

# Prairie District PROFILE

Spring 2015

Are you busy? Have you ever been asked that question? Or perhaps I should say "How many times this week have you been asked that question?"

How do you answer that question? It's tricky. If you say "No, I'm not busy," are you admitting that you really don't work very hard? Or if you say "Yes, I'm really busy," are you saying "I'm too busy for you right now, so move on"?

Has busy become our excuse in the 21st century? I'm too busy to serve the Lord, attend three out of four services per month, spend quality time with my Lord or family, develop meaningful life-on-life relationships with friends and neighbours.

One author has said that "the pace of our lives is one of the most pressing spiritual challenges to the Christian life today. We are busy and getting more so." We have been promised again and again that technology would simplify our lives and make things easier. However, has that truly been the case? Has technology simplified your life or simply made it even more hectic? To be sure, technology is not the only source of our increasing busyness. We all face our own internal compulsions (being driven), work demands, family schedules and church needs.

Busyness preoccupies us. We all know that the hardest part of a committee meeting is determining a date to meet next. Mark Twain is purported to have said "Our busyness is like the weather. Everyone complains about it, but no one does anything about it."

So, why are we so busy anyway? Are we trying to validate our worth? Are we attempting to please too many people? Are we trying to impress God?

Many people have written excellent books and articles calling us back to God's solution to our busyness. Are we just too busy to hear? Are we truly too busy to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ as His followers?

Think on it and do some reading (if you're not too busy)

- *Meaningful Busyness* (Arthur Boers) [www.faithtoday.ca](http://www.faithtoday.ca)
- *The Rest of God* (Mark Buchanan)
- *The Overload Syndrome* (Richard A Swenson)
- *Overcoming Overload* (Steve & Mary Farrar)
- *Exodus 18* (The Bible)



*Superintendent  
Tim & Lynn Seim*

## Equal Shares

Send all gifts to our financial secretary  
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## DISTRICT NEWS

### Saskatoon EFC

Alan Harstone has resigned following 15 years of ministry as senior pastor in Saskatoon. We wish God's continued blessing on Al and his future plans for service following a ministry break.

### Calgary First Free

Barry and Donna McAuley have resigned after serving the Lord and the Free Church faithfully for nearly 12 years. Their next ministry will keep them in Calgary at Westside Calgary Chinese Alliance Church in an English pastoral role. Blessings and thanks to Barry and Donna for their dedicated ministry.

### EFC of Lethbridge

Dave and Rachel Siverns have resigned as director of worship and young adults, a position Dave has held since the summer of 2010. Dave will be attending Regent College to further his education. Thanks to Dave and Rachel for their much-appreciated ministry.

### South Calgary Chinese

Sean and Kristy Cook have just begun a new ministry with South Calgary Chinese as their English congregation pastor. Sean is ordained with the Alliance Church and has served on staff at First Alliance in Calgary over the years. We welcome Sean and Kristy!



### Parkland EFC

Due to a decline in budget giving for the church, Naomi Tensen has now moved to faith funding for her youth ministry at Parkland EFC in Kamsack, SK. She continues to serve, but will be reimbursed only with the funding made available from the Lord. Perhaps you will be God's source to keep this youth ministry active for the community.

### Church Planting Prayer Focus

God has brought it to our hearts to begin to pray for Macklin, SK with the desire for a new church start. Macklin is a rural community of 1,400 located 110 km south of Lloydminster, SK. Pray for our next God-steps.

### Milestone Anniversaries

- Regina EFC 50 years
- Champion EFC 65 years
- Manitou EFC (Neilburg) 75 years
- Calgary Chinese EFC 38 years

### District Retreat

Thirty-five people enjoyed great fellowship, networking and encouragement at our annual Staff/Spouse Retreat at Cypress Hills. Tim and Lynn Seim shared "a few things they've learned" about God, people, ministry, and finishing well.



## DATES TO NOTE...

**April 12** EFCC Sunday

**April 23** Southern Alberta Regional Ministerial @ Taber EFC

**May 1-3** Saskatchewan Ladies Retreat @ Camp Kinasao near Christopher Lake ~ *Inhale, Exhale* with Guest Speaker Carol Harrison

**May 1-3** Superintendent Candidate Confirmation Vote

**May 4** EFCC Pastor's Orientation @ Lacombe EFC

**May 7-8** District Board Meeting @ the EFC of Medicine Hat

**May 26-27** EFCC Theological Summit "The Bible" and Annual General Meeting @ Okotoks EFC

**June 8** Saskatchewan Regional Ministerial @ Saskatoon EFC

**October 15-17** Prairie District Conference @ Taber EFC