



Taking Care of Missionaries

Hi! We are Emmie and Carl. We work as Managers of Personnel and Projects in the international arm of EFC called *ServeBeyond* (formerly EFCCM). We are excited to be serving both our missionaries and EFC churches. The main focus of our job is to help our missionaries do their job well. This involves helping them think through vision and focus as well as learning good donor reporting practices.

Alongside that, we are available to work with you as churches in your role as senders. We believe that a missionary's home church plays a key role in their ministry, beginning with discerning God's call toward a missionary career. When a church is a part of that discernment process, we believe the missionary will be starting off in a healthier position of community and accountability. Some of you have also shared a desire to learn how you can better care for your sent missionaries throughout their career. We look forward to working with you to develop resources in that area.

Finally, we believe our young people are our up-and-coming leaders. That includes the area of international ministry. We are pretty passionate about helping young people discover their role in international ministry, whether as goers or senders. If you would like

to connect with us in any of these areas, we would love to chat and find ways we can partner together.
emmiem@efcc.ca ~ carlm@efcc.ca

District Board members

Talk to Trevor if you are interested in serving on the Prairie District Board (two-year term). Or let him know of anyone in your church who might make a good board member!

Prairie College Take Over Team

Does your church need some help when the pastor is away? Prairie College's *Take Over Team* is designed for churches to request a team to "take over" a Sunday worship service or a youth night, etc. This can be a real boost, especially for smaller churches where it can be difficult for a pastor to get a break. You can view a short promotional video at <https://vimeo.com/698940850>.

TWU / PD Scholarship Fund

Have you heard about the partnership between the EFCC-Prairie District and Trinity Western University in Langley, BC? Through a matching grant program, students with assessed need will be able to receive up to \$6,000 in financial assistance! More information can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/4ven7ms4>.

District Finances

Equal Shares (district donations) are \$5 per member per month (\$60 per member per year).

Send all gifts to our financial secretary:



Rachel Hawthorn
finance@pdefcc.ca
Box 807
Nobleford AB T0L 1S0



Serving Saskatchewan and Southern Alberta

The Prairie District...

PURPOSE: to nurture the establishment and health of Evangelical Free churches in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta.

MISSION: to cultivate authentic relationships, discern healthy direction, and resource churches and leaders.

VISION: to see a healthy, gospel-sharing church reaching every community in our district.



Trevor & Bonita Brawdy
District Superintendent

dates to note

this year...

October 14-15, 2022

Prairie District Conference
hosted by EFC of
Medicine Hat

next year...

March 5-7, 2023

Prairie District Retreat for
ministry staff and spouses
at the Resort at Cypress
Hills in Saskatchewan

March 24-26, 2023

Alberta Women's Retreat
at Southern Alberta Bible
Camp (hosted by
Cornerstone EFC in
Picture Butte)

June 7, 2023

(tentative) Pastor's
Orientation hosted by
Okotoks EFC

June 8-9, 2023

EFCC Theology
Conference & AGM
hosted by Okotoks EFC

The Prairie Profile

is published by EFCC-Prairie
District 3-4 times per year to keep
you informed of news and items
for prayer & praise!

Thoughts from the district guy...

I've been seeing a common theme in my devotional readings. Daily I read and pray a psalm and also read portions from both Testaments. The common theme and common word I'm seeing is **Cling**.

In Deuteronomy 10, Moses is speaking to Israel as they prepare to enter the Promised Land. In verse 20 he says, "You must fear the LORD your God and **cling** to Him."

Fast-forward a few hundred years, and David is singing, praying to God. In Psalm 63, David describes searching for God, longing for Him, hungering for Him. And in verse 8 David says, "I **cling** to You; Your strong right hand holds me securely."

I love the image we see in these passages. God's people are called to be—and David practices—clinging to God. In whatever we are facing as individuals or as a church, we are invited to cling in faith and obedience to our loving Heavenly Father. When we face trials or suffering, we encounter a choice: we can turn away from Him or lean into Him even closer.

David clings to God and knows that God holds him securely. As tightly as we can cling to God, He holds us even more firmly, more securely. You (all) are in His grip!

In this edition of the *Prairie Profile*, you will hear from a number of voices in our EFCC Prairie District! May you be encouraged as you read what's happening, and may you consider how God is calling you to be involved!

district news

Alberta Women's Retreat

Pictured below is the planning committee from Cornerstone EFC in Picture Butte. Here's what they wrote to the District: "Thank you so much for your support of the 2022 Ladies Retreat at SABC this past April. It was an incredible weekend of fellowship and deep, heart-changing ministry. The sound of over 120 women worshipping together after being apart for so long was indescribable! We're so grateful for the opportunity, and look forward to the 2023 event."



South Calgary Chinese EFC

A Commissioning Service—delayed due to the pandemic—was held on March 27. The SCCEFC deacon board (commissioned later in the service) stands behind Tim & Lynn Seim, Cynthia & Pastor Randy Rohrick, Pastor Jayson & Boni Tam, and Pastor Calvin & Crystal Sun.



Lethbridge

Monica Loewen has finished as Minister of Community Engagement. We are grateful for her years of service and are praying for God's "next" in her life.

Orion

Matthieu and Mary Howard have been called to pastor Orion EFC, as of June 1. Pray for the Howard family as they transition from Cut Knife SK to Orion AB.



Taber

Keith Boschman has resigned as lead pastor of Taber EFC. He is also finishing several terms on our District Board. Pray for Keith and Lisa and their family as they relocate to Winnipeg where Keith will be lead pastor at Winnipeg EFC.

Credentialing

Trevor Brawdy presents Iris Lau, pastor of Central Calgary EFC, with a Certificate of Ministry.



New Ministerials

In addition to our regional ministerials, the district has begun special gatherings focused on youth pastors/workers, children's ministry pastors/workers, and pastors of Chinese churches. All ministerials will resume in the fall!

mto reach

It's a privilege for me to introduce you to MTO Reach, a ministry of Mount Olive EFC (Three Hills AB). Nine years ago, God—in His mercy—brought me out of an alcohol addiction (among other things) and during that journey gave me a passion to see people and families find healing through Christ and His church. I now serve as Recovery Pastor at Mount Olive EFC and oversee an amazing team of professional counsellors and lay leaders. We offer programs such as Freedom Session, The Journey, Betrayal and Beyond, and have partnered with other churches and organizations in the Three Hills area to offer Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous as well as Celebrate Recovery.

In January of this year, we added Richard Evans and TJ Mackenzie to our team. Both have recently

completed master's degrees in counselling. Richard is focused on addiction while TJ's focus is on general mental health and relationships. Both are trauma informed counselors. No surprise, they are busy! This ministry has been a tremendous support for our church family, other churches in our community, as well as our unchurched friends who are struggling with mental health, trauma, addictions and other harmful behaviors.

We are learning and growing as a ministry but, if we could offer support or advice to you and your church, please give me a call or send me an email.

Blessings,

Wayne Nelson
Recovery Pastor
wayne@mtoreach.com
403-412-4109



church planting

As you know, we have been praying and working for a consistent and fruitful movement of church planting in the Prairie District. We know that this is not a mission for just one person or church, but a challenge we must accept together as a fellowship of churches.

Considering this, we are forming a **Church Planting Advisory Team (CPAT)** which will work side-by-side with the District Superintendent and the Church Planting Catalyst in three specific areas:

Discernment, Recruitment, Support.

- The Discernment area answers the question "What is the place?" and focuses on a commitment to prayer and conversations to discern the right places to plant new churches considering necessity and opportunities.
- The Recruitment area answers the question "Who is the person?" and focuses on finding, assessing and coaching church planters.
- Finally, the Support area answers the question "Who are the partners?" and focuses on partnerships and the church planting proposal analysis.

"Churches of all sizes and ages can take part in church planting."
Ed Stetzer

Would you consider being part of this new team? We need visionary, missional people who are passionate to see new, healthy and fruitful churches established in our district. Our initial idea is that this new group will meet every other month (online) and twice a year (in person). One of the first activities of the new CPAT will be the Church Planters Assessment training, which we expect to happen this fall with the leadership of Steve Sharpe.

If you are interested (or know someone who might be interested) in joining the new CPAT, please contact me or our district superintendent, Trevor Brawdy. trevor.brawdy@pdefcc.ca
clinton.cesar@freechurchcalgary.com



In Christ,

Clinton César
Prairie District Church
Planting Catalyst