

RIVERS

OF LIVING WATER

June 2020



Bear Witness: Our God is Faithful!

Dear Friends of Nipawin Bible College,

In Luke 21:11, Jesus said of the last days, "There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences." Well, here we are in the middle of a "pestilence" which has gripped the attention of every country on earth. We were told in advance to expect difficult times. None of us knows the day nor the hour, but we were told in advance that we would experience tribulation on this earth. For those who lived through World War II, the Cold War, and multiple economic adversities, you know this world has seen difficult times before.

What caught my attention was what follows in verse 13. "This will be your opportunity to bear witness..."

God has put us right where we are, right now, for a reason—we are still to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. We are still working under Him who has all authority in heaven and on earth. We are still to go and make disciples. We are still to love our neighbors as ourselves. We are still to pray without ceasing. We are still to keep from being anxious but to be in supplication with thanksgiving.

It may be 2020, but the mission of the church has not changed. Our God has not changed—He is immutable. His Word has not changed—and it never will. Our struggle has never been against flesh and blood—and it isn't now.

Yes, this is the worst economic situation for 100 years—my God shall supply all your needs. Yes, things seem to be out of our control so much lately—now is when we show that we believe in the sovereignty of God. Yes, there are real challenges—but He who promised is faithful!

When we see all of this AND the plethora of times Jesus said, "Do not fear," troubled times should not surprise us—it should motivate us!

This is an opportune time to proclaim the name of Jesus—the Name above all names.

God has put each of us right where we are, in such a time as this, and given us an opportunity to bear witness.

*Dr. John Loge
President & Academic Dean*



**2020-2021
ACADEMIC
YEAR**

Orientation begins September 8
First day of classes - September 14

THREE60FIVE JUNIOR

September 25-27
Grades 7-9

CAMPUS DAYS

November 1 & 2

ALUMNI WEEKEND

November 20-22

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

December 4-5

**REKINDLE 2021:
1970's REUNION**

POSTPONED - May 28-31, 2021

NOTE: these events are tentatively being planned and will go ahead if/when restrictions are lifted.

**NIPAWIN.ORG
888.862.5095**

For more information



Posted Wednesdays on



NipawinBibleCollege



Get a glimpse of what is happening on the NBC Campus this summer.

Fun challenges, give-aways and spiritual encouragement.

Academic Update: Abrupt Ending but Continuing Strong



Dr. John Loge
President &
Academic Dean

In our last NBC communication, it was promised that we would let you know how we finished the academic year given the restrictions that came upon us so quickly. Here is what happened:

Sunday, March 15: I had a conversation with the on-call medical officer of health. We recognized that things were moving toward early closure, but things had not hit Saskatchewan yet. We had a series of meetings to plan to close the college two weeks early.

Monday, March 16: In the morning, reading between the lines, it was clear that all schools were going to close imminently. There was mounting pressure on the government and neighboring provinces were closing their schools. We therefore planned to complete the essentials in three days and do the rest remotely.

Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17:

- The 3rd and 4th years needed a modular course (which was to start that morning) in order to graduate, so we gave Pastor Chris Hutchison two full days to deliver the whole thing. After fourteen hours of class time the Biblical Theology course was admirably completed.
- The second years needed those two days to finish their Church History course—Dr. Paul Smith valiantly worked through the 14 hours allotted to this and voila! the class was history.
- The freshmen needed 7 hours of Theology and 7 hours of Christian Ethics in order to finish. We worked together diligently and ethically, and these two courses were in the bag.

Wednesday, March 18:

- The freshman class wrote two final exams—Theology and Ethics. It was a long day, but they had great attitudes and successfully finished.
- The second-year class wrote their final exam in Church History in the morning and surprised the graduates by taking the afternoon to decorate the dining hall for an impromptu grad banquet.

- All students were able to dress up and enjoy a marvellous meal prepared on short notice by our cooks (thanks ladies!) for supper. By this time, the gatherings had been limited to 50 people (remember those days?), so it was take-out for the majority of the staff who wished the graduates well as they took their meals to their homes.

Thursday, March 19: On Thursday morning, the students packed up their belongings and made their way home—with a mixture of relief that the flurry of academic activity was over and a touch of sadness that it all had to come to an end so quickly.

The rest of the academic program was delivered remotely.

While we would not want to repeat this if at all possible, we were very thankful that the staff and students worked so hard together to maximize the educational experience given the circumstances.

WHAT WE ARE DOING NOW:

The College is actively preparing for the fall semester. We are delighted that Dr. Paul Smith and Jordan Bergen will be joining us as instructors AND Darvin and Lorenda Friesen will be taking on the maintenance and dean of women portfolios, respectively. Several changes will be taking place this fall:

1. We are moving to a semesterized academic year, relying much less on modular delivery of courses. This will allow more time for students to learn, without packing an entire course in one or two weeks.
2. We will still have one modular course at the beginning of each semester. The one to which we would like to invite the public is planned for January 4-8, 2021 and is called "The Bible and Money." It will be available to audit at no cost.
3. For the months of May and June 2020 (going on right now!), Dr. Paul Smith is teaching an online course. We are pleased to delve into the online delivery of some courses this year—and nine students are taking the Church History I course. Stay tuned for announcements of future online offerings!



Nipawin Bible College

PRAYER & PRAISE

PLEASE PRAY:

- For wisdom in planning for the upcoming academic year. Pray for our country's leaders as they will be making significant decisions which will affect our college.
- For the student life program (especially Bradly Lytle) as he plans for the discipleship component of NBC.
- For each of the instructors as they prepare many new courses, which will likely include some online delivery.
- For continued solid financial support.
- For further applications for enrolment in the fall.
- For our graduates—may they move into areas of service, led by God in doing so.
- For our returning students—may they find employment for the summer.

PRAISE GOD:

- We are happy that we were able to hire four new staff members for important parts of NBC's programs.
- The percentage of returning students is encouraging.
- For faithful supporters who allowed us to finish our 2019-2020 fiscal year in the black.
- For a board of directors which is actively engaged in the ministry of Nipawin Bible College and prays for us regularly.
- For those of you who pray for us—we see wonderful growth in our students which makes all of the work more than worthwhile!

developing passionate followers of Jesus Christ with a heart to serve



The Term "abide" in John 15:4-5

can also be translated to mean remain. Jesus is asking His disciples and His followers to remain in Him just as He remains in us. For just as a branch that is separated from the vine will not produce any fruit, we cannot produce any fruit in our lives unless we remain in Jesus.

At the beginning of the year when the leadership team chose this theme "Abide," we did so recognizing that many Christians in our age group leave the faith once they are old enough to move out and start life on their own. Our prayer was that the students would come to recognize how important it is to abide in Jesus and remain in Him even when they

"Our desire was to see our fellow students grow solid in their faith..."

are not in the greenhouse that is Bible school, at home under their parents, or wherever else there may be Christian influences in their lives.

Our desire was to see our fellow students grow solid in their faith at school, so that when they move on with life they continue to grow in their relationship with Jesus. We wanted them to be able to strengthen and encourage the Christians around them, to make their faith their own and not have to rely on a steady influence of those around them to keep them on track with things like devotions and prayer.

Even though our year ended abruptly, in a way it seems to have strengthened the relationship that I have with my fellow students.

"I see that many of the students...continue to abide in Christ..."

I see that many of the students from this last year have continued to keep in contact after the school year has ended, to encourage each other, and to just continue to abide in Christ regardless of the turmoil that is going on around us.

To put in the effort to continue to abide in Jesus is not easy, but I have come to recognize that it is the only thing that is truly worthwhile in this life. I cannot imagine trying to live life without having Someone in my life who is 100% trustworthy and loving and able to carry me through the most difficult of times. It is only through Jesus that anyone can truly find peace in this time and it is only through remaining in Jesus that we can continue to have that constant reassurance.



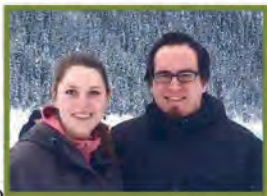
*Zachary Rempel
StuCo President*

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:4-5 (ESV)



APPOINTMENTS & FAREWELLS

JORDAN & MAKYLA BERGEN Jordan will join the NBC Staff as an instructor in the area of Biblical Studies. Both Jordan ('12) and Makyla (Looy '12) attended Nipawin for 3 years and graduated with a Bachelor of Christian Ministry. They were married in 2016 before moving to Cochrane, AB where Jordan attended Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary. Now graduating with his MDiv, Jordan finds great joy in studying the Bible in its original languages, and has a passion for helping others see that God still speaks through His Word today.



Jordan and Makyla love camping and hiking together, and have enjoyed some recent globe-trotting to 4 different countries. Makyla dreams of starting her very first garden here at NBC. Jordan and Makyla know Nipawin Bible College and the relational culture here on campus, and we are excited to have them join our staff this fall.

DARVIN & LOREND A FRIESEN Darwin comes to serve as Maintenance Manager while Lorenda will serve as Dean of Women. The Friesens are certainly not strangers to NBC, as two of their children (Joel, Jessica) are alumni.



They called Meadow Lake home where they raised their 5 children before God led them to Torch Trail Bible Camp in 2012 where Darwin stepped first into the role as Camp Director, and later on as the Facilities Manager. Lorenda was involved in the kitchen, office, and lots of personal discipling.



Darvin enjoys old cars, antiques, and fishing. Lorenda is passionate about Titus 2 living and loves to come alongside and point younger women to Christ. They both love spending

time with their ever-growing family.

The Friesens are excited for this next opportunity to work together with the staff team and student body at NBC. Having attended Emmanuel Baptist Church in Nipawin over the past few years, Darwin & Lorenda have already become familiar faces to many of our students.

DR. PAUL SMITH will join the NBC Staff as an instructor teaching in the areas of Church History & Biblical Studies. Paul was born in New Brunswick but spent most of his growing up years in North Carolina. In recent years he has called Minneapolis, MN home while travelling with the organization Training Leaders International, a ministry of Bethlehem Baptist Church.



Paul was a NBC adjunct instructor in March and is currently teaching NBC's first online course. His research interests include early Christianity and non-Western Christian history and theology. Other interests include travel and photography and he looks forward to discovering what kind of photo opportunities await him around Nipawin and northeast SK.

JENNIFER ENNS ('10) joined NBC staff in the fall of 2015 and has served faithfully as our Dean of Women over these 5 years. God has placed on her heart a call to minister and invest into the lives of people.



She has become involved with Torch Trail Bible Camp since being in Nipawin and will be serving with Torch Trail over this summer before formally joining One Hope Canada as a missionary in the fall. We are so thankful for her time at NBC and send her forward with our blessing.

JEREMY ('07) & WYNONA (Bueckert '12) LOSETH Jeremy has served (off and on) over the past 10 years as Dean of Men, Recruitment, Faculty and Maintenance before rejoining NBC staff in a full-time Faculty role 2 years ago.



Jeremy has accepted the position of Pastor at Pineridge Fellowship Chapel in Hudson Bay, SK to begin in June. We are so thankful for the Loeth's time with us and affirm God's directing in their lives in this next step.

DAVID & ELFE SMITH David has served on staff at Nipawin Bible College over the past 9 years as faculty. For much of that time he also oversaw most of our Student Ministry program. This past semester was spent on sabbatical. Elfe, his wife, has also served for a couple years in a part time role tutoring our students.



We are thankful for the years they have served at NBC and wish them God's richest blessings as they move on to the next chapter in their lives.

TIMOTHY ('15) & OLIVIA (Mile '15) STODOLKA Tim joined the NBC staff as Admissions Counsellor in 2018. Tim spoke with passion, loves young people and had a heart to invest well into youth.



Along with Tim's new role with The Everyday Kitchen in Regina, he looks forward to volunteer in youth ministry. Feeling a longer term call toward pastoral ministry, we send them on with our blessings.

NOAH WAHLSTROM ('14) has served on staff at NBC over the past 3 years as Maintenance Manager. He's a legend to all the campus staff kids for giving rides in the tractor, enjoys regular interaction with the NBC students, and has been a leader in our weekly 7/24 discipleship groups.



For a number of years now he has had his foot in the door serving with Northern Canada Evangelical Mission. We really appreciate Noah's commitment to NBC over these years, and we send him on with our blessing to serve full-time as a missionary with NCEM.

NBC ALUMNI & FRIENDS PLEASE PRAY...

1. For Carl & Brenda (Dyck) Ens ('83)
 - as they make plans for their summer ministries at camps and VBS;
 - praise for the safe delivery of their 5th grandchild in May;
 - for the Spanish ministry that Brenda is part of.
2. For Tim and Charity (Chretien) Johnson ('03)
 - as they continue to minister to the people on the Adams Lake Indian Band Community (near Tappan, BC);
 - as they raise support to continue working with NAIM;
 - that they would grow in their faith, trust and dependence on God as they seek partners in their financial support.
3. For Wes & Carol (Wiebe) Schellenberg ('82)
 - as they serve with Avanti Ministries;
 - that their trust in Jesus and their love for Him would continue to grow.
4. For Tony & Janet (Klassen) Ens ('86)
 - as they serve in the Yukon Territories with NCEM;
 - that the summer children's ministry in Pelly Crossing will be able to happen this summer;
 - that many view the Northern Collective Church on-line services and Bible studies.
5. For Terry & Rosie (Dyck) Banman ('88)
 - as they prepare to leave PNG saying goodbye to friends and colleagues;
 - praise that the Wantakia people group are beginning Creation to Christ Bible lessons.
6. For Nathan & Natasha (Ginther) Enns ('02)
 - for good use of their time and adjustments to working from home;
 - for wisdom in knowing whether they can go forward with any plans later in the year;
 - for opportunities for God to use the Enns family in the lives of some new neighbors.
7. For JJ Szeponski ('11)
 - for ways to continually connect with the youth that attend DropZone through social media and other video conferencing forms;
 - for those who don't have a safe home right now - that God would intervene in some way to keep the members safe.
8. For Bill & Janice Dyck ('79)
 - as they serve with Canadian Baptist Ministries in Bolivia;
 - for denominational and seminary leadership as they face difficult staffing decisions and have limited resources;
 - for Bolivian pastors who rely on weekly offerings and other work to support them while they are in quarantine.

We invite you to submit your requests throughout the year by calling NBC or by visiting the Praise & Prayer page under "get involved" on the Alumni tab on our website.

MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT: AFRICA

Peter & Diane (Gruchy) Salmond ('76)



YWAM (Ryabega, Rwanda)

PRAY:

- A flight from Kigali Rwanda to Edmonton, AB within the next few months.
- We would be able to sell our home here before we leave and would find a place in Canada to purchase.
- God's grace and love will keep us and be with us as we continue in His service here.

PRAISE:

- We have been kept safe this far.
- We have been able to get the essentials needed to live well in our compound.
- We have been helping a number of families with water, masks and other needs. Diane is thankful to have a sewing machine to make masks.
- Thankful that we have each other and the love of God to carry us through.

Gordon & Carole Sawatzky ('85)



Africa Inland Mission (Eldoret, Kenya)

"We need wisdom to know how to navigate the COVID chaos in a context where personal space is minimal, for most there is insufficient water to frequently wash one's hands and the medical system will not be of help if one gets sick. The lock down/isolation approach can only be implemented by the wealthy and with 83% of the people living hand-to-mouth day by day, they cannot comply. In addition, a 2nd wave of locusts is devastating much of the food that people are trying to grow just to survive and another is expected next month. God have mercy..."

Krista ('94) & Kevin*



SIM (West Africa)

Kevin works as a pilot, and Krista spends time mentoring kids and teens at a local orphanage, as well as helping to start a care center for kids with special needs.

"Our current prayer needs are for wisdom as we develop strategies to support our fellow missionaries, the local church, and continue to be involved in our ministries during this pandemic."

**Due to ministering in a region with shifting security concerns, they must be careful with personal information.*

OCTOBER 2020 MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT: SOUTH AMERICA. If you currently serve with a missions organization in South America let us know your mission organization, where you are located and a prayer request for your ministry by Sept 15, 2020 (info@nipawin.org).

2019-2020: Year in Review

ADMISSIONS

- Admissions work from July 2019 to June 2020:
 - *Summer Camps visited: 16*
 - *Churches Dr. Loge preached in: 10*
 - *Youth groups/Tour Teams/Career Fairs attended: 66*
 - *Youth groups/Tour Teams/Career Fairs lost to COVID: 32*
 - *Personal coffees/calls/coffees: numerous*
- Please pray with us for a strong Freshman class for fall 2020. God is capable of bringing many freshmen to NBC.



Freshmen Class

Back: Cassandra Quiring, Becky Jo Brown, Micah Hildebrandt, Damian Neudorf, Isaiah Stetski, Jordan Dudgeon, Jaxon Hickey, Cole Penner, Zane Abrahamson
Middle: Evan Stensrud, Shaylynn Peters, Hannah Brown, Emily Dyck, Brooklyn Diamond, Takoda Peters, Elijah Adrian
Front: Dana Willson, Makenna Haghighi, Karsyn Dudgeon

STUDENT LIFE & DISCIPLESHIP

- Year-End Evaluation average: students gave a 8.93/10 that *"Student Ministry/Practicum experience was beneficial"*
- 7-24 Discipleship Groups saw 11 groups of staff and students growing in Christ
- Youth retreats—three60fiveJUNIOR (September) & three60five (March) had a combined total of 223 youth and 54 sponsors challenged to go deeper with Christ
- Students served in 14 student ministry areas both on campus and in the Nipawin Community
- Year-End Evaluation average: students gave a 8.03/10 that they *"experienced growth in my spiritual life"*



2nd Year Class

Back: Malachi Boucher, Wyatt Reader, Drew Bueckert, Gabe Mak
Middle: Madison Buuckert, Rhianna Penner, Jeralee Bernard, Fiona Fehr
Front: Julie Nelson, Jesse Martell-Fehr
 Missing: Jordan Jarvie

ACADEMICS

- 8 Academic Excellence awards
- 27/43 students were on the Dean's List in second semester (3.50 GPA or higher)
- 11 graduates (3rd & 4th year)
- Year-End Evaluation: students gave a 8.65/10 that *"the classroom experience and courses offered contributed to spiritual growth..."*

FINANCES & FACILITIES

- Alumni Weekend Donations: **\$15,000**
- 2019/2020 General Funds Surplus!
 - Budget: \$320,000
 - Actual: **\$322,000**
- Summer Projects:
 - Reshingle Four-Plex roof
 - Painting: 4-plex, dorms, bookstore & offices
 - General Maintenance



3rd Year Class

Back: Zachary Rempel, Wyatt Penner, Joshua Bondoc, Darwin Harder
Front: Kelly Fehr, Caitlyn Watson
 Missing: Jennifer Wielinga



4th Year Class

Back: Ted Siddons, Perry Siddons, Dallas Mehrer, Jordan Tymchak
Front: Brittany Sawatzky, AnnaRose Lawrence



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