

Forward Momentum

Thriving in New Initiatives

FEATURED STORIES:

- *Growing Servant Leaders Initiative*
- *Meet Our Alumnus - Robin White*
- *Crandall University Partnership*
- *Dr. Merrill Greene - Director of Intercultural Studies*
- *Luke Maiorino - Enrolment Counsellor*



ABLAZE
FALL 2023

A Word from the President



Our last newsletter announced several new initiatives as part of our efforts to reimagine Kingswood. Many of you have told me how much you appreciated hearing about the new things that are happening. Having announced that changes were coming, it makes sense that this issue would update you

on how these changes are unfolding.

Our new faculty have already enriched campus with energy and experiential wisdom. In this issue, you'll meet Dr. Merrill Greene, an affiliate faculty hired since our last edition.

Our efforts to become more intentional about spiritual formation prompted the creation of the "Growing Servant Leaders" initiative. In these pages you'll learn more about this campus wide program, featuring staff-student mentoring groups.

Perhaps our most ambitious new initiative is Kingswood Learn, a two-sided platform hosting free micro-courses designed to help anyone, anywhere, at any time grow in their ability to serve God *in* their church and in the marketplace *as* the Church.

The development of the platform and the initial fifty courses is moving along quite well. So, too, are our fundraising efforts

to cover start-up costs. Most exciting has been the response from churches, districts, and parachurch groups. Over and over, I hear people tell me, "This is just what we were looking for!" Kingswood Learn is set to launch in January, 2024, but you can sign up now for a sneak preview at www.kingswoodlearn.com.

Something new since our last issue is the opportunity for Kingswood to host a program offered by Crandall University, a nearby Christ-centered liberal arts university. You can read more about this exciting mission-fit development in this issue.

Amid all these new initiatives, we've been diligent about keeping our eye on the ball. Case in point: the rousing success of our 27th annual Golf Classic. For the second year in a row, we raised a record amount for student scholarships. More details can be found within.

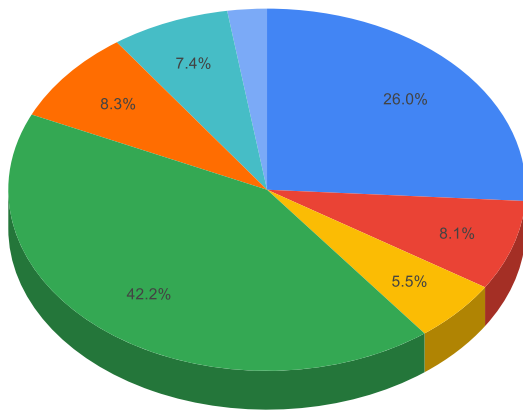
With innovation in the air, we thought you would like to hear from a Kingswood alumnus with a novel approach to missions. Enjoy the interview with Robin White (2002 alumnus) and his wife, Yoko, Global Partners missionaries in Japan.

These changes haven't altered our mission of "strengthening the local and global Church by developing Christ-like servant leaders." As you read, I hope you'll agree that we've risen to the challenges while remaining firmly anchored to our calling. Enjoy! 🍷

Alene

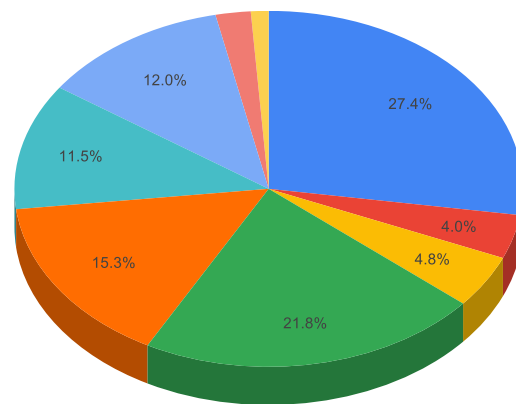
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



OPERATING REVENUE

- Tuition \$1,130,198
- Student Residence Services \$350,239
- Student Food Services \$240,662
- Wesleyan Church Grant \$1,836,219
- Donations \$362,005
- Auxiliary Income \$321,614
- Other Income \$107,126



OPERATING EXPENSES

- Academic Services \$1,189,770
- Student Life \$173,395
- Scholarships & Financial Aid \$208,485
- Food & Residence Services \$945,851
- Advancement & Enrolment \$663,932
- Finance/Administration \$498,061
- Plant Operations \$522,317
- Debt Service \$97,200
- Other \$49,004

A copy of our latest audited financial statement is available upon request.

Kingswood's 27th Annual Golf Classic

Another Record-Breaking Year

It was a beautiful fall day as 98 golfers took to the course on Friday, September 8th, for the 27th Kingswood Golf Classic. They played exemplarily, raising funds for financial aid and scholarships for our students. This year, they raised a record-breaking \$73,000!

The top fundraising team, Tony Benson's Team, included Dave McCrea, Linda McGuigan, Natasha Moffett, and Marianne Williams, and raised a total of \$8,790.


The top individual fundraiser was Nathan Perry, who raised over \$3,555.

Two teams tied for best score this year, both playing very well! Team Balding (Scott Brooks and Matt, Isaiah, and Oren Veysey) and Team Nelson (Dave Graham, Jay Guptill, Mark Moore, and Doug Nelson) both ended with a score of 58!

For the first time, we had a team consisting of four generations playing together! Team Guptill with Claude, Rod, AJ, and Levi enjoyed a great day and brought in a score of 63- well done, Team Guptill!



Pictured here: The four generations on Team Guptill: Claude, Rod, AJ, and Levi.

We are grateful to all of the golfers and sponsors who showed their support for Kingswood at this event! We are also appreciative of the volunteers who gave their time to make this event possible and of the donors who generously gave money towards scholarships for Kingswood students! Mark your calendars for next year's Golf Classic on **September 6th, 2024!** 

Sown Seeds Blossoming

Generous Bequest to Honour Hazen and Norma Lee Ricker



Pictured here: Alice and David Johnston.

Kingswood University learned recently that it has been named as a beneficiary in the estate of Mrs. Alice Johnston of Summerside, Prince Edward Island, who passed away on March 31, 2023, at age 85.

Mrs. Johnston grew up on her family farm and attended a quaint country church where she learned to love her Lord.


She and her cousin, Norma Lee Logan, spent many hours playing together in the fields and on the beaches of PEI.

Although Mrs. Johnston never attended Kingswood (then Bethany Bible College), the school became important to her indirectly through her cousin. Norma Lee attended Bethany Bible College in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, where she met her husband, Hazen Ricker. Alice and her husband, David, remained lifelong friends of Hazen and Norma Lee, supporting them financially and emotionally.

Rev. and Mrs. Ricker were ardent advocates of Kingswood University. Hazen served on the board of trustees for many years. He also found creative ways to provide for the students, including "Beef for Bethany," a program where farmers were encouraged to donate beef to the college.

Alice and David attended the Nazarene Church in Summerside, where Alice played the organ, wrote songs, and penned poems for the church bulletin. Alice worked at Slemmon Park Airport in Summerside, PEI, until her retirement.

Norma Lee Ricker has been gone since 2009, and Hazen since 2016, a great loss for all who knew and loved them, including David and Alice. Before she died, Alice determined to leave a gift to Kingswood University honouring Hazen and Norma Lee for their years of friendship and spiritual guidance.

The bequest of \$540,000 will fund scholarships, capital improvements, and Kingswood Learn. According to President Steve Lennox, "This is a perfect illustration of how seeds sown in the lives of others can blossom into something beautiful. We've been so blessed by Hazen and Norma Lee's lifelong support. Alice's bequest allows those blessings to continue for decades to come." 



Pictured here: Alice Johnston's cousin, Norma Lee Ricker and her husband, Rev. Hazen Ricker, both graduates of Bethany Bible College.

Growing Servant Leaders Initiative

Principles and Practices that are Transforming Campus Life at Every Level

At the heart of Kingswood’s mission, and ingrained in the fabric of campus life, is Christ-like servant leadership. Whether it’s planning events on Student Council, leading worship in Chapel, making coffee in Solid Grounds Café, or serving in the community on ministry trips, all Kingswood students are involved in serving during their time on campus. The desire to form servant leaders that will continue to add value long after leaving Kingswood is the force behind the “Growing Servant Leaders” (GSL) initiative.




This initiative focuses on the core values and characteristics of a true servant leader, guiding students towards living these out through goal-setting, self-assessment, and accountability and encouragement in community. The characteristics of a Christ-like servant leader at the heart of this initiative are “humble”, “hungry”, and “smart”. These are character traits adapted from Patrick Lencioni’s book *The Ideal Team Player*, which highlights what traits to look for or develop when assembling a team. The humble, hungry, and smart characteristics were chosen as the framework for this initiative because of how clearly evident they are in the life and teachings of Christ, making them the ideal characteristics of Christ-like leaders.

The Growing Servant Leaders initiative finds a formal outlet in the new addition of Mentorship Cohorts to Kingswood’s spiritual formation component. The Mentorship Cohorts consist of small groups of students paired with a staff or faculty member. These groups provide a close-knit setting where students can find accountability and support as they seek to grow in their habits, health, and leadership abilities. The cohort leaders provide a framework for growth and self discovery through providing goal-setting techniques and self-evaluations that measure which of the humble, hungry, and

smart values individuals need to grow in most.

The GSL initiative also pairs well with the other new additions to Kingswood’s Spiritual Formation Component. Evensong, a weekly student-led worship and devotional time, gives students an opportunity to lead their peers in a safe and familiar setting. Weekly apprenticeships at ministry placements give students the opportunity to grow in being humble, hungry, and smart at established churches and ministries.

While Mentorship Cohorts, Evensong, and Apprenticeships are formally organized ways that the GSL initiative is being implemented, these principles and practices are transforming campus life at every level. In the rooms of many students, you can find a copy of the GSL handout distributed by staff prominently on display, serving as a constant reminder that we are called to serve like Christ served. Students like Student Council Vice-President Emma Mullen are inspired in implementing this initiative because they see staff and faculty as “leaders who show godly wisdom and are hungry and passionate to see students grow.” Together, staff, faculty, and students are growing in Christ-like servant leadership as this initiative permeates the culture of campus. 

Characteristics of a servant leader

1

Humble

Honest and realistic about their strengths and weaknesses, and are focused on serving others and contributing to the success of the team.

2

Hungry

Have a passionate commitment to mission while also regularly setting time aside for rest. They are highly self-motivated and diligent with their work and actively seek out opportunities to contribute and grow in their leadership.

3

Smart

Are emotionally intelligent and empathetic, having a high level of self-awareness. They exercise good judgment around how their words and actions impact others.



Equipping Servant Leaders for Global Impact



Alumnus Interview: Robin White

A Creative Vision for Spreading the Gospel



“Following God’s leading has brought so many blessings I wouldn’t have experienced if I’d stuck to my own ideas about where my life was going.”

“Robin, tell us where you and Yoko are from and share a bit about your backgrounds.”

I (Robin) grew up in New Brunswick and graduated from Kingswood in 2002. Yoko is from Ishikawa, Japan. We met when I was working with a church in Nagoya and she was working at a nearby seminary. We got married in 2019 and now live in Ishikawa.

“What do you do now? Tell us a bit about your journey in getting there.”

We serve as Global Partners missionaries in Japan. My journey began shortly after graduating in 2002, when I had the opportunity to go to Osaka, Japan for a year to teach English. I returned to Canada for a few years, but God used my experience in Osaka to give me a love and burden for Japan. In late 2007, I returned as a long-term missionary, this time settling in Nagoya.

Yoko was working as a researcher when she sensed God leading her to go to seminary in Nagoya. After graduating, she stayed in Nagoya to work on staff at the seminary, working alongside both American missionaries and Japanese staff. Through that experience, God prepared her to serve as a missionary with me.

“Tell us about your experience as a Kingswood student and how it prepared you for what you are doing now.”

The biggest thing that stands out to me is the school’s emphasis on practical ministry experience. During my time at Kingswood, I had the opportunity to engage in a wide variety of ministries, including music, youth and kids ministry, homeless outreach, prison ministry, summer camps, and preaching. I feel like this helped me to be open to unexpected opportunities and prepared me for the wide variety of things I would end up doing as a missionary.

“What is Drawbridge Creations? What sparked the creation of this ministry?”

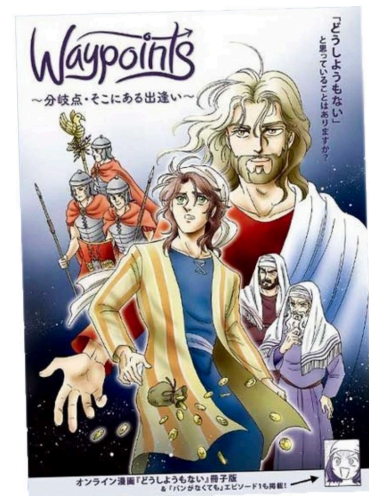
Drawbridge Creations is a ministry we officially launched in 2021. We use manga (comics) to reach out online, creating and sharing content to point people to the hope we have in Jesus.

We are currently collaborating with other artists and writers on a manga project called Waypoints, which is a series of short stories based on scenes from the Gospels told from various points of view.

I’ve always had an interest in the arts, particularly comics, so this vision grew from seeing where my own gifts and interests intersected with Japanese culture. Manga are a huge part of modern Japanese culture, and practically everyone is online, so it just seemed natural to use these tools to spread the Gospel and provide resources for the Church.

“What has been the most rewarding part of your experience with Drawbridge Creations so far?”

It’s been really rewarding to see what can be accomplished through collaboration. Not only can we do more together, but every artist, writer, and translator brings something different to the project. All of the artists we work with are Christians, and it’s been great to be able to encourage them in their artistic and spiritual journeys.



“What is something you have learned through your years of ministry experience that you would like to share with our students?”

Be open to the unexpected. You may be studying to prepare for a certain ministry or career, but God could have plans for you that you would never predict. That was certainly the case for me. I studied youth ministry and expected to stay in North America. But God opened the door for me to go overseas and gave me a heart for missions in Japan. Cross-cultural ministry is challenging, but following God’s leading has brought so many blessings I wouldn’t have experienced if I’d stuck to my own ideas about where my life was going. 🌸

A Mission-Fit Partnership

Crandall University's Master of Management Degree to be Hosted on the Kingswood University Campus



“President Lennox, you recently announced that Kingswood would begin hosting a Crandall University program on campus. Tell us more.”

For the past several years, Crandall University, a nearby Christ-centered liberal arts university, has been offering a Master of Management, mostly to international students and new Canadians. They take one year of coursework, with their second year split between online courses and an internship.

In conversation with Crandall, we learned that this program has been a great blessing to these students, to other Crandall students, and to the university. It has also been a boon to the Moncton area, where these students live and work.

We also discovered that Crandall's program has reached capacity and now has a waiting list. They generously invited us to consider hosting their degree on our campus. These won't be Kingswood students. They'll be Crandall students earning a Crandall degree, but they'll be living on Kingswood's campus and learning in our classrooms.

“What will this mean for Kingswood University?”

Beginning in May of 2024, up to 40 students will enroll in Crandall's Master of Management offered at Kingswood University. Many of these students will live on our campus and eat in the Greg Mann Dining Commons, while some may prefer to find their own lodging. A second group of up to 40 students will join them in September, 2024.

We're told that about half of these students will be Christians, having been recruited from predominantly Christian parts of Africa and India. All students will be required to abide by Kingswood's lifestyle expectations.

Although this was not entirely a financial decision, the revenue generated from these students through room, board, and tuition will help secure Kingswood's future.


“How does this fit with Kingswood's mission?”

Our mission calls for us to strengthen the church by developing Christ-like servant leaders. For many years we specialized in accomplishing this mission by preparing full-time ministers. We now also strengthen the church by preparing those who will minister in the marketplace. This is evidenced by the addition of our undergraduate Marketplace Ministry, Christian Counselling, and Christian School Education majors as well as, beginning next fall, our B.A. in Business Management and M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counselling. God has called Kingswood University to prepare people to serve Him both as a vocation and through their vocation, both in the church and as the church.

For these Crandall students who are already Christians, this program will strengthen their ability to lead in their churches and represent Christ in the marketplace. Those who are not Christians will learn about management from an unapologetically Christian worldview. We're excited for this new way to carry out Kingswood's mission.

“How will this likely impact the culture on Kingswood's campus?”

Without a doubt, campus will look and feel a little different from how it has in the past. Just adding 80 more people will change some things.

One of the benefits of this program that I'm most excited about is having Kingswood students exposed to students from other cultures during their time on campus. Before they would have had to go on a cross-cultural trip or wait until after graduation for such exposure. Now, they'll be learning how to relate to people from other cultures from day one. With the training they'll receive, Kingswood students will graduate well prepared to engage the world with their faith. The Kingdom impact will be incredible. 



Crandall
University

Dr. Merrill Greene

New Director of Intercultural Studies at Kingswood University and Missionary with Northern Canada Evangelical Mission

“Talk about your background and the ministry role you currently hold with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission.”

I grew up in Argyle, Nova Scotia, and got a B.A. in Religious Studies from Crandall University. After graduating, I went on to pursue a Ph.D. in Religious Studies, planning to have a career in the world of academia. God redirected me to missions through a vision calling me to work with First Nations people. Five minutes after the vision, I got a phone call from someone inviting me to work with First Nations people in New Brunswick, and I accepted that opportunity.

I have since combined missions and academia in my work, doing about 50% academia and 50% ministry, which is the sweet spot for me. I live in Fredericton and am a part-time adjunct at Crandall University where I teach Biblical languages. I have also been a missionary to First Nations people with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission since 2019. I am involved in church planting and Bible studies on the First Nations reserves.

“Why did you say yes to the opportunity to be the Director of Intercultural Studies at Kingswood?”

I think that people often think of missions as something across the sea, but I want to help people gain awareness of the mission field that is here as well. A lot of people have not been exposed to more localized ministries such as ministry to First Nations. The harvest is ripe and workers are needed, and this position is an opportunity to put my resources towards equipping people to be sent out.



“How would you say your continued role with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission will affect your role at Kingswood?”

As a very hands-on person, I think it is important for people to realize the importance of knowing how philosophical questions and theological ideas work out practically in the field. It is important to balance learning about the Bible and about different cultures with actually experiencing those cultures. Having the exposure from doing missions right now will allow me to slowly introduce students to the field of missions.

“What is your hope for the Intercultural Studies program?”

My hope is that this program won't produce missiologists, but will produce missionaries. I want the students coming out of the Intercultural Studies program to be able to answer difficult questions about what Christianity can look like in the context of different cultures and worldviews without compromising on core beliefs. I also want them to learn about ways they need to be adaptable in order to serve effectively. 🔥

Luke Maiorino

Enrolment Counsellor



Kingswood graduate Luke Maiorino joined our enrolment team at the end of August and has been busy visiting youth groups and schools to represent Kingswood ever since. During his travels for enrolment, Luke has been able to reconnect with many churches he developed a relationship with this summer

on The Wesleyan Church's National Prayer Tour, an initiative started to unite the Canadian Wesleyan Church in prayer.

This prayer tour started in St. John's, Newfoundland, just one day after Luke's graduation from Kingswood's Evangelism &

Compassion Ministry program on April 29th. From there, Luke and current Kingswood student Tom Mason travelled across Canada for the coast-to-coast prayer tour, leading prayer events at over seventy churches. A highlight of the trip for Luke was hearing testimonies of God's transforming work in the lives of many people he met along the way.

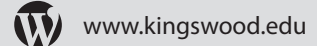
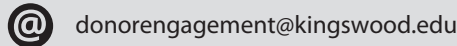
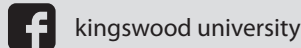
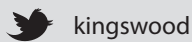
Luke officially began his new position as a Kingswood enrolment counsellor a couple short weeks after returning from his summer-long prayer tour, and his contagious enthusiasm and optimism have made him a welcome addition to the team ever since. Luke is enjoying his new role and looking forward to seeing God's work in the lives of Kingswood students as well as in the lives of youth he interacts with in his travels for enrolment! 🔥



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Newsletter



Kingswood Vision Tours

September 19 - 27, 2024

\$ 2,495 per person

Based on double occupancy (CAD)

Early Bird Discount:

Register by February 23, 2024

to **save \$100 per person**

ALL inclusive 8 day (9 night) tour with shuttle provided

For more information or to register:



www.kingswoodtours.com

Debbie Benson, Tour Coordinator

506-432-4411 | 888-432-4444

Explore

Québec City & Gaspé Peninsula

