

BAPTIST BEATS



November 24, 2022



Hello from Edmonton! This has been a full season of travel for me but now at the end of November, the pace is slowing down. I hope you are doing well as we head into the Advent season. The anticipation of Messiah coming to Israel helped many to remain faithful. Thinking about the Kingdom kept them hopeful even though they lived under Roman rule and the heavy burdens of Jewish legalism.

We have shared challenges with other Christians across Canada. We no longer have home-field advantage in our society. So our journey together matters. The New Testament calls the church the body of Christ and then employs that metaphor as a call for unity.

The pastors and people of the BGC are called to bear witness to the gospel. In these turbulent times in Canada and around the world we need resilience and courage that flows out of a deeply rooted faith. Kingdom work is counter-cultural. It is radically different from the materialism and narcissism of our society. We are called to serve others not be lords over them.

I was reading in my devotions from Hebrews 11 how Moses was able to endure all the hardships of leading an unruly people because he saw "him who was invisible". This personal connection with the Lord is what I need to remain faithful and serving. How is it with you and God?

Our rewards will have an eschatological reveal during the days of Christ when our service for Him will be evaluated with perfect equity. So we remain resilient and "do not grow weary" in serving knowing that in due season we will reap if we don't lose heart.

Keri Schuler



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 restart in January 2023 on the third Wednesday of each month so our next opportunity to talk about Reframe will be January 18, 2023. Please register for the zoom meeting with the link shown on the BGC website.

CELEBRATION 2023

Come
and
Join us!

MAY 16-18, 2023 | Niagara Falls, ON

BGC is Better Together



School of Orientation 2022



School of Orientation attendees November 2022



Group discussion, opening evening of School of Orientation



Fun night at the REC Room

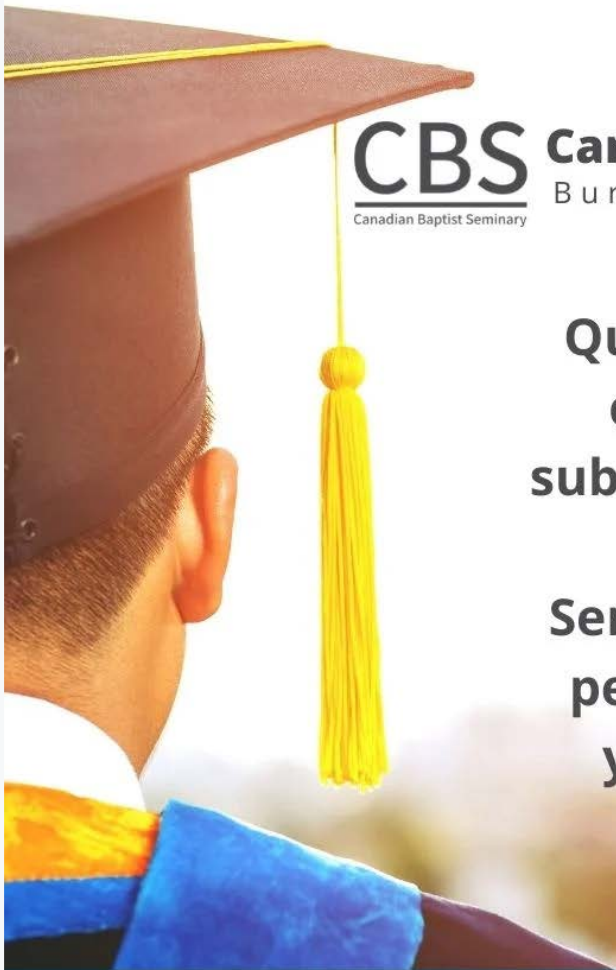


Kevin and the District Coaches/Ministers teach






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BGCC: Christmas Offering

Tearfund: Responding to the Hunger Crisis in Ethiopia/Kenta Border



Due to the difficult situation in Ethiopia right now we decided to ask you, our BGCC churches, to consider making this your Christmas offering. This is being done through our official Relief and Development partner, Tearfund! **Donations to Tearfund before the end of this year will be matched 5 times.** \$100 becomes \$500!

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Interesting Reads

People with Stronger Sense of Purpose in Life Live Longer, Study Suggests

For me to live is Christ, to die is gain



The Dissonance of Preaching

The incoming president of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is Dr. David Guretzki. Read his latest article on preaching



Why I am a Baptist

Do you know why you are a Baptist? See if this article reflects your position

Can Restoration Occur After a Pastor Has Been Caught in a Scandal?

Is a pastor who has a moral failure permanently disqualified from pastoral ministry? What do you think about this article's perspective?



The Crown is Full of Deceptive Sensationalism. Truth Matters to God, it Should Matter to Us Too

Do you watch the Crown on Netflix? Read this review on truth in media



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

Spiritual Formation

BGCC CHURCHES ARE COMMITTED TO DISCIPLE-MAKING.

7 Essentials of the BGCC

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