

THOUGHTS FROM THE DISTRICT GUY

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August 17, 2022

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Plant Assessment & Discernment Team—Contact me or Clinton César (First EFC-Calgary) if you would like to be on our District Church Plant Assessment & Discernment team

Upcoming Ministerial Dates—

- ☞ Saskatchewan
Sept 12 at Saskatoon EFC
- ☞ Southern Alberta
Sept 21 at Taber EFC
- ☞ Calgary and area
Sept 22 at First EFC

Prairie District Conference—

Faithfully Following Jesus will be the focus for our time together, October 14-15 in Medicine Hat. Gordon T. Smith, president of Ambrose University in Calgary, is the guest speaker.

WHAT I'M LEARNING...

Last week a package arrived on my doorstep: it was a print of a Rembrandt painting I've had my eye on for a while. It's called **Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee**, and it portrays the moment when the panicking disciples wake Jesus up from the nap he was taking on board their boat during a terrifying storm.

In Luke 8:25, after calming the storm, Jesus asks the disciples, "**Where is your faith?**" What looked like a deadly storm became the environment for these disciples to continue learning more about Jesus and to grow in their nascent faith in Him.

As we head into the fall, in our churches we're spending a lot of time planning programs, organizing outreaches, building budgets, and managing memberships. But we must ask ourselves the question: **Are we making disciples?** And we should also ask ourselves: **Am I growing as a disciple of Jesus?**

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus commissions us to make disciples. Disciples are learners. We are to be growing in our faith and obedience and love for Jesus, following His example in how we treat one another and others. We are to help each other grow; and we are to ever be growing and learning ourselves. As we move into a new ministry season this fall, is **your** church making disciples? Where does this best happen? In a 90-minute Sunday morning service? What are the environmental conditions in which disciples grow? I'm learning that growth is not dependent on having the right program or the best sermon, but rather dependent on having a humble, learning attitude, in the day-to-day of life, **with other disciples**. Disciple-making is more about having the right environment and attitude, not about having the polished program or crafted words. Discipleship even happens in the midst of the darkest storm.

Whether it's during a storm, or at the table eating together, or cleaning up your community's downtown area together, discipleship can be happening. Are you making disciples? Are you a growing disciple of Jesus Christ?

CHURCH OF THE WEEK

ENCHANT EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH



Pastor Isaac (Helen) Dyck writes:

Praise the Lord for all the volunteers who came out to remove the old siding off the church, even the new Ukrainian families came out to help. We also praise the Lord for all the workers and students in VBS this week.

Pray for families from Ukraine as they adjust to everything new around them. And pray for salvation of families through our VBS program and continuing into our fall ministries.

QUESTION CORNER

What are the characteristics of a growing disciple of Jesus Christ?