



Bishopdale
College

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DEAN

April 2024

Greetings from Bishopdale College
Ma Ihowa koe e manaaki, mana koe e tiaki!

The LORD bless you and keep you!

'Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day-to-day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvellous works among all peoples.'

Thank you for your concern for Bishopdale, and your partnership with us in our mission. I am pleased to update you at this stage of the year. The College is now in week 9 of our semester. It has been such a busy start to the year that we are only just surfacing from the deep dive of enrolments and beginning of the year administration. This year has been the most complicated we have ever had, and we have been working hard on getting all our students properly enrolled and organised. A significant reason for this is the exciting progress we have made through our renewed partnership with Laidlaw College and our emerging partnerships in new settings. So, this year we have welcomed three students based with Holy Trinity Anglican in Tauranga, another in Taradale, two in Christchurch, and a bunch of part-time students in Wellington. This is on top of our students in Nelson, Golden Bay and Blenheim, as well as our two new students in Nelson from the Church of Confessing Anglicans. We are very excited about this, and very grateful to the Lord for giving us great people to work with – our greatest joy is always found in seeing students grow in depth of faith and the skills to live in faithfulness to God's call. Our vision remains clear: to serve God by working in the Spirit to deeply disciple and equip the leaders God is raising up for the Church inside God's mission. Let me write something I often say: Jesus raised up leaders by first making disciples ... we need to do what He does. Looking ahead, we anticipate significant further growth into 2025. In many ways 2024 is a year of growth, but at the same time a year of preparation for further growth. A number of our partner settings are already working to raise up students for 2025 and we are encouraged by that! We have believed that doing a good job with the students God has given us would gradually lead to more settings valuing what we do and wanting to partner with us. We are seeing that happen. Financially, as I wrote at Christmas, the College has been blessed with some new grant income for 2024-2028. This has allowed us to hire an extra person in administration – Natasha de Jong has joined us in a 0.8 role – and also bring existing staff up to more appropriate pay rates. As ever, the College is a ministry, not a business, and money will be tight, but we are blessed by the faithfulness of God and know that He will hold us. Please continue to pray for the College and the staff and students. We especially ask for prayer that we would have wisdom to hear God's voice and follow God's lead, so that our students are blessed and God's work is advanced. May God's glory and goodness be revealed in what God does through us. Thank you for your support and enthusiasm for God's work through our College. Your financial support and your partnership in prayer is very important. May the Lord bless you.

Andrew Burgess, Dean of College

MIKE'S STUDENT REFLECTIONS:

This year Mike Jessop is a student finishing his final year of study in a Bachelor of Theology.

Studying at Bishopdale College over the past two years has been an amazing journey with both highs and lows.

I have appreciated the high standard of Biblical-based teaching. The opportunities that study has given me have been more than I could ever have dreamed. I had the privilege of travelling to Kenya and Fiji and leading various ministries. I have also grown a lot over the last two years: mentally, spiritually, emotionally and in a leadership capacity. This growth has come with challenges and I had to wrestle with setting boundaries and journeying through being overwhelmed and experiencing poor mental health.

Through this journey, the staff and students at Bishopdale have come alongside me and been fully supportive. This whānau culture is invaluable to the community of the college and the health of individual students. I also would like to acknowledge Simon and the way he supported both myself and others last year. I am excited to be completing my bachelor's degree through the college and would just like to thank everyone at Bishopdale for the way they have grown my faith and understanding in God and how they have journeyed with me as I have been completing my studies.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Renata van der Wal, Bishopdale alumni

I'm Renata van der Wal, Bishopdale Student from 2022-2023 (to graduate in two weeks!). I first heard about Bishopdale College from Bishop Steve at the beginning of 2021, when I was still living in Christchurch and was dead set against moving. Fast forward to 2022, and I found myself living in Nelson and doing a Level 6 Diploma of Christian Ministry at Bishopdale and interning as a worship intern at Victory Church, which I thought was going to be a one year study. Little did I know that God was planning for me to do Level 7 in 2023, and stay on at Victory as their Worship Coordinator. During this year, I also picked up a 10 hour a week job at the Anglican Centre working for the Nelson Anglican Diocese as their events coordinator alongside study. As of February 2024, my role has moved into a more permanent role as Ministry Education Project and Anglican Centre Administrator for 32 hours a week. As part of this role, I am involved in Ministry Education projects, such as the Diocesan Leadership Camp in July, and am also handling a lot of the admin for the Anglican Centre at reception.

Studying at Bishopdale helped me in preparing for this role, as it not only helped me to network and form relationships within the diocese, but also provided me with a solid theological basis and understanding of key topics that are discussed in the diocese. Studying at Bishopdale also helped me to not only know the theory of theology, but also to be able to use it practically and connect within my context. My time at Bishopdale College was a blessing to me and I have grown so much during my studies, both in my education and in my faith.

WELCOME TO DAVE

Greetings in the risen Lord Jesus! It has been a great joy to arrive in Nelson (from Christchurch) with my wife Amanda and one of our three sons (the other two staying in Christchurch for employment and tertiary study). After leading Anglican churches for eleven years in the Diocese of Christchurch and then for five years with the Church of Confession Anglicans, it's been a big change to move to Nelson and to start teaching at Bishopdale. We've come as part of the partnership between BTC and CCA, with two full-time BTh students also making the move to Nelson. In the midst of all the change the Lord has been wonderfully faithful, and we've been warmly welcomed into the College and St Stephen's Tahunanui where we've settled, as well as by Bp Steve and Watiri. We are so thankful.



I'm excited to take part in how the Lord will use Bishopdale to equip men and women with a rich knowledge of the gospel, training them to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, calling all to repentance and faith in him. While Church History (and especially the history of the English reformation) is my area of focus, being able to help students wrestle with, and grow in their love and confidence in the Holy Scriptures, is a particular passion. I came to faith after being told by a minister that I couldn't trust what was in the Bible, and (being contrary in nature!), I went home and starting reading the Bible for myself. In those pages I read the voice of God, and was introduced to Jesus. By his word he did his work in my heart (as he continually promises to do). Please pray that our students would themselves listen to the voice of God in the Bible, and grow to love and adore him more and more. And pray that they might be so captured by this gospel word, that they might be compelled to give themselves to his service and glory.

CONSIDER JOINING US:

Monthly Chapel Service (at All Saints)

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

21 February	21 August
27 March	18 September
12 June	23 October
17 July	

EVENTS:

Bishopdale College Graduation—class of 2023

Friday 3 May, 7pm at All Saints Church.

Supper will be provided. All friends of college are welcome to join us in celebration of our students.

Bishopdale Internship Evening

Tuesday 7 May, 7pm at Victus Café, Bridge St.

Jude Saxon, our internship coordinator, will speak about the program on offer in our intern space.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

- Thanksgiving for God's amazing faithfulness, seen in the students he has gave us to train in 2021. Please also pray that the College can bless our class of 2022 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 staff, the load that all are carrying, and for the wisdom and discernment to make the best decisions necessary to continue our work in challenging times 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