

Aug 8, 2018

Baptist Beats

THE HEART BEAT

of the BGCC



Have you heard about our 360 Strategy? BGC360.CA

Upcoming Events:

National Board Meeting
October 22-23, 2018

Celebration 2019
May 30 - June 1, 2019
Banff, AB

Donations



Hello! I hope your summer is going well! As a pastor for 35 years, I always felt the two lowest attendance Sundays were the August long weekend and the Sunday between Christmas and New Year. Is that your experience too? I hope you made it through last weekend and it is upwards from here. May these last days of summer be restful and refreshing and may the Lord give you renewed vision for your ministry and congregation as September

A team of five from BGC Canada travel to a small nation in the Caucasus on August 13-28. Going with me are Doug Gordon, Brad and Bethany Collins and Ahmad Zeividavi. The purpose of this mission is to train house church leaders who speak Farsi. The Lord is doing an amazing work in their nation with thousands coming to faith in Christ. Because of the regime they live under, there is no freedom to attend church or take discipleship training. They are discreetly travelling from their country to a camp in the mountains that BGC has rented where we will be discipling them. It is risky for them to take this training as they could be arrested when they return home so, we will not be promoting this publicly and there may not be many pictures.

PRAY: Please pray for our safety, health and discernment to present Bible truths without Canadian cultural bias as to how Christian life and church should look. Pray for those attending, for their safety, health and ability to grasp the teaching through translation.

SPONSOR: It costs BGC \$300 to bring one person. Please ask your church to consider sponsoring one or more Farsi leaders. We are still needing support for a few more. Send your donations to the BGC office in Edmonton. Any amount will be helpful. Thanks!

Looking forward to telling you all that the Lord did when we return!

Canadian Baptist Seminary Announces New President

The Board of Regents of Canadian Baptist Seminary are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Roger Helland as our next president. Roger succeeds Richard Ang, who served with distinction for four years, effective August 31, 2018. Richard and Roger are working together in a transitional relationship in July-August. See Richard's video message [here](#).



Dr. Helland is a godly leader and comes to us with impressive academic and ministry credentials. He taught at a Bible college and then pastored in three churches in the Okanagan of B.C. He has served the past 11 years as district minister of the Baptist General Conference in Alberta. He continues to teach as an adjunct professor in several Bible colleges and seminaries with a passion for spiritual and missional renewal, and a vision for devotion to prayer and to the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4). He graduated from Vancouver Bible College (BA), Dallas Theological Seminary (ThM), and Trinity Western University-ACTS (DMin.) and is an author of six books. He has been married to Gail for 38 years and they have three children and five grandchildren.

Pastor Curt Brunski, Chair of the Board of Regents for CBS said, "The Board of Regents of CBS have unanimously agreed to call Roger Helland as our next President. We are encouraged by Roger's passion and enthusiasm to see CBS move forward, along with ACTS, to provide training and development for the future leaders in the BGC and around the world. We are excited to work with Roger and the leadership coalition to move the Seminary forward in new and exciting ways."

The National Board of the Baptist General Conference has affirmed Roger's appointment to an initial two-year term, with opportunity for extension. Kevin Schular, Executive Director of BGC, said: "We believe Roger Helland will provide godly direction for our seminary. He and his team will develop a program to train our pastors and leaders in sound evangelical theology, spiritual disciplines and with the skills for effective ministry in the 21st century."

Roger will continue to serve as District Minister of BGC Alberta. The district has released Roger to serve CBS for 25% of his time while continuing to pay his full salary. BGCA Board Chair, Bob Rolfe, stated: "BGCA recognizes Roger's gifts are ideally suited for this role with CBS and his passion for teaching make him an ideal candidate to lead the seminary through this necessary transition. We anticipate that with the support of all the stakeholders Roger will be able to provide the vision and direction to revitalize the seminary and provide the BGC with a vibrant, contemporary seminary model that will prove economically viable, affordable and readily accessible to all those interested in theological enrichment..."

Please pray for Roger, his wife Gail, Canadian Baptist Seminary and the Baptist General Conference of Canada as we begin this next chapter of raising up godly leaders to reach our nation and world.

Interesting Reads

1. **How To Systematically Transition First Time Guests Into Active Members:**

Take this webinar to improve retention of visitors to regular attendees. - [Webinar](#)

2. **11 Secrets Most Church Leaders Won't Tell You:**

- [Article](#)

3. **For God or Party? China's Christians Face Test of Faith:**

- [Article](#)

4. **'Pure Genocide': Over 6000 Nigerian Christians Slaughtered:**

- [Article](#)

Seven Essentials of the BGC

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.

[7 Essentials of the BGCC](#)

We will highlight one Essential in each issue of Baptist Beats.

Spiritual Formation

BGCC churches are committed to disciple-making.

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