

# GOODNEWS@ABC

OUR NEXT EVANGEL IS SET TO RELEASE IN MAY



Opening Night for PYPA (read more on page 2)

## Students Return to ABC's Campus Following Peak of Omicron Wave

*By Cory Pytlarz (Student Development Dean)*

After beginning the first several weeks of the winter semester online due to the surging Omicron variant of COVID-19, Alberta Bible College welcomed students back to campus in February.

Some PACE courses resumed meeting in a hybrid (in-person/virtual) format beginning February 15, while most College classes resumed the hybrid format on February 28. Provincial public health measures and local bylaws also shifted on March 1, meaning that masks are now optional on ABC's campus. Physical distancing is also no longer required. Chapel in both the College and PACE programs will resume meeting in-person with no capacity limits.

As society learns how to live with COVID-19, ABC will be guided by our Communicable Disease Prevention Policy and Rapid Response Plan. While the pandemic has made it clear that the future is impossible to predict, we hope that the required responses to potential future waves of COVID-19 will be less disruptive to learning and community life. Whatever the future holds, however, we once again want to take the opportunity to thank the ABC community for their patience and grace as we seek to love and serve one another well in all seasons.

## UPCOMING PACE COURSES:

APRIL 4 - 8 (Register by March 28)

- B4236 Revelation (Intensive)
- P4145 Self-care in Ministry (Intensive)

APRIL 7 - 9 (Register by March 31)

- P353 Spiritual Care for Older Adults (Intensive)

APR 12 - MAY 17 (Register by April 5)

- B4214 Johannine Literature
- P4195 Leadership and Equipping
- P4545 Conflict Resolution
- G3216 History of Christianity I

MAY 12 - 14 (Register by May 5)

- The Effective Organization (Intensive)

MAY 24 - JUN 28 (Register by May 17)

- B3326 Theology of Church and Ministry
- P4555 Family and Marriage Counselling
- B3327 Theology of Care
- G3217 History of Christianity II

JUN 16 - 18 (Register by June 9)

- P4335 Strategic Leadership (Intensive)



## PYPA Update

*By Kim Salcedo*

We are encouraged that after two very long years of isolation, separation, and physical distancing, the Christian community could come together to worship Jesus in a good old-fashioned youth gathering! The weekend of March 11–13 Alberta Bible College hosted PYPA (Prairie Young People's Association). PYPA is a place for young people to come together for a time of learning, fellowship, and connection across youth groups and age groups. It is a tool for youth leaders to build community among their youth and a support system for youth leaders to train, encourage, and assist each other in their mission. The theme for the weekend was, "We Are One," based on Acts 4:32.

The event hosted 90 participants, youth and youth leaders combined, from Calgary and area, Edmonton, Regina, and Vavenby. The churches represented at PYPA this year included Bow Valley Christian Church, Calgary Church of Christ, Oak Park Church of Christ, Northern Hills Church, Edmonton's Refinery Church, Regina's Gentle Road Church of Christ, and Vavenby Christian Church. Josh Hilling (current ABC student) and some ABC Alumni (Tamzen Davidsen, Timothy Graffunder, Kim Salcedo) led worship for the weekend. Inga Richardson from Pioneer Bible Translators of Canada was the guest speaker. The weekend offered worship, group discussions, seminars, roller-skating, basketball, soccer, hockey, and fellowship. It was good to be together again after the pandemic hiatus.

## A New Stage in Life

*By Hugo Nogueira*



My personal experience at ABC in this first semester has been unique so far. I came from another country expecting to encounter a professional team of academics that I could trust to develop my Scripture acknowledgment. You may be sure I found that and even more. The community between students, teachers, and others is outstanding, and I could feel myself being kindly received and accepted. Classes are even better than I expected, from the teachers' experience and way of teaching to the content of each encounter.

I wish I could choose a favourite class to share about in this writing, but truth be told, every type is a unique experience. I love to learn about each New Testament document, one by one, on reading directly from the Bible, and all the support material provided. Spiritual Formation is an excellent way not to lose track of the Mighty One and improve our lives through text. Contemporary Thought is slowly opening my mental boundaries on what God means for me in spiritual and social, historical, and even philosophical ways. The Field Experience course is where students thoroughly apply everything they know and are learning.

Today, I am just willing to accomplish my courses in the best way possible, studying and learning everything I can. It is challenging to work and study, but I know why and who am I doing this for, and my efforts will be directed on my life goal to become a teacher, a professor to whom students may rely on, just how my current teachers are demonstrating it should be. ABC now represents for me a new stage, a new challenge, a new goal in my life which I know I won't be working on alone, and I'll move forward trustfully because I know God is between in this marvelous experience.

## New Teacher in the House!

By Tanya Woo (Adjunct Professor)



I have been so fortunate to teach at Alberta Bible College and be part of this community! I have always enjoyed teaching, but I never felt passionate about the subjects I taught until now. I find the courses here are applicable to life and can transform a person. Facilitating discovery and the learning process with students is incredibly fulfilling for me.

The course I am teaching right now is Thriving in Transition. In this course, students are wrestling with questions such as: 'what is my purpose?', 'how do I discern my calling?' and 'where is my life going?' I enjoy guiding students through their learning and am inspired by how they interact with the material. It is amazing to stand witness as students learn in community and share their perspectives and experiences with each other. The environment in class is one of encouragement where students lift each other up and offer different outlooks.

I especially enjoy the smaller class sizes. I find that I am able to connect with students on a more personal level and offer them more support. When marking assignments, I become engaged in reading the students' interpretations, and I provide many comments, reflections, and sometimes challenges to them. I find this is another opportunity to continue the conversation outside of the classroom.

One of the things I love most about teaching at ABC is being able to integrate my faith with the material. One of the critical pieces in learning is listening to God and following the path He has set out. Being able to connect with students from a place of shared values and beliefs helps to engage in the learning on a deeper level.

## Back by Popular Demand: Re-Reading Scripture

We are excited to announce that Re-Reading Scripture is back! Every Wednesday at 5 pm (MT) and every other Saturday at 10 am (MT), people from all over the world gather on Zoom as Dr. Stan Helton guides them deeper into reading and understanding Scripture. Whether a new believer or a biblical expert, these free, one-hour sessions offer revelation and edification for everyone.

This live, online version was created by Dr. Helton in 2020 to stay connected and in fellowship with other Bible learners during the pandemic. Amazingly, these weekly teachings of Scripture quickly grew to include people from all around the world. Now, as COVID-19 restrictions are being lifted globally and life is becoming busy again, the desire to dive deeper into God's Word is growing even more. "The origins of this [Re-Reading Scripture] were, how can we do something that might serve the church, particularly those that want to do a closer reading of Scripture? The end game is not a knowledge transfer; it's more about helping you become a more insightful reader yourself" (Dr. Stan Helton – ABC President).

"For me, Re-Reading has been an intervention or breakthrough with significant impact on my daily life."  
Annie – Formerly of the UK, now a resident of Calgary and a student at ABC.

"It's more than just a Bible Study—it's a community." Jana – Windsor, Ontario, ABC PACE Student.

You can easily register for Re-Reading Scripture by sending an email to [admissions@abccampus.ca](mailto:admissions@abccampus.ca) (Once registered, you will automatically receive the Zoom invitation via the email address you supply.) Looking forward to seeing you there!



## ABC and Contributions to Scholarship

We encourage our staff to stay engaged in the academics of their fields. Consequently, we get to hear about some of the study and research efforts of our staff team and want to keep our community apprised of these endeavours.

**Marnie Hoetmer**, one of our adjunct professors will be presenting at an event, jointly sponsored by the Canadian Church of Christ Historical Society and Alberta Bible College. Her presentation will be called “Disciples in Western Canada: People, Players, and Publishers,” and the date is yet to be determined. Marnie is also the director of Youth Unlimited in Westlock, AB. She regularly teaches courses in biblical and Historical Theology, Christian Ethics, as well as others at ABC.

**David Ross**, while he is working for us, is also serving as a research assistant to Stephen Chester at Wycliffe College on the writing of the Oxford Bibliography ([www.oxfordbibliographies.com/](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/)) for 1 Corinthians. See Chester, Stephen J. “First Corinthians.” Oxford Bibliographies in “Biblical Studies,” ed. Christopher R. Matthews (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming). We commend David for continuing his biblical studies that were fanned alive at ABC.

**Dr. Helton** has several projects coming together now. In addition to being added to the Board of Commissioners on the Commission for Accreditation of the Association of Higher Biblical Education (our accrediting body), his PhD dissertation has been submitted to Peeters, a publisher of scholarship in Belgium. It will be released as The “Text of Acts” in the Writings of Origen, *Studia Patristica Supplements 9* (Leuven, Belgium: Peeters Publishers, 2022). Additionally, he has a couple of articles dealing with Stone-Campbell Restoration History: “Origen on the Meaning of  $\Psi\acute{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\epsilon\iota\nu$  in Codex Monacensis Graecus 314,” *Stone-Campbell Journal* (forthcoming, 2022); and coming out in a few weeks, “The Text in Clement of Alexandria that Worried M. C. Kurfees,” *Restoration Quarterly* 64, no. 2 (2022). Stan also has key academic presentations coming up: “Origen on Musical Instruments in Codex Monacensis Graecus 314,” Burman University  $\Sigma\Upsilon\text{M}\Phi\Omega\text{N}\text{I}\text{A}$  Conference, Lacombe, AB, Canada (March 16, 2022), as well as “Origen and the Endings of the Gospel of Mark” (Second Swiss National Sciences Foundation Mark16 Conference Online: The Transmission of Mark’s Endings in Different Traditions and Languages, June 2–3, 2022).

**Shannon Gugyel** completed her Master of Arts Counselling Psychology degree from Yorkville University, Fredericton, NB. Two staff members, **David Ford** and **Kris Ford**, and one of our adjuncts, **Chad Hardy**, are completing PhDs at Trinity International University in Deerfield, IL. **David Ford** recently taught a four-week series on the Book of Revelation that was well-received at the Bow Valley Christian Church. He will soon teach an eight-week long class for the Edmonton Church of Christ on Restoration history beginning the week after Easter. **Kim Salcedo** continues to work on a Master’s in Theological Studies from Wycliffe College, and **Tanya Woo**, a new adjunct professor and recent graduate of ABC, has almost completed her Master of Arts Counselling Psychology degree from Providence University College & Theological Seminary.

Staff at ABC persist in developing in their areas of academic and ministry interest. And, ultimately, God continues to help foster growth in others through the ongoing scholarship of those called to ABC to teach and impart knowledge in the name of Jesus, and for the kingdom’s sake.