeeper: Mark L. Morrison

Parliamentarian: Daniel L. Williams

Committee on Minutes of the 143rd BFC Conference: Philip G. Norris, Thomas P. Shorb, R. Daniel Wagner.

Committee on Resolutions: Daniel Z. Krall, Jarrod J. Cruise, Daniel J. Hoffstetter.

Resolved, that the appointments be ratified.

Conference Secretary Ronald L. Kohl appointed Timothy S. Radcliff as Assistant Secretary and Samuel Janney and Shawn Rohrbach as Assistants to the Secretary.

Resolved, that the appointments be ratified.

Pinebrook Bible Conference site director Richard B. Brewer officially welcomed the pastors and delegates to Pinebrook Bible Conference.

Resolved, that all minutes of the 142nd BFC Conference be approved.

The following first-time delegates to BFC Conference introduced themselves to Conference:

Mark Baker, Piscataway, NJ; Jonathan Grassi, Ephrata, PA; David Heller, Harmony, NJ; Alton Hester, Milford, DE; Robert Kim, Hatfield, PA; Gordon Oeschger, Cape May, NJ; Laszlo Onody, Whitehall, PA; Greg Tuke, Reading; Michael Whitefield, Allentown, PA; Chris Young, Lancaster, PA.

A time of concerted prayer was led by Dennis W. Spinney of the Prayer Committee, using the Beatitudes – Matthew 5:2-12 – as a guide.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

The following were elected to boards or committees:

Ministerial Relations Committee (elders):

Mark Hargrove (3 years)

Glendon R. LeSuer Jr. (3 years)

Conference Judicatory (elders):

Michael Gangwer (3 years)

Sean McNamara (3 years)

Special Appellate Judicatory (minister):

Philip E. Morrison (3 years)

Officers of the 144th BFC Conference

Secretary

Ronald L. Kohl (1 year)

Daniel W. King prayed for the elections to be held on Tuesday.

Report of the Ministerial Credentials Committee: (see page 116)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

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.

Resolved, that an Ordination Service be held at the 143rd BFC Conference, and be it further

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.

Jeremy L. Harkins, accompanied by Steve Jackson, Steven K. Myers, Aaron J. Susek, and Max Whylings, led Conference in the singing of “May the Peoples Praise You,” “Facing a Task Unfinished,” and “The Lord is My Salvation.” He also read Matthew 28:16-20, reminding the pastors and delegates of the Lord’s call to make disciples while also reminding them that we have the promise of His presence until the end of the age. Harkins then prayed with thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness and calling.

Sean Cooper of Global Serve International, a church planting missions agency that is focused on establishing healthy churches in regions that are either unreached or largely closed-off to the gospel, presented the keynote address, “A Biblical Theology for Mission: A People from All Peoples.”

Cooper told Conference a bit of his own story, growing up in a poor family but with self-centered aspirations. “It was baked into my soul as a youth that my purpose in life was to chase this thing called the American Dream: safety, comfort, security and all that goes with it,” he explained.

But in his sophomore year of college, God sent a minister into Cooper’s path to share with him that life is not about his own selfish agenda, but about God and His purpose. “God has a very basic purpose and agenda, and it’s this: to make Himself famous worldwide...He is doing this through His Son, Jesus Christ.”

It was what Cooper, as an only child focused on having his own needs and wants met, needed to hear, though the challenge wasn’t initially received with open heart and mind. His response to the minister’s call to missions wasn’t met with immediate acceptance. He thought, “Missions is for weird people who don’t fit into America; that’s why we send them overseas. That’s not for me; it’s for someone else, somewhere else.”

But God’s truth eventually took hold of Cooper’s heart in a life-shaking way. He asked, “If missions matters to God, brothers, does it matter to us?”

Cooper began in Genesis 1 with Adam and Eve and walked the pastors and delegates through the whole Bible. Adam and Eve were called to multiply and spread out

and populate and fill the planet, for God wanted them to teach those who follow and fill the earth that all are image-bearers of God. Sin, however, severed our relationship with God. By Genesis 6, every intention of man's heart was only set on evil – always.

Right from the start, God commanded His people to go and fill the earth, but sin immediately placed an obstacle to God's call. "There's no such thing as a neutral party between God and mankind. You either love God and hate sin or you love sin and hate God," Cooper said.

By the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11, humanity had no desire to make God great, and God scattered mankind – sending them apart with differing languages: from one language to many languages, from one location to many locations. Most of the 7,000 present-day languages throughout the world are unreached: no Bible, no believers, no church body. They will perish and die unless someone is sent. "Someone must go and tell them, and there must be churches that send them. Someone must send and some must be sent in order to reach these unreached languages."

By Genesis 11, a question is begged: What is God going to do to bring people to Himself? The answer begins to be told in Genesis 12 as God tells Abram, "Go to the land that I will show you." God interrupts Abram's agenda. Abram is not seeking God but God in His sovereignty and grace breaks into Abram's life, speaking His call as a command to Abram: Leave. Go. "I want there to be a decisive break from your place. I am commanding you to leave your people and go away from your place." Abram was even called to make a break from his own father; God called Abram to walk away, essentially, from everything.

God's promise to Abram was to give him a place – to make him an heir to the whole world. "I'm going to give you a people more numerous than the stars in the sky," God said. "There is nothing greater that God can give us than to give us Himself...to get God is to get all," Cooper stressed.

What are the ultimate blessings God promised to Abram? Not temporal, material blessings, but Himself; God is the ultimate blessing to His people. "In Him we have every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies," Paul tells the Ephesian Christians.

"God is preaching the gospel to Abram in Genesis 12:1-3. In Galatians 3:8, Paul confirms that God was preaching the gospel through Abraham. "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'In you shall all the nations be blessed.'"

Through Christ, God promises that whoever will turn from their sins and turn to Christ – through grace alone, through faith alone – will receive salvation and the forgiveness of sins. God fulfills His purpose through His promises.

By Exodus, we are told that God begins to multiply the Israelites to an exceedingly great number. Pharaoh begins to enslave them as a tyrant to them and after 400 years of torment, Israel cries out to God, and God remembers the promise He made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Through Moses, God rescues His people, only to hear their complaints within a few weeks. The result is 40 years of wilderness wandering. But God's intention, revealed in Exodus 9:16 in the midst of the plagues, is to make His name famous: "...that My name may be proclaimed in all the earth."

In the midst of their wandering, God sends Moses to Mt. Sinai to receive the law so that, according to Deuteronomy 4:6, the nations would see God's wisdom and understanding. "Israel was meant to be a reflection of God," Cooper said. Global

implications were involved; Israel was to be a light to the nations and God worked through His servants to serve His purpose through His promises, which were for all the nations.

Cooper rattled off examples from throughout the Old Testament of God's faithfulness despite the repeated stubbornness of His people: people like Jonah, who didn't want the Assyrians to hear that God is gracious and merciful. This message resounds throughout the Psalms, in verses like Psalm 46:10: "Be still, and know that I am God." The message of that verse is for His people to sit still because God will be exalted among the nations and in all the earth, for He has promised it and He is a covenant-keeping, faithful God.

God's purpose will not be thwarted; He is gathering a people unto Himself. "The same promise is still at work," Cooper said. And when Jesus comes, He repeatedly says that He is about His Father's purpose and agenda. "I have come not to do My will but the will of Him who sent Me." Jesus is a fulfillment of God's promise to Abram in Genesis 12 by His whole life and ministry. Cooper gave several examples of this from throughout Jesus' public ministry: from His miracles, from His work with the 12 disciples. And when His own people received Him not, Jesus went to the Gentiles. He tells the twelve that they will be sent to make disciples of all nations.

Cooper closed with the spread of the gospel in Acts 1:8 and the final evidence from Revelation 7:9. "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb..." In the new heavens, God gets "a planet full of people, from all peoples, worshiping Him," he noted.

Conference adjourned for dinner at 4:35 p.m. as the Moderator led in prayer.



The officers of the 143rd Conference, Secretary Ronald L. Kohl, Moderator Randall A. Grossman, and Vice-Moderator Steven J. DelDuco pose together for a photo.



The secretarial team for the 143rd Conference included Secretary Ronald L. Kohl, Assistant Secretary Timothy S. Radcliff, and Assistants to the Secretary Samuel Janney and Shawn C. Rohrbach.

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Second meeting

Monday, April 27, 2026, 6:30 P.M.

Moderator Randall A. Grossman called the evening meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Keith M. Long offered prayer for the evening's events.

Musical worship was again led by Jeremy L. Harkins as the pastors and delegates raised their voices in praise to God by singing "O Church, Arise," "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood," and "All I Have is Christ." In between, he read Philippians 3:7-8.

Sean Cooper followed with an address entitled, "A Biblical Mandate to Church Plant," drawn from Acts 1:1-3. "Last words are not wasted words," Cooper said in introducing his topic. Jesus' last earthly words before He departed from the disciples and ascended to the Father's right hand held great meaning and importance. What we know as Jesus' Great Commission took place between His resurrection and ascension; it was during this time that He with specificity spoke of the kingdom of God. A 2018 Barna poll, Cooper said, revealed that only 17 percent of churchgoers who were polled understood what the Great Commission is and what it means.

These "last words" – the Great Commission – in the four Gospels and opening the Book of Acts were both intentional and purposeful.

In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus called His disciples to "Go and make disciples of all nations." In this longest and most detailed of the commissioning passages, Jesus directed His disciples to meet Him on a mountain. Mountains, Cooper said, are a major motif in Matthew's Gospel, noting the Sermon on the Mount and the Mount of Transfiguration. Mountains, he said, are places "where heaven comes to meet earth and God comes to speak."

When Jesus says to them, "all authority in heaven and earth has been given to me," as He speaks to them on a mountain, it is clear that God is addressing them.

What does Matthew say the disciples are to do? Make disciples. Disciple-making is not to be an option or a good suggestion. Discipleship may be defined as "seeking to do spiritual good to those in the body of Christ." Cooper asked, "For all that you have going on in front of you, week in and week out, the fact that Sunday's a-coming... who is your Timothy? Can you tell me his name? Do you have a Timothy? A Titus?" Who are the faithful men to whom you are entrusting the Word?

The fruit of a church is to be more churches just as the fruit of an apple tree is ultimately more apple trees. "The heart of the Great Commission is about church planting, Cooper stressed.

Jesus tells us we are to go, teach, and baptize. We are to teach them to observe all that Jesus commands. We are to teach what Paul calls "the full counsel of God" – from beginning to end. And we are to administer the ordinances, just as Jesus has instructed. These are things we are to do to "all nations." This translates the Greek word *ethne*, which much more closely identifies with ethnicities or people groups than it does with nations. We identify people groups with their languages. Finishing this task that we have been given involves taking the gospel to the remaining 3100 unreached language groups in the world.

"You can't microwave this process," Cooper said. "If we're going to send qualified elders, are they prepared to be examined and vetted by their local church... Are those we are sending vetted so that they can defend sound doctrine?"

Mark 16:15, which is similar to Mark 13:10, tells us that Jesus sends His disciples to “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” If we’re going to go and proclaim the gospel, the good news, we’re going to do this in the whole world among all these different cultural contexts, it means that proclamation is going to require clarity and proficiency. We must be clear with the gospel we preach. “Proclamation demands a clear gospel message. Are we modeling in our preaching a clear gospel?”

Proclamation also necessitates proficiency. Cooper works with professional linguists. They will tell you that learning a language proficiently requires, on average, 3500 hours. Language-learning could require 6-7 years at 10 hours of study per week, or perhaps 3 ½ years at 20 hours per week. But many who will do this may need to learn two languages, not one, or perhaps even more. “It’s going to take time; that’s what I’m driving at,” Cooper explained. “Our expectations need to be clear about what it’s going to cost us.”

To clearly proclaim the gospel, we need to understand what the gospel is, and then how to explain it. Luke 24:46-47 contains a clear explanation. Jesus says, “Thus it is written...” “The gospel grows out of the soil of the Old Testament,” Cooper said. The Old Testament points to Jesus. “The whole Bible is pointing to Christ: His life, His death, His resurrection, and His purpose to gather a people to Himself from all peoples.”

Cooper pointed out four gospel ingredients that we must preach and teach. Ingredient # 1 – “Is the gospel you preach a gospel that can be preached from the Old Testament. Ingredient # 2 – Does your gospel declare that Christ suffered, died, and rose from the dead? This gospel demands a human response. “All revelation demands a response.” Ingredient # 3 – What response is demanded of humanity? That they repent and believe. Ingredient # 4 – For those who repent and believe, what are they promised? Forgiveness of sins.

John 20:21 adds, “As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” “Sentness is not just something we do to keep busy,” Cooper noted. “It is one of the ways we bear the image of God Himself, who is a sending God.” While we are not sent like Christ, to atone for sins, we can argue from John’s Gospel, at minimum, that those who are being sent are expected to be those who, like their Master, serve. Second, John’s context suggests, being sent means suffering. A servant is not above his Master, and so if Jesus, the Master, suffered, we should expect that possibility. Jesus is the suffering Servant and we are united to Him. “Are we prepared to help those we send recognize and understand that, and step into that?”

Finally, Acts 1:8 stresses that disciples will be Jesus’ witnesses “to the end of the earth.” Cooper says the work indicated by the four Gospel accounts and from Acts 1:8 “is not something we can do in our own strength. This work, to be carried out, must be carried out in the power of the Spirit.” Apart from His strength, after all, the Bible says we can do nothing.

David E. Gundrum, outgoing Director of Church Extension Ministries, came forward to speak about the two new Particular Churches that would be approved and welcomed to BFC Conference. Hope Community Bible Fellowship Church of Milford, DE, and Grace Community Bible Fellowship Church of Chestertown, MD represent the 23rd and 24th churches to be welcomed into the Bible Fellowship Church.

The following resolution for receiving Hope Community Church of Milford, DE was introduced by Gundrum:

Whereas, Church Extension Ministries has assessed the elder candidates and has reviewed the financial reports of the Hope Community Mission Church, Milford, DE and

Whereas, Church Extension Ministries affirms that the Hope Community Mission Church, Milford, DE, has sufficient men qualified to be elders as well as a sufficient committed participant group who will sign as charter members, and

Whereas, the financial reports of Hope Community Mission Church, Milford, DE, have been reviewed, and it was determined that Hope Community Mission Church is financially self-supporting, therefore be it

Resolved, that Hope Community Mission Church, Milford, DE, be received into the BFC Conference and be recognized as a Particular Church.

By raise of hand and by vigorous applause, BFC Conference unanimously approved the resolution. Joshua A. Dupiche, Hope's church planter, said "For those of you who know my history, this is a long time in coming," he said.

He added that faithfulness doesn't always result in fruit, but God calls His people to be faithful. Upon arriving in Milford, Dupiche found himself asking, "Whose glory am I after?" He concluded of God, "He's the one who opens and closes doors, who blesses and curses, and I need to trust Him." And God has indeed blessed Hope Church – both numerically and spiritually.

Dupiche thanked several individuals and churches for their encouragement and support throughout the journey from church plant to Particular Church. He expressed gratitude for the many churches who helped in the purchase of a new church building. "So much support, from people who said, 'Keep on going,'" he said.

He shared his verse for the church: Revelation 3:8. "I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept My word and have not denied My name."

"Pray that for us – that every door Christ opens, we would run through it," Dupiche said.

Several members of Hope Church made the five-hour trip to witness Hope's graduation.

Gundrum also introduced the following resolution for Grace Community BFC of Chestertown, MD:

Whereas, Church Extension Ministries has assessed the elder candidates and has reviewed the financial reports of the Grace Community Mission Church, Chestertown, MD, and

Whereas, Church Extension Ministries affirms that the Grace Community Mission Church, Chestertown, MD, has sufficient men qualified to be elders as well as a sufficient committed participant group who will sign as charter members, and

Whereas, the financial reports of Grace Community Mission Church, Chestertown, MD, have been reviewed, and it was determined that Grace Community Mission Church is financially self-supporting, therefore be it

Resolved, that Grace Community Mission Church, Chestertown, MD, be received into the BFC Conference and be recognized as a Particular Church.

Grace Community Bible Fellowship Church was also welcomed with enthusiastic applause. Gundrum introduced church planters James D. Reff II and Tracy D. Haines. After asking Conference how many knew where Chestertown is located, Reff said, “We are excited to bring the Bible Fellowship Church to Maryland.”

“It’s been a long journey for us as well,” Reff said, noting that he felt the call to church planting several years ago. “It’s been almost 10 years, but it’s been amazing how God has directed us.”

“We were technically a restart,” Reff explained, noting that there was a small remnant that stayed with the church when it committed to Reformed theology. James and Mindy Reff engaged in the work, and God has brought a strong foundation of committed members. Trace and Renee Haines came to the church in 2022. “Trace has been a great help to us. Many have said that he doesn’t know a single stranger anywhere.”

“We’re thankful for all of you guys,” he added, singling out several people who have provided support over the years – support through finances, prayers, and friendship. Grace Community Church also brought a strong contingent to celebrate along with the pastors, delegates, and other guests.

Both new Particular Churches used encouraging video presentations to introduce themselves to BFC Conference.

The evening session concluded with a prayer offered by William G. Schlonecker at 8:20 p.m. A reception in honor of Hope Community Church of Milford, DE and Grace Community Church of Chestertown, MD followed in Pinebrook’s Fellowship Hall.



Church Planter Joshua A. Dupiche introduces some of the people from Hope Church, Milford, DE who made the long trek to Conference to be part of the Mission Church’s reception as a Particular Church.



Church Planter Joshua A. Dupiche pauses for a photo with Al Hester, the elder delegate from Hope Church, Milford, DE.



David E. Gundrum proudly looks on as Grace Community Church, Chestertown, MD is received as a Particular Church. Also enjoying the moment are Grace elder Lamar Stoltzfus and Denton Reff, the son of Church Planter James D. Reff II.



Church Planter James D. Reff II introduces the contingent from Grace Community Church, Chestertown, MD including his wife Mindy, their four children, and Assistant Church Planter Tracy D. Haines and his wife Renee.

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Third meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 8:45 A.M.

The Tuesday morning session of the 143rd BFC Conference was called to order by the Conference Moderator, Randall A Grossman at 8:47 a.m. Jarrod J. Cruise offered an opening prayer.

Conference sang “And Can It Be,” “Sing,” and “Behold Our God” as Jeremy L. Harkins and his team used musical worship to prepare the hearts of pastors and delegates to receive God’s Word. Psalm 96:1-3 served as a call to worship – and a call for Conference to sing God’s praises with joyful hearts.

Sean Cooper’s third address, “The Apostolic Pattern: Proclaim, Plant, and Pastor,” flowed from the apostle Paul’s words in 1 Corinthians 3:10 – “According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.”

“God’s purpose to gather a people to Himself is God’s idea,” Cooper said.

Cooper walked Conference through the Book of Acts. “What the apostles were engaged in was the very thing they were told to do in the passages we looked at last night [Jesus’ final words recorded in the four Gospels and the first chapter of Acts]. It was not their job to be creative; it was their job to be faithful,” he said.

“In many ways as we walk through the Book of Acts, we pick up as we left off,” Cooper said. Jesus instructed the apostles to start from Jerusalem (“...beginning from Jerusalem,” Luke 2:47 says). Why did Jesus tell them to start in Jerusalem? Because the yearly celebration of Pentecost was going to take place, drawing faithful Jews from around the civilized world. And because this was to be seen as a part of the restoration of Israel. “It is not accidental that He tells them to start in Jerusalem. It’s all a fulfillment of prophecy and promise.”

The gospel was given to the Jew first. The apostles, Galileans, started in Jerusalem knowing that they were Public Enemy No. 1 and would suffer for the gospel. They were called to be Christ’s witnesses. According to Mark 3:14, Jesus appointed the apostles that they might preach but also that they might be with Him – for three years, day in and day out. They needed to witness all that Jesus said and did. “Their with-ness became the substance of their witness,” Cooper said.

The record of Acts is a record of apostolic service and suffering. “Apostolic suffering is the warp and woof of the entire book,” Cooper said. “To be united to Him means that we will suffer. Those who prepare to be sent must understand that they will suffer.”

Acts, Cooper explained, is Genesis 12:1-3 “in technicolor” – referencing God’s call to Abram. “There is a clear pattern that runs through the whole book...No matter the people and no matter the place, the pattern is the same: Proclaim, plant, pastor.”

In Acts 1, the apostles were told to remain in Jerusalem; they were to wait for the Holy Spirit. And in Acts 2, the Spirit descends. “The pouring out of the Spirit is actually a fulfillment of Genesis 12:1-3. Now that the Spirit has been sent and poured out, He is empowering His people to be sent out themselves. At Pentecost, the apostles spoke in real, known languages because faith comes through hearing,

and hearing through the Word of God. Peter preached one sermon and the result was a church of 3,000 people.

As the believers were gathered into a church, the new believers were being taught what Jesus had commanded them in the Great Commission: all that He had commanded. They were baptized and shared in the Lord's Supper. This same pattern followed throughout the ensuing chapters; as the apostles taught and proclaimed, persecution and suffering ensued. In Acts 4, for instance, the religious authorities were "greatly annoyed" because the apostles were teaching and proclaiming – exactly what they were told to do in the commissioning passages in the four Gospels and in Acts 1. "They are proclaiming the gospel, disciples are being added to the church, and they were being cared for by pastors," Cooper said.

Acts 7 saw the introduction of serving ministry, but it came at a cost. As Stephen proclaimed the good news, the end result was that he was stoned to death. He served and he suffered. But the gospel advanced, and by Acts 8, the church was spreading out from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria. Churches were planted and the office of elder was being established in each church. The church was scattered by persecution, but as believers scattered, they preached the Word wherever they went, and churches were planted.

Saul's conversion in Acts 9 was a watershed event, for Paul was called by Jesus to "carry My name for the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel." He went to his own countrymen, but when they rejected him, he went to the Gentiles. Acts 10-11's story of the conversion of Cornelius is the longest narrative in the Book of Acts: 66 verses of text that represents a transition to a new people and a new place: Joppa. There Peter, having seen a vision which was repeated twice, proving to him that God's purpose was to take the gospel to the Gentiles, taught Cornelius and all who were with him. An equivalent of Pentecost followed to the Gentile world as the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard Peter's proclamation of the gospel.

Acts 11 takes the pattern of Acts 8 and broadens. Persecution scatters the believers and they take the gospel with them wherever they go. But this time, the gospel goes further, to Antioch and other Gentile areas. Now the gospel, which has left Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria, is now spreading "to the ends of the earth." Acts 11:26 reveals that Paul and Barnabas, having planted a church in Antioch, spent a full year teaching and pastoring them. Antioch will be the "mother church" that will send Paul and his co-workers out to plant churches based on the gospel.

"Brothers, are you begging God to raise up laborers in your church to go to the ends of the earth?" Cooper said, asking what great things God might do through our 72-church denomination if we would faithfully obey the Lord's commands to go and plant churches throughout the world, discipling and raising up elders in each church. "They proclaimed, they planted, and they pastored," Cooper said. "Brothers, keep doing likewise, and may God keep raising up workers from your congregations to go to the end of the earth."

Stephen J. Morton of the Prayer Committee directed Conference in a time of prayer.

Report of the Executive Board: (see page 66)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

David T. Allen, Executive Director of the Bible Fellowship Church, thanked Conference for continuing to allow him to serve in his current capacity. He reviewed a few highlights from the Executive Board report, noting three cases where the baton of ministry has either already been passed or will soon be passed. First, he cited the transition in Church Extension Ministries from longtime Director David E. Gundrum to Timothy M. Zuck.

Second, Allen noted that Robert A. Sloan Jr. is stepping away from his role as Interim Director of the Board of Church Health; Daniel L. Williams will step into that role. Williams thanked Sloan for his years of faithful service. “Bob, we say, with all sincerity, how deeply grateful we are to you.”

“Personally, I step into this role with equal measures of humility and excitement,” Williams added, noting that he has served on the Board of Church Health, in one capacity or another, for the past six years. “We are here to help,” Williams said of the board’s role in the BFC.

The third “new baton,” Allen said, is the development of a new position: Director of Development and Expansion, which will be filled by Gundrum. This fulfills 2020 Vision Point #12 – “The BFC will provide a Financial Development Office/Director.”

Expansion, Gundrum said, includes work in facilitating the interest independent churches have been showing in becoming part of a larger entity like the Bible Fellowship Church. His work will also include development, and Gundrum said a recent course he took showed him his need to increase in knowledge about things like capital campaigns and stewardship of donors, etc. “This development department is really meant to help the BFC,” Gundrum said, noting that he hopes to develop a Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

Allen noted that, because our credit line agreement with Pinebrook Bible Conference will be exhausted by the 143rd BFC Conference, several options are being considered for where and when BFC Conference will be held in 2027. Pinebrook, Harvey Cedars Bible Conference (Long Beach Island, NJ), Newark Bible Fellowship Church (Newark, DE), and Kutztown University (Kutztown, PA; though Conference would need to be held during spring break – in early March) are all under consideration. Allen invited pastors and delegates to offer their thoughts to him. At present, the date and site remain TBD (to be determined).

Resolved, that the 2026 revised BFC Executive Board budget be adopted by the 143rd BFC Conference.

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).

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

The Executive Board recommended the following resolutions pertaining to the Ministers Retirement Fund (MRF):

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."

Consideration of Legislation at Second Reading

BFC Conference considered the following proposed pieces of legislation for adoption at Second Reading:

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

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.**

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 143; No - 14.

Note: most recent results of elder board voting – late February – was 54-5 in favor.

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

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

Whereas, the Youth and Young Adult 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 Adult 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.

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 146; No - 0.

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.

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 146; No - 1.

Resolved, that the paragraph in Article 511-1.7(6) – BFC Prayer Committee – entitled “Treasurer” be deleted.

The resolution was conducted by a hand vote and passed unanimously.

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

While the 142nd BFC Conference implemented the temporary position of Legislative Facilitator on a one-year probationary status and Keith A. Strunk served in that capacity, the legislation was not furthered for Second Reading consideration.

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.”

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 149; No - 4.

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.”

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 147; No - 7.

Article 404 – Choosing Leaders Other Than Elders and Deacons (see p. 37, 2025 Yearbook)

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.

[SECOND READING]

Yes - 145; No -14.

Conference adjourned for lunch at 12:28 p.m. as Paul Harvey prayed for the morning's work and for lunch.



Rick Lutz, an elder at Faith BFC Harleysville, chats with BFC Executive Director David T. Allen (center) and Executive Board member Robert A. Sloan, Jr (seated).

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Fourth meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 1:30 P.M.

Conference Moderator Randall A. Grossman called the pastors and delegates back to order for the Tuesday afternoon meeting at 1:30 p.m. Raymond R. Bertolet prayed, especially remembering Richard E. Taylor, who is experiencing serious health concerns and had just undergone surgery.

The following were elected to boards or committees:

BFC Executive Board (ministers):

Randall A. Grossman (3 years)

Ronald L. Kohl (3 years)

BFC Executive Board (elders):

John W. Sullivan (3 years)

William J. Walters (3 years)

Ministerial Credentials Committee (ministers):

Jesse A. Benack (3 years)

Daniel W. King (3 years)

Ministerial Candidate Committee (ministers):

David E. Gundrum (3 years)

Joshua P. Miller (3 years)

Juan Carlos Morales (3 years)

Ministerial Relations Committee (ministers):

Daniel Z. Krall (3 years)

Timothy J. Schmoyer (3 years)

Committee on Nominations (ministers):

Mark A. Barninger (3 years)

Brad L. Boyer (3 years)

Committee on Nominations (laypersons):

Angela Vaughn (3 years)

Conference Judicatory (ministers):

Scott A. Allison (3 years)

Stephen A. Diaz (3 years)

Special Appellate Judicatory (elders):

Robert A. Moreau (3 years)

Officers of the 144th BFC Conference

Moderator

Randall A. Grossman (1 year)

Vice-Moderator

Timothy J. Schmoyer (1 year)

Report of the Board of Church Health: (see page 94)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Robert A. Sloan, Jr., Interim Director of the Board of Church Health, described the work of Church Health and encouraged churches to be willing to seek help. The development of an assessment plan is a helpful tool that the Board of Church Health offers to churches. He stressed that each church is unique so no one model exists that will uniformly correct the issues of all struggling churches. “We give additional input to the elders and the churches to refresh the ministry that they’re doing,” Sloan said. “It’s always helpful to have fresh eyes.”

BFC Conference is grateful to Sloan for his faithful service as Interim Director and thanks him for his commitment to this role.

Report from Study Committees

Study Committee on the Mode of Believers’ Baptism with Regard to Church Membership (see page 133)

Resolved, that the report be accepted as amended to correct numbering on one of the resolutions.

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 204-1 Elders

We propose introducing a new 204-1.8.

“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 baptized by immersion, unless physically unable, so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

[FIRST READING]

Yes – 120; No - 39.

Article 204-2 Ministers

Under 204-2.3, The Qualifications for the Ministry – under Personal Qualifications - we propose this addition as a new 204-2.3(8).

“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 baptized by immersion, unless physically unable, so as to be in agreement with Article 20-1, Baptism, which states, ‘Water baptism, the immersion of the believer...’”

[FIRST READING]

Yes – 126; No - 33.

Study Committee on Strengthening Our Position on Abortion: (see page 135)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

It is this committee’s intention to present “a proper report and improved language” at the 144th BFC Conference in 2027.

Study Committee on Examining BFC Articles 24-27: (see page 156)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

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, some 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.

The following changes to the Articles of Faith were presented for adoption at First Reading, starting with the preface accompanying the committee's legislation for Article 24 – Resurrection. The following is the preface statement proposed by the committee for adoption at First Reading.

***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.*

[FIRST READING]

Yes – 64; No - 97.

The following motion was adopted by BFC Conference

Whereas, the 142nd BFC Conference elected Option 4 proposed by the Millennium Study Committee, and

Whereas, the Millennial Study Committee proposed changes to allow for both amillennial and premillennial positions within the BFC in the Fall, and

Whereas, the Millennial Committee’s current proposal does not reflect the wishes of the 142nd BFC Conference, and

Whereas, the current proposal that includes a preface within the Articles of Faith insinuates tiers of doctrine, and

Whereas, doctrine ought to be safe-guarded and defended, rather than include exceptions, therefore be it

Resolved, that Conference instructs the Millennial Study Committee to further amend its proposed changes so that it can be accepted by both premillennial and amillennial brothers.

Conference having given some early guidelines for the committee’s ongoing work, the following changes to the Articles of Faith were proposed for adoption at First Reading:

Article 7 – Satan

Current	Change
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 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	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, and continually accus-</u>es the brethren before the throne of God.³ 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

	Footnotes 1-2 and 4-5 remain the same. One addition for 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). <u>Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.</u>(1 Pet 5:8)
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[FIRST READING]

Yes -137; No -16.

Article 24 - Resurrection

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	24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of <u>His people of man</u>.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.⁴The 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.

[FIRST READING] Yes – 126; No - 31.

Article 25 – The Second Coming of Christ

Current	Change
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. 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	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 visibly manifest the 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,^{3,2} 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 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}
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). 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	Footnote 1 remains the same. Footnotes 2-3 are new additions. The current Footnote 2 becomes new 4 and adds 1 Thes 4:16. The current Footnote 3 becomes new 5 and adds Matt 24:31. The current Footnote 4 becomes new 6 with no changes. The current Footnote 5 becomes new 7 with no changes. The current Footnote 6 is dropped. A new Footnote 8 is added with 2 Thess 1:7-9. A new Footnote 9 is added with Matt 25:46. The current Footnote 7 becomes new 10 and adds Col 3:4-10.

will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (1Cor. 15:51,52).

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).

⁴ 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).

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).

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).

² 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). 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).

⁵² 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 ²in 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 <u>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (Mat. 25:46).</u> ^{7 10} <u>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).</u>
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[FIRST READING]

Yes – 121; No - 34.

Article 28 – The Eternal State

Current	Change
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	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
	No changes to the footnotes.

[FIRST READING]

Yes – 145; No - 8.

Committee to Report on Civil Government (see page 137)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

The Committee's report included no proposed legislation.

Resolved, that we thank the committee for its work, and be it further

Resolved, that we consider its assignment complete and consider the committee dissolved.

Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living (BPLs): (see page 167)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

The Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living 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?

Conference voted in favor of the formation of such a study committee.

The following missionaries were present and greeted BFC Conference:

Lisa Barnshaw – Christar; Glen & Leah Ruth Blauser, JAARS; Alex Hartranft, AIM; Brian & Carol Ann Lawrence, Christar; Chris Merrick, BFC BOM; Efthemes Sioukiouroglou, FIM.

James D. MacArthur, Director of the BFC Board of Missions, thanked God for the faithfulness and dedication of these men and women.

Marcos Ramirez closed the afternoon session with prayer at 4:57 p.m. The pastors then attended a meeting of the BFC Beneficiary Society.



Members of the Study Committee on Articles 24-27 sit together as Andrew T. Crossgrove (second from right) entertains a question. From left to right are S. Wayne Rissmiller, Aaron J. Susek, Daniel J. Hoffstetter, Timothy J. Schmoyer, Timothy J. Bertolet, and Crossgrove. To Crossgrove's left is Conference Moderator Randall A. Grossman.



Glenn Blauser, warehouse manager for Wycliffe Bible Translators/JAARS, and his wife Leah Ruth greet BFC Conference while Moderator Randall A. Grossman looks on.



Alex Hartranft (left), missionary to Chad with AIM, and Efthymes Sioukiouoglou, missionary to Greece with FIM, greet BFC Conference.

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Fifth meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 7 P.M.

Steven K. Myers and accompanists led in the singing of “O Great God” as Conference held its annual service of ordination beginning at 7 p.m. Ralph M. Soper of the Ministerial Credentials Committee read Ephesians 3:7-12.

Keith M. Long presented the ordinands to the congregation of pastors, delegates, family members, and other guests. Jesse A. Benack gave the charge to the candidates from the above text. “It’s valuable to be reminded of what gospel ministry is,” Benack said. We have a glorious calling to proclaim a glorious Savior for a glorious purpose.”

Gospel ministry utilizes unworthy servants. Paul said he was made a minister, a *diakonos*, a servant of Jesus Christ. He was carrying out the commands of his Savior. The initiative was God’s; Paul did not make himself a minister of the gospel. “He was bent on being an anti-minister of the gospel, and yet he was arrested by Christ, Benack said, referencing Saul of Tarsus’ conversion on the road to Damascus. “He was called by Christ. It was the Lord’s doing and it’s always the Lord’s doing.”

None of us, on our own initiative, decides to become a minister. We are made ministers only by the grace of God; we are unworthy. Paul called himself “the very least of all the saints.” The Greek suggests that he is calling himself “lesser than the least” – find the least of all the saints and Paul was saying he is lesser than them. “He gives us the impression, throughout all his ministry, that he never got over his unworthiness,” Benack stressed.

“We are debtors to God’s grace. We are saved only by grace and we minister only by grace,” he added. “We must not mistake giftedness for worthiness.” We should never forget that our ministry is a gift from God to unworthy sinners. It’s only by His grace.

Paul also got to proclaim an unfathomable Savior and was privileged to preach “the unsearchable riches of Christ.” The message he was called to proclaim was impossible to do because of the nature of who Christ is; He is beyond our ability to describe Him, let alone declare His inexhaustible, inscrutable, glorious riches. “This is what we are called to proclaim week-in, week-out, all the years of our ministry: the unsearchable riches of Jesus,” Benack said. “You can never get bored if you are preaching about the unsearchable riches of Jesus. There’s no bottom to the well.”

“As long as we are preaching Jesus, we will never run out of something worthy to tell people,” he said.

Third, the gospel ministry serves God’s cosmic purposes. God chooses to use His church to make “the manifold wisdom of God” known, even “to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.” God is uniting people from all nations and all walks of life in His Son, and what He is doing is on display in the church. Our gatherings, Benack said, are bearing witness even to heavenly powers: all kinds of angels, both

good and evil. Some long to hear and see the things of the gospel. The fallen angels hear and see the gospel and shudder in response.

“The church was not His backup plan. It was not His failsafe. It was His eternal plan,” Benack said. Are we worthy to do the work He has given to His church? None of us are. We cannot do this on our own. But it is in Christ, through our faith in Him, we have access, boldness, and confidence. “Since we are frail and fragile, we need Him all that time. We need to keep running to our Savior to find help, to find hope, and to find strength,” Benack noted.

Jason L. Hoy administered the ordination vows. The members of the Credentials Committee laid hands on and prayed for the ordinands. S. Wayne Rissmiller gave the pronouncement of ordination and greeted the newly-ordained men.

Jacob B. Dearmon and Benenz J. Hitchcock were ordained to the gospel ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church while Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan had their previous ordinations recognized by the BFC. Jeremy L. Harkins, who was ordained in 2025 but was unable to attend the ordination service due to illness, was also included in the service.

Conference and guests sang “Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me” as a closing hymn. Scott Wright gave the benediction at 8 p.m., whereupon the already-ordained ministers of the BFC greeted their newly-ordained brothers.

A reception in honor of these newly-ordained men followed in Pinebrook’s Fellowship Hall.



Jesse A. Benack (standing) gives the charge to the ordinands during the service of ordination.



Jason L. Hoy administers the ordination vows.



Members of the Ministerial Credentials Committee pray over Jonathan Limm during the ordination service.



Steven K. Myers leads "Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me" to close the ordination service.

The Ordinands and their Families



Jacob B. Dearmon and his wife Katie



Benz J. Hitchcock, his wife Krystle, and their children



Peter C. Bogert



Daniel A. Cali, his wife Estela Wutzke, and their daughter



Jonathan Limm, his wife Linsey, and their two children



James D. MacArthur and his wife Trudi



John P. Sullivan and his wife Julia



Jeremy L. Harkins was also recognized during this year's ordination service. He was ordained in 2024 but was unable to attend due to illness.



James D. MacArthur joyfully greets a fellow minister during the ordination reception.



Daniel A. Cali smiles as he shakes hands with a fellow minister.



Andrew J. Miller and Joshua A. Dupiche laugh together while waiting to greet the newly-ordained men.



Randall A. Grossman, Dennis M. Cahill, Juan Carlos Morales, and Howard N. Wells greet the ordinands and their families.

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Sixth meeting

Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 8:45 A.M.

Moderator Randall A. Grossman called the Wednesday morning session of the 143rd BFC Conference to order at 8:47 a.m. as Beau E. Coffman prayed for the day's business and ministry.

Jeremy L. Harkins led Conference in the singing of "Facing a Task Unfinished," "And Can It Be," and "All Sufficient Merit." He also read Philippians 3:7-10.

Sean Cooper addressed the matter of "The Task Remaining: Unreached People Groups and the Training Needed to Get There." "It is impossible to finish a task that you haven't clearly defined," Cooper said. "Are we clear on exactly what [the task] is?"

Definitions determine outcomes. "Semantics matter. Words carry weight. But just like our theology, our ecclesiology, and our eschatology need to be defined, I would argue that our missiology also needs to be defined," he explained. "If everything is missions, nothing is missions," he said, quoting Stephen Neill.

Cooper explained that while there are similarities between the ministries of Paul and Timothy, there were also distinct differences. Timothy was called to pastor the church at Ephesus – a church Paul had planted. But what was Paul to do? He was off to the next place. "Paul is trying to go where no one else has laid a foundation – where the gospel has not been preached," Cooper said. He was intending to go to Spain to plant churches there. So the ministries of Paul and Timothy were clearly different.

While Cooper was in college, he worked with a master carpenter in building houses. "We did about everything that you could absolutely imagine," he said. They were handed blueprints which told them what to do and how they were to do it. They were not to be creative. "It was the homeowner and not the laborer that decided what was on the blueprints."

Turning to 1 Corinthians 3, Cooper noted that Paul often used agricultural and architectural metaphors; he uses both in that chapter. One man plants and waters; another lays a foundation and others build on top of it. Paul's warning in v. 10: "Let each one take care how he builds." We will only finish tasks that we have clearly defined. Jesus has given us the blueprint and pattern from His post-resurrection commands and the apostolic pattern set in Acts.

"The question we must ask is, 'What is the present task remaining?'" Cooper noted. We are to plant churches in every single ethnic and language group. Most of the unreached people groups, it is widely known, reside in what is known as the 10-40 Window. "This is where we must go," he said.

"We might do many things when it comes to missions, but we must do this thing," he said. It is God's intention to reach the people inside that 10-40 window where most unreached people groups reside. Matthew 9:37 reminds us, through Jesus' words, "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Why are the laborers so few? Cooper said several talks would be required to begin to provide the answers to that question. "Some are willing to go but are unable. Many are able to go but are unwilling," he said. But a willing heart and a warm

body are not enough, Cooper added. “Just because there’s a shortage of laborers, that doesn’t mean that we should short-cut the demands of the development that we send.”

What will it take to reach the remaining 3100 unreached people language groups? First, workers and laborers must be equipped by the local church. The local church must equip workers in terms of *character, competency, conviction, and calling*. Workers must meet the qualifications listed for elders and deacons in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. These things are ironed out over time and in the context of a church.

“There’s no magic switch that gets flipped when you take the ministry cross-culturally.

In terms of competency, are the works adaptable? Are they problem-solvers?

Workers we send must have biblical convictions. “Are the workers clear in their own theology?”

Fourth, are we affirming the calling of potential workers – both their inward and external callings?

From there, workers must be trained. They must be educated for the work. Training programs must be implemented in order that pre-field workers be equipped for ministry. Cooper endorsed Radius International as a valuable immersive ministry that takes pre-field workers to Tijuana, Mexico in order to give them 10 months of cross-cultural ministry training. At that point, workers should go back to their local churches so churches and laborers work together.

Upon going overseas, laborers undergo the “arduous grind” of language-learning in the field prior to researching minority language groups are within the greater language context. Returning to the local church, the next question is, “Which one of these language groups is our church being led to reach?” Building a business team that can be established within that minority language group setting allows laborers to then be sent to that people group. There they finally have the opportunity to start formal narrative Bible teaching, beginning with Genesis 1 and walk people through the whole Bible so they see the full narrative of God’s redemption plan. This leads to the planting of churches and the development of qualified elders and pastors. Finally, as healthy churches are planted and established, the worker can come home.

Cooper concluded by going back to his initial statement: “Brothers, it’s impossible to finish a task that we haven’t clearly defined.” He asked the pastors how a proper understanding of missiology will affect how they minister in their churches. “Now is as good a time as any. Will you passionately fulfill the Great Commission?”

Michael W. Walker of the Prayer Committee directed the pastors and delegates through a time of prayer using Psalm 67 as a guide.

Board of Missions report: (see page 82)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

James D. MacArthur, Director of the Board of Missions, talked of his own life’s direction and then pointed to Cooper’s messages as an incentive for us, both as ministers and as guides for the people in our churches. “I hope your heart has been ignited by the things that you’ve been challenged by,” he said.

MacArthur pointed out several missionaries who have retired after long and fruitful ministries: Bill Early (39 years), Walt & Sue Johnston (38 years), and Tim & Michelle Obarow (25 years). He also noted several transitions that took place since the last BFC Conference:

- Nate Reimer, commissioned in January to DiscipleMakers ministry on the campus of Muhlenberg College.
- Amy Everett was commissioned in March to be the Board of Missions ESL Outreach Facilitator.
- Melea and Temo Ramos were commissioned in January to work with Rio Grande International, mobilizing new workers from Latino churches in Central and South America.
- Kim Schlonecker Cyr married Jeff Cyr; Kim has had her membership reinstated and Jeff was accepted as an associate member of the Board of Missions. The Cyrs now serve at Black Forest Academy in Germany.
- Mark & Jocelyn Scott have discontinued membership in the BFC and have joined a non-BFC church.
- Dan & Ana Istrate, and Randy & Amina Ruth, have transitioned out of missions.

“My contention...is that mission is God’s desire. It begins with the heart of God and is a theme that’s entirely through the Bible,” MacArthur said, noting that in some cases, promoting missions in churches is like swimming up Niagara Falls. It should not be that way. Outreach should be at the heart of what we do as churches. That is a consistent message from Scripture, he stressed.

MacArthur echoed Paul’s words from Romans 10 as a challenge to us and to our churches: “How will they hear? How can they believe in somebody they haven’t heard about unless someone is sent to proclaim the gospel?” Where, he asked, is our evangelistic spirit today? “I believe in the BFC that God is at work in someone in your churches’ lives,” MacArthur said.

His dream for the next 5-10 years is that the BFC would identify one or two unreached people groups, raise up competent laborers, and then plant churches among them. This will require humility on our part and a willingness to focus, not on our individual churches but on the greater team that is the Bible Fellowship Church.

Sean McNamara, Chairman of the Board of Missions, prayed for the ongoing work of the BFC Board of Missions.

Reports of elected boards and committees

Report of the Ministerial Candidate Committee: (see page 113)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

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

Report of the Ministerial Relations Committee: (see page 123)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Report of the Conference Pastor: (see page 125)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Ralph M. Soper said he has now been in his current role for 10 years and noted that he still greatly enjoys his ministry. He expressed thanks that he can join the various pastors' regional meetings and encouraged pastors who may not be currently doing so to participate.

The Darlene J. Mahurin Memorial Fund offering was received. A total of \$1,739 was collected for this fund that provides support for our pastors in times of emergency and need.

After announcing that the recent Grace BFC (Harrisburg, PA) Book Sale raised about \$10,000 to aid church planting in France, Joshua P. Miller, Steven J. DelDuco, and David E. Gundrum informed BFC Conference about a growing connectional relationship between the BFC and Manuel Brambila, who seeks to plant an international church plant in Cannes, France. The relationship between Brambila and the BFC began at a Founders Conference in California, for it was there that Brambila met DelDuco while standing in a line. A relationship and partnership between Brambila and the Harrisburg Church began. Brambila, who is now a Probationer under the care of the Ministerial Candidate Committee, greeted Conference and received a warm applause from the pastors and delegates.

Committee to Report on Stewardship (see page 136)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

First Reading legislation proposed by the BFC Executive Board:

Article 408 – Church Properties (p. 57, 2025 Yearbook)

(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***, 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.***

Conference agreed to adopt the above at First Reading by a hand vote. The vote was nearly unanimous.

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.***

The motion to adopt the above at First Reading was approved unanimously via hand vote.

Christian D. Lefko closed the morning meeting in prayer at 12:10 p.m.

BFC Conference Proceedings - 2026

Seventh meeting

Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 1:15 P.M.

Conference Moderator Randall A. Grossman called the final session of the 143rd BFC Conference to order at 1:15 p.m. Gary L. White prayed for the meeting.

Report of Victory Valley Camp: (see page 95)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

“For the last three years I’ve had the privilege and joy of sharing what the Lord has been doing at Victory Valley Camp – *your* ministry to the next generation,” Camp Director Curtis A. Cutler said. He shared some of the significant facility upgrades at the camp: a new pool in 2023, a new replacement cabin at Timbers, and a new ropes course, Goliath. More importantly, the discipling and training of staff is a huge part of ministry at the Valley. Dozens of campers, he said, have professed faith in Jesus Christ. “Miracles still happen as the dead are raised to life,” he said. Victory Valley now has the ability to be able to pair newly-saved campers with BFC churches closest to them, so as to integrate them into ministries like AWANA, etc.

The Goliath project, Cutler said, was completed debt-free. Victory Valley will again have the largest staff in its history this summer in this, the camp’s 70th anniversary.

Cutler sees Victory Valley as having a unique privilege and opportunity to reach the lost in this generation and to disciple, train, and send out young workers to minister to their contemporaries. He noted that the Bible Fellowship Church as a whole commits only 0.2 % of its budgets to support this crucial camping ministry. Numbers of campers and camp staff from the Bible Fellowship Church have been decreasing. “It’s about doing something together that we cannot do by ourselves,” Cutler said. “What are we committed to do together?”

Timothy J. Schmoyer, Director of the VVC Board, prayed for the camp’s ministry and especially remembered Mandy Cutler, Curt’s wife, who has been dealing with serious debilitating illness for the past four years.

Report of Church Extension Ministries: (see page 86)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

David E. Gundrum, the outgoing Director, served Church Extension Ministries for 25 of his 41 years of ministry in the Bible Fellowship Church. “I praise God for being part of the Bible Fellowship Church,” Gundrum said. “One thing I look back on is that the churches have been supportive. I thank God for everything you have done in planting new Bible Fellowship Churches... We always want to look back and say, ‘It was all of the Lord.’ For everything we accomplished, and over the last 25 years it has been a lot, it was all of the Lord.”

He expressed thanks for everything his brothers in the BFC have done for him over the past quarter-century. Conference responded with applause, and then Gundrum announced the BFC's new Church Extension Ministries Director, Timothy M. Zuck. "I'm now a whopping 29 days into my new role, and I'm having a lot of fun and I'm not overwhelmed yet," Zuck said.

Zuck introduced his church planters and the members of his church-planting team and introduced several "First Look Initiatives" that will occupy much of his attention in the coming weeks, months, and into the future. Zuck said his goal is not to reinvent the wheel but to help it run "more effectively and more efficiently."

William G. Schlonecker, Secretary of the Church Extension Ministries board, expressed the Board's appreciation for Gundrum's long and faithful service. He used the acronym SUV to describe Gundrum's ministry: Steady, Untiring, and a Visionary. "We can't overestimate the impact David has had on the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church," Schlonecker said.

Schlonecker presented Gundrum with a special blanket as a token of the Board's appreciation for his tireless work, and Conference responded with a standing ovation.

Aaron D. Smith, Chairman of the Board of Church Extension Ministries, prayed.

Report of the Pinebrook Educational Foundation: (see page 109)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

John W. Sullivan prayed thanking God for using the Pinebrook Educational Foundation to help further the educations of so many of our people.

The Moderator named the newly-constituted Study Committee on Digital Technology. It includes Scott A. Allison, Richard Dobrowolski, John J. Hanner, Todd Heath, Daniel W. King, Edward Snyder-Ritter, John C. Vandegriff Jr.

Resolved, that the appointment of the members of the Study Committee on Digital Technology be ratified.

Committee to Review Biblical Principles for Living (BPLs): (see page 167)

The newly-reformed committee (the previous committee, having completed the assignment given it at the 136th BFC Conference, had been disbanded) focused its attention on reexamining the existing Article 153, Harmful Indulgences, while also proposing that the BFC Conference appoint a Study Committee to examine and prepare a statement on the issues of digital technology.

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

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
Article 153 – Harmful Indulgences 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. ² 153-0:2 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 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	Article 153 - Harmful Indulgence 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. ² 153- 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

Article 153-1 – Alcoholic Drinks

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.

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

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 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 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 with in the family, church, and the world.¹² Additionally, encouraging or aiding others to misuse or overindulge in any substance is sin.¹³
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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 alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or 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
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[FIRST READING]

Yes - 130; No - 4.

Legislation proposed by Ebenezer BFC via petition at the 142nd BFC Conference (see p. 172, 2025 Yearbook)

A proposed modification to Article 701-4 was discussed on the floor of Conference but was superseded by the following substitute motion, leading to the formation of a permanent Legislative Facilitator. Since it was a substitute motion, it was returned to First Reading status and was adopted at First Reading:

510 -2.3 Legislative Facilitator

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 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 the February 15 deadline.
5. He shall continue to encourage response from the remaining churches during the period between February 15 and the start of the ensuing Conference.
6. His term shall be one year.

[FIRST READING]

Yes - 90; No - 36.

Other Boards and Committees that Report to the BFC Executive Board

Report of the BFC Life Committee: (see page 105)

Resolved, that the report be accepted as amended for the Yearbook.

Report of the Conference Judiciary: (see page 128)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Report of the Communications Committee: (see page 99)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Report of the Historical Committee: (see page 103)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Report of the Prayer Committee: (see page 107)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Report of the Youth and Young Adults Committee: (see page 101)

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Final report of the Registrar

1. The following delegates requested to be excused from part or all of the 143rd BFC Conference:

Wayne M. Chadwell (Clinton Corners, NY), Evan T. Climpson (LaGrangeville, NY), Daniel J. Eckman (Paradise, PA), Andrew C. Eichelberger (Exeter, PA), Jon Fisher (Breinigsville, PA), Jonathan D. Grassi (Ephrata, PA), Brad D. Kunkle (Blandon, PA), Rick Lutz (Harleysville, PA), Richard M. Petrecca (Long Neck, DE), Richard Prensner (Harrisburg, PA), Harry Nessler (Woodbury Heights, NJ), James W. Preslar (Nazareth, PA), Joshua Vann (York, PA), J. Robert Vaughn, Jr. (Red Hill, PA)

Resolved, that these requests for excuses be granted.

2. The following delegate replacements occurred during the 143rd BFC Conference:

Allentown, PA (Cedar Crest): Peter Everett served on Monday and Tuesday, David Tress on Wednesday

Allentown, PA (Citylight): Michael Whiteford served on Monday, John Elias on Tuesday and Wednesday

Coopersburg, PA: David Speel served Tuesday, Robert Moreau on Wednesday

Forks, PA: Daniel Mazzeo served on Tuesday, Greg Swigart on Wednesday

Harmony, NJ: David W. Heller served on Monday, Donald Jackson on Tuesday, and Robert Burnett on Wednesday

Reading, PA (La Roca): Vladimir Caba served on Tuesday, Alexis Ramirez on Wednesday

Sinking Spring, PA: Timothy Stump served on Monday and Tuesday, Donald Eenigenburg on Wednesday

York, PA: Alex Kocman served on Wednesday

3. The following licensed and ordained men requested to be excused from part or all of the 143rd BFC Conference. These requests were approved by the Ministerial Candidate and Credentials Committees, respectively.

Peter C. Bogert (Probationer), David E. Brandt, Jared M. Burkholder, Freddy A. Chi, Kevin W. Clineff, Daryl A. Crawford (Probationer), William J. Dunn, Scott B. Evans, Jordan K. Eyster, Jason A. Filbert, James D. Head, Sandy J. Holbert, D. B. H., Jules J. Hull III, Daniel Istrate, Daniel W. King, Daniel Z. Krall, Ezekiel R. Mack, Ferdie R. Madara, Carl T. Martin, Jerry L. Moyer, Timothy R. Nessler, Marcos G. Ramirez, David W. Riddell, Carlos G. Rodriguez, Connor A. Roskowski (Probationer), David A. Smith, John C. Studenroth, L. Marc Sweet, Philip E. Yerrington

4. The following licensed and ordained men were noted as absent for part or all of the 143rd BFC Conference without excuse.*

Richard F. Bickings, Andrew R. Hebel, Andrew J. Miller, David J. Parsons (Probationer)

5. The following Ordained Ministers in Retirement or on Permanent Disability were noted as being absent and excused without a written request from part or all of the 143rd BFC Conference:

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

B. Smith, Michael J. Tannous, Richard E. Taylor, Gregory A. Uhrich, John C. Vandegriff, Jr., David R. Way, Dana E. Weller, Byron Widger, Paul G. Zimmerman

Our “Blue Book” (Article 506-6) specifies that pastors (aside from retired) need excuses from the Credentials Committee (Ralph M. Soper, Secretary) if they’re going to miss any meeting of Conference. This includes leaving on Wednesday at lunch and missing the final session! For consistency, we have also applied that to Licensed Probationers by requiring them to request excuses from the Candidate Committee (Andrew T. Crossgrove, Secretary). In past years, the Registrar has done a lot of work behind the scenes to either obtain excuses from Soper for Ordained Ministers and Crossgrove for the Licensed Probationers who leave after lunch on Wednesday or during the closing session; this year, I’m just going to list some of those unexcused absences (particularly those who have left on Wednesday before the afternoon break around 3:45 p.m.). This is not in an effort to shame anyone, but rather to be more honest and accurate about the attendance record.

Appointments for the 144th BFC Conference

The Moderator made the following appointments for the 144th BFC Conference:

Registrar: Joel B. Klase

Assistant Registrar: Jules J. Hull III

Committee on Agenda & Arrangements: Ronald L. Kohl, Chairman; David T. Allen, Randall A. Grossman, Joel B. Klase, Timothy S. Radcliff, Timothy J. Schmoyer, R. Daniel Wagner

Study Committee on Digital Technology: Scott A. Allison, Richard Dobrowolski, John J. Hanner, Todd Heath, Daniel W. King, Edward Snyder-Ritter, John C. Vandegriff Jr.

Resolved, that the appointments be ratified.

The following were also announced:

Secretary of the Conference Judicatory: Kevin W. Kirkpatrick

Secretary of the Special Appellate Judicatory: Daniel Z. Krall

Report of the Committee on Resolutions

Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Whereas, guest speaker Sean Cooper exhorted us to preach, plant, and pastor churches to the ends of the earth for the glory of God and Jesse A. Benack challenged us to live as unworthy servants of the unfathomable riches of Christ, through God's Word, and

Whereas, Jeremy L. Harkins, Steven K. Myers, Steve Jackson, Aaron J. Susek, and Max Whylings led our hearts and minds back to the living God again and again through worship
in song, and

Whereas, Dennis W. Spinney, Stephen J. Morton, and Michael W. Walker led us in prayer, therefore be it

Resolved, that we thank the Lord for His faithful servants and His holy Word.

Whereas, Hope Community BFC of Milford, DE and Grace Community Church, Chestertown, MD have been recognized at the 143rd BFC Conference as Particular Churches, therefore be it

Resolved, that we give praise to God for His work in these churches.

Whereas, we celebrated the ordinations of Jacob B. Dearmon, Jeremy L. Harkins, and Benenz J. Hitchcock, and

Whereas, the BFC recognized the previous ordinations of Peter C. Bogert, Daniel A. Cali, Jonathan Limm, James D. MacArthur, and John P. Sullivan, therefore be it

Resolved, that we give thanks to God for calling these men to serve Him as shepherds of His church, asking also for God's blessing on them and their churches.

Whereas, Conference Secretary Ronald L. Kohl, Assistant Secretary Timothy S. Radcliff, and Assistants to the Secretary Samuel Janney and Shawn Rohrbach have served so well behind the scenes, and

Whereas, David T. Allen has served us diligently as Executive Director, and

Whereas, Randall A. Grossman has served exceptionally as the Moderator of the 143rd Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church, therefore be it

Resolved, that we thank them for serving this Conference so well.

Whereas, Ryan Diffenderfer and the team of quick-stepping pages did a wonderful job of serving the needs of the conference attendees, and

Whereas, Joel B. Klase and Harrison Clark served Conference well as Registrar and Assistant Registrar, respectively, and

Whereas, Rachel Schmoyer and Julie Sebastian have worked tirelessly and with exemplary efficiency leading up to and during this Conference, therefore be it

Resolved, that we thank them for their humble, sacrificial, and tireless service.

Whereas, Pastors Glenn R. Felty, T. James Bigley Jr., Gene W. Smith, and David A. Thomann, and pastors' wives Marilyn Coble and Jacqueline Ziegler, have passed into glory and have entered God's rest, therefore be it

Resolved, that we thank the Lord for their faithful ministry, and we pray for the comfort of their family members.

Whereas, we have much to thank God for and think about as a result of this year's sermons, reports, testimonies, and times of prayer, therefore be it

Resolved, that as we go from this place, we would be united in our common purpose and mission as defined by God and His Word, and that this unity would not only be good and pleasant, but that it would enable us to boldly reach out with the good news of Jesus Christ personally and corporately to a lost and dying world, from every nation, tribe, and tongue.

The 143rd Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church was adjourned with prayer by Steven J. DelDuco at 4:32 p.m.



Andrew W. Barnes, Steven J. DelDuco, and Beau E. Coffman talk together during a break time.



Lucas Parsons and Andrew J. Vassel from Harvest BFC, Boyertown share a laugh while waiting for the dining room to open.



Daniel W. King and Mark R. Orton talk together outside the dining hall.



Executive Board member Gary E. Karch (left) and Zionsville BFC delegate Jim Pruitt share an enjoyable moment during a lunch break.

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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.



Members of the Conference bar are seated and ready to begin.

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. DelDuco, 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, and Jacqueline Ziegler. 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, Prayer Committee, 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.



Ronald W. Reed, Executive Board member and elder at Grace BFC in Reading, addresses the 143rd Conference. Cameron Webb, youth pastor at Cedar Crest BFC in Allentown and Conference Page, kneels at the ready for the microphone.

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	1,681.68	159.86	1,521.82
1140 · A/R Workers Comp. Ins.	0.00	2,100.13	-2,100.13
1145 · A/R Credit Card	0.00	66.00	-66.00
1150 · Other Receivables	0.00	16.00	-16.00
Total Accounts Receivable	20,768.71	14,031.42	6,737.29
Other Current Assets			
12000 · Undeposited Funds	4,524.69	175.00	4,349.69
1300 · Pre-Paid Expenses	11,127.65	0.00	11,127.65
2271 · BFC Life Prepaid Expense	1,909.95	0.00	1,909.95
Total Other Current Assets	17,562.29	175.00	17,387.29
Total Current Assets	1,313,907.15	1,239,682.77	74,224.38
Fixed Assets			
1410 · Real Estate - Milford DE	428,720.84	0.00	428,720.84
1450 · Real Estate - Victory Valley	2,112,791.56	1,905,888.83	206,902.73
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	4,571,047.33	3,987,885.12	583,162.21

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	34,079.55	33,710.75	368.80
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	-34,079.55	-33,710.75	-368.80
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	6,668,820.60	6,074,267.44	594,553.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
2200 · Due to BFC Boards/Committees	0.00	535.00	-535.00
2240 · Deferred Income	52,105.00	0.00	52,105.00
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	51,271.54	6,477.32	44,794.22
Total Current Liabilities	51,271.54	6,477.32	44,794.22
Long Term Liabilities			
2500 · C/P-LTD	16,152.21	15,866.28	285.93
2553 · Mortgages Owed by VV	455,725.71	464,828.08	-9,102.37
2555 · Bnk Mortgage Owed - City Light	390,484.07	397,965.91	-7,481.84
2600 · Less C/P-LTD	-16,152.21	-15,866.28	-285.93
Total Long Term Liabilities	846,209.78	862,793.99	-16,584.21
Total Liabilities	897,481.32	869,271.31	28,210.01
Equity			
3000 · General Equity	1,406,141.00	1,548,503.00	-142,362.00
3100 · Unrestricted-ExecBrd Designated			
3110 · Church Assistance Fund	4,990.92	4,990.92	0.00
3150 · Special Projects Fund	5,037.76	5,037.76	0.00
3197 · Future BFC Conference Arrangemt	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Total 3100 · Unrestricted-ExecBrd Designated	35,028.68	10,028.68	25,000.00
3200 · Unrestricted Net Assets	-249,077.00	-249,702.00	625.00
3201 · Unrestricted - Other Designated	159,267.00	159,267.00	0.00
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	567,318.97	60,002.82	507,316.15
Total Equity	5,771,339.28	5,204,996.13	566,343.15
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	6,668,820.60	6,074,267.44	594,553.16

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

	Jan - Dec 25	Jan - Dec 24	\$ Change
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Church Assessments	465,199.05	447,432.15	17,766.90
4100 · Department Assessments	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	65,543.44	114,896.37	-49,352.93
4250 · Day of Prayer	0.00	50.00	-50.00
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	199,898.64	166,803.64	33,095.00
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	2,899.88	25,918.45	-23,018.57
Total Income	702,421.79	678,503.17	23,918.62
Gross Profit	702,421.79	678,503.17	23,918.62
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 · DDE Other (Dir of Development)	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 Judiciary	0.00	104.52	-104.52
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	101,097.26	105,229.44	-4,132.18

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

	<u>Jan - Dec 25</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 24</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
5210 · Communications	52,270.31	43,924.55	8,345.76
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	284,900.01	201,990.29	82,909.72
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	0.00	6,648.00	-6,648.00
Total Expense	697,205.59	619,323.78	77,881.81
Net Ordinary Income	5,216.20	59,179.39	-53,963.19
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
4300 · Medical Insurance Fees	53,428.23	40,458.86	12,969.37
4600 · Real Estate Transactions	385,258.00	0.00	385,258.00
4650 · Real Estate Transferred to BFC	351,336.58	134,340.18	216,996.40
4975 · PEF Unrealized Gains (Losses)	70,201.58	78,784.21	-8,582.63
Total Other Income	860,224.39	253,583.25	606,641.14
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	10,300.00	0.00	10,300.00
5600 · Real Estate Expense	0.00	2,450.00	-2,450.00
5650 · Bank Mortgage Interest	37,458.27	50,788.46	-13,330.19
5999 · Non-Operating Expenses			
6000 · Depreciation Expense			
6145 · Victory Valley Depreciation	90,391.37	75,856.39	14,534.98
6146 · Lancaster Depreciation	4,741.86	4,741.86	0.00
6147 · Elverson Depreciation	1,516.63	1,516.63	0.00
6152 · Adams County Depreciation	4,095.00	4,095.00	0.00
6155 · Milford, DE Depreciation	6,537.16	0.00	6,537.16
6156 · Chestertown Depreciation	19,450.00	19,450.00	0.00
6160 · Office Equipment Depreciation	2,233.19	2,233.19	0.00
6175 · City Light Depreciation	20,424.68	20,424.68	0.00
Total 6000 · Depreciation Expense	149,389.89	128,317.75	21,072.14
6200 · Loans Forgiven	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Total 5999 · Non-Operating Expenses	149,389.89	128,367.75	21,022.14
7100 · BFC Conference SLR Reduction	47,757.48	31,466.00	16,291.48
Total Other Expense	298,121.62	252,759.82	45,361.80
Net Other Income	562,102.77	823.43	561,279.34
Net Income	<u>567,318.97</u>	<u>60,002.82</u>	<u>507,316.15</u>

2025 Combined Balance Sheet

2025 BFC Combined Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

	2025	ExecBrd	BOM	ChExtn	VV	Internal Adjustments	Totals				
ASSETS											
Current Assets											
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	534,591	\$	216,269	\$	389,969	\$	139,336	41,774	\$	1,321,939
Investments	\$	256,334	\$	792,852	\$	848,987	\$	5,294		\$	1,903,467
Restricted Investments	\$	484,651	\$	74,852	\$	26,638				\$	586,141
Prepaid Expenses	\$	16,229								\$	16,229
Other Receivables	\$	22,102			\$	3,885	34,014			\$	60,001
Total Current Assets	\$	1,313,907	\$	1,083,973	\$	1,265,594	\$	148,515	75,788	\$	3,887,777
Property And Equipment											
Land	\$	636,229								\$	636,229
Buildings	\$	4,889,629			\$	278,012				\$	5,167,641
Other Fixed Assets	\$	50,579		\$	38,351					\$	88,930
Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$	(1,005,389)		\$	(35,765)	\$	(57,685)			\$	(1,098,839)
Property And Equipment, Net	\$	4,571,048	\$	0	\$	2,586	\$	220,327		\$	4,793,961
Other Assets											
Notes Receivable	\$	659,977	\$	94,937	\$	475,871			(332,573)	\$	898,212
SLR/Pinebrook Ministry Reserve	\$	41,538								\$	41,538
Mortgages Receivable	\$	132,351							(132,351)	\$	0
Bad Debt Reserve	\$	(50,000)								\$	(50,000)
Total Notes Receivable, Net	\$	783,866	\$	94,937	\$	475,871	\$	0	(464,924)	\$	889,750
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	6,668,821	\$	1,178,910	\$	1,744,051	\$	368,842	(389,136)	\$	9,571,488
LIABILITIES											
Current Liabilities											
Accounts Payable				\$	1,848	\$	7,457			\$	9,305
Advances and Deposits				\$	6,885	\$	15,273	10,943		\$	33,101
Other Current Liabilities	\$	(833)	\$	292,609	\$	50,000	\$	383		\$	342,159
Deferred Income	\$	52,105								\$	52,105
Total Current Liabilities	\$	51,272	\$	292,609	\$	58,733	\$	23,113	10,943	\$	436,670
Long-Term Debt, less Current Maturities	\$	846,209	\$	0	\$	0	\$	0	(349,532)	\$	496,677
Total Liabilities	\$	897,481	\$	292,609	\$	58,733	\$	23,113	(338,589)	\$	933,347
EQUITY											
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$	4,472,131	\$	478,836	\$	1,073,493	\$	425,514	(50,547)	\$	6,399,427
Unrestricted, But Designated Funds	\$	202,369	\$	314,702	\$	437,587				\$	954,658
Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$	182,882	\$	74,852	\$	47,653				\$	305,387
Restricted Funds	\$	346,639			\$	27,238				\$	373,877
Net Income	\$	567,319	\$	17,911	\$	99,347	\$	(79,785)		\$	604,792
Total Equity	\$	5,771,340	\$	886,301	\$	1,685,318	\$	345,729	(50,547)	\$	8,638,141
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$	6,668,821	\$	1,178,910	\$	1,744,051	\$	368,842	(389,136)	\$	9,571,488

2025 Combined Statement of Revenue and Expenses ⁷⁹

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	\$ 1,936	\$ 1,493	\$ 288	\$ 425	\$ 4,142
Total Contributions	\$ 488,010	\$ 151,039	\$ 1,171,692	\$ 243,660	\$ 2,054,401
Other Revenues					
Retreats and Conferences	\$ 156,858			\$ 339,842	\$ 496,700
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	\$ 26,824	\$ 34,615	\$ 8,489	\$ 2,819	\$ 72,747
Net Realized and Unrealized	\$ 16,323				
Gains on Investments	\$ 70,202	\$ 64,119	\$ 126,892		\$ 261,213
Gain on Sale of Property	\$ 385,258				\$ 385,258
Medical Insurance Contributions	\$ 53,428				\$ 53,428
Other Income	\$ 731	\$ 3,583		\$ 187,704	\$ 192,018
Total Other Revenues	\$ 723,299	\$ 112,544	\$ 135,381	\$ 718,693	\$ 1,673,594
Net Assets Released from Restrictions and Other Transfers	\$ 351,337	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (317,849)	\$ 33,488
Total Revenues	\$ 1,562,646	\$ 263,583	\$ 1,307,073	\$ 644,504	\$ 3,761,483
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	\$ 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				\$ 64,224	\$ 64,224
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	\$ 18,448		\$ 15,222	\$ 2,289	\$ 35,959
Total Expenses	\$ 845,937	\$ 245,672	\$ 1,203,065	\$ 708,094	\$ 3,002,768
Ordinary Gain (Loss)	\$ 716,709	\$ 17,911	\$ 104,008	\$ (63,590)	\$ 775,038
Depreciation	\$ 149,390	\$ 0	\$ 4,661	\$ 16,195	\$ 170,246
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 567,319	\$ 17,911	\$ 99,347	\$ (79,785)	\$ 604,792

2026 Executive Board Budget - Revised

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	
Ministerial Convention	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	
	541,300	539,875	(\$1,425)	

2027 Executive Board Budget - Proposed

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 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

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	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

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.



William G. Schlonecker presents David E. Gundrum with a token of appreciation for Gundrum’s 25 years of ministry as Director of Church Extension Ministries.

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 Morgnec 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 –

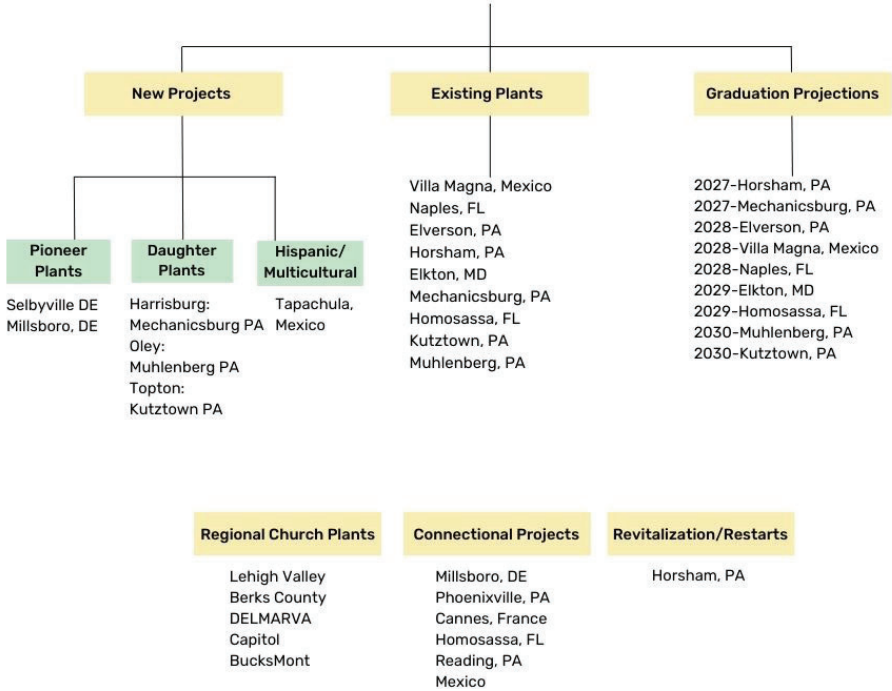
Homosassa Springs, FL

7030 W. Grover Cleveland Blvd.,

Homosassa Springs, FL 34446

FCCHomosassa.com

CHURCH EXTENSION ACTIVITY CHART 2026



Church Extension Ministries planters and staff gather for a photo. Left to right: Carlos G. Rodriguez, Marcos G. Ramirez, DaQuan Gibson, Stephen J. Morton, Mark L. Morrison, Steven J. DelDuco, David E. Gundrum, Raymond R. Bertolet, Timothy M. Zuck, Christian D. Lefko, Shawn C. Rohrbach, Timothy S.Radcliff.

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.

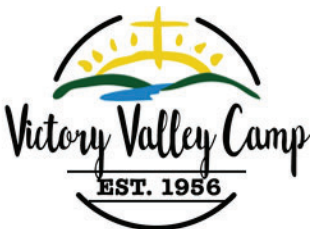
This year we continued developing a standardized Assessment Plan that is available to all churches. It provides a preliminary review of trends, finances, ministry balance, membership, and online presence, followed by a structured on-site review of facilities and key ministry areas. The result is a clear,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



Andrew Orton, here taking a picture of the BFC Conference secretarial staff, skillfully and cheerfully served as a photographer at the 143rd Conference.

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) *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.



At the Victory Valley Camp display table, Program Director Grayson Ausley (left) and Director Curtis A. Cutler engage in conversation while waiting to share their ministry with pastors and delegates.



Joshua P. Von Holt gives the Report of the Youth and Young Adults Committee.

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. Paashaas 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.



Timothy J. Schmoyer, Secretary and Acting Archivist of the Historical Committee, presents the committee's report to Conference.

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](https://www.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 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.



Optional early morning prayer times helped prepare several pastors and delegates for the business to be conducted at BFC Conference. Daniel W. King and Carl T. Martin (left) and James D. Reff II engage in times of intercession.



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 Ministerial Candidate Committee

The Ministerial Candidate Committee met 10 times since the last BFC Conference in order to interview 17 men. The list of men under the care of the committee stands at 63. 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: Laszlo Onody, Shawn C. Rohrbach, Connor A. Roskowski, Tirus T. Twyne, Joshua P. Von Holt, Gary L. White, 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.

Whereas, Richard E. Taylor faithfully and ably served the Lord as member of the Ministerial Candidate Committee for over 40 years (since 1985), be it

Resolved, that we give thanks and praise to the Lord for His faithful provision and beseech the Lord of the harvest to supply a man fit for the task to replace Dick on the Ministerial Candidate Committee.

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.
Bogert, Peter C. (2024)
Brambila, Manuel
Cali, Daniel A. (2024)
Crawford, Daryl A. (2024)

Reading, PA
Center Valley, PA
Cannes, France
Denville, NJ
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)	Topton, PA
Olbrys, Brandon D. (2024)	Phillipsburg, NJ
Onody, Laszlo (2025)	Catasauqua, PA
Paquette, Richard J. (2024)	Easton, PA
Parsons, David J. (2024)	Denver, PA
Rohrbach, Shawn C. (2025)	Fleetwood, PA
Roskowski, Connor A. (2025)	Royersford, PA
Ross, Benjamin C. (2023)	Shillington, PA
Sullivan, John P. (2024)	Nazareth, PA
Trommler, Nathan G. (2024)	Allentown, PA
Twyne, Tirus T.	New Holland, PA
Vasel, Andrew J. (2024)	Pottstown, PA
Von Holt, Joshua P. (2025)	Catasauqua, PA
White, Gary L. (2026)	Reading, PA
Wise, Judah E. (2025)	Myerstown, PA

Candidates

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

Bailey, Benjamin	Blandon, PA
Clark, Harrison J.	Newark, DE
Cobb, Logan T.	Coopersburg, PA
Cooley, Wayne V., Jr.	Lancaster, PA
Diffenderfer, Ryan J.	Reading, PA
Dorsey, Tony N.	Effort, PA
Folks, Jayonn C.	Harrisburg, PA
Giampa, Jeffrey G.	Murrieta, CA
Gibson, DaQuan T.	Elkton, MD
Hard, Michael E.	Saylorsburg, PA
Herb, Benjamin M.	Newhall, CA
Kabakjian, Daniel M.	Quakertown, PA
Lintner, Andrew J.	Harrisburg, PA
Lockhart, William T., Jr.	Fleetwood, PA

Massaquoi, William N.
 McNamara, Sean
 Mease, Jordan T.
 Measell, Adam J.
 Noll, Matthew D.
 Orłowski, Nathanael M.
 Reichard, Caleb M.
 Schwenig, Christian
 Sisto, Josiah
 Solórzano, L. Daniel
 Swanson, Thomas J.
 Tower, Brad
 Vega, Isaias
 Vetterani, Thomas A.
 Webb, Cameron E.
 Weber, Kevin M.
 Welsh, Stephen M.

Philadelphia, PA
 Gilbertsville, PA
 Oley, PA
 Parkesburg, PA
 Denver, PA
 Harleysville, PA
 Boyertown, PA
 Kutztown, PA
 North Hollywood, CA
 Tapachula Chiapas, Mexico
 Denver, PA
 Spring City, PA
 Wernersville, PA
 Coopersburg, PA
 Allentown, PA
 Reading, PA
 Lancaster, PA

Applicants

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

Castor, Pierson M.
 Gonzalez, Benjamin
 Herb, Zachariah
 Saleb, Samuel

Lititz, PA
 Kunkletown, PA
 Jonestown, PA
 Broken Arrow, OK

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

** Contingent
upon approval of
recommendation of their
ordination in this report*

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: (May be voting members)

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

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.



Scott Wright, Chairman of the Ministerial Credentials Committee, pays close attention during the Service of Ordination which typically takes place on Tuesday evening at Conference. The MCC oversees the ordination service each year.

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
Lehighton, 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
Lehighton, PA	Stephen A. Diaz	July 7, 2025
Church Extension	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



There are usually several light-hearted moments at BFC Conference. Here both Ralph M. Soper (left) and Conference Moderator Randall A. Grossman smile as Soper presents his report as Conference Pastor. Ralph and his wife Sharon faithfully visit and keep in touch with BFC pastors as part of their fruitful ministry.

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 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. Paashauss, L. James Roberts, Jr.



Clyde D. Bomgardner, Jr., an ordained minister in the BFC who serves as a biblical counselor with Christ-Centered Counseling Ministries, looks on during Conference proceedings. To Bomgardner's left are the Lebanon BFC contingent of Judah Wise, Eric E. Herb, Jr., and Eric Herb, Sr.

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.



Daniel L. Williams and Andrew R. Hebel pray together during one of the Conference prayer times. Prayer is a priority at BFC Conference.

Beneficiary Society Financials

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	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
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.



Each day of Conference is infused with meaningful musical worship. Jeremy L. Harkins led the musical worship team for the 143rd Conference.



Philip E. Morrison (left) and Ronnie Burgess (right) raise their hands in worship.

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.



Juan Carlos Morales from Christ Alone Fellowship in Lancaster stands to address Conference.

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 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 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

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).

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 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.

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

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, where 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

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.

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 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

⁷ Lillback, personal interview, July 15, 2025.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Matthew 5:13-18.

¹⁰ Jeremiah 29:7.

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 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

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.

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

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 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

9Marks, Nov. 4, 2025. <https://www.9marks.org/article/christian-nationalism-as-influence-or-identity/>

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.

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.

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

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

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,

²⁰ Daniel 2:21.

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 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.

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.

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 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

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

acting governor of 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 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

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

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 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.

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.

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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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
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 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	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 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
	Footnotes 1-2 and 4-5 remain the same. One addition for 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). <u>Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.</u>(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

	Preface: <i>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>
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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	24-1 The bodily resurrection of Christ is the basis for the resurrection of His <u>people of man</u>.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.	

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

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.

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

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,

Change

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 visibly manifest the ~~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,^{5,2} ~~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

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}

Footnote 1 remains the same.

Footnotes 2-3 are new additions.

The current Footnote 2 becomes new 4 and adds 1 Thes 4:16.

The current Footnote 3 becomes new 5 and adds Matt 24:31.

will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).

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).

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).

⁴ 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).

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

The current Footnote 4 becomes new 6 with no changes.

The current Footnote 5 becomes new 7 with no changes.

The current Footnote 6 is dropped.

A new Footnote 8 is added with 2 Thess 1:7-9.

A new Footnote 9 is added with Matt 25:46.

The current Footnote 7 becomes new 10 and adds Col 3:4-10.

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).

² 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). 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;

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).

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 (1 Cor 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). ⁶Blessed 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 <u>...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).</u> ² <u>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (Mat. 25:46).</u> ^{7 10} <u>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).</u>
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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 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 the strongest in 27-3. A person taking an exception as a 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 position.

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

Article 28

Current	Change
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	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
	No changes to the footnotes.

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)

Report of the Study Committee to Review BPLs

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
Article 153 – Harmful Indulgences 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.² 153-0:2 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 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 Article 153-1—Alcoholic Drinks 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. 153-1.2 The Scriptures teach that drunkenness is sinful.¹ Due to the	Article 153 - Harmful Indulgence 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.² 153-2 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

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.

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.

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

² Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23:31-35

³ Matt. 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

153-3 The misuse of, and overindulgence in, **alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or any substance—including**

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 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

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

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 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	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
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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.



Christopher M. Von Holt speaks on the floor of Conference.



Ralph E. Ritter rises to give input about the legislation on the floor.



Timothy M. Zuck, Director of Church Extension Ministries, presents First Look Initiatives he is focusing on at the beginning of his tenure as director.



Dennis W. Spinney leads a Conference prayer time.

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Note: Directories with personal contact information do not appear in the online version of the Yearbook. To obtain a copy with Directories, please contact Communications@bfc.org.

Conference Statistics

Membership

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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 Dobrowol- ski	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 Fellow- ship	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 Communi- ty Church	Brad Boyer	1	3	3	0	25	0	0	0	25
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

Conference Statistics

Membership

175

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
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	1	3	0	0	20	0	0	0	20
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

Conference Statistics

Membership

176

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
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	1	4	4						
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	David Poland	1	2	5	3	32	1	0	1	33
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	Jarrold Cruise	6	14	7	6	226	16	11	5	231
Lehighnton, PA: Salem BFC	Steve Diaz	2	2	3	0	30	1	1	0	30
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

Conference Statistics

Membership

177

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
Newark, NJ: Newark BFC	Ron Burgess	2	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
Philadel- phia, PA: Wissinoming BFC	Ralph Ritter	1	2	0	0	17	0	3	-3	14
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Commu- nity Church	Jason Falzarano	3	5	5	1	113	4	80	-76	37
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Cov- enant 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 Gonzalez	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

Conference Statistics

Membership

178

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
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		130	318	330	328	6,868	586	651	-65	6,846

Conference Statistics

Membership

179

Name of Church	Senior/Lead Pastor	Ordained and Licensed	Elders	Deacons	Baptisms	2024 Membership	New Members	Members Lost	Net Gain/Loss	2025 Membership
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									
Villa Magna, Mexico	Freddy Chi									
TOTAL		6	11	6	8	50	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		136	329	336	336	6,918	586	651	-65	6,846

Conference Statistics

Attendance

180

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of 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
Boyertown, 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	45	5	50	5	10	25	199
Carmel, NY: New Life Bible Church							
Clinton Corners, NY: Cornerstone BFC	13	3	20	1	9	3	125

Conference Statistics

Attendance

181

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
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	28	6	38	5	22	10	70
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

Conference Statistics

Attendance

182

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
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
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC	44	4	50	5	25	16	150
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

Conference Statistics

Attendance

183

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
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	10	0	15	3	15	5	100
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	70	15	90	8	45	40	400
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

Conference Statistics

Attendance

184

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
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

Conference Statistics

Attendance

185

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
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	9,350	2,249	14,913	627	5,895	4,919	14,935
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church	48	15		5	31	19	125
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC	48		57	2	8	12	200
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							

Conference Statistics

Attendance

186

Name of Church	Average Worship Service Attendance	Average number of children/youth who attend Sunday morning	Total Church Family Size	Number of small groups (adult SS, Bible studies, etc)	Number of people who regularly attend a small group	Number of laypeople who volunteer for at least one aspect of ministry	Maximum seating capacity for weekly worship service
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship							
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship							
Villa Magna, Mexico							
TOTAL	221	32	222	19	150	101	637
GRAND TOTAL	9,571	2,281	15,135	646	6,045	5,020	15,572

Conference Statistics

Debt and Income

187

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
Boyertown, 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

Conference Statistics

Debt and Income

188

Name of Church	Rent or Own	Parsonages	Total debt on facilities	Unrestricted Offerings	Total Income from All Sources
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	Own	0	\$143,651	\$84,271	\$95,365
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	\$100,281	\$100,281
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	Own	0			
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

Conference Statistics

Debt and Income

189

Name of Church	Rent or Own	Parsonages	Total debt on facilities	Unrestricted Offerings	Total Income from All Sources
Lehighton, PA: Salem BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$77,746	\$77,777
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	Own	1	\$38,108	\$14,843	\$15,323
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	Rent	0	\$0	\$271,182	\$278,429
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	Rent			\$78,000	\$121,000
Quakertown, PA: Grace BFC	Own	1	\$0	\$496,348	\$775,392

Conference Statistics

Debt and Income

190

Name of Church	Rent or Own	Parsonages	Total debt on facilities	Unrestricted Offerings	Total Income from All Sources
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

Conference Statistics

Debt and Income

191

Name of Church	Rent or Own	Parsonages	Total debt on facilities	Unrestricted Offerings	Total Income from All Sources
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	Own	0	\$0	\$115,173	\$175,014
TOTAL		26	\$5,229,788	\$24,178,719	\$27,218,531
Chestertown, MD: Grace Com- munity Church	Own	0	\$0	\$95,190	\$101,524
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC	Rent	0	\$0	\$151,230	\$151,230
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 Communi- ty BFC					
Muhlenberg, PA: Living Word Fellowship					
Naples, FL: Covenant Bible Fellowship					
Villa Magna, Mexico					
TOTAL		0	\$80,000	\$565,223	\$595,175
GRAND TOTAL		26	\$5,309,788	\$24,743,942	\$27,813,706

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

192

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	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
Boyetown, 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

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

193

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
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	\$0	\$1,200	\$894	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,094
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			\$1,200				\$1,200

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

194

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC	\$15,208	\$71,142	\$45,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	\$133,350
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							\$0
Las Cruces, NM: Grace Bible Church	\$1,739						\$1,739
Lebanon, PA: Lebanon BFC	\$8,190	\$58,555	\$22,231		\$1,000		\$89,976
Lehighnton, PA: Salem BFC	\$1,524	\$660	\$660	\$0	\$660	\$660	\$4,164
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	\$4,716	\$0	\$1,850	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,566
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Bíblica La Roca							\$0

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

195

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
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
Philadel- phia, PA: Wissinoming BFC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	\$6,000	\$37,274	\$500	\$350	\$350	\$200	\$44,674
Pottstown (formerly Spring City), PA: Covenant Reformed Fellowship	\$4,476	\$3,390	\$2,000				\$9,866

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

196

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
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

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

197

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
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	\$461,558	\$1,341,341	\$422,819	\$8,250	\$98,460	\$12,285	\$2,344,713
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

Conference Statistics

Conference Disbursements

198

Name of Church	BFC Assess.	Board of Missions	Church Extension	BFC Life	Victory Valley	PEF	Total Conference Disbursements
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	\$461,558	\$1,344,266	\$463,319	\$8,250	\$98,460	\$12,285	\$2,388,138

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

199

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	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	\$60,000			\$16,000	\$76,000
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

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
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	\$32,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,200
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	\$45,600	\$9,120	\$16,800	\$0	\$71,520
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC	\$94,890	\$3,216	\$20,000	\$253,395	\$371,502
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

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

201

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
Lancaster, PA: Faith BFC	\$61,399	\$37,948	\$27,845	\$429,242	\$556,434
Lancaster, PA: Christ Alone Fellowship	\$70,596	\$10,000	\$18,000	\$29,402	\$127,998
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	\$26,800	\$17,110	\$0	\$0	\$43,910
Long Neck, DE: New Life BFC	\$25,083	\$2,730	\$35,208	\$9,042	\$72,063
Merida, Mexico: Iglesia Bíblica 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

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
Philadel- phia, PA: Wissinoming BFC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	\$63,333	\$9,215	\$0	\$58,924	\$131,480
Pottstown (for- merly Spring City), PA: Cove- nant 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

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

203

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
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	\$2,869,059	\$755,534	\$1,209,443	\$6,178,291	\$11,012,336
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church					\$0
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC	\$29,337	\$22,831	\$50,374	\$75,000	\$177,542

Conference Statistics

Ministry Salary and Benefits

Name of Church	Senior Pastor's Salary	Senior Pastor's Benefits (including Health)	Senior Pastor's Housing Allowance	Other Church Ministry Staff Salaries and Benefits	Total Church Ministry Staff Salary and Benefits
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	\$145,681	\$50,348	\$99,124	\$100,364	\$395,517
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,014,740	\$805,882	\$1,308,567	\$6,278,655	\$11,407,853

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

205

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	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
Boyertown, 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

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

206

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
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	\$44,134
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	\$7,584	\$2,383	\$39,707	\$49,674	\$82,768	\$85,890
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		\$850	\$26,401	\$40,451	\$113,171	\$113,171
Harrisburg, PA: Grace BFC		\$10,253	\$460,405	\$740,446	\$1,111,948	\$1,111,948
Hatfield, PA: Bethany BFC		\$7,329	\$223,715	\$253,799	\$380,453	\$380,453

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

207

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
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	\$11,605	\$12,633	\$55,369	\$90,601	\$218,599	\$218,599
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	\$0	\$2,348	\$77,600	\$83,088	\$131,162	\$131,162
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

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

208

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
Newark, DE: BFC of New- ark, 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
Philadel- phia, PA: Wissinoming BFC	\$0	\$570	\$16,870	\$17,440	\$17,440	\$18,740
Piscataway, NJ: Christ Community Church	\$0	\$9,832	\$78,243	\$104,231	\$280,385	\$290,217
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: Royers- ford BFC	\$0	\$1,800	\$35,100	\$65,040	\$253,153	\$253,153

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

209

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
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 Begin- nings BFC			\$3,600	\$3,600	\$43,552	
York, PA: Faith BFC	\$0	\$6,178	\$112,643	\$140,321	\$321,421	\$321,421

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

210

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
Zionsville, PA: BFC of Zionsville	\$0	\$250	\$27,230	\$27,480	\$133,487	
TOTAL	\$1,260,620	\$630,804	\$9,128,159	\$13,047,062	\$26,194,761	\$27,756,526
Chestertown, MD: Grace Community Church		\$1,009		\$1,009	\$40,009	\$40,009
Elkton, MD: One In Christ BFC					\$177,542	\$177,542
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						

Conference Statistics

Total Disbursements

211

Name of Church	Debt Service	Benevolence	Operating Costs	Total Operations Disbursements	Total Disbursements	GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
Villa Magna, Mexico						
TOTAL	\$0	\$1,809	\$73,925	\$92,569	\$531,511	\$532,211
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,260,620	\$632,613	\$9,202,084	\$13,139,631	\$26,726,272	\$28,288,737

Financial Statements from Auditors

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2025 and 2024

ASSETS	2025	2024
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,321,939	\$ 1,461,496
Investments	2,453,096	2,278,918
Prepaid expenses	16,229	3,531
Other assets	24,453	15,050
Current maturities of notes receivable	<u>72,060</u>	<u>57,687</u>
Total current assets	<u>3,887,777</u>	<u>3,816,682</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Land	636,229	486,229
Buildings	5,167,641	4,552,058
Other property and equipment	<u>88,930</u>	<u>181,930</u>
	5,892,800	5,220,217
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>1,098,839</u>	<u>928,593</u>
Property and equipment, net	<u>4,793,961</u>	<u>4,291,624</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Notes receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts and current maturities	848,212	765,969
Pinebrook reserve	<u>41,538</u>	<u>89,295</u>
Total other assets	<u>889,750</u>	<u>855,264</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 9,571,488</u>	<u>\$ 8,963,570</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		2025	2024
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$	9,659	\$ 9,690
Accounts payable		9,305	141,520
Advances and deposits		358,629	291,866
Other current liabilities		6,972	15,345
Deferred income		<u>52,105</u>	<u>*</u>
Total current liabilities		<u>436,670</u>	<u>458,421</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT, less current maturities			
Notes payable		<u>496,677</u>	<u>507,054</u>
Total liabilities		<u>933,347</u>	<u>965,475</u>
NET ASSETS			
Without donor restrictions		7,956,329	7,393,683
With donor restrictions		<u>681,812</u>	<u>604,412</u>
Total net assets		<u>8,638,141</u>	<u>7,998,095</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	<u>9,571,488</u>	<u>\$ 8,963,570</u>

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
REVENUES			
Contributions			
Churches	\$ 1,371,827	\$ 10,900	\$ 1,382,727
Individuals	884,607	20,075	904,682
Other gifts and bequests	<u>113,337</u>	<u>185,981</u>	<u>299,318</u>
	2,369,771	216,956	2,586,727
Other revenues			
Retreats and conferences	420,901	-	420,901
Program fees	82,239	-	82,239
Rental income	104,807	-	104,807
Program sales	6,866	-	6,866
Interest and dividends	101,846	5,213	107,059
Net realized and unrealized loss on investments	154,226	73,747	227,973
Gain on sale of property	418,745	-	418,745
Other income	<u>12,151</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,151</u>
	3,671,552	295,916	3,967,468
Net assets released from restrictions and other transfers	<u>218,516</u>	<u>(218,516)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues	<u>3,890,068</u>	<u>77,400</u>	<u>3,967,468</u>
EXPENSES			
Program services	2,732,553	-	2,732,553
Management and general	518,566	-	518,566
Fund raising	<u>76,303</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,303</u>
Total expenses	<u>3,327,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,327,422</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	562,646	77,400	640,046
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	<u>7,393,683</u>	<u>604,412</u>	<u>7,998,095</u>
NET ASSETS, ENDING	<u>\$ 7,956,329</u>	<u>\$ 681,812</u>	<u>\$ 8,638,141</u>

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

Retirement Arrangements

The Organization sponsors a defined benefit plan (the "Plan") for its retired pastors who had attained minimum age 55 as of January 1, 1993 and had served as a Bible Fellowship Church pastor for 15 or more years as of that date. Payment of benefits begins at age 65. Benefits are paid monthly in the form of a life annuity, using a schedule based on retirement age and years of service. Annual benefits have been frozen at \$221 for each year of service. The Organization funds benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis and paid benefits of \$92,780 and \$99,719 to beneficiaries in the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

At December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Organization held cash of \$11,064 and \$11,646, respectively, which is designated for payment of future benefits under the Plan. The Plan had 20 and 23 active beneficiaries at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. At December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Plan's projected benefit obligation was approximately \$431,000 and \$482,000, respectively.

Benefits expected to be paid under the Plan in each of the next five years and in the aggregate for the five years thereafter are as follows (in thousands):

Years ending	
<u>December 31,</u>	
2026	\$ 88
2027	79
2028	45
2029	48
2030	48
Years 2031-2035	<u>142</u>
	\$ <u>450</u>

The Organization has not recorded the Plan's projected obligation for benefits as required under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. If the required projected obligation for benefits were recorded in the accompanying financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America, liabilities would have been increased by approximately \$431,000 and \$482,000 and net assets without donor restrictions would have been decreased by approximately \$431,000 and \$482,000 at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively, and the change in net assets would have been increased by approximately \$51,000 and \$87,000 for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

In the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Organization also contributed \$13,686 and \$11,268, respectively, to certain retired missionaries under an informal arrangement.

Agency Funds

One of the primary functions conducted under the Missions' ministry is the collection and disbursement of funds for support of missionaries and for special missionary projects. The Organization functions as a conduit for such funds. Accordingly, the funds received and disbursed are not revenues and expenses of the Organization, and the excess of receipts over disbursements is reflected in the Statements of Financial Position as a liability included in advances and deposits.

A summary of agency funds' receipts and disbursements in the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the balance of agency funds at December 31, 2025 and 2024, are as follows:

Agency funds, at January 1, 2024	\$ 221,117
Receipts	1,274,196
Disbursements	<u>(1,224,022)</u>
Agency funds, at December 31, 2024	271,291
Receipts	1,432,155
Disbursements	<u>(1,369,301)</u>
Agency funds, at December 31, 2025	\$ <u>334,145</u>

Directory of Mission Boards who Work in Partnership with BOM

ABWE Foundation

abwe.org

PO Box 8585, Harrisburg, PA 17105
800-901-2293

Africa Inland Mission

aimint.org

PO Box 3611,
Peachtree City, GA 30269
800-254-0010

Bethany Fellowship Missions

bethanyinternational.org

6820 Auto Club Road, Suite D,
Bloomington, MN 55438
952-829-2492

Bible Fellowship Board of Missions

BFCBOM.org

PO Box 3555, 1011 Brookside Road,
Suite 145, Allentown, PA 18106
610-398-8776

CHRISTAR

christar.org

PO Box 850367,
Richardson, TX 75085-0367
800-375-0300

CMTS Ministries

cmtsinministries.com

321 Focht Road, Bernville, PA 19506
610-488-6975

Coalition for Christian Outreach

ccejubilee.org

5912 Penn Avenue,
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-363-3303

CrossWorld

crossworld.org

10000 N. Oak Trafficway,
Kansas City, MO 64155-2010
816-479-7300

Disciplemakers

dm.org

365 Science Park Road,
State College, PA 16803
814-234-7975

Ethnos360

ethnos360.org

1000 East First Street,
Sanford, FL 32771-1487
407-323-3430

Fellowship International Mission

fim.org

555 South 24th Street,
Allentown, PA 18104-6666
610-435-9099

Global Serve International

GlobalServeInt.org

3878 E. State Rd. 64
Bradenton FL 34208
941-567-5295

International Tribal Ministries

goitm.org

416b East 4th Ave. Cordele, GA 31015
229-401-8645

Kingdom Air Corp

kingdomaircorps.org

39911 N Glenn Highway,
Sutton, AK 99674
907-746-7377

Life Change Ministries International

lcminintl.org

PO Box 187, Ephrata, PA 17522
717-733-0162

Missionary Maintenance Services Aviation

mmsaviation.org

24320 Country Road 202,
Coshocton, OH 43812-9618
740-622-6848

MissionGo**missiongo.org**

1703 S Clinton St,
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-390-0500

Pioneer Bible Translators, Inc.**PioneerBible.org**

7255 W. Camp Wisdom Rd
Dallas TX 75236
214-699-4300

Pioneers**pioneers.org**

10123 Wm Carey Drive,
Orlando, FL 32827-6020
407-382-6000

Rio Grande Global**riogrande.edu/global**

4300 S Business Hwy 281,
Edinburg, TX 78539
956-380-8100

TeachBeyond USA**teachbeyond.org**

PO Box 610
Downers Grove, IL 60515-0610
800-381-0076

Team Expansion**teamexpansion.org**

4112 Old Routt Road,
Louisville, KY 40299
800-447-0800

The Evangelical Alliance Mission**team.org**

PO Box 969, Wheaton, IL 60189-0969
630-653-5300

United World Mission**mesaglobal.co**

PO Box 602002,
Charlotte, NC 28260-2002
800-825-5896

Word of Life Fellowship**wol.org**

PO Box 600, Schroon Lake, NY 12870
518-532-7111

World Team**us.worldteam.org**

1431 Stuckert Road,
Warrington, PA 18976
215-491-4900

World Venture**worldventure.com**

1501 W. Mineral Avenue,
Littleton, CO 80120-5612
800-487-4224

Wycliffe Bible Translators**wycliffe.org**

PO Box 628200,
Orlando, FL 32862-8200
407-852-3600

Yugoslavian Evangelistic Society

PO Box 316, Nazareth, PA 18064
610-746-0508

Directory of Departments & Others

BFC Denomination

Corporate Address: 1011 Brookside Road, Suite 145, Allentown, PA 18106
 Mailing Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106-0555
 Phone: 610-398-8776
 Websites: BFC.org
 Executive Dir.: David T. Allen - dallen@bfc.org
 Office Manager: Julie Sebastian - jsebastian@bfc.org
 Admin. Ass't: Jodi Shorb - jshorb@bfc.org

Board of Missions

Office Location: 1011 Brookside Road, Suite 145, Allentown, PA 18106
 Mailing Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106-0555
 Phone: 610.398.8776
 Website: bfcBOM.org
 Email: Office@bfc.org
 Director: James MacArthur - jmacarthur@bfc.org
 Accounts Manager: Julie Sebastian - jsebastian@bfc.org
 Admin. Ass't: Jodi Shorb - jshorb@bfc.org

Church Extension Ministries

Office Location: 1011 Brookside Road, Suite 145, Allentown, PA 18106
 Mailing Address: Church Extension, PO Box 3534, Allentown, PA 18106
 Phone: 610.769.4337
 Website: ChurchPlantingBFC.org
 Email: CEMoffice@bfc.org
 Director: Timothy M. Zuck - tzuck@bfc.org
 Admin. Ass't: Laurie Kuhns - lkuhns@bfc.org
 Comm. Ass't: Rachel Schmoyer - rschmoyer@bfc.org

Board of Church Health

Corporate Address: 1011 Brookside Road, Suite 145, Allentown, PA 18106
 Mailing Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106-0555
 Phone: 610-398-8776
 Website: BFC.org
 Interim Dir.: Daniel L. Williams - danwilliams1717@gmail.com

BFC Development & Expansion

Phone: 610-398-8776
 Website: BFC.org
 Director: David E. Gundrum - davgun@dejazzd.com
 Comm. Ass't: Rachel Schmoyer - rschmoyer@bfc.org

Victory Valley Camp

Mailing Address: 7352 Salem Bible Church Road, Zionsville, PA 18092
 Phone: 610.966.5880
 Website: VictoryValleyCamp.org
 Email: info@victoryvalleycamp.org
 Director: Curtis Cutler

Pinebrook Education Foundation

Director: Andrew T. Crossgrove
 Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106
 Phone: 215-256-6026
 Website: BFC.org/Pinebrook
 Email: acrossgrove@faithbfc.org

Communications Committee

Checks: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106-0555
 Phone: 610.398.8776
 Fellowship News: Carolyn Ritter - FellowshipNews@bfc.org
 OneVoice: Ralph E. Ritter - OneVoice@bfc.org
 Comm. Coordinator: Rachel Schmoyer - rschmoyer@bfc.org
 OneVoice Website: BFCOneVoice.com

BFC Life Committee

Mailing Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106-0555
 Phone: 610.398.8776
 BFC Finishers: Dana Weller - finishers@bfc.org
 Chairman: Bill Schlonecker - schlonwg@aol.com

BFC Historical Committee

Archives Address: Whitehall BFC, 3300 7th St., Whitehall, PA 18052
 open by appointment
 Chairperson: Jill A. Davidson, jilladavidson@gmail.com
 Website: BFCHistory.org

Youth and Young Adults Committee

Mailing Address: PO Box 3555, Allentown, PA 18106
 Email: BFCbyya@gmail.com
 Chairman: Cory Arnold - c.arnold453@gmail.com
 Secretary: Bekah Manwiller

Directory of Churches & Missions

Allentown, PA; Cedar Crest BFC

1151 S. Cedar Crest Blvd
Allentown, PA 18103

Phone: 610-432-2200
Website: CedarCrest.Church
Email: info@cedarcrest.church

Pastor(s): Jason L. Hoy, Christopher Von Holt, Jules J. Hull III, Nathan G. Trommler, Cameron E. Webb

Allentown, PA; Citylight Bible Church

1921 Union Blvd
Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 484-809-9730
Website: CitylightBible.Church
Email: info@citylightbible.church

Pastor(s): Richard Dobrowolski

Bethlehem, PA; Ebenezer BFC

3100 Hecktown Rd.
Bethlehem, PA 18020

Phone: 610-868-5501
Website: aPlaceForYou.org
Email: office@aplaceforyou.org

Pastor(s): Scott Wright, Jeremy L. Harkins, Michael Notary, Josh Von Holt

Blandon, PA; Trinity BFC

220 Main St
Blandon, PA 19510

Phone: 610-926-4594
Website: TrinityBFC.org
Email: trinitybfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Daniel L. Williams, R. Jerome Brush, Brad Kunkle

Boyertown, PA; Harvest Fellowship

584 Colebrookdale Rd
Boyertown, PA 19512

Phone: 610-367-2853
Website: HarvestBFC.org
Email: contact@harvestbfc.org

Pastor(s): Andrew J. Vassel

Breinigsville, PA; Orchard Hills Church

2096 Independent Rd
Breinigsville, PA 18031

Phone:
Website: OrchardHills.Church
Email: info@orchardhills.church

Pastor(s): Benjamin J. Triestman

Brick, NJ; Growing Faith Church

366 Drum Point Rd.
Brick, NJ 08723

Phone: 732-539-3702
Website: GrowingFaithChurch.org
Email: lylemarcsweet@gmail.com

Pastor(s): L. Marc Sweet

Camden, DE; BFC of Camden

201 East Camden-Wyoming Avenue
Camden, DE 19934

Phone: 302-697-0434

Website: CamdenBFC.org

Email: camdenbfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): R. Daniel Wagner

Cape May Court House, NJ; Cape Community Church

1159 Route 9 South
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Phone: 609-465-2338

Website: CapeCommunityChurch.org

Email: office@capecommunitychurch.org

Pastor(s): Brad L. Boyer

Carmel, NY; New Life Bible Church

476 Farmers Mill Road
Carmel, NY 10512

Phone: 646-734-6130 (Joe's number)

Website: NewLifeBCNY.com

Email: joseph.waldvogel@yahoo.com

Pastor(s): Joseph Waldvogel (Interim)

Mailing: PO Box 79, Holmes, NY 12531

Chestertown, MD; Grace Community Church

400 Morgnec Rd.
Chestertown, MD 21620

Phone: 410-778-0390

Website: GCChestertown.org

Email: gracebfcchestertown@gmail.com

Pastor(s): James D. Reff II, Tracy Haines

Clinton Corners, NY; Cornerstone BFC

1592 Hollow Road
Clinton Corners, NY 12514

Phone: 845-266-8057

Website: none

Email: cornerstonebfc@optimum.net

Pastor(s): David R. Way (Interim)

Mailing: PO Box 104, Clinton Corners, NY 12514

Coopersburg, PA; Calvary BFC

6782 N. Main St.
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Phone: 610-282-3161

Website: CalvaryBFC.org

Email: church@calvarybfc.org

Pastor(s): Peter Bogert, Jacob Dearmon, Logan Cobb

Mailing: PO Box 166, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Dauphin, PA; Freedom BFC

409 Allegheny Street
Dauphin, PA 17018

Phone: 717-474-8730

Website: FreedomBFC.com

Email: church@freedombfc.com

Pastor(s): Mark E. Barninger, Clyde D. Bomgardner, Jr.

Denville, NJ; BFC

263 Diamond Spring Rd
Denville, NJ 07834

Phone: 973-625-1880

Website: BFCDenville.org

Email: BibleFellowshipDenville@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Daniel A. Cali

Elkton, MD; One In Christ BFC

1150 Singerly Road
Elkton, MD 21921

Phone: 443-945-9480

Website: OneInChristBFC.org

Email: office@elktonbfc.org

Pastor(s): Stephen J. Morton, DaQuan Gibson

Mailing: 4 Winding Way, Elkton MD 21921

Elverson, PA; CROSSroads: a Bible Fellowship Church

2672 Ridge Road
Elverson, PA 19520

Phone: 610-286-3633

Website: CrossroadsElverson.org

Email: CROSSroadsBFC@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Timothy S. Radcliff

Emmaus, PA; Bethel BFC

418 Elm Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

Phone: 610-965-2682

Website: BethelBFC.org

Email: bethel@bethelbfc.org

Pastor(s): David A. Smith

Ephrata, PA; BFC of Ephrata

491 Peach Road
Ephrata, PA 17522

Phone: 717-733-2526

Website: EphrataBFC.com

Email: office@ephratabfc.com

Pastor(s): Daniel Z. Krall, David Parsons

Exeter, PA; Exeter BFC

926 Philadelphia Terrace
Birdsboro, PA 19508

Phone: 610-582-4191

Website: ExeterBFC.org

Email: jkeylor@exeterbfc.org

Pastor(s): William Burton III

Finesville, NJ; Finesville Church

191 County Road 627
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Phone: 908-995-7678
Website: FinesvilleChurch.com
Email: FinesvilleChurch@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Brandon Olbrys

Forks Twp., PA; Forks Community Church

1800 Sullivan Trail, Suite 135
Easton, PA 18040

Phone: 484-548-0251
Website: ForksCommunityChurch.org
Email: info@forkscommunitychurch.org

Pastor(s): Tony Dorsey (interim)

Gettysburg, PA; Living BFC

895 Coleman Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Phone: 717-337-1900
Website: LivingBFC.org
Email: bfcac895@gmail.com

Pastor(s): John J. Hanner

Graterford, PA; Graterford BFC

693 Church Road
Collegeville, PA 19426

Phone: 610-489-9389
Website: GraterfordBible.com
Email: markgbfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Mark R. Orton

Harleysville, PA; Faith BFC

140 Harleysville Pike
Harleysville, PA 19438

Phone: 215-256-6026
Website: FaithBFC.org
Email: office@faithbfc.org

Pastor(s): Andrew T. Crossgrove, Michael W. Walker, Nate Orlowski

Harmony, NJ; Harmony BFC

2603 Belvidere Rd.
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Phone: 908-343-4119
Website: Harmonybfc.org
Email: harmonybfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Rick J. Paquette

Harrisburg, PA; Grace BFC

1250 Colonial Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Phone: 717-652-5229
Website: GraceBFC.com
Email: church@gracebfc.com

Pastor(s): Joshua P. Miller, Andrew W. Barnes

Hatfield, PA; Bethany BFC

75 West Broad Street
Hatfield, PA 19440

Phone: 215-855-2449
Website: BethanyBFC.org
Email: bethanyBFC@verizon.net

Pastor(s): Joel B. Klase

Hellertown, PA; Saucon Community BFC

857 Easton Road
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Phone: 610-838-5511
Website: SauconBFC.org
Email: info@sauconbfc.org

Pastor(s): Keith A. Strunk

Mailing: PO Box 317, Hellertown, PA 18055

Homosassa Springs, FL; First Christian Church

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

Phone: 352-628-5556
Website: FCCHomosassa.com
Email: fcch@fcchomosassa.com

Pastor(s): Stephen Mann

Horsham, PA; Welsh Road Church

700 E. Welsh Rd
Horsham, PA 19002

Phone: 215-646-1220
Website: WelshRoadChurch.org
Email: amiller@faithbfc.org

Pastor(s): Andrew J. (AJ) Miller, Andrew T. Crossgrove

Mailing: 280 Florence Dr, Harleysville, PA 19438

Kutztown, PA; Heritage BFC

S. Kemp St (Kutztown Grange)
Kutztown, PA 19530

Phone: 484-202-0620
Website: hbfc.church
Email: contact@hbfc.church

Pastor(s): Shawn C. Rohrbach

Mailing: 15170 Kutztown Rd., Kutztown, PA 19530

LaGrangeville, NY; Valley BFC

1875 Clove Road
Lagrangeville, NY 12540

Phone: 845-724-3984
Website: ValleyBFC.org
Email: valleybible46@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Evan Climpson (interim)

Lancaster, PA; Christ Alone Fellowship

41 Caroline St
Lancaster, PA 17603

Phone: 717-621-2896
Website: ChristAloneFellowship.com
Email: losmoral@me.com

Pastor(s): Juan Carlos Morales, Wayne Cooley

Lancaster, PA; Faith BFC

151 Donerville Road
Lancaster, PA 17603

Phone: 717-285-1900
Website: FaithBFC.com
Email: office@faithbfc.com

Pastor(s): Keith M. Long, William C. Verdon, Neil Franklin, Jr., Nathanael A. Miller

Las Cruces, NM; Grace Bible Church

2801 Missouri Ave. Suite 15
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Phone: 575-532-1234
Website: GraceLasCruces.com
Email: gracebiblechurchLC@gmail.com

Pastor(s): David M. Poland

Mailing: PO Box 13861, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88013

Lebanon, PA; Lebanon BFC

1635 Mill Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

Phone: 717-273-4802
Website: LebanonBFC.org
Email: info@lebanonbfc.org

Pastor(s): Jarrod J. Cruise, Eric Herb, Jr, Judah Wise

Lehigh, PA; Salem BFC

1105 Fredericks Grove Road
Lehigh, PA 18235

Phone: 570-386-2578
Website: SalemBFC.org
Email: info@salembfc.org

Pastor(s): Stephen A. Diaz

Long Neck DE; New Life BFC

24771 Cannon Rd.
Long Neck, DE 19966

Phone: 302-945-8145
Website: NewLifeBFCde.org
Email: office@newlifebfcde.org

Pastor(s): Richard F. Bickings

Mechanicsburg, PA; Living Hope BFC

108 N Saint Johns Church Rd
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Phone: 717-265-5090
Website: LivingHopeBFC.org
Email: church@livinghopebfc.org

Pastor(s): Steven J. DelDuco

Mailing: PO Box 1127, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Merida, Mexico; Iglesia Biblica La Roca de Merida

Calle 42 #303A Entre 53 Y 53C Fracc.

Francisco De Montejo

Merida, YUCATAN 97203

Phone: 999-195-2093**Website:** Facebook.com/IBLaRoca**Email:** iblaroca@outlook.com**Pastor(s):** Marcos G. Ramirez**Milford, DE; Hope Church**

22033 Shockley Rd

Milford, DE 19963

Phone: 302-503-0994**Website:** HopeBFC.church**Email:** community@hopebfc.church**Pastor(s):** Joshua Dupiche**Mt. Carmel, PA; Bethany BFC**

654 Wilburton Rd

Mt. Carmel, PA 17851

Phone: 570-554-9093**Website:** bbfcmtcarmel.churchtrac.com**Email:** bbfcmtcarmel@outlook.com**Pastor(s):** Roger L. Siegrist**Mt. Pocono, PA; Pocono Mountain BFC**

141 Montenesca Rd

Mt Pocono, PA 18344

Phone: 570-839-6922**Website:** pmBFC.org**Email:** office@pmbfc.org**Pastor(s):** James Farver**Mailing:** PO Box 300, Mt Pocono, PA 18344**Muhlenberg, PA; Living Word Fellowship**

170 Tuckerton Rd

Reading, PA 19605

Phone: 484-660-9836**Website:** lwfellowship.org**Email:** info@lwfellowship.org**Pastor(s):** Christian Lefko**Naples, FL; Cypress Bible Fellowship**

11250 Tamiami Trail E

Naples, FL 34113

Phone: 239-910-0766**Website:** CBFnaples.com**Email:** office@cbfnaples.com**Pastor(s):** Jason A. Filbert**Mailing:** 4843 Frattina St., Ave Maria, FL 34142

Nazareth, PA; Grace BFC

100 E. Beil Ave.
Nazareth, PA 18064

Phone: 610-759-7036
Website: GBFCnaz.org
Email: gracebfcnaz@rcn.com

Pastor(s): John P. Sullivan

Newark, DE; BFC of Newark, Delaware

808 Old Baltimore Pike
Newark, DE 19702

Phone: 302-366-8539
Website: BFCNewarkde.org
Email: office@bfcnewarkde.org

Pastor(s): Andrew R. Hebel, Jonathan Limm, Harrison Clark

Newark, NJ; Newark BFC

30 Randolph Place
Newark, N.J 07108

Phone: 973-373-3677
Website: NewarkBibleFellowshipChurchNJ.com
Email: newarkbiblefellowshipchurchnj@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Ronnie Burgess

Oley, PA; New Life BFC

2960 W Philadelphia Ave
Oley, PA 19547

Phone: 610-987-3192
Website: NewLifeBFC.org
Email: info@newlifebfc.org

Pastor(s): Scott A. Allison, Ryan Diffenderfer, Jordan Mease, Kevin Weber

Paradise, PA; Paradise BFC

3092 Lincoln Hwy E
Paradise, PA 17562

Phone: 717-687-7577
Website: ParadiseBFC.org
Email: office@paradisebfc.org

Pastor(s): Jesse A. Benack

Mailing: PO Box 217, Paradise, PA 17562

Philadelphia, PA; Wissinoming BFC

4414 Van Kirk Street
Philadelphia, PA 19135

Phone: 215-743-3751
Website:
Email: rer.wbfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Ralph E. Ritter

Piscataway, NJ; Christ Community Church

2408 Ethel Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854

Phone: 732-393-9800**Website:** ChristCommunityNJ.com**Email:** church@christcommunitynj.com**Pastor(s):** Jason D. Falzarano**Mailing:** 1347 Stelton Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854**Pottstown, PA; Covenant Reformed Fellowship**

2461 E. High St

Pottstown PA 19464

Phone:**Website:** Covenant-Reformed-Fellowship.org**Email:** excitingfaith@gmail.com**Pastor(s):** Jeffrey A. Kauffman**Mailing Address:** 180A Old Swede Rd #298, Douglassville, PA 19518**Quakertown, PA; Grace BFC**

1811 Old Bethlehem Pk. N

Quakertown, PA 18951

Phone: 215-536-6096**Website:** QuakertownBFC.org**Email:** grace@quakertownbfc.org**Pastor(s):** Ronald L. Kohl, John Haruna**Reading, PA; Grace BFC**

1128 Hampden Blvd.

Reading, PA 19604

Phone: 610-375-2333**Website:** GraceBFCReading.org**Email:** info@gracebfcreading.org**Pastor(s):** Gary White, Christian Schwenig**Reading, PA; La Roca de Reading**

1128 Hampden Blvd

Reading, PA 19604

Phone: 610-376-2468**Website:** LaRocadeReading.org**Email:** hispanicbfcinreading@hotmail.com**Pastor(s):** Carlos Rodriguez Gonzalez**Red Hill, PA; Community BFC**

426 Main St

Red Hill, PA 18076

Phone: 215-541-4880**Website:** CommunityRedHill.org**Email:** office@communityredhill.org**Pastor(s):** Daniel Kabakjian**Mailing:** PO Box 281, Red Hill, PA 18076

Royersford, PA; Royersford BFC

431 N. Lewis Rd

Royersford, PA 19468

Phone: 610-948-9764**Website:** RBFCConnect.org**Email:** RBFCoffice@gmail.com**Pastor(s):** Daniel W. King, Connor Roskowski**Shamokin, PA; Calvary BFC**

35 S 2nd St

Shamokin, PA 17872

Phone: 570-648-1466**Website:** Facebook, Calvary BFC, Shamokin**Email:** calvarybfc1@verizon.net**Pastor(s):** Ferdie R. Madara**Sinking Spring, PA; Calvary BFC**

4891 Penn Ave.

Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Phone: 610-678-5166**Website:** CBFC.net**Email:** cbfc@cbfc.net**Pastor(s):** S. Wayne Rissmiller, Paul Harvey, Isaías Vega, Matt Noll**Stroudsburg, PA; Berean BFC**

1028 Tara View Drive

Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Phone: 570-421-0617**Website:** BereanBFC.org**Email:** secretary@bereanbfc.org**Pastor(s):** Beau E. Coffman**Sunbury, PA; Emmanuel BFC**

967 Mile Hill Road

Sunbury, PA 17801

Phone: 570-286-8313**Website:** EmmanuelBFC.org**Email:** office@emmanuelbfc.org**Pastor(s):** Joshua P. Gibson**Terre Hill, PA; Terre Hill BFC**

407 W. Main St.

Terre Hill, PA 17581

Phone: 717 445-4401**Website:** TerreHillBFC.org**Email:** TerreHillBFC@gmail.com**Pastor(s):** Kevin W. Kirkpatrick**Mailing:** PO Box 208, Terre Hill, PA 17581

Topton, PA; Redeemer BFC

121 S. Home Ave
Topton, PA 19562

Phone: 610-641-1090
Website: RedeemerTopton.org
Email: info@redeemertopton.org

Pastor(s): Daniel J. Hoffstetter, Larry W. Davies, Steven K. Myers

Mailing: 72 Washington St, Suite 1, Topton, PA 19562

W. Norriton, PA; Redeemer BFC

3140 Ridge Pike, Suite 9/10
Eagleville, PA 19408

Phone:
Website: RedeemerBFC.org
Email: info@redeemberbfc.org

Pastor(s): Tirus Twayne (Interim)

Mailing: PO Box 170 , Eagleville, PA 19408

Wallingford, PA; Grace BFC

723 S. Providence Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

Phone: 610-876-8725
Website: GraceBFC.org
Email: office@gracebfc.org

Pastor(s): Aaron J. Susek, Mark A. Bickel

Walnutport, PA; Northern Lehigh BFC

840 S. Best Ave.
Walnutport, PA 18088

Phone: 610-760-3310
Website: NorthernLehigh.org
Email: northernlehighbfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Aaron D. Smith

Whitehall, PA; Whitehall BFC

3300 Seventh Street
Whitehall, PA 18052

Phone: 610-434-8661
Website: Whitehall.Church
Email: office@whitehallbfc.org

Pastor(s): Timothy J. Schmoyer, Daryl Crawford, Phil Yerrington, Laszlo Onody

Woodbury Heights, NJ; New Beginnings BFC

534 Elm Avenue
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097

Phone: 856-693-3073
Website: NewBeginningsBFC.org
Email: office.nbbfc@gmail.com

Pastor(s): Timothy R. Nessler

Mailing: 111 N. East Ave., Wenonah, NJ 08090

Villa Magna, Mexico

Mission Church

Pastor(s): Freddy Chi

Contact Carlos Rodriguez for more info, rogoldya@hotmail.com

York, PA; Faith BFC

675 Woodland View Dr.

York, PA 17406

Phone: 717-846-7749**Website:** FaithBFCyork.org**Email:** office@faithbfcyork.org**Pastor(s):** Wesley H. Bunting**Zionsville, PA; BFC of Zionsville**

6401 Vera Cruz Road S

Zionsville, PA 18092

Phone: 610-967-3048**Website:** Zionsvillebfc.org**Email:** zionsvillebiblefellowship@gmail.com**Pastor(s):** Benenz Hitchcock

*Editor's note: No new church buildings were purchased or built in 2025.

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