

# GOODNEWS@ABC

OUR NEXT EVANGEL IS SET TO RELEASE MID NOVEMBER



## ABC's Unique Mission and Growth

By Stanley N. Helton (President)

*So the word of the Lord spread widely  
and grew in power.  
(Acts 19:20)*

In this edition of Good News @ Alberta Bible College, you will hear of the amazing diversity that exists in our student body. God is continuing to bring people to us from around the world to equip for faithful service and witness of the good news of Jesus. You will learn from Kim Salcedo, ABC's Enrollment Officer, about the number of students we have who have ties to other places of origin: Argentina, China, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, South Korea, the UK, the USA, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe. Not only have they come to learn, but we are experiencing God's hospitality that welcomes all people into God's kingdom.

We start this year in about the same place as the previous year. We had eighty students for the fall of 2020; we have currently seventy-six students enrolled but have the second block of PACE upcoming which will probably push us over the 80-student mark. However, our projections for the number of classes that will be taken this year is up some ten percent or more (and may be the best we have seen in ten years). I think this increase results from several factors. Students are more confident they can navigate COVID realities—whether that be fear of losing work or the pressures of adjusting to the changing regulations. Also, we have reorganized the way we are delivering classes so students can take more courses throughout the year and this makes it possible for them to finish their programs sooner. Finally, I think it shows the hard work of our administrative team to bring our offerings in line with what students today really need to be ready for their next adventure in serving our God.

## UPCOMING PACE COURSES:

NOV 1 - 5 (Register by Oct 25)

- B4215 Romans and Galatians

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

JAN 4 - FEB 8 (Register by Dec 28)

- B3275 Life and Teachings of Jesus
- B4114 The Pentateuch
- G3515 Intro. to Worldviews (PACE@Home)
- P3135 Introduction to Preaching
- P3206 Thriving in Transition
- P3335 Program Planning and Evaluation
- P4515 Crisis Counselling



# October PACE Announcements

By Cory Pytlarz (Student Development Dean)

## No Cost Counselling for PACE Students

We are so pleased to have counselling intern Marcia Cameron serving the ABC community this year. PACE students are invited to contact her directly ([marcia.cameron@my.prov.ca](mailto:marcia.cameron@my.prov.ca)) to set up a free counselling session.



## Academic Coaching

PACE students who would like some extra support with their academic work are invited to contact ABC's academic coach David Ross. Please contact David directly ([dross16@abccampus.ca](mailto:dross16@abccampus.ca)) to set up a free appointment.



## PACE Reading Break

The PACE fall reading break is October 20 - November 1. You deserve it! Students are invited to take this time to rest and rejuvenate before their next course. This may include participating in one of the following events...

### Orientation 2.0

This event is offered once per semester to provide PACE students with extra information and skills they need to succeed academically and personally.

Students are welcome to participate in-person on campus or virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, October 26.

Please RSVP to [studentdevelopment@abccampus.ca](mailto:studentdevelopment@abccampus.ca) indicating which session(s) you wish to attend and how you plan to participate (in/person or Zoom).

As the pandemic continues to add complexities to our daily lives, may God grant each of us His grace and peace as we faithfully embody the good news of Jesus through the ups and the downs of these times.

## Courses at ABC this Winter (Semester Format)

JAN 10 - APR 29 (Register by Jan 3)

- B121 New Testament Literature
- B211 The Pentateuch
- B431 Theology of Sin and Salvation
- G131 Contemporary Thought
- G201 Academic Writing & Research
- G220 History of Christianity
- G234 Science, Technology, and Society
- G245 Psychology of Family
- G281 Arts and Culture
- P108 Vocational Seminar
- P206 Living the Story

To find out more about these and other courses offered by ABC, please contact Kim Salcedo at [admissions@abccampus.ca](mailto:admissions@abccampus.ca) or call 403.282.2994, ext. 230.



College Students from 2019

PACE

*Spiritual*



# Retreat

## **PACE Spiritual Retreat Preview**

*By Cory Pytlarz (Student Development Dean)*

The PACE spiritual retreat is back this fall after a one-year hiatus due to the ongoing pandemic. This year's event will be hosted at Varsity Bible Church (4807 Valiant Dr. NW, Calgary) on Saturday, October 23, from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### **Why Come to the PACE Spiritual Retreat?**

Our PACE students live busy lives with many layers ranging from academic studies to family commitments to employment responsibilities to ministry opportunities. The PACE spiritual retreat provides members of our PACE community with an extended time of prayer, soul care, and community building outside of their Tuesday night classes. Specifically, retreat participants will be invited throughout the day to explore a number of spiritual practices of the Christian tradition.

### **Event Cost and RSVPs**

The cost for this event is included in PACE student fees, so there are no extra costs for attending. Non-student guests are also welcome. Capacity limits at our retreat location will be in place, however, so first priority will go to ABC students and staff. Everyone must RSVP to [studentdevelopment@abccampus.ca](mailto:studentdevelopment@abccampus.ca) by October 15.

### **COVID Precautions**

Because we are renting a public facility, participants will need to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination, a recent negative COVID-19 test, or a valid medical exemption letter to attend this retreat. Please indicate which of the above criteria you fulfill when you RSVP. See the City of Calgary's [Vaccine Passport Bylaw](#) for full details.

Masks and physical distancing will also be required for this event.

Also due to COVID-19 precautions, food and beverages will not be provided. Retreat participants may bring their own beverages in sealed containers and bagged lunches. There are a number of restaurant options in the vicinity of the facility where retreat participants can pick up food over the lunch break if they prefer that option.

Please contact Student Development Dean Cory Pytlarz ([cpytlarz@abccampus.ca](mailto:cpytlarz@abccampus.ca)) for more information about the PACE spiritual retreat.

# Welcoming Students from around the World

By Kim Salcedo (Enrollment Officer)



Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.  
Hebrews 13:1-2

ABC has received more inquiries from potential students outside of our borders. With the current pandemic, every nation in the world faces challenges of uncertainty about the future. As a Designated Learning Institution (DLI), ABC had our COVID Quarantine Plan approved February 2021 which allows international students to apply for their study permits from the Government of Canada. However, changing federal protocols have caused various processing delays for study permits, causing additional stress for those attempting to study in Canada. For many of our new international students, this journey to Canada has been difficult and uncertain.

For the 2021–2022 academic year, we anticipate as many as eighteen international students (four have arrived, fourteen are coming in the next few months) navigating Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) demands to study at ABC. Alberta Bible College is a beacon attracting people beyond Canada who desire to prepare for what God has next for them.

ABC is committed to preparing people for effective service and witness for Christ. To honour this mission, God has called ABC to show absurd, outlandish, God-like hospitality to every nation, language, and tongue. As we have been faithful, God has expanded our welcome to include students from around the globe. Currently, ABC has students who now call Canada home, but their original lands include Argentina, China, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, South Korea, the UK, the United States, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe. With a passion for unity and fervent hearts focused on serving God and loving others, we are negotiating the challenges of a world-wide pandemic, together.

COUNTRY	No. of Students
Philippines	9
Nigeria	5
Argentina	3
Ghana	2
South Africa	2
South Korea	2
Zimbabwe	1
USA	1
UK	1
China	1
India	1
Ethiopia	1
Haiti	1
Vietnam	1
Congo	1



# Bayanihan in Toronto

By Kim Salcedo (Enrollment Officer)

September 23–26, I was blessed to visit our brothers and sisters in Toronto. This included the Marcos family: Pastor Roger, Mhel, Kenneth, Shemaiah, Daniel, and Kaithlyne.

The North York Church of Christ hosted me. We had wonderful fellowship with both the adults and young people on Thursday night. Once again, I experienced the Filipinos' *bayanihan* (spirit of communal unity and cooperation) found in the Philippines now brought to Canada. The camaraderie, the smiles, laughter, and stories were amazing as we got to know each other.



On Friday, we welcomed the president of ABC, Dr. Helton, and shared lunch with him. We were also able to connect with ABC's valedictorian of the 2021 graduating class, Norman Sagarbarria, who is now pursuing his master's degree at Tyndale Seminary. On Saturday, we ministered with thirty-plus youth and young adults through a Bible study I facilitated. These impressive young people demonstrated a commitment to reading and studying God's Word. I can definitely see potential future leaders for churches, communities, and nations among this group. We played basketball in the evening. On Sunday, I preached and encouraged the church to love one another despite their differences.

To ABC and the North York Church of Christ, I say thank you for the opportunity to minister, to love, and be loved. Truly, I experienced the absurd hospitality that Christ has modeled and taught in his Gospel. May God bless you all until we meet again, my Torontonians brothers and sisters.



## The Ask

*By Stanley N. Helton (President)*

You will be enriched in every way so  
that you can be generous on every occasion,  
and through us your generosity  
will result in thanksgiving to God.  
2 Corinthians 9:11

I wish the Bible would have given us more information on Paul's project of gathering funds from his gentile churches to support the poor believers of Jesus in Jerusalem (1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor 8-9; Rom 15:23-29; cf. also Acts 11:29-30 for an earlier project). In studying Paul's project, I find these things true. Paul believed the collecting of funds for the good of others was how we can participate in God's work. Secondly, Paul believed that God would bless his people as Christians found ways to bless one another. Thirdly, Paul understood that not to ask people to give could rob them of the chance that would lead to thanksgiving to God.

I believe all of those things about the work to which God has called me at Alberta Bible College (ABC). Giving to support students is a great way to participate in God's work of maturing people who do now serve and will serve at various places within God's kingdom. Our business model is designed so that students can gain quality education at the most affordable rate possible. Because of the generosity of givers like you, we have one of the lowest tuition rates for theological education in Canada. We are seeking, intentionally, to guide our students away from debt, and if debt is necessary, to keep it as low as possible. And, like Paul, I would be wrong not to invite you to give generously to this ministry. So, if you have confidence in the work we are doing at ABC, join with us through financial gifts. If you don't have confidence in our work, give me a chance to share with you what we are doing, and about great students and the work our graduates are doing around the world today. Or perhaps you need to know more before you make the commitment—I'm more than happy to schedule an in-person or Zoom visit with you.

If you are ready to make a gift to ABC, the easiest way to do so would be to visit [www.abccampus.ca](http://www.abccampus.ca) and click **DONATE** in the top right corner, and follow the prompts. We also accept eTransfers to [finance@abccampus.ca](mailto:finance@abccampus.ca). Please call 403-282-2994 or email [operations@abccampus.ca](mailto:operations@abccampus.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

For those who have been and continue to be financial partners, I am grateful for your generosity and for your steadfast faithfulness that has allowed me and my team to concentrate on preparing our students for faithful witness and service for our Lord.