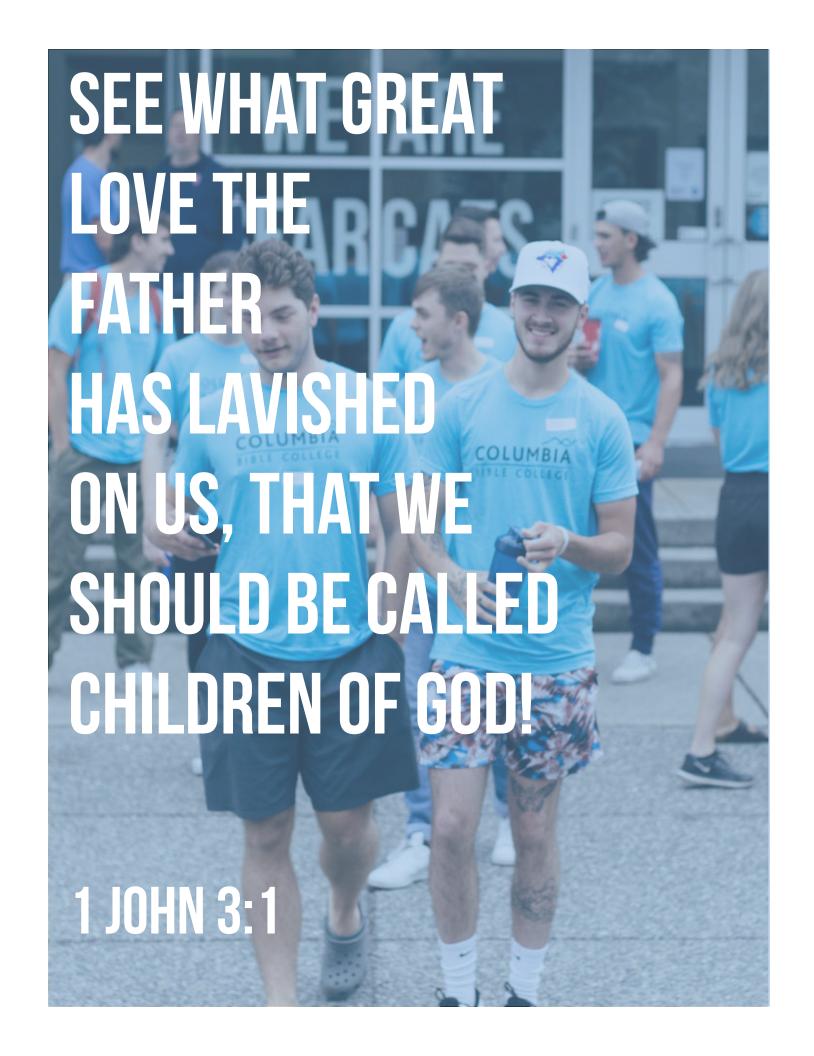


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COLUMBIA BIBLE COLLEGE







### **CHOSEN FOR THE PLACES WE SERVE**

## TYRELL QUANTZ REFLECTS ON HIS TRAVELING MINISTRY TEAM EXPERIENCE

My name is Tyrell, and I am in my second year in the 4-year counseling degree program. I came to Columbia because of the unique degree programs that are offered here in Practical Theology, but I have found CBC to be much more than just academics.

It has been a fantastic place to experience community in a variety of ways which, for me, included being a part of the Traveling Ministry Team (TMT). TMT is a group of musicians that go out from Columbia on a regular basis to churches in the surrounding areas in order to lead Sunday worship services. It has been an amazing experience in a couple different ways:

1) the ability to minister to churches in a way of just allowing the leadership to participate as a part of the congregation in worshipping;

2) and being able to experience worship with different congregations.

I have seen God at work in the way different congregations responded differently, even though we sang the same songs and shared the same testimonies. Yet even in experiencing these "tastes" of different church communities, some of my more memorable moments come from experiencing life within the context of the team itself.

In our practices we often had deep group discussions, and I started to really feel like we were more than just a team... we were a family that stood by one another. We started by relating to one another as musicians but grew to relate to each other as people; in our struggles and in the things that bring us joy.

There is much that I learned on the journey of serving with TMT, but one of the biggest things was to discover more about myself as an artist, and as one who seeks to lead others in worship with my musical abilities. We often think of ourselves as inadequate for a certain role, simply because we know those who would do "better" within that role.

However, we don't often stop to consider the fact that whether there is someone who could do things better or not, we were chosen for the places we are in and the roles we play because of who we are, not just what we can do.

Being able to embrace this truth and applying it to my role on TMT has been life-giving and life-shaping as I move forward into the rest of my time here at CBC and life afterwards.









#### FOLLOWING JESUS WHOLEHEARTEDLY

We worship Jesus Christ as the one true King and seek to model a life that embodies his transforming work in the world.

Hebrews 12:1-3

#### PURSUING THE TRUTH WITH HUMILITY

We are curious and courageous, seeking truth, building trust, and bearing witness to what we believe by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 7:7-8

#### CARING FOR THE GOOD AND GROWTH OF ONE ANOTHER

We believe people matter because they are created in the image of God. We invest in relationships, pursue growth, and seek to cultivate a Christ-centered community.

1 Peter 4:8-11

#### DOING TOGETHER WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

We commit to and engage in God's holistic mission to reconcile all things to himself; together we lean in, and together we serve.

Colossians 3:23-24



# FROM THE PRESIDENT: A FIRM FOUNDATION

"FOR NO ONE CAN LAY ANY FOUNDATION OTHER THAN THE ONE ALREADY LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST" I CORINTHIANS 3:11

Recently I had an extended opportunity to reflect on my experiences over the past decade of serving as Columbia's president. The last ten years have been a period of significant turbulence within the western world, and almost every institution has been impacted, including (and perhaps especially) the church and its associated bodies. Columbia Bible College has not been spared from this upheaval. This should cause us to pause and consider where we currently stand.

As we tentatively hope for the establishment of more dependable norms in a post-pandemic world, we also realize there is no returning to the so-called 'glory days' of an earlier era when the church enjoyed considerable influence in the wider world. Back then, there was an unspoken expectation that most young adults who had grown up in the church would spend a year or more in a Bible school. That day has largely passed.

Today, enrolling at a Bible College is a thoroughly counter-cultural decision. We have a number of students whose parents are either ambivalent about or downright opposed to their children studying at Columbia. For many students, informing friends or co-workers that they intend to study at a Bible College means they will have to answer hostile questions, and defend their decision. Their faith is being tested before they ever arrive on campus. While this reality has likely contributed to the enrollment decline we have experienced, it also means that an increasingly large percentage of our students are more committed to growing in their faith than ever before. As one of our professors recently said to me: "Our students really want to be here!"

Many within our current generation of young adults are longing for a clearer sense of identity, belonging and purpose for their lives. This is an incredible opportunity for Columbia, and for the larger church of Jesus Christ. Columbia's mission is squarely focussed on addressing these specific issues — helping students grasp what it means to find their identity in Christ, experience the great joy of belonging to God and to his

people, and discover Columbia as a place where they can discern and be equipped to fulfill their God-given purpose for life. This is why we exist!

In some ways, living as Christ-followers feels more complicated than in the past decades, but increasingly I think it is actually becoming simpler. It really comes down to surrendering our lives to Christ and deciding to follow him wholeheartedly. For Columbia to thrive in the years to come, I believe we need to renew our commitment to the following five foundational truths:

- **1.** Firmly stake our identity on the historic Anabaptist commitment to Jesus Christ, and to put his words into practice (Matt. 7:24-27).
- **2.** Fully trust the revealed Word of God as found in Scripture. As we pursue the truth in humility, we can be confident that God will work in those who believe (I Thess. 2:13).
- **3.** Humbly acknowledge our need to experience the life-transforming grace of the Gospel the forgiveness of our sins and reconciliation with God only made available through the cross and resurrection of our King

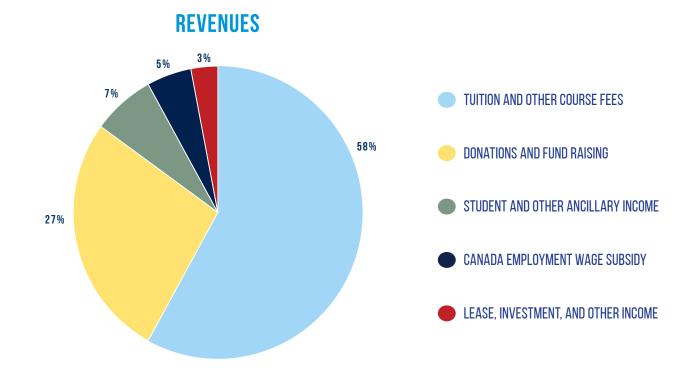
Jesus (Col. 1:14-20).

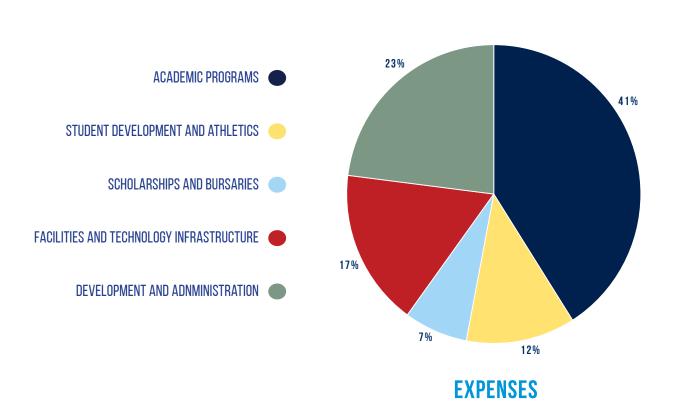
- **4.** Joyously celebrate in service the amazing privilege of belonging to the people of God, the body of Christ, the church (I Cor. 12).
- **5.** Courageously engage our lost and confused world as faithful witnesses and servants of Jesus Christ communicating the good news through our words and actions (I Cor. 9:22-23).

As I look ahead to the conclusion of my tenure as Columbia's president, I offer you this encouragement. I am more convinced than ever of the incredible importance of a Jesus-centered, biblically-grounded, Holy Spirit-inspired, mission-driven Bible College experience and education. I look forward with great anticipation to what God is going to do at Columbia in the coming years. As I consider our world today, I know Jesus is not calling us to retreat, but rather to stand firm on Christ, our foundation, and then make a difference as we rely upon God's presence and power.

Sincerely in Christ,

#### **FINANCES 2021 - 2022**







#### FROM THE BOARD CHAIR:

#### **GERRY BINNEMA**

Rivers fascinate me. I've paddled down them, swam in them, and spent ridiculous amounts of time trying to slow them down with piles of rocks. I live very close to the Vedder River in Chilliwack and walk along its banks on an almost daily basis. I love the contrast of the movement of the water and seeming rock solid stability of the banks.

As I stand and gaze at the river, there is a sense of permanence all around me. There are the mountains above, unmoved. Over there is the foundation of a bridge that stood there 80 years ago. And yet, the river itself is always moving and always changing. The water that is flowing by me will enter the Fraser River in just a couple of hours and the Pacific Ocean in just a couple of days.

Columbia Bible College is like a rock along the river. Students flow through her hallways and are moved and transformed by her, but then carry on all too quickly to other adventures. Staff and faculty also flow through, thankfully less quickly, but also grace our campus for a time and also move on to other things.

CBC remains but is slowly changed by those who come and go.

We are in a season of change at CBC and this can certainly cause feelings of insecurity and uncertainty. But God promises to be our refuge and strength in times of great change (Psalm 46). Our culture is changing rapidly as the full reality of the shift from the modern to the post-modern era settles into the fabric of society. The Christian values that we hold as a bedrock for our lives no longer hold sway for most of the people around us, and increasingly young Christians are challenged to parse Christian tradition, from Gods commands.

How should CBC respond? Now more than ever we need to seek out the Holy Spirit to receive God's wisdom. We want to be true to God's teaching at all times, and we are called to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15).

Please be in prayer for your CBC Board as we make decisions that will be crucial to the direction of CBC for the next number of years. We want to equip our young people for a life of discipleship, ministry, and leadership in the church and in the community, and when our broader community is changing a great deal, the challenge of equipping them becomes far greater and also far more urgent.