

Query to the 2026 Conference

Greetings in Jesus' name from the Cascade Valley Congregation to the brothers and sisters assembled at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana, for the 2026 OGBBC NC Annual Conference. We submit the following query for your consideration and counsel.

The past seventeen years have been years of rich blessing as we have journeyed together as the Old German Baptist Brethren Church - New Conference. However, over the years, questions have developed regarding who we are as a people, and what form of administration we are using. It has been suggested by some that though we call ourselves a conference, perhaps we are operating in practice more as a fellowship. There are many ways these terms could be defined, but the core issues seem to be, how closely do we intend to be aligned in practice nationally, and how much latitude do we give to our local congregations to work out matters of practice locally? There are likely many positives and negatives that could be expressed about either model. Would this Annual Conference consider appointing a group of five elders to consider this matter, solicit input from our individual congregations, and suggest a clear path forward at next year's Annual Conference?

On behalf of the Cascade Valley congregation,

Ministers

Dennis L Wray

Merle Flory

Joseph Root

Aaron Long

Anthony Root

Joshua Wray

Deacons

Rodney Hubbard

Jeridan Fingerle

Stephen Rapp

Aaron Clark