



SEPTEMBER 2025 EDITION

IN THIS EDITION OF IN THE LOOP:

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE	2
CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES	3
UPCOMING EVENTS	11
NMI INFORMATION	12
NDI INFORMATION	13
PRAYER PAGE	14
FAMILY UPDATES	15

From the desk of the DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Canada West District family,

One of my favourite nephews (they are all favourites!) is currently working for a company that harvests seeds from an endangered species tree. The goal is to get to the seeds before the birds. I am not sure why, but the trees are not germinating through the spread of the birds. So the company will plant the seeds and help the species recover to its former glory.

I don't know who discovered the endangered status of these trees. I am thrilled to hear that there are people doing something to help them flourish once again.

This illustration readily brings to mind the following verses:
And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear." (Matthew 13:3-9 ESV)

My nephew has been tasked with finding the seeds to sow. He isn't gathering soil, or sunshine, or mountain water. He is looking for the seeds. This parable of Scripture is troublesome for people who think the sower should become more efficient and stop wasting the seed on tough terrain. Yet J.D. Walt in his devotional Seedbed, states that this misses the point entirely. "The rule of the kingdom is not efficiency. It is extravagance—sowing seeds everywhere all the time. The kingdom we seek is not about the soil. It's not about the sower. It's about the Seed. And the Seed is the Word of God—who is the Son of God—flourishing in the soil of you. "

This edition of the Loop shows the extravagant ways the Son of God is being spread throughout our district.

Go and be extravagant, sharing the Son of God everywhere you go! May God's Kingdom flourish in each of our communities.

You are loved.

Rose Brower-Young
Rose Brower-Young



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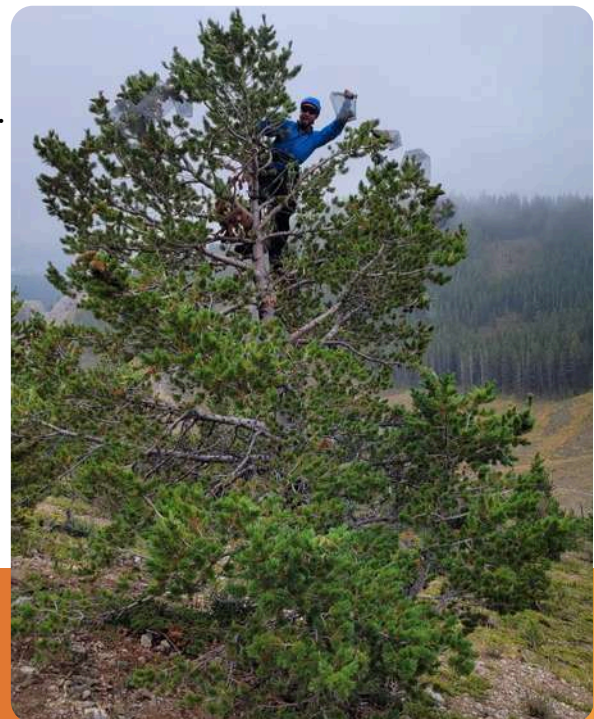
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CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

LAKESHORE FAMILY CAMP (MB)



The Canada West Manitoba churches gathered for family camp at Lakeshore Camp, St. Malo for three days of worship, fellowship, fun and learning together. Rev. Dr. Stuart Williams from Ambrose University was the Speaker.



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

BRIDGEPOINT FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP (AB)

Welcome to



Bridgepoint Filipino Fellowship, the newest mission outpost on Canada West had their first founding Sunday celebration on September 14, 2025.

Pastor Fraizer Labinio leads this new start, which meets at First Church of the Nazarene in Edmonton, Alberta.



HOPE POINTE COMMUNITY, Olds, AB

On September 14, Jasmine Spink of Hope Pointe ran from Olds to Sundre to raise funds for a new community park that the Olds church is helping to build. Her church family met her in Sundre for a celebratory lunch after the run. If you'd like to contribute financially to this project, contact Hope Pointe at office@hopepointeolds.ca



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

ALBERTA FAMILY CAMP (HARMATTAN)



Campers gathered at Camp Harmattan in Alberta for ten days of worship, fellowship, campfires, prayer and learning. Dozens of volunteers worked to make the ministries to children and youth possible, plus supported events like Hey Day and a farmer's market.

Rev. Dr. Carla and Rev. Chuck Sunberg were the speakers. There were many items on display in celebration of Alberta Family Camp's 70th anniversary. The week ended with fireworks!



Alberta Family Camp videos are up on our YouTube Channel!



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

STETTLER COMMUNITY CHURCH (AB)



In August, the Stettler Church joyfully welcomed four new members—Patrick, Jo, Eric, and Jayson (not pictured). What a blessing to see the community grow!

They also said a special thank-you to Patrick and Arthur, who spent the summer leading weekday workshops in voice, guitar, ukulele, and multiple sports clinics—mentoring and inspiring our children and youth.



SEDGEWICK COMMUNITY CHURCH (AB)



On September 7, Sedgewick Community Church kicked off Fall ministries with a fun day outdoors enjoying each other's company and loads of bubbles and water.



RIMBEY CHURCH (AB)



Rimbey Church welcomed three new members into church fellowship on Sunday, September 14. God is on the move!



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

NEW HOPE COMMUNITY Winnipeg, MB



A Canada West Nazarene Missions Team recently travelled to New Hope Church of the Nazarene in Winnipeg for a weekend of service and encouragement. Organized by Sally Arkell of Innisfail, the team included children, youth, and adults from across Alberta.

Hosted with warm hospitality by Pastor Annette and her congregation, the volunteers tackled projects such as drywall repairs, painting, landscaping, and deep cleaning, while also helping with community outreach and Sunday worship. The effort was a direct answer to New Hope's prayer for help and brought fresh energy to the church's ministry in its diverse neighbourhood.

Beyond the physical improvements, team members experienced deep spiritual growth and forged lasting friendships with New Hope's congregation. Their witness of faith through service strengthened New Hope's sense of connection to the wider Nazarene family and inspired participants to continue mission work both locally and abroad. Plans are already underway for future trips—from the Azores to Papua New Guinea—as the district encourages others to join in sharing Christ's love through hands-on ministry.



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

CALGARY FIRST (AB)



Calgary First Kids hosted a VBS in July which welcomed 91 kids and 58 volunteers, all coming together to learn, laugh, and grow in faith. Throughout the week, campers were challenged to live out their faith in practical ways—through worship, games, Bible stories, and acts of service. Calgary First truly answered the call to LIVE IT OUT!



SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY Edmonton, AB



Edmonton Southside Community enjoyed a fantastic Fall Kick-Off with perfect weather and a great neighborhood turnout. Families enjoyed bouncy castles, glitter tattoos, cotton candy, popcorn, and even a dunk tank, which helped raise \$547 to support the teens' upcoming trip to NYC.



Sunday, September 14, Calgary First welcomed Pastor Jon Caldwell to the team as Associate Pastor Of Family Ministry! Please join all of Canada West in welcoming him and his family to the district!



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

RED DEER FIRST CHURCH (AB)



Red Deer First picked a sunny day to celebrate their Fall kickoff with a BBQ. Later that week several "Seniors & Friends" watched a movie together!



LIGHTHOUSE FELLOWSHIP Sylvan Lake, AB



Lighthouse Fellowship celebrated several anniversaries, including Pastor Barry and Ruthanne in the last few months PLUS the baptism of Marcus Ewing at Alberta Family Camp!



HAPPY ROCK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Gladstone, MB



The kids of Happy Rock and their volunteer leaders hit the road for an awesome VBS this Summer!



CHURCH & MINISTRY UPDATES

GLENVIEW NAZARENE Medicine Hat (AB)

The Summer for the Glenview Church was unforgettable with Stampede Round-Up in July and their 1st Annual Boot Sale in August! On Stampede Sunday, they welcomed 200+ neighbours for free food, music, kids' activities, roping lessons, a petting zoo, and cotton candy!

In August, inspired by a U.K. "car boot" sale, 20 vehicles joined in for a morning of shopping and selling, while our youth raised funds with hot dogs and drinks. All this was possible with the help of amazing volunteers.



INNISFAIL CHURCH (AB)

On August 23, Innisfail Nazarene Church hosted its second annual Block Party, welcoming an estimated 225–250 neighbours for an afternoon of fun and free food.

The community donated school supplies and snacks for two local elementary schools with cash gifts to purchase more. It was great to connect with new families and students.

A special highlight was a visit from the Mayor, who brought a donation and thanked us for blessing the town again this year. Thank you to everyone who came, donated, or served—God is on the move in Innisfail!



UPCOMING EVENTS

EXPONENTIAL

2025 ONLINE COHORT

Becoming a Future-Ready Church:
Four Weeks to Get You Started

SEP 23 SEP 30 OCT 07 OCT 14

3:00-4:00PM CT / 2:00-3:00PM MT

The next generation is here — and they're ready to lead. Are you ready to empower them?

Join the Exponential online cohort based on *Becoming a Future-Ready Church* and learn how to navigate cultural shifts, multiply leaders, and build a vibrant, hope-filled future.

Sept 23 – Oct 14, 2025
3 pm CT / 2 pm MT
\$99 USD

Over 4 interactive sessions with the authors, you'll gain practical tools to help your church become truly future-ready.

Spots are limited — secure yours today!

Learn more and register [here](#) or click the picture!



Tracking the Footsteps of Paul in Biblical Greece

with Dr. Beth Stovell & Dr. Jonathan Lo

Ambrose University Educational Travel – May 17-27, 2026

- EMBARK on an immersive 9-day cross-cultural journey through Greece.
- EXPERIENCE the stunning Mediterranean landscape and visit important historical sites connected to Paul and his second missionary journey.
- PARTICIPATE in daily devotions, mini-lectures, and educational activities while taking in amazing scenery, culture, and cuisine.
- ELEVATE your understanding of and appreciation for the NT Scriptures in the context of the history, language, and culture of the Greek people.



Travel Dates: May 17-27, 2026 (9 total days in Greece)

Costs: \$1350 CAD + 6050 USD (Single Room)

\$1350 CAD + 5000 USD (Double Occupancy)

Costs include airfare from and to Calgary, ground transport and entrance fees to attractions, and 9 nights of accommodation and 9 breakfasts and dinners. A non-refundable \$200 USD deposit is required by Nov 10, 2025.

Info Session: Saturday, October 25, 2025, 11am-12:30pm, Room A2133, Ambrose University 150 Ambrose Circle SW, Calgary, AB T3H 0L5
Please contact Jonathan.Lo@ambrose.edu for more information.



Bi-vocational pastors, this one's for you!

Mark your calendar for October 9, 2025, and join us for a special event created with your unique calling in mind. We're thrilled to welcome Dr. Ed Stetzer, respected author, missiologist, and church leader, who will share timely encouragement and practical insight into bi-vocational ministry.

Don't miss this chance to be encouraged, equipped, and inspired for the work God has called you to. We will send the link ASAP when received.





NMI



[Download the latest NMI Newsletter here.](#)



[Current opportunities for missions service here](#)

Wow Canada West!

You did it again!

We celebrate exceeding the goal for the 2025-2026 children's missions project. Thank you for your generosity towards more drinkable water in the Horn of Africa.



Because of your gifts, a water well will be placed among house churches in the Horn of Africa—bringing clean, safe water where believers are often denied access and opening doors to share the Living Water, Jesus Christ.

♥ Special thanks to Sedgewick VBS – \$3,000
Camp Harmattan kids – over \$3,000
Olds Hope Pointe – over \$600

Thank you, Canada West kids and congregations,
for changing lives with life-giving water!

Have you signed up for NMI Central? You need to!
Sign up

[HERE](#)



We are privileged to host Missionaries

Arnel and Christine Jotiz

on Canada West September 17 to September 28, 2025

The Jotiz family currently serve in Cambodia. They help leadership and a growing district in the area of district development and resource identification, and equipping believers in evangelism and discipleship. We are excited to have them share their journey and vision with us.

[Click to download](#) the tour schedule

September is Alabaster Month!
Information and Stories
Alabaster Video



NMI - A PEOPLE OF "AND"!

Canada West District

Nazarene Missions International



The Discipleship Link
Sharing Resources That Make Disciples



Have you had the chance to sign up for The Discipleship Link???? If not, you are missing out! Through this monthly newsletter from NDI Canada, you will receive resource recommendations for every age group to be used in your local ministry. You can check out the [August edition here](#) and then, go sign up by clicking the picture above.

JOIN US in the [Canada West Kids Facebook Group](#) for resources, inspiration & conversation

FOLLOW [Canada West NDI](#) on Facebook for announcements and updates

DOWNLOAD the latest NDI Newsletter [here](#).

A SPECIAL NOTE ON SHIPPING

the Foundry has a new commitment to help with shipping if we order by their deadline. Click the button below to download information on autoship and quarterly shipping.

[Shipping Info](#)

FALL DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

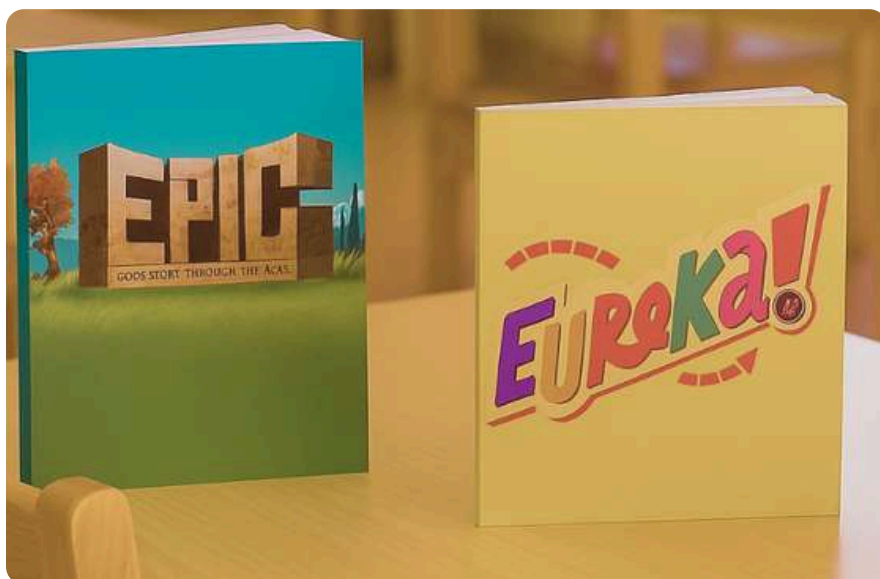
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE FALL SURVEY YET?

Click [this link](#) to start. We want to hear from you!



USE QR CODE
OR SEE LINK



DID YOU KNOW???

The Foundry now has both *Epic* and *Eureka!* available by digital download. This can help our churches so much as shipping has often been a barrier. You might want to check these out again (or for the first time) and see how they might work with your kids. And if you do, don't hesitate to reach out and give us a review. Click the picture or [this link](#) to access the website and have a look.

PRAYER PAGE

**BECOME A PRAYER
PARTNER FOR
NYC2026!**

SIGN UP

HERE



**CANADA
WEST
DISTRICT**

Pray for our Pastors

Refuel

SOUL CARE CONFERENCE

**October 24-26
Canmore, Alberta**

Rev. Dr. Jeren Rowell, Speaker

PRAY FOR THIS TEAM FROM CWD

**Going to Native American Christian Academy
for Short Term Mission**

SEPT. 23, 2025-OCTOBER 3, 2025



STEVE PRENDERGAST, DENNIS & LOIS SEMENYINA



**Please be in prayer for these
congregations as they experience
times of transition.**

CALGARY SKYVIEW COMMUNITY

**Rev. Ronald Miller will serve as Lead
Pastor. His start date will be set once his
visa is approved. Please keep the visa
process in your prayers.**

SUNDRE MAIN AVENUE FELLOWSHIP

**Rev. Bud Sargent is serving as Interim
Pastor.**

OLDS HOPE POINTE COMMUNITY

Currently without pastoral leadership

FORT SASKATCHEWAN

**Currently looking for a Re-start
Champion!**

STETTLER COMMUNITY

**Rev. Francis Gura will serve as
Lead Pastor. His start date will
be set once his visa is approved.
Please keep the visa process in
your prayers.**

FAMILY UPDATES

Please join us in welcoming Juniper Jean Manswell to the Canada West family!

Proud parents Jerrick and Jacqui Manswell rejoice in this precious gift, and thrilled grandparents Rev. Anthony and Barb Manswell, Canada West missionaries serving in Trinidad, join in the celebration of this beautiful new life.



In August the church family at Main Avenue Fellowship in Sundre, Alberta celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary of Rev. Glenn and Dorothy Reeder! The Reeders have served for decades in the Nazarene church as a pastoring couple and now as whole-hearted, selfless volunteers spearheading the worship team and children's ministries. We are so grateful for their service and their example in love, faith, and life.

Canada West District celebrates this milestone with you!

HAPPY
Anniversary!

If you see Rev. Bob and Lavon Tattrie (they are the ones in the photo that are a wee bit older than the others), wish them a Happy 50th Anniversary!

HAPPY
Anniversary!

