

ALBERTA WOMEN'S RETREAT

March 30-April 1, 2012 ~ Southern Alberta Bible Camp

Theme: Putting the Pieces Together: Journey to Wholeness and Freedom
Speaker: Debi Cowan has been a pastor's wife, women's ministry mentor and speaker for 30 years. She is a woman of enthusiasm, passion and joy. The Cowans are currently living in Roatan, Honduras.

SASKATCHEWAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

May 4-6, 2012 ~ Shekinah Retreat Centre

Theme: The Gospel at Your Postal Code
Speaker: Major Dr. Julie Slous from the Salvation Army in Winnipeg
Watch for registration material arriving at your local church.



EFCC NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2012

Join us at Okotoks EFC in Alberta! Our keynote speaker will be Larry Osbourne, pastor of NorthCoast EFC in California and author of books such as *Sticky Teams*, *Sticky Churches*, and *The Unity Factor*.



PRAIRIE DISTRICT GIVING UPDATE

Thanks for your Equal Share financial gifts to our Prairie District ministry budget.

- Budget to date (October-December 2011) \$25,500.00
- Received to date (October-December 2011) \$16,290.44

Thanks for checking your giving records as to your participation in our District ministry together. Send all gifts to our new financial secretary (address below):

All financial gifts are to be sent to our new Financial Secretary:
Yvonne Ling, 234 Schooner Landing NW, Calgary AB T3L 1X5
yvonneulingpc@shaw.ca

JOINT CONFERENCE (MARK YOUR CALENDAR!)

Our Prairie District Annual Conference will have a change of dates this year, to allow us to join in the exciting opportunity to have a joint conference with ANACEFC (Association of North American Chinese Evangelical Free Churches).

September 28-30, 2012 ~ South Calgary Chinese EFC

Prairie District

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Prairie District PROFILE

Spring 2012

What encourages you in the ministry of God's Church? Someone recently asked me that question, and my mind immediately went to our last District Board meeting in Brooks. I am encouraged when I spend time with others who have a heart for God's ministry of our family of churches we call the Prairie District. Here are some encouraging notes from the reports we received from you:



The Superintendent's View

- Bow Island EFC has approved moving forward with a new church facility.
- Pastor George Mills of Etzikom EFC and Orion EFC has made inroads with the Hutterite people of his community by assisting them in projects.
- Seven Persons EFC reports new people attending and being embraced into the fellowship.
- Taber EFC has a missions trip to Mexico in March and they expect 45 people will participate.
- Picture Butte EFC reports continued growth in reaching people, and baptisms have blessed everyone.
- Three Hills EFC has added a children's worker to their staff: Ang Johnston.
- Mont Nebo EFC has experienced an open door to ministry to the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation through a family attending church.
- Quill Lake EFC gives praise to God for healthy finances even as families have to leave the area for retirement.
 - Saskatoon EFC praises the Lord for having Pastor Al Harstone back following the rest of a sabbatical.
 - EFCC Board Meetings: 15 current church plant contacts across Canada active right now.



...with a heart to serve

Tim Seim
Superintendent

DISTRICT PASTORAL CHANGES

Taber EFC

Brett McCoy has joined Taber EFC staff in a youth ministry role. He grew up in Taber and was mentored by Taber EFC's former youth pastor, Jason Easterbrook. Brett attended Vanguard Bible College in Edmonton, and he enjoys hockey, soccer, golf, travel, missions, and friends.



New Life EFC, Calgary (Mandarin)

We welcome Rev. Ben Hsiau to the ministry role at New Life EFC Mandarin church. Rev. Hsiau received his ministry education from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Asbury Theological Seminary (Kentucky). He also comes with extensive pastoral ministry background and seminary teaching. Pastor Hsiau is married to Judy and they have three sons and two granddaughters.



South Calgary Chinese EFC

Rev. Dan Wat will be retiring from his ministry leadership role as lead pastor of South Calgary Chinese. Dan and Kitty have been part of the church body since it was a church plant 23 years ago. Dan has also served as senior pastor for 15 years with the church. He will move into another ministry part-time which assists people immigrating to Canada and offers a variety of resources to new Canadians (Manna Counseling and Educational Centre). Great thanks to Pastor Dan and Kitty for their years of leadership for the Lord at SCCEFC.

Lethbridge EFC

Pastor Ron Schellenberg has stepped out of his ministry role as minister for connecting with the Lethbridge EFC staff. Ron and Terri have served the Lord in Lethbridge for 17 years in different ministry roles. The Schellenbergs will stay in Lethbridge and take time away from vocational ministry for the immediate future. God bless you, Ron and Terri, for your faithful ministry in the church and with the Prairie District.

CHURCHES SEEKING PASTORS

- Delia Christian Fellowship (pastor)
- Good Shepherd Community Church, Cut Knife SK (pastor)
- Northeast Calgary Chinese EFC (pastor)
- EFC of Regina (pastor)
- Manitou EFC, Neilburg SK (youth pastor)
- Bow Island EFC (youth pastor)
- Saskatoon EFC (youth pastor)
- Brooks EFC (youth pastor)

NEW DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER

At our Annual Conference 2011 in Saskatoon, a vacancy on the District Board was not filled by conference. At our February 2012 District Board meeting, we appointed Rob MacDonald to the board to fill this vacancy. Rob will be an Alberta Church Representative. Rob served on staff at Meadow Lake EFC for 12 years before moving into a counselling career in Calgary. Rob and his wife, Amanda, attend Okotoks EFC along with their son, Sam.



CELEBRATION PARTY

On January 28, Enchant EFC and the community of Enchant gathered to celebrate 25 years of pastoral ministry for Jeff and Sandra Frostad. It was a packed house at the Community Centre with great ethnic food, music, tributes to the Frostads, and praise to the Lord for His work through His servants for such a consistent ministry. Thanks to the Enchant church for recognizing this milestone of service. May your tribe increase!

STAFF/SPOUSE RETREAT

Pastor Dan Nicholson and his wife, June, joined us for two days in February at the beautiful setting of Cypress Park Resort. We interacted together over the theme "Discerning Your Seasons of Ministry."



PRAYER INITIATIVE

Set your cellphone, your Blackberry, your iPod, your computer, your watch, your alarm clock, or write it on your hand: 10:02 pray Luke 10:2!

Our EFCC family of churches has been called to a National Prayer Initiative called 10:02 Prayer, praying Luke 10:2 daily at 10:02 a.m. or 10:02 p.m. *"He told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.'"*

Join this movement of prayer that God would send workers into the field in CANADA as well as around the world. For more information, check out *The Pulse* online (efccm.ca/pulse121/) or contact the EFCC's national prayer catalyst, Dave Holden (pastordave.holden@gmail.com).



LEADERSHIP RESOURCE

EFCC Leadership Development Catalyst Dave Acree is serving half-time with the EFCC in leadership development (as well as half-time with Lethbridge EFC). Dave says "Leaders are not everything, but they are essential to any movement of God." How can Dave come alongside your leadership team and serve you? Contact him at dave.acree@telus.net or 403-329-3125.