

# BAPTIST BEATS



August 31, 2022



Hello from India - I am here with leaders from North America who are supporting The Timothy Initiative. BGC is partnering with TTI to plant house churches among the least reached peoples of the world. How thrilling to see how the gospel is changing lives and communities! Please consider giving to TTI and their ACHIEV mission: **A Church In Every Village**. Donations to TTI can be given through the BGC office in Edmonton.

I hope you have had a good summer. I did some fishing and lots of walking and reading. We had all my family together in Edmonton in August. Our family is spread out so being in the same space with my three children and six grandchildren was just great!

Thankfully the pandemic at present seems to be moving to the background and most churches are looking to the future. Let's move forward with faith and courage in ministry this season! I am praying for you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin Schular'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director  
**Kevin Schular, D. Min**

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At Celebration in June we introduced the Reframe initiative on the future of the BGC. We are eager to advance Reframe to equip and support our churches for effective ministry and steadfastness in a rapidly shifting society. While we are not without hope, we are sobered by the realities of the shifts in progressive theology, church leadership and Canadian society. How will the BGC position ourselves to be faithful to scripture and minister effectively in this season?

The initial input from our pastors and leaders has been pivotal in creating this path. The input has been compiled into 3 primary areas for development: Position, Posture, and Resources. Each of these areas will be fully developed through cohorts, zoom sessions, in person gatherings and 1-to-1 conversations. My expectation is that full development will take 1-2 years.

Your engagement is essential as we move forward. If there has ever been a time that being **'Better Together'** is needed, it is now. Here are three ways for you to be supportive:

1. Please be in prayer for the process that we will see God's confirming hand in all aspects
2. Be willing to take an active part in cohorts and gatherings as they are presented
3. Be an advocate for engagement with other pastors and people in your church to participate and provide input

Our BGC Zoom meetings will start up on the third Wednesday of each month so our next opportunity to talk about Reframe will be September 21. Please register for the call in the link shown below.

BGCC

# Pastors and Leaders Zoom

[Click to Register](#)

**September 21, 2022**  
**10 AM MDT**

*BGC is Better Together*



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## **BGC In Armenia**

In July I travelled to Armenia with our BGC team. House of Omeed and BGC have bought a house in Yerevan. We are adding a second floor so that we can host Iranian believers who come for respite and discipleship. See the photos. Thanks to Fleetwood international Church from BC who sent a team in August to help with construction.

Once renovations are completed we will invite persecuted believers to come to Armenia. This is where you and your church can participate. A team of 5-8 people from your church would focus on ministry with the Iranians. Ahmad at House of Omeed will give your team orientation how to have conversation with persecuted believers. Then there will be teaching and worship times with Iranians as well. There are translators to help with the public teaching if you want a group session. Also there are some great church history sites to visit in Armenia as well as Lake Sevan and places in Yerevan.

BGC can coordinate with you for best times to go. The Iranians will come and go so we will want to make sure your team is there the same time as they are.

This will be an amazing opportunity to minister directly to persecuted believers and help them grow in their faith.



BGC Team in Armenia with Mt. Ararat in the background -  
Can you see Noah's ark over Diane's left shoulder?



Ahmad Zeividavi authorizing renovations in Yerevan



Enjoying a team meal and fellowship together



Second floor being added



Kevin & Ahmad teaching



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## Canadian Baptist Seminary

**CBS**  
Canadian Baptist Seminary


One way BGC can resource our pastors is to provide quality theological education and leadership training. I am pleased to report that our enrolment for the Fall semester at Canadian Baptist Seminary is growing. Thirteen BGC pastors, missionaries or church staff are enrolled in one of our Master's programs or the Doctor of Ministry. Ten of these are accessing the subsidies provided by BGC National office and the Stewardship Foundation. I believe that this support makes taking a class or enrolling in a degree program affordable. We have other students from outside BGC as well so our numbers are moving up. There is room for you too! You could attend on campus or online. Go to our website <http://www.canadianbaptistseminary.com/> or contact Sarah at the office (604.513-2015) for more information. Also please consider putting Canadian Baptist Seminary in your church budget as we train the next leaders for our Conference.



**CBS** Canadian Baptist Seminary  
Canadian Baptist Seminary Bursary Program

**Qualified BGC applicants  
can receive generous  
subsidies when enrolling at  
Canadian Baptist  
Seminary. Take a class for  
personal growth or earn  
your graduate degree**

**CBS**  
Canadian Baptist Seminary

 [www.canadianbaptistseminary.com/](http://www.canadianbaptistseminary.com/)

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## **School of Orientation**

Calling all recently hired pastoral staff at BGC churches. School of O is coming up on October 25-27 in Edmonton. Contact your District Minister/Coach for more information on how you can pursue credentials with BGC. You need his recommendation to attend School of O.



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SCHOOL  
OF  
ORIENTATION  
OCT 25-27, 2022  
EDMONTON, AB

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## Interesting Reads

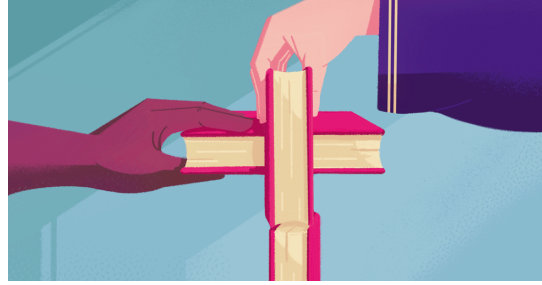


### **Pastor Stress Statistics**

Everywhere pastors go they are expected to be “on” – ready to give stellar leadership, unending compassion, an inspiring message, anointed prayer, and words of encouragement.

### **Preaching Now and Then**

What nine years out of regular pulpit ministry has taught an ex-pastor and professor of pastoral theology about preaching.

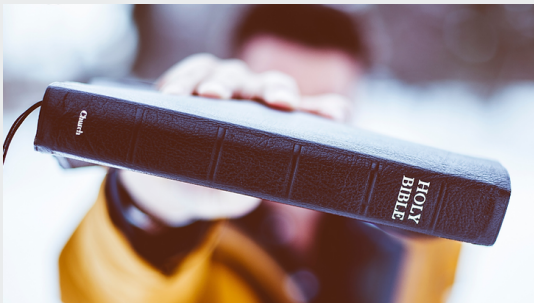


## How Can You Be Sure Someone Has Exceptional Leadership Skills? It Comes Down to 2 Words

Active listening is one of the least taught skills in leadership

## Is God punishing the United States of America?

An Israeli perspective on current conditions in USA



## Defending the Faith or Defeating the Faithful?: Christian Philosophy and the Practice of Self-Reflection

Is it time to rethink outreach strategy? The skeptics ask "Is Christianity true?," the suspicious are concerned with "Is Christianity good?" This article says both questions need answers but that focus on those who question if Christianity is beneficial is more necessary in this moment.

## FIRST READING: How Canada ignored warnings that euthanasia would immediately go too far

More than 10,000 Canadians received a medically-assisted

### death in 2021: CTV report

So says the third federal annual report on medical assistance in dying (MAID). Data shows that 10,064 people died in 2021 with medical aid, an increase of 32 per cent over 2020.



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## Seven Essentials of the BGCC

Our motto and mission:

*"A Network of Churches that make disciples who live and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their Communities, throughout Canada, and out to the Nations."*



Together, we have identified seven essential areas where God is at work among our church families. These seven areas are also critical to the future growth and health of our churches. We highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats

## CREATIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**BGCC CHURCHES FIND WAYS TO EFFECTIVELY ENGAGE THEIR COMMUNITY, NATION, AND WORLD.**

7 Essentials of the BGCC

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