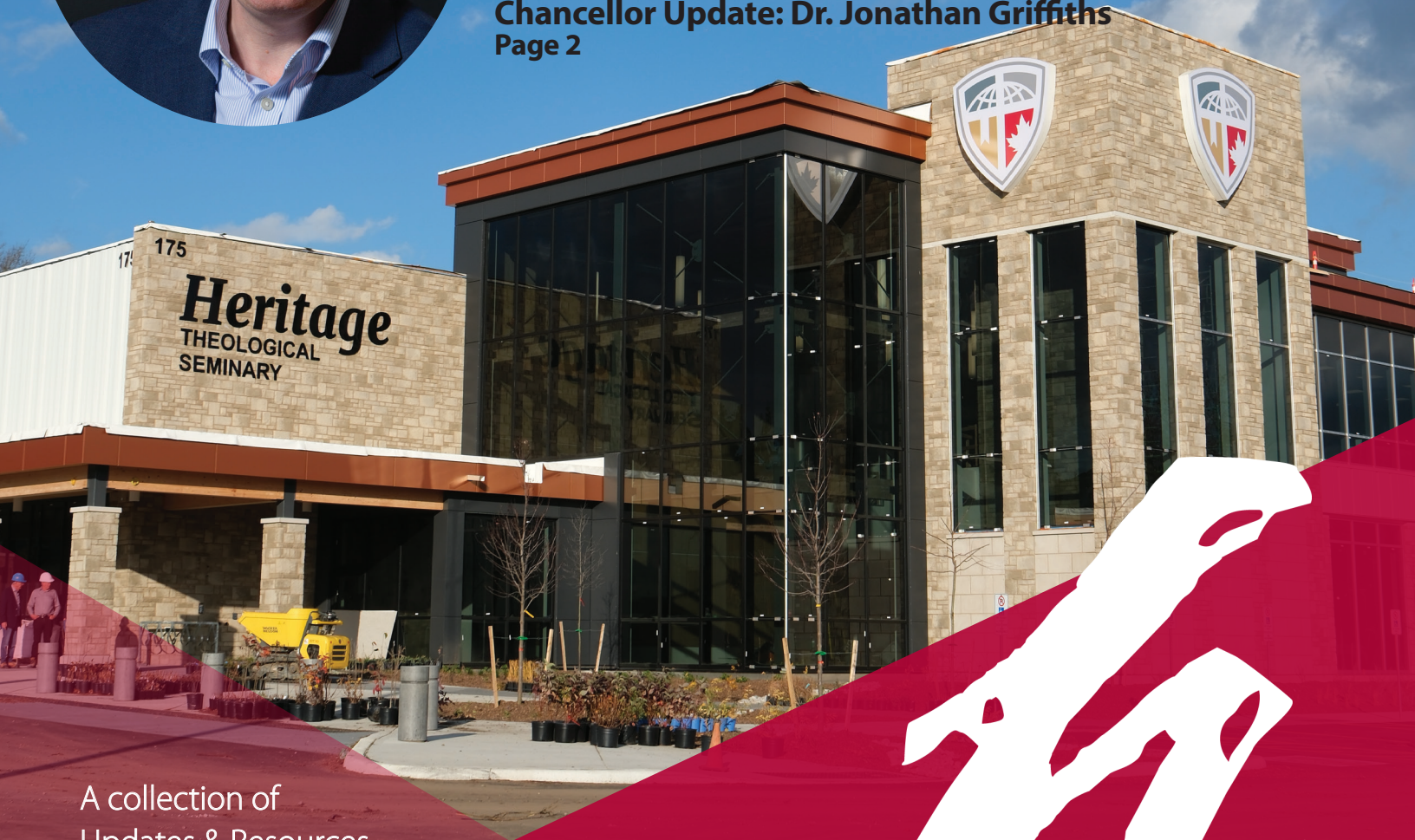


EQUIP



“Here at Heritage, we are very conscious that we have been given a precious trust from the Lord that we must steward with utmost care and harness with untiring zeal.”

Chancellor Update: Dr. Jonathan Griffiths
Page 2



A collection of
Updates & Resources
from Heritage College & Seminary





Update from Chancellor, Dr. Jonathan Griffiths

Heritage College & Seminary warmly welcomes Dr. Jonathan Griffiths as Chancellor. Below, Dr. Griffiths shares his vision for Heritage and his perspective on the church across Canada.

The spiritual profile of Canada today is complex, and the national indicators of spiritual vitality and malaise are, in some ways, contradictory. On the one hand, even a cursory examination of the state of popular culture and public discourse tells us that the nation is drifting further and further away from the Lord and into a state of deepening spiritual darkness. We all sense that and see it. On the other hand, churches from coast to coast that hold fast to the Word of God and that lift high the name of Jesus Christ are growing markedly – even dramatically. These cultural and spiritual crosscurrents, which we readily observe, together serve to highlight the **central need that gives Heritage its mandate: the need to raise up a new generation of Christian leaders of character, conviction, and competence.** This is the great burden upon our heart as a community, as an institution, and most especially, as a leadership team.

The landscape of Christian higher education in Canada presents its own rather mixed picture. In Canada today, fewer and fewer institutions of Christian higher education can be found that hold unapologetically to a historically evangelical position. This situation has come about due to a variety of factors. Internally, theological shifts have occurred that have caused many institutions to change in character and to alter their commitments. Externally, the harsh realities of a challenging economic climate and a rapidly changing educational environment have led to the demise of no small number of colleges and seminaries. In whatever ways these factors (and others) have contributed to the current situation, the result is that fewer and fewer Christian leaders are being produced for the Kingdom and fewer and fewer pastors are being prepared for ministry.

Here at Heritage, we are very conscious that we have been given a precious trust from the Lord that we must steward with utmost care and harness with untiring zeal.

Heritage has been blessed with a gifted faculty, an outstanding facility (including our beautiful new seminary building), and a historical fidelity to the Word of God. I believe that these assets – which come to us as gracious gifts from God – position Heritage to make a unique and substantial contribution to the national and global church at this critical juncture.

As an institution, we are entering into a new season of careful examination of the present educational context, of the national need, and of the particular strengths of Heritage itself. During this season, we will be seeking to discern the role that the Lord would have us play in the life of the Canadian church in the years to come. **We crave your continued prayers and your enduring partnership as we step forward into a future that will undoubtedly present us with accentuating needs and growing opportunities for Heritage to serve the cause of Christ in our vast and needy land.**

With sincere thanks for your gospel partnership,

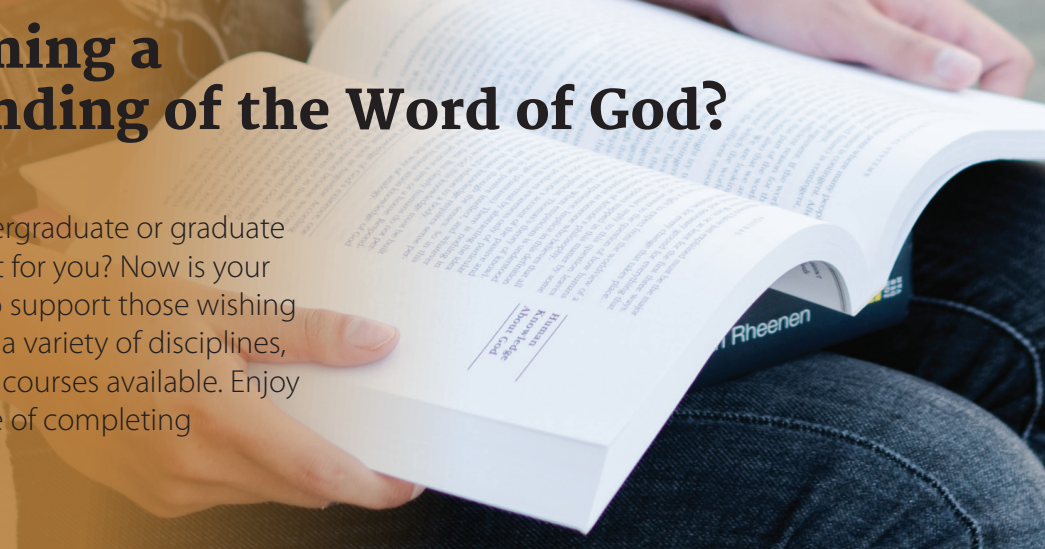
Jonathan Griffiths

Interested in Gaining a Deeper Understanding of the Word of God?

Audit a Course!

Have you ever wanted to take an undergraduate or graduate level Bible course but not sure it's right for you? Now is your opportunity to try it out. In an effort to support those wishing to experience Bible-based teaching in a variety of disciplines, we have made a select number of our courses available. Enjoy attending classes without the pressure of completing homework or assignments!

DiscoverHeritage.ca/Apply



Student Highlight: Nathen Tucker

My experience as a BRE-General student extends beyond the walls of Heritage. I currently work as a Co-Director of Student Ministry at Forward Church in Cambridge, where I apply the knowledge that I learn in class to hands-on ministry. Through my years in school, I've learned that focusing too heavily on either classroom-based learning or hands-on ministry experience often leads to a distorted perspective of ministry work. Instead, I believe we should balance the two by absorbing theological knowledge, allowing it to resonate deep in our hearts while applying it practically through vocation, bi-vocation, serving, or through any other means of living out the great commission. My journey of understanding how to translate what I learned in class to the world began through my internship at Heritage. For me, translating class to world does not stop at internships, but is a muscle that I am learning to flex as I strive to grow as a Director of Student Ministry, as well as a child of God.

If you're a student, my encouragement and prayer is that the Lord gives you opportunities to learn and practice both your education, your experience and in your ministry context.

Nathen Tucker
Co-Director of Student Ministry, Forward Church
BRE-General Student, Heritage College & Seminary





Fulfilment in Christ

This devotional was written by College Faculty Professor, Jeemin Moon, Director of Biblical Counselling

Do you remember your new year's resolutions from the beginning of 2024? What were they? Have you fulfilled them? How do you feel about this year thus far?

Perhaps you were ambitious and over-eager, made some grandiose resolutions. You are not alone, my brothers and sisters—in the end, we were taught to “dream big” and “aim high!” When we are left with unfulfilled wishes or unanswered prayers, however, we often become downcast and ask God, “Why didn’t you answer my prayer?” or “Why can’t you just help me out?” The disappointment and frustration might be even bigger when we put so much time and effort for the work of God, yet without bearing visible, tangible fruits.

Let’s just pause and think in God’s shoes (though He has no feet!). Unlike us, no resolution is “too great or too wondrous” for Him (Ps. 131:1b). With His all-surpassing knowledge and power, however, God the Father made such a counterintuitive resolution: giving his one and only Son for us (John 3:16). Unlike us whose heart is proud and eyes are haughty, God the Son “humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death” (Phil. 2:8), bearing the death on a cross “for the joy that lay before him” (Heb. 12:2). With the beatific vision that is ours in Christ, now God the Spirit calms and quiets our souls so that we can rest like a weaned child with its mother (Ps. 131:2).

As we are approaching the Christmas season, I want to remind myself that it is not my unfulfilled resolution but the Triune God’s resolution that truly fulfills my life. Brothers and sisters, as God’s own weaned children, let us put our hope in Yahweh, both now and forever (Ps. 131:3).

Working in Ministry: On Mission

Abigail Stairs, 2021 BRE Graduate

Abigail graduated from Heritage in 2021 with a Bachelor of Religious Education. During her time as a student, she enjoyed the annual Missions Conference and building life-long friendships.

Prior to attending Heritage, Abigail studied Disability Support through various programs at Mohawk College. Combining both educational studies along with a desire for missions, Abigail entered the mission field shortly after graduating from Heritage.

Abigail began working full-time after a year of support-raising with Greater Europe Mission in Romania. She lived there for two years working in an early intervention therapy centre for children with disabilities. There she trained therapists to work with the kids and support their families in a Christ-centered way. Before handing off the ministry work completely to the Romanian staff!

Upon finishing her contract in Romania, Abigail transitioned to work with GEM in Falkirk, Scotland. Her new role there involves equipping local churches with the resources and training needed to support members with disabilities in all areas of church life. As well as working in the high schools running youth outreaches and Bible studies and assisting in the local church plant.

Abigail consistently credits her time at Heritage for providing her with a strong foundation for studying God’s Word and applying it to her ministry contexts. When people ask how she joined GEM she points to that moment during the Missions Conference in 2020 where she learned about the needs for mission workers in Europe. Abigail currently lives in Caledonia, ON finishing her support-raising before she moves to Scotland long-term in Spring of 2025. **Please continue in prayer for Abigail as she prepares to return to the mission field later next year.**



Reflecting, Re-Aligning and Re-Engaging:

Dr. Ian Vaillancourt’s Sabbatical

What a joy to share what I have planned for my upcoming sabbatical, from January 1–August 31, 2025. While I pause most of my duties at Heritage (other than my online courses and a few important meetings), I look forward to pouring myself into research and writing. Some might ask why professors would be given such concentrated seasons for research and writing. One answer is simple: this extends the professor’s ministry reach outside of the Heritage classroom and into the homes of people around the world. As a side benefit, it creates awareness for bible colleges and seminaries: if someone likes a professor’s book, perhaps they will want to study at their school.

But the best benefit of such a sabbatical is more home focused: it grows the professor in depth so they have much more to give in the classroom. My first task on my sabbatical will be finishing up writing a sequel to my Pentateuch book, tentatively titled, The Unfolding of Redemption: The Story of the Old Testament Historical Books and the Hope of the Gospel (IVP Academic). Second, and as the main focus of my sabbatical, I am under contract to write two volumes on 1 and 2 Samuel for the Pillar Old Testament Commentary Series (Eerdmans; series editors: D.A. Carson and Eric J. Tully). The two volumes are due in 2029 and 2031 respectively, and this eight month sabbatical will allow me to get a solid start on them, so that after my sabbatical I can continue work toward the combined 365,000 words by the due dates mentioned above. If classroom ministry is at the heart of a professor’s calling, seasons of focused research and writing will feed that primary ministry focus. What a joy to serve Christ at a school that values these things, and that encourages these sabbatical seasons.

Please pray for Dr. Vaillancourt as he begins this season of sabbatical.



Light and Hope at Christmas

This devotional was written by Brandon Snider, a Bachelor of Theology - Pastoral Studies student

Christmas is a special time of year. For some, it is a time of celebration with friends and family, a time of joy and good tidings. For others, it is a time of deep sorrow and sadness. The holiday season, instead of bringing delight, brings despair; instead of gladness, it brings pain. Christmas becomes a season of darkness instead of light. In the Bible, we read of a time when God’s people experienced great darkness.

For hundreds of years, God’s people sat hopelessly under foreign opposition, hurting and aching for God’s deliverance. God would not leave his people in despair. They would not remain in darkness. God promised that a Saviour would come. A Saviour of light that would enter this fallen world. In great darkness, God’s fulfillment burst through. A light has shown. A baby was born. Through the darkness of night, God brought a great light into the world. “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” God’s light has been born. This light is to be the Saviour of God’s people, delivering them from the oppression of their enemies. Little did they know God would save them from their greatest enemies—sin and death.

The kingdom of light is beginning to reign. Christmas is a great joy as it marks the dawning of our Saviour; it is a story of fulfillment. The promise of light has dawned on the darkness: “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” The story of Christmas is a reminder that God fulfills his promises. Light has come into the world. God’s faithfulness gives us hope in our own dark times this season. Just as our Saviour came into this world the first time, he promises to come again. We can look forward in hope, confidently anticipating Christ’s second coming and the fulfillment of his promises, where there will be no more darkness or pain, for he will make all things new. Come, Lord Jesus.

Welcome Day

Heritage College & Seminary was excited to welcome over 100 new students to the school for the 2024 Fall term.

On Monday, September 2nd we welcomed more than 200 people onto campus at Heritage, for Welcome Day 2024! It was such an exciting time, as we had been eagerly anticipating one of our largest incoming classes in many years. Staff, Faculty, and Student Leaders worked hard to organize the day, and to prepare for new and returning students to celebrate the beginning of another school year. As the day unfolded students moved into their apartments in residence, started establishing new friendships, enjoyed a BBQ lunch and a time of fellowship, and participated in a student dedication service before the Lord. After these things had taken place students said goodbye to their family members and settled into their new home at Heritage. To end the day students were invited to participate in an all-student worship night, where the Lord was magnified. Students began the new school year with joy-filled hearts and songs of praise, as they dedicated themselves to the Lord and to another year of learning at Heritage. We thank God for His faithfulness in bringing so many new and returning students to Heritage for this school year. We are trusting that this will be another great season of growth in the Lord, and pray that in everything Christ would be honoured.



Heritage Preaching Lectures

Dr. Josh Moody joined us to share about preaching to the affections.

This year, on Thursday, October 3rd Heritage Theological Seminary welcomed Dr. Josh Moody to be the guest speaker for our annual Heritage Preaching Lectures. Dr. Moody is the senior Pastor of College Church in Wheaton, and he is the President of God Centered Life Ministries. He is also the author of many books, including the forthcoming Joy of Jesus (Christian Focus 2024); Authentic Spirituality (CLC Publications 2022); and Everyday Holiness: Becoming Who You Were Made to Be (Christian Focus 2022). His counsel to our guests and students, many of them pastors or preparing to be pastors, was divided into segments: 1) What do you do when you have too much to do?, 2) Principles of preaching to the affections, 3) Three key questions of preaching to the affections, and 4) Practicalities of preaching to the affections. We pray that these lectures were a blessing to those who were able to join us, both in personal lives and in ministries. We trust that the Heritage Preaching Lectures are a great resource for our students, and for other ministry staff who are able to participate.

We're looking forward to HPL2025 when we will welcome Dr. Jonathan Pennington, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Please join us October 9th, 2025.

Conversations with the Authors

In the spring of 2024, we launched "Conversations with the Authors" – our event that invites people to join us here at Heritage while we feature the written work of our devoted Faculty.

There are a number of published works from Heritage College & Seminary Faculty members. These resources are available to anyone through our bookstore and feature an array of topics. On October 17th, we featured Dr. Wayne Baxter, Professor of New Testament and Greek, and his book, *We've Lost. What Now? Practical Insights from the book of Daniel*.

About the Book:

Is the church of the twenty-first century supposed to regain its former glory, or is it too late? Are the people of God in exile yet again? Have we lost our cultural footing and are now in desperate need to find a new way for the present millennium? Daniel was born into a nation of God-fearers, where the Scriptures were embraced and biblical values espoused. But that all changed with the Babylonian exile. Daniel's God, his values, and his faith had become irrelevant and even despised in his society. With the erosion of Christendom, Daniel's story has become the church's story! *We've Lost. What Now?* offers a clear, insightful, and relevant exposition of Daniel in order to empower believers to minister more effectively than ever before from the social and cultural margins the church now inhabits.

The event gathered around 50 people to hear from Dr. Baxter. We learned more about why he wrote the book and how we live out our faith in today's culture.



Our next Conversations with the Authors will feature our new Chancellor, Dr. Jonathan Griffiths and his forthcoming book, "Gathered for Good: God's Good Design for the Local Church"

Stay tuned for details.

Experience Heritage!

Book a Tour or Join us at one of our Student Samplers



Interested in coming to Heritage to pursue undergraduate studies at Bible College? Book a personal campus tour or join a Student Sampler. Our Student Samplers are designed for individuals that want to get a taste of life on campus. Students will stay overnight in our dorms, join a student impact group, sample a class, participate in Chapel, eat in our cafeteria, and meet current students, staff and faculty.

Find out more at DiscoverHeritage.ca/Tour

Become a Friend of Heritage

Becoming a **Friend of Heritage** is a commitment to invest in building God's church. A **Friend of Heritage** sees the importance of sustainability and desires to see the next generation equipped for a life in ministry. When you choose to donate monthly through the **Friends of Heritage** program, you equip Heritage to ensure that theologically strong, future leaders reach our community and beyond. By becoming a Friend of Heritage, you will receive early bird invitations to special events being held at Heritage, exclusive email updates featuring how God is working through the lives of people at Heritage, impact updates of your support and the latest news. **Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this investment.**

DiscoverHeritage.ca/FriendsofHeritage

You may give at the link above, or scan the QR code below.

Scan the QR Code to be directed to more information about our monthly giving program.



Pray for Heritage

Pray for our Current Students: That they would enjoy a restful time off from their studies over the Christmas break. Pray that they would be energized and encouraged to continue their learning in the New Year.

Pray for Future Students: As we seek to continue faithfully growing as an institution, pray that God would continue to bring new students to Heritage. Pray that God would stir in the hearts of believers to begin biblical education that will equip them for life and ministry.

Pray for Faculty & Staff: That they would continue to faithfully serve the Lord in the specific roles that He has given them.

Pray for Heritage Theological Seminary, and the completion of the New Building: that God would use this space to facilitate the continued learning of future ministry leaders, that will make an impact on churches and communities across Canada.

Upcoming Events at Heritage

Ministry Job Fair – Jan 9th, 2025

Missions Conference – Feb 3rd - 5th, 2025

Conversations with the Author – Spring 2025

Seminary Building Grand Opening Celebration -
March 1st, 2025

MLD – Author of Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy – Mark Vroegop
March 20th, 2025

By Faith - Young Adults Conference – March 22nd, 2025
A partnership event with Heritage & TGC

Graduation - April 26th, 2025



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