

Prairie District PROFILE

Fall 2015



**Superintendent
Tim & Lynn Seim**

There is no success without a successor. It was author Warren Bird who caught my attention with that statement. Bird is a consulting editor and contributor to *Outreach*

magazine and a research director for Leadership Network.

So back to Bird's contention that there is no success without a successor. I have been thinking a great deal lately about the subject of succession and succeeding at it. It is on my mind for three reasons:

- 1) we in church ministry leadership have not done it well
- 2) I believe it is a strong biblical teaching that we ignore
- 3) I am in the middle of it right now!

The Apostle Paul writing in 2 Timothy 2:2 calls us to entrust what we have heard and learned to others, the next and the next generation. Even Jesus did not leave the task of succession to chance. He

trained 12 to succeed Him. One of the most strategic and spiritual priorities we can set is to prepare for that day of succession.

Warren Bird declares that pastoral succession is the intentional process of the transfer of leadership, power and authority from one person to another. We can all create the kind of culture where that person is most likely to succeed. Bird, in a book written last year, writes about the essentials for a succession pathway. Let me leave you with one of those essentials:

Begin the conversation. I began such a conversation three years ago with the district board, and now we are reaping the benefit of that early conversation. Rob Cave and I have been working together for about six weeks here in the district office, and the succession process will indeed be stronger because of it.

It is a delicate conversation to have, but do have it. Begin by reading *Next: Pastoral Succession that Works* by Warren Bird and William Vanderbloemen (Baker).

Bless you in your succession,

Tim Seim

Retirement Banquet for Tim & Lynn Seim

in celebration of 18 years as the Prairie District Superintendent
Friday, October 16 (5:30pm) at Heritage Lodge in Taber, AB
\$30 per person

Installation Banquet for Rob & Cherise Cave

as the new Prairie District Superintendent
Saturday, October 17 (5:30pm) at Parkside Manor in Taber, AB
\$10 per person

Register for one or both banquets online www.pdfcc.ca or by phone 403-938-1320. Your cheque must be received by **October 1** to confirm your reservation! (payable to Prairie District, 28 Westland Rd, Okotoks AB T1S 1T2)

Please note: if you are registered to attend the Prairie District Conference, your registration fee includes both banquets.

DISTRICT NEWS

EFC of Lethbridge

Jared Friesen begins September 14 as associate director of youth ministries. Originally from Coaldale, Jared earned a BA in Youth Ministries from Steinbach Bible College. He and his wife, Waiyola, look forward to all God has in store for them in Lethbridge.



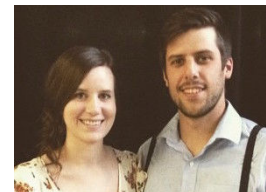
Also new to Lethbridge are two part-time contract positions: Don Bergen is the associate director of small groups, and Pam Ukrainetz is the director of care.

Meadow Lake EFC

Joel and Kristin van Loon have resigned their ministry at Meadow Lake EFC. Pray for the van Loons in their move and next ministry assignment. Pray for the church as they consider calling a pastor or having a transitional ministry leader.

Mount Olive EFC (Three Hills)

Alvin and Mandy Bueckert have accepted the call to move from 7 years as youth pastor at Mount Olive to become the senior pastor. Pray for this transition. Kenton Barkman (left)



has filled the youth pastor role. Kenton is from Seven Persons and graduated from Briercrest College. He married Kaley in August 2014.

Delia Christian Fellowship

Noel and Melanie Dwarika have been called to serve as pastor in Delia. Noel holds a Masters degree from Taylor Seminary and has served in various pastoral roles for 11 years. The Dwarika family includes three young children.



Prairie District ~ 28 Westland Rd, Okotoks AB T1S 1T2 ~ 403-938-1320 ~ www.pdfcc.ca
pdfcc@telus.net timseim@telusplanet.net rob@pdfcc.ca

A note from Rob Cave: Transitions can be challenging. Your child's first day of school. Their first solo drive. The day they move out. Over the last six weeks, Tim Seim and I have met regularly to pray for district churches and discuss various ministry opportunities and challenges. I think the transition has been as smooth as it can be. In the days ahead I am looking forward to personally getting to know Prairie District churches, leadership teams, and pastors! If you would like me to speak or just to greet your church on behalf of the district, I would love to do so!

Office hours: M-F 8:30am – 4:30pm 403-938-1320
rob@pdfcc.ca cell 587-577-5411



Financial Update: Your gifts make the ministry of the Prairie District possible. Year end: September 30, 2015.

Send all gifts to financial secretary
Yvonne Ling 234 Schooner Landing NW
Calgary AB T3L 1X5
yvonneolingpc@shaw.ca

DATES TO NOTE...

October 16-18

Prairie District Conference www.pdfcc.ca
Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Future (hosted by Taber EFC)

October 22-23

Global Leadership Summit (simulcast)
8:30am-4:30pm | EFC of Lethbridge
<http://growingleadership.com/summit2015/>

March 6-8

Prairie District Staff / Spouse Retreat
The Resort at Cypress Hills \$75 pp + room

Trinity Western University EFC Prairie District Scholarship Fund

Three applications have been processed for the new matching grant program between the local church, Prairie District, and TWU for students pursuing an undergraduate degree! Through the matching grant program, students with assessed need will be able to receive up to \$6,000 in financial assistance.
awards@twu.ca

LeadBeyond

Honor the Past Build the Future

If we do not build our future leaders, we will be done. Pray and give \$10 per year for three years to fund leadership preparation into the future.. www.efcc.ca