

FALL / WINTER 2022

IN TOUCH



Steinbach Bible College





Steinbach
Bible College

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Cover Photo: SBC students Eliza (left) and Abby (right)
on top of the Mennonite Heritage Village Windmill
during Expedition Now. (Photo Credit: Nathan Bartel)

Message from the President



Revival! Psalm 40:1-3 is this year's theme. The psalmist changes from patient waiting, to experiencing God's deliverance, and then singing a new song.

Revival? For mature readers, the word inspires memories of tent meetings with fervent evangelists preaching repentance and salvation. SBC was birthed in the Great Depression as young adults were longing for spiritual revival in turbulent times. Out of this ferment, SBA/SBI alumni became pastors and missionaries or ministry leaders while raising families and engaging the world as Christians with careers.

Revival? For recent student leaders, the word inspired hope that God would bring life to weary souls after two years of pandemic. This year, SBC is navigating a recession and fears of war in the world as young adults are longing for spiritual revival in anxious times. Staff and faculty are honored to support student discipleship journeys. Dr. Layton Friesen recently became SBC Academic Dean, coming from leadership and pastoring in the EMC. Layton and SBC faculty understand the values of the Bible

college way of discipleship because all have experienced that mentoring in our Bible college journeys. Pastoral care for students is what we do, from classes, to mentoring, to ministry formation groups, and more.

We pray that the Bible and following Jesus in discipleship will revive over 100 students and 25 staff journeying together this year.

Thanks to alumni for trusting SBC in your biblical and discipleship formation. SBC alumni are the vision for this college. You are the multicultural graduates in meaningful vocations making followers of Jesus we dream about. To paraphrase a proverb, without alumni, the college will perish.

Thanks for showing interest in the college by reading InTouch. Thanks for encouraging students to attend SBC! Thanks for your generosity and financial gifts! Most of all, thanks for your continued prayers!

As you read this edition, I trust you will be encouraged by the stories of how God is answering your prayers by raising up the next generation of servant leaders to follow Jesus, serve the church and engage the world for God's kingdom.

Blessings!

Dr. Terry Hiebert, PhD
Interim President

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2021-2022 Grad Breakdown

Programs	Graduates
Pursuit	8
CBS (1-Year)	4
AA 2-Year	4
BA 3-Year	17
BA 4-Year	2
TOTAL	35

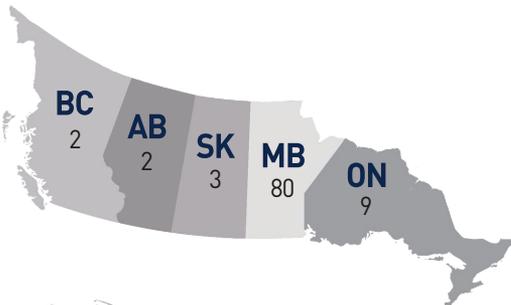
Supporting Conferences



2021-2022 Student Denominations

- 0 Christian Mennonite Conference
- 26 Evangelical Mennonite Conference
- 15 Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference
- 14 Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba
- 63 Other (Mennonite Church Manitoba, Evangelical Free, etc.)

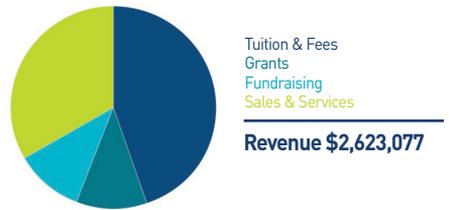
Where Our Students Were From 2021-2022



International

22 from countries including Belize, Brazil, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Paraguay, Phillipines, Qatar, South Korea, Ukraine, United States.

2022-2023 Budget



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2021-2022 Presidential Report

Being Renewed from 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 was the theme for this year and it was certainly appropriate! In September 2021, we started the year with in-person classes, followed the required COVID protocols, and focused on our mission and core values.

By March 2022, the restrictions were lifted, and students and families appreciated a live graduation together.

Limitations can spur creativity. We discovered renewal in the small wins throughout the year. Students participated in Prayer Days, regular chapels, full classes, and year-end retreats.

Performance groups included the Princess Bride drama, Free Servant, Ignite, and New Creation deputations to churches. Special thanks to the staff and student leaders for their efforts in keeping campus life safe and working.

After 15 years of service, President Rob Reimer completed his tenure at SBC on April 30, 2022. Rob had a passion for connecting with conferences, churches, and donors. He sustained a vision for board

development, strategic planning, and careful financial management. His relationship with administration, faculty, staff, and students was much appreciated. Rob's student mentoring and instruction in the classroom will be missed! The college continues to search for a new president as I serve as interim president for 2022-23.

Like many of you and our churches, at times we felt like we were outwardly wasting away. But with the 35 graduates, including 8 in the 4-month Pursuit discipleship program, we also experienced the renewal of hope. God is faithful! Now with renewed energy we are moving forward with empowering servant leaders to follow Jesus, serve the church, and engage the world for God's kingdom in 2022-23.

Blessings,

Terry Hiebert,
SBC Interim President



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Staffing Updates

A lot of changes to the staff and faculty of Steinbach Bible College have taken place since the last Report to the Community was written in the Fall/Winter 2021 issue of InTouch.

Here is the following update:

- SBC welcomed **Dr. Layton Friesen** as the college's new Academic Dean in July 2022. Layton is an SBC alum who previously served as the Conference Pastor at the Evangelical Mennonite Conference (EMC).

He takes over for **Terry Hiebert**, who transitioned into his new role as Interim President of SBC in May of 2022.

- **Dalen Kroeker** resigned from his role as Director of Recruitment in October 2021 to assist with his growing family business.

Peter Serger was hired last November as the new Director of Recruitment and Communications.

- **Sarah Barkman** resigned from her role at the end of July as Director of Library Services and eight years in the Registration Office at the end of July. She is pursuing graduate studies at Providence Theological Seminary.

Kaitlyn Thiessen was hired last year as the college's new Registration Assistant.

- **Jillian Reimer Klassen** completed her maternity leave in July, and resigned her position as Communications and Marketing Coordinator at SBC.

Brighton Thiessen, who was hired in a term role last summer, has now taken over as the full-time Communications and Marketing Coordinator.

- SBC also added four new Adjunct Faculty members for the 2022-23 school year. We're excited to welcome **Clint Friesen, Arley Loewen, Ernie Koop**, and **Rob Reimer** to the Academic Department.



Quarry Oaks

JUNE 6 / 2023



Minnewasta
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

JUNE 20 / 2023

A N N U A L S B C
GOLF TOURNAMENTS

**YOUR
MISSION
STARTS
HERE!**

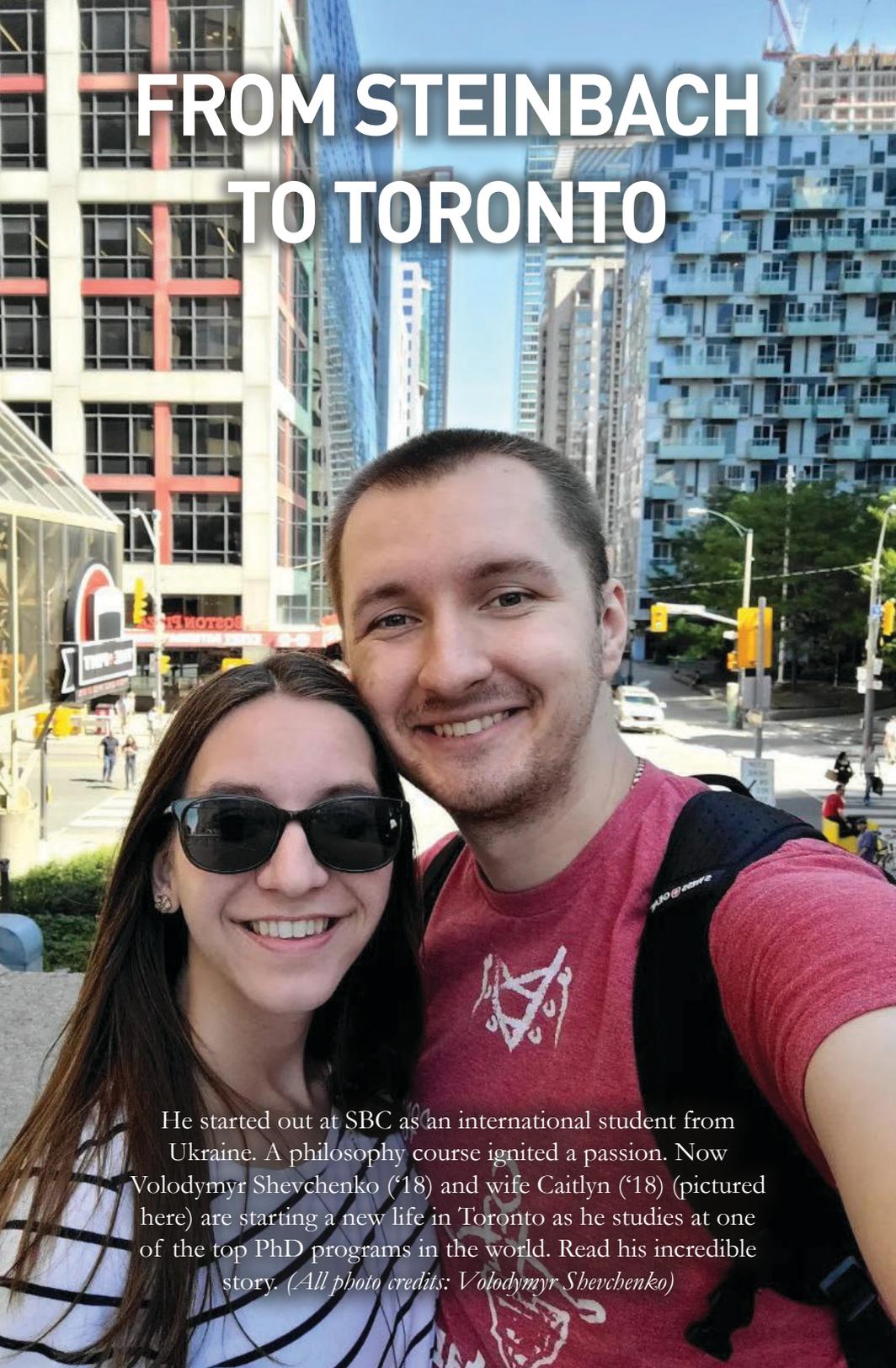


EXPEDITION NOW

Youth from across Manitoba joined together for **Expedition Now**, a day filled with fun, faith, and fellowship. Activities included rally sessions, team bonding, crazy challenges such as Bubble Ball Bowling and Life-Size Operation, and it concluded with an exhilarating concert featuring **Bold as Lions**, **Scribe**, and **Jordan Janzen!**



FROM STEINBACH TO TORONTO

A young man and woman are smiling and taking a selfie in a city street. The man is wearing a red t-shirt and a black backpack, and the woman is wearing sunglasses and a black and white striped shirt. In the background, there are tall buildings, a street with traffic lights, and a clear blue sky.

He started out at SBC as an international student from Ukraine. A philosophy course ignited a passion. Now Volodymyr Shevchenko ('18) and wife Caitlyn ('18) (pictured here) are starting a new life in Toronto as he studies at one of the top PhD programs in the world. Read his incredible story. *(All photo credits: Volodymyr Shevchenko)*

During my final year at SBC, I decided to take an Introduction to Philosophy course with Dr. Terry Hiebert. This course ignited my passion for philosophy.

This passion led me to go on to the University of Manitoba to complete a BA Honours in Philosophy program, graduating in Spring 2022 with two awards: one for highest standing in the department of Philosophy and the other one for highest standing in the Faculty of Arts, Honours program.

Intending to pursue graduate-level studies in philosophy, I applied and was accepted into the University of Toronto's MA in Philosophy program for Fall 2022. To my surprise, the University's graduate admissions committee reached out to me about a week after my initial acceptance in early February 2022 offering admission into their fully-funded PhD in Philosophy program. I accepted the offer, and now my wife Caitlyn and I have been living in Toronto for almost a month, preparing for the upcoming school year and being excited tourists.

With an acceptance rate of about 3% of applicants, The University of Toronto's PhD in Philosophy is ranked as the eighth best Philosophy graduate program in the English speaking world, according to a 2021 report by the Philosophical Gourmet Report. Their program ranks higher than Harvard, MIT, Stanford, and Cambridge's programs, to name a few.

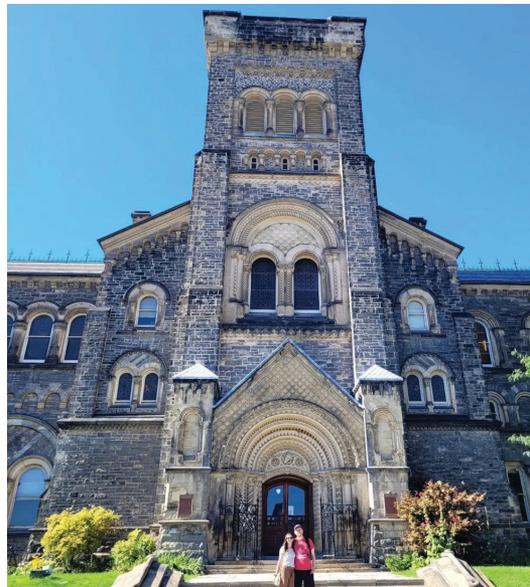
Philosophy is a discipline that values careful, rigorous thinking. Doing careful thinking sometimes requires trying to understand what other people are saying. Unfortunately, these people are usually either dead or they live too far away to conveniently drive out to them and chat

in person, which means that usually, understanding what they are saying comes down to reading what they have written. But unless you have a developed discipline of careful reading, it is really easy to import into the text assumptions that are not warranted by the text.

For example, consider the principle "courage and cowardice cannot both be present in one person." Now imagine that this principle is true, and you know someone that lacks courage. What follows? Nothing does.

However, it might initially seem that what follows is that that person is a coward, since he/she lack courage. But this conclusion, if true, is not supported by the principle in view. That principle does not say that either courage or cowardice must be present, because it allows the possibility that both courage and cowardice are absent from some people.

This principle entails only that if courage is present, then cowardice is absent, and vice versa. So if someone went along with this incorrect reading of that principle, this person would reach an unwarranted



conclusion about someone's character, which might further cause real-world implications on the relationship between these two people. And all this trouble is due to a small mistake in how someone might understand a statement.

As a general rule, if you import these sorts of unwarranted assumptions into the text, then you are likely to fail to understand the what the text says, so you are likely to fail to engage in careful thinking, so you are likely to fail to do philosophy well.

Biblical education at SBC discourages this sort of careless reading, instead encouraging students to be careful and thoughtful readers of the Bible. When you learn to approach the task of reading God's Word with reverence, you develop an awareness of how much minor textual, grammatical or historical differences might impact the proper way to read the text. This awareness has transferred well into my work in philosophy, helping me be a better reader and a more careful thinker.

I credit SBC education for helping me do well in philosophy.

Originally an international student from Ukraine, I applied to SBC because my parents strongly believed in the value of biblical education. My parents have been involved in Christian camping ministry in Ukraine, and when it came to deciding where I would pursue my biblical education, one of their ministry friends from Manitoba recommended that we apply to SBC. Although I did share their belief in the value of biblical education from the start, I grew to embrace it only more as my education both at SBC and beyond progressed.

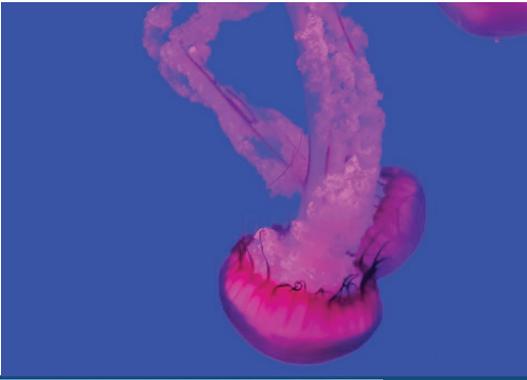
I was also very blessed to make good friends while at SBC. SBC's tuition was much higher compared to any tuition I would pay in Ukraine, so I worked and did fundraising while at school to support my education.

I am thankful for the financial support from my family, friends, and SBC's bursaries for students involved in full-time ministry during the summer. SBC generously matched my Bible Camp earnings, which helped me afford my education, and eventually graduate.

SBC's influence on my life wasn't limited to only academic formation. I strongly believe that the missional attitude of the faculty and staff really create the kind of an environment where students feel safe, encouraged to study God's Word, and motivated to go beyond the walls of the Bible college to engage the world. I am thankful for my experience, and I look forward to how God continues working in the lives of SBC's students this school year. 📍

This article was written at the end of August. Volodymyr Shevchenko is currently into his 1st year in the PhD in Philosophy program at the U of T.





Steinbach
Bible College

WE'RE HIRING!
SBC President Position
Opportunity



WITH JESUS IN THE GRAVE

Exploring Psalm 40:1-3, SBC's 2022-2023 theme verse

Are you *overwhelmed*?

As I look back on my life, I am overcome by *joy* with the memories. But I also realize that in every stage of my life so far, I've been overwhelmed by stress, fatigue and fear. How is that possible? In some mysterious way my life has been following the script of my Saviour Jesus Christ, who was overwhelmed by death, and then raised to joyous life.

Imagine this: We know that Jesus prayed the psalms. As a Jewish boy, he would likely have memorized many of them and they would have formed the core of his prayer life. What psalm do you imagine Jesus first shouted to the Father when he woke in the grave on Sunday morning?

When he slipped beneath the waters of death three days before, every cell in his body was screaming in white hot agony. But now Jesus wakes in the tomb to find his body exploding with infinite happiness and power.

What psalm could he have sung out at that moment? Perhaps Psalm 40:1-3?

1 *I waited patiently for the LORD;
he turned to me and heard my cry.*

2 *He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.*

3 *He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.*

(NRSV)

God the Father, had turned to his Son, heard his cry, reached down, found his hand, and said "Arise!"

When God raised Jesus from the miry bog of death, he was fulfilling a pattern in the Bible's story. God had done trailers for this event a thousand times in history.

Jesus coming from the grave was living the experience of Noah tossed around in the abyss of the great flood, until we hear the words exactly in the middle of the flood story, "But God remembered Noah and the animals."

Jesus coming from the grave was living the story of baby Moses bobbing in the basket in the Nile River with the whole hatred of the Egyptian king against him. When the daughter of Pharaoh finds him

there in the reeds and rescues him, his story becomes a trailer for the story of Jesus raised from the dead.

Jesus is living the story of Hebrew slaves languishing in the heat of oppression in Egypt. They had been slaves for centuries until God turns to them and says, “I have seen the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry.”

Jonah, oozing and sucking in the belly of the fish, prays, “I called to the Lord out of my distress and he answered me, out of the belly of Sheol, I cried and you heard my voice.”

God heard the cry of Esther when she came to the sickening realization that her people were slotted for genocide. Jesus is living that story all over again.

In our lives you and I take our turn in the Nile River, and we take our turn in hot fields of Egypt harvesting wheat for Pharaoh. But when are you and I *really* slaves in Egypt?

We tend to think of times when we feel distress and fear. We think, ‘If God would just help me succeed, I would be fine.’

But there is something far more catastrophic that God is working at saving me from.

It’s **myself**. It’s my own sin.

This is the *deep*, the *miry pit*, the *desolation* that is hopeless, unless God saves. Sometimes God leaves us in our immediate distress because he’s aiming to save us from this devastating mire. Just like he did not immediately save Jesus from Gethsemane because he was aiming to save Christ from our *sin* he was drawing into his own veins.

This is something that Augustine in the 4th century was keenly aware of. Here is the description James K. A. Smith gives in *On the Road with Saint Augustine*.

“It is a terrible and terrifying thing to know what you want to be and then realize you’re the only one standing in your way—to want with every fiber of your soul to be someone different, to escape the “you” you’ve made of yourself, only to fall back into the self you hate, over and over and over again. After the thrill of independence and experiments in self-actualization, drinking your so-called “potential for Being” to the dregs, when the exhaustion starts to set in and then eventually morphs into a kind of self-disgust, you can reach a point where you know you want a different life but are enchained to the one you’ve made. This was the point Augustine eventually reached.”

When we reach this point, we have lain down beside Jesus in the grave in the pre-dawn of Sunday morning. We now know we are not so much *in* a bad situation, as we *are* a bad situation. There has never been a more hopeful place to be. When God the Father reached down to save his Son from the miry pit of death, Jesus looked up to his Father and said, “I am not coming out without my sisters and brothers.” 📍

Dr. Layton Friesen is the Academic Dean at Steinbach Bible College.





STUDENT PROFILE

SBC student Lisa shares her experience on being a Care Group Leader.

One of the blessings of being a student at SBC is that you get to participate in something called Care Groups. Care Groups are a collection of small church groups within the larger student body – a group of guys or a group of girls that meet regularly and experience together what it's like to live the “student life”. Through these times we as students are given the space to look within and reach out. We share our joys, burdens, and lives with each other while also learning and seeking to extend care and love to the different communities around us. I learned a lot about what it means to live in the community of God through being a CGL (Care Group Leader) during the last school year and I expect to learn more as I continue in that role for the second time this year.

Being a CGL has been a stretching experience, but not always in the ways I expected. Often, we say that an experience is stretching because it leads us out of our comfort zones. This is definitely true of being a CGL – after all, I can't honestly say that I would have chosen to talk to as many people had I not been given this role. However, not only has being a CGL stretched me by demanding me to come out of my comfort zone, but it has also been stretching my heart. I have discovered that when I spend intentional time with people and invest in what is going on in the lives

of those within my care groups, God both expands and fills my heart with more of the love that he has for these people.

I have learned not to fear what these relationships might require of me, because God has always fulfilled those needs and empowered me to live out the love for people that he grows within me. A lot of the fears I have had about surrendering my schedule and time for other people have ceased and are replaced with a desire for being a part of a community and playing my part within that community. I no longer feel it is enough to just be part of God's family – I want to be someone within the family that empowers others and encourages them on their journey with God. Through stretching me in this way, being a CGL has brought me to a place where I can more easily see the value of prioritizing people and relationships over work and results.



In this way and in many others, you can see that leading a small group of people comes with an interesting dynamic – just as I am learning and growing, I am simultaneously able to have an impact on my care group members. More simply put, I can serve in impactful ways even if I don't always have everything figured out... I guess that can be said of more roles than just Care Group Leading. In this way, I am extremely grateful to the new students and friends in my care groups that allow me to grow and learn

through being in relationship with them. The best way I can express the essence of what I have learned through my role as a CGL is by saying that I am honored and humbled to even be used by God in my imperfect ways for the sake of His church. 📍

Lisa Wiebe is a 3rd-year student at Steinbach Bible College,



Enjoy this specially created word search all about Steinbach Bible College! Words can be found in any direction, including diagonals.

W X P W A H J E C B I B L E U
 O B X R F C H U R C H X S V E
 F O U N D A T I O N L J B J G
 W S R E D A E L L L A E E E A
 T F P U R P O S E X C L V S G
 X Z T X E T N O C X I P R U N
 L M I S S I O N S Y L I E S E
 E S E R V A N T S T E C S W H
 A M I W R H H T E I G S X I W
 R P M G O G U W C N N I M G O
 N A E L E L G V O U A D L M R
 I W A J I H L Y R M V H W A L
 N X N I A R T O P M E E P N D
 G J X P S U E M F O K G E X P
 M R M L Q O P U N C S G A H Z

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1. engage | 2. context | 3. train | 4. leaders |
| 5. purpose | 6. follow | 7. community | 8. bible |
| 9. jesus | 10. servant | 11. church | 12. world |
| 13. disciple | 14. process | 15. evangelical | 16. serve |
| 17. learning | 18. mission | 19. foundation | |

ALUMNI UPDATES



Kelby Friesen ('17)

Graduating from SBC in 2017 gave me a foundation to explore God's calling in my life. I graduated with the 4-yr BA after only planning on staying for 1 year, clearly God was up to something in my heart. I knew that my own plans were getting flipped around. With the biblical foundation provided to me during my time at SBC, I was ready to take on a new challenge immediately after graduation. The following fall my wife, Michelle, and I left for Tanzania to teach as short term missionaries with Africa Inland Mission. As a Bible and Theology teacher in East Africa I made a lot of use of past lectures from the last 4 years at SBC. My learning was immediately put to use.

It was in that year after graduation that I began to search for a pastoral position for when we returned to Canada. I became aware of a position at Steinbach MB Church and was able to connect with the church through video chats while we were in Africa. Less than a week after returning to Canada, I came to candidate for the position of Pastor of Community Life. My time at SBC had stirred a deep love within me for the local church. My pastoral work includes a wonderful mix of leading our

small group ministry, pastoral care and preaching.

Serving at Steinbach MB Church has given us a stable place to begin our family with Annabelle joining us in 2020 and Eloise in 2021. Our church family loves us well and it motivates me all the more to serve this church. SBC stresses the importance of being a servant leader, this is imbedded in each student that spends time there, and what an important lesson that is. Taking the attitude of a servant as I lead in my church context could mean being in service of a family as they grieve the loss of a loved one, officiating weddings of people not connected to our church or jumping at the chance to help clear a driveway or move some furniture. Each of these are important ways to connect with others and share the love of Jesus.

My foundation from SBC has set me up well for my work in a local church, the pursuit of my Masters Degree and even coming back to SBC this last year as an online instructor. I can confidently say I would have never seen myself doing what I do now without my time at SBC. Being at SBC gave me the space to explore what God was calling me to.

Calling All Alumni! Where has life taken you after your time at SBC? We'd love to hear about it! Email Emily (educky@sbccollege.ca) and you could be featured in the next issue!

Praise & Prayer

PRAISE:

- Over 200 people; from youth and youth leaders to students, camp, and ministries; experienced God's goodness at SBC's first ever Expedition Now youth event!
- Students have been preparing and fundraising diligently to travel on their various Mission X trips! (to Winnipeg, Northern Manitoba, and the Middle East)
- Pursuit headed to Camp Qwanoes in British Columbia at the end of October as they served as the camp and learned more about discipling and seeking the kingdom of God.

PRAYER

- For the Presidential Search Committee as they continue to consider names and applicants for the next President of SBC.
- Pray for SBC students as they complete their final assignments and exams in December.
- For Ignite and Free Servant, SBC's worship teams, as they travel across Manitoba performing and sharing their hearts with local churches.

How can we pray for you? Send us your prayer requests on our website at [SBCCollege.ca/Alumni](https://www.SBCCollege.ca/Alumni).

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Let us know of any address or email changes by contacting us at reception@sbcollege.ca or **204-326-6451 / 1-800-230-8478** (toll free).

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SBC Upcoming Events

For information on SBC events, visit www.SBCCollege.ca/events

December 13 - 16	Final Exams & Juries
Dec 17 - Jan 8	Christmas Break
January 9	Semester 2 Begins
January 17	Campus Visit
February 8	Campus Visit
Feb 16 - Mar 3	Mission X Trips
March 17 - 18	2023 Leadership Conference

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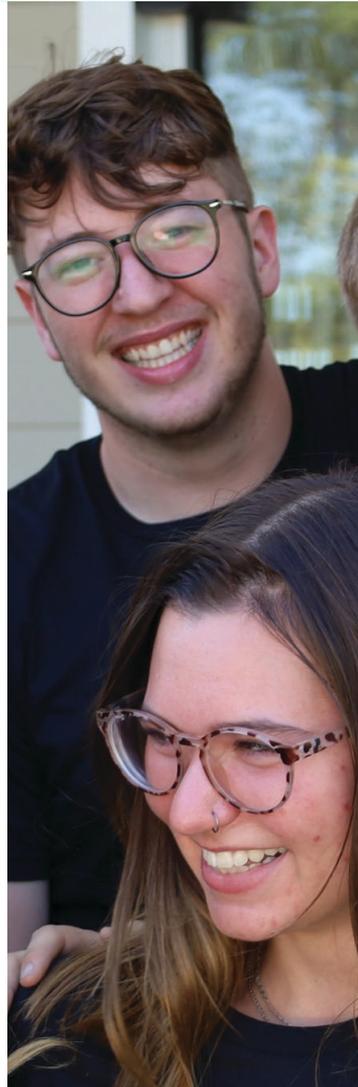
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Steinbach Bible College

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Steinbach Bible College is an evangelical Anabaptist college empowering servant
leaders to follow Jesus, serve the church, and engage the world.

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