

Live DS

Hey there! If you watched the video, then you already heard me talk about our EFCA West 2020 District Conference. The big news is that our website is now live, and you can register and get more details at www.efcawest2020.com.

I don't know if this will raise or lower your opinion of me, but as I've been on the road and staying in a lot of hotels, I've recently gotten hooked on a show called Live PD. Have you seen it? Basically, they report on "live" police activity from six or seven different places spread out all over the country. If you have ADD and secretly wish you were a cop, this is the show for you.

So instead of "Live PD," consider this article "Live DS," where I take you on a quick tour of all the places in our district where I've had the chance to see what God is doing through our EFCA leaders.

First of all, as I have just stepped into this role, I am amazed and humbled at all the ministry happening in EFCA West churches spread across the seven states of our district. For example, attending the Central Valley Regional Gathering at [Tulare Evangelical Free Church](#) back in December allowed me to meet a number of pastors who have been faithfully serving their communities in the heartland of California for decades. Then there are the new guys: Pastor David Welch who just took over for founding pastor Dave Miller at [Rocky Hill Community Church](#) in Exeter, CA. And Kent and Danielle Schlecht, who are planting a church in Bakersfield, CA, and have now gathered close to thirty people in their launch team!

From there we head north to the Bay Area Regional Gathering at [Bridges Community Church](#) in Fremont, CA. I listened to how our churches are prevailing in one of the most challenging ministry environments in America. The passion that our pastors must reach *all people* was evident in our conversation, and it fired me up!

Of course, there are great things happening in my home city of Phoenix. I had lunch with Pastor Sean Eddy of [Chandler Bible Church](#) and listened to how they have partnered with a local school to provide snacks to students during the state testing periods. This has opened the door to a long-term relationship with the school administration and the teachers.

It was a great privilege to be a part of Pastor Melvin Bailey's installation service at Clovis EV Free, Pastor Todd Arnett's ordination service at Trinity Church in Redlands, CA, and to preach at both locations at Ambassador Church in Orange County, CA. Most recently I travelled to New Mexico to see Pastor Brian Hammonds of [First Evangelical Free of Las Cruces](#) who is doing an excellent job bringing life and vision to his church.

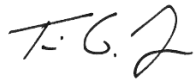
While in New Mexico I had the chance to preach at [Hope Church](#) in Albuquerque. These guys truly embody the EFCA mission of "multiplying transformational churches among all people." It was so encouraging to hear their elders reaffirm their commitment to make heavy investments in church planting, both in their city and around the world. They now have the privilege of partnering with one of their most recent church plants, [Refuge](#), which is growing like crazy, to plant yet another church!

TIM JACOBS • District Superintendent

The whole purpose of this little Live DS tour was to help you see what I'm seeing. *In each one of these churches there are dedicated women and men who are working hard to be Evangelical and to be Free.* In other words, they want to see the Gospel made known to their friends and neighbors, and they recognize their freedom as not just a freedom *from* but a freedom *for*. In other words, not just a freedom *from* some type of hierarchical authority (like a denomination!) but a freedom *for* the mission. That's what it means to be free!

So... the obvious detail remaining in my mind is that there are still so many places I haven't been yet. Thankfully we have an amazing staff who is traveling all over the place and working really hard to help you in any way we can. As a team we are committed to seeing what they reported in Acts 16:5, *"So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in number daily."* That's why we're here! Please don't hesitate to call or text me anytime at (623) 262-5268. May God bless you tremendously this month!!

For the Kingdom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. G. 2'.

Tim Jacobs
District Superintendent
EFCA West

TIM JACOBS • District Superintendent

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