

WINTER 2026/2027

THE PULSE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OF THE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

Register now for the

2027 EFCA THEOLOGY CONFERENCE

February 3-5

Valley Church, West Des Moines, IA

Early Bird Rate through December 15
Registration Closes January 10

CONFERENCE THEME:
Gospel Prophet: The Theology of Isaiah for the People of God

PRECONFERENCE THEME:
Divine Wisdom for Artificial Intelligence

For complete information and the conference schedule, click HERE.

To register now, click HERE or visit www.efca.org and click on events.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT EFCA

SERVING OUR CHURCHES & OUR PASTORS TO MULTIPLY GOD'S KINGDOM

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PRAYING FOR YOUR PASTORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Rev. Barry Vegter, Superintendent, Rocky Mountain District

The following is a compilation of my thoughts along with content from other sources I have gathered over the years.

How can you pray effectively for your pastor and his family? First, make a commitment to pray for them daily. Most pastors and their families feel very alone in the midst of their congregations. Often, they don't have close friends within their churches to whom they can go with burdens. They may feel they can't share needs because they, of all people, should have everything together. In truth, the pastor's family is just like yours. They struggle with similar issues and problems. They desperately need others to come alongside them and commit to fervent, continuous prayer so that the enemy won't have the opportunity to do damage. Your pastor's ministry will only be as effective as the prayer that fuels it. Here are seven specific ways that you can pray for your pastor and his family. You might consider praying for one each day of the week.

Pray that your pastor will always have a passion to know Christ more intimately.
Father, help our pastor to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings (Phil. 3:10). Since we know of his faith in the Lord Jesus and his love for all the saints, may we never stop giving thanks for him, always remembering him in our prayers. We will keep asking that You, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, will give him the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that he may know You better (Eph. 1:15-17).

Pray that your pastor will minister out of a humble spirit.
Lord God Almighty, would You help our pastor to humble himself before You and under Your mighty hand, so that You will lift him up (Jas. 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6)? Guide him in what is right and teach him Your way (Psa. 25:9). May our congregation see that he is wise and understanding as shown by his good life, and by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom (Jas. 3:13). Father, You have said that the one You esteem is he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and who trembles at Your Word (Isa. 66:2). May our pastor be such a person!

Pray that your pastor will minister from the Spirit's power.
Gracious Father, may our pastor's messages and preaching come to us, not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that our faith might not rest on the wisdom of man, but upon Your power (1 Cor. 2:4-5). Help him never to depend upon his own might or power, but always upon Your Spirit, Lord Almighty (Zech. 4:6). May You, the God of hope, fill our pastor with all joy and peace as he trusts in you, so that he may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 15:13).

Pray that your pastor will be a man of prayer and of the Word so that he can live a holy and pure life.
Glorious God, we pray that our pastor will seek You with all of his heart. Help him never to stray from Your commands. May he hide Your Word in his heart so that he will not sin against You (Psa. 119:10-11). Give him deep desire to meditate on Your precepts and to consider Your ways. May he delight in Your decrees and never neglect Your Word (Psa. 119:15-16). Give him understanding so that he will keep your law and obey it with all of his heart. Direct him in the path of Your commands where he will find delight. Turn his heart toward Your statutes and not toward selfish gain and turn his eyes away from worthless things. Preserve his life according to Your Word (Psa. 119:34-37).
Continued on page 3.



PRAYING FOR YOUR PASTORS, CONTINUED

Pray for your pastor's family.
Gracious Lord, may our pastor fear You so that he will have a secure fortress that will always be a refuge for his children (Prov. 14:26). May he consistently teach his children to revere Your commands by following his example (Psa. 34:11), so that they might be blessed (Psa. 112:1-2). Help him to manage his family well so that his children will obey him with proper respect (1 Tim. 3:4-5). May he love his wife just as Christ loved the Church (Eph. 5:25). Help him to be considerate and respectful to her so that nothing will hinder his prayers (1 Pet. 3:7). Faithful Lord, strengthen and protect our pastor and his family against the attacks of the enemy (2 Thess. 3:3), and may their household always choose to serve You (Josh. 24:15).

Pray for protection against the schemes of the devil.
Heavenly Father, help our pastor to be strong in Your mighty power. May he continually remember to clothe himself with Your armor so that he can take his stand against the devil's schemes. Help him to remember that his struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Help him to stand his ground and to stand firm with the belt of truth buckled around his waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with his feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace. In addition, help him to daily take up the shield of faith so that he can extinguish all of the flaming arrows of the evil one. May he put on the helmet of salvation and use the sword of the Spirit, Your Word. Give him the desire to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Help him to be continually alert, and to keep on praying for all the saints (Eph. 6:10-18). Don't let the devil establish a foothold in any area of his life (Eph. 4:27). Help him to have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap (1 Tim. 3:7). May he continually submit himself to You, Father, and may he be self-controlled and alert in order to resist the devil, standing firm in the faith, so that the devil will flee (Jas. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9). Keep him from temptation and deliver him from the evil one, Lord (Matt. 6:13).

Pray blessing into the life of your pastor and his family:
O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, may the words of our pastor's mouth and the meditation of his heart be pleasing in Your sight (Psa. 19:14). May You, O Lord, give our pastor the desire of his heart and make all of his plans succeed (Psa. 20:4). Lord, our God, may Your favor rest upon our pastor and establish the work of his hands (Psa. 90:17). God of hope, may You fill our pastor with all joy and peace as he trusts in You, so that he may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 15:13). Lord of peace, may You give our pastor and his family peace at all times and in every way (2 Thess. 3:16). May You, the God of peace, equip our pastor with everything good for doing Your will, and may You work in him what is pleasing to You, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen (Heb. 13:20-21). Continued on page 4.

YOUR PASTOR'S MINISTRY WILL ONLY BE
AS EFFECTIVE AS THE PRAYER THAT FUELS IT.



PRAYING FOR YOUR PASTOR, CONTINUED

Now that you have blessed your pastor and his family with prayer, here are some practical ways to care for, encourage, and show your appreciation to them:

• Submit to the spiritual authority of your pastor and elders and encourage others to do the same.
• Extend hospitality to your pastor and his family by inviting them to your home for a meal or including them in family activities.
• Recognize that your pastor's family goes through the same struggles as everyone else's families and be empathetic rather than critical.
• Give your pastor and his wife time together while you care for their children or hire someone to do so.
• Fix a meal and take it to them with an encouraging note.
• Take a basket of items such as fruit and nuts or freshly baked bread to your pastor's family. Be creative!
• Send notes of encouragement and appreciation from your whole family; have your children draw pictures or write their own notes.

Recruit as many people as you can to pray regularly for your pastor and his family. Try to cover them in prayer seven days a week. Use your imagination. There are so many things you can do to show your love and appreciation. Be determined to pray for and care for your pastor and his family and allow the Lord to work in and through you by encouraging other families to do the same. Your simple efforts will do much to advance the cause of Christ in your church and community, as God does a mighty work in and through your pastor's life. May your prayers and those of many others in your church, along with expressions of kindness, care, and appreciation, keep pastors and their families safe, joyful, and productive for many years to the glory and honor of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

CONTINUE STEADFASTLY IN PRAYER, BEING WATCHFUL IN IT WITH THANKSGIVING.

COLOSSIANS 4:2





MOBILIZATION IN MOTION:

Exploring new models for local churches to develop the next generation of leaders, pastors, and missionaries

Kevin Boaz, Associate of Leadership Development and Multiplication

Over the next year, *Mobilization in Motion* will highlight key pieces of our district's vision for mobilization. For the past three years, Barry and I have listened to local leaders while exploring and testing tools to help churches become mobilization centers for the next generation. Our hope is to begin introducing new tools, partnerships, and events in 2027 and 2028 that help every church discover and develop the people God has entrusted to them for His mission.

PART 1: BRINGING THEOLOGICAL TRAINING CLOSER TO THE LOCAL CHURCH

How can we provide the theological training and rigor to leaders while keeping them embedded in a local church for character development and affirmation of their calling?

We believe the local church should be the primary training ground for ministry leaders. Our district's desire is to build partnerships with like-minded seminaries and training schools, giving churches and emerging leaders flexible options that fit their calling, context, and financial realities.

One promising example is William Tennent School of Theology. Their unique hybrid model allows students to continue serving in their local churches while gathering for two weeks each semester near Woodland Park, Colorado. These gatherings combine academic rigor, personal interaction with professors, shared meals, and intentional character formation. Even students' families are invited to participate in the experience.

Recently, Barry and I spent a day at Tennent, interacting with students and faculty and seeing this model firsthand. We were encouraged by their commitment to developing not just knowledgeable leaders, but faithful shepherds.

I asked Michael Morgan, the president of Tennent, to describe their approach.

"Tennent is committed to raising up shepherd leaders—humble, gracious, attentive, and wise. So naturally it is a priority for us to make sure that our professors are shepherd teachers, able to demonstrate the character we hope to cultivate. Our teachers have served as pastors and missionaries around the world as well as being top-notch scholars. Our motto, "light and heat" speaks to this as well. We hope to stir students' affections for Christ: not simply to impart academic knowledge. We pray that the Lord will use Tennent in some small way to raise up shepherd leaders to take the gospel to the ends of the earth."

William Tennent represents just one of the partnerships we are exploring. Our larger vision is to help churches raise up the next generation of biblically grounded, theologically equipped leaders without disconnecting them from the congregations where God is already shaping and using them. Don't hesitate to reach out to me for a strategic conversation.



A class in session at William Tennent School of Theology



A TESTIMONY OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

PASTOR RICK JOHN, FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH, CENTENNIAL, CO

Please join us in celebrating with our family here at Fellowship Community Church in Centennial, Colorado. Recently, we were able to pay off our entire debt because of the faithfulness of our Lord and the generosity of God's people. At its height our debt was over three million dollars. Praise God with us for His provision. We remained committed to paying off debt for many years. However, we often reminded ourselves we are not here to pay off debt but to do the ministry God has called us to do for His glory.

The Episcopalian, Phillips Brooks, once said, "Attach yourself to the center of your ministry not to some point on the circumference." Throughout this journey we focused on our calling to make disciples. We believe that well taught disciples will be good stewards of all that God has entrusted to them. Our release from debt is a testimony to this conviction.

Along the journey we needed to remain patient. It took many years of prayerful dependence on our Lord. I am reminded of the testimony of Corrie Ten Boom when she wrote, "Never fear to trust an unknown future to a known God." God sovereignly protected us all along this journey.

Finally, I quote Dr. Robert Cook, who was the President of The King's College in 1979 when I graduated. He often told us, "If you can explain it all, God was probably not in it." We celebrate the God who doesn't have to explain Himself. He is good all the time! Leave room in your ministries for God to do what seems impossible.



Fellowship Community Church
Centennial, Co



CONNECT with Christ
CONNECT in Community
CONNECT to Culture



PRAY TOGETHER

DECEMBER

1. Aurora, CO - New Life Community Church
2. Aurora, CO - Iglesia El Camino Church
3. Black Hawk, CO - Rocky Mountain EFC
4. Boulder, CO - Calvary Bible Church
5. Boulder, CO - Chinese EFC
6. Broomfield, CO - Calvary EFC
7. Burlington, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Burlington
8. Cañon City, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Cañon City
9. Casper, WY - Cornerstone EFC
10. Castle Rock, CO - Ridgeline Community Church
11. Cedaredge, CO - New Hope EFC
12. Centennial, CO - Calvary Bethany EFC
13. Centennial, CO - Fellowship Community EFC
14. Centennial, CO - Vida Nueva Church
15. Cheyenne, WY - Cheyenne EFC
16. Colorado Springs, CO - Cathedral Rock Church
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. Colorado Springs, CO - SALT Church Plant
23. Cortez, CO - Grace Fellowship EFC
24. Crook, CO - United EFC
25. Custer, SD - Crossroads 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 - Pulse Church
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. Lakewood, CO - Crown Hill Church Plant
14. Lander, WY - Lander Free Church
15. Laramie, WY - Snowy Range EFC
16. Littleton, CO - Red Rocks Fellowship EFC
17. Littleton, CO - Southwest Community Church
18. Longmont, CO - Abundant Life Church
19. Longmont, CO - Grace EFC
20. Louviers, CO - Faith EFC
21. Loveland, CO - Pioneer Grove Church Plant
22. Milesville, SD - Hardingrove Community EFC
23. Montrose, CO - Cedar Creek Church
24. Newcastle, WY - Gateway Fellowship Church
25. Okaton, SD - Okaton EFC
26. Ouray, CO - Ouray Christian Fellowship
27. Pagosa Springs, CO - Grace in Pagosa
28. Palisade, CO - Central Orchard Mesa Comm. EFC
29. Philip, SD - Community EFC
30. Piedmont, SD - Hills View EFC
31. Pueblo, CO - GraceLife Church



PRAY TOGETHER

FEBRUARY

1. Pueblo West, CO - The Peak EFC
2. Rapid City, SD - Parkview EFC
3. Pray for the EFCA Theology Conference February 3-5
4. Rapid City, SD - Rimrock EFC, Downtown Campus
5. Rapid City, SD - Rimrock EFC, Main Campus
6. Rye, CO - Table Mountain Church
7. Steamboat Springs, CO - Steamboat Bible Church
8. Thornton, CO - Calvary Bible Church
9. Timnath, CO - Christ The Rock Community Church
10. Wall, SD - Evangelical Free Bible Church
11. Windsor, CO - Evangelical Free Church of Windsor
12. Rocky Mountain District (RMD) Superintendent
13. RMD Associate, Multiplication & Leadership Development
14. RMD Staff
15. RMD Leadership Team (DLT)
16. RMD Healthy Pastor Gatherings (HPGs)
17. RMD Finances
18. RMD Church Planting Leadership Team
19. RMD Student Ministries Consultant and Team
20. Pray for our pastor's wives and children
21. RMD Board of Ministerial Standing Chairman
22. RMD Board of Ministerial Standing (Credential Team)
23. Pray for RMD Churches searching for pastors
24. Pray for Regional Care Pastors in the RMD
25. Pray for prayer saturation to take hold in the RMD
26. EFCA District Superintendents (17 total)
27. Pray for future church plants
28. Pray for staff serving the EFCA at the National Office

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

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