

**Fellowship
Prairies**

**WINTER
QUARTER**



**AB, SK, MB, NT, NU
FELLOWSHIP
PRAIRIES REGION**



**ENCOUNTER GOD
EQUIP GOD'S PEOPLE
ENGAGE GOD'S WORLD**



**NATIONAL
CONVENTION
REPORT ON FP**

NEWSLETTER

~ Merry Christmas ~



Merry Christmas, everyone!

This time of year is so exciting for us as Christ followers! The gift of Jesus ~ God incarnate ~ is a profoundly incredible gift. I am praying for us all - that God would provide us with opportunities to share the Reason for this glorious

**May God's best be
made known to
you and yours this
holiday season.**

Season. I am also praying that God’s best would be made known to you and yours this holiday season. Merry Christmas, everyone.

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.’”

- Luke 2:8-14

*Encounter 2019
Feb. 1-3
Canmore, AB*



Encounter 2019

We’re back once again in Canmore, for our annual get-together: *Encounter 2019* is just around the corner! Dan Cochrane will be our speaker, and comes to us from Crossroads Church, in Red Deer, AB. This will have our annual format of being both challenged and encouraged through God’s Word - as it relates to us both personally and in ministry.

Of course, there will also be the usual good times of us interacting with one another, and also sharing about what God has been doing in our lives - both personally and in our church settings.

Make sure to go to our website. Click the Encounter banner – there you will find all the details that will help you get to this event, which is truly a highlight of our year.

Pray for one another - that the Lord would prepare our hearts to hear from Him through Dan, and each other.

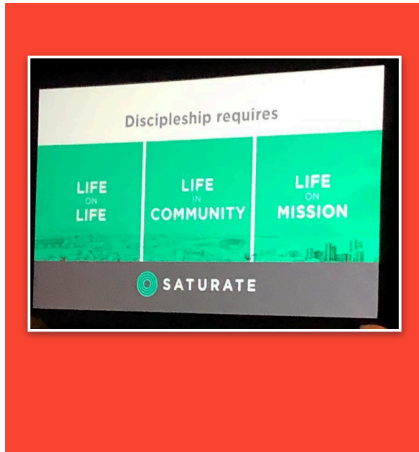
Pray for things like safety in travel, good weather conditions, and for details being finalized as we look to make this another year that helps honour and fuel you as His Servants.

God bless you all.



Our speaker is Dan Cochrane - Lead Pastor at Crossroads Church in Red Deer. Dan is a shepherd, and will minister to us with an understanding of ministry, while also giving us practical tools to help us minister well. See website for registration.





National Convention

This past year's Convention took place in Vancouver. Representation from our Region was higher than usual, and it was great to connect with one another in the National setting.

Both speakers - Jeff Vanderstelt and Paul Watson did an incredible job of leading us in the aspect of disciple making. Likely one of the key take-aways was the concept of not doing more (addition), but adjusting what we already currently do, and discipling in the context of what we're already "busy" with.



LeadersFormation

More than 80% of pastors in the world have no formal Bible school training. That's shocking, but what can we do about it? In November, ten leaders from four of our Prairies churches gathered in Edmonton for a one-day workshop to learn *LeadersFormation's* way of meeting that need. What if we could leverage our seminary training, our familiarity with a question/answer form of learning and our material resources to bless pastors and leaders in another culture?

LeadersFormation is a ministry of Fellowship International, and its purpose is to train Canadian Pastors and leaders to train people cross-culturally so that they can then train others. At the workshop we looked at the history and philosophy of the ministry, discussed what makes a good facilitator and then participated in small group discussions and large group Socratic question and answer sessions. It was a joy to see simple questions be used to pull amazing treasures out of familiar passages.

At National Convention in Richmond, BC we heard President Steve Jones urge us to consider Disciple-Making Movements in Canada. Through the training provided, not only are Canadian pastors blessing others, but the skills they are honing in small group discussion and Socratic question asking can be brought back into their own churches.

"LeadersFormation helps us in several ways - it allows us to effectively partner with the global church, and develop local and global leaders. The skill set/resources uses are transferable to any context making it a valuable partnership for the work of advancing the gospel here and abroad." Jason Hagen, Fellowship Baptist, Edmonton

"Mayerthorpe Baptist Church has had the privilege of being involved with LeadersFormation Philippines for almost 5 years. Most of our congregation will never meet any of our cohort participants in the Philippines, and yet they desire to support this ministry and see leaders in that context trained. The fact that more

than 80% of the pastors and church leaders around our globe do not have access to seminary level education or resources is concerning, and MBC has partnered with LF so that we can help resolve that reality. We have seen our church grow more globally minded, with a specific heart for the Philippines through this project. We are excited to continue our partnership with the upcoming cohort in Iloilo.” Ian Smith, Mayerthorpe Baptist

Mayerthorpe and West Edmonton are already partnering with LeadersFormation in the Philippines where two projects are nearing completion. Fellowship (Edm) will be partnering with us in Indonesia beginning in 2019, and leaders of two other churches are considering joining, either in Dominica or Indonesia. They are committed to a five year project, meaning they contribute annually to a central budget, and then send one or more of their leaders to the field for a 10-16 day training session.

Please contact me for more information to see if this could be a blessing to your church, or if your church is interested in partnering to bless other churches.

Rod Black
 Asia Coordinator, LeadersFormation
 Fellowship Prairies Coach Cross-Cultural
rblack@fellowship.ca
 403-821-0239



Pastor Ian Smith and Rod Black in the Philippines.

