

Our LPD: "By God's grace, we are committed to encourage and resource our growing family of churches to reflect Jesus Christ."

April 22, 2016

Good Friday morning friends, Thanks for joining me for five minutes to update you on items of prayer and praise for our Lower Pacific District family.

What's God Up To In Our LPD Family?

This morning, I join John Auxier and Bill Taylor to represent the EFCC/ Trinity Western Seminary at the last meeting of the Joint Governance Council at ACTS Seminaries. This is the end of an era!

Founded in 1988, ACTS Seminaries is a partnership between several denominations in theological education. The original partners were Trinity Western Seminary, Canadian Baptist Seminary and Northwest Biblical Seminary. Since then, others have joined us, including Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary.

Recently, ACTS has gone through a process of reconfiguring - I would even say, "reinventing" itself. It has now become registered as a new Society in our province, and the partnership has been both renewed and galvanized in a fresh way. From now on, ACTS will be guided by its own board of directors, rather than the board of Trinity Western University. This move is with the support of TWU. I believe that this renewed ACTS is a very good thing, as ACTS will now be more nimble and ready to equip servant leaders for Christ's Kingdom. Check out ACTS/Trinity Western Seminary at their website <http://www.actsseminaries.com/>

ACTS
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This weekend, I look forward to travelling to Chilliwack, to preaching and to welcoming **New Living Assembly** into our LPD Family. Many of you will recall that we welcomed this district church plant into our district as a member church at our annual conference on March 5. Please pray for Pastor Noel and Lynda Macasaet, for church planting apprentices, Charlz and Ruth Sebastian, and the church family, as they continue to reach out to recent immigrants from the Philippines.

Last weekend, it was a joy for Karen and to join Pastor Stephen Leung, Pastor Bruce and Hanna Li and the people of Grace EFC in Richmond, as they celebrated their 4th anniversary.



Please pray for:

- E4H Church Planting Training at ACTS on May 13-16. This is open to all, and is foundational to all who seek to serve in church planting in any capacity.
- Steveston/South Richmond, as we explore God's call to partner in a church plant.
- Port Alberni, as we explore God's leading for a church plant as well.
- God's fresh work and revitalization in those district churches that are needing to "reverse" their lifecycle.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **E4H - Discipleship through Church Planting - May 13-16 - Here is the link: <http://efccm.ca/pdfs/2016E4Hbrochure.pdf>**
- **NEW BC SOCIETIES ACT Workshop - We have decided to postpone this until September.** This week, I sent a letter explaining the new Societies Act, links to resources and steps you can take to prepare. **Please do not panic.** The Act comes into force on November 28, 2016. Societies (that includes churches) cannot transition before this date, and afterwards, there is a two year (November 28, 2016 - November 26, 2018) period for existing societies to come into compliance with the new Act. We will be providing resources along the way!
- **June 1 - LPD Pastor and Staff Cruise!**
- **Camp Evergreen, August 1-6, 2016 at Camp Charis.** This is the "official" camp for the Lower Pacific District of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada. Camp Evergreen is also a member of the BC Camping Association. The beauty of this excellent camp is that it can be an extension of the ministry of your local church, and follow up of campers can also be done through your local church. <http://www.campevergreen.ca/>
- **EFCC National Conference August 4-6 2016, at Fort Langley EFC.**

We appreciate the gifts of many district churches and also of individuals, through both cheques and also through our website. See the new LPD website at <http://www.lpd-efcc.ca/> for more info. Gifts can now be received via PayPal. These enable us to partner with churches and church planters who are stepping forward in faith. Thank you!

May God bless and keep you through this weekend!

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!

