



EXPOSITION

Monthly e-Bulletin from Virginia Beach Theological Seminary



From My Window

In Phil. 2:25, Paul said that Epaphroditus was his “brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier.” As I reflect on the 23 years the Lord has allowed VBTS to sharpen servants for global ministry, I am grateful for my own Epaphroditus — Dr. Michael Windsor. When VBTS began in 1995, Dr. Mike resigned his pastorate in Wisconsin to graciously spend a year of his time and finances to get the M.L.I.S. degree so that VBTS would have a qualified Director of Library Services. He has been a tireless worker, teaching a full load in the classroom as well as building our library to almost 50k volumes. Thank you, Dr. Mike and your sweet wife Virginia — you both are a gift from God to the entire VBTS family.



On May 6, 2018 nine prepared servants of Christ graduated from VBTS. Congratulations to the outstanding Class of 2018!

(Back, left to right)

Michael Saunders – Senior pastor in Lexington, VA

Aaron Armstrong – Christian school teacher & Youth Pastor in PA

Bret Perkuchin – US Army Reserves Chaplain

Ryan Balding – Pursuing pastoral ministry

(Front, left to right)

Pat Nickerson – Bible study leader in Chesapeake, VA

Ethan VanBruggen – Children’s Director in Norfolk, VA

Gloria Schrader – ACBC counselor & Admin. Assistant at VBTS

Eugene Harmon – Knoxville Rescue Mission minister in TN

Paul Fulks – Church planter and Police Chaplain in UT

These graduates have been a blessing to our VBTS family and have distinguished themselves as capable thinkers and careful handlers of God’s Word. As they shared their testimonies, our hearts overflowed with thanksgiving to the Lord for allowing VBTS to play a vital role in shaping their lives for a grace ministry. Will you join us in praying that God will protect these servants and prosper their ministries for his own glory?



New Milestones: Celebrating God's Goodness to VBTS

The Psalmist wrote, *Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting* (NASB, 107:1). Truly God has been good to VBTS. As we conclude our 23rd year of ministry, it is fitting that we should share with you some of the sweet kindnesses that our God bestowed upon us for his own glory and praise. These kindnesses are “milestones” for us; let me share three with you.

First, we are thankful for the faculty and staff God has gifted to us. It is truly a joy to minister with these men and women who are dedicated to the rigorous biblical training in the languages, theology, and practical aspects of ministry that we believe is necessary for the spiritual growth of the Body of Christ around the world. Part of this rigor is their own academic training. Therefore, it is a privilege to congratulate professor Thomas K. Dailey, and his wife Brenda, who received his Ph.D. in New Testament Studies this month at Baptist Bible Seminary, Clark Summit, PA. The VBTS family rejoices with you!



Second, we are happy to announce that on April 23rd VBTS was approved by the TRACS Accreditation Commission to change from a Category III institution, which grants Diplomas and Masters degrees, to a Category IV institution, which allows us to offer Doctorate degrees. VBTS is just a few months away from launching its long-awaited Doctorate of Ministry degree, and this approval clears a significant hurdle for this to take place. Please pray with us as we continue to prepare for this exciting new chapter in the history of VBTS.

Third, at our 19th Commencement Service on May 6th, we celebrated the 200th VBTS graduate – Paul Fulks, a church planter and police chaplain in Utah. It was a joy to “interrupt” our graduation exercise and allow Dr. Michael Windsor, our senior faculty member, to give a public prayer of thanksgiving to our God for this milestone of his grace. By God's grace and for his glory, we now have graduates ministering in just over half the States of America, and on national soils, such as, Argentina, England, Spain, China, Cameroon, Cambodia, and Indonesia.



By definition, a milestone is a stone placed along side the road to mark a specified distance.

However, it may be used metaphorically to mark important points of progress. Hence, these three milestones mark God's advancement of VBTS. We praise him for his *lovingkindness* to us, and we thank you for rejoicing with us; great things God has done!

