



EVANGEL

OUR MISSION: TO EQUIP PEOPLE FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE AND WITNESS FOR CHRIST.



UPCOMING PACE COURSES

SEPT 14 – OCT 19 (Register by Sept 7)

- B3286 Introduction to Paul
- B3325 Christian Theology
- P3206 Thriving in Transition
- P3315 Introduction to Non-Profit Leadership
- P3545 Counselling Skills

NOV 1 – 5 (Register by Oct 25)

- P4425 Spiritual Formation

NOV 9 – DEC 14 (Register by Nov 2)

- B3025 Grasping God's Word
- B3025 Grasping God's Word (PACE@Home)
- P3535 Counselling Theory
- P4125 Pastoral Work
- P4325 Essentials of Board Governance
- P4425 Spiritual Formation



GRADUATION HIGHLIGHT

Cory Pytlarz

After last year's event was postponed due to the pandemic, Alberta Bible College (ABC) hosted its annual graduation service in COVID-compliant style on April 25, 2021, at Bow Valley Christian Church (BVCC).

Sporting special edition ABC facemasks and practicing physical distancing, a limited number of ABC staff and faculty gathered in-person to honour the thirty-two graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 who completed their respective certificates, diplomas, and degrees. The event was live-streamed on ABC's YouTube channel

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Jeb8s6xrNM&t=4684s>) to allow family, friends, and other ABC supporters to celebrate the occasion.

Christopher Cobbler, an alumnus of ABC and the associate pastor at BVCC, gave the graduation address. From the messianic text of Isaiah 11:1-9, he challenged graduates with God's historical habit of bringing life and hope out of seemingly dead stumps. "This text for me serves as a reminder that God still speaks in dark places," he encouraged. "I believe the ABC graduates are life springing up from dead places." He continued,

"Alberta Bible College graduates, you cannot allow your dreams of hope to die. There is a mission that God is inviting you into, and you, like Isaiah, must look beyond. You must look beyond your present circumstance. You must acknowledge the stump before you but simultaneously recognize God's supernatural ability to transform that stump, to transform lives, to transform families, relationships, to transform governments and polices, to transform the hearts of men and women everywhere. And so we wait eagerly for God's kingdom to come to earth as it is in heaven. We do not wait passively, as one watching the hours pass by. No, we wait actively, participating in a world that revokes the right to hurt and destroy as a means of possession, control, and mastery... Isaiah is inviting the ABC graduates into a prophetic stance," Cobbler urged, drawing on the prophet's vision of a new creation. "Into a vision in which a future event is so sure to come, so sure to be the case, that we begin speaking about it in the present tense."



Christopher Cobbler, ABC Alumnus



Esther Chan, 2020 Valedictorian



Norman Sagarbarria, 2021 Valedictorian

Esther Chan, the valedictorian of the class of 2020, shared her speech with her classmates via video. "I look back with great fondness at the years we spent together as classmates and as friends," she reflected. "All of us came from various backgrounds and were in different seasons of life. But, we all shared a commonality—a specific call and desire to attend PACE to learn, grow, and know Jesus better."

Norman Sagarbarria, the valedictorian for the class of 2021, not only recounted the training he received in scriptural interpretation, spiritual disciplines, worldviews, church history, and practical ministry, he also celebrated the community he experienced at ABC. "Can you imagine how we have been brought here together coming from diverse backgrounds, different denominations, and various cultures?" Sagarbarria asked his peers. "Treating each other as one family. Accepting one another with genuine love, care, and service. I don't take those things for granted."

CLASS OF 2020



Ray Hardiansyah, Bachelor of Theology

Ray will be spending his summer working in children's camps and continuing to lifeguard at a local recreation centre.



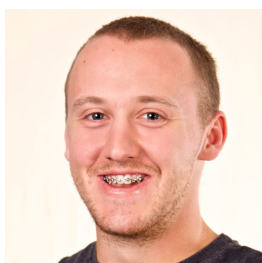
David Ross, Bachelor of Theology: Missional Leadership

Since graduating from ABC, David has served as ABC's Field Experience Coordinator while also working on completing a master's degree virtually at Wycliffe College.



Kim Salcedo, Bachelor of Theology: Missional Leadership

Kim serves as ABC's Enrollment Coordinator and he has engaged in ministry with Youth Unlimited. Kim is working on a master's degree virtually at Wycliffe College.



Marcus Tocher, Bachelor of Theology: Missional Leadership

Following graduation, Marcus married his ABC sweetheart and continues to live incarnationally in his daily work in customer service and wherever the opportunities arise.



Zara Vito, Diploma in Christian Ministries: Professional Studies

Zara is using her strong organizational skills and compassion for people in her role as an administrator for a counselling office, and working with parents of children living with exceptionalities.



Joshua Erhardt, Diploma of Christian Studies

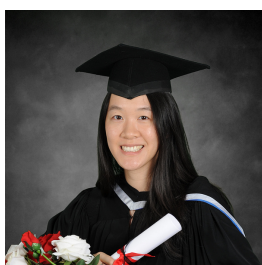
After being away from ABC for a year, Josh will be returning in September 2021 to continue his educational journey in the Bachelor of Christian Studies (General Studies) program.

CLASS OF 2020



Kimberly Buckley, Diploma: Counselling and Ministry

Kimberly has a heart of compassion for women and families and is continuing her education at Thompson Rivers University in the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology program.



Esther Chan, Bachelor of Arts: Non-Profit Management

Esther was the valedictorian of the Class of 2020 and is combining her background in engineering and her theological training with Global Aid Network, a Christian international relief and development non-profit organization.



Romeo Cruz, Diploma of Christian Ministry: Leadership

Romeo, recently married, is using the knowledge and skills he gained at ABC to engage in creative discipleship ministry with the Christ's Corridor faith community in Central Alberta.



Carol Dizon, Bachelor of Christian Ministry: Counselling

Carol is working for a local non-profit organization and is also enrolled in a masters' degree program in counselling psychology at Providence Theological Seminary.



Jane Durotoye, Bachelor of Arts: Counselling and Ministry

In the midst of the pandemic, Jane has continued her career as a health care practitioner and is now working on a master's degree in counselling psychology with Yorkville University.



Zach Eagle, Bachelor of Arts: Leadership and Ministry

Zach serves as the lead pastor at Yellowknife Church of Christ, a position he has held since 2016.

CLASS OF 2020



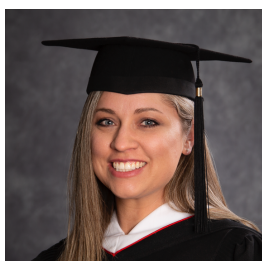
Abang Garang, Diploma: Counselling and Ministry

Abang continues to be a mother to her children, work in the customer service industry, engage in volunteer chaplaincy work, and focus on her own personal growth.



Seongin Hong, Bachelor of Arts: Counselling and Ministry

Seongin has been working at The Mustard Seed in Calgary and plans to begin graduate studies at Wycliffe College beginning in September.



Janelle Munro, Bachelor of Arts: Counselling and Ministry

This summer Janelle and her family are planning a move to the United States, where she will be commencing a church ministry role that will include teaching and pastoral care.



Mely Sio, Bachelor of Arts: Counselling and Ministry

Mely serves as a senior financial analyst at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, and she is also working on a master's degree in counselling psychology at Yorkville University.



Rhandi Tyssen, Bachelor of Arts: Leadership and Ministry

Rhandi works with the City of Calgary and worships with the Calgary Church of Christ. She is currently helping to facilitate a life group exploring the Old Testament together.

CLASS OF 2021



Tatiana Hains, Certificate of Christian Foundations

After completing the requirements for ABC's first-year certificate program, Tatiana is continuing her work towards a Bachelor of Christian Studies (General Studies).



Daniel Kortzman, Bachelor of Theology: Missional Leadership

Daniel recently completed his role as intern pastor with Bow Valley Christian Church. He is now exploring future ministry opportunities and will begin a masters' degree at Wycliffe College in the fall of 2021.



Ethan Martin, Bachelor of Theology: Missional Leadership

Ethan is working with Mennonite Central Committee and is also considering future educational options.



Jomar Payoyo, Certificate of Christian Foundations

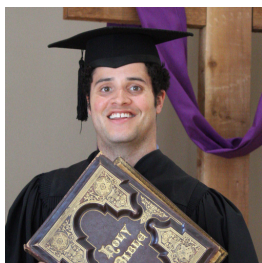
Having completed ABC's first-year certificate program, Jomar is continuing his work in camp ministry this summer and is also preparing to begin a Communications degree in public relations at Mount Royal University.



Norman Sagarbarria, Bachelor of Christian Studies: General Studies

Norman was the valedictorian of the Class of 2021 and is pursuing exciting opportunities in both employment and graduate studies.

CLASS OF 2021



Hayden Bell, Diploma: Counselling and Ministry

Hayden is actively exploring volunteer and employment opportunities, as well as preparing to run his first full marathon this summer.



Antoinette Crooks, Diploma: Counselling and Ministry

Antoinette works in banking and is considering future educational opportunities in the areas of psychology and ministry.



Abang Garang, Bachelor of Christian Ministry: Counselling

Abang continues to be a mother to her children, work in the customer service industry, engage in volunteer chaplaincy work, and focus on her own personal growth.



Julius Isaac, Bachelor of Arts: Leadership and Ministry

Julius works in the health care field and plans to begin volunteer chaplaincy work within a residential community for seniors.



Beatrice Kobi, Bachelor of Christian Ministry: Counselling

Beatrice provides at-home medical care for people in her work as a nursing assistant. She hopes to begin graduate studies in counselling and psychology at Yorkville University this fall.

CLASS OF 2021

**Shalayne Kortzman, Diploma of Christian Ministry: Counselling**

Shalayne was a winner of ABC's Outstanding Student Award in 2020-2021 and will be returning to complete a Bachelor of Christian Ministry (Leadership) degree.

**Elmer Lardizabal, Bachelor of Arts: Leadership and Ministry**

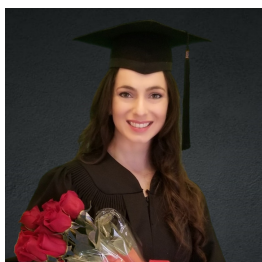
Elmer provides pastoral leadership to a local Filipino church, in addition to his role as a support worker for individuals with disabilities.

**Jerry Nepomuceno, Diploma: Leadership and Ministry**

Jerry leads a church plant initiative with Christ's Corridor in central Alberta. His bi-vocational work also includes employment as an operations director in the farm equipment industry.

**Esther Ogunyannwo, Bachelor of Arts: Biblical Studies**

Esther is a nurse and serves as a manager in a supportive living facility for seniors, where she leads daily prayer and devotional times with her staff.

**Graciele Rispoli, Diploma of Christian Ministry: Counselling**

Graciele is an active volunteer with her church in central B.C. She plans to return to ABC in the fall of 2022 to complete a bachelors' degree through ABC's PACE@Home program.

SCHOLARSHIPS 2021–2022

This year several returning students applied for various Alberta Bible College scholarships for the upcoming academic year. We are grateful for the generous support of donors who continue to lighten the costs of education for ABC students. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund at ABC, please contact finance@abccampus.ca or call 403.282.2994 to find out how you can invest in the future of ministry.

To protect the names of our students, we are not publishing the award winners. However, we want to announce the following scholarships were granted for the upcoming 2021-2022 academic year:

Earl Bergman Scholarship (\$1500) was offered to a student consistently involved in the evangelistic ministry of a local congregation.

John and Lillian Bergman Scholarship (\$1500) was awarded to a promising student who demonstrated financial need, and throughout the course of the student's studies, has shown consistent interest and engagement in pastoral ministry, both in formal programming and/or informal initiative.

Boyd Lammiman Scholarship (\$1200) was given to a student doing or aspiring to do intercultural ministry.

Dorothy Chapman Scholarship (\$1200) went to a female student demonstrating commitment to children's or women's ministry.

Jim Chapman Preaching Scholarship (\$1200) was awarded to a student enrolled at Alberta Bible College who is actively preaching and ministering in an under-served congregation.

Edna Hunt Scholarship (\$1200) went to a returning student who demonstrates consistent interest and engagement among people of other cultures.

Gateway Youth Scholarship (\$1500) was offered to a student showing consistent interest in working with youth.

Summer Ministry Scholarship (20%, 40%, or 60% tuition discount, depending on year of education) has been offered to several ABC students who have an approved work/ministry plan and who will provide satisfactory evidence of leadership through the Summer Ministry component of Field Experience.

Centre Street Church Scholarship (specific amounts in partnership with ABC) was awarded to two students who attend CSC and are pursuing strategic ministry-based education at Alberta Bible College.

Church Matching Scholarship (ABC matches, up to \$1800, a church's investment in a student) has been accessed by several students who are sponsored by their local church and, in some cases, are currently serving in those churches.

We are happy to announce a new scholarship, the **Bishop Arthur T. Harrison/Reverend Cyril D. Romeo Empowering Leaders Scholarship**, honouring the church leaders here named for their faith service. This is a new scholarship which provides \$2600.00 annually for students from around Windsor, ON who are in a program of theological studies at ABC and who have demonstrated leadership and pastoral skills. A more complete unveiling of this scholarship will be published in the next GoodNews@ABC edition where you will be introduced to Bishop Harrison and Reverend Romeo. Stay tuned!

MEET DAN HARDOCK

(Adjunct Professor)



Dan Hardock started teaching for ABC four years ago and has since become a regular adjunct. He recalls, "It was our former librarian, Darcy Gallagher, who introduced me to ABC when the college needed someone to teach the apologetics course. I had worked with Darcy before, and since I had developed the apologetics course when we worked together, I guess I came to his mind!"

One of Dan's first ministry jobs was working for an apologetics ministry. "Apologetics is kind of in my blood," Dan quips, "although I am aware that the subject has a bit of an image problem. My reaction is that if you conduct your intellectual interactions in a way that does not honour I Cor. 13, you should stop because you are doing more harm than good."

After working for the apologetics ministry for three years, Dan did a Masters of Christian Studies from Regent College. At the same time, he was part of a team successfully that planted a church in Port Coquitlam. "Studying theology while putting it into practice within the same week was a very cool experience." Dan added, "I have always argued that a person's intellectual and spiritual life should be seamless, and this experience gave me the opportunity to live that out in a very practical way."

Moving back to Calgary, Dan taught at Rocky Mountain College for over 10 years specializing in world history, church history, apologetics, as well as teaching a variety of other classes. His favorite memory is when he showed up in class in full Roman armour and hustling the class out to teach them how to do line warfare. "When it came to teaching my class about the Roman Empire's army, I didn't tell them about it. I drafted them into it!"

Dan also worked for Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship on the University of Calgary (UofC) campus, working with faculty and grad students. He also became Christian Medical and Dental Society's (CMDs) first Canadian staff worker based at the UofC medical campus. "The highlight of my CMDs work must be when I conducted a theology/spiritual formation course with a group of Sudanese physicians being upgraded by a joint project between the University of Calgary and Samaritan's Purse. I am very aware that most of those words are not normally associated with each other."

Dan's life has encountered tragedy. "I've held the hand and said goodbye to the person whom I thought I was going to become old and grey with. Because of cancer, I became a single father with two kids aged five years and the other 10 months. If it were not for the incredible support that was given to our family by our church community, I don't know where I would be today."

When asked about thoughts going into the future Dan replied, "I am very concerned with the degree to which conspiracy thinking has infected our churches, especially in the isolation brought about by the pandemic. Conspiracy thinking is probably one of the greatest impediments to outreach we have experienced in recent years because it makes us look inwards to a world of our own construction rather than outwards to the world where God's Spirit is at work."

Dan is married to Christin and they have four kids aged 25 to 10. He is currently working on several writing projects.

DWELLING ON BEAUTY – A SURE COVID FATIGUE BUSTER!

Marlette Reed (Adjunct Professor)

At the beginning of May, the Calgary Herald sported the following headline: “People are rightfully gloomy.” The author cited the survey completed by Maru Public Opinion that concluded Canadians are depressed right now. Sixty-six percent of respondents believed that “things will get worse before they get better” (Jesse Spencer, *Calgary Herald*, May 6, 2021). Though newest statistics seem to indicate a more positive picture in our battle with this virus, more than a year of hand-sanitizing, social restrictions, mask-wearing, and anxiety have left people tired—of COVID and of all that comes with it.

Suggestions for coping at this time abound. I would like to suggest one “tool in the toolbox” that helps me: dwelling upon that which is beautiful. Pardon? Is this not akin to the proverbial ostrich with its head in the sand? If you need a Scriptural encouragement to monitor your thinking, reflect upon what the Apostle Paul said in Philippians 4:8-9 (*The Message*):

Summing it all up, friends, I’d say you’ll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; *the beautiful, not the ugly*; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies. (Emphasis added)



What kinds of things are beautiful? In the spring, we don’t have to look very far. Tree leaves are emerging, light green in their seasonal glory. Longer days. Chattering birds. The sun-dappled waves of the Bow River. If you’re not an outdoor person, what about the beauty revealed in a story of someone giving of themselves for others? Or you may be nourished by a meaningful conversation with a neighbour.

The key word in that last sentence is *nourished*. If something feeds that which is best in you—fitting the criteria of Philippians 4—savour it. As you lie in bed at night, waiting for sleep to come and reflecting upon your day, meditate on those things—chew on them.

Going back to our passage from Philippians, Paul encourages believers to imitate him, to put into practice those things which build us up. Part of our rationale in doing this is because we are commanded to. Sensitive souls who struggle under the weight of the world may need to seize upon these instructions as “commands,” as it can be hard for us to focus on beauty when there are so many burdens to carry. However, vital in our ability to focus on that which is beautiful, we understand God holds both the bigger picture, and our lives, in His careful, loving hands: “...God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies” (Philippians 4:9, *The Message*).

Phew! Now, out for a walk I go!

RE-READING TESTIMONIES



Bill Ulrich (ON)

Rereading is a weekly highlight for me. We have progressed through some topical, but mostly textual studies. Dr. Helton's approach to the text, and to the sessions, is educative, but also comfortable. Our every interjection is welcomed, considered, and discussed. The learning is valuable on its own, but the sense of community with our fellow ReReaders from around the world is an enhanced blessing upon blessing! Thank you, ABC and Dr. Stan Helton!

The Whites (MB)

We have been attending Dr. Stan's re-reading Saturday teaching sessions for about two years now. This is something we look forward to every week. We are very grateful to Stan for all the work he puts into these talks which are, without fail, extremely well prepared with illustrations and references. He is a gifted teacher with a very logical, balanced and refreshingly honest approach to whatever he happens to be teaching.

He is clearly well read and we never fail to gain new knowledge and fresh insights into what Scripture is telling us. He welcomes questions and has the ability to answer them clearly and succinctly, laced with a great deal of wisdom.

It is also a privilege to have participants from many parts of the world who also bring valuable insights from their own perspective and experiences. We have become a family of happy participants. 5 Stars!

June Losey (AB)

To illustrate the process and value of Rereading Scripture with Dr. Helton, I am reminded of my grandmother's gardens. When you walked into the backyard, you would see a broad expanse of vegetables and flowers and berry bushes. The sight and fragrances were beautifully inspiring. Then Grandma would walk through the rows and tell you about the history, habits, and health properties of each plant and how they worked together.

A focus of Rereading Scripture is taking the time to "go through the rows" of Scriptures, paying attention to each word, phrase, or thought, and really seeing what is there. Dr. Helton has guided us through the nuances of the Bible, and every "trip to the garden" has been fruitful.

John Bruins (AB)

Just a short note to say how much I have enjoyed, learned from, and have been impacted by Rereading Scripture with Dr. Stan Helton. It's been a wonderful experience. Dr. Helton brings the scriptures to life in context of first century life. Everyone could do with a thorough study of Jewish history and culture. Dr. Helton's knowledge of the scriptures, and his background in academics and teaching, is second to none. It is so refreshing and impactful to learn how to read and reread scripture in a way that lets the Bible say what it says in the light of life when scripture itself was written. Dr. Helton breaks down the passages, word for word, verse by verse, reviewing God's word in a setting and framework that widens understanding and perspective to include the whole Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. It impacts each of us learning to reread the scriptures, probably in different ways. Dr. Helton presents the Rereading Scripture sessions in a friendly and professional way so I look forward to joining whenever possible. Put all together, Rereading Scripture certainly has had a profound impact as it helps me get the fuller meaning from the Bible.

Join us on Saturdays at 10am!

[Click here to visit our website for more information.](#)