

2017 Candidates for Ordination to Word and Sacrament

The Annual General Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada approves candidates for ordination prior to a vote taken at the Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church. Candidates are recommended to the ECCC AGM by the Ministerium and the committee on ministerial standing. This year, we have three candidates.

For more information on the eligibility, requirements, and procedure for ordination please see the Evangelical Covenant Church website (www.covchurch.org).

BILL GARDNER explains his call to ministry...

I became a Christian during high school in the Philippines through a Baptist missionary. While at university, I was asked to become an InterVarsity leader, first as a Bible study leader, then on the chapter leadership team and eventually as president. When I was graduating, I felt God was calling me into ministry, initially as an IV staffworker for five years, after which my wife Lori and I joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1983. We both studied Christian Studies at New College Berkeley (a daughter school of Regent), and later I received my doctorate in Intercultural Studies from Fuller. I have always desired to use my skills and abilities to help people to have the Bible in their own languages, to be able to read, understand and grow in their relationship with Jesus and his community. Whether in Africa or North America, I have always been involved in local churches, helping lead Bible studies, preaching in chapel or church, teaching Greek, Hebrew and Exegesis for church members, pastors and Bible translators. I very much enjoy studying and preparing to teach, and helping others to learn how to study, understand and apply God's Word in their lives, to grow as followers of Jesus. My desire to become a teaching pastor has been a growing conviction, especially over the past five years. Several leaders from my home church (University Covenant in Davis), my ordination mentor and others have also confirmed this call.

Bill currently serves with Wycliffe Bible Translators in the Canada Institute of Linguistics, at Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia.



WILLIAM (BILL) GARDNER
Langley, BC
Word and Service

JAMIE KIM explains his call to ministry...

Overwhelmed by God's love, I wanted to share this love to people that did not have an opportunity to know or to experience God. As a result, when my church leadership asked me to follow an ordained ministry during my twenties, I was adamant that I was not called as a pastor but only as a missionary. Throughout my thirties and forties, I've followed my desire for missions and did cross-cultural ministries through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) and OMF International. When I turned fifty, while serving in China, I started to get a burden and an excitement for a church planting ministry. When I started to see God's plan for the church, especially through Ephesians 3:10, I saw that I needed to build up the church. Although, I am not certain how everything will pan out, I am excited to be ordained and to be ready for a God-sized church-planting movement in North Korea.

Jamie Kim is the founder and the Executive Director of Reah International, an NGO that empowers Christian professionals to engage North Korea. Jamie is also the founder of the Empower Conference which brings together talented pool of business, education, humanitarian, medical, and other professionals for work and cooperation in North East Asia. Currently he is based in Korea leading Reah International as well as being the director of the YUST Leadership Program at the Yanbian University of Science and Technology (YUST) in China.



JAMIE KIM
Seoul, Korea
Word and Sacrament

LINEA LANOIE explains her call to ministry...

I sensed the call of God on my life at an early age. I first identified this call as one to missions and so, when the end of high school approached and I was still unsure what type of career would best prepare me to serve God in missions, I had a very clear call into dentistry. God led me into a career that I likely would not have imagined on my own but I loved the work he gave me to do. Leo and I spent about 17 years following the completion of medical and dental school at Karawa Hospital in the Congo. When we returned to Canada, I continued to practice dentistry. It was the avenue through which God allowed me to serve and care for others. During the years in Prince Albert, I met God in new ways that allowed my relationship with God to deepen. I realized that God had not called me to serve him only on the mission field but that he had called me to serve him with everything I was, for as long as I was able. Following my studies in Spiritual Direction at North Park Theological Seminary, I was encouraged by my friends to pursue further theological studies. With the support of my family, friends and Gateway Covenant Church, I began the long journey towards a Masters in Divinity. I graduated from North Park in 2015 and was called by Gateway to become an Associate Pastor. God has called me to direct Gateway's outreach ministry to the homeless, addicted and to HIV and Hepatitis C infected persons as well as assisting with pastoral duties at Gateway. I count it a great privilege to continue to serve God as a pastor to some of those counted as unimportant and undesirable in our city.



LINEA LANOIE
Prince Albert, SK
Word and Sacrament