

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.
John 15:4 NIV

FRUITFULNESS IN MINISTRY MEANS...

Paul Israelson | *District Superintendent*

How do I know I've been fruitful in ministry? Have you ever asked that question? Perhaps not in those words exactly, but likely you've asked something similar. We all want to be fruitful and we often ask, in some way, what it takes to be fruitful or at least question why we're not. Why do we do this? Because fruitfulness in ministry is deeply important to those who have given their lives in service to Christ and for the sake of the gospel. This is why we entered ministry—to see lives changed, people saved, and the church grow. And we're not alone.

The Apostle Paul revealed that he cared deeply about fruitfulness in ministry when he told the church in Philippi, "If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me." (Phil 1:22). But what determines the nature of a fruitful ministry? How does one measure fruitfulness? These are among some of the most challenging questions that a minister of the gospel faces.

- **Fruitfulness in ministry starts with JESUS**

We know this, at least intellectually, but when we start talking "fruitfulness in ministry" we all must acknowledge that little voice inside our soul that immediately begins to tell us we need to work harder, do more, make it happen, etc. True we have a part to play, as we'll see shortly, but a fruitful ministry is

ROOTED in relationship with Jesus. Fruitfulness matters to Jesus for we are commanded to bear good fruit (John 15:8), but Jesus also repeatedly states that fruitfulness can ONLY happen if we “remain in me” because you cannot bear fruit “unless you remain in me” (John 15:4). So, a fruitful ministry must first be evaluated by asking, “Am I abiding in Jesus? Is this ministry focused on Jesus and rooted in him?”

- **Fruitfulness in ministry requires DILEGENT OBEDIENCE**

Ministry requires diligence because it's hard work—work that requires time, energy, and faithful endurance. Paul, whose goal was fruitful ministry declared, “I worked harder than all of [the other apostles]—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me” (1 Cor. 15:10). But ministry is not aimless hard work. A fruitful ministry is about working DILEGENTLY in OBEDIENCE! Remember the calling of Simon (aka Peter)? He was busy washing up his nets after a fruitless night of hard work when Jesus tells him put out for the deep and let out the nets for a catch. “Simon replied, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.” (Luke 5:4-6) Work hard in your ministry for fruit, but ensure that work is in obedience to what God is calling you to do.

- **Fruitfulness in ministry can (and should be) MEASURED**

If something you are doing is not bearing fruit (not bringing the desired outcome but taking up resources), it's time to make a decision. Either bring out the pruning shears and cut it out or rework the soil in an endeavor to make it work for you (John 15:2; Luke 13:8-9). Maybe this means changing programs in your church or maybe it means investing in some training to try new things (or both). Regardless, evaluation is important.

One final thought in closing: there is a lot of debate over “faithfulness” and “fruitfulness” in ministry. Some would lean to the position that faithfulness is the most important characteristic as a “fruitfulness mindset” is only focused on the numbers. The fruitful-minded ones might feel that “faithfulness” is a word people use to mask a lack of evangelistic outreach. Ultimately, both matter. We need faithfulness and we need fruitfulness. We need, to coin a phrase, to **faithfully pursue fruitfulness**. It is, of course, true that God gives the growth, but Paul does plant and Apollos does water.

May you be reminded to remain/abide in the vine without which there is no lasting fruit.
May you, through the life and direction Jesus brings, work diligently as you obey Christ.
May you find the value in evaluating and assessing all that is so you can make the necessary changes to engage that which can be.

And above all, may God bring a fruitful harvest in our District!

**March 26-28 - Women in Ministry Retreat @ St. Peter's Abbey
(Meunster, SK)**

Speaker: Diane Down, Signature Coaching (Kamloops, BC)

This event is for all our women credential holders and spouses of credential holders. Pastors, please encourage your boards to cover this event (letter sent in early 2020)

To register: Call the District Office (306)683-4646



WHO ARE WE AS THE PAOC?

Louis Halbgewachs | *Church Coach*

Have you read the Local Church Constitution (LCC) lately? The LCC opens with a “preamble”. Have you ever stopped to reflect on what the preamble says, what it means, or even what a “preamble” is? A preamble is an introductory and expressionary statement in a document that explains the document's purpose and underlying philosophy. Basically, we make a statement in a preamble that could or should be inserted in front of every point following in the LCC.

So enough rambling about preambles—what does ours say?

PAOC LCC PREAMBLE:

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father; to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith where the Holy Spirit may be honoured according to our distinctive testimony; ***to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands***, we, whose names appear on the local church roster under the above date, do hereby recognize ourselves as a local church in fellowship with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, and shall adopt the following articles of church order and submit ourselves to be governed by them.

The entire preamble is important, but the highlighted section doesn't seem to get as much buzz.

As I engage with churches about Vitality and Vitalization processes some pastors and churches push back by saying that they “don't want to lose their Pentecostal essence”.

To which I respond, “Excellent”, because a part of what makes us Pentecostal, PAOC, is that we are a people who have declaredly ***“assume[d] our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means”***.

The Apostle Paul said it like this: “I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.” (1 Corinthians 9:22)

This is who we are as the PAOC.

DISTRICT AREA PASTORS (DAPs) & COUNSELLING CARE

David Hepburn | *Executive Officer for Credential Care & Services*

Greetings fellow pastors and credential holders,

I was reminded of a passage of Scripture found in the book of Ecclesiastes. It says, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up" (Ecc 4:9–10). This statement rang true in Solomon's day and it still rings true today. We are truly **better together**.

I want to remind you that you are valued. In fact, to help us stay better connected and provide greater care, we have appointed District Area Pastors (DAPs) whose main duty will be to stay in touch with you and your family to provide support, encouragement, and prayer on a regular basis.

Here is a list of our DAPs:

James Guskjolen

Kevin Sawatsky

Aaron Pilon

Hans Martens

John Slemming

Darrell Desrosiers

Lorne Valuck

Ches Jacobs

Paul Israelson

Barry Berglund

Gwen Hacking

And myself, David Hepburn



If you have not been contacted yet, you will be shortly.

Please know that when you are contacted, all conversations are kept confidential, unless permission is granted to share with others, or law requires it.

If you or your immediate family require any **professional counseling**, we have a process to help you get connected to an approved counselor as well as an assistance policy that can help you with a portion of the cost.

Also, as a member of PAOC SK, you can have access to a confidential, toll-free counselling help-line through Focus on the Family called the **Clergy Care Network**:

1-888-5CLERGY (1-888- 525-3749)

www.clergycare.ca

info@clergyca.ca

“Quaker author Parker Palmer said, “A leader is a person who must take special responsibility for what’s going on inside of himself or herself... lest the act of leadership create more harm than good.”

— Quoted by Lance Witt, Replenish: Leading from a Healthy Soul



LIVING WATERS CAMP

Matt Bombay | *Living Waters Camp Chair*

Believe it or not, IT'S CAMP SEASON! Living Waters Camp is currently taking registrations for our Youth, Kids and Family Camps. Make sure you get in early as spots are already filling up quick.

To register or for more information go to Livingwaterscamp.ca or call 306-683-4646

Lodge Update:

We want to thank all those people and churches who have donated to the camp and the lodge addition this past year. The lodge is coming along quite nicely. We are in the final stages of getting the main work done—electrical, plumbing, drywall and paint will all be finished by April 2020!

So, what do we need moving forward?

Lodge completion: We need continued funding to help bring our lodge to completion (doors, flooring, trim, toilets, showers, beds and other furnishings). To bring us to absolute completion, we will need approximately \$80,000.

Water System: We also wanted to bring a concern to you about the current water system at the camp. We have had an analysis on our water system and the report back is that it's failing. The camp has been given a 3-stage process to fix the system but it comes with a hefty price tag (current quote approx. \$50,000 for phase 1—the urgent part!). Continue to pray with us as we seek solutions, provision and wisdom in the next steps for our camp.

If your church does not support Living Waters Camp please consider a monthly donation. If your church has been giving to the camp, thank you! We would also ask that you please consider increasing your support. Everything helps! We're better together!

DISTRICT MISSIONS

Kevin Sawatsky | *Assistant District Superintendent*

“Make no mistake about it, Christians are *sent*. Jesus prays to his Father in John 17:18, ‘As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.’ In identifying with Jesus, we are not only “not of this world,” but also sent right back into it on redemptive mission.”

I **AMEN** these words written by David Mathis, Executive Editor of *desiringGod.org*. For over 100 years Canadian Pentecostal people (and specifically in our context, Saskatchewan Pentecostals) have gone into all the world, being ‘sent’ by the Spirit to bring the Gospel. We were sent then and we are sent NOW by the same Spirit.

In the 2019-21 mandate of the District Leadership Team, there has been a re-visioning of the District Missions department. Working with SK resident & RAN worker Debbie F., Naomi Lancaster and myself, we have formed the **District Mission Team** to bring emphasis and greater support to our Global and Provincial mission workers. It has been commoving to pray and plan the following events for our district:

CELEBRATION MISSION BANQUETS

You are invited to join in on one of **SIX** regional banquets hosted at a SK PAOC church. An ethnic pot luck supper will be enjoyed followed by an engaging program of International Missions information, global /provincial mission workers updates, plus a guest speaker.

The first one will be on Saturday, April 8th at 5:30pm in Whitewood, SK. More information to come.

SK Missions
Celebration
Banquet

Ethnic Potluck
(bring a cultural dish to share)

Evening of Missions
News & Updates
from our
SK Workers!

Saturday April 4th
5:30pm
Whitewood NewLife Community Church
903-5th Ave Whitewood, SK
Cost: Love Offering
RSVP OR FOR MORE INFO: paocskdmr@sasktel.net

MOMENTUM

This is a day of learning, equipping and connecting with our church mission reps. One of the highlights will be introducing the **Kairos Course**, an “interactive course on world Christian mission. Kairos looks at the four main areas of mission concern which are the Biblical, Historical, Strategic and Cultural dimensions of mission”. Plus we will have updates on our PAOC International Missions strategic plans and information on our SK vision for mission work. Please protect these dates:

*Saturday June 13th/20—10am-3pm (lunch included)
Saskatoon Location: Horizon College 1303 Jackson Ave, Saskatoon.*

*Sunday June 14th/20, 2:30 pm- 7:00pm (Dinner included)
Regina Location: Avonhurst Pentecostal Church 3200 Avonhurst Dr. Regina, Sk.*



SK District Mission Team presents

MOMENTUM

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
REACHING • PLANTING • EQUIPPING • CARING

PAOCSK
THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA
SASKATCHEWAN DISTRICT

Saturday, June 13th/20
10am-3pm (lunch included)
Saskatoon Location: Horizon College 1303
Jackson Ave., Saskatoon, SK

Sunday June 14th/20
2:30 pm- 7:00pm (dinner included)
Regina Location: Avonhurst Pentecostal
Church 3200 Avonhurst Dr. Regina, SK

**Purpose: A day of training,
equipping & inspiration for
Church leaders & Mission reps.**

**RSVP by June 1st/20 to
paocskdmr@sasktel.net**

MISSION SUNDAYS

Would you like to have a SUNDAY emphasis in your church? We want to help! Debbie F., who lives in Regina, is also a RAN (Restricted Access Nations) worker. She would love to share about mission work in Saskatchewan and around the world.

Please email paocskdmr@sasktel.net or call **Kevin at 306-365-7899** for more information.

May the Lord help us to be even more committed to being a SENT people in the years to come.

RESOURCES

Nicole Martini | *Administrative Assistant*

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

We are excited to offer YOU, as a PAOC SK Credential Holder, free access to RightNow Media's many video resources. It is our GIFT to help you, as a leader, invest in your own life, ministry, your marriage, and your family.

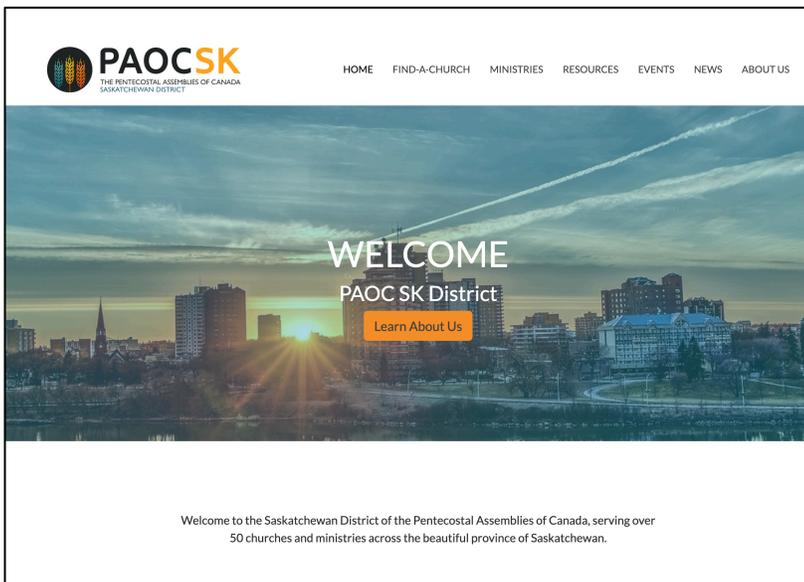
What is RightNow Media?

Well, simply defined it is like Netflix for ministry. It has over 400 Christian publishers, tens of thousands of Bible studies, conferences, training sessions, kid's cartoons, and much more! There are

over 20,000 churches, schools and ministries who partner with RightNow Media. **As a pastor, leader or credential holder with us, you receive FREE personal access to this resource!**

Now, your user account **cannot** be shared or given away to your church. **It is a gift to you and your family** to use for your marriage, finances, Bible Study, etc. However, because you are a part of **PAOC Saskatchewan**, your church **qualifies for a significant discount** for FULL access to RightNow Media so you can continue to equip your families, resource your groups, and develop your leaders.

How do you subscribe? Well, hopefully you would have already received an email with that information, but if you didn't, call the office today (306) 683-4646 or email Nicole at livingwaterscampsk@gmail.com and we will send you that email with an invitation to subscribe!



skpaoc.com

We are working hard to put more and more resources on our district website!

Find out about coming events, temporary marriage licenses, resources, and more at skpaoc.com

Also, like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/skpaoc

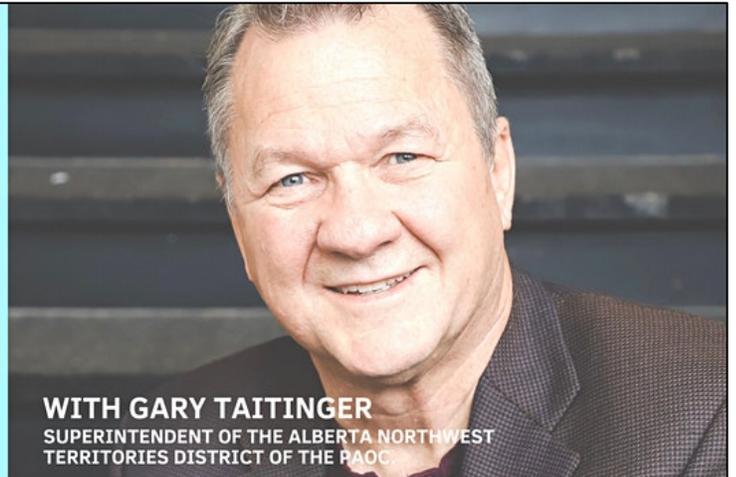


HEALTHY LEADER NETWORK

Check out hlnsk.com

A great source for great leadership training events, blogs, podcasts, and more...

**WHAT IF YOUR CHURCH'S
FUTURE IS GREATER THAN
ITS PAST?**



WITH GARY TAITINGER
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ALBERTA NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES DISTRICT OF THE PAOC.

MARCH 18: SASKATOON- THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHURCH
MARCH 19: REGINA- AVONHURST PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY

COST: EARLY BIRD \$20 (BEFORE FEB 15), REGULAR \$25 (AFTER FEB 15), LATE \$30 (AFTER MARCH 11)





FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Elaine King | *District Administrator*

- Following your Annual General Meeting, please **send a copy of your church's 2019 Annual Report** to the District Office.
- As per the 2009 District Conference, all PAOC SK churches are required to submit a copy of their completed **T3010 Registered Charity Information Return** to the District Office to ensure that it has been completed.
- Are you ready for your **2020 Credential Renewals**? Please renew ON-TIME as the late fee is going up to **\$100!!!**
- Did you receive your **Church Remittance Forms** in the mail? Thank you for making tithing an important part of your church as your giving supports work around our district and nation!
- Need Administrative tools and resources?
Check out **skpaoc.com/resources** or **paoc.org/church-toolbox**

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Transitions

- **Jacob Miller** joined the Avonhurst Pentecostal Assembly, Regina team in November as Youth & Young Adults Pastor.
- **Kevin and D'Anne Mullin** moved from Western Ontario District to begin ministry at Emmanuel Pentecostal Fellowship, North Battleford in late December.
- **Matthew and Michelle Redstone** returned to us in January from the ABNWT District after serving at First Assembly in Medicine Hat. Matt is now serving as Lead Pastor of Onechurch.ca, Carlyle.
- **Chris and Bonnie Ward** are newcomers to our PAOC family but not to ministry as they have served many years at City Centre Church in Saskatoon. Chris accepted the call to pastor Air Ronge Pentecostal Church in February.
- **Bob and Joan Leslie** will be travelling and ministering and have brought on **Gary Nyguym** of Wilkie to serve as their Associate Pastor at Wilkie Pentecostal Chapel.

Churches in Transition

- Cumberland House
- Parkside
- Semans
- Sonningdale
- Wiseton

Congratulations to Marvin & Sharlaine Wojda on celebrating thirty consecutive years of ministry at Elim Church, Saskatoon!



2020 DISTRICT CALENDAR

March 13-15 – **SR YOUTH RETREAT** (Camp Kadesh)

March 18-19 – **HLN SASKATOON & REGINA** (hlnsk.com)

March 26-28 – **WOMEN IN MINISTRY RETREAT** (St. Peter's Abbey—Meunster, SK)

April 18 – **HORIZON COLLEGE & SEMINARY GRADUATION**

April 21-22 – **PAOC SK 'PATH TO ORDINATION' TRAINING** (Saskatoon)

April 24-25 – **VIBE JR YOUTH RETREAT** (The Neighbourhood Church, Saskatoon)

May 4-7 – **GENERAL CONFERENCE** (Halifax, NS)

June 13-14 – **PAOC SK MISSIONS CONFERENCE**

October 5-7 – **DISTRICT RETREAT** (Saskatoon, SK)

To find out other events & happenings around our district and for more information visit

skpaoc.com/events

Or Credential Holders and spouses, stay connected with us on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/groups/paocsk



EXCITING NEWS FROM HORIZON SEMINARY

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

In Fall 2020, Horizon Seminary will launch its very own Master of Arts in Ministry Leadership – a program that aims to equip both seasoned and aspiring leaders by combining biblical and theological studies, leadership training, and hands-on learning.



EXCITING NEWS FROM HORIZON SEMINARY

SISTERHOOD - LEAD WOMEN COHORT

In Fall 2020, in partnership with Sisterhood YXE and LEAD Women, Horizon will launch a graduate cohort for women. The women-only cohort provides a unique opportunity for women to study the bible, theology, and ministry leadership in a context of mutual encouragement and support. The flexible format of the program will make it possible for women in the cohort to study part-time or full-time, as well as from various locations.

PAOC SK TEAM

Executive Officers

- Paul Israelson – *District Superintendent*
- Kevin Sawatsky – *Assistant District Superintendent*
- David Hepburn – *Executive Officer of Credential Care and Services (CSS)*
- Paul Martens – *Executive Officer of District Ministries (DM)*
- Joshua Singh – *Executive Officer of Vitality and Multiplication (CVM)*

Executive Presbyters

- Matthew Bombay – *DM Team, Chair of Living Waters Camp*
- Gwen Hacking – *CSS Team, Prayer Coordinator*
- Norm Proulx – *CVM Team*

District Leadership Team

- Barry Berglund – *CSS Team*
- Yasmin Chick – *DM Team*
- Carmen Kampman – *CVM Team*

Office Staff

- Elaine King – *District Administrator*
- Nicole Martini – *Administrative Assistant*
- Louis Halbgewachs – *Church Coach*

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www.skpaoc.com | www.facebook.com/skpaoc