



November 2, 2016

“On Mission Together”



From Our Director of Ministry

What’s next?

November, 2016

- 6 - Commissioning Kristen Cowman, Director of Children’s Ministry @ Parliament Community Church
- 6 - West Bank Bible Camp Annual Supper Meeting @ Bridgeway Community Church - Swift Current
- 9 - East Pastor Cluster
- 13 - Commissioning Ron & Sue Mills @ Riverbend Fellowship, Borden
- 15 - Saskatoon Pastor Cluster - North Pastor Cluster
- 19 - SKMB Executive Board & Teams Huddle @ the MCC Centre, Saskatoon
- 27 - Commissioning Rick & Gwen Schellenberg @ Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel

December, 2016

- 4 - Commissioning Al & Grace Harstone @ Northwest Community Church, Meadow Lake

January 21, 2017

SKMB Leadership Forum

March 10-11, 2017

SKMB Convention @ Parkland Community Church, Yorkton

Thinking Differently About “US”!

“May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

John 17: 23

I remember when new people came to Parliament Community Church. These folks would for some time speak of PCC as **THE** church where they attended. However, as they understood the church’s vision and mission, they saw themselves more a part of this local faith community. They plugged into the church’s ministry, and prayed for its work, workers and leadership... and things changed. It was no longer **THE** church where they attended, it was now **OUR** church.

I would like to suggest something for your consideration. What if we stopped speaking of our collective body of camps and churches as **THE** Conference and starting referring to it as **OUR** Conference. Reflect on the difference. Speaking of the SKMB as **THE** Conference can intone sentiments of being on competing teams, separateness, us and them, impersonal or of being at odds in purpose. Speaking of the SKMB as **OUR** Conference communicates the exact opposite – being on the same team, togetherness, we, personal and being on mission together.

The bottom line is that you and I, my home MB church and camp, and your home MB church and camp, are collectively **OUR** Conference. We have one collective vision and mission, it is **OUR** vision and mission. Can we also see those, that we ourselves called to lead us, as people from churches just like ours, from families just like ours, who want to serve faithfully just as we would. They are not removed and separate from us, they are us.

As in any collective of faith communities like the SKMB, there will be times of disagreement and dysfunction. However, how we treat each other in such moments is a true test of our character and conviction. Do we really aspire to Scripture’s injunction: *“Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony”* (Colossians 3:12-14 NLT).

“If you think an organization needs to be changed, don’t throw rocks at it, throw your time into it!”

Our MANDATE is to inspire, empower, and support the Churches and Camps of the SKMB in multiplying missional disciples, leaders, and churches.

SKMB Office Ministry Service Targets

We will strive to...

- ✓ Pray for churches, camps and their staff daily.
- ✓ Respond to phone calls, emails and written correspondence within twenty-four hours.
- ✓ Actively listen to your inquiries or concerns.
- ✓ Ensure that Conference resources are offered and explained.
- ✓ Devote the time needed to ensure you have the support required for your ministry.
- ✓ Follow-up on your initial inquiry or concern within a week asking if you need further help.
- ✓ Personally visit your church or camp at least once a year.
- ✓ Obtain ministry updates from your camp or church once every two months.
- ✓ Provide timely and relevant updates from the provincial and Canadian MB offices.
- ✓ Once a year ask you how we did in meeting these ministry targets.

My father was a lay pastor, farmer and entrepreneur who sat on many non-profit boards. His counsel to me regarding any organization where I had an affiliation was this, *If you think an organization needs to be changed, don't throw rocks at it, throw your time into it!* By this he meant getting to know the workers and leaders, offering constructive ideas for change and most of all, praying for the organization. Friends, will you invest your time into **OUR** Conference to make it all that God intended it to be? I am convinced that you will begin to think differently about US.

Phil & Janine on the road in October

- Saskatoon, connecting with West Portal staff
- Watrous, connecting with Philadelphia MB staff
- Borden, preaching and meeting with Riverbend Fellowship leaders
- Moose Jaw, enjoying the evening service and connecting with leadership at Prairie Winds Church
- Saskatoon, commissioning the Andersons and Wiens' at Faith River and The Gathering respectively.
- Saskatoon, C2C Banquet and Redberry Fundraiser



Effective November 1, 2016...

Regina Office

Director of Ministry – Phil Gunther 306-533-6191

Saskatoon Office (now at the MCC Centre)

Director of Ministry Support – Pat Dergousoff 306-260-4151

600 45th Street West; Saskatoon, SK; S7L 5W9 – also the ***NEW mailing address***

