



There is still time to register to attend the Prairie District Conference in Medicine Hat, October 14-15! Check out the details at [www.pdefcc.ca](http://www.pdefcc.ca) and make plans to be there. Gordon T Smith, president of Ambrose University, will be the guest speaker. A free pre-conference session on Church Plant Training will take place on Thursday, October 13 (1-4PM).

## dates to note

### October 14-15, 2022

Prairie District Conference hosted by EFC of Medicine Hat

### 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

## 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

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!



Serving Saskatchewan and Southern Alberta

# Evangelical Free Church of Canada PRAIRIE PROFILE

Fall 2022



Trevor & Bonita Brawdy  
District Superintendent

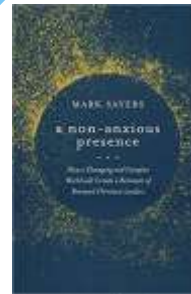
## The Prairie District...

**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.

## Thoughts from the district guy...



Perhaps the best book I've read since the start of the pandemic is Mark Sayers' *A Non-Anxious Presence*. Sayers describes how we're currently living in a gray zone moment: the world has changed, and we do not yet know completely how, or what, the world is changing into.

In gray zone moments, we seek out comfort and security in "strongholds" that have brought us identity and "safety" in the past. However, they fall short in the new context in which we find ourselves. And the result is anxiety. Sayers writes, *"Most understand that the world has changed. However, the sheer rate of change has left many disoriented. We, too, have been left with a sense of the potent chaos in the world.*

*We are not as in control as we thought. We are left with questions of how to lead at such a time when the rules seem to have changed"* (p.20).

Sayers spends time looking back at how we've arrived here and describing the current landscape. And then, he highlights how this is a time of opportunity. We don't grow when we're comfortable. It's in the "wilderness" where God grows leaders for the Church. *"Leaders move people toward growth. Comfort zones insulate us from development"* (p.109).

God is at work during the anxiety-filled gray zone moments! He is growing leaders who will lead with a non-anxious presence in the midst of change and seeming chaos. These leaders are able to lead with a non-anxious presence because they encounter and are refreshed by the presence of God (p.145).

Our churches and our people—and I would add our society— need us to be leaders who live daily in the presence of God. Our identity, our strength, our wisdom come from Him. As the psalmist declares, *"He is my loving ally and my fortress, my tower of safety, my rescuer. He is my shield, and I take refuge in him..."* (Psalm 144:2). Keeping our eyes on Jesus in the midst of the storm is the best thing we can do for the people whom we lead and serve.

*"In an anxious, crisis-driven environment, the leadership leverage comes from a non-anxious person"* (p.100). We become non-anxious persons by living and leading in the presence of God.

*A Non-Anxious Presence* can be found at <https://www.amazon.ca/Non-Anxious-Presence-Changing-Complex-Remnant/dp/0802428576>

## district news

### Lashburn

Congratulations to Glenn and Gloria Gerbrandt who recently celebrated 25 years of ministry at Lashburn Community Church!

### Lethbridge

Two new staff members have joined the team! Will Brososky is the director of Young Adults.



He has a BA in Counselling and Human Services from Columbia Bible College. Will worked at Southern Alberta Bible Camp for 7 summers

where he recently proposed and launched a Gap Year discipleship program for young adults.

Kylie Dubber is the Director of Elementary Ministries. She is married to Todd and they have three children.

Kylie attended Prairie Bible College and spent 20 years at Rift Valley Academy in Kenya as a dorm parent, Dean of Women, and field hockey coach!



### Thank You

Tim Seim (AB) and Bill Klumpenhower (SK) have concluded their roles as "interim district superintendent." The district board and office extend gratitude for Tim's and Bill's willingness to take on extra duties while the district was between superintendents.

### Transitions

Glenda Postman (Lethbridge), Ken Chan (South Calgary Chinese) and Ryan Martin (Meadow Lake) have concluded their ministries. We appreciate their years of service in our district and pray for God's leading in the days to come.

### Vauxhall

Scott and Shannon Crawford have accepted the pastoral position at Bethel EFC. Please pray that their house in Cut Knife (SK) will sell soon so they can proceed with their move and ministry in Vauxhall.



### Orion

Matthieu Howard was officially installed as pastor on September 18, 2022. Trevor Brawdy gathered with church members to pray for Matt and Mary.



### Ministry Staff & Spouse Retreat

Encourage the ministry staff at your church to make time for the annual retreat at the Inn at Cypress Hills, scheduled for March 5-7, 2023. This time away for refreshment spent with others in pastoral ministry will have a positive impact in the life of your pastor and church!

### Budgeting for the New Year

Just a reminder for your church board and treasurer to note the suggested giving amounts to the Prairie District and EFCC Home Office:

- District (Equal Shares) \$5 per member per month or \$60 per member per year
- EFCC (Fair Share) \$32.50 per attendee per year, or 2.5% of annual church budget

Helen Blackburn, Brett McCoy, and Turning Point staff will share more about these ministries at the District Conference in Medicine Hat!

## Helen in Bolivia

In May of 2011—following a year of Spanish studies—I arrived in Bolivia to help EFCCM Missionary Heather MacKnee in her work with El Candelero Kids. Through the Government Department for children in Tarija, Heather started a drop-in Support Centre offering before or after school care where we help children with their homework. They also read, memorize and write out Bible verses, sing, and play games. Everyone sits down for a good meal and helps clean up afterward. Heather has a staff of five nationals to help.

In 2013, a friend gave Heather 5004 square metres of land, and construction started on a Home for Boys. In 2014 the boys, along with dorm parents and family, moved into the Home! Our boys are abandoned children, not orphans.

This past year we have completed many renovations to meet new government regulations and to receive accreditation by the new Bolivian government who oppose our work with Bolivian children because we are evangelicals.

I have land and a small house and garage close to the Boys' Home and work with the Boys when not at the Support Centre or teaching English in the city. The boys help me with yard work and get paid well. My contact with them is positive as I live out my life before them and the dorm parents. I help them with English, help maintain the buildings and vehicles, and get the land ready for corn and vegetables. At present, I can only stay in Bolivia six months per year. I live in my garage and am praying for a couple to live in my house to help with the work of El Candelero Kids.

## Turning Point Youth Centre

Things are going well at Turning Point Youth Centre! We have been open for 3.5 years now and have 3 full-time staff.

The Centre was started by the EFC in Meadow Lake after seeing a huge gap in services in the community. God led us to fill the need with a youth drop-in centre. Currently, there are 10 to 25 youth who attend each day the Centre is open, and we run many amazing programs, including Bible Study twice a week, life skills classes, and many fun events.

Our mission is to be a safe and fun place where youth can hear the gospel. Praise God, we have seen many put their faith in Jesus since we opened our doors! We also connect each young person with a Christian mentor after they make the decision to follow Jesus!

We would love for you to support us in prayer or financially! Visit [turningpointyouthcentre.com](http://turningpointyouthcentre.com)

**oxygen** youth worker conference is held yearly in Banff to provide youth pastors and youth workers a time of encouragement, rest, renewal, and soul care.

There are many great resources for youth specialties and for youth ministry strategies, but our desire is to have a time together to focus on our hearts and the ways that Jesus is leading and encouraging us to grow individually and in our ministries.

The name *oxygen* comes from the idea that this time away should be like fresh air in our lungs, something that is life-giving to everyone who attends. Each year we have times of worship, topical sessions, soul care opportunities, and lots of space for discussion and simply hanging out. As important as the sessions are, it is equally important for us to hang out, network, eat and laugh together.

I speak for many that this conference is not only a highlight each year, but also one of the most significant times of rest and growth in our ministry lives.

Many of our youth pastors and youth workers across the Prairie District have attended *oxygen*! This conference is open to any youth pastor or leader overseeing a youth-related ministry.

If you are interested in joining us in the spring of 2023, please email me for more information and I would love to connect with you: [brett@taberefc.ca](mailto:brett@taberefc.ca)