JOURNEY

The Magazine of Summit Christian College, Gering, NE Spring 2019

Leaders
SCC Student Leadership Council steps up to new challenges

Alumni Spotlight
Arnold helps send workers to Mexico mission sites

Ministry and Business
Bridges follows his passions to mesh the best of both

Knowing the "why"

David K. Parrish
SCC President

The "what" of Summit Christian College is identified within its mission statement, which simply declares that it is "…an institution of higher learning that educates leaders for Christian service." That is what we do, and it is a great what!

For those who are interested in knowing where to go to gain this important kind of higher education, the "what" of Summit Christian College is a good thing to know. But it doesn't help to explain the compelling reason why our college is so special. It does not explain why our faculty and staff are so dedicated to its ministry, or why so many of its supporters stand so firmly behind it, or why its student chose to attend here.

It is the "why" of Summit Christian College that explains the college's importance, distinctiveness, longevity, durability, and astonishing resiliency.

The "why" of Summit Christian College is well articulated within the college's Vision Statement:

"SCC exists to support the churches' efforts to create an ongoing, ever increasing stream of well-prepared, well-educated Christian leaders who are ready and able to pursue the high call of Christian service wherever our Lord may lead."

The words "ready" and "able" at the heart of this Vision Statement provide the college with ample direction to help us make wise decisions regarding just about everything we do. Our goal is to provide our students with the opportunity to prepare well for Christian service, and to do so in a way that gives them confidence. Those who come to study here will benefit from our college's strong commitment toward holding the Word of God as authoritative and reliable, taking precedence over all human traditions and philosophies in all matters relating to God and our walk with Him. Here, the serious student is rewarded with an amazing opportunity to learn and truly grow in the knowledge of Christ.

For our students to be able to enter into Christian service they need both confidence and freedom. What they learn here and the opportunities they will have here to put what they learn to practice builds confidence. To be able to leave here unencumbered by the heavy burden of student loan debt provides for them the great advantage of being able to enter into Kingdom work free to serve wherever our Lord may lead them.

This is the reason "why" Summit Christian College exists.

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SUMMIT CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Summit Christian College is served by a group of men and women committed to seeing the mission, core values and institutional goals of the college carried out. Our Trustees include: Angie Arnold - Secretary, Larry Berlin - Vice Chair, Dr. Roger Curry, Rick Derr - Treasurer, Andy Gudahl, Lyle Hinebauch, Dr. Jeff Holloway - Chair, Brad Korell, Chuck Schmidt, Jonathan Seng, David Troutman, Lola Weinreis, and Jim Wetzel.

This group of dedicated volunteers give of their time, talents and resources to support our mission of educating leaders for Christian service. Following is a brief introduction of three of our 13-member Board of Trustees.

Andy Gudahl is interim minister in Cheyenne Wells Christian Church in Cheyenne Wells, Colo. He has been in vocational ministry in Wyoming, Nebraska and Colorado since being ordained December 1, 1963. He and his wife, Zola, have two children, six granddaughters, and four great-grandchildren. He is a graduate of Wheatland High School and has a bachelor's degree from Platte Valley Bible College in Scottsbluff with additional hours in Pastoral Psychology from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colo.

Lyle Hinebauch
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Lyle Hinebauch is the preaching minister at Central Church of Christ in Gering. He and his wife, Caryn, have two children. Before moving to Gering, the Hinebauch's were in ministry in Great Falls, Montana. Lyle is an alumni of Summit Christian College, graduating in 1995.

Dr. Jeff Holloway is a physician at Regional West Medical Center and surgeon with Western Surgical Group, PC in Scottsbluff. He is a graduate of Duke Univeristy with a B.A in Religion and B.S. in Zoology; Emmanuel School of Religion with a M.A. in Religion; and The George Washington University School of Medicine with a Doctor of Medicine with Distinction. He and his wife, Kimberly, have five children.

Dr. Jeff Holloway
SCC Trustee

Additional members of our Board of Trustees will be featured in upcoming issues of Journey Magazine. A complete list of our Trustees is posted on our website, summitcc.net/trustees.

Fall 2018 Dean's List and Honor Roll

Thirteen students were recognized for their academic excellence during the Fall 2018 semester. We would like to congratulate the following students for being named to the respective lists. Academic Scholarships are awarded to those on the Dean's List and Honor Roll. These scholarships are made available through generous donations from our alumni, churches, and other benefactors.

Dean's List
(4.00-3.75 GPA)
Tristan Bridges
Sandra Lockard
Chukwuka Morah
Luke Muller
John Mulholland III
Kourtney Ogle
Morgen Schmidt

Honor Roll
(3.74-3.50 GPA)
Bergan Morris

Part-Time Honor Roll
(4.00-3.50 GPA)
Tate Bridges
Michael Brown
Hunter Rezanina
Justin Santos
Warren Steele

SCC Student Leadership Council makes big strides

By Kay Grote
Publications Specialist

A NEW GEN OF LEADERS

SCC Student Leadership Council members present for a recent meeting are (from left) Sandra Lockard, McKenna Bridges, Luke Muller, Tristan Bridges, (back on screen) Hunter Rezanina and Bergan Morris. Seth Leathermon was absent.

With new ambition, the Student Leadership Council at Summit Christian College is off and running, pursuing its purpose of enhancing student life at SCC.

Early in the Fall 2018 semester student leaders were elected by their peers. They include Tristan Bridges, president; Seth Leathermon, vice-president; McKenna Bridges, secretary; Luke Muller, treasurer; Bergan Morris, Sophomore class representative; Sandra Lockard, Freshman class representative; and Hunter Rezanina, Bridge student representative. These young leaders have set their goals to expand the college's ministry outreach and provide opportunities for students to increase their knowledge and experiences.

One way they plan to do this is by organizing a trip during the Spring 2019 semester to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in Kentucky. These venues offer visitors the experience of a life-sized replica of Noah's Ark and thoughtfully curated museum displays telling the story of creation and mankind based on the apologetic ministry of Answers in Genesis.

The students have initiated fundraising efforts to offset the expenses of the trip, as well as purchase equipment and invest in campus related activities.

During the fall semester the group purchased new ping-pong paddles and requested to replace the college's much-loved ping pong table (a request answered by several generous donors through the SCC's annual Christmas Wish List). They purchased an iPad to be used by the leadership council for photo and video production and will soon be posting weekly SCC Chapel services live on Summit Christian College's Facebook page.

Council secretary McKenna Bridges promotes SCC student life on Instagram at *summitchristiancollege.* Students shared their experiences through pictures and posts while attending the International Conference on Missions in Cincinnati, Ohio, and invited youth groups to share their photos while attending SCC's annual Fall Fling student event in November.

The council has also made student relations a priority, hosting two school-wide Spirit Weeks, a chili feed, pumpkin carving, a fall hayride and bonfire, a Christmas party, and social night at Cappuccino and Company.

"We want to help build the feeling of family here at SCC," Tristan Bridges said. "We want students to build lasting friendships and good memories while they are here at Summit."

Tapping the students' talents has led to an expression of their leadership abilities. Bridges said he has long felt like he had natural leadership abilities and especially likes to help others and improve his surroundings. Muller has brought his administration talents to the table, also serving as SCC's Admissions Assistant and Men's Resident Assistant.

Morris and Lockard are both bringing several years of high school leadership experience to campus. Morris served as a class and student council representative and FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) state officer; Lockard served as president of her high school class and student council, was an FFA (Future Farmers of America) district officer and team sports captain.

Rezanina, who participates in SCC Bridge classes and the council meetings via teleconferencing while living in Casper, Wyo., wants to use her talents to represent distance learning students to ensure that they, too, are included in SCC student life through the live Chapel services.

FALL FLING '18

2 Tim 2:15

Student leaders stepped up to make the 2018 Fall Fling youth event one of the best in recent years. The two-day event, hosted by Summit Christian College each November, helps high school students encounter God, deepen Christian relationships with their peers and pastors, and recruit students to the college.

Doubled from last year, a total of 118 high school students and adult sponsors participated in this year's event. SCC Director of Recruitment Emilie Yates said more intentional focus on theme, promotion, and recruitment helped improve the event.

"When Luke (Muller, Admissions Assistant) and I were brainstorming ideas, we wanted to capture what SCC does in biblical study and ministry. The "Approved" theme and 2 Timothy 2:15 really captured that," Yates said.

A total of 14 churches participated this year including a few newcomers from Colorado and Wyoming. The band, Collective Collective, also provided energetic and inspirational worship music for the youth.

The keynote speaker, Clifton Christian Church youth pastor and SCC alumnus, Isaac Stephanus challenged students through 2 Timothy 2:15 to focus their lives and decisions around God's Word and to commit to making disciples. By doing this, Stephanus inspired students to become approved by God as faithful workmen.

"He was amazing. After hearing him, I want to go into children's ministry," said one youth.

Workshop lessons were led by SCC faculty and students. Professor Aaron Prohs walked through Hebrews 11 and showed how to be approved by faith. Professor Dave Robinson shared principles to correctly interpret Scripture to accurately handle the Word of Truth. SCC student Bergan Morris taught out of Ephesians 6 and encouraged students to use the armor of the approved. SCC student Seth Leathermon organized a Spiritual Formation Walk around campus. As groups moved from station to station, they participated in activities to help them grow spiritually, such as meditation and prayer, encouragement, discussion, and Scripture reading.

There was also plenty of fun. SCC student Bergan Morris led group games and encouraged students in friendly competition. SCC student Tristan Bridges said some changes were made for this year's event that helped draw a larger attendance and generate a lot of fun and fellowship.

"We were able to have Cappuccino and Company open a coffee bar on-site during Saturday morning. This turned out to be a great success because two-thirds of all who were at Fall Fling purchased some type of drink from this stand," Bridges said. "We presented a Summit lip sync video that drew a great amount of laughter. We also held a photo scavenger hunt in which the participants were to create scenes that were given to them on a list. For example, the kids made a human pyramid and snapped a photo of it. The total photos were judged, and the group with the best photos won."

Bridges said they focused on food and fellowship, too.

"This year we decided to spice things up, and offer more homey meals like chili with cinnamon rolls and sliders with a brownie. In addition to this, students had the opportunity to bring canned food to be used for a food drive."

Yates said she and the planning team are already generating ideas for Fall Fling 2019, scheduled for Nov. 8-10.

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Mountainview Church (Westminster, CO)
Northglenn Christian Church (Northglenn, CO)
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The Foundry Christian Church (Rapid City, SD)
United Christian Church (Oakley, KS)
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With heartfelt gratitude we say THANK YOU. Through your generosity our college has received the following 2018 Christmas Wish List items:

- All library books requested
- Chair for the library
- Podium for the classroom
- Ping-pong table for the students' commons
- Display racks for the Recruitment Department
- Computer for the Academic Dean
- Computer for the Director of Operations
- Approximately $4,600 towards the replacement of the building alarm system

Donations are accepted at any time and can be made online at **www.summitcc.net/give** or mailed or dropped off at the college: **2025 21st Street, Gering, NE 69341 or call (308) 632-6933**

The mission of Missions

Grant's experiences moved her from aimless fun to purposeful, meaningful mission adventures

By Andi Grant
SCC Professor/Registrar

In the fall of 1994 I was a college freshmen, and some of my classmates persuaded me to go on the college mission trip to Mexico. Since my 18-year-old self was all about having fun I signed up. I fully admit that my reasoning for going was not very holy or deep. But somewhere between the friends trying to convince me I was eating a dog-meat taco (I wasn't) and the painting project we did, I began to realize something bigger was at work. I wasn't sure what it was, because I was 18 years old and not a deep thinker, but it was enough for me to sign up the following year for the Mexico mission trip. And somewhere between the best torta I have ever eaten, helping lead a revival, passing out Bibles, and screaming at a flying cockroach, God worked on me.

These trips and other experiences and learning at the time changed my direction from aimless to a future focused on missions. I began to look at the world as more than a playground, but as a place full of lost people who needed to hear about God. I saw that Matthew 28:19-20 applied to me, and not just those who were "holier" or deep thinkers. I was to go.

So, I went on a college internship to a foreign country, learning how to live my faith in a visible way. After graduation, I returned to Asia and taught English as a second language, leading Bible studies to the many students we met, most who had never heard of Jesus. I developed a passion for teaching that enabled me, when I returned to the states, to become a children's minister and eventually end up on staff at Summit Christian College.

I started at SCC in February 2005. One of my first jobs was to host the high-school Fisherman's Crew Mission Trip and to recruit students for future trips. Here I learned I was a participant in kingdom work, not just an audience member.

I have had the opportunity to watch those students grow up and marvel at how God is working in their lives. Many went on to Bible college, some are ministers or youth pastors, involved in their churches, pastor's wives, raising their children in the Lord, or went on to become missionaries.

A short-term mission trip can change your world view. By seeing another culture, through worshiping with others in another language, by serving those who have nothing, God can work on your heart and mind. God can show you He has a plan for you as a participant in the Great Commission.

I invite all SCC students and high school juniors or seniors to participate in our Mexico mission trip March 8-16, 2019.

If you are interested in the trip or have a student in your church that would consider attending, contact Andi Grant at (308) 632-6933 for more information.

Andi Grant (seated in back row, far right) is pictured with fellow college students and sponsors in this 1996 Mexico trip photo. Andi and husband Ted (top photo) have since returned to Mexico many times leading groups of high school and college students.

"Who forgot to love his neighbor?"

The following is a devotion prepared and presented by SCC student Chuks Morah from Nigeria entitled "Who Forgot to Love His Neighbor?"

Luke 10:25-37; According to Billy Graham, Jesus taught that your neighbors are not restricted to only members of your ethnic group. It includes everyone that lives on Earth, and we are to love and pray for them.

Who forgot to love his neighbor?

"Christianity is a shameful religion, I cannot be part of a religion that has killed so many people," a lady in California who boldly invited me to atheism once told me.

It is quite evident that somebody forgot to love his neighbor. But who forgot to love his neighbor?

Within the last one thousand years and down to the last century, in the name of Christianity so many atrocities like genocides, massacres, and lynching have been committed.

John 13:34-35. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Love was supposed to be the emblem, logo, and the brand symbol of Christianity. But it is obvious that so many forgot to love their neighbors.

Today in America, Islam is the fastest growing religion. It has been speculated that by the turn of the next century Islam will be the largest religion in the world by the number of adherents. Although Muslims only make up 0.8% of the population in the United States, but they are quite effective in recruiting Christians from minority groups, because somebody forgot to love his neighbor.

In 1946, Malcom Little (born in 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska) was easily convinced to convert to Islam by Elijah Muhammed who used the ugly present and past of America as a recruitment tool to remind them of the cruelty perpetrated by Christians. Malcom, a Christian, came out of prison a Muslim and changed his last name to X because he learned that Little was his Christian slave masters' name. X in algebra means "unknown," "variable," or even an "unknown variable." Malcom X, who lived for 20 years as a Christian, and Elijah Muhammad, the son of Baptist preacher, together successfully set in motion the Nation of Islam to become the largest Muslim institution in the US today. Who forgot to love his neighbor?

Malcom X would eventually become Cassius Clay's mentor in 1961. Cassius Clay, another Christian for 22 years, converted to Islam on the grounds that he could not find love in Christianity, but racism and hate. Cassius Clay will also eventually change his name to Mohammed Ali. Who forgot to love his neighbor?

Mahatma Gandhi's life and works are studied in universities all over the world. He once famously said, "If it weren't for Christians, I would be a Christian." According to Lama Chuck from the Rime Buddhist center, a young Gandhi once picked up an interest in Christianity. One Sunday morning he decided to visit a Church in Calcutta, India. He was stopped at the entrance by the ushers and he was told "high caste Indians and whites only." Gandhi left never to consider Christianity as the path to salvation but admired the character and teachings of Jesus until the end of his life. Who forgot to love his neighbor?

Funny how even Jesus would have been rejected by those same ushers if he came with his original Middle Eastern face. As Billy Graham famously said, "Jesus was not a white man, neither was he a black man, he probably had a brown skin. Christianity is not a white man's religion, Christ belongs to the whole world and his gospel is for everyone." (Billy Graham Crusade, SA 1973).

A pastor from Nigeria told me a story of how he was nearly killed by local Hindus after he preached at a rural church in India as a guest minister. What if Mahatma Gandhi, the man who transformed India, had become a Christian? Would India have more than 960 million Hindus today? Would pastors be killed in India today? Would churches be burnt down during riots in India? We may never know the answer to these questions.

Now! I'm speaking to the younger people, we are of a different generation; we are the generation that will continue to make the difference that Jesus commanded his disciples to make with love.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Emily Arnold
Class of 2014

Q: What year did you graduate from SCC and with what degree?
I graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Bible with an emphasis in missions.

Q: Who are your "peeps" now (spouse, children, pets, family)?
I'm an aunt of (super adorable) nieces and nephews who I'm shamelessly obsessed with.

Q: What is your current life/career position?
I'm a Trip Coordinator with Amor Ministries in San Diego, California. I coordinate short-term trips with groups, organizations, and churches who come to Mexico to build a home for a family in need. My home church has been going on trips with Amor for over 20 years and I've been on several of those trips. I was drawn to Amor for the way that they do short-term missions and in doing it well.

Q: What are some of the reasons you chose Summit Christian College for your higher education?
I had always known of SCC through my home church and my mother, who was and still is a board member. I initially wanted to be at Summit for one year for the Bible Certificate but as time went on, I felt God calling me to stay and to pursue missions. I knew that if I wanted to work in missions, I didn't want student debt and SCC allowed me to graduate debt free.

Q: What is a memorable experience or achievement you had while you were a student at SCC?
I can still vividly remember several discussions/lectures in my classes that were "ah-ha" moments for me in my faith and relationship with God. Those moments pieced together throughout my time at SCC are ultimately what I hold close to my heart.

Q: How did SCC prepare you for what you do now?
SCC allowed me to ask questions, seek, and grow in my faith in a deeper way. It gave me a Biblical foundation and the ability to look to the Bible for truth.

Q: What advice do you have for new and current SCC students?
Take advantage of this time in your life to grow. It's tempting to not take it seriously and that's a huge mistake. Take the time to serve; get plugged into a local church and really commit to it. Try not to focus too much on what's next, it'll distract you from what's in front of you. Surrender and allow God to work on your heart through your studies--it's not about how much you can rattle off (though you may need that to pass some tests). It's more about how you allow God to shape your heart and in turn, serve others.

Q: What are your prayers for SCC? Spiritual growth for students and faculty. Numerical growth in the number of students who choose to attend SCC. An increase in the number of churches and individuals that financially support SCC.

Learn more about Amor Ministries at Armor.org or facebook.com/amorministries/

Meshing ministry and business

By Kay Grote Publications Specialist

SCC senior Tristan Bridges and wife, McKenna, enjoy ice cream after a full day of mission work in Mexico last March. The two will be heading up the college's annual mission trip to Mexico this spring.

While in high school, Tristan Bridges' heart was tuned into the Bible, but his mind was turned onto business. The knowledge and notion of God's Word was familiar to him, but an entrepreneurial energy excited him. Upon graduation, he found himself conflicted about which path to follow.

"Ever since I was young, I said I would either be in ministry or own my own business," said Bridges. "Now I'd like to do both."

Bridges has an aptitude for both. His parents, Wayne and Jodie Bridges, and his uncles run their own businesses, while his grandfather, Allan Bridges, also a businessman, dedicated his life's work to ministry. His high school counselors tried to guide him toward college-prep coursework, but Bridges opted for a different route.

"They wanted me to take college algebra, but I didn't feel like I needed that. So I took accounting and business math, got hooked in the money making realm, and went more into the business route."

He decided the end of his senior year to enroll in Western Nebraska Community College. But a summer church camp experience ignited his heart and changed his mind.

"My senior year I went to Camp NebWyoDak, and God put on my heart, and I got other influences, to pursue ministry. So I decided two weeks before to change from WNCC and enrolled in Summit."

Industrious by nature, Bridges quickly found his place on campus was hands-on ministry. He initiated, with the help of his family and other supporters, a fundraising campaign to update the men's and women's dorms. He also developed a heart for mission work, traveling to Colombia in 2017, Mexico three times, and attending the International Conference on Missions three times.

"It's amazing the number of ways God uses to reach the lost around the world," he said.

"I know there is a need for Christian business owners who keep things true to the Word and not just follow the patterns of the business world."

Through SCC's Mentored Ministry program, Bridges discovered a love for teaching and preaching, which led him to a summer 2018 internship at Paradise Valley Christian Church in Casper, Wyo. with senior pastor Larry Berlin and youth pastor Tommy Clay. This internship gave Bridges the opportunity to serve in an associate ministry role where he presented sermons, wrote a 21-day devotional and prayer guide, and assisted with the church's adult disciple group. He also taught lessons, led camp fire devotions, and coordinated youth games at Western Wyoming Christian Youth Camp in Lander, Wyo.

"The PVCC experience really helped me to further know where I could fit in the church and what God has gifted me to do," Bridges said.

While pursuing ministry, Bridges has, however, maintained his entrepreneurial ambitions. He and his wife, McKenna recently started a coffee roasting business, T&M Coffee, and McKenna is getting business experience working at a local floral shop. He believes coffee, flowers and ministry could be a good combination.

"I still have a passion to own my own business, and McKenna seems to share that passion," Bridges said. "I know there is a need for Christian business owners who keep things true to the Word and not just follow the patterns of the business world."

Through all options, Bridges is remaining faithful.

"I'm praying and seeing what doors open," he said. "I'm being patient and feeding my passions of ministry and business."

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LEARN through our spring BRIDGE Seminars

BRIDGE Seminars, offered free of charge and conducted online via Zoom videoconferencing, are ideal for those seeking short trainings on timely topics for personal or professional development in ministry and leadership. Go to **summitcc.net/seminars** for full information.

VISIT our campus

Contact Recruitment Director Emilie Yates at **eyates@summitcc.net** or (308) 632-6933 to schedule a campus visit.

DONATE online year-round

You can make year-end donations, recurring donations or one-time donations online at any time. Go to **www.summitcc.net/give.**

PLEASE PRAY:

- For our spring and summer mission trips, for our student missionaries and their hosts.
- For renewed enthusiasm for our students and faculty during the Spring semester.
- For our summer Camp Teams and all the youth they will impact for Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS - 2019

MARCH 8-16
Mexico Missions Trip

APRIL 19
Easter Break

MAY 3
Awards Banquet

MAY 10
Commencement

MAY 11
Summit to Summit Run/Walk

JUNE 17
SCC Golf Tournament