

# BAPTIST BEATS



October 14, 2022



Hello from Edmonton -

this is Thanksgiving week and I have many reasons to bless the Lord. He has been faithful, forgiving and sustaining all through my life. I have been blessed with 41 years of marriage to Laura, 3 children and 6 grandchildren. And now to be serving the BCC for 7 years is a joy and privilege. I love our Conference - the pastors, people and the diverse locations where we have our churches. I

hope you have had a good week giving thanks as well.

What a privilege it is to be involved in encouraging and training Christian leaders! The Great Commission is well-known to most readers of this page. We are familiar with Christ's words to go to the nations with the gospel, baptize the believers in the name of the Triune God, and then teach them to obey all that Jesus has commanded.

I have been meditating on one phrase from the Great Commission: "teach them **TO OBEY** all that I commanded". Discipleship is not just an information dump on believers - it is teaching obedience to our Lord and His Word.

This year I have traveled to parts of the world where it is not easy to obey Christ. I have been teaching believers who live in Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist nations. Many of these Christians have been shunned, beaten, hospitalized, arrested, or had their homes burned down because they shared Christ with their community. They have counted the cost of living in obedience to the Lord - and did not back away when adversity came their way. I was deeply inspired and convicted in their presence.

My conviction is that the local church is the God-ordained institution where the Great Commission begins. (BGC exists by the will and funding of our churches.) Believers are sent out from their church to serve as pastors, missionaries, and in other ministries. But very few churches can train pastors and missionaries by themselves. Denominational offices, Bible colleges, and seminaries support the local church in raising up godly, qualified leaders. Canadian Baptist Seminary has been committed to teaching obedience to Christ for over 100 years. We began in 1918 as Vancouver Bible Institute and then CBS since 1988. It is very

encouraging to see increasing enrolment from our BGC pastors, missionaries, and other lay leaders increasing in 2022.

National office and BGC Stewardship Foundation are granting generous subsidies to our people to assist them with their theological education. But always the primary objective is the Great Commission and leading our people **TO OBEY** all that Christ commanded.

Thanks so much for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. Please continue to support National Office in this last quarter of 2022. We are partners together and your participation is valued now more than ever!



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



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 & Leaders Zoom

October 19, 2022  
10 AM MDT

[Click to Register](#)

*BGC is Better Together*



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## Connie Duarte

Pray for our BGC missionary, Connie Main Duarte, who was appointed Co-General Secretary of the European Evangelical Alliance last week in Sarajevo



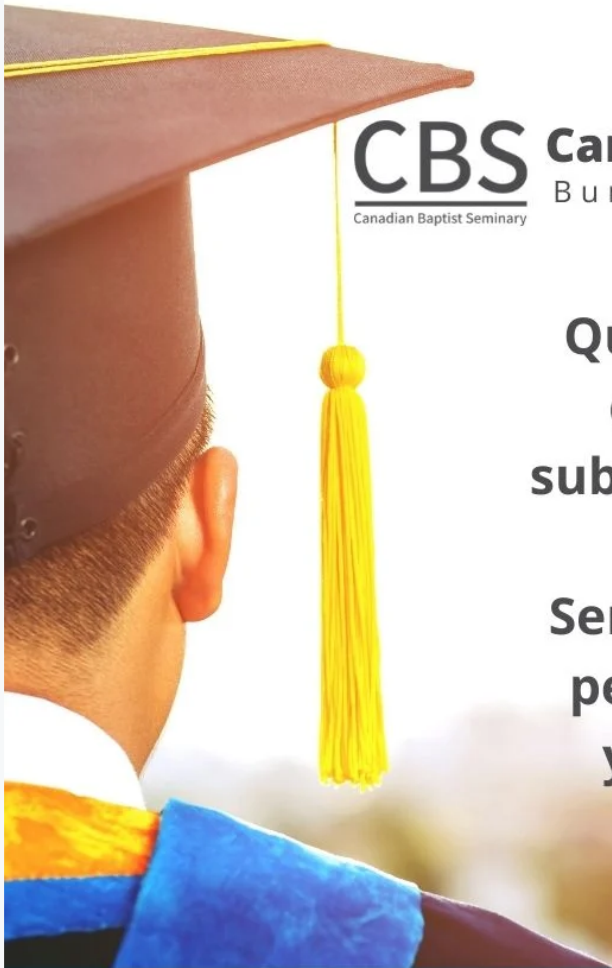


Joao and Connie with Kevin at EEA conference: Hope for Europe





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.



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Canadian Baptist Seminary



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Join Us to Walk Closer with the Lord!

## Life of Jesus Tour to Israel and Jordan

Join Dr. Kevin and Laura Schular with Dr. Guy Saffold for an unforgettable experience that we hopes inspires you to walk more closely with Jesus. You'll be able to match the ministry of Jesus to images of the land in which he walked as you visit the sites of his life and hear outstanding biblical teaching from our hosts. Choose to extend your tour into Jordan and Mt. Nebo where Moses saw the promised land and visit the stone city of Petra.

More Information

## Interesting Reads



### A Reflection on the Recent Protests in Iran

### Never Intended to be the Majority

Now we're focusing on four things: prayer, discipleship (personal and group), worship, and a ministry that leads to gospel conversations. That's it.





## Growing in Resilience in Church Staff

Video by Flourishing Congregations Institute

### Managing Gen Z is like Working with People from a 'Different Country'

Good perspective for leading younger staff members or volunteers



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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

## Functional Organizational Structures

***BGCC DEVELOP AND OPERATE WITHIN A STRUCTURE THAT BRINGS OUT THE BEST FROM OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH EACH OTHER - REGIONALLY, NATIONALLY AND BEYOND.***

[7 Essentials of the BGCC](#)

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### **Baptist General Conference of Canada**

201-8315 Davies Rd NW, Edmonton  
AB T6E 4N3 Canada

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