

Coming Up
March 22-24 , 2019
NWMC Convention and Youth Rally
at Camp Caroline. “

Theme
“**TRUTH MATTERS**”

For details and to register visit our website
www.nwmc.ca

Ladies retreat at Camp Silversides
May 24-26, 2019

Financial Update

Thank You for your faithfulness in praying and giving.
The Northwest Mennonite Conference
has been blessed Through You
In 2018 through your faithfulness we met expenses.
Praise God!

You are invited to consider making a donation directly to the NWMC as God enables you to give above your congregational giving.

NWMC Mission Team to Haiti 2019



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Points of Connection

Northwest Mennonite Conference Newsletter
March 2019

Introducing "Iglesia El Shaddai"

On Saturday Feb 23, 2019 Iglesia El Shaddai was formed as 11 members signed a Charter Membership Covenant. A team of leaders was presented and affirmed. The name speaks of their testimony that God Almighty is All Sufficient. We are grateful to God for the Lethbridge congregation , Iglesia Evangelica "JesuCristo La Roca Eterna" and Pastor Walter Melara and Pastor Werner for the many weekends of travel and ministry. We encourage you to praise God for all that God has done to make this happen and pray that this congregation will be united in Christ and grow in health and strength to bring great blessing to the city of Medicine Hat.



Haiti Arise We praise God

for all that He accomplished through our Mission Team in Haiti. The reports of the Ladies Retreat speak of a powerful working of God among the ladies. Due to the extra days in Haiti more of the construction work was done. The circumstances in Haiti that kept them there for a few extra days was stressful for them and their families here at home. A mission trip always takes us into enemy territory and brings us face to face with the powers of darkness. But the victory belongs to Christ and God worked in Haiti, in the lives of the team and in our churches here at home. Through this experience Haiti Arise received national media attention making many people aware of the great needs that exist in this country. Here at home it brought us as churches into united prayer. From all parts of our conference churches and people united in prayer. God is victorious and His glory shines brighter. (Team photo on back page)

Church Development Director

Our Vision

The past several years it has been our vision to have healthy pastors and healthy congregations resulting in a healthy conference of churches.

With gratitude to God we have seen very positive results. Our congregations have been very supportive of their pastor and have done much to bless and encourage them. The health of our pastors has also blessed the congregations with positive pastoral leadership. The health of the conference has also been positive. Congregations are more involved in things like the Annual Convention and Youth Rally, The pastors have connected more with each other even though separated by great distances. The Pastor Spouse retreat has become a time of connection, of building relationships, of blessing and refreshing each other.

At the same time we are keenly aware that when congregations go through challenging times the very fabric of their unity is being tested. In order to help these congregations to not only survive, but to thrive through these challenging times takes diligent and focused attention. The Conference Pastor would need to neglect the oversight of the other congregations to be able to give this depth of attention to a congregation. Recognising the need for this in depth ministry the NWMC Board has chosen to make this a **mission** over the next two years.

Our vision is to contract a person who has the gifts and abilities, together with proven experience to work with struggling congregations and struggling leadership. This person would focus on working with 2 congregations for 3-6 months. After a congregation develops healthy structures the Director would step back from full attention to monitor and guide as needed. As one congregation needs less time the Director would begin to focus on another congregation.

Our Goal To Raise \$200,000 over 2 years. This will not be part of our regular Budget. All giving to this Mission Project is over and above our NWMC Budget

Where will the Funds come from? We are trusting God to provide, believing that this is what He wants us to do for the health of congregations, We also believe that God has blessed His people with all that is needed to meet this need, so we ask for you to pray with us for these funds to be given.

We believe that some of the money will come from **NWMC Congregations**. In addition to their regular giving to the Budget. For the whole congregation to be involved we encourage you to have a Toonie Sunday specifically dedicated to this mission. If each person gave 1 Toonie per month 25% of our goal would be met.

We believe that most of these funds will come from individuals who believe that God wants us to strengthen these congregations in this way.

We believe that the congregations that will benefit from this support will give as they are able.

The funds will be used to cover salary and expenses. We recognise that the Director will not be able to live at each location, but will need to find accommodations during the time spent with each congregation.

Our Time Line

It is our hope to have a Church Development Director in place by September 2019 for a period of 2 years.

We invite you to be part of this mission.

Without Jesus we can do nothing, so we need you to pray that all we do will flow from our commitment to doing His will.

Without Financial resources we cannot move ahead, so we need you to pray for God to provide all that is needed; pray about your ability to be financially involved.

As our Board has thought and prayed about this we believe that God has placed this upon our hearts. Would you pray for God's blessing to be upon this vision of mission to our NWMC congregations.

Our heart and our Vision is for all of our congregations to be healthy, and to have healthy pastoral leadership, resulting in a healthy conference family of Churches.

For more Information or to arrange a personal meeting please contact Conference Pastor Dave Peters.