



Director of Ministry Interim Report – Leadership Forum

I greet you with the words from the Apostle Paul to the church in Philippi:

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 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.” 1:2-6 NIV

The joint Alberta/Saskatchewan leadership (Pastors & Spouses) retreat, in my view, was a re-sounding success. Nearly 100 attended. Our national leaders: Mark Wessner, Elton DaSilva, Ken Esau and Bruce Enns did a suburb job of offering their personal experiences and wisdom. They spoke on the theme: ***Celebrating on life’s hike***. Mike Engbers will be writing a piece with more detail in the upcoming newsletter. I want to thank you as churches for blessing your staff to attend. FYI, SKMB subsidized the cost of every participant and, for some, we covered the full registration cost or helped with travel costs. We felt it important for pastors to attend. We are looking to have a similar retreat in 2024.

Several people updates...

- Brent Hackney was called to be the new pastor at Grace Community Church in Herbert. This is Brent’s first solo pastorate. Youth ministry was his previous calling in the community.
- Roland Thiessen has retired as Executive Director of RBC and Jeff Penner completed his ministry as Executive Director of WBBC. We ask that you

pray for both camps as they search for new leadership to operate their respective camp ministries.

- Jeff Siemens completed his ministry at West Portal and is now serving as the Executive Director of Saskatoon Youth For Christ. He continues to serve on our SKMB Executive Board.
- Curtis Zoreb is the new interim president of Thrive School of discipleship, our partner in ministry. Dr. Zoreb serves on a half-time basis at the school and half-time at Massey Place Community Church (Saskatoon).

Our partner ministry Horizon College and Seminary hosted a conversation surrounding the significance of the Bible and its relevance for our present cultural moment – ***Why Does the Bible Matter? The Transformative Impact of Scriptures.***

Anchor Church is 'born'. Formerly a plant of The Compass Church and now rebranded. It is led by Pastor Luke Etelamaki, our discipleship coach. We want to bless them on their mission of being an on-going gospel witness in Regina.

On the Global Gospel Advance front, a team has gone with Pastor Athanase to Africa. They left at the end of October and will be meeting, training and mentoring church planters and pastors in Milawi and Zimbabwe. I invite you to pray for them and also, when they return, invite them to share at your church.

We awarded six bursaries for Bible school students and one internship. We are looking for new ways to support disciples interested in formal learning. Our Leaders collective had a weekend training retreat at the end of October. We are thankful this ministry is in place for our young adults seeking to enlarge their capacity to lead.

Our Conflict Resolution video resource for lay leaders in the church will be available January 2023. This is a follow-up to the Missional Leadership video resource our Discipleship Coach produced in 2022.

Lastly, thank you for your support of SKMB. Thank you for your giving. Please continue to be generous in your giving as the strategic costs and special support of specific churches in 2022 has been financially stretching. Invest in our mission of supporting SKMB churches and camps in making disciples. Thank you also for your support of my ministry. I look forward to continuing my role as your Director of Ministry. Pray for me and our Executive Board.