



## 2023 District Superintendent Report

### **Brent Burckart, EFCA TX-OK District Superintendent** **District Business Meeting** **Friday, February 23, 2024**

As I approach the end of my second year as District Superintendent, I once again find myself grateful—grateful to the Lord for allowing me to serve in this role, grateful for the gifted team and healthy board that I get to work with, and grateful for each of you as church leaders for your faithful partnership and generous investment in the ministry of the District. We truly are “better together,” and in this coming year, I look forward to further strengthening and expanding the partnerships with churches in our district.

It was our privilege to see the launch of two new church plants last spring: Disciple Community Church in San Antonio, Texas, led by Pastor Paul Hodi and Gather Community Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, led by Pastor Caleb Rolan.

I want to thank both of their respective sending churches, Stone Oak Bible Church in San Antonio and Metropolitan Bible Church in Oklahoma City for their willingness to release families and funding to help make these new church plants possible. We not only want to encourage more of our churches to embrace that kind of kingdom mindset, but we also want to equip them with the necessary tools and training to plant daughter churches of their own.

To that end, this past October, it was our privilege to host about twenty church leaders in a two-day workshop on the subject of “Churches Planting Churches.” This was immediately followed by our larger Church Health Clinic on the subject of “Managing your Ministry.” Events like these are designed to further our mission of both starting *and* strengthening churches.

A few of our district churches underwent pastoral transitions in 2023, and we’re glad to welcome the following new lead pastors into our district: Pastor John White of Trinity Fellowship in Friendswood, Texas; Pastor Todd Cast of Hope Evangelical Free Church in College Station, Texas; and Pastor Steve Dennis of Fellowship Bible Church in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. If your church is hiring staff or undergoing a pastoral transition, please remember that we can help by providing training for pastoral search teams and by helping you find good quality candidates.

In 2023, we added a handful of new staff members to our district team. Since we want to continue to strengthen and expand our ministry to Hispanic churches and their leaders, we were excited to hire Samuel Placencio as our new Associate Director of Hispanic Ministries. We were also happy to add to our team two new regional directors, James Mendoza who serves our churches in the San Antonio/Austin area and Joel Walters who serves our churches in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, as well as our Oklahoma churches. In the short time that these men have served in these new roles, they have already provided much-needed local, boots-on-the ground assistance to our churches and pastors in their respective regions.





Next week, we will be sending each church our annual survey. This survey plays a key role in measuring our effectiveness, determining our strategy, and stewarding our district resources, so thank you in advance for completing this survey by the April 12 deadline.

I appreciate your partnership in the gospel and am excited to see what God will do through us in 2024 as we serve Him together!

## CONTACT

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