

Prayer Partnership with the Seminary in Canada

Seminary can be an extremely challenging time for students. Often, the student balances full-time studies with family, with church ministry, and with additional work to meet financial obligations. Further, unlike most other types of studies, seminary training not only presents an academic challenge, but a spiritual one as well. During their years at seminary, many students experience the firm shaping of the Master Potter's hand, crucial to the formation of a Christian minister. According to Don McNaughton, Director of Student Formation at the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary & College in Cochrane, Alberta, Canada, "It is absolutely critical that each of our graduates is spiritually prepared for the rigors of ministry."

As part of the partnership between the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the CSBS&C, churches are being asked to "adopt" a student, especially by praying. The goal of this project is that every student at the seminary would have a church in Tennessee upholding him or her in prayer to the Father on a consistent basis.

Because of the demands on these students, most of whom will pastor or plant churches in Canada, or serve as missionaries across the globe, there is a great need for prayer support. A group of fellow believers or an entire church can "hold the rope" and encourage by interceding on behalf of a seminary student.

Don Pierson, the Tennessee Baptist Convention Prayer Strategies Specialist, recently taught the class "Prayer that Availeth Much" at the CSBS&C as a visiting professor. His class was based on James 5:16 which says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." When we ask God in faith, He will provide in every way.

Barry Nelson, Director of Development at CSBS&C states, "At the seminary, and in our churches in Canada, we are stretched in every way – we need laborers for the harvest and we need financial resources, but most of all we need prayer. We are completely dependant on the Lord, and that's a good place to be!"

Would you consider being part of this prayer support network for the Canadian seminary students? If so, please answer the questions at the bottom and return to my office as soon as possible. This will assist us in connecting students with churches. We hope to begin with the January term.

For more information on how your church can partner with the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary, contact Kim Margrave, Volunteer Missions, Tennessee Baptist Convention – kmargrave@TNBaptist.org or (615) 371-2021. To find out more about the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary & College, visit the website at www.csbs.ca or contact Barry Nelson at partnership@csbs.ca.

Yes, I would like to be a part of this prayer support network for the Canadian Seminary students.

1. Church name_____

2. Church website_____

3. Contact name_____

4. Phone_____

5. Email_____

6. Address_____

7. Would you like

- a. a single student or married or married with children
- b. Canadian student or other
- c. Baptist or non-Baptist

Please return to:

Tennessee Baptist Convention

Attn: Kim Margrave

P.O. Box 728

Brentwood, TN 37027