



Christian Academy • College • Seminary

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



JUL - AUG
2024

Excerpt from *The Glorious Table Devotion: "Every Summer has a Story"* by Sarah Lundgren

As I look back at past summers, I see a trail of beautiful and bittersweet memories. The common thread is that every summer was unique and had its own tale to tell. Just as every *natural* summer has a story, so does every *spiritual* summer. We will each walk through the spiritual seasons many times. Autumn is a time of change. Winter is a time of barrenness and preparation. Spring is a time of rebirth. And summer is a time for bearing fruit and embracing the abundant life that surrounds us.

The key to embracing our spiritual summer, no matter what time of year it is in the natural, is to remember to seize the joy of the season. This is a time to feel the heavenly warmth on our face and revel in the beauty that surrounds us. Relax, have fun, celebrate, and abide in gratitude for the blessings that surround.

Summer is a season known for cultivating and bearing good fruit. Our spiritual fruit of love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control must also be cultivated. There is one sure way to do this, and that is to remember who our spiritual gardener is and to remain in Him always.

Scripture for Reflection:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 NIV)

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV)

Lord, thank you for the gift of summer. May we seize each moment of joy and remember that you are the true cultivator of our harvest and author of our stories. Amen.

ALUMNI FEATURE



ALUMNUS FEATURE

Corrie Lewis

Hometown: Moose Jaw, SK.

Current City: Moose Jaw, SK.

Family: mother to a 20-year-old daughter who is working in Bio-Science technology in Saskatoon

Program: Briercrest Bible College 84-86,
University of Saskatchewan - Bachelor of
Education 1990

Affiliations: Served in a variety of church and camp ministries, taught pre-school - Gr. 12 for 17 years, worked as a high school Guidance Counsellor for 15 years, Board Member of Leading Influence Ministries

Q: What was the most impactful class and why?

A: I don't want to pick just one. The immersion into solid Biblical teaching gave me the foundation to grow in my love with my Creator.

Q: What is your current career?

A: Principal at Briercrest Christian Academy (formerly Caronport High School)

Q: What has the impact of an "education that disciples" had on you and your career? How did the education you received at Briercrest prepare you for a life of service?

A: My time at Briercrest grounded me as to what I believed and why I believed it. It gave me opportunity to mature before entering a secular post-secondary and career path. I always knew I wanted to be an educator for my career and was willing to spend four years of schooling to reach that goal. More importantly, I knew I wanted to be a Christ follower for my entire life so spending two years at Briercrest firming my foundation was a wise investment.

Q: What is one word you would use to describe your time at Briercrest?

A: Foundational

Q: How are you serving your church and community?

A: I have had the privilege of serving in many roles in both church and camp ministries. Currently I am loving working and learning with Leading Influence Ministries (LIM). LIM provides excellence in chaplaincy care for elected leaders in Canada.



NEWS

YOUTH QUAKE 2024 EVENT SUMMARY:

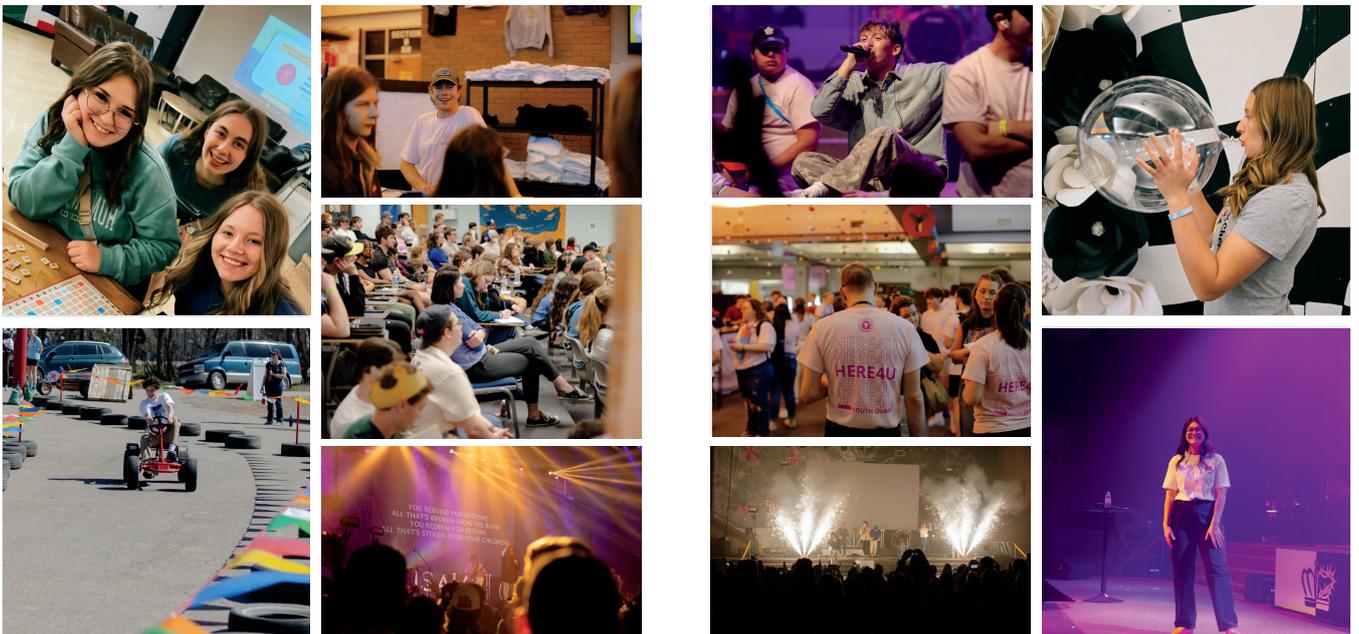
ISAIAH 61

At Youth Quake 2024 we walked together through Isaiah 61. This chapter brings an amazing promise of hope, renewal, and empowerment through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. It brings assurance in the work God has been doing since the beginning and how we can partner in bringing about His will when we put our faith in His plans. We explored how faith completely changes our lives, just like turning ashes into something beautiful or seeing renewal in what was once destroyed. At YQ24, we talked about what this passage means for us today and together continued to unpack how we can bring glory to the Father with our whole lives.

From our feedback survey we heard the following in response to the question, "What did God teach you?"

"He really opened my eyes to give him my next yes, he's teaching me to be a disciple for him and live that out in my everyday walk in the light with him. He taught me that I cannot just acknowledge him from time to time but that I need to fully embrace his authority and if I believe it that I can't just sit on the edge of the fence but fully accept him and his word and let others see him through my actions. I truly want to be renewed in and through him." - SR High retreator

With 1600 total registrations for SR High, and 587 registrations for JR High, we are so encouraged by the response of local and travelling youth groups who value these retreats and consider them to be an impactful event for their ministry. In 2023 we experienced successful community engagement with volunteer support supplemented by local churches and summer camps. This year expanded the outreach and are so grateful for the 135 volunteers for SR High, and 107 volunteers for JR High. Thank you to our internal and external volunteers for your help and continued support to make this ministry possible.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MISSION & DIRECTION



The Briercrest Board of Directors met recently on May 31-June 1, 2024, engaging in significant discussions regarding the mission and direction of our schools. This dedicated group of individuals, coming from across Canada, selflessly shares their time and wisdom to help govern and guide Briercrest. During the weekend, the Executive Lead Team shared a preliminary vision for the 10-year goals that will focus our initiatives for our 2025-2028 Strategic Plan. As we move forward, we ask for your prayers for these men and women, that God would grant discernment and grace as they serve the Lord in this way.

CO-VOCATIONAL CANADA

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATIONS



Paul E. Magnus Centre for Leadership Studies is proud to announce three new certification training courses being offered this coming school year! Our P2T strategic planning certification will be happening from September 27-28 and from November 29-30 we will be hosting Men & Women Thriving Together in Leadership. Finally, our newest course, Transformational Sport Coaching, will be taking place on December 7-8. For registration information, please visit <https://www.briercrest.online/collections/leadership-studies-certificates>.

As well, Briercrest Seminary is pleased to introduce the formal launch of the Co-Vocational Canada project. This is a generously funded program that seeks to come alongside those who are considering or currently working in ministry while supporting themselves with a second career outside the church. As well, our project seeks to support congregations and denominations that serve pastors. Co-Vo Canada offers support and resources to aid ministry leaders and provide community support through courses, retreats, and virtual meetings. As one of the many platforms we offer, Sacred Side Hustle events will be taking place both online and in-person this coming fall!

For more information and registration details, check out <https://www.briercrest.online/>.



A NOTE FROM:

Director of Development

Robert Bachmann

Briercrest Giving Day

June 20, 2024



How many of you have heard of the film **Prairie Fire**?

Back in the 1990's, a documentary on Briercrest was filmed and you will want to see who you know that was featured in this film. On June 20th, Briercrest is hosting a Giving Day. This will be your chance to see new videos all about BCA, the College and the Seminary as well as **Prairie Fire**, the Discipleship team and a fun bench press challenge by Dr. Rob Chartrand.

To view these videos or to make a donation, please go to www.briercrest.ca/givingday.

Our goal for the day is to raise \$50,000 to help us eliminate some of our current year operating deficit that currently sits at over \$700,000. If you are a first-time donor or have not given in the last two years, we have a donor that is willing to match donations up to \$10,000. In other words your \$50 turns into \$100.

Thanks to those of you that do partner with us in prayer, in promoting our schools and in finances. Your partnership impacts hundreds of students every year.

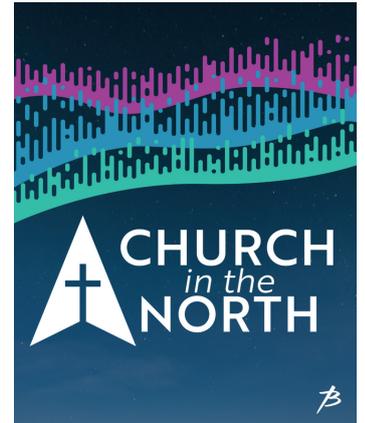
Thank you!

COMMUNICATIONS

NEW PODCAST EPISODE:

THE CANADIAN CLERGY SHORTAGE

What can be done about the Canadian clergy crisis? This week on the podcast, we have an in-studio conversation with Rob, Geoff, and Daniel Markin (Director of Marketing at Briercrest) about a recent article posted in *Faith Today* by Rick Hiemstra, "Waking Up to the Pastor Shortage." He predicts that Canadian evangelical churches will need to recruit 625 new pastors per year over the next 12 years just to replace the number of retiring pastors - and that does not include pastors leaving ministry for other reasons. You can find that article [here](#).



NEW BLOG POST FROM SEMINARY FACULTY MEMBER:

STRATEGIES FOR RESILIENCE IN CO-VOCATIONAL MINISTRY



Written by Margaret Clarke

Resilience is a dynamic and personalized process influenced by many factors. Dr. Margaret Clarke shares what her research reveals about pastoral resilience in the face of co-vocational ministry challenges.

As healthcare workers, teachers, pastors, and others in ministry, we all share in the joys and challenges of our work. In this article, we delve into the challenges we face and explore strategies for building resilience, particularly for those of us who work co-vocationally (defined here as paid leadership in a church and paid work in one or more other contexts).

To read the full blog post, the link is available [here](#).



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ALUMNI COMMUNICATIONS

REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT

CARONPORT HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF '70

Were you a student or staff member at CHS from September '66 - June '70? This invitation is for you!

The CHS graduation class of 1970 is holding their 55th reunion and would like you to come as our special guests. We lived together, worshipped together, studied (sometimes) together, ate together, played together. Now, we will gather on campus to renew memories and friendships.

Mark your calendar for May 30 - Jun. 1, 2025. Let me (the student from Nova Scotia!) know of your interest via email and join our Facebook Page for updates: "Caronport High School and Briercrest Bible Institute 1966 to 1977".

~ Peggy MacKinnon Bendell [email: pegmach@vianet.ca](mailto:pegmach@vianet.ca) [cell: 705.235.5121](tel:705.235.5121).

- SUBMIT YOUR UPDATES -

WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF BRIERCREST

LET'S STAY CONNECTED; EMAIL ALUMNI@BRIERCREST.CA WITH YOUR:

- PERSONAL UPDATES (ADDRESS CHANGE, MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, DEATHS)
- PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- MISSIONS UPDATES
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- REUNION INQUIRIES



EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS:

Briercrest Connection Events:

Jun. 21-23 - CHS Class of '74 Reunion

Sep. 22 - Uxbridge, ON. (tentative)

Nov. 14 - Calgary, AB. (tentative)

Academic Events:

July 4-5, 2024: Experience Briercrest

Athletic Events:

Summer Camp Dates

July 1 - 4, 2024: Girls Volleyball-1 for Grades 5-7 (SOLD OUT - *waitlist available*)

July 7 - 12, 2024: Girls Volleyball-2 for Grades 8-9 (SOLD OUT - *waitlist available*)

July 14 - 19, 2024: Girls Volleyball-3 for Grades 10-12 (SOLD OUT - *waitlist available*)

July 28 - Aug 2, 2024: Boys Volleyball for Grades 6-12 *almost sold out*

Aug 4 - 9, 2024: Boys Basketball for Grades 6-12 (SOLD OUT - *waitlist available*)

Aug 11 - 16, 2024: Girls Basketball for Grades 6-12 *spots available*

Registration is still open for Boys Volleyball and Girls Basketball camps, and filling up fast! If you know someone who would like to join us for summer camp, encourage them to register soon. The link is available [here](#). They are also a great place to partner with our mission, as many camps need a variety of roles from camp speakers, coaches, and even camp nurses! See the respective camps and reach out if you can fill an opportunity to serve!

SUMMER STAGE EVENT SUMMARY PIRATES OF PENZANCE & THE MUSIC MAN



Briercrest's Performing Arts Department has wrapped up another successful Summer Stage, producing two full musicals for a total of twelve performances. *The Music Man* and *The Pirates of Penzance* featured a cast of nearly 50 students, alumni, staff, faculty, and community members. We welcomed over 1000 audience members, drawing crowds from as far away as British Columbia and New Brunswick!

It was amazing to see our students rise to the challenge of taking on both dramatic and comedic roles all the while honing their performances skills. We have very big plans for Summer Stage 2025 so be sure to follow Briercrest Onstage for the latest updates!

NOTIFICATIONS

Marriages, Births & Deaths

In Memorarium:



Dorothy Andrus
Apr. 6, 1937 - Feb. 24, 2024



Michael Beck
Oct. 29, 1938 - Feb. 9, 2024



Perry Jones
Feb. 28, 2024



John (Zeke) From ('55)
May 9, 1933 - Feb. 28, 2024



Kim Doerksen
Jun. 12, 1972 - Mar. 10, 2024



Harvey Mayell
Oct. 22, 1923 - Mar. 13, 2024



Dean Davidson
Jan. 12, 1948 - Mar. 27, 2024



Vern Henry Poggemiller
Feb. 1, 1939 - Apr. 1, 2024



Hilda Born
Jul. 24, 1930 - Apr. 7, 2024



Lyman Earl Reed
Jun. 20, 1931 - Apr. 7, 2024



Robert Staniewski
Apr. 26, 2024



Peter Wollf
Mar. 26, 1935 - May 2, 2024



Nancy Penny
Feb. 21, 1944 - May 3, 2024



Kenneth Danielson
Apr. 4, 1952 - May 15, 2024



Patricia Fergusson
Aug. 22, 1944 - May 19, 2024



Henry Patkau
Nov. 5, 1928 - May 24, 2024



WELCOME TO
Apostello
our missions newsletter

AVANT MINISTRIES (MEXICO)

Jim & Shari Cottrill

In April we joined together with our sister church to celebrate their 14th anniversary together and baptismal service where nine people were baptized. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness!

We're almost finished our pastoral ministry classes in the institute. Jim had a chance to interact with our youth at a multi-church youth conference. Shari is one of the teachers of the women's Bible study. Praise the Lord for these opportunities!

We praise the Lord for the hard work our elders have done in training others for ministry. Please continue to pray for our health and wisdom as we teach from God's Word, that God would make more people more like His Son.



WYCLIFFE - CANADA INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS

Judy & Jeremy Haasdyk

Thank you so much for praying for our recovery after the car accident we had late last fall. We are grateful for God's protection over the accident and in our healing.

With CanIL's fiscal year end, Jeremy has needed some extra endurance to keep up with deadlines. He is looking forward to being through the busiest work season in mid-June. Following the mental and spiritual wellness discussion group I led before Christmas, I have been able to spend time in other community life events. It has been exciting to see another group of students graduate, most of them making plans to work in Bible translation projects in minority language communities.

We are praying that this upcoming season will bring true rest and abundant life. All God's peace to you.

WYCLIFFE (PAPUA NEW GUINEA)

Murray & Carol Honsberger

We praise God for all that He is doing in the community at Ukarumpa as we anticipate the worshipful Yäle dedication ceremony in the Nagatiman village. Please pray for the many preparations: a maintained airstrip for planes landing, unity in the dedication committee, transportation to the village for supplies, commitment to the translation work, and for the thanksgiving for the Lord's blessings we will share together. We will be sharing our video of the book of Mark with the Yäle language recording dubbed in.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP

Carol King

Please pray for our ministries in CEF Israel. With war causing the country to behave differently, there is tension with safety, increasing financial costs, and an unknown future. Pray for the schools, that are thankfully able to operate, and for our CEF members continuing to support families in need and transition. We also ask for prayer for the Christian Youth in Action training in Chicago, and that all volunteer vacancies can be filled to serve the teens. I have been busy preparing our Wordless Books, which I shared with our church's young kids, along with preparing many for a short-term missions trip to Africa soon.



SUMMER PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for...

1. Safety, rest and fun for all the students, faculty, and staff over the summer months
2. Athletic Camps: Girls Volleyball camps (Gr. 5-12): July 1-4, 7-12, 14-19, Boys Volleyball Camp (Gr. 6-12) July 28 - Aug 2, Boys Basketball Camp (Gr. 6-12) Aug 4-9, Girls Basketball Camp (Gr. 6-12) Aug 11-16.
3. The ESL (English as a second language) summer program: June 29-Aug 3, this department is bringing students from Wanbang School in China to campus. Please pray for the department as they will be busy prepping, needing people to help, that the kids would be blessed here, that logistics would go smoothly, and God would be glorified.
4. Safety for the Campus Operations team as they work on many projects that only can be done when the students are away in the summer.
5. With gratitude for the donations that were made to replace windows on the north side of the Administration building. Staff in these offices will enjoy a warmer workspace next winter.
6. The Athletic Director Stan Peters' health, as he is on a 3-month leave.
7. The Athletic Department as they navigate this offseason with a few changes including hiring several new coaches.
8. Athletes as they put in the work in the off-season to prepare for the fall and all that God will have in store for them at Briercrest.
9. For new students and student athletes who are still considering joining us in the fall.
10. our faculty would have success in their studies, research and class preparation over the summer months,
11. Returning students, that they would have a restful summer and be ready for the fall.
12. New faculty arriving this fall – that housing would be found easily and transitioning into Briercrest life would be smooth.
13. Seminary class, *Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy*, taught by Jesse Schellenberg from Aug 26-30.



SUMMER PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for...

14. Seminary class, Psychological Research Methods, taught by Dr. Margaret Clarke from Aug 26-30.
15. Seminary Class, Issues in Ministry Leadership, taught by Dr. Michael Pawelke, Aug 26-30.
16. The new graduating classes of Briercrest and for all classes before them, that they would have significant and deep friendships present in their life. That they would be able to join or create healthy Christian communities for encouragement and companionship as they navigate career, personal ambitions, relationships and their sense of calling.
17. For students as they minister at bible camps and churches this summer.
18. For alumni that are looking for work; possibly unemployed, returning to work after a paternity/maternity leave, or looking to switch industries. Pray that they would find companies they align with and would provide for them well.
19. That alumni from Briercrest would be Christlike ambassadors in their ministries and workplaces, and that their education would have equipped them well for the task before them.
20. That alumni would be inspired by the work done at Briercrest and want to be a part of it, whether with their time, skillsets, resources or prayer.
21. For the marriages of students and alumni, that Christ would be centered in their conversations, their life and that their unions would be strengthened and full of joy.
22. Faculty, staff, students and alumni with kids, that they would be examples of the love of Christ for their household.
23. The new graduating classes of Briercrest, and for those who have gone before them, that they would find churches in their new hometowns, that they would feel warmly welcomed, spiritually led and that they would be invited to serve with their giftings. That their faith would be supported as needed, and that they could be a resource for their local church in the ways they have been equipped – whether that is for speaking, leading worship, administration, hospitality, or other needs as identified by their local church.