

February 6, 2026

Dear EFCA Network Members,

This letter is addressed to all EFCA leaders, since all of us are a part of the interconnected movement that is the EFCA. It is also an invitation into discussion for those holding an active credential, who are therefore voting members in the Network. The Network leadership team is changing and the future of our Network is a matter for prayer and conversation over the next several months.

Network Leaders completing terms:

- Darin Anderson completing the second of two three year terms
- Tammy Medders completing the second of two three year terms
- John Mochel completing the second of two three year terms
- Chi Eng Yuan completing the second of two three year terms
- Samantha Frykholm completing a three year term
- Renato Jimenez completing a three year term

Mike Davis has two years remaining on his second term and is glad to continue serving. Renato Jimenez is willing to serve a second term. John Mochel is open to serving a one year extension of his second term on the Network Board in order to maintain compliance with the National Board of Ministerial Standing and their policy to have a Network Board member on their team. Todd Hessel, former board member and chairman of the Network, is willing to be considered for service again on the Network Board. These decisions would keep the Network in compliance with our By-laws expectation of 3-9 Board members.

Please visit www.EFCA.Network/history for a brief video and a written summary of the history of the Ministerial Association that became the EFCA Network in 2019. There is no doubt that the MA played a vital role in the early organization and ministry fruitfulness of the EFCA, and laid the groundwork for the many excellent structures that have arisen to serve the expanding needs of our movement. In recent years, however, there has been discussion about whether the Network has an ongoing part to play or if it is time to gratefully and gracefully allow this structure to pass into the history of the EFCA.

The argument for dissolution is simply that there are very few tangible tasks the Network still performs for the EFCA, other than the constitutional requirement to have a Board Member who also serves on BOMS. The Network Board has spent the last several years prayerfully looking for ways to assist in connecting leaders with one another, but

continually discover that other teams and programs are actively and effectively working on the initiatives we might pursue like marriage enrichment, recovery and leader health.

On the other hand, the whole reason we rebranded and re-purposed the MA as the Network was not to address specific projects (other than to financially support Recovery Church) but rather **to create a grassroots, relational, identity fortifying network of EFCA leaders** encouraging and spurring one another on. It's the difference between getting an email from your District inviting you to an event and getting a text from a fellow leader asking you to share a cup of coffee. Both the email and the text are valuable forms of communication, but they are quite different in that one comes from a formal structure in the EFCA and the other from a brother or sister in the relational movement ("network") that is our denominational family.

That is the question before us: do we lose something valuable and unique to the EFCA if the Network dissolves? Ten years ago (4/19/2016) a group of leaders including retired EFCA President Bill Hamel and President Kevin Kompelien discussed this issue with the then leadership team of the Ministerial Association. One point that was striking to me (Darin) at that meeting was the observation that no other denomination the group was aware of had a Ministerial Association anymore. That felt like an argument *for* an informal relational network in the EFCA precisely because it is *unlike* the top-down, heavy management approaches of other denominations. There was a strong sense in the room that if the Ministerial Association went away we would be losing something distinctively EFCA. One phrase that kept coming up was to "fill the gaps" left unaddressed by District, National and other formal structures.

Since 2019 and the official launch of the EFCA Network, our leadership team has successfully served as a listening post to discern ministry gaps and possible opportunities by involving women and minority leaders on our board. Could this approach provide important input and grassroots, one-anothering type influence down the road? That is what we are inviting you to discuss this year. Text a friend, have some coffee and talk about how we can better love and serve one another in this special family that is our One EFCA!

Humbly and gratefully yours,

The EFCA Network Board

(Darin Anderson, Mike Davis, Samantha Frykholm, Renato Jimenez, Tammy Medders, John Mochel, Chi Eng Yuan)