

"As a pastor of a rural northern Minnesota church plant, I sometimes feel isolated and desire fellowship with other like-minded evangelical pastors. I can also end up frustrated by some of the challenges that we face as a church in one of the poorest counties of MN and surrounded by three Indian reservations.

Almost four years ago I found myself, as I usually do, reading the monthly CB North Central newsletter and noticed the opportunity to attend the Moody Pastors Conference along with other CB pastors. As a former CB International/WorldVenture missionary that was originally from a CB church and previously supported by CB churches, I knew it would be fun to hang out with old friends and possibly make few new ones. So I made the call and to my surprise I was not only invited to attend, they understood our financial struggles as a small church and assisted me with the registration cost through a CBNC scholarship.

My first trip to Moody had a powerful impact on me and the rural ministry Christ has called me to. It provided me with resources, teaching and inspiration that fueled my work over the following year. It also blessed me with the invaluable and refreshing opportunity to connect and share with other CB pastors. I knew I had to go back again...and with the generous help from CB North Central I have been able to attend two more times!

Because we are a church that is more like a mission than a typical church, our tithes and offerings limit us from being able to include things like the Moody Pastors Conference in our budget. The CBNC scholarship has been a blessing beyond words. I am so grateful for the scholarships over the last three years and I would like everyone to know that these scholarships have provided me with the encouragement and tools to keep pressing on in ministry. Thank you and may our Lord bless you."

*Pastor Eric Olson
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