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As many of you know, we are trying to raise funds for the GRACE Outreach Evangelism Management Program that will run on the cloud. We still need to raise about \$18k. This is Phase 2 our development of Grace Mission. Our desire is to have all the funds raised by the end of this year so we can begin the software development in January. Your help right now could help push over the top!

Perhaps your church could promote this as a Birthday Offering for Christ or maybe there is something you would like to do personally. Either would be greatly appreciated. All gifts can be written to Grace Mission for the GRACE Outreach Software and sent to the address at the bottom of this email.

Check out this video explaining the offering for the GRACE Outreach Evangelistic Management Software Program. It's only 5 minutes!



VAFWB: A TRENDING PROBLEM

Open for Solutions!

As I travel across Virginia among our churches and associations, I am finding a trending problem we're facing. It's a decreasing number of pastors and churches participating in local association or conference meetings. It has come up so much that some conferences are having discussions about how to reverse the current path.

There's no doubt but that "times are changing," but I hope and pray this will not be the "norm" we have to accept. The solution to this growing concern will probably not be one simple fix; however, I pray that we will renew within our hearts how our fellowship encourages our brethren! This is true within the membership of our churches as well as inter-church relationships within our associations or conferences. It's never merely about what we get out of it but about what we can do to encourage others.

I recently talked with a pastor who said that he, as a younger man in the ministry, really NEEDED time with the other pastors around him both for encouragement as well as advice. He's not the only one that has expressed such.

I realize we all have more and more things that vie for our attention, but I call on all of us to see the value our meetings have for others around us. It's true, of course, that "business" is not always exciting unless a fight breaks out, but that's not the kind of excitement we really want! Along with taking care of God's business, there might be some good changes to encourage attendance not only for pastors but also the people in our churches.

Brethren, let's encourage one another in the Lord, and we can better do that as we meet together. If you have suggested solutions, please pass them along!



MORE CHURCHES USING GRACE OUTREACH

Over thirty churches are now using the GRACE Outreach program to encourage participation in their evangelistic outreach efforts. And the results are more than encouraging! Just a couple of months ago I was with a church for their first night of GRACE Outreach, and I heard someone say, "This is fun!"

When do you ever hear people saying something like that during a night of outreach? But statements such as this are now common with this program.

GRACE Outreach is a ministry of Grace Mission, and Grace Mission is a ministry-arm of our VAFWB Promotional Office. Through this office, we are now making impact not only for our churches here in Virginia, but also far beyond. Our work in this office and your support of it is making a positive difference for the cause of Christ.

Find out more about GRACE Outreach in the video. Contact us to get more information about how GO can work in your church!



“THANK YOU!” IS REALLY NOT ENOUGH!

You’ve heard this before, haven’t you? “Your support means more than you will ever know!” I know we hear statements like this all the time, but I have come to realize on a personal level how true this is for those who receive so much from so many.

The work that Debbie and I do for the Lord and in behalf of our FWB brethren is indeed a labor of love. But the financial and prayer support we receive is a true means God uses to bring us encouragement in so many ways. I can seldom do anything in ministry without realizing how indebted I am to God’s people and their generous hearts. So even though it doesn't seem nearly enough, here goes....

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS!

To the churches supporting through their church budgets!

To the individuals supporting through sacrificial giving!

To everyone supporting through prayers, supplications, and fasting!

EACH ONE PLANT ONE OFFERING **January 27, 2019**

Each year on the last Sunday of January, we take up a statewide offering to help support the mission efforts in Virginia. This fund provides the VAFWB Mission Board with funding for their efforts in helping our state missionaries with special needs.

We ask for each FWB family in Virginia to give this once-a-year offering of \$12. If everyone participated, we could raise about \$16,000.

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