



GOD AT WORK

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MARRIAGE IN MINISTRY

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Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

On behalf of the Alumni Committee and as the Alumni Chair and representative on the Board of Directors, it is my joy to extend a warm welcome to the Heritage College & Seminary graduates of 2023 to the Heritage College & Seminary Alumni Association!

It was a pleasure for the Alumni Association to be a part of graduation day at Heritage. Over the course of both ceremonies, it was nice to meet many of our graduates in person and gift them with a bag of goodies, including a Heritage toque, a book, and other resources.

After each ceremony, the Alumni Committee hosted a stand-up reception where families, friends, graduates, and faculty shared in a time of fellowship together. I praise God for a meaningful and wonderful day!

Please continue to pray for our newest alumni as they go out to serve the Lord in churches, non-profit organizations, and the marketplace.

Warmly,
Julia Rogler, *Alumni Chair*





God at Work

London Baptist Seminary alumnus, Jim DeMarsh (B.TH. '86; M.A. '99) and Heritage College alumnus, Mark Strickland (B.R.E. '07) share how God has been faithful to Milton Bible Church over the last thirty years.

Milton Bible Church (MBC) is involved in a great leadership adventure with two graduates of London Baptist Seminary and Heritage Baptist College. Over the last two years, the church has transitioned the Lead Pastoral role from Jim DeMarsh to Mark Strickland. God has been gracious in the journey.

Mark describes it this way: "In 2004, I began theological education at Heritage, and the Lord also brought my wife Wendy and me to Milton. I served as a youth pastor for eight years at Milton Bible Church alongside my friend and mentor, Jim DeMarsh. In 2012, I moved on to other job opportunities, but my core identity was shaped by the praxis of ministry at MBC, as well as the theological education from Heritage. In 2022, Jim and the Elders invited Wendy and me to return to Milton and seek God with the possible transition into a lead pastor role at the church."

Jim describes it this way: "In 1992, my wife Mary and I arrived in Milton to serve a small church that had been through difficult times - including church splits, the

loss of a building and a rough reputation in the community. But those faithful saints were committed to play together and pray together, so we began a time of revitalization. Thirty years later, MBC is a thriving, diverse church with fabulous facilities, healthy finances, and an incredible Elder and Leadership Team. And they still love to play together and pray together.

Several years ago, the Elders at MBC began to discuss and pray about a succession plan for the role of lead pastor. The goal was to have a seamless transition that would minimize the impact of a leadership change on the congregation and model what we see in Scripture where younger leaders (like Timothy) are built up and released by older elders (like Paul) ahead of them. The Spirit of God has used the solid biblical foundations laid upon both Mark and Jim from Heritage and LBS to guide and direct us on this great adventure. We are full steam ahead at Milton Bible Church, and we cannot wait to see what God has in store in the years to come!"

DISCOUNT CODES FOR BOOKS AND RESOURCES:

9 Marks: Use code **HCS35** to receive 35% off regular-priced items in their online store.

Hesed & Emet Publishing: Use code **HCSALUM** to receive 10% off your purchase in their online store.

Lithos Kids: Use code **HCSALUMNI** to receive 20% off your purchase in their online store.

Reformed Book Services: Use code **HERALUMNI5** to receive 5% off their website.

Heritage has also partnered with Advisors with Purpose, Chapel Ridge Funeral Home, and Deeks Insurance for alumni benefits. Learn more at DiscoverHeritage.ca/Alumni.



Marriage in Ministry: A Pastoral Couples' Retreat

Muskoka Bible Centre has partnered with Heritage to provide a retreat for married couples serving in ministry together on October 23-26 at MBC.

Couples serving in the church together may face several tension points throughout their marriage and ministry. Out of a desire to help married couples serving in pastoral ministry better understand these tension points and work through them, Heritage has partnered with Muskoka Bible Centre to hold the Marriage in Ministry Pastoral Couples' Retreat from October 23-26, 2023.

Drs. Rick and Linda Reed will speak on the tension and turning points couples face in ministry throughout the retreat. The event will also be facilitated by Levi and Amanda denBok, who serve at Redeemer City Church

in Orillia, ON. Music will be led by Professor of Worship Arts at Briercrest College and Seminary Geoff Dresser and his wife Pearl, who leads Lavish Canada, a ministry for women seeking the heart of God.

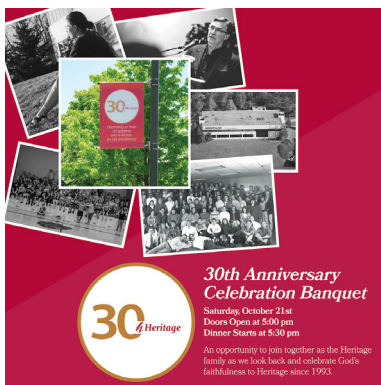
To provide this opportunity to Heritage graduates serving in ministry, a limited number of \$300 discounts to Alumni serving in ministry is available. While registering, enter the code "HERITAGECOUPLE2023" to receive your discount while they last.

For more information on this retreat and to register, visit muskokabible.com/retreats/marriage-in-ministry.

Heritage Theological Seminary Building Update

Construction has officially begun here at Heritage for the new home of the Seminary. Currently, the remaining trees on the lot are being removed and things are being prepared for digging to begin this summer.

We invite alumni to partner with us as we raise funds for the Alumni Cafe and the Alumni Prayer Room, which will serve as spaces in the new building for students and friends of Heritage. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how God may be asking you to give to this project and to faithfully keep the entire process of this new build in prayer.



Save the Date for the 30th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

Join us on Saturday, October 21st for an opportunity to join together as the Heritage family as we look back and celebrate God's faithfulness to Heritage since 1993. There will be a catered dinner, music, and reflections on Heritage's past 30 years.

More details, including information on registration, to come.

Where Are They Now?

Meet Heritage alumnus, Josh Brake!

Josh completed the Master of Theological Studies in 2006 and returned to Heritage to complete the Master of Divinity and the Graduate Certificate in Biblical Care & Counselling in 2020.

One memory Josh has during his time at Heritage is the ability of the professors to make things he expected to be dull come to life: "Dr. Fowler and Dr. Howson did that for me in Systematic Theology and Church History, while more recently, Dr. Vaillancourt made Hebrew Exegesis meaningful for me in a way that I would never have imagined possible."

Upon graduation in 2006, Josh was hired as the Associate Pastor at Maple Avenue Baptist Church in Georgetown, ON. It was an extended season that he explains gave him the scope to grow as a pastor through doing the work, making mistakes and experiencing the grace of a church that grew alongside him. In 2020, Josh accepted a call to be the Lead Pastor at Hudson Community Baptist Church in Saint-Lazare, Quebec. Josh and his family relocated to Quebec and, by God's grace, endured the hardships and complexities of leading a church as a new pastor through the COVID pandemic. Today, this church exists as the only English evangelical church for a large area west of the island of Montreal. Josh is married to Barbara, and they have four children: Kathryn, Simon, Elias, and Olivia.

Josh is thankful to remain connected to Heritage as an alumnus: "Being an alumnus of Heritage means that I know I always have a resource to draw from. Professors and academic resources are continually made available through continuing education opportunities or just through sending an email with a question I'm wrestling with."

Join us in praying for the Brake family as they continue to serve the Lord in Quebec!



"Like" the Heritage Alumni Community Facebook page and Heritage Instagram page (@heritagecsalumni) for upcoming events, giveaways and discounts, helpful information, and reminiscing of memories from the past.

If you'd like to get involved with the "Where Are They Now" social media series, contact Ariel Mudde at amudde@heritagecs.edu.



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