

Good Friday morning friends,

Thanks for joining me for five minutes to update you on news and items of prayer and praise for our Lower Pacific District family.

This week, several of us headed to the EFCC Theological Summit at Okotoks EFC, which focused on the theme, "Men and Women in Ministry." It was a profitable time, with presentations on both the complementarian and egalitarian convictions regarding men and women in ministry and in ordination. While no consensus or policy direction was sought, we achieved the purpose of bringing better understanding of these different convictions among evangelical Christians. May we continue to dialogue and move forward together in the spirit of our EFCC Character and Calling.

Interesting, as I went for an early Tuesday morning prayer walk along the Sheep River at Okotoks, I noticed some graffiti on a bridge piling that reminded me of the need to keep our focus as the EFCC association of churches. While the meaning of the song lyrics and phrase, "losing my religion," can be debated, the phrase itself reminds us of the reality of many in our mission field. My our compassion for the lost and the urgency of the hour cause us to focus on the call of and hope in Christ our Lord.



Recordings of the teaching sessions will be available in the weeks ahead. For a better understanding of the egalitarian position, you can check Dr. Payne's website at www.pbpayne.com, and info on Dr. Yarbrough can be viewed at <http://www.etsjets.org/node/2128>. Both speakers provided extensive outlines, and with this, Dr. Yarbrough also gave a large bibliography.

I will be glad to distribute the above resources on the upcoming Pastor and Staff Cruise on May 28, as we will report on the current status of and directions of our discussions regarding men and women in ministry.

God sightings and prayer:

- * Please pray for the Elders at Johnston Heights Church, as they seek the Lord in their lead pastor search process.
- * Please pray for Langley EFC, as they look to call pastors for student ministries, gospel community and for their Clayton campus.
- * We are thankful that Burnaby Chinese EFC has confirmed the call of Grace Chang to be a pastor of Children's Ministries, and is planning her service of installation.
- * Please pray for Ranjith (Priyantha) Perera, and the ministry of New Life International Fellowship (Sri Lanka). Pastor Ranjith is preparing for a short-term ministry to Sri Lanka in June, and will appreciate your prayers.
- * Please pray for Senior Pastor searches at Vancouver Chinese EFC and Burnaby Chinese EFC.

Please remember:

⇒ **Tuesday, May 28. LPD Pastor and Staff Cruise.** Please set this day aside for a day with your colleagues and friends in the Lower Pacific District from both the Mainland and the Islands. **Please see the attached info!**

May God bless and keep you through this weekend!

[Summer mission opportunities for serving a sister church in our district are on page 2.](#)

In Jesus,

Rob and Karen

Have you checked out the **LPD on Facebook**? We invite you to become a friend. Just click on the icon, and watch for updates!



Here are a few summer mission opportunities for coming alongside a sister church in our district.

- **Raise the roof at Sointula Community Church** (Malcolm Island). The church would welcome a team to come and install a new roof on their church—supply and install would be even better. Their resources of both people and money are limited.
- **Camp Evergreen, August 5-10** -this camp is affiliated with our **Lower Pacific District**, provides a quality Christian camp experience for children and leadership training for youth. Follow-up of campers through your local church is natural! For more info, please visit the website at: <http://www.campevergreen.ca/>



- **International Churches in our LPD.** On Sundays, there eight or more languages spoken in our LPD Churches. Please visit our website for info on churches and consider visiting a Chinese-speaking, Korean -speaking or even a Swahili-speaking church one Sunday. <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/>

Jesus Grace International Church →

← Grace EFC at Richmond Public Market



- Is your church doing DVBS this summer? Why not also take it on the road. Several youth groups have taken DVBS programs to Island Churches, or have worked in partnership with other churches.

Please contact our office for more info on these opportunities: