



2024 District Superintendent Report

This past year, we enjoyed rich times of fellowship and equipping in our various Ministry Cohorts, our Regional Pastor Meetings, and our fall Church Health Clinic, all of which were well-attended. I have also been encouraged to see more church planters entering our pipeline, more of our churches meaningfully engaging with the district, and more non-EFCA churches expressing interest in joining us.

Many of these encouraging developments will be seen in our conference business meeting when it will be our privilege to officially move Disciple Community Church of San Antonio, Texas from church plant status to full autonomy as an EFCA church; and it will be our privilege to welcome into our district family two new churches that have decided to affiliate with us: Harvest Community Church of Spring, Texas and Landmark Church of San Marcos, Texas. We're also happy to welcome our newest Lead Pastor into the district, Michael Wallenmeyer of Grace Church in Allen, Texas.

There were a handful of district staff members who transitioned off the team in 2024, and I'd like to personally express my gratitude to each of them for their faithful ministry to our district:

- Tim Rowley, our longtime Student Ministry Director, who moved to Minneapolis to work in the EFCA national office as the President of FCMM Benefits & Retirement
- Monica deGarmeaux, who launched, built, and led Thrive, our ministry to Lead Pastor Wives
- John Denmon, our Worship Ministry Director, who joined Shepherd Staff, a ministry staffing organization
- Samuel Placencio, our Associate Hispanic Ministry Director, who moved to Michigan to serve with University Reformed Church in Lansing while completing his seminary degree, and...
- Jaime Roy, our Communications Specialist, who transitioned out of the workforce and into the role of full-time mom.

At the same time, we're excited to welcome some new members to our District Team:

- Jason Rogers, Student Pastor at Hope Fellowship in Lake Jackson, who is our new Student Ministry Director, and...
- Natalie Bish of Hope Fellowship in Lake Jackson who is the new Director of our ministry to Lead Pastors' wives.

At the end of the Annual District Business Meeting, 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 March 21 deadline.

Some of you may not be aware of the significant changes that have taken place in the broader EFCA movement in the past year, so let me take this opportunity to update you briefly. The EFCA's primary educational institution, Trinity International University, located in Deerfield, Illinois, made the difficult decision last year to close all its undergraduate programs and extension sites in order to more deeply invest in its graduate programs. To provide leadership for Trinity's seminary during this critical juncture, on April 1, Kevin Kompelien stepped down from his role as President of the EFCA to assume the role of President of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS). The EFCA Board of Directors appointed Carlton Harris, Executive Vice President of National Ministries, as Acting President of the EFCA to



fulfill the remainder of Kevin Kompelien's elected term (which ends in 2027). We're grateful for Kevin's faithful leadership these many years and are confident that our movement remains in good hands under Carlton's capable leadership going forward.

I'm personally grateful to be part of a movement that is not only led by godly men, but is committed to the authority of Scripture, the centrality of the gospel, and the urgency of the Great Commission. And I'm also grateful for the privilege of serving you as District Superintendent as we partner together to advance the mission of Jesus throughout the great states of Texas and Oklahoma.

I am excited to see what God will do through us in 2025 as we continue to serve Him together!

For His glory,

Dr. Brent Burckart
District Superintendent
EFCA TX-OK District