

NETWORKING SESSION 10:45am

1. Facilitator: **Jennifer Estabrooks**

Title: **Exploring the Highs and Lows of Being a Pastor's Spouse**

Description: The role of a pastor's spouse is filled with joys, challenges, and unexpected turns of life. Join Jennifer Estabrooks for an exploration of the ups and downs of this often-overlooked role, and how we can support one another along the way.

2. Facilitator: **Tim Bryson**

Spiritual Formation

Title: **Engaging Your Congregation in Corporate Prayer**

Description: Corporate prayer has the power to unite hearts, align vision, and invite the Spirit to move among God's people. In this conversation, we'll share ideas and insights on how to lead our congregations into prayer that is vibrant, participatory, and transformational.

3. Facilitator: **Libby Peters**

M.A.i.D.

Title: **Walking With, Not Away: A Pastoral Response to MAiD**

Description: How do we faithfully walk with those who choose a medically assisted death? This roundtable creates space for open, honest conversation—rooted in grace, empathy, and pastoral care. Drawing from real experience, we'll explore what it practically looks like, and emotionally feels like, to walk alongside those who choose a medically assisted death, while offering presence, not persuasion, compassion not correction.

4. Facilitator: **Rob Gulliver**

Spiritual Formation

Title: **The Importance of Personal Renewal**

Description: We often pray for revival these days for our churches and our nation as we see an ever-declining attendance in most churches in Canada. But often before revival ever begins, there is a time of personal and corporate renewal. In other words, it begins with each of us as pastors, as leaders, for as we are renewed in our walk with Christ, we see the need for others in our midst to experience the same. But how does this happen?

That is what we will be discussing at this round table – the importance of personal renewal.

5. Facilitator: **Sam Barry**

Navigating Conflict

Title: **Navigating Conflict – Motivating People to Change**

Description: Have you ever been in a disagreement and you don't know how to help move it forward? There are many ways in which people respond in conflict, and it is challenging to know how to help them move towards solutions. We will explore three tools to help motivate people to work towards change that will make a difference.

6. Facilitator: **Graham Gaessler**

Spiritual Formation

Title: **The Role of Scripture in Spiritual Formation**

Description: A practical conversation on how we can engage with Scripture in ways that help both individuals and churches grow in their relationship with God.

7. Facilitators: **Gen Epp & Next Gen Team**

Title: **Fueling a Warm Community for Those Under 25 is a Whole Church Issue**

Description: What would it look like for our whole church to prioritize relationships over programs in order to create a truly warm and welcoming environment for those under 25?

8. Facilitators: **Gen Epp & Next Gen Team**

Title: **Keychain Leadership: Seeing Those Under 25 as Valuable Contributors to Church Life**

Description: How do we empower those under 25 and are we intentionally sharing meaningful leadership, and how are you wisely sharing intentional leadership opportunities?

9. Facilitator: **Shirley Thiessen**

Title: **How does your church equip people to mourn with those who mourn?**

Description: We are called to multiply God's love by caring for the brokenhearted. Expressing empathy makes God's love visible. But most people don't know what is helpful to say or do to support those who grieve. How will we equip them?

10. Facilitator: **Alison LeFebvre**

Title: **How can we better embody right-relations between Indigenous and non-indigenous peoples in Canada?**

Description: "What does it mean to live in right relationship with one another—across histories, cultures, and lived experiences? This conversation invites us to listen, learn, and reflect together on how we can more fully embody justice, humility, and reconciliation in our relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada."

11. Facilitator: **Nikki Ferguson**

Title: **The Role of The Church in Times of Crisis**

Description: In times of disaster, displacement, or deep need, the local church can be a powerful presence of hope, healing, and practical support. This discussion explores the vital role churches play in responding to crisis—both at home and around the world. With insight from the work of Samaritan's Purse, we'll look at how churches are equipped and mobilized to meet urgent needs while sharing the unshakable hope of Jesus. Come discover how your church can be part of God's redemptive work in some of the world's most challenging situations.

12. Facilitator: **William Knelsen**

Title: **Humble Power in Leadership**

Description: In a time of increasing awareness of power misuse among leaders, biblical humility offers an opportunity to redeem leadership. Join William Knelsen for a discussion on how a robust understanding of humility shapes church leadership in the character of Jesus.

13. Facilitators: **Chris Neufeld and Justin Fox**

Title: **How To Minister in a Culture of Sexual Diversity**

Description: Exploring how empathy and missiology might inform our pastoral posture toward people with diverse sexual identities while maintaining a historical Christian sexual ethic. Come ready to share successes, confess blunders, and ask questions with ministry leaders who themselves are still trying to iron this all out.

14. Facilitator: **Steve Griffin**

Title: **Walking with a Heart of Compassion In the Local Church**

Description: We will discuss what it looks like to establish and carry out a response to meeting the needs of those on the margins. It is critically important as we consider the intensity of walking with those who are most vulnerable to share stories, ideas, and ways to support each other in making a difference as we seek to assist and welcome people in need into a healing environment in the name of Jesus in our EMCC churches

15. Facilitator: **Nicole Jones-Qandah**

Title: **Lessons from Lausanne: Global Learning for Local Churches**

Description: The vision of the Fourth Lausanne Congress is to accelerate discipleship in all nations by 2050. Canada is a nation of nations. In order to reach the diverse people groups in our country, the church of Canada has the opportunity to come together, learn, and join the Global Church in unique ways to bring the whole gospel to the whole world for the glory of God.

16. Facilitator: **Jeremy Doorten**

Title: **Church Planting Movements: Can They Happen in Canada?**

Description: Is it possible to see a genuine church planting movement take root in Canada? This round table discussion explores that question through the remarkable case study of the "House-fires" movement—an eight-generation network of house churches launched by a bi-vocational construction worker in Nanaimo, B.C. Together, we'll unpack what made this movement thrive: the simple, reproducible practices that sparked multiplication, the power of releasing everyday believers into ministry ("Unleashing the Priest"), and the cultural shifts required for movements to grow. Whether you're a pastor, planter, or simply curious, come ready to reimagine how God might use you to foster movement in your own context.

17. Facilitator: **Brian Mullins**

Title: **The End of Injustice**

Description: Together we will discover what injustice really is, and why it is the greatest challenge facing the world's poor. All of our efforts to alleviate poverty are ultimately futile without addressing the injustice that exists. We will look at God's heart for justice and Jesus' demonstration of justice.

18. Facilitators: **Andrew Fitch and Darren Duncalfe**

Title: **Multiplication of Disciples & Leaders through Camp & Church Partnerships**

Description: Together we will consider how camp ministry and the local church can strategically partner to multiply disciples and develop future leaders through intentional collaboration and practical strategies, while leveraging the unique strengths of each—camps for immersive spiritual experiences and churches for ongoing discipleship and community support.

19. Facilitators: **Mike Swalm & Robert Harris**

Title: **New Leadership Pathways**

Description: Leadership development in the 21st century requires new skills and modalities. Let's discuss new ways of learning and leading together.

20. Facilitator: **Jeremiah Capule**

Title: **Embracing the Multiplication Mindset**

Description: Come and explore how adopting Jesus' mindset of multiplying disciples is key to fulfilling the Great Commission. Consider what this model looks like in the Canadian context, what changes are needed to adopt it, and the cost of fully aligning with Jesus' transformative disciple-making movement.

21. Facilitator: **Beverly Dewitt**

Title: **Making Disciples Internationally or Training Pastors Internationally**

Description: According to the Center for the Study of Global Christianity, there are currently 5 million pastors/priests worldwide. Of these, only 5% have formal theological training. Roughly 70% of pastors have formed their own congregations with little or no training or accountability. How can churches within the EMCC help address this problem?

22. Facilitator: **Rosemary Flaaten**

Title: **Empowering Women to Live Out Their Calling and Giftedness**

Description: This workshop will examine the unique challenges to empowering women in the church. Societal, institutional, and familial constraints can make it difficult for women to live out their calling and giftedness within the body of Christ. Dr. Rosemary Flaaten brings scholarly depth and lived experience to the topic of how unconscious gender bias holds women back in Christian organizations, even when the espoused theology supports their leadership. This session invites both men and women to grapple with how we can make our churches a place where all will thrive.

NETWORKING SESSION 3:45pm

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2. Facilitator: **Sheryl Grunwald**

Title: **Practical Strategies for Discipleship of Children**

Description: We want to see our children and youth walking with Jesus as disciples, but unless we are intentional, that may not happen. Let's explore strategies that may help us do a better job of relationally discipling children in our families and in our churches.

3. Libby Peters

M.A.i.D.

Title: **Walking With, Not Away: A Pastoral Response to MAID**

Description: How do we faithfully walk with those who choose a medically assisted death? This roundtable creates space for open, honest conversation—rooted in grace, empathy, and pastoral care. Drawing from real experience, we'll explore what it practically looks like, and emotionally feels like, to walk alongside those who choose a medically assisted death, while offering presence not persuasion, compassion not correction.

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6. Facilitator: **Graham Gaessler**

Spiritual Formation

Title: **More Like Jesus**

Description: How do people truly grow to become more like Jesus? Why is information alone not enough to bring about lasting transformation?

7. Facilitator: **Gen Epp & Next Gen Team**

Title: **Fueling a Warm Community for Those Under 25 is a Whole Church Issue**

Description: What would it look like for our whole church to prioritize relationships over programs in order to create a truly warm and welcoming environment for those under 25?

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Next Gen

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Description: How do we empower those under 25 and are we intentionally sharing meaningful leadership, and how are you wisely sharing intentional leadership opportunities?

9. Facilitator: **Shirley Thiessen**

Title: **Spoiler alert: Providing a grief support resource like GriefShare is a good start but not enough to educate the entire congregation.**

Description: We are called to multiply God's love by caring for the brokenhearted. Expressing empathy makes God's love visible. But most people don't know what is helpful to say or do to support those who grieve. How will we equip them?

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16. Facilitator: **Jeremy Doorten**

Title: **The 5 T's: Five Essential Stewardships For Healthy Churches (And Maybe Church Plants!)**

Description: What does it take to lead a healthy, missionally effective church—or plant one? In this round table discussion, we'll explore The 5 T's—Targets, Tools, Teaming, Training, and Tracking—as five essential areas of stewardship that can breathe new life into churches and their people. Rooted in the practices of the early church (Acts 2), we'll examine how Jesus' commands give shape to intentional discipleship and movement. Whether you're leading a church, planting one, or just looking to refocus your ministry, this session will give you a practical framework to grow with clarity, purpose, and Kingdom impact.

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22. Facilitator: **Lucas van Boeschoten**

Title: **Connecting with Your Congregation**

Description: How can you use people connections to achieve God's purpose for you and your church? What is your perspective? Have you come to an intentional connecting plan? Join Lucas van Boeschoten for a time of learning from each other.

