

## Who Are We?

The Prairie District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada includes 36 churches in southern Alberta and all of Saskatchewan. These churches are located in rural and urban environments, with worship services ranging from 10 people to over 1,400 congregants.

Serving Saskatchewan  
and Southern Alberta



## Who is the District Superintendent?

Trevor Brawdy was affirmed as the superintendent at the Prairie District Conference in October 2021. Trevor and his wife, Bonita, have pastoral experience in Ashcroft and Smithers, BC. Trevor follows in the footsteps of former Prairie District superintendents Rob Cave, Tim Seim, Ken Lawrence, Tony Hanson and Jim Westman.

# Developing & Encouraging...

## Healthy Pastors

Pastors and ministry staff, Jesus gave His life for you! He's called and set you apart to serve Him. You are an ambassador for Christ in the church and the world.

There are spiritual forces working to counteract the work that Jesus is seeking to do in and through pastors and ministry staff. The enemy knows how critical you are in the work of teaching, encouraging and equipping God's people for service in the world.

Because of this, the Prairie District intentionally provides the following:



- Annual staff and spouse retreat
- Ongoing, intentional coaching and counsel
- Prayer support
- Regional ministerial meetings for the purpose of encouragement and prayer
- Resourcing and networking

## Healthy Churches

Church, Jesus gave His life for you! He's called you out of the world to be different than the world, so that you can go back into the world and represent Him through your deeds and words.

It's critical that the Church remember whose she is—the Bride of Jesus. The Church isn't a building, it's the people of God. Though each of our local churches is autonomous in its ability to self-govern, they share a like-minded, inter-dependent purpose with their sister churches within the EFCC. The district provides a number of resources to our local churches:

- Consultation and church revitalization
- Resourcing and leadership development
- Assistance in pastoral search and placement
- Quality control through credentialing
- Protection policies and legal advice
- Prayer support and networking



## Healthy Church Plants

Church Growth: Jesus promised that He would build His church and the gates of hell would not be able to prevent its advancement.

The ongoing development of new works—church plants—is critical to the fulfilment of Jesus' command to go into all the earth for the purpose of making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything HE commanded.



And this is one of the huge benefits of working together as a movement of churches: independently governed churches choosing to work together are able to do far more in advancing the cause of Christ than they could do on their own.

It's our desire in the Prairie District to see:

- Evangelism driven church plants
- Co-operative efforts through the development of prayer and financial resources
- Church planter assessments
- Ongoing coaching

## Strategic Plan

### PURPOSE

The Prairie District exists to nurture the establishment and health of Evangelical Free churches in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta.

### MISSION

The Prairie District fulfills its purpose by

- Cultivating authentic relationships,
- Discerning healthy direction, and
- Resourcing churches and leaders.

### VISION

The Prairie District's vision is to see a healthy, gospel-sharing church reaching every community in our District.

### VALUES

Biblical Authority

- submitting our thoughts and ways to God's Word

Holy Spirit Dependence

- relying on the enabling and leading of God's Spirit as we pray and express His gifting

Authentic Relationships

- connecting with others for encouraging care and ministry partnership

Outward Mission

- seeing each church being sent to serve their broader communities and to proclaim the gospel

Qualified Leadership

- developing and encouraging leaders who serve others on the basis of biblical character, theological training, and emotional health

### What Do We Believe?

The Prairie District is one of 5 districts across Canada, under the umbrella of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada. The Evangelical Free Church of Canada is an association of autonomous churches united in a common commitment to God's evangel—the gospel of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to give us eternal life. To God's glory, the gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. Our essential theological convictions are vitally connected to this gospel.

***God's gospel originates in and expresses the wondrous perfections of the eternal, triune God.***

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

***God's gospel is authoritatively revealed in the Scriptures.***

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavour should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

***God's gospel alone addresses our deepest need.***

3. We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

***God's gospel is made known supremely in the Person of Jesus Christ.***

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

***God's gospel is accomplished through the work of Christ.***

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

***God's gospel is applied by the power of the Holy Spirit.***

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

***God's gospel is now embodied in the new community called the church.***

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

***God's gospel compels us to Christ-like living and witness to the world.***

8. We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

***God's gospel will be brought to fulfillment by the Lord Himself at the end of this age.***

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ with His holy angels when He will bring His kingdom to fulfillment and exercise His role as Judge of all. This coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

***God's gospel requires a response that has eternal consequences.***

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

Evangelical Free Church of Canada

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