

2022 Board of Directors Chairman Report

**John Gordon, Board of Directors Chairman
Friday, February 24, 2023**

The EFCA TX-OK District Board oversees and advises the District Superintendent with the overall purpose of accomplishing the following established 'ends' within the EFCA TX-OK District:

1. The number of healthy churches will increase annually.
2. The number of lost people reached for Christ, both locally and globally, will increase annually.
3. The number of partnerships between churches, and between churches and the district, will increase annually.
4. The number of ethnic people impacted by our churches will increase annually.

Under the oversight and guidance of the District Superintendent, the Texas-Oklahoma District continues to be one of the largest and most active districts in the EFCA. A very capable and dedicated staff helps to support the work of the District Superintendent.

As a Policy Governance® board, the District Board accountability is to the 'moral owners,' the district churches. As such, input and support from the district churches is both welcomed and necessary. In order to better serve and more effectively represent the district churches, it is needful that the District Board hear from the district churches. The District Board relies upon the annual district-wide survey as a means for evaluating the established 'ends' of the district. Using the survey data, the District Superintendent has reported compliance with the established 'ends' within the Texas-Oklahoma District.

Members of the District Board include the current District Superintendent, six Senior/Lead Pastors, and two Executive Pastors. In 2022, the District Board held four regularly scheduled meetings; three in-person and one virtual. The District Board dealt with various topics including board education on Policy Governance®, review of the 2021 Annual District-wide Survey, annual policy review of the District Board Policy Manual, financial oversight, strategic planning, and prospective board candidates.

The primary focus of the District Board in 2022 has been the transition of the new District Superintendent. With the vote of the 2022 District Conference delegates confirming Brent Burckart as the new District Superintendent, a transition period began with retiring District Superintendent Bob Rowley continuing in the position until Brent would be available full-time. A one-month overlap transition period with Bob Rowley began on May 1, 2022, with Brent Burckart assuming the District Superintendent position full-time.

The district website provides current information and resources for the district churches. The website also provides contact information, not only for the District Leadership and District Staff, but also for the District Board - <https://efcatxok.org/about/>.

It has been my great honor and privilege to serve on the District Board for the last seven years, the last five serving as the District Board Chairman. My one-year extended term on the District Board, approved at the 2022 District Conference, was for the purpose of assisting the leadership transitions of both the District Board and the new District Superintendent. During my tenure, the District Board has dealt with several significant issues, both cultural and theological, affecting all churches. I have had the privilege of serving with other District Board members, both past and present, from whom I have personally learned and grown from their own spiritual maturity and wisdom insight. I am grateful for each one of them. As the Apostle Paul met for the last time with the Ephesian elders, he exhorted them, *"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."* (Acts 20:28) Our mandate today is no less!

John Gordon, Chairman
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