

EQUIP



“I was able to build godly friendships, grow in my faith, and gain a better sense of God’s calling for my life.”

Grad Profile: Micah Sauder
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A collection of
Updates & Resources
from Heritage College & Seminary





Reflections from the President's Cabinet

Interim President Bob Kallonen and Vice President of Academics & Dean of College and Seminary Dr. Barry Howson look back at God's faithfulness over the past academic year.

In Psalm 77, the psalmist expresses heartfelt honest anxiety about his present circumstance and fears for the future. Troubling phrases pour out like "Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favour again? Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to be merciful?" (vs. 7,8). As we consider the godlessness of our present age at a macro level, and the deceitfulness of our sinful natures at a micro level, it is all too human to call into question the presence and power of God.

But praise God, the psalmist goes on to reason "To this I will appeal: ... I will remember the deeds of the Lord; ... I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds ... your ways God are holy. What god is as great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples." (vs. 10a, 11a, 12-14).

At this time of year at Heritage, we find ourselves looking back with gratitude and wonder at a school year just finished. God's grace and mercy have been abundantly demonstrated to us by the breadth and depth of blessings showered upon us:

- More than **300 full-time and part-time students** participated in courses here on campus or remotely online during both the Fall and Winter terms.
- In the autumn we completed a week-long accreditation survey with the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). We were granted a **10-year reaffirmation of our accreditation** in February of 2024.
- Our team has made significant progress toward the documentation being prepared for an **accreditation survey of the seminary**, to take place in November of 2024 with the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). Accreditation status is important as a measure of the high standards in place at Heritage and is important to students who might want to further their studies at other institutions.
- In late April we rejoiced along with **84 graduates** – 48 from the college and 36 from the seminary.
- We already have as many **acceptances into the freshman college class** for Fall 2024 as we did by September last year. The level of serious interest in attending Heritage this year is now the highest it's been in 7 years.
- We are grateful for the rich interest and support shown by candidates we've met in our **search for a new permanent President**. Most of these candidates came to our attention through referrals from supporters of Heritage

- The new **Seminary building construction** has made splendid progress during a mild winter. We are increasingly confident that we will be holding classes in a wonderful new educational setting during the Winter term of 2025.
- We are delighted to announce that the '**Fellowship/Heritage Archive Centre**' will be located in the new Seminary facility. This Centre is a partnership of Fellowship National and Heritage. It will be an important resource that will hold and preserve valuable documents and artifacts that pertain to the founding and history of both organizations. Authors, scholars and researchers who desire to tell another generation about the "miracles of long ago" (Psalm 77:11) experienced in the founding and preservation of the **Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches** and **Heritage College and Seminary** will have access to original materials stored here.
- Interest is growing with like-minded Christian partner organizations in hosting **conferences and meetings** with Heritage on our campus in 2025 and beyond.

We are humbled by God's goodness to us. We praise Him for his faithfulness.

We are thankful also for you, our supporters amongst God's people, who understand the vital need for biblically faithful theological education. Please continue to support Heritage in our mission to assist the church by helping to equip people for biblically and theologically grounded leadership and ministry:

- Support us by **praying** that we will excel more and more at being faithful to this mission.
- Support us by **investing** in our efforts with your financial generosity.
- Support us by **getting to know** Heritage better – read these newsletters, follow us on social media, take a course for credit or audit (in person or online), invite us to come and speak at your church.
- Support us by **telling others** about what Heritage is and why it matters. It might be someone else who would benefit from attending Heritage. Or it might be someone you know who also could be a friend of Heritage in prayer and financial support.

As we tidy up details from the school year and make preparations with eagerness for the 2024/2025 academic season, we pray that each of you will have a blessed and meaningful summer.



30th Anniversary Celebration

A Year in Review



Faculty Vs. Student Volleyball Tournament



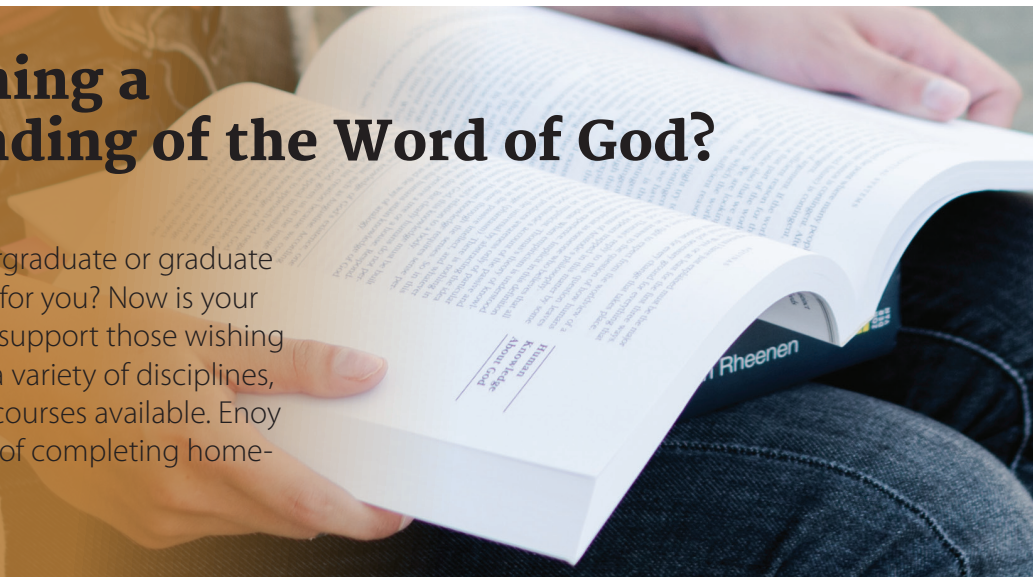
Student Leadership

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





Class of 2024 Profile: **Micah Sauder** *Bachelor of Church Music*

My time at Heritage has been a transformative and enriching experience. I came to Heritage seeking to develop my musical skills within a Christian context, but what I got ended up being so much more than that. In addition to studying piano performance, composition, and conducting, I was able to build godly friendships, grow in my faith, and gain a better sense of God's calling for my life.

One of the things that makes Heritage so special is the unique opportunities it provides. My favourite memories were of the Heritage Choir participating in the Christmas Festival at Benton Baptist Church.

This concert for choir and orchestra allowed me to sing in the choir, perform on piano, and conduct the orchestra. It was truly an opportunity of a lifetime. All of this I was able to do along with others who loved to use music to serve the church and the community.

Heritage also provided me with the opportunity to develop strong relationships with other Christians. Whether it was playing pool in The H, grabbing a coffee together in The Bean, or a late-night theology chat in dorm, these moments spent with others have built friendships which I believe will last a lifetime. These individuals were not only a joy to spend time with, but they also encouraged me to seek God and serve him daily faithfully.

My studies at Heritage also helped me to gain a clearer vision of God's plan for my life. Coming into Heritage, I desired to use my giftings to serve God, but I didn't know what that might look like. As I began to gain more experience leading worship during Heritage classes and chapels, I could sense God calling me toward vocational ministry. Following my degree at Heritage, I began an internship at Grandview Baptist Church, where I am now working to gain the skills needed to fulfill my goal of becoming a worship pastor. I am so grateful for the way Heritage has developed and shaped me as a person. My degree was an incredible experience, and I am so excited about where God might lead me next.

Class of 2024 Profile: **Nathan Ecker** *Master of Divinity*

I arrived at Heritage in 2016 with excitement and uncertainty, unsure of where the Lord would lead me and what he would teach me over the next couple of years—a couple of years that ended up turning into eight years and two degrees.

In that time the Lord renewed my mind and heart and helped me learn a lot. He taught me the importance of loving his people and feeling empathy for those who are hurting and broken. He taught me humility because I don't know everything and often need guidance from those wiser than me. He taught me clarity, and that, oftentimes, our plans do not go as expected but that does not mean that the Lord is not involved or guiding me to something better.

The Lord taught me more about his graciousness and mercy that he continually bestows upon me, and I am thankful for the opportunities that he gave me during my time, both to serve in churches and to serve as staff at Heritage for the last four years.

I am appreciative of both the staff and students for what they have taught me both explicitly and implicitly throughout this period of my life. I thank the Lord that even though a 24-year-old version of myself thought he knew what he needed in life and where he was headed, the Lord had a better plan and a better path laid before him.





Class of 2024 Profile: Karen Saulesleja *BRE-Honours- Social and Family Ministries*

Graduating from Heritage is both exciting and scary. When I started what I thought would be a one-year program, I had no idea it would turn into a four-year journey that would change me in so many unexpected ways.

Being a Resident Assistant (RA) for two years was a big part of my growth. It taught me a lot about leadership, empathy, and the value of community. These experiences helped me understand what it means to be a leader who serves others. Academically, my time at Heritage made me appreciate the humility that comes with learning. I've realized how much there is to know and how little I actually understand, which has been a humbling experience. Yet the most important lesson I learned at Heritage is about faith. I discovered that loving God means engaging both my heart and my mind. Just knowing about Him isn't enough; it has to change who I am. This has been a huge part of my spiritual growth.

As I move on from Heritage, I'm excited about what's next. I'm currently working with Safe Families Kitchener-Waterloo & Cambridge, helping families in crisis by connecting them with community support through local churches. It's a privilege to see how faith in action can make a real difference in people's lives. God is teaching me to rely on Him through all of life's ups and downs, trusting that He has a plan for me, even when I can't see it clearly. My time at Heritage has helped to prepare me for whatever comes next, and I'm grateful for the journey.

2024 College Awards

- The Certificate Program Academic Proficiency Award: Bennett McKee
- The Fourth Year Academic Proficiency Award: Nathan Stewart
- The Zondervan Hebrew Award: Nathan Maier
- The Zondervan Greek Award: Nathan Stewart
- The Lehman Strauss Expository Preaching & Teaching Award: Seth Chapple
- The Wilson Banks Music Award: Joachim Verdonk
- The ABWE Missions Award: Victoria Lesniara
- The Craig Simmons Missions Award: Tobias Noack
- Delta Epsilon Chi Honour Society of ABHE: Nathan Stewart & Bethany Stanley
- The Field Education Award: Seth Chapple & Anastasia Joannis
- The Norman W. Pipe Evangelism Award: Myah Foss
- The Gerry Benn Award for Christian Education: Christina Perrie & Ethan Baxter
- The Pastoral Ministry Award: Timothy Wessel
- The Marvin Brubacher Citizenship Awards: Seth Chapple & Belen Vaquedano
- The Elsie M. Lawson Awards: Josh Slotegraaf & Kyla Bryant

2024 Seminary Awards

- The Graduating Academic Proficiency Award: Woosuk Oh & Liam Wilson
- The Harold Stainton Hebrew Award: Carly Reimer
- The Zondervan Greek Award: Sarah Penner
- The Heritage Seminary Preaching Award: Mwaffak Namourh
- The Charles & Olive Tipp Church History Award: Melissa Kirkpatrick
- The Denzill E. Raymer Old Testament Award: Ashley Kreuzer
- The W. Gordon Brown New Testament Award: Holly Gould
- The William & Leila Whitcombe Theology Award: Liam Wilson
- The Irene Robertson Loveday Christian Education Award: Adam Heida
- The Jack H. Watt Pastoral Ministry Award: Liam Wilson
- The Jack Scott Award: Caleb Hall
- The Mr. & Mrs. Alex McCready Award: Carly Reimer

A Vision In the Making

*Construction on the new home for
Heritage Theological Seminary
is making progress.*

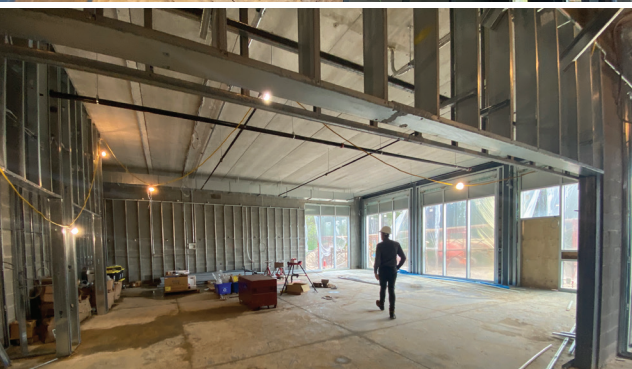


The building project at Heritage is well underway. It's exciting to see it come together. The mild winter allowed for construction to continue throughout the colder months and now the roof is on, stonework is being completed and rooms are taking shape.

We are grateful for how the Lord is already working through this project. One particularly exciting development is our partnership with the **Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches of Canada** to create the **Fellowship/Heritage Archive Centre**. This Centre will preserve and showcase the rich history of the church, serving as a valuable resource for generations to come. It is a tangible example of how God will use the new Seminary building to further His kingdom. Other examples include recent inquiries about future partnership conferences related to growth and development through the Word of God in children's ministry, as well as high school-age youth and young adults, starting in the spring of 2025.

As we near the completion of this project, we are excited about the possibilities ahead and trusting in the Lord's provision. We have approximately \$2.1 million left to raise to see this project be debt-free. We are confident in the Lord's provision, and we are excited to see how in His good and perfect timing, He will continue to work through the generosity of His people.

If you are moved to give to this project, please complete and return the included donation form or give online at **DiscoverHeritage.ca/Donate** and choose "capital donation" on the donation form. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of a gift towards this initiative.



A Look Inside and Outside

Top Left: A look at the entryway of the new building.

Top Right: This will be the Stage in the Great Hall which will be the home of future Heritage events like Graduation, the Heritage Preaching Lectures, and Ministry Leadership Day.

Bottom Right: The view from the patio outside of the Great Hall.

Bottom Left: The Fireside Lounge will be located in this space.

A Year in Reflection

Assistant Dean of the College Dr. Marianne Vanderboom reflects on the ups and downs of this past year while looking ahead at what is to come for her and the student body at Heritage.



What a year it's been! In May 2024, I began a sabbatical to write my Doctor of Ministry dissertation. The task was much harder than I anticipated, but I submitted my paper in November, and turned my attention to preparing to return to campus in January. Although I planned and prepared carefully, life rarely goes as one expects it to, so the defense of my dissertation happened much later than I thought it would and did not go as I had anticipated.

Nevertheless, I submitted my final copy at the end of April. Eight years of study is complete, and I have finally earned my doctorate! It is a huge milestone, and one I am delighted to have completed. Many thanks to the administration of Heritage, my colleagues, and my students for their ongoing support and encouragement in the last eight years.

In January, I returned to campus. It was wonderful to return to colleagues and students, to resume my teaching, and to take up my new task as Assistant Dean of the College. I am so grateful for the opportunity to teach at Heritage. My colleagues are godly, skilled, and invested in preparing men and women for life and ministry. My students are thoughtful and willing to work hard and wrestle deeply with important concepts as they seek to prepare for ministry and become more faithful followers of our Lord Jesus Christ. Every day, I am honoured and thankful for the opportunity to serve with them and for them as we build Christ's kingdom together. Watching men and women into whose lives I have invested graduate and go on to serve the Lord is always a joy. Welcoming new students in September signifies a new adventure. I am looking forward to it already.

Experience Heritage!

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

Interested in coming to Heritage? 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.

Upcoming Student Sampler Dates

November 4-5, 2024 | November 18-19, 2024 | February 10-11, 2025 | March 10-11, 2025

Book a tour at DiscoverHeritage.ca/Tour



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 devoted written work of Faculty.

There are a number of published works from Heritage College & Seminary Faculty members. These resources are available to anyone and feature an array of topics. At our first Conversations with the Authors event, we highlighted Dr. Ian Vaillancourt's newest book, *Treasuring the Psalms*.

"In Treasuring the Psalms, Ian J. Vaillancourt orients readers to the Psalms and lays out a pattern for deeper study and application. From the composition of individual psalms through the shaping of the entire book, he argues, the Holy Spirit guided the creation of a work that is truly greater than the sum of its parts. In particular, Vaillancourt shows how the Psalms point to Christ and provide practical insights for the church community and individual Christians." – InterVarsity Press

The event gathered around 40 people to hear from Dr. Vaillancourt and learn more about why he wrote the book and how he hopes the book is used to grow one's relationship with Christ.

**Our next
Conversations with the Authors
event will take place
October 17th and will feature
Dr. Wayne Baxter.**

**Save the date and we hope you
join us here at Heritage.**



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. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this investment.

DiscoverHeritage.ca/FriendsofHeritage

You may give at the link above, or complete the included giving reply card.



Pray for Heritage

Pray for our Current Students: That they would serve God well over the summer—whether serving in churches or in the marketplace—and return in September prepared to learn and grow.

Pray for Future Students: That we would see more men and women led to come to either the college or the seminary to be equipped for life and ministry.

Pray for Faculty & Staff: That they enjoy rest over the summer and prepare to continue to serve our students well in the Fall.

Pray for our Presidential Search: That wisdom and clarity would be given to all involved with this continuing search.

Pray for the Seminary Building: That progress on the building would continue and for the project to be fully funded by completion.

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Upcoming Events at Heritage

Convocation
September 10, 2024

Heritage Preaching Lectures
Dr. Josh Moody- October 3, 2024

Conversations with the Authors
Dr. Wayne Baxter - October 17, 2024

Ministry Leadership Day
Mark Vroegop - March 20, 2025

