

Faith Team Report, Convention 2023

As the ABMB Faith Team, we focus on nurturing the spiritual health of our pastors and churches as well as encouraging each other to embrace and live out our jointly held theological convictions as expressed in our MB Confession of Faith. We take our lead from and work collaboratively with the CCMBC National Faith and Life Team. Paul (ABMB Executive Director) and Laurence (as ABMB Rep) sit on that team.

A key role that we play is to facilitate the credentialing of pastors in Alberta. Our goal is to affirm the calling, the giftedness, the preparedness, and the fit, both theological and contextual, etc. of the applicants. We work with the pastors as they read a few books and complete the Credentialing Questionnaire in preparation for an in-depth interview. Those who are affirmed are set apart for ministry in the local setting and granted a license to officiate wedding ceremonies. Recently it has been exciting to work with leaders of our New Canadian churches in the credentialing process.

Temporary licenses are frequently granted to out of province MB pastors who have been asked to officiate a wedding ceremony in Alberta. They are also available to those who are not fully credentialed.

We like to walk along side churches as they search for a new pastor so that we can assist them in the discernment process. As a minimum, we seek to have a pre-credentialing interview with the applicant prior to the candidating stage. When possible, the credentialing questionnaire is completed before that time. It is meaningful and enriching to be able to work together with our churches in these ways. We are willing to coach and mentor pastors and leaders during and following their credentialing.

We also participate in installation services, ordination ceremonies, and commissioning services. These are times of joy, hope, and blessing! Please be sure to contact our team when you are making plans. Or if you would like one of us to serve in your church, please let us know.

In our efforts to help promote our Confession of Faith, we are pleased to assist and guide churches that are preaching through the Confession of Faith article by article (there are 18 articles) or studying it in smaller settings. We welcome inquiries about our theological convictions and our MB family.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We encourage you to continue to pray for us, your Faith Team, and for our churches, pastors, and leaders as we live out our faith as Kingdom people, making disciples of Jesus in a complex and needy world. May we remind you of Paul's words to Timothy when he said, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Sincerely in Christ,

ABMB Faith Team
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