



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CLBI

# # Crossroads

CLBI NEWSLETTER

**COMMUNICATION  
BREAKDOWN!**

NAVIGATING THE **ETERNAL STRUGGLE** BETWEEN

WHAT'S BEING **SAID** VS. **HEARD** WHAT'S BEING

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## **July 1**

*Heavenly Father, today we thank you for our beautiful country. You have given us a place to worship freely; help us to not to take our blessings for granted.*

## **July 2**

*Lord we lift up those serving you in Bible camps during the busy summer months. Grant them your wisdom and grace as they guide others to a closer relationship with you.*

## **July 3**

*Father God, thank you for giving the gift of pastoral leadership. Bless pastors everywhere as they serve their communities in so many ways.*

## **July 4**

*Today we lift up the parents of young*

*adults. God, we ask you to bring them into conversation about going to Bible School in the fall.*

## **July 5**

*Gracious Lord, thank you for the CLBI Board members. Bless them with your guidance as they continue to make decisions over the course of the year.*

## **July 6**

*Lord Jesus, guide those who choose the instructors for the following school year. Bring to CLBI those that have a heart for you and your people.*

## **July 7**

*Faithful God, we lift up the alumni of CLBI. Bring them into discipleship opportunities wherever they are, and help them stay connected to CLBI.*





# WHAT'S NEW **this year** at CLBI?

## SOCAL SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE

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New to the CLBI program this year, *Social School of the Bible* is a 2-week experience (part of the 1st Year Program) that provides a first-hand experience focused on seeing how God is at work through the communities of San Pedro, the USA, and North America as a whole.

While taking part in this amazing opportunity, **we will work with the Trinity San Pedro** community and their respective programs, and will provide service outreach throughout various ministries in the area.

Our hope is that we can **hear first-hand stories** from those who have been responding to God's call in their lives.

We can't wait to see what God has in store for us as he leads us on this **amazing cross-cultural adventure!**

### INTERESTED IN SOCAL SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE?

Visit [clbi.edu/socal](http://clbi.edu/socal) for more info.

To register for CLBI, go to [clbi.edu/apply](http://clbi.edu/apply)



*Donald Davis  
(\*18-'20 CLBI alumni)*

## STAFF FAREWELLS

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It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to the staff who are moving on from their positions at CLBI. We are grateful for their willingness to serve as staff here on campus, and for their commitment to discipleship throughout our community. We pray that God will continue to bless and guide them as they pursue new and exciting opportunities.

### EMMA DORLAND

Watering Hole  
Coordinator



### GRACE BRAATEN

Food Services



## MATERNITY LEAVE

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After 7 years of being on staff at CLBI, Kate McFeely (Office Administrator) will be taking maternity leave as she and her husband Colby celebrate the birth of their new baby.

Kate first joined the CLBI staff in 2014, where she worked part-time with food services in the kitchen preparing meals for staff and students. In 2017, she shifted gears and became the Office Administrator in the CLBI main office.

As Office Administrator, Kate not only managed the office and library logistics, but she also provided a warm and welcoming presence to all visitors, staff, and students of CLBI. Beyond her role in the office, Kate led in various aspects of the CLBI community, including sports, discipleship groups, huddles, as well



(Kate McFeely with her husband Colby)

as taking part in several committees and groups on campus.

While the students and staff of CLBI will certainly miss Kate's kind and compassionate leadership, we are excited for her and Colby as they begin this next journey in their lives. Thank you, God, for bringing Kate to the CLBI staff, and may you bless her and her family as they grow together, and as they continue to follow you.

# NEW TO THE CLBI STAFF

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With a new year comes new faces, and even some familiar ones! As we begin a new chapter for the 2021/2022 school year, we are excited to announce the newest members to the CLBI staff.



**JAIME OCAMPOS**  
Office Administrator



**CELIA ENGEN**  
Food Services\*



**AMY BISHOP**  
Food Services\*



**JANE NEDERLOF**  
Service Practicum  
Coordinator\*



**LUKE KROEGER**  
Maintenance Asst.\*



**DONALD DAVIS**  
Program Asst.\*



**SHALAYNE ECKART**  
Prayer Ambassador\*

\*Short Term Staff (STS): staff members who work 12 hours per week in exchange for room and board.

## **July 8**

*Today we pray for our staff at CLBI. Bring them peace and refreshment over the summer months and draw them closer to you.*

## **July 9**

*Gracious God we thank you for the hard work and dedication of farmers. Provide them with your provision during the summer months.*

## **July 10**

*God, raise up the next generation of supporters for CLBI. Equip them to help*

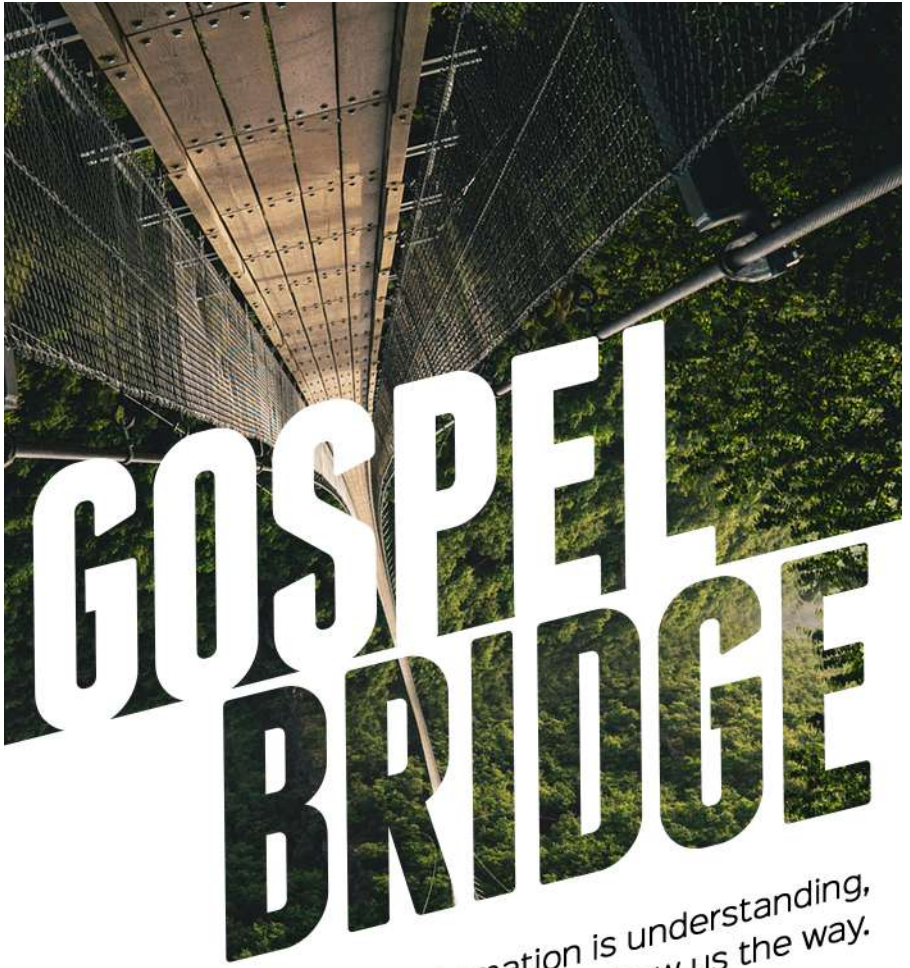
*support CLBI in whatever way you are leading them to.*

## **July 11**

*Holy Spirit, lead people to include CLBI in their wills. Your work has been done here and we ask that you continue to bless the school and its ministries in this way.*

## **July 12**

*Father God, we ask that you raise up the call for our students to become missionaries. Equip them with the gifts of your Spirit so that they may further your kingdom.*



# GOSPEL BRIDGE

The birthplace of transformation is understanding,  
& we need Christ to show us the way.

BY PRESIDENT DEAN ROSTAD

# RECENTLY I HAVE BEEN WATCHING "THE CHOSEN",

an incredibly crafted series about the life of Jesus (Google "The Chosen" to watch it). What sets this series apart from other Jesus film projects is the time put into developing the backstory of key characters such as Simon the fisherman, Matthew the tax collector, or Mary Magdalene. It was clear that all of them came to expect a certain response from interactions with rabbis and other religious leaders: judgmental tones, disdainful glances, or verbal assaults on how the life they lived was not pure or godly enough. These repeated interactions reinforced the belief that they were on the outside and nothing was going to change that...until Jesus showed up.

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**WHAT THEY EXPECTED FROM A MAN** of the faith was thrown out the window as Jesus removed any social or religious barriers so that Simon, Matthew and Mary could know that Jesus loved them right where they were. Jesus, full of grace and truth, healed their blindness so they could see that God had room for even them in His Kingdom.

*"Houston, we have a problem!"*

Collectively, this past year can be described as "polarizing". Topics such as politics, masks, COVID, religion, gender, vaccines, oil, personal rights and freedoms, and race became a tinder box that divided many into camps with fortified positions - both in the church and in society.

**OVER THE PAST 16 MONTHS** of social isolation, social media feeds have reinforced convictions and given people ample ammunition to defeat opposing arguments. Ears closing to voices that are "not in their camp" has resulted in communication that is more about speaking past each other, than gaining understanding.

Just as Simon, Matthew and Mary had resigned themselves to believing that "this is the way life is so just accept it", we find ourselves in a similar culture. This is a gospel communication opportunity before us; to not only communicate John 3:16, but to love those around us as Jesus did; to see people for who they are; to not be threatened by perspectives that may not be our own, and to honestly seek to understand what values are shaping the fears, hopes, and convictions of those across the street and across the aisle (in church and in Parliament).

“  
**I HAVE ASKED  
JESUS TO HELP ME  
BE A REDEMPTIVE  
COMMUNICATOR**  
”



**I HAVE ASKED JESUS TO HELP ME** follow His example of being a redemptive communicator. In this journey, Jesus is helping me to be more mindful of what is happening in me when I encounter someone who may be upset with a decision I have made, or has a conviction that is opposite of mine. Instead of immediately going on the defense, the Spirit is helping me to honestly desire to understand the person better. When we use affirmative statements and clarifying questions, it helps the listener know that you value who they are and what they have to say... "This issue is very important to you, can you tell me more about what shaped this conviction for you?" The goal is not to win an argument or convince them that I am right or justified, rather it is for all to come to a greater understanding and let the truth prevail. As Jesus said in John 8:32,

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

What do you think it was like for Simon, Matthew, and Mary to not be dismissed by Jesus? They were seen by Him. He spoke to their hearts. He listened to their stories, and in doing so, a gospel bridge was created that led to the transformation of their lives.

**CHURCH, JOIN WITH ME** in praying "thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Jesus you have declared that your church is the light of the world, so empower us to live into that role in the world today."



Dean lives in Camrose with his wife (Kim) and kids (Luke, James, Sonja, & Julia). He's often found relaxing in his hammock, riding his unicycle, or rockin' out to some U2.

**July 13**

*Heavenly Father, we ask that you draw students into further discipleship and give them a hunger to share the gospel with the people that they meet.*

**July 14**

*Jesus we pray that the city of Camrose and CLBI will grow stronger in their relationship with one another. May the students and staff be ambassadors for Christ, shining his light wherever they go.*

**July 15**

*God we ask that your spirit would be at work, touching the hearts of the people affected by CLBI. May their support continue on throughout the quieter summer season.*

**July 16**

*Gracious God, raise up volunteers to help out with the CLBI program and facilities. Help them to be able to trust you as you guide them in their roles.*

**July 17**

*Bless Tom Francis, (head of maintenance) as he completes necessary renovations and repairs. We thank you for the work that has been done, and we ask that this work would continue to be a blessing to CLBI.*

**July 18**

*Father, we ask that you open the hearts of all future students that they would be able to hear your voice and that they would follow where you are leading them.*



 **YouTube Channel**

CHECK OUT THE CLBI YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Subscribe to our channel to stay up to date with what's happening at CLBI



**July 19**

*Heavenly God we ask a special blessing on Dean Rostad (CLBI President) today on his birthday. Thank you for his willingness to serve you in his role at CLBI. Bless him and his family as they celebrate today.*

**July 20**

*Father we lift up the CLBI staff during the summer months, strengthen and protect them in your spirit. Keep them free of illness and bless them in all they do.*

**July 21**

*Lord Jesus we pray today for those struggling with homelessness, we ask that you would provide for their needs in a way that only you know how.*

**July 22**

*Holy Spirit bless the newly graduated high school students. Give them peace as they follow your call in their lives.*

**July 23**

*Heavenly Father today we lift up the children of the CLBI staff. Thank you for the joy they bring to CLBI.*

**July 24**

*Abba Father, we pray for the continued desire of the students and staff to intentionally spend devotional time with you. Help them to take time each day to quiet their hearts and grow closer to you.*

**July 25**

*Lord, we thank you today for Julia Rostad (daughter of Dean, CLBI President). Bless her today on her birthday and remind her of your unconditional love.*

**July 26**

*Jesus we lift up Harriet Halvorson on her birthday (daughter of Cullen, Dir. of Adm. & Comm.). Bring her joy and love as she celebrates this special day with her family.*



# COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN!

NAVIGATING THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN  
**WHAT'S BEING SAID vs. WHAT'S BEING HEARD**

By Cullen Halvorson (Director of Comm. & Adm.)



**A VAGUE TEXT FROM AN OLD FRIEND.  
A HIGH FIVE. A LIKE. A SHARE.  
IT'S ALL COMMUNICATION,  
AND WE'VE BEEN DOING IT**

**FOREVER!**

**"Communication Breakdown"** means that there has been a failure in the exchange of information. It also means that despite what was communicated, the root of the breakdown was in how it was being shared. In other words, what you have to say is just as important as how you say it. With that in mind, let's hear from some professionals about communication and why it's so important.

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**PROFESSIONAL #1:**  
**ADULT SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGIST (SLP)**  
**(STROKE REHABILITATION)**

An SLP is someone who specializes in helping assess, identify, and treat difficulties with speech, language, voice, fluency (stuttering), swallowing, and feeding across ages. I work specifically in stroke rehabilitation to help individuals who have had a stroke work on regaining any lost or impacted skills related to communication and swallowing.

We focus on getting people back to their daily lives and activities that are important to them. Communication

impairments are a HUGE aspect of daily lives that are impacted by a stroke. Not being able to get the words out that you want to say, or having speech that is difficult to understand, makes something as easy as ordering a coffee a difficult task. We work on improving language skills, speech quality, or implement strategies (such as using a picture board) to support the client to order their coffee again, or read to their grandchildren, call their friend, say grace before dinner, or tell their spouse they love them. These are the moments that stand out to me and feel important.

**ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES** working in a home environment is that often, after a stroke, the whole family must

relearn how to communicate with each other. The onus then shifts onto the caregivers or family to change how *they* communicate.

I spend a lot of time working with the spouses and family members of my clients to teach them how to communicate with their loved one post-stroke. Most people have been together for many years with long-established communication patterns and styles, which can take a lot of work, attention, and dedication to change.

Through my experience, I have learned how communication (and its challenges) impacts every aspect of an individual's daily life, which greatly impacts their quality of life. It is about so much more than talking – it's about connection, belonging, and participation.

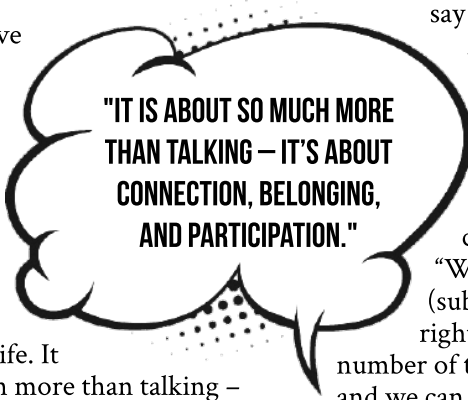
Being an SLP means that I pay more attention to ensuring that the individuals I communicate with can access the information presented. For many of my clients, that means adding written supports to spoken conversations (writing down key words), simplifying written text (summarizing or using point form), or ensuring they have their glasses/hearing aids on. Personally at home, it means drawing a "getting ready" checklist for my kids for their morning routine and getting down

on their level when I am telling them something. It also means turning off the TV/music if we're going to have a conversation so we can focus on the conversation.

When working with people who have difficulties communicating, I often teach supportive strategies for clients to get their message IN, OUT and VERIFIED (from the Aphasia Institute). Getting the message IN refers to the message being effectively understood by the person you're communicating it to. Getting the message OUT, is what you say and how you say it.

And the final piece, that many of us miss, is VERIFY – making sure that you've got it right.

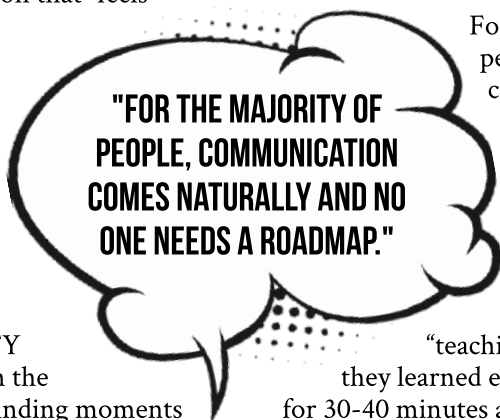
For example, I may clarify by asking "We're talking about (subject), have I got that right?". It surprises me the number of times it is not right, and we can repair to figure it out together.



**AS AN SLP (MARRIED TO AN SLP)**, I can't tell you how many times I've tried (and failed) to tell my husband something from another room, or while the sink is running, or while the TV is on. Turning off the background noise and distractions, getting face-to-face, and just making time to have a conversation really improves our communication. Glasses, hearing aids, and pens/paper are also tools that can make a great difference in the success of an interaction. Not to mention that so much of what we say

is non-verbal (tone, eye contact, body language), which also matters.

Something that is just as important as *what* we say (if not more so), is how people *feel* while they communicate. To me, having a positive interaction that “feels good” is more important than getting your words out 100% accurately. Honouring your communication partner's needs, using the IN/OUT/VERIFY strategy to get on the same page, and finding moments of humor and connection are a few ways to make conversations worthwhile and feel good.



For the majority of people, communication comes naturally and no one needs a roadmap. That means that people often aren't sure how to begin

“teaching” this skill that they learned easily. I see clients for 30-40 minutes a week via ZOOM, and during that time, the main focus is on teaching the parents how to do therapy at home. Sometimes it takes time to understand where the family is “at” (are they ready to make changes, practice regularly, give and receive feedback, etc.). I tell families that I'm the expert on communication, they are the expert on their child, and that together we can come up with a treatment plan that suits their needs.

**I LOVE MY JOB**, and I love helping people communicate with each other. Sometimes that love can be all-consuming and it's all I think about. For instance, when I'm falling asleep I'll be thinking about an upcoming session, wondering about a complicated client at the dinner table, etc., which has helped me learn a lot about setting boundaries with my job. I have learned that being a

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**PROFESSIONAL #2:**  
**ADULT SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGIST (SLP)**  
(PEDIATRICS - AGES 0-18)

I work in pediatrics in a rural setting, which means I see kids (0-18) for just about anything related to communication. Our office has an emphasis on 0-5 so it's mostly late talkers, stuttering, and preschool kids with speech sound delays.

**WE ARE SOCIAL BEINGS.** Helping parents and children communicate with each other (whether through words, signs, gestures, communication boards, etc.) allows them to get to know each

speech pathologist is just one of the hats that I wear, which has helped me with my relationship-building with clients and families. I have learned that “speech client” is just one of the many hats that *they* wear. They are also students, older brothers, hockey-players, ball-players, piano learners, among many others.

Being an SLP has helped me gain perspective in how I communicate with people. I have things I want to tell them, teach them, etc., and over time I have learned that it doesn't matter if I have all the “answers,” what matters is if they are in a space to hear them. It's just like you mentioned earlier how the message can get lost in the delivery. I try to be very deliberate in my interactions, and let people know that I value their input and their time. I ask questions like “Is this a good time for you? What do you think of this? What barriers can you foresee in trying a particular strategy?”

I have also improved in asking for what I need while communicating with others. I still feel nervous sometimes when I ask someone to repeat something so I make sure I understand, or if I ask for the TV to be off before speaking. Since I am NOT a multi-tasker, it is not possible for me to have a conversation with my wife while also sending a text to a friend. My wife knows this, but we still have conversations where I explain how I struggle with doing many things at once.

**I THINK WE SOMETIMES OBSESS** too much about the “perfect” message (not too rude, not too pushy, not offensive,

politically neutral, etc.). It's actually impossible to think about all these things at once, so I recommend keeping things simple and direct. This list is far from comprehensive, but it's a good start in improving your communication with others:

- **IF THEY AGREE TO LISTEN TO YOUR MESSAGE**, assume they want to hear it.
- **SHORT, SIMPLE SENTENCES ARE BETTER** than long, run-on ones. Leave space between your ideas for the listener to process.
- **ALWAYS LEAVE LOTS OF TIME FOR QUESTIONS** and ask them if they want you to repeat anything.

Ultimately, *how* we communicate with others is important because we want our message to be understood. If it's not important for the message to be understood, then why bother speaking? If we don't take the time to consider what the other person needs in order to understand the information, that's a disservice to you and the other person.

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**PROFESSIONAL #3:**  
**GRADE 3 ELEMENTARY**  
**SCHOOL TEACHER**  
(EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

My job as a teacher is to educate in a variety of subjects, as well as mentor and care for kids. Teaching kids literacy and numeracy skills provides kids with opportunities to eventually become independent, persistent, resilient, contributing citizens that are engaged in their community and,

hopefully, empathetic to others in their community. Additionally, it provides a safe environment for kids to develop curiosity about the world around them and a desire to learn about themselves and others.



On top of that, and arguably the most important part of my job, is helping kids develop relationship skills, such as listening, respecting others, turn-taking, sharing, collaborating, leading, following, and playing nicely with others.

In my line of work there are 3 main groups that I communicate with on a daily basis.

**GROUP 1:**  
**STUDENTS**

With students, giving clear instructions is vital. Ensuring that all kids have a solid understanding of what I expect of them and that I have clearly explained something is key. There are obvious challenges with this when I have a class of 20 grade three students. Nothing makes my head spin more than spending 5

minutes explaining what the kids are supposed to do and a kid responds with, "Wait...what are we doing?".

**GROUP 2:**  
**COLLEAGUES**

Communication with colleagues can be a challenge, like when an email thread that is 30 responses long is used to solve a problem that could have been solved with a 2 minute conversation.

**GROUP 3:**  
**PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

Clear communication with parents/guardians is the another group that can pose challenges. I learned very early in my career that it pays to speak either in person or over the phone as opposed to email. At the beginning of every school year, I clearly communicate that I will not discuss grades or student behaviour through email. This rule has saved me from countless stressful situations that I have seen other teachers fall prey to.

Speaking in person, hearing someone's voice, seeing their face and body language is far superior to even the best written email. This is true across the board for all three groups that I mentioned. Even video conferencing can't compare to being in the same room with someone, especially students.

**HEARING PEOPLES' VOICES**, seeing faces, listening with our eyes up instead of down at a screen (case and point, as I write this I am looking down at my computer screen while my family



plays around me... yeesh!). These are the things that are done when you want someone to feel valued, whether it is a family member, colleague, boss, employee, student, spouse, etc. Giving someone the attention they deserve when they have something to share with you is how we improve as listeners. Then, when it is our turn, we slow down, speak clearly, and are intentional about what we say.

As a teacher, I've learned to give people the benefit of the doubt when "interpreting" something that is written down. Asking the person and listening is the best way to get to the bottom of something. Working with little kids, I've come to realize that you need to get down on their level, and that in order to build a relationship that has a foundation of trust requires this ability to see the person eye to eye (literally and figuratively). I think Jesus knew this with the different people he interacted with - disciples, children, Pharisees, tax, collectors, Jews, Gentiles, etc.

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## SO WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN FOR US AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST?

Well, quite a bit actually! With the good news of Christ's life, death, and resurrection being the foundation of our Christian faith, we know it has the power to transform our lives, as well as the lives of others, in huge ways. In other words, it's an important message to communicate. Yet even with a message of this

magnitude, we tend to forget that no matter the message, when it's not communicated well, it inevitably falls on deaf ears, thus causing it to fall by the wayside.

As we reflect on the experiences shared by these professionals, and as we find repeatedly throughout scripture, we see that we are instructed to communicate well in order for our message to be understood, and to grow in relationship with others.

*"A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."  
(Proverbs 15:1)*

*"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."  
(Colossians 4:6)*

*"The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."  
(Luke 6:45)*

While we continue to reshape what communication looks like, and while we continue to navigate with Christ as our guide, may we take root and seek out God as he calls us to embrace the breakdown.



*Cullen is Dir. of Comm. & Adm. at CLBI. He loves graphic design, & lives in Camrose, AB. with his wife Emily & his 2 girls Hattie & Gemma (plus a third on the way in July).*



# WHERE NOW?

**RON BERG ('84-'87)**

**I GREW UP IN A SOLID CHRISTIAN FAMILY** and attended a fantastic church, Mt. Calvary Lutheran. But being at CLBI, being fully immersed in the Bible - studying every book in the Bible - gave me a firm foundation. It helped me understand that the Old Testament points to the coming Messiah and the New Testament explained the good news of Jesus and how He will bring it to the ends of the earth. CLBI helped to strengthen my faith in Jesus and after all these years, I still know that He loves me and that I am His child.

After leaving CLBI, I briefly considered going into youth

ministry, but I realized that I wasn't suited for that ministry so I headed home to Mission, BC to work as a sawyer at a local countertop company. I continued serving at my church and enjoyed fellowship with other believers.

**ONE MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE** I took part in was a mission trip to Mexico, leaving from Camp Luther. This experience really allowed me to put my faith into action. We had so many opportunities to serve at Foundation for His Ministry, meet amazing people, and see God moving in powerful ways. It was on this trip that I met my future wife, Taura.

Early in our marriage, we were able to make a couple more trips down to Mexico with a group of youth. It was quite an adventure driving a bus all the way down to the Baja. Oftentimes, the journey was just as fruitful as the time spent at the orphanage. We experienced many examples of God's mercy and grace during those trips.

In December 2001, we travelled with a group from our church to India where we shared the gospel with people in their villages, and provided encouragement and support for fellow believers. I'll never forget



**...(BECAUSE OF  
CLBI I HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO  
CONFIDENTLY  
SHARE WHAT'S  
NEEDED AS  
PEOPLE SHARE  
WITH ME**



seeing people receive Jesus right there in the street and be baptized. It was amazing!

**OF COURSE, LIFE FLIES BY.** We now have three kids: Kristian (18), Abigail (16) and Evan (14). I am so happy that Kristian has decided to attend CLBI and begin his second year this fall.

Some of the great memories I have of being at CLBI are: Crosssection concerts, making life-long friends, Pastor Raaflaub laughing at his

own jokes, Pastor Hagen singing the Lefse song, pond hockey, prayer days, peeling veggies in the morning, water fights, volleyball games, choir tour,

**July 27**

*Father God, continue to call international students to attend CLBI. Open the doors for them to come and experience what you have for them in Canada.*

**July 28**

*Lord, thank you for Cullen Halvorson (Dir. of Admissions & Communications) on his birthday. Thank you for his dedication and bless him with an amazing year.*

**July 29**

*Father God bless Jessica Bitzer (2020-21 1st yr. student) on her birthday. May your love*

*pour out in her friends and family as she celebrates today.*

**July 30**

*Heavenly father, we lift up those who are contemplating coming to CLBI. Help them set aside their doubts and be encouraged in wherever you lead them.*

**July 31**

*Faithful God, thank you for the dedication of past staff and for their years of service. Thank you for the lives they have impacted and the love of Christ they have shared.*

summer team Ezekiel (not to be confused with “Easy Kill” as was reported in the local rag), and crying like a baby with the boys on the last day of school. I made some of my closest friends while attending CLBI, and those years were some of the best years of my life. It’s awesome to see my son building these same kinds of memories!

Today, Taura and I have been married for 22 years, and we are active in our church (when we can attend). Professionally, I’m currently working as an electrician with former CLBI student, Mike Vetter. I find that no matter where I am, or what I am doing, God is at work. I have worked at the shipyard in Vancouver and have found that the

most unsuspecting guys will want to talk about faith. Even when I’m out watching my kids play sports, people want to talk. I firmly believe that because I had the opportunity to invest a concentrated amount of time on studying God’s Word early in my life, I have been able to confidently share what’s needed as people share with me.

**IT MAY NOT BE ON A POND**, but I still love playing hockey with my CLBI roomie, Kurt Dewar (85-87) and hitting the trails on our mountain bikes. If you’re thinking about going to CLBI, just go. You won’t be disappointed. It’s the best opportunity to grow your faith in Jesus and it’ll change your life forever. You’ll never be the same.

**August 1**

*Dear Lord, thank you for all CLBI alumni around the world sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. May they seek your strength and wisdom as they share the Good News.*

**August 2**

*Father, as students prepare for CLBI, provide solutions for those who are in need of financial assistance to attend CLBI. May those students seek your provision, for "those who ask shall receive." (Mt. 7:7).*

**August 3**

*Lord, as Noah Lehman (2020-21 1st yr. student) celebrates his birthday, fill him with your joy. Continue to bless him and his family as they celebrate the kind and funny young man that he is.*

**August 4**

*Dear Jesus, thank you for Madison Cole (2020-21 1st yr. student). As she celebrates her birthday, give her peace and fill her*

*with your love. Bless her and keep her as she begins this new year of life.*

**August 5**

*Jesus, thank you that we can have fellowship and ministry with others in many different places. Please provide opportunities for this in coffee shops and restaurants and bless the work that is done in your name.*

**August 6**

*Dear Lord, thank you for those who support CLBI and other Bible Colleges. May those who are in mentoring relationships with young adults be encouraged to guide their mentees to Bible College this fall.*

**August 7**

*Father, thank you for the hard working and loving people on staff at CLBI. As new people join staff this year, may you bless them with peace, love and joy.*

**August 8**

Lord, please bless the organizations and businesses that CLBI works with throughout the year. May CLBI be a witness of your love and grace.

**August 9**

God, as politicians and world leaders do their work, may they look to you and your will. Guide their actions, words, and thoughts to be ones that are pleasing to you.

**August 10**

Dear Jesus, thank you for all healthcare workers and their families. This last year and a half has been particularly stressful on them, so please grant them peace and joy. Bless them abundantly.

**August 11**

Jesus, place CLBI on the hearts of the communities around Camrose and the world. May they come together to pray for CLBI and the work that is done in the lives of the staff and students.

**August 12**

Lord, thank you for our church leaders. They work so hard to be an example of you for us. Bless the pastors, elders, and those in other leadership positions today.

**August 13**

Almighty Father, bless those who are feeling called towards seminary education with discernment for their decision. Thank you for their desire to spread your gospel to others in this capacity.

**August 14**

God, may you send your Spirit to inspire donors to generously give what they can to CLBI as the school prepares to welcome students in a few weeks.

**August 15**

Thank you, Lord, that you have been

working through CLBI since the beginning. Provide the finances, staff, and students for this work to continue. May you receive honour and glory through it all.

**August 16**

Lord, thank you for the many ambassadors of CLBI. Use them to challenge and encourage their siblings and friends to consider how Bible school might help them strengthen their faith as well as give them a supportive community.

**August 17**

Father thank you for all the different aspects of CLBI. May the students grow closer to you through each of these areas, and we pray that you would be glorified through everything that happens on this campus.

**August 18**

Father please be with the staff as they sort through the many details that make up this coming school year. Lead and guide them in all the decisions being made.

**August 19**

Gracious God, thank you for the facilities and vehicles that you have provided for CLBI. Please be with Tom (Director of Maintenance) as he gets the campus ready for the new school year.

**August 20**

Lord, we ask you to bring to mind the names of any potential student to CLBI supporters and friends. Give them the words to inspire them to consider attending CLBI. Fill up the dorms with the students that you are calling.

**August 21**

Father, we ask that you continue to guide the CLBI alumni. Help them to follow you wherever you are leading them. Use them wherever they are to point people to you.

# CLBI UPDATE



**BY DEAN ROSTAD (PRESIDENT)**

**A YEAR AGO WE HAD A BIG DECISION TO MAKE.**

The local university and many other schools had announced that their dorms were essentially going to be closed and all classes were going to be online. After much prayer and discussion, God formed a strong conviction in the CLBI staff that for CLBI to fulfill its purpose of deep discipleship, we needed to be in person. Jesus didn't limit discipleship to teaching times - he lived his life with his followers. In life-on-life discipleship, God shapes not only our minds, but all parts of our lives.

So began the preparation for a potential COVID storm..

How did it go? Well the COVID storm did show up in Camrose. By the end of the year, there were 156 cases in this city of 19,000 people. God blessed the effort of the CLBI community, and the "CLBI bubble" remained secure resulting in no cases on campus! Praise the Lord for the peace we experienced in this storm.

Thank you to all who prayed and supported the CLBI community through this year. Staff, you were



**JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>,  
2020**

amazing in your united effort to make in-person learning and living possible. Students, thank you for the graciousness you displayed as you navigated continually changing guidelines. I love the creativity you showed in your outreach efforts (ie: writing letters to shut-ins, online piano lessons and tutoring). Parents, thank you for being so understanding when students were discouraged from going home for random weekend visits. Thank you to all who interceded to God on behalf of CLBI. God heard and answered your prayers and we had an incredible year!

**PLEASE PRAY THAT GOD WILL MEET ALL OF THE FISCAL NEEDS OF CLBI.** As you see in the graph, we have only received 75% of our budgeted donations, with only one month left in our fiscal year

(June 30). The staff tightened the belt as much as they could, but at this point it is looking like our year end is going to have a deficit. I am praying that God will raise up some significant one-time gifts to keep the bank balance healthy through the summer, as well as raise up more faithful monthly givers. Currently there are 43 households giving monthly to CLBI. I am praying that number will climb to 100 in the near future. Visit [clbi.edu/give](http://clbi.edu/give) for more information or call the office.

Most importantly, please join the growing team of those praying that the Spirit will stir in the hearts of young adults to come to CLBI to spend a year being grounded in God's Word. I am praying for 30 first-year students to join the 16 second-year students that are registered.



**August 22**

*Thank you Lord for the alumni that you have called into ministry positions around the world. Help them to continually rely on you for all their needs.*

**August 23**

*Father God, thank you for assembling the CLBI staff for the 2021-22 school year. Give them wisdom, unity, and joy as they look ahead to the students' arrival.*

**August 24**

*God, continue to work in and through the staff as they plan for the upcoming school year. Remind them of details that need to be taken care of, and give them wisdom and enthusiasm as they prepare for all that you have in store for this new school year.*

**August 25**

*Thank you Father for each 1st year student you have called to CLBI. Be with them as they prepare to come to CLBI, and remove any barriers that would keep them from joining the CLBI community.*

**August 26**

*Thank you Lord for the students that are returning for a second year. Prepare them for what you are going to teach them this year. Draw each of them closer to you, and help them to become strong servant leaders.*

**August 27**

*Thank you Lord for Landon and Amy Jack (Residence Life Directors). Be with them today as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. Strengthen their marriage, and give them wisdom as they seek to support and encourage each student.*

**August 28**

*Lord you are a loving and caring God that wants to give us good gifts. Give each one of us ears to hear your voice and the courage and faith to follow you wherever you lead.*

**August 29**

*Lord, be with the students as they experience new things in this first month of CLBI. Work in and through each student and staff member so that this year can be an amazing one!*

**August 30**

*Jesus, be with the returning students today as they pack up and prepare to return to CLBI. Calm any nerves they are feeling and give them an excitement for the ministries they will be a part of.*

**August 31**

*And so it begins! Father, as the 2nd years arrive today, engulf the campus, the students, and staff with your love, goodness and holiness. Do your good work in each person on campus.*

**September 1**

*Heavenly Father, we lift up the Kitchen Staff at CLBI to you today and pray a prayer of blessing over them. We ask that they would feel your love today and that they would be encouraged by the people around them.*

**September 2**

*Jesus Christ, there is no one like you. Be the centre of each person's life in the CLBI community today. Be our source, be our guide, Jesus.*

**September 3**

*Holy Spirit, thank you for the creative passions you have given the staff and students at CLBI. Develop and cultivate these passions at CLBI to further your kingdom.*

**September 4**

*Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we thank you for another Opening Day at CLBI. We lift up the staff and students you have brought together and ask that they would be blessed*



and that your will would be done.

**September 5**

Abba God, thank you for the willing hearts of the short-term staff members at CLBI. Please provide for their needs as they serve you in their various ministries.

**September 6**

Elohim, bless the dorm community at CLBI today. May encouraging and life-giving relationships be formed by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that every student would know they are loved by you.

**September 7**

Lord Jesus, we lift up all the students who are away from home this year. May your peace wash over them as they navigate new relationships. Be with them and help them grow in the CLBI community.

**September 8**

Holy God, you are at work. We pray a special blessing on the friendships that are already forming at CLBI. May each student have the courage to be vulnerable and open so that your Spirit can be at work in them.

**September 9**

Creator God, protect and encourage the staff and students at CLBI today as they embark on Fall Hike. May these next few days be a time of spiritual growth.

**September 10**

Almighty God, may your Spirit be at work in the connections between staff and students at CLBI today. Help the staff and students find similarities that build strong friendships and trust.

**September 11**

Holy Trinity, be with the CLBI community and bind them together in perfect unity today. May the focus be on you as students are encouraged as disciples for Christ.

**September 12**

Holy Spirit, you dwell within every willing heart. We pray for the mental health of everyone in the CLBI community. Help them to feel safe and to share their heart. Bring them your comfort and peace.

**September 13**

Father, thank you for technology and the way it has allowed us to reach all across the world. May this strengthen the ministry at CLBI and further your kingdom through it all.

**September 14**

Holy Messiah, we lift up the CLBI staff and their families to you today. Thank you for their willing hearts to serve you in ministry at CLBI, and may you overflow in their lives.

**September 15**

God of Wonders, we praise and thank you for the instructors that have and will come to CLBI this year. Be with them as they leave their families, friends, and communities to serve you and share your love at CLBI.

**September 16**

Almighty God, today we lift up all gr. 12 students who are in their last year of high school. Protect them by the power of your hand and give them the gift of discernment as they navigate life after High School.

**September 17**

Jesus, you are our Friend and our Redeemer. We look to you as the seasons change and fall comes upon us. May this new season provide life, hope, and love to the community at CLBI.

**September 18**

*Almighty God, on the seventh day of creation, you rested. May the staff and students use the weekends to recharge, relax, and rest in your presence. May your peace rain down on CLBI today.*

**September 19**

*Prince of Peace, thank you that by your blood we are united as a family of believers. May the diversity of the family of believers at CLBI continue to grow in your strength.*

**September 20**

*Jesus Christ, when we feed the hungry and clothe the poor, we serve you. We lift up those who are living in poverty and ask you to protect them and guide them today.*

**September 21**

*Creator God, you alone are worthy of our praise. May CLBI take root in your word and spread through more communities today. May these gifts of service at CLBI be pleasing to you.*

**September 22**

*Holy Father, anoint CLBI today. Inspire the minds of the staff and students to explore new and exciting ways to share about the ministries at CLBI and the saving message of the Gospel.*

**September 23**

*Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we lift up Gemma Halvorson (daughter of Cullen, Dir. of Adm. & Comm.) today on her birthday. May she be blessed, encouraged, and overwhelmed by your love today.*

**September 24**

*Abba God, you are so good to us. Thank you for the discipleship groups you've assembled this year. May the staff and students grow closer to you and become impactful disciples in their communities.*

**September 25**

*Jesus Christ, you encourage your disciples to pray and break bread together. We ask that meal and snack times at CLBI would continue to be a source of fellowship and a time of prayer and community building.*

**September 26**

*Lord Jesus, as the CLBI staff prepare for Social School of the Bible, give each of them a special anointing of your Spirit. May your will be done through this ministry.*

**September 27**

*Holy God, we praise and thank you for the churches in our local community. May these congregations be unified in you and in your Word. May they build trust in their communities for your Kingdom.*

**September 28**

*Jesus, your name is above every other name. Thank you for the gift of worship. Be with the worship teams at CLBI and all over the world, that their eyes would be fixed on you alone.*

**September 29**

*Elohim, we quiet our hearts in your presence. May every member of the CLBI community find rest and healing in you. Pour out your Spirit of peace today.*

**September 30**

*Mighty God, we ask for an explosion of alumni support at CLBI today. Thank you for the deep and powerful connections we have with other believers around the world, and help us to continue to look to you in all things.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Nolan McNaughton (2019-20) married Brianna Delgado on January 15, 2021.

Kyler (2007-09) and Annaliese (Neiman, 2009-12) Nottveit had baby Charlotte Joy on April 27, 2021.

Karl Johnsen (1987) married Danielle Frederickson on May 14, 2021.

Ben and Tashona (Bannister, 2010-13) Walsh had baby Charlie Kate on May 18, 2021.

Phil (2011-12) and Emily Joel had baby Selah Ilana on May 27, 2021.

Grace Crosby (2010-2012) married Austin Ericson on June 5, 2021.

Kerry McCune (2014-2016) married Adam Vanderwekken on May 22, 2021.

## **MEMORIALS:**

Annelise Rust, Milton Rude, Arnold & Ruth Hagen, Les Brager, Clint Adams, Allan & Esther Danielson, Eleanor Jacobson, Pati Olson, Alfred Ruecker, Phillip Sollid, Gunter Mende, Bryan Kerr, Gottlieb Lehmann, Otto & Thelma Sorenson, Gladys Rude,  
Total Memorials: \$3500

## **PRAYER WRITERS:**

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