

# BAPTIST BEATS



July 21, 2023



Hello, I hope your summer has been going well and you are being renewed by the Lord. This has been a very full few months for me with travel, preaching and meetings. Since March, I have been in seven provinces and five countries. It is a joy to serve our pastors and districts.

Our National Meeting in Niagara Falls was a rich three days of fellowship, worship and group discussion. Our theme was from 1 Corinthians 15:58 and the theme was Firm and Focused. In this post-Christian season in Canada, the BGC must remain firm on the authority of scripture and the uniqueness of Christ as our Saviour. But BGC should also be focused on ministry and reaching the lost. Our labor is not in vain in the Lord!

In our group discussions at Celebration, we dealt with topics of human sexuality and church planting. Those notes are being compiled and a draft will be coming in the fall for further conversation at the district level.



**BGC Exists by the will and funding of our churches.**

Executive Director

**Kevin Schular D. Min**

*Kevin Schular*

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# BGC Zoom

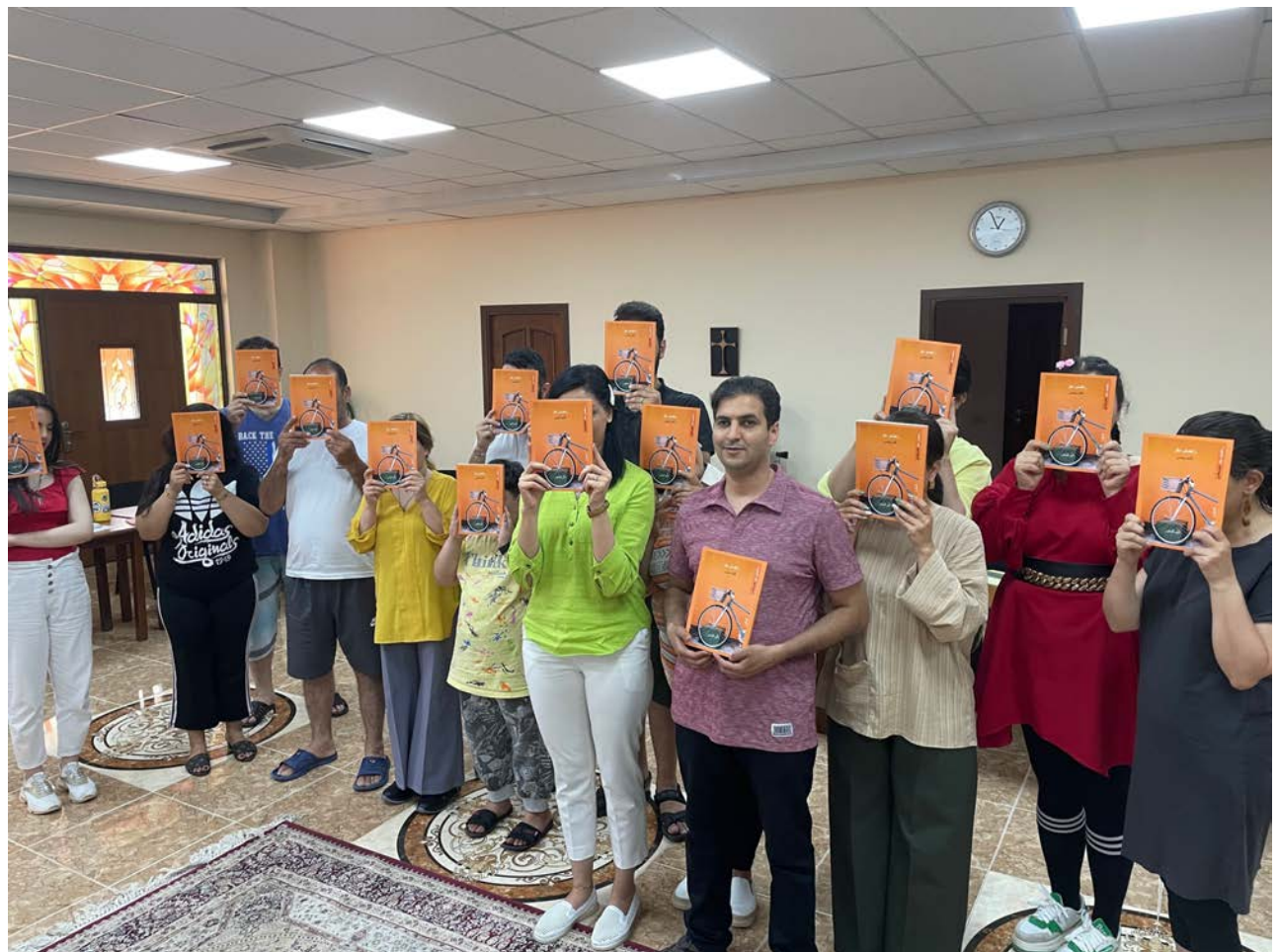
Beginning in Covid, BGC has been hosting a monthly Zoom call for connection and information. Our district ministers and I were discussing the format we should take when we get into the fall season. The DMs are already meeting regularly with clusters of pastors in each district so perhaps the National Zoom could switch to a quarterly schedule rather than monthly. I am thinking of calling it: **Conversations with Kevin** and it would be very relational and for encouragement. What I raised at Celebration was a PRAYER emphasis I would like us to implement. This would be on Zoom but could include more people from the BGC who want to pray together across Canada. Working with five different time zones and people's schedules will require good planning but this is where I want us to focus on going forward. Your input on the new format is welcomed! [kevin@bgc.ca](mailto:kevin@bgc.ca)



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## International Discipleship Training

Since 2018, BGC has been holding training for house church leaders from the Caucasus region. Armenia is a tiny Christian country in the midst of a Muslim population. House church leaders from these countries can travel to Armenia for safe instruction, worship and spiritual care. A team from BGC was there in June for two weeks of training for Farsi speakers who travelled a long way for teaching.



House of Omeed has bought a place to be used as a safe house. You can see the progress on construction in the photos. Once completed, the safe house will

be staffed and ready to receive persecuted believers needing a respite center. BGC churches will be invited to send small teams to be with these believers for prayer, encouragement and discipleship. The funds for construction have been depleted and **we need \$31,000 to complete the project.** Please consider this need for your mission budget or a special offering. BGC can make a kingdom impact on this region with theological education, leadership training and discipling persecuted believers.





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## Canadian Baptist Seminary

**CBS**  
Canadian Baptist Seminary

Canadian Baptist Seminary has been part of the Associated Canadian Theological Seminaries (ACTS) since its inception. Our consortium is facing several issues in 2023: Declining enrolment for those taking pastoral training, the rise of online learning and other models for education, new financial realities and other relationships within the ACTS partnership. Earlier in July, I was on campus for two days of meetings with seminary presidents and denominational leaders on the future of ACTS. A report will come out in mid-August that could set the trajectory for the near future. Regardless of what happens with ACTS, will Canadian Baptist Seminary have a role in serving the Baptist General Conference? Our churches will be invited to weigh in on this question as we move forward.

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# CALLING YOUNG ADULTS AND COUPLES!

February 22-25, 2024  
Cochrane, AB

BGC has been holding training for our next generation of leaders within our churches. Are there young adults or young couples in your congregation who show gifting for Christian ministry and leadership? This event is designed to encourage them to consider a greater commitment to the local church or vocational ministry.

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# THE TIMOTHY INITIATIVE



BGC Canada is partnering with The Timothy Initiative to plant multiplying, sustaining churches among the unreached (UPGs) or least-reached peoples. Pauls (trainer/mentor) runs Training Centers for as many as 20 Timothys (students). Timothys are the disciple makers and church planters who share the gospel with at least 200 non-Christians. Some new believers are invited into an intentional disciple-making relationship and they become a Titus. Tituses may also become Timothys. There are specific training materials for each level.

The cost to plant one church is approximately \$400.00 USD

**tearfund SUNDAY**

## Renew

Our God is a God of hope. Learn how God is bringing renewal in even the most desperate of situations and helping families find full-life.

**Sign-up today!**



# Interesting Reads



## A Neglected Duty

Do you serve well when having to confront a congregant?

## Pastoral Care: Resources for Funerals, Hospital Visits & Ministry to Those Grieving

Helpful resources when you are caring for those in the hospital or with the family when there has been a death



## Inside Norwich, an Ontario Town at War With a Church 'Controlling' Its Citizens

Small-town church dealing with new residents

## Fundamentalist Baptist Father Told Not to Teach Hateful Beliefs to Children

Freedom of speech in the family?





## How Quebec is Getting a Freedom-of-speech Lesson From a Controversial Christian Group

How should a church push back against public opinion?

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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

## Multiplying Faith Communities

**BGCC CHURCHES STRIVE TO MULTIPLY THEIR MINISTRY THROUGH CHURCH PLANTING AND OTHER INNOVATIVE APPROACHES.**

7 Essentials of the BGCC

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