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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the ministries of the EFCA and the gospel impact our movement is having around the world. We are so grateful for your partnership, support and prayers.

We pray that God will refresh and strengthen each person present at the EFCA One conference through the worship services and training. What a blessing to connect with old friends and build new relationships.

God has been working mightily in our midst. We want to tell you all about it – so please take time read the reports provided in this document and engage with EFCA staff and leaders present at EFCA One.

Our prayer is that you will be encouraged by this information and join us in thankful celebration of the Lord’s work through the EFCA.

Serving our Savior together,

Kevin Kompelien
EFCA President
EFCA Board of Directors

I welcome you to the 2019 EFCA One Conference. It has been a joy to serve as the EFCA Board Chair and to work with a wonderful group of men and women who love the Lord and love the EFCA.

This conference marks an opportunity for us to celebrate all that God is doing, to be challenged in the task of bringing the gospel to our world and consider a significant change to our Statement of Faith. The board, along with many of you, have been in prayer for these days.

The board is presenting a motion to change the wording in Article 9 of the Statement of Faith regarding the return of Christ. We have facilitated conversations over the past two years all over the country and as a Conference are now ready to vote. The board unanimously believes the time is right for this important vote to take place.

As a board, we are grateful for Kevin and his leadership as EFCA president. His leadership, steady influence and tireless efforts have marked these four years of his presidency. Kevin and Becky are loved, and we continue to uphold them in our prayers.

Thank you again for engaging with us. May God enrich your hearts today and during your time at EFCA One.

Kindly,

Jimmy Kallam
Chair
EFCA Board of Directors
President’s Report

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. 

Philippians 1:3-6 (NIV)

The Apostle Paul’s words to the church in Philippi reflect my thoughts as I reflect on the past two years of ministry in the EFCA. It is a great joy to serve as EFCA President. The partnership in gospel ministry that we share is an incredible blessing! This year, we commemorate the 135th anniversary of the EFCA. We rest in the truth that the Lord who began a good work in us will be the one to bring it to completion to His glory.

Over the past two years, Becky and I were privileged to travel the country and several places overseas to share the mission and vision of the EFCA with leaders at district conferences, pastor gatherings, ReachGlobal division conferences, and gatherings of international ministry partners. We love developing and deepening relationships with individuals across this movement. There is no doubt that the Lord has blessed the EFCA with wonderful people!

The EFCA Board of Directors updated their Ends Policy clarifying what they expect me to accomplish in leading the EFCA. The policy emphasizes increasing the number and diversity of well-equipped leaders, increasing gospel impact, and increasing the number and diversity of churches. These expectations helped focus ministry efforts and enabled national and international ministries of the EFCA to work in concert on the metrics used to determine movement toward accomplishing our mission.

In 2017, leaders from the international, national and operations ministries worked together to develop a vision frame to guide and focus how the EFCA national office serves churches in partnership with our districts. During the past 18 months, we have worked hard to across the organization to implement this vision and related goals. I am encouraged by the deepening collaborative relationships across all ministries.

I am fully committed to the mission of the EFCA, which is to “glorify God by multiplying transformational churches among all people.” However, many EFCA churches may not see themselves in our mission statement. The prevailing sentiment is that the statement refers to church planting, and unless a church is actively planting a new church the mission statement doesn’t apply. As president, one of my responsibilities is to help EFCA churches and leaders re-engage with the mission statement. The mission of the EFCA is not only starting new churches, it is just as much about strengthening and revitalizing existing churches to be even more transformational in their communities.

The essential values of any organization ultimately determine both its behavior and direction. The following diagram describes the EFCA’s foundational values and what we must do to accomplish the mission based on those values.
I am convinced genuine gospel transformation will happen as we commit to being transformed and allowing the Lord to do His work through us. In studying Acts 2-4, I have been reminded that the Lord consistently uses His Spirit and His Word in the context of redemptive relationships among His people to bring about gospel transformation. It is what I call: **BT ⇒ MT** – **Being Transformed so God can Multiply Transformation.**

We must be transformed if we are to see the Lord multiply transformation among us. One marker of gospel transformation in the EFCA will be movement toward a 10% annual growth rate of new believers and disciplermakers along with ministries, multi-sites, second language congregations, and church plants. I am excited to report that we are seeing increased traction in all these areas.

The EFCA Communications team has worked with EFCA leaders to produce colorful summaries of what is happening in the EFCA. The “2017 At a Glance” and the “2018 We’re Better Together” pieces give evidence that we are moving forward in accomplishing our mission to glorify God by multiplying transformational churches among all people.

This past year, the Spiritual Heritage Committee conducted the five-year doctrinal survey of EFCA pastors and credentialed ministry staff and missionaries. Once again, there is a high commitment to the gospel essentials described in our Statement of Faith. Orthodox doctrine matters to EFCA leaders for which I am deeply thankful. One of the highest responsibilities I have as EFCA president is to safeguard our Statement of Faith. I am very appreciative of Greg Strand, the Board of Ministerial Standing and the Spiritual Heritage Committee who work diligently to uphold the Statement of Faith. Greg is a trusted and highly valued colleague who serves the EFCA extremely well and partners with me in so many ways.

In the last two years, there have been multiple discussions across the country regarding the EFCA Board of Directors’ Proposed Motion to Amend Article 9 of the Statement of Faith which would replace “premillennial” with “glorious” to describe the Lord’s return. I am very pleased with the tenor of the conversation. People have shared their questions, concerns and opinions with grace and respect. In this [brief video](#), I share my thoughts as to why I encourage you to vote “yes” to the proposed amendment.
Shortly after EFCA One in 2017, Executive Vice President of Ministries Brian Cole was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer. We pray fervently for Brian and his wife Marla, as they walk this challenging journey. Brian faithfully served the EFCA until March 2019 when he stepped aside to go on full disability as a result of the ongoing effects of the disease and chemotherapy treatments. Brian and Marla are an incredible testimony of the Lord’s faithfulness in their lives and their clear trust in the Lord both for this life and eternity.

Over the last 18 months of Brian’s time with the EFCA, he devoted energy to leading EFCA national ministries. He worked closely with All People ministries, student ministries, and with the Church Multiplication Team. Brian is a dear friend and was a trusted colleague during my years of ministry with ReachGlobal. He served the EFCA extremely well and was a very important partner during my years as president. Join me in praying for Brian and Marla in the days ahead as they continue the battle with cancer.

In February 2018, Jot Turner retired from the role of executive vice president of operations at the EFCA national office. Jot gave excellent leadership to the operations team for over 11 years and was instrumental in implementing important changes enhancing our ability to serve EFCA churches, districts, and ReachGlobal staff. I deeply appreciate Jot’s friendship and his significant service to the EFCA.

Paul Anderson, president of Christian Investors Financial, graciously and effectively filled an interim role leading the operations team while we conducted an extensive search for Jot’s replacement. In June 2018, Carole Lehn joined the Office of the President team as executive vice president of operations. Carole has a deep love for the EFCA and extensive experience. For over two decades, she has been an active member of Five Oaks Church in Woodbury, Minnesota. Carole is a great addition to my leadership team bringing a fresh set of eyes and new perspective.

Paula Pust stepped away from her role as executive assistant to the president and the EFCA Board of Directors in May of 2018. Paula was a great help to both President Bill Hamel and me as well as to the EFCA Board of Directors over the many years she served. Rae Phillips transitioned into this role with expanded responsibilities working with me on strategic projects and internal communications. Rae has worked in various positions at the EFCA national office, most recently leading the EFCA Communications team.

The past two years have been marked with significant transition among senior leadership at the EFCA national office. In addition, it was evident that I could not continue the pace at which I had been working and traveling, both for my personal health and for the growth of the EFCA. In 2016, the ministries at the national office were restructured to bring stability and a greater sense of “one EFCA” that I desired to see across the movement. In the last six months, it became clear that this structure had reached the limit of its effectiveness and change was needed moving into the future.

Earlier this year, I initiated an organizational change in the Office of the President allowing me to give greater attention to the overall health and direction of the EFCA movement, and one
that will enhance the effectiveness of ministries nationally, internationally and at the national office. Beginning in April, the Office of the President now includes the president, executive vice presidents of international ministries, national ministries and operations, and the executive assistant to the president.

As noted above, Carole Lehn serves as executive vice president of operations and Rae Phillips serves as executive assistant to the president. Brian Duggan was appointed to serve as executive vice president of international ministries. He has been in leadership with ReachGlobal for 13 years serving as the international leader for the Latin America/Caribbean Division and as the executive director of Global Ministries. I am in the final stages of selecting an executive vice president of national ministries to join the team later this year.

In addition to the transitions among senior leaders at the national office, we are experiencing significant transitions among district superintendents. EFCA West, Northern Plains District, Allegheny District, and the Central District are currently in leadership transitions. I am deeply thankful to Steve Highfill, Daryl Thompson, Jeff Powell, and Cal Swan for their friendship and significant ministry. I have great joy in serving the EFCA along with all 17 district superintendents. The relationships we share have never been stronger!

Last August, we all lost a dear friend as former EFCA President Bill Hamel was called into the presence of the Savior whom he loved and faithfully served. Bill’s impact on the Evangelical Free Church of America and the lives of so many continues to bear fruit for the work of the gospel. I miss his wide smile, encouraging words and faithful prayers. I join with people across this movement in thanking the Lord for Bill and praying for his wife Karen and their entire family.

Income to the EFCA national office has grown slowly and steadily over the past three years. The national office staff continues to do an incredible job stewarding the funds entrusted to us. Thank you to each church and individual who sacrificially gives to support the ministries of the EFCA. Your ongoing gifts make an important difference! For example, and launching in 2019, EFCA Helps is a collaborative effort between the national and district offices to provide practical and easily accessible resources for churches. The primary delivery method for these resources will be online via the EFCA website which will include sample documents, forms, policies, and links to other resources. That page will also include phone numbers and emails for people at our office who can address individual questions on matters not covered on the web page.

However, a significant number of EFCA churches are not supporting national ministries and the services of the national office. Last year 472 of 1,344 EFCA churches did not give any support to the national office general fund. The fact that 35% of churches are not partnering financially with us is of significant concern. The autonomy of the local church is one strength of the EFCA, but I am afraid the independence of too many EFCA churches is hampering our ability to serve well. I strongly encourage each church not contributing to the general fund of the EFCA to seriously consider giving to sustain the important work and ministries led out of the national office. The opportunities for training leaders along with strengthening, revitalizing and planting churches could grow in significant ways if all EFCA churches would financially partner with us.
The Lord continues to show His incredible faithfulness to the EFCA. I appreciate the healthy partnerships we have with CIF, FCMM and TIU. I am blessed to serve Him, and His church as expressed in the Evangelical Free Church of America. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and words of encouragement over the past four years. I also want to thank the staff at the EFCA national office, district leaders across the country, our ReachGlobal missionaries around the world, and the EFCA Board of Directors for their sacrificial service to the Lord and the EFCA. In addition, I want to thank Becky, my wife and ministry partner, for her encouragement and support. Lastly, I express my deep gratitude to the Lord Jesus, whose love for the church gives my role meaning.

Kevin Kompelien
President
Evangelical Free Church of America
Board of Ministerial Standing

The Board of Ministerial Standing (BOMS), oversees the credentialing of candidates for either the Ministry License or one of the Certificates (Certificate of Christian Ministry or Certificate of Ordination). BOMS also oversees the placing of credentials in trust for personal or disciplinary reasons.

Over the past two years, BOMS has developed, gotten approval by the EFCA Conference and is now implementing the Policy on Spiritual Character Qualification. The letter to those who wish to be credentialed includes the following:

“Dear Candidate: The Evangelical Free Church of America is committed to the biblical standards of life and conduct spelled out in the New Testament for pastors and elders (and, by implication, other ministry leaders). The purpose of this questionnaire is to remind you of some of the basic personal qualifications for receiving a ministerial credential in the EFCA and to help the family of Free Churches uphold the biblical standards that are implied in the credential...

“...The aim of your district leaders is to support you as you continue to aim at the biblical standards for church leaders...Our ultimate goal in asking these question is not to disqualify a person but to provide the opportunity to proceed in a healthy manner. We stand ready to assist you in your credentialing path, giving encouragement, counsel, and resources as may be helpful.

“There are three options for proceeding with this review of your qualifications. If you are married, we ask that you and your spouse complete the forms. If you are single, we ask that you and a close friend complete them. (1) You and your spouse/friend can complete the written questionnaires and submit them. (2) You and your spouse/friend can interact with your district superintendent (or his representative) in a personal interview that explores the questions in the questionnaires. (3) If you are an associate pastoral staff member, you and your spouse/friend can hold a personal interview with your senior or executive pastor.

“The EFCA Board of Ministerial Standing understands that many of these questions are deeply personal and may be difficult to answer... Understand that answering “yes” to any question does not necessarily mean that you will be refused ministerial credentials. You also have the freedom not to answer any particular question in writing. This does not mean, however, that you will not be expected to discuss those questions in a follow-up interview.

“...Our aim—through these questions, through supportive encouragement, and through practical resources for healing and change—is to help you be fully qualified for an EFCA credential.

“...After your credential is issued, this questionnaire (both electronic and any hard-copy versions, along with those supplied by your spouse and your church leaders) will be destroyed.”

One of the more difficult responsibilities of the BOMS continues to be ruling on disciplinary issues related to church staff. The good news is that EFCA continues to offer recovery churches
for those who want to be reconciled to those who were impacted by their action even if it never results in a restoration of their credentials.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Schliep, Chair
EFCA Credential Report
January 1 - December 31, 2017

Credentials Issued

5 Year Ministry License:
Mark Askins
Valerie Beck
John Bell
Todd Berge
Joseph Brock
Jedidiah Brown
Robert Brunansky
Frederick Chang
C. Douglas Cormeny
Nathaniel Crawford
Joel Cripe
Richard Culp
Bruce Droogsma
Billie Sue Ellingson
Timothy Etherington
Eric Fadel
Jacob Fierberg
Scott Gaskill
Jordan Gowing
Howard Grobstein
Benjamin Groen
Ryan Groshek
Benjamin Hardee
Linda Harder
Caleb Haynes
Jared Hendricks
Timothy Higgins
Daniel Kerr
Matthew Kim (NVML)
Jeffrey Kliwer
Matthew Knapp

Loren Kolman
Peter LeBlanc
Aaron Leggett
David Manley
Jeremy McAlack
Ethan McLaugherty
Kirstin McEvoy
Douglas Metcalfe
Christopher Middleton
James Morrison
Jonathan Neef
Sarah Powell
Alfredo Rodriguez
James Roland
Adam Sanftner
Andrew Schmeck
Christopher Scott
David Siegrist
Benjamin Sincock
Andrew Spangler
Steven Stepec, III
Karin Stetina
Colton Tatham
David Van Camp
Mathew Waitley
Trevor Wickes
Ryan Wieland
Joshua Williams
Jason Wilson
Karen Winkelman
Peter Younker

Ordinations:
Haddon Anderson
Michael Callahan
Gabriel Coyle
R. Bryan Kane
Jeffrey McCourt

Celso Merlos
Eric Naizer
Albert Powers III
James Thompson
Paul Voltmer
Transfer of Ordination to the EFCA:
Andrew Arliskas
Adrian Boykin
Bryan Brotherton
Brad Bruszer
Jason Lancaster
Philip Pinto
Robert Quintana
David Tetrault

Certificate of Christian Ministry:
Judy Crockett
Sarah Powell

Credential Restored:
David Martin
Nathan Noorlun
Carl (Rick) Schupp

Changes in Credentials

Credential Revoked:
Daniel Edmondson

Credential Placed in Trust for Discipline:
Ryan Caudill
Gil Fruchey
Jason Harms
Dorington Little
Kevin Saegert
Adam Weis
Steven Yeschek

Credential Placed in Trust for Personal Reason:
David Barr
Timothy Batdorf
Steven Clements
James Crawford
David Gish
Nathaniel Gustafson
Michael Jacobson
Paul Johnson
Ryan Johnson
Peter Kamakawiwoole
Michael Mauriello
Robert Niemond
Michael Shields
Carl Sitterud
Joseph Weber
James Wolfe
Michael Yearley

Credential Dropped:
Caleb Hastings
Terrance Kennedy
Joshua Knaub
Mark Olsen
Christopher Rollman
Kevin Williams
Tyson Ziegler

Credential Transferred Out of the EFCA:
None

*Information gathered by EFCA Theology & Credentialing*
EFCA Credential Report
January 1 - December 31, 2018

Credentials Issued

5 Year Ministry License:
Stephen Albi
Paul Anderson
Jack Archer
John Barrow
Timothy Beyer
Terry Biers
Brandon Boulais
Barry Brown
Kurt Brubaker
J. Jason Burrows
Johnathan Caldwell
Jack Capen
Ty Caskey
James Coleman
Jonathan Eckberg
Clayton Edens
Daniel Evans
Kendal Fong
Matthew Frey
Michael Gardenhire
Sarah Graber
Jonathan Greener
David Hammond
Paul Henschel
Jason Heppner
Thomas Herringshaw
Austin Hilmer
Renato Jimenez
Kerry Johnston
Keith Knight
Jason Knoble
Alan Leung
Alan Mercer
Josiah Meyer
Michael Middleton
Kenneth Miller
Scott Nelson
David Nerud
Derek Olson
Nathan Palmer
Robert Plasencia
Gabriel Poncé
Matthew Russell
Marttell Sánchez
Joshua Schwartz
David Shaw
Patrick Shea
Daniel Shields
Ian Shire
Jeffrey Speel
Christopher Stastny
Tyler Stauffer
Jarrod Stichter
James Strecker
Wesley Tarbox
Scott Tibbetts
Christopher Tinault
David Tingley
Kathy Tse
Scott Wade
Caleb White
Robert Wolpert
Brad Wos
Timothy Yorgey
Terrance Zink
## Ordinations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ordination Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Black</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy Cañada</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Denbek</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Ervin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lionel Goo</td>
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<td>Chad Hemphill</td>
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<td>Derek Henricks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Holsinger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright Hua</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Ippolito</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Jarman</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Kennedy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wing Shing Leung</td>
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## Transfer of Ordination to the EFCA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ordination Type</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Constantine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Haslar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Jennerich</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Keena</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bret Martin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Certificate of Christian Ministry:

None

## Credential Restored:

- Theodore Myer
- David Thomas

## Changes in Credentials

## Credential Revoked:

None

## Credential Placed in Trust for Discipline:

- Thomas Latterell
- Ethan McCloud
- Omar Romero

## Credential Placed in Trust for Personal Reason:

- Ellen Abramson
- David Addington
- Bruce Beebout
- Jeremiah Clapper
Brian Conyers
Brett Cushing
Jason Eeten
David Hoffman
Bryan Hull
Thomas Johnston
Frank Manno
Robert Martini
Robert McGaha
Todd Meyerdirk
Mark Reed
John Rosensteel
Michael Schrag
Rubens Silva
Toby Sorrels
Thomas Strong
D. Scott Wagoner
Jonathan Whitford
Wayne Williams

**Credential Dropped:**
Robert Niemond
Adam Tippery
Steven Wolf

**Credential Transferred Out of the EFCA:**
David Asch
Theodore Myer

*Information gathered by EFCA Theology & Credentialing*
ReachGlobal Report

For ReachGlobal, the last two years have been characterized by greater clarity in missional focus and organizational culture. We have grown in alignment with the EFCA movement both nationally and internationally with a mindset of serving the international goals of local churches.

The ReachGlobal Directional Team sets direction and determines strategies for the international mission of the EFCA. The team is led by Brian Duggan, executive vice president of International Ministries under the leadership of EFCA President Kevin Kompelien. The team consists of six senior leaders who bring significant operational and ministry experience to the group. The key purposes of the team include:

- Ensure alignment of ethos with the EFCA
- Stewardship of staff (health deployment and development)
- Administrative functions (recommend and ensure appropriate implementation of policies and establish team and leadership structures.)
- Fulfill the international aspects of the ENDS policy and measures
- Provide counsel to the president and direct the mission under his delegated authority

ReachGlobal serves the EFCA as the international expression of local church’s fulfillment of Great Commission and Great Commandment. The ministries found in the 44 countries where we serve are summarized in these three goals:

- Discipling disciplemakers so that disciples are multiplied
- Extending gospel initiatives that open doors to those who do not know Jesus
- Strengthening, revitalizing and planting churches

Missionaries serve in a variety of ministry expressions, from international schools to graduate seminaries, from café outreach centers to church planter mentoring, from medical training and anti-human-trafficking to formal, non-formal and informal biblical training and of course, in primary church planting. The one focus uniting these ministries: **We invest in disciplemakers to establish the church where the gospel isn’t known.**

ReachGlobal has 589 missionaries in 44 countries with active partnerships in over 40 other countries. ReachGlobal’s collaborative approach opens doors to extending disciplemaking where Americans cannot go, and the gospel being heard and seen where it is not known. Several young people have joined ReachGlobal for two-year commitments which often convert to long-term commitments. We focus on developing and discipling these gifted individuals to understand how God has designed them and is directing their future. We celebrate those who continue into long-term service as well as those who return to their EFCA churches with hearts committed to gospel ministry wherever God plants them.

ReachGlobal Crisis Response serves both internationally with our missionaries and partners domestically with EFCA districts and churches. There were five responses in 2017 assisting 23
EFCA churches and eight responses in 2018 assisting 27 EFCA churches. EFCA churches responded generously in financial giving and sending teams to demonstrate the love of Jesus. 118 EFCA churches sent teams to crisis locations in 2017 and in 2018 EFCA churches sent 206 teams. Currently, there are five active crisis response locations serving thousands impacted by hurricanes and flooding. God truly opens a mission field in the wake of crisis, and He uses Crisis Response to provide a pathway for EFCA churches to show God’s love in practical and impactful ways.

GlobalFingerprints is the child sponsorship program of the EFCA. We partner with national churches around the world to send children to school and help care for their physical, spiritual and emotional needs. Serving as a door into unreached communities, GlobalFingerprints programs support the strengthening, revitalizing and planting of churches by missionaries and national partners. During the last two years, GlobalFingerprints grew in both the number of children sponsored and the number of countries and locations where we partner with the national church. There are over 3,600 sponsored children in 11 countries impacting families and communities in some of the most closed countries globally.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ReachGlobal by the numbers</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries with ReachGlobal residential staff</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People groups served</td>
<td></td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New ReachGlobal Staff</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New churches started</td>
<td>870</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churches strengthened/revitalized</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,664</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crisis Response events</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>EFCA Churches assisted by Crisis Response</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFCA Churches sending teams with Crisis Response</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GlobalFingerprints children sponsored</td>
<td>3372</td>
<td>3602</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2018, over 500 EFCA churches collaborated with ReachGlobal sending teams and participating in outreach efforts both domestically and internationally. We are grateful for the generous support both in finances and people that churches give toward this important work. As the mission arm of the EFCA, we want to serve churches well and provide the best opportunity for sending workers to the harvest. Join us in praying to the Lord of the harvest for more laborers to bring the good news to those who have not heard, to disciple people who will disciple others, and to see new churches multiplied internationally.

Brian Duggan
Executive Vice President of International Ministries
The mission of the EFCA is being lived out across the country in exciting ways. We are committed to see disciplermakers multiplied, the gospel extended into communities, and churches strengthened, revitalized and planted. It is our passion to see this take place among the growing diversity of people in our nation.

Over the past two years, we have seen the Lord work in significant ways to move forward the mission of the EFCA. We have placed significant emphasis on helping EFCA churches through training and coaching. In 2018, over 464 pastors and ministry leaders were involved in various cohorts across the denomination. We held three different Transformational Learning Cohorts for local church leadership. We hosted the third iteration of these cohorts with a total of 73 participants. Additionally, we are in the process of certifying coaches who will take the training back to their districts and implement the concept of multiplication by beginning their own cohorts.

Like the learning cohorts, the ReachStudents Council has been coaching youth leaders for several years. In the last three years, we have developed 10 youth leader disciplermaking cohorts held virtually three times a year. We also have established 22 coaching networks for student ministries leaders across the EFCA.

The All People ministry hosted six Hispanic Pastors Gatherings and facilitated two Second Language Service cohorts. Additionally, one community development cohort was hosted with 55 leaders participating.

We continue to invest in the next generation of leaders. Close to 1,500 leaders have participated in affordable theological education through GATEWAY in 175 locations across the country. Through Apex, 325 students have gained ministry experience in new cultures in 40 locations around the world over the past two years.

In July 2018, the Challenge conference brought together 4,294 attendees focusing on the theme “Bold Moves.” This biennial youth event provides an environment of significant spiritual impact resulting in new believers, repentant believers, and many activated to mission. Challenge creates an environment that models one EFCA—the combined efforts of national, international, district and local leaders together focused on the next generation. This strategic event creates partnership and collaboration among EFCA ministries such as Apex, ReachGlobal, Trinity International University and Christian Investors Financial.

Coaching and peer learning also occur in non-formal venues where EFCA national office leadership assists by convening affinity groups of local church pastors, staff and leaders. These include groups of lead pastors, executive pastors, missions pastors, worship leaders, children’s ministry leaders and district superintendents. We convened 271 individuals through various gatherings and networks in 2018, and 269 ministry leaders participated in 2017. Fritz Dale has given leadership to prayer ministry initiatives across the EFCA through a variety of interactions and equipping of leaders in several districts.
The Church Multiplication Team, led by Andrew Hoffman, recently added Scott Sterner from the Forest Lakes District as a part-time leader. The full team consists of district church planters from across the denomination tasked with helping plant new churches in each EFCA district.

On October 7, 2018, the first Church Multiplication Sunday was held across the EFCA movement uniting churches around the theme of “Pray to the Lord of the Harvest.” The goal was to have 50,000 people praying for church planting, and from anecdotal evidence we believe we reached that goal. Simultaneously, Hispanic leaders in our movement introduced Cosecha, a church planting initiative in Spanish with the goal to double the number of EFCA Hispanic churches by 2025.

The Church Multiplication Team has seen tremendous growth as it reviews best practices for church planting in various ministry contexts. The team is using a new cohort-driven church planting training called “Multiply” which has great promise for successful planting. We continue to use the existing church planting bootcamp materials in some districts, allowing each district to determine which curriculum works best for their ministry context.

Our commitment remains strong to see ministry grow among “all people” across America. Thirty percent of EFCA church plants are ethnic or multicultural and 23.9% of EFCA churches are multicultural. Alex Mandes gives leadership to the All People Ministry which continues to have significant impact on EFCA churches across the country. In 2018, the ministries include 313 ethnic or multicultural churches, 72 second language services, 14 immigrant churches, 13 multicultural church plants, 178 community development ministries, and 56 cohort groups. Through the ministry of Immigrant Hope almost 3,500 immigrants were served in 2018.

This past year has been one of significant change in leadership staff in EFCA national ministries. In July of 2017, Brian Cole, executive vice president of ministries, was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer. Brian’s role included giving leadership to our national ministries team. He officially stepped away from his role at the end of the first quarter of 2019. Shane Stacey resigned last summer to go back to ministry in a local church following a decade of effective leadership of ReachStudents. This winter Justin Wevers, who served at New Hope Church in Minneapolis, was hired as director of student ministries. This spring, Steven Weathers resigned from the All People Ministry team to pursue his academic work towards a Ph.D. in intercultural studies, and Fritz Dale announced that he will retire later this year after more than 13 years of ministry at the national office. I am extremely thankful to the Lord for Brian, Shane, Steven and Fritz and the impact they have had in the EFCA.

We are trusting the Lord to move in significant ways in the years ahead.

Kevin Kompelien, EFCA President
Interim National Ministries Leader
Operations

The mission of Operations is to provide EFCA pathways to multiply transformational churches among all people. We support the EFCA national office, staff, missionaries, donors, churches and districts by providing exceptional service in the areas of Accounting, Human Resources, Information Technology, Donor Services, Events, Administration, and ReachGlobal Operations. We answer many questions posed by church administrators and provide best practices to help them effectively manage church operations.

The Accounting team ensures that financial results are reported accurately, staff and vendors are paid in a timely way, and missionaries have access to funds needed for ministry. The EFCA’s auditors, BKD, issued a clean opinion for the combined financial statements for 2017 and 2018, which can be found in the financial section of these reports. The EFCA remains a member in good standing with the ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability), providing assurance to donors, churches, and outside parties that the EFCA’s finances are stewarded according to strict and appropriate standards.

Risk assessment and mitigation continues to be a high priority with a team meeting regularly to evaluate and review financial, legal, operational, and reputational risks, and developing appropriate mitigating strategies. EFCA operations and foundation investments are managed by a board-appointed Investment Committee which contracts with Syntrinsic Investment Counsel for strategic and day-to-day investment transactions. Both the committee and the investment management firm operate according to a board-approved Investment Policy.

The Human Resources and Office Services teams care for our staff and facilities to enable staff to work effectively and comfortably. We hired 19 new and replacement staff in 2017 and 2018 and coordinated benefits to meet medical and other family needs. We also led the remodeling of the second floor to update the EFCA national office workspace.

The Information Technology team empowers our staff of approximately 800 (national and international) to enhance their ministry activities and stay connected to the support systems in place through the effective use of technology.

We are thankful for the 32,495 individual and organizational donors who gave in 2017 and 2018. This includes support from 1,161 Evangelical Free Churches. The Donor Services team frequently assists churches and donors with the process of receiving stock transfers, land, and other unusual gifts.

The Events team supports the EFCA through event leadership and consulting, including the movement-wide annual Theology Conference, 2017 EFCA One conference and 2018 Challenge conference. In addition, we executed nine affinity gatherings and four ReachGlobal division conferences in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe.

The Administration team assists churches with federal tax-exempt status and helps find resources for various tax and business-related issues. We track EFCA assets globally and provide insurance to mitigate risk.
The ReachGlobal operations team includes recruitment, onboarding, training, member care, financial operations, medical, and crisis services to help our missionaries serve effectively in the United States and around the world. In 2017 and 2018, we trained and deployed 76 new missionaries for service and trained 52 team leaders in coaching their teams.

Carole Lehn
Executive Vice President of Operations
Ministry Advancement and Communications

The strategic and tactical alignment between Ministry Advancement and Communications has worked well for the EFCA as several synergistic efforts have begun to take life. Our Ministry Advancement team of three is responsible for the EFCA Foundation, FairShare, National Ministry Fund and Global Vision Partners (now called EFCA Fund), and a new giving category called the President’s Circle. The Communications team continues to find creative ways to share the vision and mission of the EFCA accentuating the many ways churches, districts and ReachGlobal ministries share the good news of Jesus Christ. The combined efforts of Advancement and Communications, working on behalf of the entirety of the EFCA, has continued to grow our web presence and social media channels with relevant content for constituents. Engaging graphic and video production materials tell the powerful stories of God’s work within the EFCA. Our publications of the EFCA Update, Partners with the President, the EFCA Blog and the host of social media streams are individually and collectively experiencing enhanced engagement.

During the 2017-2018 calendar years, 65% of EFCA churches provided support for national office ministries. FairShare contributed approximately 28% of funding for the ministries of the national office. FairShare is the commitment of EFCA churches to support the denomination by providing 1% of their revenue to the EFCA national office and a corresponding or larger percentage to support their district. The consistent and intentional contributions of most churches across the movement is a strong affirmation of the value of denominational alignment, rooted in our Statement of Faith and the strong conviction that we are better together. We are grateful for the churches who have supported ministries and we ask that those member churches who are currently not supporting their district and the national office would consider doing so in upcoming fiscal years.

The Ministry Advancement and Communications teams continue to work closely with the president and President’s Council to serve churches and EFCA ministries—providing the link between frontline ministries and the development of current and future resources to support the national office infrastructure. The past two years have seen the benefits of many years of EFCA Foundation donor cultivation as several estate gifts were received directly benefiting EFCA churches, ReachGlobal, Trinity International University and national office ministries. The EFCA Forward campaign was brought to a close with a total of $1,900,000 raised allowing us to enhance our technology and web presence, support a number of key ReachGlobal initiatives, cultivate the next generation of EFCA leadership and intentionally invest in urban centers of ministry where mass numbers of people far from God are moving both in the United States and across the globe.

Respectfully submitted,

Garth Warren
Chief Development and Communications Officer
The 2017-18 and 2018-19 years, overall, have been good ones for Trinity International University. We are grateful indeed for God’s kindness, blessings, and favor in so many ways to the Trinity community. Below are a few highlights:

- Trinity’s relationship with all aspects of the EFCA continued to be strengthened.
- Trinity welcomed numerous EFCA-related events to campus, including the Theology Conference in the winter of 2019.
- Trinity opened a new site for the work in Florida at the Calvary Chapel in Fort Lauderdale.
- Enrollment at the Trinity Law School exceeded 300.
- Trinity was blessed to receive major funding from the Kern Foundation to support the Center for Transformational Churches (Donald Guthrie, executive director).
- Trinity continues to advance the efforts related to the urban and intercultural ministry project (led by Peter Cha), funded by the Lilly Endowment.
- Trinity’s Creation Project has been the source of important conversations and serious research on the biblical doctrine of creation. The Templeton Foundation has committed another $4.2 million to the project for the year ahead.
- The Trinity Music Department took a group of student musicians to minister and serve in Europe as a part of the *Soli Gloria Deo* initiative.
- Trinity’s faculty continued to lead the way with award-winning publications.
- Founders’ Day Lectures featured John Kilner and David Gustafson.
- The Leadership Program at Trinity College continued to thrive.
- Trinity’s Korean D. Min. Program, taught in Korean and located in Seoul, South Korea now has nearly 100 students (led by Jay Noh). Seventeen students completed their degrees in May.
- The Paul Hiebert Center for Global Theology and World Christianity (led by Tite Tienou, Peter Cha, and others) continued Trinity global evangelical emphases.
- The "Heritage and Hope: Trinity 2023" strategic plan has brought a sense of unified purpose and direction for the entire institution. More than one-half of the 100 initiatives in the Plan have already been accomplished.

These are just a few of the many highlights on the Trinity campus over the past two years. For God’s grace and kindness to Trinity, we are abundantly thankful, and for the ongoing relationship with and encouragement from the churches and people of the EFCA, we are truly grateful. We are especially grateful to those churches who have specified a “Trinity Sunday” on their calendar as well as to those churches who continue to encourage their students to pursue their education at Trinity.

Faithfully,

David S. Dockery, President
Trinity Western University

The extraordinary story of Trinity Western University began with the Evangelical Free Churches of Canada and America. As Canada’s premier Christian university, TWU now serves more than 4,000 students with over 40 undergraduate degrees and more than 15 graduate programs. TWU is committed to inspiring hearts and minds as it prepares people for the marketplaces of life. Latest news from TWU:

- This spring, 573 graduates received their diplomas at TWU’s 57th commencement ceremony—our largest graduating class so far.
- Following three consecutive years of growth in undergraduate enrolment, the fall 2019 application pool is the largest in TWU’s history. In fall 2018, our incoming class of 708 was the largest in 12 years.
- Graduate program enrolment has seen growth from both domestic and international student populations and, for 2018/19 academic year, was at an all-time high at 438 incoming students—up by 51% from 2017/18.
- The university continues to evidence strong financial growth, with tuition revenues having increased by more than 10% over last year and total revenues exceeding $100,000,000 for the first time in its history. We have also significantly reduced bank debt again this year.
- In 2018/19 TWU faculty and students received $2,468,848 in total external funding for research projects and related infrastructure, while the university provided an additional $38,406 in research funding from departmental budgets.
- TWU Spartans celebrated four championship teams this season. Men’s volleyball team won the U Sports National Championship, men’s hockey won BCIHL champions, and women’s volleyball and women’s soccer took home titles of Canada West Champions.
- Our men’s and women’s hockey teams were officially voted in to join the Canada West conference by 2020, elevating TWU’s hockey teams to Canada’s top tier of university sports.
- In April 2019 Spartan Athletics hired a new men’s basketball team head coach, Trevor Pridie, former assistant coach for the Toronto Raptors 905.
- In December of 2018 we announced that with a unanimous decision by the Board of Governors our next TWU President, Dr. Mark Husbands. In May, Dr. Husbands and his wife Becky visited the campus in preparation for taking up the role of President at TWU on July 2, 2019.
- Bob Kuhn’s presidency came to a close end of April. He was honoured by the school with the title President Emeritus, and our new building will be named the Robert G. Kuhn Building.
- As of May 1, TWU Extension has restructured as GLOBAL. This organizational change will help us serve the evolving needs of international and lifelong learners and support projected growth.
- Jacobson Hall, one of two new residence halls, was completed in September 2018, just in time for the largest incoming class in 12 years.
• We achieved our goal of raising $25 million one year ahead of schedule and are preparing to construct our next new building in early 2020 that will house the School of Business and TWU GLOBAL.

Pray for TWU
• Pray for our leadership as they make decisions in response to needs for Christian options in the Canadian university landscape.
• Pray that each initiative is developed with wisdom and marked by excellence.
• Pray for our new president, Mark Husbands, as he moves back to Canada and transitions into his new role.

Give to TWU
• If the Lord lays TWU on your heart and you feel led to make a donation, please visit twu.ca/donate. For information on establishing a scholarship or bursary, or for information about other giving opportunities, please contact Patricia Cuff, Executive Director of Development, at patricia.cuff@twu.ca.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Trinity Western University! We owe so much to our Evangelical Free Church family. Without you, we could never have come this far in uniquely serving our Lord.

Trinity Western University
Allegheny District

The Allegheny District continues to passionately pursue the mission of multiplying transformational churches among all people. We strive to encourage, equip, and resource churches and leaders, toward this mission.

As a district, we focus on providing leadership and resources in the following areas: church health, church planting, pastoral care, stewardship, structure, and communication. These six areas provide guidance and direction for district strategies and initiatives.

Over the past two years, our regional pastor’s groups have focused on the life of Christ and His disciplemaking methods, and LifeFlow church health materials. There has been an emphasis to work with elder teams to discover what healthy elder teams and practices look like. The district has invested in multiple leadership teams through retreats and training events. Our Allegheny District webpage has a listing of workshops and training events that we provide to our churches.

The district has five men who serve on the Constitution and Credentialing Board. This board serves the district by overseeing the credentialing process and Constitution and By-law reviews of churches. We adopted Living Stone Community Church in Washington, Pennsylvania, as an EFCA Church.

To multiply transformational churches among all people we need to stay focused on church planting. Ronnie Martin, Pastor at Substance Church, Ashland, Ohio serves as our part-time Church Planting Director. Ronnie serves on the EFCA national church multiplication team. We currently have one new church plant and are in discussions with several others.

The Allegheny District believes healthy churches must have healthy pastors and leaders. We continue to offer our annual Pastor’s and Wives Retreat, Stay Sharp theological conference, regional pastor’s gatherings, and Annual Conferences.

The Allegheny District is made up of 34 churches across parts of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New York. Current information about the Allegheny District can be found at allegheny.efcadistrict.org.

May God find us faithful in spreading the gospel till He returns!

In Christ,

Jeff K. Powell
District Superintendent
Central District

Two words describe our current ministry and as we look to the future: committed and centered. As a district, we are fully committed to our personal and church callings. We as individuals and churches have a responsibility to prepare ourselves and churches to be the best possible servants of God in a challenging world.

The second word, centered, is a reminder that our anchor is Jesus Christ and we are to have a clear “centered” focus on the gospel and all that it entails. As I take a moment to look back over where the Lord has taken us these past two years, these items stand out. Church Planting and Adoptions: We added Bethesda Church of St. Louis in March of 2019. Church Planting led by Mark Doss and Al Frank has been and remains a high priority for us and we currently have 10 recognized plants and projects in the pipeline. But the area where we are focused upon with increasing commitment these past two years has been in our multi-cultural ministry led by Brad Wos. Brad has identified 32 Multi-cultural planting and prayer projects, all of which have a leader. He has already established a pastor pipeline for our Hispanic ministry and is developing ministry among many of the nations that are coming and settling in the United States.

We remain committed and centered on the health and discipleship of all the churches we work with in our district. Larry Austin leads this ministry in creative ways that not only help churches and pastors to understand and define discipleship, but by providing creative ministry opportunities to train and equip pastors in developing disciples who make other disciples in a multiplies way. We also have developed an infrastructure of affinity groups that allow the pastors we serve to develop strong relational connections and mature peer to peer learning environments.

We also are committed to our support ministries that bring new levels of strength to our churches. We are deeply blessed to have the largest and best equipped church camp in our ministry area. Hidden Acres has grown to have an overnight capacity of almost 1,000 beds and a dining hall that can feed up to 1,000 at one time. Director Steve Pinkley is doing a superb job as leader. We are reaching record numbers of summer campers and year-round retreaters. Rock River Retreat, led by Casey Danley, is our smaller 100-acre site that specializes in quieter, more contemplative retreat experiences. Both these facilities are helping our churches center on what is eternally important. Our Westhaven Retirement Community Continuum Care Center is a blessing for our Seniors.

A change this year is that I have announced my retirement effective March 2020. I am now in my 21st year of serving this district and it has been my honor to do so. I have no doubt that the district will remain committed and centered on their calling for years to come, should the Lord tarry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Calvin Swan
District Superintendent
Eastern District

In the Eastern District, our main three priorities are leader care, church health and ministry multiplication. We do many things but they all lineup under one of these three priorities. Thankfully, over the last few years we have been pleased to see growth in each of these areas.

From the fall of 2017 through the summer of 2018, our staff team and district board began to work through the vision frame process that was shared by our national EFCA office. We spent a good deal of time talking about our mission to multiply transformational churches among all people along with our vision, values, metrics and strategies.

In order to best accomplish the vision and fulfill our mission, we decided to rethink the staff structure and begin to plan our budget and staff more intentionally to accomplish the goals before us. Practically speaking, one of the biggest changes that has been made has been that we’ve gone from being a centralized team of a few full-time staff to a de-centralized, geographically dispersed, part-time staff spread across our district. We have added two part time staff members to our pastor support team who work along with their wives and our pastor support director, Jack Kroeze and his wife, Eva. Together, they are providing improved support for the clusters of pastors. We will continue to build on this foundation so that our pastors and leaders live and lead well.

Additionally, we have added David Boerema to lead our NextGEN ministry, Tony Balsamo to lead our Eastern District Multiply Team, and Josh Ott to be our Online Ministry Director.

We have hosted a Marriage Retreat for 50 district leaders and their spouses, an Elder Training event, a Theology Refresher, a one-day Preaching Seminar with Dr. Abraham Kuruvilla, a one day Mission Summit with District, National and International leaders, and many other events that are specific to our staff team members.

Overall, we are very grateful for the growth we see in both the support we give our pastors and leaders and the opportunities for growth that we provide to help with church leadership.

One of the ministries we are most encouraged by is our online ministry, https://edamove.com. Through this ministry we provide social media communication, weekly blogs, podcasts from District leaders, and we are beginning to build online courses that will be available for our leaders to use in their local context.

We have added several new churches:

- The Hill Church, Roanoke, VA – Charles Wilson
- Trinity International Church, Huntingdon Valley, PA – Azhar Alam
- Redemption Hill Church, Mastic, NY – Jonathan Bernor
- Edge City Church, New Hyde Park, NY – Stephen Na
- Resurgence Church, Manorville, NY – Michael Gerhauser
- Commitment in Espanola, Lindenwold, NJ – Jose Torres, Juan Ramirez
- Cornerstone Spanish Ministry, Easton, PA – Jonny Villamar
We have had a couple of church closings and one church that disassociated with the EFCA.

It is our belief that God wants our district to be a vibrant part of the overall EFCA mission to multiply transformational churches among all people.

For His Glory,

Eddie Cole
Eastern District Superintendent
EFCA Southeast

*We exist to glorify God by establishing an increasing number of disciplemaking churches of biblical integrity and spiritual vitality marked by the distinctives of the EFCA.*

**Better Together:** We are a Gospel-centered movement seeking to be a catalyst for multiplying disciples and churches so that together we can see lives and communities transformed for God’s glory. What a privilege to partner with so many, committed to so much.

**Current Church Status:** We number nine states, 73 churches, 14 church plants, 13 church planting *projects,* and a dozen church planting *prospects* we’re pursuing. One-third of us are bivocational. 50% of our church plants/projects are ethnic or multi-ethnic. 15% of our churches are ethnic or multiethnic. We enjoy nine Haitian pastors, six African American pastors, six Hispanic pastors, and three Asian pastors. 90% of us are on the centerline or in the eastern half of the district. Half of our churches are in Florida. There is still no EFCA church in Mississippi (we’re working on it).

**Staff Team:** Xochitl Cachon, as our new administrator, watches over the details of our expansive ministry. Bruce Redmond directs our church planting with the help of several regional catalysts. Bruce’s wife, Jackie, continues to avail herself to churches as our Women’s Mobilizer. Hugo Concha, our Director de Ministerios Hispanos, has significantly enlarged our capacity to minister to the Spanish-speaking communities of the Southeast.

**Church Affiliation:** New City Church - Charlotte, North Carolina

**District Structure:** With the EFCA national bylaws being amended to allow direct alignment of a district with the national organization, our district voted to do so. We made the official transition on April 1, 2018. It is now a year later and it’s easy to say that this new alignment has been everything we had hoped for, strategically and relationally.

**Financial Times:** As our district movement continues to gain momentum, we do appreciate the sacrificial giving that so many have provided. We continue to meet our budget and continue to trust God to expand our footprint of influence. May the Lord continue to show His favor.

**SEDCON 19:** Our Southeast District Conference this year was held in February at Ridgecrest Conference Center in Ridgecrest, North Carolina. We had several presenters bring their uniquely inspired messages. Notably, Brad Brinson and Bart Pederson of our Two Rivers Church in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Transitions:** As more and more of our pastors reach retirement age, several of our churches have made very healthy (and creative) transitions allowing new and younger leadership to emerge. Other churches are in preparation for these transitions of their own.

**New Initiatives:**
- The Normal Church Network - an annual gathering of our pastors serving churches of under 250.
• Montgomery Moves Me - tours of the slavery museum and lynching memorial in Montgomery.
• Venezuela Partnership - ministry teaming with the president of the EvFree churches of Venezuela.

It continues to be an absolute privilege to serve the Lord together with you. May God continue to bless the EFCA for His glory and honor.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Schrieber
Superintendent
We were thrilled last year to see the addition of Jaime Roy on our staff as Communications & Organizational Specialist. Her job is to help our church plants with branding, websites, and communication. She also serves the District in this area as well. Pastor Manuel Abarca Saez was added to our staff in a part-time role as our Director of Hispanic Church planting. We have quickly seen the addition of several new Spanish-speaking church planters in our District!

Over the past two years, we have had eighteen church plants in process. We are encouraged to have six sending churches looking to hire residents to plant out in the future. In addition, we have seen five of our churches move into new facilities or campuses, and six others plan to do so this year.

We voted to remove five churches from our District: OakCreek Bible Church in League City, Texas closed as Pastor Mike Bauer and others left to plant Disciple Together Fellowship, a micro church in the same area; Anointed Fellowship Bible Church in Lancaster, Texas merged with Bibleway Bible Church; The Gathering in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Believers Bible Church in Corsicana, Texas; and Zion Church of Kurten in Kurten, Texas all left the District.

In February 27% of our district churches signed a covenant to join our Multiplying Together Initiative, which is a multiplication network within our district. They have committed to living a multiplying life, and seeing their churches multiplying disciples, leaders, and reproducing churches every three to five years. They have further committed to giving 3% of their budgets to their own multiplication as well as 1% to support the EFCA National Office and 2% to support the District Office. Katie Arnold, our Director of Ministry Effectiveness who helps our churches multiply disciples, leaders and churches leads this initiative. She also serves on the national EFCA Church Multiplication Team.

Tom Thomas serves as our Credentialing Coordinator leading our DBOMS team; and Tim Rowley is our representative on the national Student Ministries Council and gives leadership to district student ministries. My wife, JoAnn, provides part-time administrative support for me and the district. We also have several Pastors who facilitate our Healthy Church Pastors’ Networks and serve on our church planting team. We appreciate the help of each of these individuals and their contribution!

Our vision is to have healthy churches which multiply at every level (believers, growing disciples, workers, leaders, disciplmakers both local and global, and churches or campuses). We want every church to be a parent church, partner church or participating church when it comes to church planting. We firmly believe that the single most effective evangelistic methodology under heaven is planting new churches, which in turn plant other new churches.

We are better together, and we have a wonderful spirit in our district. I praise God for our board, churches, pastors, church planters and their families who are sacrificially working together to help us multiply transformational churches among all people. The future looks bright and I am convinced that the best days of EFCA Texas-Oklahoma are still ahead!
Warmly,

Dr. Bob Rowley
District Superintendent
EFCA West

It isn’t every day that one gets to write a “final” annual report, but after 29 years of leading this district, so it is. I assumed this role on January 1 of 1991, following the legendary Dr. Wallace Norling, who served as the first District Superintendent of the Southwest District from 1966 through December 31, 1990. While 30 years of service would have been a nice round number, it is time for a new leader to bring fresh energy and visional clarity to this role. The scheduled date for a leadership transfer is December 31, 2019. Lord willing, by the time you read this, we will be well on our way to discovering who this next leader is.

For purposes of documentation, I should probably summarize that the Southwest District underwent a radical change of structure and governance beginning in 2000 and culminating in 2002. This resulted in the merging of four districts (Southwest, Southwest Border, Central California, and Intermountain) to form EFCA West, which in turn led to the addition of a “Clause B” to the national EFCA constitution and By-laws. In essence, a Clause B district has no district board, but answers directly to the national Board of Directors and the President of the EFCA. An additional result of the change was to modify our structure to one of an enlarged team of “specialists” who serve over 200 congregations out of their special gifts, experience, and passion. We prefer to believe that the simple difference has been that more churches have been served better than would have been possible through a one-man traditional district structure. At this writing, the EFCA West district team consists of 5 fulltime and 3 part-time staff, and 1 volunteer member, as follows: 1) A fulltime District Superintendent (Steve Highfill), 2) A fulltime Director of Pastoral Care and Credentialing (Paul Schliep), 3) A fulltime Director of All Peoples Ministries (Alex Rivero), 4) A fulltime Director of Administration (Xochitl Cachon), 5) A fulltime Director of Resource Development (Bret Bremberg), 6) A part-time Director of Church Health (Bob Osborne), 7) A part-time Director of Church Multiplication (Tim Jacobs), 8) A part-time Director of Hispanic Ministries (Ruben Navarrete), and 9) A volunteer Director of Women in Leadership (Linda Bishop).

While the following numbers do not tell the entire story, they are important for the records. In the past two years, EFCA West has:

- Helped through either funding or leadership assistance 21 Church Plants
- Funded 12 Church Planters with a total of $158,500 in salary subsidies
- Granted 23 5-year Ministerial Licenses
- Granted 4 Certificates of Ordination
- Granted 3 Transfers for Ordination
- Formally Affiliated 6 new churches (both incoming and promoted church plants)
- Removed or closed 4 churches
- A total of 230 congregations, of which:
  - 9 are Asian as second language
  - 2 are “Deaf” defined as second language
  - 17 are Hispanic as second language
2 are multi-cultural with 2 or more primary ethnicities
1 is African American
the remainder are either undefined or English speaking, predominantly Caucasian
- Approximately 67,432 weekly attendees

Words cannot come close to capturing my thoughts as I step out of this role. Back in 1978, I intentionally chose the EFCA family/movement as a place to strategically invest a life of ministry. I have never regretted that decision. While I pray and hope that I have many years yet to serve our Lord Jesus, I also pray that this 4-decade season of partnership with an innumerable list of ministry friends and partners under the umbrella of the Evangelical Free Church of America will be seen by God as worthy of blessing, and of use to His eternal purposes. To God be the glory.

Steve Highfill
Forest Lakes District

Our Missional Vision:
We exist to strengthen our member churches so that together we may multiply transformational churches among all peoples.

Our Strategic Values:
- Connect: Create environments for relationships.
- Equip: Offer resources and training.
- Multiply: Support the multiplication of disciples, leaders, and churches.

We desire to see a Gospel-preaching congregation within 25 miles of every person in Wisconsin and the UP of Michigan. We also have a member congregation in Dubuque, IA and partnership with a plant in Berlin, Germany.

Multiplication Mission:
We support planters & churches in planting disciple-making, transformational, & multiplying congregations throughout the FLD.

Multiplication Values:
- Gospel Centered: We embrace the Gospel as the power of God to save & transform.
- Prayer Dependent: We are a Spirit-filled people who prayerfully depend on the Lord.
- Multiplication Driven: We are committed to multiply disciples, leaders, & churches.
- Diverse: We unite in Christ as an increasingly diverse people.
- Collaborative: We support one another as a community of leaders & churches.
- Innovative: We encourage a culture of innovation & creativity.
In addition to Jon Payne, our District Superintendent, and Rob Weise, Student & Family Ministries and District Events, our FLD ministry staff team has also grown to include:
- Scott Sterner as Church Multiplication Catalyst full time as of August 1,
- Marcus Constantine as Connection & Communication Catalyst as of August 7,
- Brian Thorstad as Church Leadership Catalyst as of September 1.
We thank the Lord for how He has brought together our team and look forward to how God will work through us to minister to the leaders and churches in our district toward greater disciple-making fruitfulness!

We hosted our 2018 Fall Conference at Blackhawk Church, Madison on October 8. Larry Osborne spoke on his new book *Lead Like Shepherd*, and we had 260 ministry leaders attend from 60 churches. Our 34th Annual Districts Youth Conference was held in Green Bay on January 4-6 with 4,500 attendees from 107 youth groups. Our theme was “A Story Worth Living.” We hosted our 34th Annual FLD Spring Conference at Highland Community in Wausau. This year's theme: “I Will Build My Church” (Matt. 16:18) reinforced the promise that Christ will build His Church as we pray, follow His lead, and make disciples.

Over the past two years, we saw 2 church closures. Through adoption, multi-site, and plants becoming established congregations, we have seen 31 FLD congregations added.

Your brother in Christ,
Jon Payne
Great Lakes District

Effective District Strategy in Two Words

The EFCA and Will Mancini, author of Church Unique, asked a plenary meeting of superintendents: “How would you describe the role of the EFCA District in two words?” We brainstormed to an agreement: Catalyzing Multiplication.

Multiplication is at the heart of our mission statement. The EFCA exists to glorify God by multiplying transformational churches among all people. The GLD casts the vision, shares our stories, offers training opportunities, and empowers:

- Disciples who make disciples who make disciples
- Small group leaders who apprentice leaders to multiply groups
- Staff who apprentice and coach ministry leaders to multiply staff
- Elders who apprentice elders and send elders to multiply churches
- Pastors who apprentice pastors who multiply pastors and churches
- Movement leaders who multiply movement leaders

What is a catalyst? Catalysts create new connections without fusing to that reaction. “Take nitrogen and hydrogen... and put them in a container, close the lid, and nothing happens. But, add ordinary iron (the catalyst) and you’ll get ammonia and ammonia doesn’t have any iron in it-it’s made solely of hydrogen and nitrogen... “In open organizations, a catalyst is one who initiates a circle and then fades away into the background” (Brafman and Beckstrom, Starfish and the Spider, 91-92).

Brafman and Beckstrom clarify: “While both are leader types, catalysts and CEOs draw upon very different tools. A CEO is The Boss. He’s in charge, and he occupies the top of the hierarchy. A catalyst interacts with people as a peer. He comes across as your friend. Because CEOs are at the top of the pyramid, they lead by command-and-control. Catalysts, on the other hand, depend on trust.... CEOs must be rational; their job is to create shareholder value. Catalysts depend on emotional intelligence; their job is to create personal relationships. CEOs are powerful and directive; they’re at the helm. Catalysts are inspirational and collaborative; they... urge people to work together to make an ideology a reality. Having power puts CEOs in the limelight. Catalysts avoid the attention and tend to work behind the scenes. (129).”

To be closer to our 200 churches, our district has regional (30-50 churches) and area (10-15 churches) superintendents working closely with our church planting director, our administrative staff and our superintendent. Without becoming part of a committee, we catalyze search committees seeking a new pastor. When we are invited, we catalyze elder boards to end conflicts and discover new direction. We cast vision and catalyze our gifted leaders to create new mentoring groups for leaders. We create conferences. We share our stories. We organize critical training to accomplish your church’s mission. We catalyze churches for church planting providing proven systems like assessment, coaching, training and support team building. We build trust, strengthen relationships, release resources, and discover that interdependent churches are better together.
Some say denominations are dying out like the dinosaurs. Our experience is that districts create critical connections local churches as we contribute our unique value proposition that can be summarized into seven critical areas.

1 Catalyze Church Planting
A Church Planting Director oversees our ACTS system of Assessment/Coaching/Training/Sending. District receive churches into our the EFCA.

2 Care for all the churches
“Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches” (2 Corinthians 11:28). Our District Staff Team prays for our churches, builds trusting relationships, equips effective searches, facilitates credentialing, and our Superintendents comes quickly when asked for help.

3 Connect our pastors and wives
Our Superintendent Team frames 17 ministerial and mentoring groups across five states so that no pastor is left alone as we are “shepherds of the shepherds” and catalysts for Gospel and Great Commission ministry.

4 Consult with church boards
Pastoral transitions are the greatest time a district can serve a church. We recommend interims, introduce tools www.ministerconnection.net connect to EFCA recovery churches, and coach strategic planning.

5 Cross Cultural Ministries
Our Hispanic Leadership Team led by Pastor Ricardo Palmerin serves our 20 Hispanic congregations and Bill Reed serves 15 multi-/ethnic churches.

6 Conferences
The annual GLD District Conference connects us to new and old friends, contributions critical training, shares our story, and makes critical decisions.

7 Communication
The GLD Monthly Briefing tells our story and gives future opportunities.
Hawaii District

According to Revelation 16:20, you may not want to be living on an island when the end times come our way. However, in the meantime, it is not the worst option out there.

One benefit of island life is the relational nature of the culture. There is a higher priority put on who we are, rather than what we are. Another benefit is the incredible ethnic mix that is everywhere you go. The “All People” piece of our EFCA mission does not seem to be as complicated here as it might be in other places. It is a blessing not really knowing who the minority is.

We have tried to maintain healthy relationships with quarterly prayer fellowships with all our pastors. We have also been blessed to have our pastors’ wives hold their own retreat for a time of openness and prayer. Our pastors and wives’ retreats make for an honest time of sharing, regarding some of the ministry challenges that we have in common.

Our pastors, who also form our District Board, have decided to try and turn our quarterly gatherings into less of a “business” time and into a more of a transparent sharing time. We hope that by dealing with as much of the work ahead of time as possible, we will create more time to strengthen our community, when we get together.

To help us serve our nine churches (seven on Oahu and two on the neighbor islands), we have brought on staff, Pastor Steve Knapp, as District Director of Pastoral Care. He jumped in immediately helping put together our annual conference, which celebrated 50 years of EFCA ministry in the Hawaiian Islands. He also blessed us with a touching video reflecting on God multiplied His church over the past fifty years. During the celebration, President Kevin Kompelien brought a strong word of encouragement and challenge, even though he did refuse to participate in the fire-dance.

We concluded our six-year commitment to the Kairos Project. This was a co-operative partnership of our District churches to help train pastor and church planters in Southeast Asia. We spent the first three years in Vietnam and concluded with these last three years in Myanmar. After concluding, our contacts have asked if Margie Campbell could come back again, and specifically help teach a large group of the pastors’ wives. At this point, we are waiting for some local fighting to subside to see if we will be able to return.

Finally, after seventeen years as District Superintendent, I have challenged one of our younger pastors to consider stepping into this role when I step down in two more years. I have got to get off this island before the end times.

Bruce Campbell
District Superintendent
Midwest District

Within the MWD (Midwest District) and across the nation there is an amazing amount of training and information to be found in most any area of church ministry. Continuing to grow in our knowledge and practical application of ministry is essential. However, we (MWD Staff) are seeking to also serve more strongly in the pastoral role — providing for and encouraging a true, more personal close walk with Jesus for our pastors and church leaders. We do want our churches to reach their own unique mission/vision. But we desire with these accomplishments that our leaders stay on the path of righteousness and more brightly reflect the light of Jesus in their lives (from Proverbs 4:18).

A few highlights from the past couple of years would be: 1) our TRANSFORM conferences (annual conferences), with challenging speakers, training seminars, corporate worship and just great fellowship with one another continue to be very encouraging; 2) Seeking to invest in our pastors/wives, we were able to provide reimbursements for housing and meals for all who were able to attend a Weekend to Remember Conference in 2018; 3) A 7th Pastoral Cluster was added to the MWD, providing a closer EFC pastor gathering for 12 of our churches; 4) Bringing in Pastor David Santos from Mexico to help serve Hispanic works in both Lexington and Broken Bow (NE) will be a great asset.

The MWD presently has 99 churches and 105 different congregations (including satellites and/or separate campuses). For 2017-18:

Churches closed or moved out of the EFCA
- Second Wind, Valentine, Nebraska
- Rosehill EFC, Newman Grove, Nebraska
- Redemption Church (plant), Wichita, Kansas
- RiverPoint Church, Newton, Kansas
- Polk EFC, Polk, Nebraska
- Vox Dei Community Church, Belton, Missouri
- Libre Evangelica Iglesias Fe Eficaz, Nebraska City, Nebraska

Granted Autonomy
- Louisville EFC, Louisville, Nebraska

Presently we have one new campus starting this (2019) fall; one Hispanic plant in process and three non-EFCA churches considering joining with the EFCA MWD. We are encouraging, supporting and facilitating a greater church led planting movement in the MWD, believing this will lead to better and stronger church plants.

Our TEAM 4:18 (from Proverbs 4:18) ministry continues to provide a unique realm of ministry for the MWD. This is a running affinity group consisting of runners primarily from the MWD Churches. We are seeking to better carry over the physical disciplines demanded to be a "runner," to our spiritual disciplines demanded to "walk [run] the path of righteousness" and to reflect the light of Jesus more brightly.
With the national EFCA mission, we exist to glorify God by multiplying transformational churches among all people across Nebraska, Kansas and the KC Metro.

Grateful for His Grace,

Noah Palmer
District Superintendent
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

The New England District Association (NEDA) is the association of Evangelical Free Churches in the 6 New England states and the northeast triangle of New York state, with 70 churches and over 9,000 attendees. New England is one of the most un-churched regions of the country with 8 out of the 10 most “post-Christian” cities in America located in the Northeast. New England needs the presence of Jesus demonstrated and the Gospel message proclaimed by Jesus’ followers as they gather in worship and scatter on mission. It is our desire to see a Gospel presence established in every community. We work toward this vision by developing disciple-making leaders, growing transformational churches, and catalyzing church multiplication.

Over the past 2 years, 3 churches came into our district (1 by affiliation, 2 by planting). The United Church of Norwood, Norwood, MA (affiliation). Elm City Church, Keene, NH (church plant). Iglesia Evangélica Bethel, Stamford CT (church plant). Over the past 2 years 5 churches have closed. BeFree Community Church Newmarket, Newmarket, NH. Heart Change Fellowship, Boston, MA. Hope Fellowship EFC, Newport, NH. South County EFC, Westerly, RI. Community of Grace, Cape Elizabeth, ME.

Our 2017 Conference took place at Westfield EFC in Westfield, MA. The theme was “Leader Development in the Way of Jesus” with Fritz Dale (EFCA) and Dr. Scott Solberg (Wethersfield EFC) being our keynote speakers. In 2018, our conference was held at Camp Spofford. The theme was “A United Church in a Divided Culture.” Doug Sweeney (TEDS) and Scott Hancock (Gettysburg College) were our keynote speakers.

This is a season of change in our district. There are many long-term pastors who are retiring. In the past 2 years, we have had 13 churches enter the pastoral transition process. Though this has created challenge, it has also been a blessing to see how God is providing good and godly pastors for the next season of ministry.

One of our most fruitful initiatives continues to be Lifeflow, which is our church health development process. Scott Solberg (Senior Pastor of Wethersfield EFC) partners with me in facilitating this training. In this process, pastors walk through 7 trainings sessions over a 2-year period. The goal is for the pastors to develop a disciple-making way of life in their local church.

At the end of my first 3-year term year, I am continuing to learn and grow. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Christ and his church as the New England District Superintendent.

Grace and peace,

Sam Huggard
North Central District

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! – Psalm 115:1

EFCA’s North Central District exists to glorify God by multiplying transformational churches among all people in Minnesota and beyond. Believing we are better together, our district seeks to serve pastors, church leaders, and churches as they pursue this calling.

Like our sister EFCA Districts, our district staff is the very best resource we can offer to serve and support our family of churches. Our district team includes Dave Linde (Resources, Placement & Credentialing), Dan Moose (Church Multiplication), Steve Austvold (Missions Mobilization), Kelley Johnson (Pastoral Care), Glenn Olson (Student Ministries), Sharon Trucker (Administration), Mindy Warland (Finance and Administration), and Jordan Hirsch (Administration). Programs help and tools are important, but it is the direct support, encouragement, and partnership of our district staff that makes the biggest difference for NCD churches.

In the past two years, our district leaders have invested significant energy in listening, gathering, clarifying, and championing a renewed vision for the NCD. In this, we reaffirmed our commitment to keep “churches first” and identified the five key areas of opportunity: (1) leadership pipeline, (2) personal evangelism, (3) all people, (4) gospel and Scripture, and (5) church revitalization.

During this time, we also refined what our NCD family will count and celebrate, publishing our first NCD infographic (ncdefca.org/infographic). Important metrics for our district include:

- 154 congregations
- 4548 disciple-making leaders & 1880 disciple-making groups
- 682 baptisms
- 35,427 average weekly attendance

Note: these numbers come from our 2018 NCD Infographic. See our 2019 NCD Infographic for updated numbers.

We also shared an updated strategic plan, designed to help us keep churches first and drive us forward in the five key areas. This strategic plan is intended to affirm our commitments, clarify our priorities, and propose new initiatives (ncdefca.org/strategicplan).

In Christ,

Brian Farone
District Superintendent
North Central District | EFCA
Northern Mountain District

The Northern Mountain District includes Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and most of Montana. It is nearly 800 miles from the western edge, at our Washington Cascade Range to our furthest eastern church in Forsyth, Montana. The NMD has at present 30 churches.

In May of 2019 Lee Kisman was reaffirmed as superintendent for a third 3-year term. The last 3 years have been marked by pastoral transitions in 12 of our churches, highlighting a noticeable generational change which we also observe in the EFCA nationally. We also are seeing capable men entering pastoral ministry as a 2nd career with good results.

Pastoral cluster meetings were held in Dec 2018 to discuss the proposed SOF changes regarding Pre-Millennialism as well an important Q and A with Greg Strand at our 2019 Annual Conference in Liberty Lake, WA. These vigorous discussions were very helpful for us as a district as we sifted through those things that we value most about EFCA history, distinctives, and doctrine.

Our senior pastors enthusiastically embrace our EFCA mission of multiplying disciples and transformational churches among all peoples. This includes a broad support for Reach Global Missionaries and many other mission enterprises launched from our local churches. “Making Disciples” is the phrase most often used by our pastors to describe what, for us, is “Job 1.”

Until He Comes Again,

Lee Kisman
District Superintendent
Northern Plains District

The Northern Plains District covers the state of North Dakota, approximately the northern third of South Dakota and the eastern third of Montana along with a sliver of northwestern Minnesota.

Our district’s core values are teamwork because it accomplishes far more for the cause of Christ; multiplication on all levels because it is God’s strategy to reach the world and healthy churches because they are God’s primary means for advancing His kingdom.

In 2016, the District Board of Directors read and discussed the book Oneness Embraced: Reconciliation, The Kingdom, and How We Are Stronger Together by Tony Evans. In 2017 we read and discussed the book Developing Emotionally Mature Leaders by Aubrey Malphurs.

Our annual conferences are held each spring. The 2017 Conference had the theme of “Revival on the Northern Plains.” Our featured speaker was Dr. Kyle Martin and our host was Bethel EFC in Devils Lake, ND. This conference was unique in that attendees went out into the community to love, listen, discern and respond to people they engaged. Our 2018 Conference had the theme of “Caring for God’s People.” Our featured speaker was EFC Pastor and author Lee Eclov. Our host was Salem EFC at their Moorhead, MN campus.

Our Student Conferences in both 2017 and 2018 were held in Aberdeen, SD. The 2017 theme was “Encounter” and the featured speaker was Bill Allison. The 2018 theme was “The Real Jesus” and the featured speaker was Zane Black. The Student Conference, “districts,” has grown each year in attendance. In 2017 Steven Dunkel replaced Chad Englund as the Student Ministry Mobilizer.

Pastor training events are held each fall. Typically, there is a training held on the east side of the district one day and then it is repeated on the west side of the district on the next day. In 2017 Dr. Bill Piatt conducted training on Biblical Counseling with the focus on “Why counsel?” and “Getting to the Heart of the Issue.” In 2018 Fritz Dale conducted training on “Shepherding the Hearts – Yours and the Hearts of Your Leaders.”

The district has three affiliate ministries. They are Cooperstown Bible Camp, located in the Sheyenne River Valley near Cooperstown, ND; Elim Care (providing senior care) in Fargo, ND and the Baptist Health Care Center (also providing senior care) in Bismarck, ND.

In 2017, Community Bible Church in Bottineau, ND closed. There are currently thirty-four churches in the district.

Our desire is to develop a culture of disciple making and multiplication within the district so that our EFCA mission of glorifying God by multiplying transformational churches among all people may be realized. To help facilitate this, we have developed a pastor Disciple Making Cohort that gathers twice each year in person and twice by video conferencing to learn together and encourage one another toward the end of being better at making disciples who in turn make disciple makers.

Dr. Daryl K. Thompson
Superintendent

"Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21
Pacific Northwest District

The Pacific Northwest District is comprised of 41 churches. In the past two years, we have lost three of churches: *Hope Fellowship*, in Wilsonville, OR, closed its doors in December of 2017. *Servants’ Fellowship*, in Corvallis, OR held its last service in December of 2018. *New Beginnings* (formerly Lynnwood EFC) removed itself from affiliation with the EFCA in January of 2019. We provisionally accepted a new church into our District at our District Conference in March. *Emmanuel Charisma Church* is a church plant led by Pastor Yonas Getachew. Pastor Yonas is an Ethiopian immigrant who has a heart to plant several churches amongst Ethiopian immigrants in the Seattle metro area. He is/has been involved in global church planting work as well. We look forward to our partnership with Pastor Yonas!

We continue the work of refining our vision for multiplying healthy disciple-making churches among all people in the Pacific Northwest. We are helping some of our churches to recalibrate their ministries around the priority of developing and releasing disciples. Our goal is that the people we serve understand, *faith as a way of life*, and feel competent in sharing the way of Jesus with others they know.

Our commitment to organize *regionally* remains a key component of our District ministry. Each of our six clusters meets regularly for the purpose of encouragement, sharing of challenges and opportunities, prayer and support.

Our 2018 Conference featured Tom Mercer, Sr. Pastor, *High Dessert Church*, Victorville, CA. Tom challenged our teams of leaders around understanding and leveraging greater effectiveness around the “Oikos” principle, using influence for the sake of the Kingdom in the relationships we already have. Our 2019 Conference featured Alan Hirsch, who brought understanding to our folks regarding how to extend the ministry of our churches amid a very post-Christian culture.

Richard Parker continues to lead our credentialing process well. We use *Gateway* as our means of accomplishing this.

We’ve recently brought Scott Lamb, *Emmaus Life EFC*, as a part-time leader of church planting in our District.

The Pacific Northwest is among the most un-churched regions of the country. We are compelled by the Great Commission to continue to elevate church planting as a central priority of district ministry. We believe that planting churches in which disciple-making is the central feature is the most effective way to see the Kingdom of Christ grow. Though we are a District that plants churches, we are laying groundwork for the day when we can become a District of churches planting churches. We appreciate your prayer as we serve together with you amid a culture that is undergoing tremendous change.

Rejoicing in God’s Faithfulness,
Bruce Martin
Superintendent
Rocky Mountain District

As we continue to "multiply transformational churches among all people" we are excited about our ongoing opportunity to begin new church plants in various communities in the Rocky Mountain District.

In the past two years, we have birthed churches in Florence, Colorado, Springs and Timnath Colorado, and one in Douglas, Wyoming, all a result of 1-year residencies each church planter completed. Each of these church plants have two to three partner churches working with them as they move toward maturity and becoming a self-sustaining church.

We also have had church plant in Westcliff, Colorado, join our association this past year. Grace church in Longmont, Colorado, launched a second campus, which will become an autonomous separate church in the next few years.

Our church planter at Grace Life Church in Pueblo, Colorado, merged with the sending church in which the pastor did his residency, joining the two congregations. We are also blessed to have started two new Hispanic churches in Denver, Colorado; Iglesia El Peregrino and Cento Cristiano Camino al Cielo.

Though we have had a full time Director of Church Planting and Development in the past, in 2019 we are planting churches with our Church Planting Leadership Team, four pastors who have also planted churches, working together to do recruitment, assessments, and coaching to assist our church plants get through the 7 minimum criteria to then become an autonomous church. We also are piloting the Multiply Training model in place of the former boot camp model. Included in these training cohorts will be pastors of smaller established, but struggling churches, most from our rural areas, as well as new church planters.

One of the 5 core values of the Rocky Mountain District is interdependence. At our 127th Annual District Conference nine different partnerships between churches were celebrated through testimony and prayer. Two of our churches are also hosting the national Gateway ministry to assist in ethnic planting and outreach.

Our 10 Healthy Church Networks continue to meet monthly where an opportunity for our pastors to fellowship and get training on critical ministry issues is available. Though a specific topic is prepared and ready for each of these, this past year there has always been a topic that has arisen at the beginning of each HCN on which the men have focused, including the upcoming EFCA doctrinal statement proposal.

We offered several district wide training events. Our Fall Summits have featured Dr. Greg Strand and Dr. Dennis Magary on the topics of Gender Dysphoria and Leading with God’s Plan and Provision. In 2018 our Annual Conference focused on evaluating the 5 core values which have driven our district ministry for the past 20 years, with vision for the next 10 years. Our 2019 Annual Conference featured Lance Witt from Replenish Ministries, coaching and teaching on High Impact Teams.
Leadership training also continues to be a focus of the district as I lead various leadership training seminars and workshops to help our leaders be proactive in evangelistic and equipping ministry. We have also assisted our churches in training 12 pastoral search committees and assisted 15 other churches in associate staff placement. Every week I speak in a different church in our district and while there I do an informal church health check up with the leadership team.

We are excited about the coming year with the opportunities and vision ahead of us in multiplying more healthy church movement among all people within the Rocky Mountain district.

Dr. Gregory Fell
Superintendent
Western District

These have been years of political, cultural, spiritual, ecclesiological upheaval. Love—all we have to offer—remains our “bottom line.” Sourced in perfect love it assumes intentional friendship, and even a re-thinking of our identity and activity as the people of God. The Western District has been on a divine journey as measured by our annual conferences over the past 6 years. Is the Father inviting us from strategies and structures, to surrender and relationship?

2014 (Spring) – The Gospel Coalition “piggy-back” conference
2014 (Fall) – An internally led prayer, confession, worship, and seeking of God in mission
2015 – Kevin Kompelien – Multiplying disciples
2016 – Jeff Sorvik – Multiplying disciples, leaders, and churches
2017 – Tom Nelson – Empowering disciples in the workplace for missional living
2018 – Hugh Halter – Walking across the street – a way of life for pastors and people
2019 – Francis Chan – Decentralizing the church into a gospel for every neighborhood

Clearly God is inviting us to reconsider what it means to be what we’ve conventionally called “the local church.” Our health, and any reversal in our national, evangelical downturn, is dependent on our right alignment with what God is doing in kingdom-building. A humble posture invites us to consider that we just might be misaligned. With right motives we have perhaps painted ourselves into corners with unanticipated consequences. With godly courage we surrender our traditions and recommit to God’s commands (Mark 7:6-9).

In the last two years, the Western District has experienced great trust, health, and increase, while seeing the upheaval of 18 pastoral transitions (the beginnings of what is to come in the next few years): Chico, Elk Grove, Glen Ellen, Lotus, Mt. Shasta, Orland, Oroville, Redding, Reno (Mt. Rose), Reno (SBC), San Francisco EFC, San Leandro, San Mateo, Shingle Springs, Ukiah, Walnut Creek, Yreka, Yuba City (Cornerstone).

In addition we had one merger – Trinity EFC, El Cerrito, CA – formally closed by merging with Solano Community Church (Albany), ending over 100 years of autonomous EFC ministry in the Bay Area; one church affiliation: Prodigal Church (prodigal-church.com), planters: Fred & Jen Kingman; Carson City, NV.; and two church starts: The Porch (porchsf.com), planters: Jon & Melissa Brackett; North Beach (SF), CA, and GraceCity Church (gracecitysac.org), planters: Chris & Melisa Stambaugh; Del Paso Heights (Sacramento), CA.

Finally, the tragic fires in Paradise, CA serve to highlight all that is our hope in the gospel. Total destruction will one day, perhaps long into the future, rebound in beauty out of ashes, for this church, for us as individual followers of Jesus, and for the world as we know it! The generosity displayed on a national level (nearing $1 million received), is the heart of Jesus; the welcome of our Chico church, and the assistance of EFCA Crisis Response, a model of brotherhood; Our Paradise pastor, Art Worthington, of selfless service; the Paradise EFC people of resiliency in Jesus, growing in the things that last forever, while finding their role in the mission to those yet to believe who suffer with them. Prospects of gospel furtherance will rise from these ashes inviting us to always BE God’s love in a very broken world.

Neal Brower, District Superintendent
EFCA Chaplains

EFCA Chaplains continue to represent EFCA theology and values as they minister in various settings within military and civilian fields. Often, they are sent where the local church does not exist or cannot go.

For the military, the minimum standards for service are an MDiv, ordination and an Ecclesiastical Endorsement. We have 43 military chaplains serving in the three services: Army, Air Force & Navy (which supplies chaplains for the Navy, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard) and across the three different components: Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve. Their duty assignments take them all over the United States and overseas. The EFCA has endorsed 23 individuals in the chaplain candidate program which helps in preparing them to qualify as military chaplains.

Institutional chaplain qualifications are determined by their employing agency. The requirements can range from an MDiv, Ministry License, Ordination, Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) certification, up through Board Certified Chaplain (BCC) usually encompassing all the requirements. Because of those different standards, the EFCA has 80 civilian chaplains serving in various ministries including hospitals, retirement homes, fire and police and prison who have an EFCA Credential as well as an Ecclesiastical Endorsement from the EFCA. There are other members of the EFCA serving as chaplains, but their places of service did not require any endorsement from the EFCA. Regardless, our civilian chaplains have a vital role in their places of ministry and continue to represent the EFCA with compassionate and dedicated service.

With guidance from the Board of Ministerial Standing (BOMS) concerning credentialing, and current Department of Defense policies on religion and faith expression, EFCA Chaplains are equipped with theological training and practical expertise and continue to serve with integrity, impacting our fallen world. We ask you to pray for all our EFCA Chaplains as they encounter various situations, both here and abroad, ministering to God’s people on behalf of the EFCA.

Phillip F. Wright, CH (COL) USA (Ret)
EFCA Chaplains Director and Endorsing Agent
Christian Investors Financial

Helping EFCA and like-minded churches with loans, investments and capital campaigns ... that’s what Christian Investors Financial (CIF) has been doing since 1959. As we celebrate our 60th anniversary this year, our commitment to helping churches and individuals reach their God-given potential has never wavered. And through these six decades, we have embraced the notion that we can do more together than we can do individually.

If your church or ministry is considering buying, building, renovating or expanding, CIF provides loans that meet your unique needs. Our expertise—and decades of experience—in church loans sets us apart from commercial lenders. Our priorities are to serve large and small congregations, and those in rural, suburban and urban contexts. We focus on relationships and our customizable approach will meet the needs of your church. Also, our interest rates are quite competitive; by borrowing from CIF, you also help other ministries through your interest paid.

Loans are funded primarily by investments from individuals, churches and other entities in interest bearing investment certificates. Our loans have helped churches increase space for Vacation Bible School, helped build recreation centers that serve communities, and expanded sanctuary capacities to accommodate growing congregations.

Many churches and ministries also need assistance in raising funds to grow and expand. Through our Campaigns & Consulting ministry, we provide capital campaign and consulting services that help churches get to that next level. In addition to helping churches raise funds, our Campaigns & Consulting arm also provides Feasibility Studies, Mission & Vision Clarification, Strategic Planning, Financial Consulting and Governance & Operations support.

CIF continues to be sustainably healthy. Our liquidity meets present needs, our loan portfolio is doing well, and capital/net worth remains strong. For 2017 and 2018, CIF’s loan funding totaled $35.9 million to 39 churches and ministries. As of December 31, 2018, total loans outstanding were $146.4 million and outstanding investment certificates totaled $169.8 million. Net assets increased to $41.7 million and total assets increased to $211.8 million, which were both year-end records. A copy of our audited financial statements is included as part of the EFCA Annual Report for your reference.

For 60 years, CIF has partnered with churches, ministries and individuals to help them reach their God-given potential! We’d love to work with you—regardless of the project—to advance God’s Kingdom and spread the love of Christ.

Yours for fulfilling the EFCA’s mission of multiplying transformational churches among all people,

Paul A. Anderson, President
**FCMM** exists to enable pastors, church staff members, and missionaries to serve Christ throughout their lives by assisting employing ministry organizations in providing retirement and other benefits. FCMM is the separately incorporated benefits board serving EFCA churches and ministry personnel. FCMM offers a Church Retirement Plan, Long Term Disability Insurance with Group Term Life/AD&D, a Payroll Service specifically designed for churches, individual Long-Term Care Insurance through a leading LTC agency and access to Group Health Insurance for EFCA churches in partnership with GuideStone.

The primary benefit remains our 403(b)(9) church retirement income plan, which provides a simpler, less expensive and more flexible solution than 401(k) or insurance based plans. Investment options include FCMM managed funds, American, Vanguard, Biblically Responsible (Timothy & GuideStone) funds and Christian Investors Financial (CIF).

In February 2018, Rev. Ross Morrison retired as President of FCMM after 15 years. Ross first served as an FCMM board member and then as President of FCMM. Under Ross’ leadership, the plan grew significantly in both the options and benefits available to our participants. The FCMM Trustee Board began the search for a new President in 2017 and Rev. Ric Stanghelle was called to be the next President of FCMM.

I, Ric, served on the FCMM Board of Trustees for 22 years and as the Senior Pastor of Lakes Free Church in Lindstrom, MN for 32 years. I bring a pastor’s heart to this position and want to do all that I can to help our churches, pastors and missionaries prepare today to be ready for tomorrow.

Beginning in 2019, we were given an opportunity to participate in a grant from the Lilly Endowment through a program set up by the National Association of Evangelicals to assist pastors in saving for retirement. With $500 dollars from FCMM Benefits and $500 from the Lilly Endowment, we are able to offer a matching grant of $1,000 to pastors who are not currently enrolled in the retirement plan. To qualify, their church must have an adoption agreement with FCMM, set up an account, contribute $1,000 to the pastor’s retirement account and the pastor and spouse must complete an online personal finance class from the NAE. The matching grant is called Prepare Today. It was announced at the EFCA Theology Conference in February 2019. For more information, please go to our website at [www.fcmmbenefits.org](http://www.fcmmbenefits.org).

FCMM investments returns for 2017 & 2018: The Equity portfolio (Option D) returned 18.31% and -8.48%, the Bond portfolio (Option E) returned 5.52% and 1.72%. Detailed returns are available on the FCMM website.
Please stop by the hospitality area with any questions. Visit FCMM at www.fcmmbenefits.org or contact us at fcmm@fcmmbenefits.org or (800) 995-5357 for information, consultation, forms, performance figures and your plan document.

Prepare today, ready tomorrow,

Rev. Ric Stanghelle
FCMM President
Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the EFCA! It is such a privilege to serve our Lord Jesus Christ alongside you! These are challenging times, yet I am excited to see what God is doing in our movement!

Canadian culture is changing fast. In 2007, 23% of Canadians reported that they had “no religion.” By 2013, that number had risen to 36%. Today we hear that 67% of Canadians do not believe in sin – they believe that humans are inherently good. We have become an incredibly secular people. Sharing the gospel now is very different than 20 years ago when Judeo-Christian assumptions regarding life and morality were shared by most Canadians. Like the early church, we Christians may become increasingly marginalized. Yet I believe that this is the best time to be the Church of Jesus Christ!

We in the EFCC desire to be a gospel sharing and disciple multiplying people – both nationally and internationally. Our Revitalize: Becoming a Gospel Sharing People initiative has added a training component to the prayer focus. The training focuses on eight key questions for making disciples. The training has been warmly received and has benefit church planters and established churches alike. We also recognize a desperate need to reengage, honor, and equip lay leaders. The Free Church was historically a lay mission movement, but at present the vast majority of those participating on our district boards and attending our conferences is clergy. Hence, we are launching a two-weekend, eight-module lay leader training project that will teach lay leaders basic Free Church history, ethos, and theology; spiritual formation and Christian leadership; how to share the gospel and make a disciple amidst current cultural realities; and how to mentor emerging leaders. The final project will be for each leader to identify and mentor a young leader. We are excited at the possible impact this will have on our churches and mission in the movement.

God is doing some great things through the EFCCM as we do mission work overseas. We have 100 missionaries in over twenty countries. We have a new partnership with the Free Church of Lebanon, helping them care for and share the gospel with Syrian refugees. Our Global Outreach Evangelism Strategies (GOES) has been effective in encouraging Free Churches in Philippines and Rwanda, as we have sent teams there to work with the churches in sharing the gospel and establishing disciple-making processes. The team members have been far more courageous in sharing the gospel with their neighbours after their return home.

Our Theology Conference in May 2019 featured Scot McKnight. Dr. McKnight encouraged us towards a deeper understanding of the gospel and who we are called to be as the church. This was a blessing for the 150 who attended in person or via live streaming in regional churches.

We are planning to build a larger Home Office on the campus of Trinity Western University. Our 2,700 square-foot facility in Fosmark Centre is overflowing, with staff sitting at desks in the hallway or even sharing desks! Our new 4,000 square-foot space will cost us $1,000,000 to build and will ensure that we remain on TWU campus. The new facilities will enable us to support the mission work our churches and missionaries carry out in Canada and across the globe for years to come! In the wake of TWU’s recent loss at the Supreme Court of Canada (defending a
proposed law school), we believe that it is critical for the EFCC to remain on campus as a support to outgoing president Bob Kuhn and incoming president Dr. Mark Husbands.

I so appreciate your president Kevin Kompelien, Greg Strand, and other EFCA leaders who are gracious partners with us in gospel mission! I pray God’s blessing on the EFCA as you move forward in Great Commission and Great Commandment ministry! We are grateful to be able to carry out our Lord’s work with you in the spirit of the Free Church motto: In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, charity; in all things, Jesus Christ!

Serving with you,

Bill Taylor
Executive Director
FORMS FOR BEQUEST

As you make plans to include the Evangelical Free Church of America in your estate plan distribution, the following suggestions* may be helpful:

TO GIVE A PART OF YOUR ESTATE, ALL OF YOUR ESTATE, OR REAL ESTATE:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Evangelical Free Church of America, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, with offices at 901 East 78th Street, Minneapolis, MN  55420, an amount equal to ______ percent of my estate.

or

The sum of $__________

or

The following real property (give exact legal description of the property)

or

All the rest residue and remainder of my estate.

EFCA Federal ID Number: 41-0721672

CONTINGENT BEQUESTS:

In the event that any beneficiary under this Will shall not survive me by thirty days, I give, devise and bequeath such portion of my estate designated for such beneficiary, to the Evangelical Free Church of America.

AN INCOME FOR SURVIVING PARENTS OR OTHERS:

I give, devise and bequeath _____% of the rest residue and remainder of my estate to the EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA.  In the event that either or both of my parents, ________________ and ________________ are living at the time of my death, then in such event, said Church in exchange for this gift shall issue an annuity contract which will provide quarterly payments to my parents or the survivor, at its regular annuity payment rates as applied to their or the survivors then age for as long as they or the survivor shall live.

*The above suggestions are not meant to take the place of qualified legal counsel.  See your attorney.  The EFCA Foundation and employees do not provide tax or legal advice.  Prospective donors should consult with their legal and financial advisors.

Contact us for help and information related to charitable estate planning or planned giving:

EFCA Foundation

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