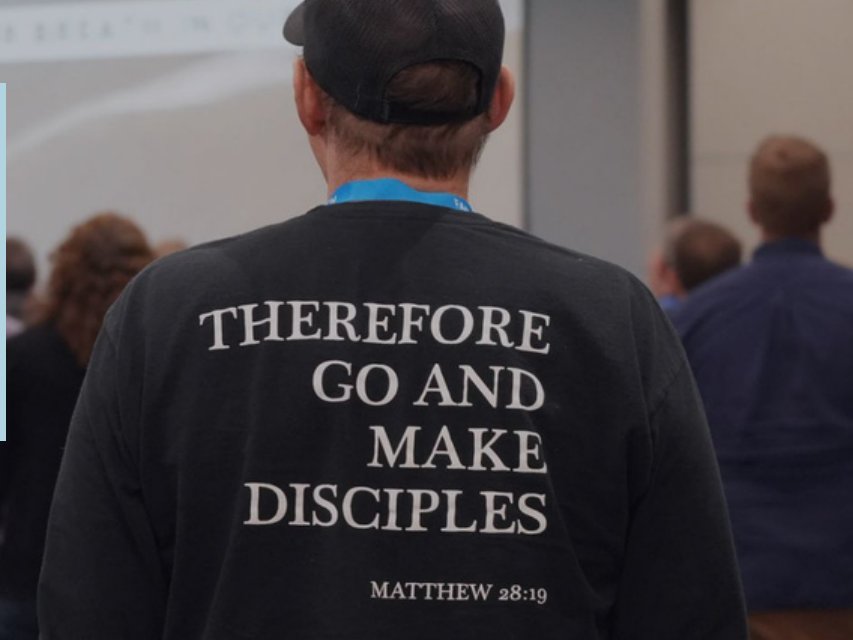


WINTER 2023

THE PULSE

A Quarterly Publication of the Rocky Mountain District of the Evangelical Free Church



Blessings Rocky Mountain District,

As you know, we have made some changes to the quarterly Rocky Mountain District (RMD) Pulse Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to tell stories of how God is at work in the RMD and as a result, God would receive glory and you would be encouraged. The newsletter, for the most part, is now electronic which means it can be passed on to others more easily. I want to encourage you to visit our RMD website: www.rockymountaindistrict.org, where you will find information about many resources available to pastors, ministry leaders, and churches.

Recently, we had Jimmy Dodd, Executive Director of the ministry of Pastor Serve, as our main speaker at our RMD Fall Conference. He helped us to examine our lives as to how healthy we are as leaders, and he provided resources to help us grow in this area of our lives. We invite you to go to the RMD [YouTube](#) channel and watch the main sessions. Our RMD YouTube channel also includes some stories of how God is at work within the RMD that we think will encourage you.

Some of you have recently contacted me about how you can give to our RMD ministry. You can contribute by going to our [RMD website](#) and clicking on the "Give" tab. Thank you for supporting District ministry and praying for our pastors and churches in the RMD.

Merry Christmas!

Barry Vegter
RMD District Superintendent



Serving our churches and our pastors to multiply God's Kingdom.

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PROVE IT!

Kevin Boaz, Director of Multiplication and Leadership Development

I recently had the joy of preaching from John 15, the well known picture of the gardener, the vine, and the branches. I have called this passage the “Grape Commission” because it says disciples of Jesus produce fruit.

“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.” John 15:7-8

Bearing much fruit is what demonstrates to the world that we are disciples of Jesus. Fruit bearing has inward transformation to become more like Jesus and outward fruit such as good deeds, obedience, and disciple-making. All fruit ultimately is produced by staying connected to the vine and through the power of the Holy Spirit. I can’t force fruit into my life and our local churches can’t force fruitfulness. Yet what does this passage say about where fruitfulness begins?

Fruitfulness begins with abiding in Jesus which then leads us to fruitful prayers. This declaration to ask whatever you wish is a call to pray in line with God’s will. As Jesus declared in his prayer, “your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

At our district conference, we asked those in attendance to set an alarm on their watch for 10:02 to represent Luke 10 verse 2 which calls us to pray to the Lord of the harvest for laborers. Matthew 9:35-37 is a parallel passage with this command. I believe that prayer aligns with God’s will so that as we abide in Jesus we will see much fruit produced.

Since that time, if you are like me, you have probably prayed some, but maybe not prayed consistently at 10:02 am or pm. I want to encourage you to pick 2 days a week and set an alarm on your watch or phone as a reminder to pray. Here are some ways we have seen God answering our prayers. CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.



And He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

Luke 10:2

At the Fall Conference, pastors and church staff members prayed over church planter Caleb Haynes



PROVE IT!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

- God surprised Rachel and me with a clear conviction and call to go fulltime with the RMD which was affirmed by you all last Spring. I started full time December 1st!
- Caleb and Brittany Haynes are church planting residents at Faith Church, Fort Collins, CO, who will plant in Loveland, CO, in 2024.
- We have seen an increase in applications to become church planters and have assessments for those applicants on the horizon.
- We are finding new ways for every local church of any size to invest in church planting.
- We are seeing God creatively work through partnerships to form new ethnic congregations, new campuses, and new models of church planting.

Our 2022 Fall Conference began momentum toward a district of leaders and local churches who seek the Lord through Scripture-Led, Spirit-Fed prayer.

E.M. Bounds said, “Prayer is not preparation for the battle, prayer IS the battle.”

As we start 2024 set your alarm for 10:02 am or pm, or both, and pray for:

- The DLT (District Leadership Team) as they seek God’s direction for our district and work on a vision plan.
- Pray for Kevin and Rachel Boaz and their family as he transitions into his new role and rhythm of life.
- Pray for each of our HPG’s (Healthy Pastor Networks) to discern where the next new plant should be in their region.
- Pray for laborers for the harvest in the RMD and for laborers from within congregations in the RMD. Specifically ask for 3 new planters in 2024, at least one of whom would be an ethnic planter.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

“PRAYER
IS NOT PREPARATION
FOR THE
BATTLE.

PRAYER IS THE BATTLE.”

E.M. BOUNDS



Kevin and Rachel Boaz and Family



LET US INTRODUCE YOU...

to Eric Holtrop, Windsor, Colorado

Hello,

My name is Eric Holtrop, and Jesus is my Lord and Savior. Cristina and I have been married for 24 years, and we have had the privilege of taking next steps with others, and with Jesus, together for 25 years.

I grew up in the Midwest, and Cristina is from Portugal. We have two children: Phinn who is 15, and Kavi is 13. They love Jesus deeply and are growing as a man and woman of God. That is so cool!

This spring we began to talk and pray with the Evangelical Free Church of Windsor about doing life and ministry together, and after a season where we all watched God affirm and confirm, we accepted the invitation to move to Windsor and join them on this adventure with Jesus, together!

I want to help folks be wildly successful for the glory of God by taking next steps with them, with Jesus, together!

My Big Huge Audacious Prayer is that by the time our kids' kids are old enough to live as disciple-makers, I want to see everyone have a friend who is prayerfully and intentionally leaning in and taking next steps with them, with Jesus, together!

This gets me excited! It's how I want to leverage my life for the glory of God.

It's how we want to live as a family. I cannot tell you how exciting it is to be invited to be with a church that wants to follow Jesus on this adventure together.

Thanks for the opportunity to introduce myself, and I look forward to serving Jesus with all y'all.

May God's Kingdom come and may His will be done, and may He be glorified in and through all of our lives as we take next steps with others, with Jesus, together!

I WANT
TO
LEVERAGE
MY LIFE
FOR THE
GLORY
OF GOD.



Eric and Cristina Holtrop



WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO MEET...

Stephen Moore, Cañon City, Colorado

My name is Stephen Moore; I'm the new Senior Pastor of Cañon City's Evangelical Free Church. Though I've been a pastor in the EFCA since 2012, I'm new to the Rocky Mountain District and delighted to share a little more about myself.

I was raised in a military family, my father was Air Force, so we moved around quite a bit in my youth. We did end up settling in Texas where I attended and graduated from high school. While in high school, a faithful youth pastor pursued me with the gospel, and, though I didn't become a Christian at that point, God was already priming my heart for His redemptive grace.

I attended college at the University of North Texas, and while there came to realize my life was missing something, or more precisely someone. This realization drove me to the Bible looking for answers, where I saw my sinfulness and beauty of our Savior. As a new Christian, I was blessed to have a faithful local church pour into me during a pivotal period of my life. It was also during those early years that I began to feel a call to vocational ministry, though the specifics of that ministry would only take shape with time.

After college, I worked with a ministry called Doulos Ministries in Westminster, CO. While there, I worked with at-risk adolescents sharing the love of Christ. It was also at this point that I met my future wife, Katherine Carey from Littleton, CO, who was also working at Doulos. After we were married at what was then Southern Gables EFCA, we moved to Texas to attend Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS). During our time at DTS, we had our first two children.

After finishing my ThM (Master of Theology) at DTS, I enjoyed seminary so much that I went to TEDS (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) to pursue PhD work in New Testament Studies. During my time at TEDS, Katherine and I both began to feel some desire to pursue vocational ministry in the local church. Finishing the coursework stage of my PhD opened the door for us to explore new opportunities, which led us to Oshkosh, WI, where I became the Assistant Pastor at Oakbrook EFCA. It was during that season that our third child, Evangeline, who was two and a half at the time, was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. Though she was given 9 months to live, God blessed us with 5 years and so many sweet memories with her. During that season, we had our fourth child, and God called us to our second congregation, Lakes EFCA in Lindstrom, MN. There I served as the Pastor of Adult Ministries for five years. During our time in Minnesota, we began sensing a call to a Senior Pastor role. So, we began praying and seeking opportunities to see where the Lord would take us next.

We're delighted to be back in Colorado, where Katherine is from, and where our story together began. We also couldn't be more excited to serve in Cañon City and join what God has been faithfully doing in the Free Church there.



Stephen and Katherine Moore and Family

AS A NEW CHRISTIAN, I WAS BLESSED TO HAVE A FAITHFUL LOCAL CHURCH POUR INTO ME DURING A PIVOTAL PERIOD OF MY LIFE.

Pray Together

LET'S PRAY EARNESTLY FOR THE CHURCHES IN OUR DISTRICT. PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) FOR A HELPFUL PRAYER GUIDE. YOU MAY USE THE CALENDAR BELOW TO LIFT UP EACH CHURCH ON ITS DESIGNATED DAY.

DECEMBER

1. Aurora, CO - Harvest Community Church
2. Aurora, CO - New Life Community Church
3. Aurora, CO - Iglesia El Camino Church
4. Black Hawk, CO - Rocky Mountain EFC
5. Boulder, CO - Calvary Bible EFC
6. Boulder, CO - Chinese EFC
7. Broomfield, CO - Calvary EFC
8. Burlington, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Burlington
9. Cañon City, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Canon City
10. Casper, WY - Cornerstone EFC
11. Castle Rock, CO - Ridgeline Community Church
12. Cedaredge, CO - New Hope EFC
13. Centennial, CO - Bethany EFC
14. Centennial, CO - Fellowship Community EFC
15. Centennial, CO - Vida Nueva Church
16. Cheyenne, WY - Cheyenne EFC
17. Colorado Springs, CO - Covenant Grace EFC
18. Colorado Springs, CO - Cross & Crown Church
19. Colorado Springs, CO - Faith EFC
20. Colorado Springs, CO - First EFC
21. Colorado Springs, CO - Magnify EFC
22. Cortez, CO - Grace Fellowship EFC
23. Crook, CO - United EFC
24. Custer, SD - Crossroads Church
25. Denver, CO - Ancient Paths Church
26. Denver, CO - Chinese EFC
27. Denver, CO - Pilgrim Congregational Church
28. Divide, CO - Little Chapel of the Hills
29. Douglas, WY - Lighthouse Church
30. Eaton, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Eaton
31. Erie, CO - Calvary Bible EFC

JANUARY

1. Estes Park, CO - Rocky Mountain Church
2. Evergreen, CO - Bergen Park Church
3. Florence, CO - The Pulse
4. Fort Collins, CO - Chinese EFC
5. Fort Collins, CO - Faith Church
6. Gillette, WY - Living Rock Church
7. Golden, CO - Whispering Pines EFC
8. Grand Junction, CO - Living Hope EFC
9. Greeley, CO - Christ Community EFC
10. Greeley, CO - Mountain View EFC
11. Hot Springs, SD - Southern Hills EFC
12. Johnstown, CO - Cornerstone EFC
13. Lander, WY - Lander Free Church
14. Laramie, WY - Snowy Range EFC
15. Littleton, CO - Red Rocks Fellowship EFC
16. Littleton, CO - Southwest Community Church
17. Longmont, CO - Grace EFC
18. Louviers, CO - Faith EFC
19. Mead, CO - Abundant Life Church
20. Milesville, SD - Hardingrove Community EFC
21. Montrose, CO - Cedar Creek Church
22. Monument, CO - Cathedral Rock Church
23. Newcastle, WY - Gateway Fellowship Church
24. Okaton, SD - Okaton EFC
25. Ouray, CO - Ouray Christian Fellowship
26. Pagosa Springs, CO - Grace in Pagosa
27. Palisade, CO - Central Orchard Mesa Comm. EFC
28. Philip, SD - Community EFC
29. Peidmont, SD - Hills View EFC
30. Peyton, CO - Aspen Ridge Church
31. Pueblo, CO - Grace Life Church

Pray Together

FEBRUARY

1. Pueblo West, CO - The Peak EFC
2. Rapid City, SD - Parkview EFC
3. Rapid City, SD - Rimrock EFC
4. Rye, CO - Table Mountain Church
5. Seibert, CO - Trinity Hill Church
6. Steamboat Springs, CO - Steamboat Bible Church
7. Thornton, CO - Galvary Bible Church
8. Timnath, CO - Christ The Rock Community Church
9. Wall, SD - Evangelical Free Bible Church
10. Windsor, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Windsor
11. Rocky Mountain District (RMD) Superintendent
12. RMD Director of Multiplication & Leadership Development
13. RMD Staff
14. RMD Leadership Team (DLT)
15. RMD Finances
16. RMD Healthy Pastor Networks
17. RMD Church Planting Leadership Team
18. RMD Student Ministries Consultant
19. RMD Student Ministries Team
20. RMD Board of Ministerial Standing Chairman
21. RMD Board of Ministerial Standing (Credentialing Team)
22. Pray for RMD Churches searching for pastors
23. EFCA District Superintendents (17 total)
24. EFCA Chaplain Director and Endorser
25. EFCA President and Vice President
26. EFCA National Board of Ministerial Standing
27. EFCA Hispanic Ministries Director
28. Pray for those planning the Spring Conference
29. Pray for prayer saturation to take hold in the RMD

THE PULSE IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OF THE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH IN AMERICA SENT TO MEMBERS OF EFCA CHURCHES WITHIN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

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