



Bishopdale
College

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DEAN

May 2021

Greetings to our Partners and Supporters!

As we progress through 2021, we are encouraged by the growth of our students and the continued development in relationships and partnership with various organisations. It has been a very busy season, and we are working hard, but we are seeing fruit.

A big feature of this year is the new Level 6 Diploma we are running – our first Bishopdale qualification in our own right (Level 6 is like the middle year of a degree.) There is a lot of work in getting all the paperwork and systems organised – our lecturers and admin staff have been managing to keep up. The programme is running really well and we are getting good feedback on the outcomes for students.

Core values for our College are at the heart of the way we designed this programme. We teach important theological skills, such as biblical studies, focused on skills in reading, understanding and teaching Scripture, and theology focused on Jesus Christ in His identity and work. At the same time, and all the way through, students are forced to reflect on what they are learning and connect it to the ministries they are involved in. Every student is in an internship placement. Learning about Jesus being the Lord who serves has to be connected up with our calling to serve and what 'Jesus-shaped' leadership looks like.

At the end of the day, the College exists to help the Church raise up and train leaders who are theologically and biblically trained and thoroughly 'sound' – but much more than that, we exist to help train people who are obedient to God, who lead the way Jesus did (and does). We seek to raise up leaders who have the maturity and self-awareness to be excellent leaders who are compassionate, strong, honest. We look for our approach to teaching and training to foster leaders who know how to lead in mission that looks like whanau, and not like a corporation.

So, thank you for being alongside us on the journey, and may the Lord bless every one of us.

In Christ,

Andrew Burgess

WILLIAM'S REPRESENTATIVE REFLECTIONS:

This year William Parkes is the student representative, and is in his second year of a Bachelor of Theology.

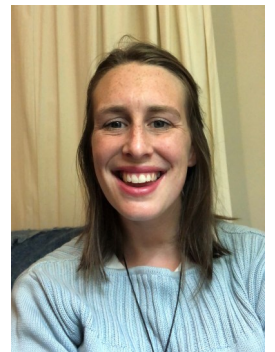
This semester it has been a pleasure to be a part of College life. There is a huge sense of community within the college that grows past the lectures and into the common areas and lunches. The overall conversations and support are incredible.

It is clear to see there is so much more than just a desire to make people feel welcome, people are welcome. Seeing the students get along and support each other furthers that culture within the college. This semester has been easy to see the value of this college extend beyond the excellent teaching and into the pastoral care and community of this place.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jessie Black, Bishopdale alumni.

Kia ora, I'm Jessie! I completed the Diploma in Christian Studies in 2019. I completed my studies from a distance, living and working in Wellington.



I had heard about the Bishopdale internship programme in 2018. I was going to be leading a missional community house (based around Victoria University of Wellington students) the following year. I was discerning what my vocation was and felt that I wanted to try ministry to see if it was something God was calling me to. At the same time the Supervising Chaplain there was praying for more team members, so it felt like a real move of the Spirit that I ended up interning there.

Two years later and I am still at the chaplaincy as an associate chaplain. I help run the weekly chapel service, lead a contemplative prayer service, and am involved in our mission on campus, particularly through an art group that meets on a Thursday lunch time. I'm also responsible for pastoral care and discipleship for a number of students. I'm still involved in a missional community, living in a collection of four households of students, families and recent graduates that live our lives centred on prayer, study, and service.

Bishopdale was a springboard into learning how to be effective in my ministry. Most importantly, however, it taught me to trust God with more of my life, to seek revelation from Him, and to live out my life in worship to Him by loving others. My courses helped shape my thinking on important theological matters, and helped redeem study as both an academic discipline but also a way of embodied faith. The care that the tutors had for me in the whole of my life- and especially my personal faith journey- was so important for me to go into ministry, equipped for the journey ahead.

FAREWELL TO GRAHAM

After 12 years with the college Graham O'Brien will be taking up his new role of Dean of Nelson Cathedral in June this year. It is with a combination of sadness that we will lose a colleague and friend but excitement to see him thrive in his new role. Graham's final reflection is below.



A Ministry of Education

Ministry education continues to be a busy role at BTC. As part of the Bishop's ministry team I was involved in an EQUIP ministry training weekend in Greymouth which involved preaching in Reefton on the Sunday and we had our first EQUIP training in Nelson on May 15. We are also entering our final phase for the Good Soil Collective training (3DM) with the third of four learning communities happening at Lake Rotoiti at the end of April. At the beginning of May Bishop Steve, myself and 2 rural reps (Don Moses and Helen Neame) attended a special Tikanga Pakeha Ministry Council event in Hamilton focusing on rural ministry.

For the past 12 years I have really enjoyed my time being based at Bishopdale College with the staff, the students and being involved in ministry education across the Diocese. As I move up the hill to the Cathedral I look forwards to establishing a strong relationship between BTC and the Cathedral.

CONSIDER JOINING US:

Monthly Chapel Service (at All Saints)

11:00am service followed by 12:00pm lunch on:

16 June	25 August
21 July	22 September
25 August	3 November

Event: *A Faith Based Response to the Climate*

30 June, 5:30pm—7:00pm at Christchurch Cathedral, Nelson.
Hosted by the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum.
RSVP: carolynhughes@foulis.nz

Go Digital

Please email office@bishopdale.ac.nz to receive this newsletter via email only.

The commissioning and installation of the Rev Dr. Graham O'Brien as Dean and Vicar of Christ Church Cathedral, 11 July, 3pm.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

- Thanksgiving for God's amazing faithfulness, seen in the students he has given us to train in 2021. Please pray that the College can bless them with all the learning and spiritual growth that the Lord has for them, and that God would be bringing growth to His Church through the training and educating that Bishopdale is doing.
- Gratefulness for the finance we have and the generosity of people who support us. Please pray for ongoing growth in our ability to finance the work and the growth of our effectiveness in the mission.
- Pray for the College admin staff, the load that all are carrying and for the right staffing going forward.

FRIENDS OF BISHOPDALE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

(min. of \$400/year)

I am a new friend of the College I am renewing my commitment

My friends donation to Bishopdale Theological College is

\$_____ per week/ fortnight/month/annum (please indicate)

OTHER/SUNDRY DONATIONS

I wish to donate \$_____

To the Capital investment Fund Operating Costs of the College

PAYMENT DETAILS

My chosen method of payment is :

- Automatic Payment of \$_____per week/fortnight/month (please indicate) or,
 Enclosed cheque for \$_____made out to Bishopdale Theological College, or,
 Direct Credit Internet Payment for \$_____to the BTC Bank Account.

Bishopdale Theological College Bank Account details are as follows:

Bank : ANZ, Nelson
Account Name : Bishopdale Theological College
Account No : 060705- 0360364-000

LIFE MEMBER

I wish to become a life member of BTC by contributing an amount of \$6000

BEQUESTS

If you would like more information about how to leave a bequest to the College or you have already included a gift to Bishopdale College in your Will please contact the foundation by emailing foundation@bishopdale.ac.nz

**UPDATE OR CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM:
Send to: BTC, PO Box 347, Nelson 7040**

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Parish _____

e-mail _____

Charities Registration No.CC23883

All gifts will be acknowledged

Donations over \$5.00 are eligible for Tax Rebate.

All automatic payments will be receipted in April for your own Tax Return purposes