



# Christmas Newsletter 2020



## COMMUNITY AT HERITAGE

B.Th. student Josh Stanley reflects on student life at Heritage this semester.

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## SEEKING JUSTICE & MERCY

Miranda King '20 talks about how Heritage equipped her for her new role.

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# C.S. Lewis, Heritage, and COVID

In October of 1939, just weeks after Hitler's armies invaded Poland, Britain entered the war. The fall term at Oxford had recently begun and some were wondering if it was defensible for universities to be open in the midst of an escalating military conflict.

C.S. Lewis, an Oxford professor, provided an insightful answer in the lecture he delivered called, "Learning in War-Time."

If Lewis were writing today, he might change his title to "Learning in COVID-time."

In giving a defense for students to be gaining an education in drastic times, Lewis argued that even in peacetime, we live in desperate times. Every moment of every day, people are advancing towards heaven or hell. There are no normal, care-free times.

Because of the eternal reality of heaven and hell, training men and women to serve as pastors, missionaries and ministry leaders is an essential service of the Church. COVID has served to heighten our awareness of our mortality.

This fall at Heritage College and Seminary, we've continued to devote ourselves to the crucial task of equipping men and women to be spiritual leaders and faithful servants of Christ. College courses have been offered "live" (on campus) and livestreamed (online).



Seminary courses have all moved to an online format.

Once again, the Lord has sent us some stellar students to train for life and ministry. They've chosen to come to Heritage in the midst of a pandemic because they want their lives to make a difference for Christ.

On top of the complications caused by COVID, our students face other challenges as well. Finances are tight for many of them, especially those who are juggling studies while providing for themselves and their families.

I'm writing to ask you to help Heritage students by making a donation to our scholarship fund this Christmas. We will use the funds to help worthy students in need of financial assistance, especially those with families or those who don't have other financial support systems.

Would you consider a special gift in this giving season? Your investment will help students learning in COVID-time as they prepare for a lifetime of ministry.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Reed".

Dr. Rick Reed



# A Community Yearning to Know God More

*Bachelor of Theology – Pastoral Studies student and Residence Assistant Josh Stanley reflects on how God has been working in lives at Heritage in the midst of COVID-19.*

COVID-19 has had a lasting effect on the entire world, but it has not stopped God from working in the lives of His people, as well as in the world around us. Being at Heritage this fall semester definitely looks different, but it is no less impactful than years before.

The community this year has adjusted quite well to protocols and restrictions, but still manage to connect with each other despite remaining socially distanced. There is rarely a day where you won't find people connecting in The Bean through mutual homework or playing music, enjoying a game of pool with a friend, or even playing a competitive match of ping pong.

At the heart of the Heritage community is a yearning to

know God more each and every day and a desire to build relationships with others who love Him as well.

Personally, this semester has definitely been a different one. As a student leader, I want to help foster a community of people loving God first and loving each other well. I do my best to help build the community to be the best experience it can be, while trying not to get distracted by everything I miss about last year.

One lesson that sticks out to me this year is finding my joy in God alone and not only in the experiences He brings. God is continually working this year and it is a joy to simply be a part of what He is doing.

## The Blessing of Studying Online

*For Scott Stephenson, the move to online learning at the seminary has allowed him to serve well as Youth Pastor at Bluewater Baptist Church in Sarnia while continuing his Master of Divinity studies.*

The changes to class delivery format during this pandemic, have allowed me to take part in a class that would normally be incredibly difficult to attend in person on a weekly basis.

The ability to take part in weekly online classes this term has been personally beneficial and engaging, while also saving me what would have been four hours of commuting each week. This has meant more time at home with my family, while also allowing me to remain accessible to the students I pastor and limit any possible strain on my church. Online learning has also helped me to better connect to the



experience of the students I work with and encourage those who are also engaging in their courses in a new way for the first time.

My current coursework has helped me grow in my ability to teach and preach God's word to young people and has made scripture come alive for me in new ways offering great personal excitement. It has been an encouragement as well to study alongside so many students online, each desiring to better serve the Lord in their specific ministry contexts.



# Prepared to Seek Justice & Mercy

Alumna Miranda King '20 shares how God used Heritage to equip her for her current role with the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform.

I work full-time in the pro-life movement with the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform, an educational human rights organization dedicated to defending the lives of God's youngest image-bearers.

Currently, I am leading a team of interns in southwestern Ontario in various outreach projects. One of the most exciting parts of this work is seeing hundreds of people reject their former support of abortion after recognizing the horrific reality of abortion through our outreach. Even better than this is seeing lives saved. Last week, a little boy was born to a teenage mom who had cancelled his abortion earlier this year after being impacted by our work. Praise God!

In Canada, for every four children who are born, one is killed by abortion. In this dark country filled with twisted lies and deep hurt, there is a desperate need for the truth and forgiveness found only in Christ.

During my time at Heritage, I was given leadership opportunities that prepared me for my current role, and I grew in my desire to bring the gospel to those who are far from God. Please join me in praying that God would use the Church mightily to seek justice and mercy as we stand against abortion.

***Join us as we continue our mission to train and equip men and women for life and ministry.***

***DiscoverHeritage.ca/Donate***

The logo for Heritage College, featuring a stylized white 'H' on a red background.

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# Join the Important Work of Heritage

Throughout the challenges of this year, we have seen God continue to use Heritage students and graduates to live out and give out the hope of the gospel. We continue to be devoted to training pastors, missionaries, church leaders to serve Christ, his church and His mission.

Would you join us in this important work through a financial gift this Christmas? Your investment in Heritage helps us equip more men and women to make an eternal difference for the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world.

If you'd like to target your gift, here's some specific areas of need:

- Student Scholarships (including a growing number of international students and new Canadians)
- Campus and facility upkeep and upgrades
- Our Capital Campaign related to the new Seminary Building

*Please clearly designate if you would like your donation assigned to one of these areas.*

***From the students, staff, and faculty of  
Heritage College & Seminary -  
Merry Christmas to you and your family.***

***Thank you for supporting Heritage through your  
continued prayers and financial gifts.***

*“She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”*

*Matthew 1:21*



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## Upcoming Events at Heritage

Graduation - Saturday, April 24, 2021

Ministry Leadership Day with  
Dr. Michael Pawelke - March 4, 2021  
*This year's event will be hosted online.*

Heritage Preaching Lectures with  
Dr. Darrell Johnson - October 14, 2021

Andrew Fuller Centre for Baptist Studies  
Annual Lecture with Dr. Matt Boswell -  
October 29, 2021