

EVANGEL



UPCOMING PACE COURSES

JAN 4 - FEB 8 (Register by Dec 17)

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

FEB 15 - MAR 22 (Register by Feb 8)

- [B3025 Grasping God's Word](#)
- [B4236 Revelation](#)
- [G3135 Introduction to Worldviews](#)
- [G4435 Developmental Psychology](#)
- [P3345 Non-Profit Financial Management](#)
- [P4135 Advanced Preaching](#)
- [P3206 Thriving in Transition \(PACE@Home\)](#)

To register, please email ABC's Registrar, Kris Ford, at kford@abccampus.ca.



NEW VISION & MISSION

Stan Helton (President)

Perhaps it is fitting in this edition of the *Evangel*, which is devoted to remembering Gary Hatt, professor, Dean of Students, and later Director of Student Services, that we can share our new Mission and Vision Statement. Gary was an integral part of getting Alberta Bible College (ABC) on the road to accreditation and for the continuing growth of ABC in the preparation of people for pastoral ministry, and for others, preparation for life. You will feel that influence in the tributes in this edition of the *Evangel*.

On the weekend of November 12-13, 2021, the ABC Board approved the following statements as ways of framing the mission and vision of Alberta Bible College.

Our Vision

Preparing people to lead active Christian lives in whatever field God calls them.

Our Mission

Alberta Bible College is a Christian higher education institution that prepares believers for the sake of the kingdom of God in whatever social and cultural context God leads them locally and globally.

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In some ways, these statements are like our earlier vision and mission statements with perhaps one notable exception—the clearer expectations that we are preparing not just ministers—which we do—but that most of our students have entered various fields where they need the skills to communicate, share, and live their commitments to Jesus. These statements also share the word “whatever” to point to the openness of life. Not only will our future students not just have one career, but they will likely be working in several jobs at the same time. ABC is committed to preparing students to represent the mission of God in “whatever” circumstance they find themselves.

MORE UPDATES

Effective October 1, 2021, Kim Salcedo was promoted to function as the Enrollment Officer, and Shannon Gugyel moved to a new position as Assistant to the President. PACE student, Dee Du Somme, has been volunteering in the Enrollment Office since late September 2021, assisting Kim with enrollment administration. She has been a great asset to the team and brings a variety of proficiencies, including communication and organizational skills.

This fall, College and PACE students have had the option of doing hybrid classes (in-person and/or online) to accommodate the ongoing COVID-19 situation. This has not been without its challenges but together we are navigating the transitional demands brought on by the pandemic. For the rest of this academic year, the option for students to utilize Zoom, to come to campus, or a combination of both, will be offered. As a community of learners and educators, ABC is focused on ensuring students and instructors are well supported to make choices that best suit their educational needs during this season.

Courses at ABC Winter 2022 (Semester Format)

JAN 10 - APR 29 (Register by Jan 3)

- [B121 New Testament Literature](#)
- [B211 The Pentateuch](#)
- [B321 Johannine Literature](#)
- [B431 Theology of Sin and Salvation](#)
- [G131 Contemporary Thought](#)
- [G201 Academic Writing](#)
- [G220 History of Christianity](#)
- [G234 Science, Technology, and Society](#)
- [G245 Psychology of the Family](#)
- [G251 IS Canadian Sociology](#)
- [G281 Arts and Culture](#)
- [P108 Vocational Seminar](#)
- [P206 Living the Story](#)
- [P101 Spiritual Formation](#)

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



College Students from 2019

FALL MINISTRY EXPERIENCE 2021

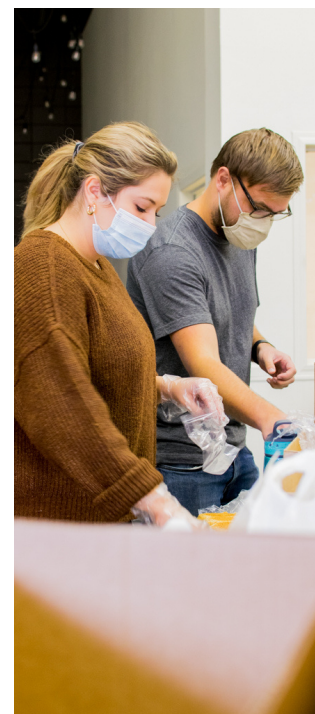
David Ross (Field Experience Coordinator)

This semester's Fall Ministry Experience to Clyde and Westlock was highly anticipated by our students given that COVID-19 has prevented us from engaging in this kind of ministry for some time. I led the trip with eight students. The day after we arrived, we ministered at Clyde Bible Christian Church through preaching, singing worship, and helping with children's ministry. One student, Tim Graffunder, also gave the message at the Alliance church in Westlock and was met with high praise for his efforts.



Being back in the presence of other believers experiencing the communal life of the local church was a special experience. We spent the remainder of the week working with the Youth Unlimited (formerly Youth for Christ) centre where Marnie Hoetmer, one of ABC's adjunct professors, is the director. We met youth where they are, learned valuable ministry skills, and drew on all we have been learning at ABC to point the youth toward Christ and his love for them.

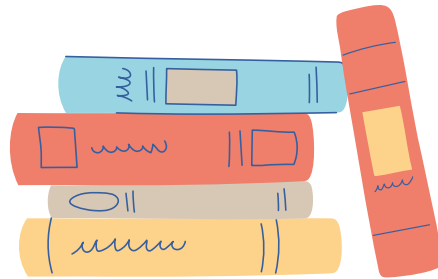
The final element of our experience was plenty of good old fashioned manual labour to help the youth centre and the Alliance Church increase their ministry capabilities. Many laughs were had on this trip, and we felt that the Lord worked in and through us to draw more people to him.



LIBRARY UPDATE

Marissa Moore (Librarian)

What's new with the library? So, so many things!



Far from a place of shushing, the library has been hopping this semester as increasing numbers of students drop in for a comfortable place to study (at reasonable temperatures thanks to our new air conditioning unit!) and to find good resources for their papers.

Our biggest achievements? Well hopefully everybody knows about the new shelf tags and end labels created by our wonderful summer work study student, Shalayne Kortzman. Those tags have been helping people find their books for about three months now.

And who could forget September's massive Library Book Sale where the library was able to relocate about 12 boxes of books to new homes? (If that sounds interesting to you, keep your eyes peeled for round two in January!) We've got brand new computers up and running for student use, not to mention website updates to make it easier to access our online resources.

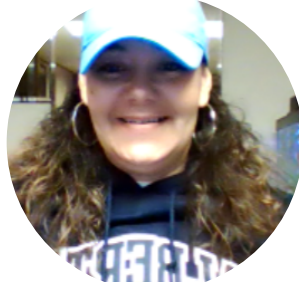
Have I mentioned our online resources yet? ABC just got access to eight new journal databases! Not sure how to access those? Never fear, just check out our newly created 'How to' guides with screenshots which cover everything from accessing our online resources, to 'placing a hold,' to 'finding information on a specific verse in our online journals'!

"That's all well and good, but what can we look forward to?" you ask. How about a boatload of new e-books! Through a special new purchasing program, the library will provide access to more commentaries and suggested course readings than ever before in a digital format (coming January 2022). Not that interested in online materials? Well our library volunteer, Marie, has been working hard to help us catalogue our backlog of donations, so our physical collection is increasing too!

There is so, so much more I would like to tell you. But for now, I will just say: Be on the look out for rubber ducks!

KNOWING ENOUGH TO LEARN

Jana Brown (PACE@Home Student Testimonial)



I gave my heart to the Lord very late in life. Almost immediately after being saved, I developed a strong passion to go deeper into God's Word. I wanted to share the Good News but quickly realized that the things I knew in my heart were hard to articulate to others.

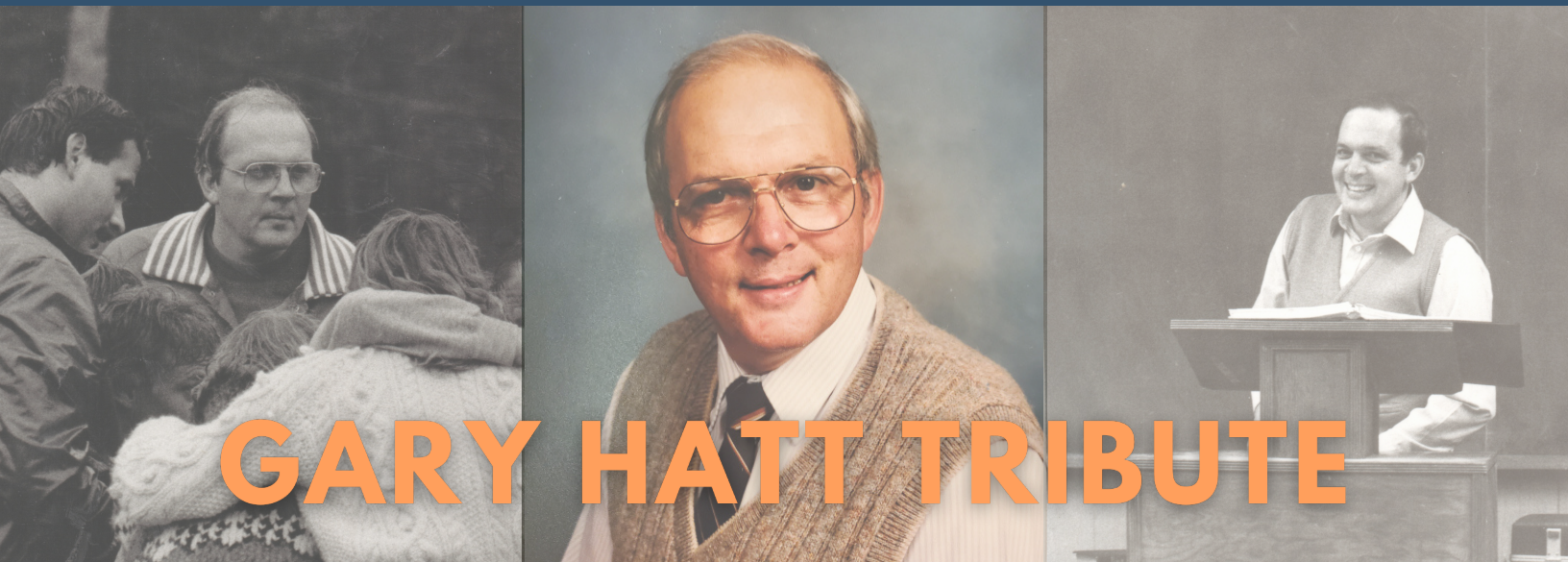
I had a strong desire to know more, and soon, I had more questions scribbled in my notebook than I could ever hope to answer on my own. Obviously, I needed a more structured environment to study God's Word.

My brother (a graduate of Alberta Bible College) recommended I check out the PACE@Home program at ABC. The thought of going to a Bible college was simultaneously exciting and intimidating. I feared I would be in over my head and get lost in the material. In hindsight, to realize I thought I did not know enough to "learn" is actually humorous.

The courses are straightforward, but they require work. I diligently carve out study hours throughout the week where I immerse myself in reading and completing assignments. The once-a-week synchronous schedule works perfectly for my busy lifestyle. Each class is a safe space where I am encouraged to share my thoughts and feelings, even if they are different from others in the class.

I am in my second year of the Biblical Studies program, and I am being transformed constantly. Throughout each course, I have learned different biblical arguments and applications for ministry and daily life. Although I fully expected this experience to impact my education, I was not prepared for the impact it would have on my heart. With each course, the Holy Spirit continues to mold me into the person God has always intended me to be. I am gaining a more profound knowledge of God, His working power, and His plan throughout history for salvation. I am discovering who I am as His child while becoming equipped to fulfill my role in furthering His Kingdom.

I thank the Lord every day for this opportunity to grow in Him, for the shared wisdom from and laughter with my classmates, and for the educators and mentors at ABC who clearly love God and Scripture. ABC was always a part of God's plan for my life. I love God so much!



Gary Hatt, the longtime and beloved ABC faculty member, passed away in July 2020. Due to the ongoing pandemic, many of his former students, colleagues, and friends from the ABC community have been unable to gather to celebrate his life. With this in mind, the *Evangel* team has gathered the following stories and photos to remember and give thanks for his ministry amongst us.

By Valerie Gerber (Moilliet)

When Gary Hatt walked into our classroom full of first-year students in 1974, I knew we were in for an adventure in learning! Gary always seemed to be chuckling, like something was up his sleeve. I found I was often sitting on the edge of my seat.

Gary was not that much older than the rest of us in our class. In the Youth Work course, one of the first topics for discussion and learning was the three stages of adolescence. We found out that our professor was still in the third stage of adolescence! We were in mid-adolescence! No wonder he went around with a smile on his face. We were in this together!

But Gary most certainly did not let us get away with stuff. I loved that about him. Gary was competitive. He could be very serious and always had an ear to listen. He was a man of God who took his profession seriously and loved Jesus. We didn't even always agree, but, oh, the passion!

I wish I had known him as an older adult and peer. The few times I saw him over the years when visiting the college did not give us time to develop a deeper relationship, but I always knew there was a deep respect between student and teacher—and he practiced what he preached.

Thank you, Gary (Mr. Hatt), for teaching by example and loving me through all the ups and downs a first-year student like me had while living far away from home on the ranch in B.C. Thank you for helping to make my time at ABC the best year of my life! I grew up that year, and you were a big part of helping me do that.

Thank you, Gary – till we meet again.

By Kyle Fraser

Gary was “Gary” since before I can remember meeting him. It was the strangest thing to me a couple years after I graduated to be back at the college and hear a first-year student call him “Mr. Hatt.” Somehow that just seemed antithetical to the man who was so often looking to “touch base.”

My first distinct memory of Gary is one of confusion. I was around ABC a good bit as a kid with my dad teaching there and all. I was visiting the college as a six- or seven-year-old and looking for my dad, but Gary was in dad’s office across from the gym—except I was learning it was now Gary’s office, and my dad had been moved upstairs! I did not know what dad had done, but I figured it must have been something horribly bad to be moved out of the office across from the gym!

Gary helped me find my dad that day. He also helped me find my way to a life-long faith in Jesus. Gary was a special part of my life growing up. He was one of the adults who asked you how you were, and you felt he was asking because he really cared—not because of the weird thing adults did when they thought they should talk to you.

Then I got to ABC as a student and got to know Gary on a whole other level. I think a good bit of my religious imagination comes from him. He had such a way of looking at things from different angles: whether it was pulling out his tattered copy of the Cotton Patch Bible to shock us into freshly listening to a beloved verse, his bizarre basketball skills where you never knew where he was going to shoot from (and unbelievably got it in), turning part of an Epistles class into a devotional study to mix things up after an unfortunate scheduling choice, or his pre-marriage counselling. The only thing you knew for sure was there was (probably) a reason for it!

I remember being part of a group complaining to our youth pastor about Gary’s teaching. When it came to class content, we were often confused about what was happening. George told us to suck it up and open our ears. We might not learn things in as structured of a way as some of the other professors taught, but we were going to learn so much more about life than anywhere else in our classes. This included the deep wisdom of, “Don’t write love letters, then there’s proof that you said things when you break up.” It also included realizing that loving people was simply being with people at the ping-pong table, counselling chair, or Denny’s.

A different wise person once said, “Jesus is caught, not taught.” And I knew the truth of this because of Gary. He was his own person, with his bolo ties and grin, and he was also Jesus in human form, loving and fighting for people, crying and laughing with us, showing what it meant to love God with your whole heart, mind, and soul.

By John Nicholson

A major life shift happened for me at Pine Lake Christian Camp in the summer of 1976. Having completed my first year of university in New Brunswick, I was having a summer of adventure and change. Living and working in Edmonton, running track and field, exploring the mountains and beauty of the west, life was quite awesome! The plan was to return back east to university, play soccer on the university team, finish my degree, and tackle the future. Gary Hatt changed all that. Well, God did, really. But Gary was a primary vessel in delivering God's message.

Something powerful happened that week at camp. God touched my soul. Relationships developed quickly with other vibrant young adults also blossoming in their faith. Besides great fun and a bevy of games and activities, the conversations often went very deep. Life stuff. The grand future. Things of the heart. Food for the mind.

What drew me to Gary Hatt was his enthusiasm for life and faith and the Bible and healthy relationships and sports! Gary loved sports and displayed some excellent athletic ability, particularly in basketball. He liked to talk about sports, too. I had come into contact with very few mature Christian leaders who had that combination. It impressed me! We all desire to be around others who share some similar passions. When it comes to being a follower of Christ, it makes sense to have travelling companions who love some of the things you love: someone to talk to about things beyond scripture and "spiritual" things. Our passions are linked to the soul. Gary understood.

Towards the end of that week, Gary asked me a very simple, yet direct, question. "John, have you ever thought about attending Bible college?" That short, straightforward question led to me make a significant shift in direction. Within three weeks, I had returned to Prince Edward Island, withdrew from university, enrolled at Alberta Bible College, flew back to Calgary, and begun a trek toward ministry. Sudden. Surprising. Fortuitous.

Under the tutelage of Boyd Lammiman, Ron Fraser, and Gary Hatt, my faith grew exponentially. And Gary Hatt became a primary mentor for me and so many others. He exuded a positive attitude about what it meant to not only be a Christian but expounded also on the joy of serving a local church as a vocational minister. He was a master at conversation and mutual sharing. He was not put off by disagreement. Gary did not have to have the last word. I could not count the number of times we would shoot baskets in the gym during which these free moments led to insights about life and the world of serving people. Gary understood that God cared about people!

Most of us who sat under Gary Hatt could certainly talk about things we learned in the classroom. His ministry experiences were very much living illustrations as part of his teaching method. He shared openly about the successes and the failures. I loved that he spoke so highly of Alice and their family life. This too was an example of seeing ministry as so much more than just acquired skill. Gary also had a great sense of humour. He enjoyed a great joke and shared them as well. "Going for coffee" meant there was surely going to be a hearty mixture of deep, sincere conversation interspersed with laughter and teasing.

I owe a great debt to Gary Hatt. He not only affirmed my love of sport; he demonstrated what it meant to live out faith and ministry while embracing the values of skill and competition. And Gary believed in me, cared about me, and wanted to see God at work in and through me. Thank you, Gary!



Full-time faculty Gary Hatt, Ron Fraser and Boyd Lammiman



Alice Hatt, Gary Hatt, Denise Lammiman (1983 Commencement)

By Douglas Cryer

"Tomorrow, you will realize that things are not as important as you think they are today." - Gary Hatt

Gary Hatt said a number of things to me over the years, and he taught me in a number of classes at Alberta Bible College, which I attended between 1981 and 1986. I do not remember much of what he told me, but that one statement has stayed with me. I am not saying the other things that Gary said to me over the years were not important but like the old preacher's joke, "I don't remember all the meals I have eaten through the years, however, I believe had I not eaten those meals, I would not be here today."

In my beginning years at ABC, there were three full-time professors—Boyd L. Lammiman, the president of the college; Ron Fraser, who later became president; and Gary Hatt...who was different. I am being facetious, however. Those who knew Gary get what I am saying. We labelled Boyd and Ron as scholarly in demeanour and presentation. Gary, not so much. Rather, Gary was our counsellor, and while he may have had impact in the classroom, he had more so in his office, where he counselled adolescent and post-adolescent youth through daily struggles and helped answer life's questions.

My wife Sue and I visited with Gary in his office as he led us through premarital counselling. After both of us filled out the questionnaire, we were back in his office. Gary apologized to us and said that he could not continue with pre-marital counselling because the blinders were still on Sue's eyes. Gary had determined, through Sue's answers to the questionnaire, that I was still her knight in shining armour and that I radiated so brightly she was blinded to my flaws.

When eulogizing or memorializing someone, the armour of that person's life shines more brightly as we sift through our memories and recall the ones that are meaningful to us and have impact. As I have sifted through my memories, that statement, "Tomorrow, you will realize that things are not as important as you think they are today," is the legacy that Gary gave me. Now that Gary has left our world, I am sure the statement means something even more from his new perspective.

That particular piece of advice was important enough that I have imparted it to others through the years. And every time I do, I am sharing with those who did not meet Gary Hatt a part of him.

By Ron Fraser

I first encountered Gary Hatt at an ABC Hi-Call (open house) weekend in March 1967. I was a grade 12 student considering ABC. Gary was a recent graduate serving the Yellow Grass Church of Christ and the guest speaker.

Gary started his first message explaining in a raspy whisper that he might have caught a cold. "I'm only working with one lung," he whispered. "Would you please bear with me?" Who would not be sympathetic to a one-lung speaker? Then he shocked us. After whispering, "But while my left lung is weak," he declared in a loud clear voice, "MY RIGHT LUNG IS JUST FINE!" He had us.

Gary enjoyed life, his family, his faith, and people. That first encounter with Gary was a kind of prologue to our relationship.

Gary and I worked together at ABC for twenty-seven years. He began ABC ministry in 1974, I in 1975. Our offices were next to each other, and we took advantage of the opportunity to become good friends and colleagues. He was a great team player. A favourite memory of Gary was his unique contributions to evaluation and planning sessions. We regularly did these, including extended sessions in May each year. Often, they were away from campus. Gary was adept at never shying away from the hard stuff, knowing there were always options. I fondly remember his catalyzing influence—whether facing difficult challenges, exploring options, challenging assumptions, or brainstorming new approaches or programs. We could never be accused of groupthink because Gary was always engaged and supportive of the best ways of doing things. Gary was at his best in these things—whether on a walk in Kananaskis or sitting around a campfire.

I enjoyed working with Gary from 1975 to 1984; we were part of an administrative team, initially including President Boyd Lammiman, Gary, and me. From 1984, it was for many years Gary, John (Wilson), and me. Students referred to us as "The Three Amigos." As staff expanded and an Administrative Cabinet was established, I treasured Gary's wisdom and counsel in many important decisions that shaped the college's ministry in those days and beyond. We worked using the standards of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges and laid the foundations for what later unfolded. Gary was an integral part of that success.

I remember Gary even more though for his common sense and pastoral sensitivity in dealing with students. He was a natural. He loved them! Whether helping them to navigate personal challenges of young adulthood, working through household relationships, coaching basketball, playing pick-up ping-pong, or in his instructional role, Gary lived and breathed relationships as the heart of ministry. His non-anxious presence made him most approachable. His invitation to "touch base" was easy to accept.

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In his role as Dean of Students, and later as Director of Student Services, he helped students face who God made them to be, to accept their gifts and limitations. He helped them to dream within these realities. He worked from the principle that all leadership was essentially self-leadership. He loved the church, his family, and ministry. He knew the keys to faithful ministry were in keeping balance in those things. So, he not only honed his own ministry skills through Canadian Association of Pastoral Education training, but he also encouraged many students to do the same. His supportive realism helped shape more than a generation of congregational leaders—many continuing in long, fruitful ministries.

Shortly prior to his sudden passing, Gary “connected” with me. I had just had open heart surgery. He wanted to know how I was doing. Could he have “a short prayer for me over the phone?” That was so Gary!

Maybe the best summary of Gary’s life was in the title of a book by Carl Ketcherside, one of his favourite authors. The book was called *Simple Trusting Faith*. That was at the very root of who Gary was.

Full-time faculty Boyd Lammiman, Ron Fraser and Gary Hatt



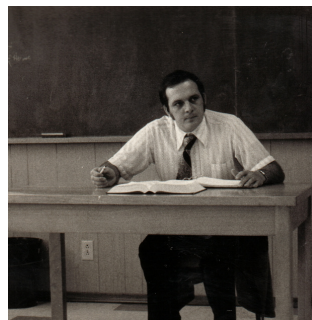
John Wilson, Elizabeth Horvath, Gary Hatt, Sandra Osborne, Brent Williams, Ron Fraser



Gary's last year before retirement



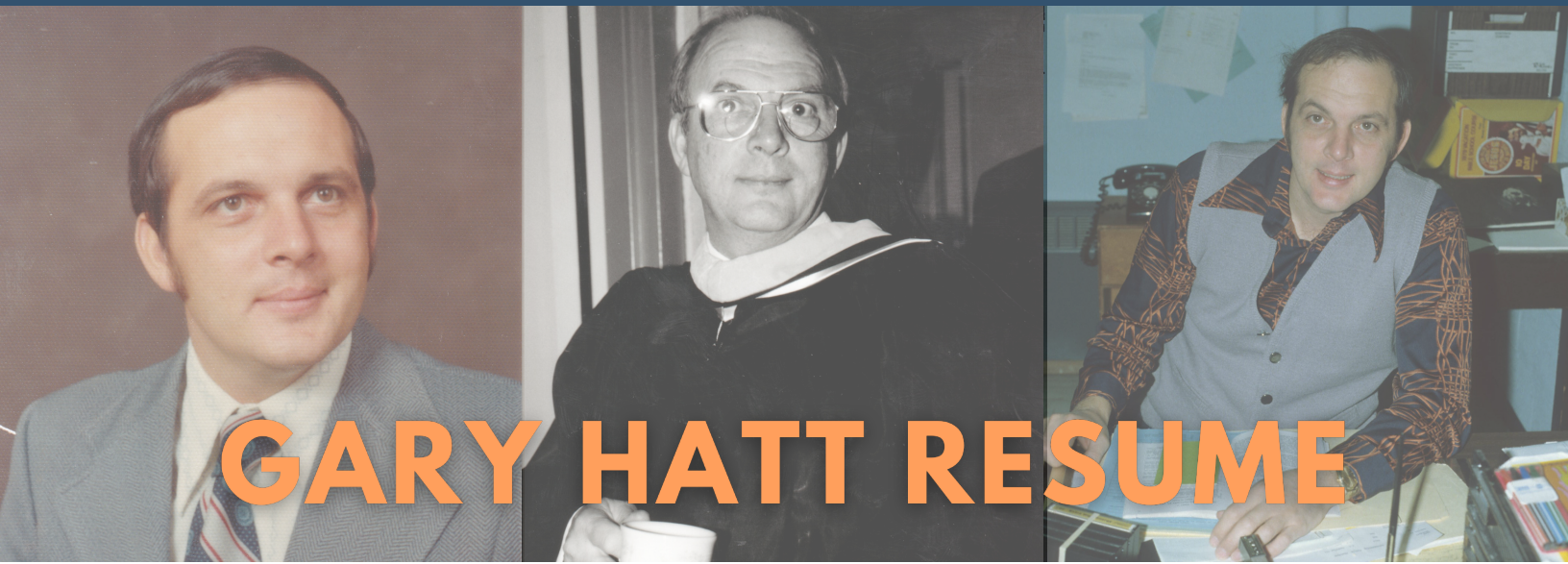
Gary and Alice Hatt



Gary Hatt teaching (1970)



Gary Hatt and Ron Fraser



Education and early ministry:

- Graduated from ABC in 1965, B.Th.
- Ministry at Yellow Grass Church of Christ (1965-1969)
- Served a congregation in east Tennessee, while studying at Emmanuel School of Religion. Graduated in 1974, M. Div.
- Received various counselling certificates over the years, including CAPE (Canadian Association of Pastoral Education)

ABC ministry:

- Began his ABC ministry in August 1974.
- Administration
 - Served as part of the Administrative Team or “Cabinet” as it was later called (1974-2002)
 - Special Administrative Assignments
 - Supervisor of Christian Service Lab, Local Church (1974-1994)
 - Student Dean (1992-2002)
- Teaching Assignments
 - Practical Ministry/Pastoral Ministries
 - Homiletics (preaching)
 - Counselling
 - Hebrew History
 - Various New Testament exegetical courses
- Retired August 2002

GIFTS WORTH GIVING

Stan Helton (President)



As we look towards the end of 2021, it reminds us that year-end gifts can be made to the causes we care about. I would solicit your gifts for Christian higher education. Alberta Bible College is moving into its 90th year of existence. We would not be here without the dedication and sacrificial giving of both talent and treasure.

We, like others, are closing out two of the hardest years in our more recent experience. And, we have finished the past two years in the black! I give credit here, first, to our God, second, to you our supporters and partners, and third, to my staff who have tightened budgetary limits and lived within those limits.

I was once taught that people give for three reasons, though I think there are more motives than these. However, highlighted in the presentation I attended were these three reasons for giving. People give to causes they believe in; they trust the people responsible for the administration of their gifts; and, they can see the fiscal responsibility of the organization. ABC has worked hard toward all these reasons and will continue to do so.

So, as you think about end of year giving, please keep ABC in mind! We are aiming to reach students even further with our mandates from God and the Board. I'm looking forward to seeing ABC celebrate our 100th anniversary, ten years from now—and we will, with God's favour, and your continued partnership, honour God's mission for ABC in ways that continue to bring him glory.

