Great Lakes Bible Bowl

925 Ennest Blvd
White Lake, Michigan 48386

GREAT LAKES BIBLE BOWL 2026

November 8, 2025

Dear Friend,

Great Lakes Bible Bowl 2026 is just around the corner. We have an exciting study planned as we study the Book of Genesis. This promises to be a great study for our students as we God work in the lives of the Patriarchs. Bible Bowl provides a fun and faith building way for 3rd through 12th grade students to study the Bible and meet with other congregations of the Lord's Church for an afternoon of competition once a month for three months. Trophies, ribbons and other awards are presented at the conclusion of our season, but the real reward is God's Word in the hearts and minds of our youth.

Bible Bowl is divided into two age categories. We have Junior Bible Scholars Division (3rd – 6th grades) and the Bible Scholars Division (7th – 12th grades). Younger students may compete in a higher age category.

We plan to continue to have a combined competition at the Livonia Church of Christ, although we may need to relocate if we have a larger turnout. To assist us in preparing, can I ask you to email me by December 15, 2025, and let me know if your congregation will be participating and approximately how many teams you will have? I realize your numbers may change by the time you register and we won't hold you to the earlier numbers. They will just be helpful to us in planning.

Our goals for Great Lakes Bible Bowl can be summed up by the three "F's" – Faith, Friendship, and Fellowship. By participating in an intensive study of God's Word, the faith of both the students and the coaches are strengthened. Great Lakes Bible Bowl promotes teamwork and often bonds of friendship are built or strengthened among teammates. In addition, Bible Bowl promotes fellowship by bringing together area congregations and strengthening our bond of unity. Over 80 congregations have sent teams to compete in our program in the past 40 plus years.

Studying God's Word is such a vital part of our Christian life. Many of our young people are growing up and abandoning their faith. It is my hope that along with family and church Bible study time, Bible Bowl can play an important role in reversing this trend amongst our youth by getting them into the Word of God.

2024 SCHEDULE / TOPIC OF STUDY

Bible Bowl will take place on a Sunday of each month (January – March) at 2:30 p.m. at the Livonia Church of Christ.

- January 11 – Genesis 25:19-34; Genesis 27-29:30; Genesis 30:25-36; Genesis 31:1-9, 31:14-34; 36-55; Genesis 32
- February 8 – Genesis 33; Genesis 35; Genesis 37; Genesis 39:20-23; Genesis 40-42
- March 8 – Genesis 43-45; Genesis 46:1-7, 46:26-34; Genesis 47; Genesis 49:29-33; Genesis 50
- March 15 – State Finals (Optional)
- April 12 – Awards Event
- April 19 – Evaluation Meeting (Zoom)

RULES

(See separate sheet)

COST / REGISTRATION

Participation fee will be $75.00 per team. This will cover all trophies and awards, a ribbon for each participant, postage, equipment, State Finals expenses, Award's Presentation expenses and incidentals. Enclose this payment with your registration form. Make checks payable to Walled Lake Church of Christ. Mail to: Frank Schipani, 925 Ennest Blvd, White Lake, MI 48386.

If paying the fee will cause your church a hardship, please inform me of your difficulty and we will work something out! We want your congregation to participate in our program!

You can save money by taking advantage of our Early Bird Special ($65.00 per team) if registration and payment are mailed together and postmarked by December 30, 2025.

HELP

If you need more information or have any questions regarding Bible Bowl, you can check out our website at www.greatlakesbiblebowl.org (a video is available to view), find us on Facebook, or feel free to contact me at (947) 245-9009 or frankschipani@gmail.com. If you are new to Bible Bowl and don't know where to begin, I would be happy to come out and talk to your congregation about this wonderful program.

I look forward to seeing you in January!

In Christ,

Frank Schipani, M.Min.
Chairman – Great Lakes Bible Bowl
(947) 245-9009
frankschipani@gmail.com

RULES FOR THE GREAT LAKES BIBLE BOWL 2026

1. Teams will consist of four or more people. Team members do not all have to come from the same congregation, nor do they have to attend the churches of Christ. The Bible Scholar Division will consist of grades 7-12 and the Junior Bible Scholar Division grades. Team members may move up into harder divisions, but not down. All divisions will have at least one team member in the appropriate grade level. When registering multiple teams in any one division – only one team may have a mixture of grade levels, but the mixed team must still have at least one member in the appropriate grade level. Our desire is for grade appropriate teams, not mixtures – unless absolutely necessary! Teams may have alternates with substitution at the mid-point of the round.

2. Each team will compete in one round at each monthly Bible Bowl meeting. In each division three trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place finishers. Monthly winners will keep their trophies until the next competition; at the Awards Fellowship, final winners will be awarded the trophies to keep.

3. Each round will consist of 20 multiple choice questions with all competitors answering all questions. For each question, the questionmaster will read the question, with its three possible answers, twice. Then he will ask for the answers. Each competitor will then display his or her answer on the answer box. Once the answer is displayed, it cannot be changed. After each participant has displayed an answer, they will be asked to clear their answers. The questionmaster will announce the correct answer with the scripture reference and the scorekeepers will record the scores. Please follow the instructions of the questionmaster.

4. Immediate appeal of an answer, after the correct answer has been given, may be made by any team member – but by no one else. The only valid reason for an appeal is if the competitor believes there is more than one correct answer out of the three that were given. If a question is challenged, the appropriate scripture will be read by the questionmaster, if this does not satisfy the challenger, then the appeal will be decided by the Bible Bowl Committee. If a majority of committee members vote to throw the question, it will be replaced. Any question can also be challenged by a member of the Bible Bowl Committee at the end of each half of the round. If an appeal is determined to be valid, that question will be thrown out and replaced from a pool of alternate questions.

5. All questions will be based on the text of the scriptures (not necessarily verbatim) taken from the (NIV) New International Version – 2011 edition. We are <u>not</u> using the older editions of the NIV nor the NIrV. Footnotes will <u>not</u> be used!

6. Scoring will be 10 points for each team-member answering correctly, plus a 10 point bonus if all members of a team answer correctly. Thus, two members of a team answering correctly would score 20 points; four members with correct answers would score 50 points (40 for the correct answers – plus 10 for the bonus).

7. The audience will not in any way indicate answers to questions, whether verbally or by signs. The audience should remain seated and quiet while questions are being read so the competitors can hear clearly. The Bible Bowl committee will have the power to enforce this rule by asking audience members to leave if they persist in distracting the competitors. The front pews are reserved for coaches and team scorekeepers only – no young people!

8. No competitor will have in their possession an electronic device (cell phone, tablet, etc.) while in the boxes. If a competitor is found to have an electronic device in their possession, it will be taken, that person will be warned, and the device will be returned after the round. If that competitor is found in possession of an electronic device in the boxes a second time, the committee may elect to take action up to and including disqualifying the contestant.

9. In the event that multiple "rounds" are required, teams that are competing in later rounds will not be able to hear the questions asked of the early competitors in their division.

10. The 90 second break between rounds is for coaching or changing contestants only. Only coaches and students should be at the boxes during this break.

11. In the case of a tiebreaker round, the team with the first incorrect answer will lose the tiebreaker, regardless of the overall score of the round or the number of questions asked.

12. Great Lakes Bible Bowl, along with all host congregations and facilities, are not responsible for lost or misplaced items.

13. Coaches are held responsible for the behavior and whereabouts of their students. Please respect the facilities of the hosting congregation and pick up after yourselves.

14. In the case of inclement weather, all efforts will be made to continue to hold the competition on the appointed date and time. If a congregation does not feel that weather conditions allow for safe travel, that congregation will need to contact the chairman or operations manager by noon on the date of the competition to advise they will not be attending the competition. In such cases, arrangements will be made for a make-up competition for that/those congregation(s) and the scores will be added to the season totals as if the teams had been present at the actual competition.

15. Scholarships must be used only by members of the team who won that scholarship and may not be shared with or transferred to other students, teams or congregations.

16. Teams names selected in January will be used for the entire season. Please do not change your team name as it makes tracking scores more difficult.

17. In order to participate in the State Finals, a contestant must have completed at least 10 questions during a regular competition that season on the same team they are competing on in the State Finals.

GREAT LAKES BIBLE BOWL 2026 – REGISTRATION FORM

CONGREGATION_____

CHURCH ADDRESS_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

CONTACT PERSON_____

CONTACT ADDRESS_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

CONTACT PHONE ( ) _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS_____

NUMBER OF TEAMS

Bible Scholars (Grades 7-12) _____ Junior Bible Scholars (grades 3-6) _____ ___

AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____ ($75.00 per team).
PAYABLE TO: ***Walled Lake Church of Christ***

Early Bird Special ($65.00 per team) if registration and payment
are mailed together and postmarked by December 30, 2025.

MAIL TO: Frank Schipani, 925 Ennest Blvd, White Lake, MI 48386

IMPORTANT - PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **WALLED LAKE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Please list names and grades of each student. Students may be added on the date of the competition. This list is just to help us get the name and information of most students for registration and score keeping purposes.

Congregation: _____

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

Please list names and grades of each student. Students may be added on the date of the competition. This list is just to help us get the name and information of most students for registration and score keeping purposes (Use additional sheet of paper, if necessary).

Congregation: _____

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

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Student Name Grade

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Student Name Grade

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Student Name Grade

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Student Name Grade

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Student Name Grade

_____ _____
Student Name Grade

COACHES:

_____ _____ Name
Name

_____ _____ Name
Name

_____ _____ Name
Name

PAST GREAT LAKES BIBLE BOWL TOPICS

2025 – Gospel of Matthew
2024 - Elijah, Elisha, Jonah
2023 - Acts 13-27
2022 – John
2021 – No competition due to COVID-19 pandemic.
2020 – Genesis
2019 – Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians
2018 – Exodus 1-20
2017 – Luke
2016 – 2 Samuel
2015 – Acts 1-12
2014 – 1 Samuel 16-31
2013 – Romans
2012 – Ezra, Nehemiah, and Haggai
2011 – John
2010 – Esther and Daniel
2009 – Joshua
2008 – Mark
2007 – 2 Corinthians
2006 – Judges and Ruth
2005 – 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus
2004 – Exodus
2003 – Hebrews and James
2002 – Genesis
2001 – Acts
2000 – John
1999 – 1 Kings
1998 – Matthew
1997 – Genesis
1996 – James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1-3 John
1995 – Luke
1994 – 1 Samuel
1993 – Romans
1992 – Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians
1991 – John
1990 – 1 Corinthians
1989 – Luke
1988 – Genesis
1987 – Mark
1986 – Acts