

“On Mission Together”

Saskatchewan Conference of MB Churches

Director’s Calendar

February

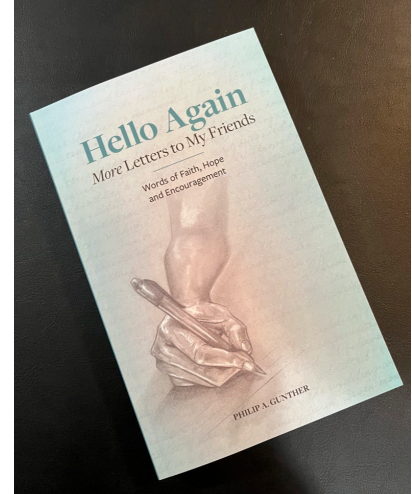
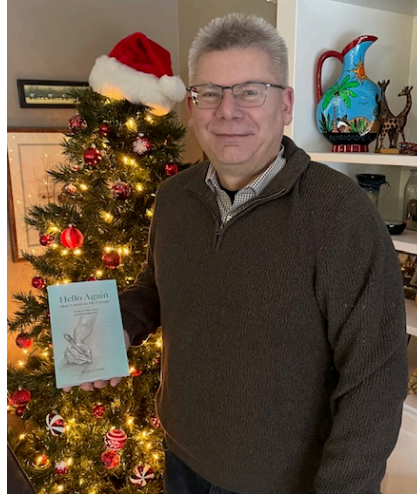
- 2 – Anchor Church (Regina)
- 5 – NFLT Mtg.
- 6 – CCMBBC Executive Bd. Mtg.
- 9 – Riverhurst Community Church
- 11-13 – Pastor Clusters
- 16 – Parliament Community Church
- 23 – Woodrow Gospel Chapel
- 24 – SKMB Ex. Bd. Mtg.

March

- 6 – NMT Mtg.
- 28-29 – Assembly 2025

Please pray for travelling mercies.

NEW BOOK – Hello Again



Our Director of Ministry (Phil Gunther) recently published his second devotional book: *Hello Again – More Letters To My Friends*. This work is intended to encourage disciples in their walk with Jesus. This book has enhancements from his first devotional book published in 2022. Gunther has purposefully sought to encourage those who walk with Jesus through stories, prayers and poems. Each SKMB member church and camp will receive a copy of Gunther’s book at Assembly 2025. People can also purchase the book through Kindred Productions: <https://www.kindredproductions.com/>
 SKMB Office Communications

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HORIZON COLLEGE & SEMINARY Anabaptist History & Thought

May 5 – 9

Discover the faith heritage of the SKMB family from its roots in the early 1500’s. Renew your understanding of our current MB confession of Faith and the challenges and hopes we face in 2025 as a family of faith. Also learn about the gospel impact the Mennonite Brethren Church in Canada is pursuing, specifically creating a culture of disciple-making churches.

In-person and on-line options.

Randy Klassen, Horizon Seminary Adjunct Faculty – Anabaptist studies, will again facilitate the course.

To register, contact [Horizon College & Seminary](https://www.horizoncollegeandseminary.ca/).

The audit fee for first ten SKMB member church/camp staff or board leader will be covered by SKMB. Contact Rick Schellenberg FLT@skmb.ca or Phil Gunther phil@skmb.ca for more information.



Assembly 2025
March 28-29

Thrive Discipleship School Closes

Leanne Janzen, MBH Digest



THRIVE
DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM

This past July, Thrive Discipleship Program's board made the difficult decision to cease operations. The one-year gap program started in 2017 on the Bethany College campus, after the Bible school closed its doors in 2015. Over the course of seven years, there were 69 students who participated in Thrive.

In September, all remaining land and property was sold.

Thrive offered a one-year gap program for students interested in deepening their faith through Bible study, non-accredited course work, and serving practically in local settings such as churches or community-based nonprofits such as MCC or food banks.

"It's an end of an era," says former Thrive President Curtis Zoerb. "But it also means that we can figure out how to go forward. Whether it's dissolving the organization or transferring it to someone else."

Thrive's board is currently asking other Bible schools or historical societies to carry on Bethany and Thrive's legacy — in essence, to manage alumni transcripts, as well as take on financial and educational history associated with Thrive Discipleship School and Bethany College. Zoerb says he is confident that all transcripts will continue to be actively managed.

There is a real possibility of dissolving the organization of Bethany College, which could take up to a year.

"No matter what the future holds, these past seven years impacted the lives of 69 students. The seven extra years were worth it," says Zoerb.

He goes on to describe how he has seen God work in the lives of students during his time as Thrive president:

"They understand that God loves them for who they are. They're confident in their place as a child of God, which is huge in our world," says Zoerb. "They're secure in their faith, secure in their identity, and understand their gifts and how they can serve the church."

"No decision since I've been there, and I assume before, has been made on a whim. Every decision was made through prayer, tears, and great debate and discussion, trying to find the right course of action. Closing, or potentially closing, was not an easy decision to make — but it was a united decision. I do believe we're following the right path forward, even though no one wanted it to come to this," says Zoerb.

SKMB Update

SKMB Office Communications

On January 30th the existing Bethany-Thrive Board will complete their ministry with the school and a new board, appointed by the SKMB Executive Board, will begin their stewardship work. Specifically, this new board will maintain the corporation and school charter.

Bethany-Thrive students can request transcripts and diplomas through Horizon College and Seminary who have taken on this role.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Greetings SKMB Churches,

We are soon renewing our Conference liability insurance. As such, we ask your help in responding to a couple of questions:

Is there a cemetery connected to your church – titled to SKMB – that you are using and or maintaining? Please name it.

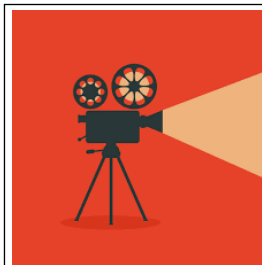
Is this cemetery insured under your church's liability package?

Please note that if you are actively using this cemetery, it should be included in your church's liability package.

PLEASE RESPOND TO NEIL PETKAU: njp.njp@sasktel.net

Thank you for your timely response.

SKMB Office Communications



What is **SKMB**?

Watch the new SKMB introduction **video...**

Show the video at your church.



Supporting SKMB Churches and Camps in Making Disciples