

# LETTER FROM THE DEAN

The RTI vision of debt-free, field-ready students doing ministry all over the world has become a reality. From the earliest days of dreaming about a ministry school offering fully-accredited Bachelor of Science degrees, we have graduated four cohorts and launched over 20 people into full or part-time ministry.

In a few weeks, our fifth cohort will be graduating. These seniors have served in significant ways this year including: Youth Ministry at Dallas Alliance Church, Children's Ministry at Fox Island Alliance Church in Washington, Worship ministry at New Hope Church in Salem and 1st Alliance Church in Billings, Montana, Internships with Salem Leadership Foundation, Sparrow Furniture, Alliance East Coast District, and two serving as senior residents in Irbid, Jordan.

My time as RTI Academic Dean is coming to a close, but the vision is alive and well. I look forward to returning as part of the adjunct faculty team in years to come, challenging students to look deeper into the scriptures, growing in their areas of gifting and calling, with reliance upon the empowering work of the Spirit flowing through their hearts and minds.



RTI is only possible because of the generosity of donors from the business community, and supporters from the Salem Alliance Church family. Thank you to all the mentors and life coaches who are coming alongside RTI students, helping them to be effective in the classroom and in the field (ministry practicums). And thank you, our faithful RTI faculty team, for continuing to invest in our amazing students term after term, as they prepare to advance God's kingdom in the nations and the neighborhoods.

In His service, **Steve Dangaran** 

# DONATIONS

The debt-free vision of RTI is accomplished in large part through the generosity of the Salem Alliance Church family. Thank you for your commitment to investing in students who will advance the kingdom of God in the nations and neighborhoods.

If you would like to be a part of this mission, consider financially supporting RTI below:



Scan the QR Code for easy online giving.

Visit our website for online giving and more information about RTI.

www.rtisalem.org

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# **DEVON ALLEN**

**HOMETOWN**: Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I have experienced the life changing love, grace, and goodness of God. All I want to do with my life is help give others the opportunity to know their Heavenly Father.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Hanging out with friends and making music.



# **KALEB GUGGER**

**HOMETOWN**: Orofino, ID **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: I received my call to ministry as I became more and more involved in the youth and worship ministry at my church back in Idaho. God has been faithful to bring me this far, and I am excited to see where He will continue to lead me.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Playing

music.



# DAVID MITCHELL

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: A few years
ago, I pursued missions and
ministry as a change in my
vocation. Since then, I have
been working in the community
while RTI is preparing me to be a
better minister of reconciliation in
everyday life.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Drinking coffee and going on walks.



# **ALY PAVLOVA**

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: When I first
started RTI, I was sure that I
wanted to stay in the
neighborhoods and serve
somewhere locally. But the more
I get to serve in the church, the
more I feel as though God is
calling me to the nations.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Exploring new cities, finding places for food and coffee, and seeing landmarks.



# **GABRIELA PLATT**

HOMETOWN: Vineland, NJ ANTICIPATED DEGREE: Global and Cultural Studies CALL TO MINISTRY: I feel like my call to ministry is to continue to work cross-culturally and be an advocate for those who are not in their home country.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Listening to music with friends.



# **CARLY HARTENSTEIN**

HOMETOWN: St. Paul, OR ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global & Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: To cultivate love, hope, and community in dark corners of the world. Advancing the Kingdom of God and destroying the works of the devil.
FAVORITE HOBBY: Being the favorite aunt to my niece and nephews.



# MACIE RUBLE

HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: To go to the
nations, to love and share Jesus
with victims and survivors of sex
trafficking.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Anything outdoors and being with people.





# MADDIE ASHCRAFT

HOMETOWN: Puyallup, WA
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: I'm excited
to obediently pursue God's
calling on my life to the nations.
I desire to work in unreached
places to share the Gospel with
Muslims. Looking towards a
Senior Residency abroad, I can't
wait to experience life on the
field and grow in my calling.
FAVORITE HOBBY: Finding new
hikes and new coffee shops.



# **EMILY BOATWRIGHT**

**HOMETOWN:** Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: The Lord has called me to pastor and lead families in the greater Salem area. I desire to mentor, equip, and empower followers of Jesus to share the Gospel with others and participate in the freedom of life transformed through Christ. FAVORITE HOBBY: Drinking

coffee and thrifting.



**KAILEY FRITTS** 

baking.

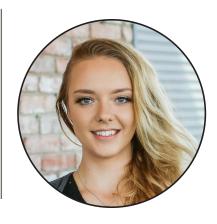
HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global & Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: God has
continued putting youth ministry
on my heart over the years.
While in Jordan, He kept
revealing to me that my call is an
ongoing act of obedience.
FAVORITE HOBBY: Reading and



**ERIN LANEY** 

HOMETOWN: Omaha, NE
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: The Father
has shown His faithfulness to me
time and time again. I have felt
Him guiding me toward
international missions.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Photography.



**HOPE LINDSTROM** 

HOMETOWN: Longmont, CO
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries
CALL TO MINISTRY: I know my
calling to be one of obedience.
Wherever He leads me, I will

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Riding horses.

follow.



**KATLYN MARTIN** 

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: God has
placed a call on my heart for
young people. I feel a pull
towards Europe, but I have open
hands to where God calls me.
My dream is to pioneer a new
ministry using art and written
communication wherever I am.
FAVORITE HOBBY: Writing and

watercolor painting.



AIMEE MCGRATH

HOMETOWN: Brockton, MA
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries

call to MINISTRY: I feel called to help kids or teens who have experienced trauma enter into the healing presence of Jesus and find hope for their lives. I want to share the message that God desires to be in close relationship with all. FAVORITE HOBBY: Hanging out with friends, being outdoors.



**MEGAN SEWARD** 

**HOMETOWN:** Lewiston, ID **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** In the fifth grade, God gave me a love and passion for sharing Christ with the youth around me. God turned this love into a call at the C&MA National Youth Conference in Kansas City in 2016.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Reading and

hiking.



# **JARED LUND**

**HOMETOWN:** Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God has revealed to me from personal experience that I can serve the youth in North Salem and provide a safe place of peace for those that have fallen

victim to the system. **FAVORITE HOBBY:** Biking.



# **EVAN MACKERELL**

**HOMETOWN**: Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God has had a strong call on my life to do ministry. Through the good and the bad in my life, God has been transforming me for His glory. **FAVORITE HOBBY:** Playing

basketball.



# HARRIS MARTIN

**HOMETOWN**: Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: Through RTI, God has been teaching me that ministry is so much more versatile than just in a church setting. I am excited to share the Lord wherever He takes me. FAVORITE HOBBY: Painting.



# **PATIENCE SINUR**

HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries
CALL TO MINISTRY: I am
discerning what calling means
for me in regards to vocational
ministry, and I have full
confidence that God will be
faithful to lead me in the
right direction.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Reading and

cooking.



# **PAIGE WALKER**

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR ANTICIPATED DEGREE: Christian Ministries CALL TO MINISTRY: I have

always been passionate about ministry and felt the call to serve God full-time when I was in

middle school.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Riding horses.





# **JULIAN WHITE**

HOMETOWN: Fruita, CO ANTICIPATED DEGREE: Global and Cultural Studies CALL TO MINISTRY: God has been calling me to pursue ministry overseas in a Christian

minority country. **FAVORITE HOBBY:** Chopping

wood.



# **JOSEPH ZYSK**

**HOMETOWN:** Genesee, ID **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I feel called to the neighborhoods and am currently working with youth in a

Russian church.

**FAVORITE HOBBY: Creative** 

writing.

# CONTINUED CLASS OF CLA



# ANDREW CHRISTENSEN

**HOMETOWN**: Tampa, FL **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God keeps revealing to me that my calling isn't a specific location, but a willingness to follow Him. I want to share with others about His love for us and how He sees His children.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Hiking and going to the beach.



# **JACOB SHUTE**

**HOMETOWN:** Northfield, MA **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**:

Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I feel called to learn more about God and to share that with others. There is opportunity for that everywhere in the world. Right now, God has me in RTI.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Computer programming.



# **JOSIAH DEDERA**

**HOMETOWN:** Jefferson, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God had called me to reach youth with the Gospel and encourage them to grow in their relationship with

God.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Riding dirt bikes, snowboarding, and surfing.



# KAITLYN DONALDSON

**HOMETOWN**: Keizer, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Global and Cultural Studies

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I feel called to the nations where there is a small chance to hear the Gospel. I want to empower those who are stuck in shame and help them see that God loves them and has created them perfectly.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Baking and

cooking new recipes.





# **JOSHUA SMITH**

HOMETOWN: Monmouth, OR ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God's consistent faithfulness and presence in my life drew out a deep desire to give my life for Him to use. My heart longs to be fully devoted and dependent on God, so that, by Holy Spirit, I can genuinely love and serve others.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Playing

music.



# **GREGORY WEST**

**HOMETOWN**: Salem, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE**: Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I feel called to share what wisdom God gives me with others, and to care for my brothers and sisters in Christ. I believe God will bring me to Portland at some point, though I am not sure what that will look like.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** D & D.



# **DANIEL ZIELKE**

**HOMETOWN:** Puyallup, WA **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: I feel that God is calling me to use my gifts and talents to encourage His people and boldly share the announcement of Jesus with those who need it.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Collecting

comic books.

# STONE CLASS OF CLASS



# KATHERINE CUMMINGS

**HOMETOWN:** Mission Vijeo, CA **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** 

Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** As it stands now, I hear God calling me into Chaplaincy. I feel drawn towards a life of helping the elderly, ill, disabled, and dying begin or grow in their relationship with Jesus.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Arts and

crafts.



# **EMILY DAVISON**

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global & Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: The Lord
has revealed to me that I am
called to bring healing and
freedom to those around me. My
spirit comes alive when I am able
to pray, advocate, and help the
oppressed.

**FAVORITE HOBBY: Planning** 

weddings.



# **JACOB OYER**

HOMETOWN: Rocksprings, TX ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global & Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: My heart hurts for those in the world struggling with mental illness with no access to resources. I believe God has given me a desire to train leaders and counselors overseas to treat those with mental illness.

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Hiking.



# **ALONDRA RAYA**

**HOMETOWN:** Independence, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** 

Christian Ministries

**CALL TO MINISTRY:** I have always had a passion for mental health and wellness. The Lord revealed I can serve Him through that.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Taking my cat

for long walks.



# **MILA SKRIVAN**

HOMETOWN: Omaha, NE
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: The Lord
has called me to show others the
love of Christ, and advocate for
those that don't have a voice.
FAVORITE HOBBY: Fashion.



# JEREMIAH DAVISON

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global & Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: My
relationship with God has been
centered around worship. I
believe he is calling me to a
ministry in worship and with youth.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Spikeball.

It's where I feel alive.

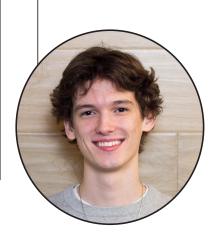


# **BENJAMIN DITTMAN**

**HOMETOWN:** Albany, OR **ANTICIPATED DEGREE:** Christian Ministries

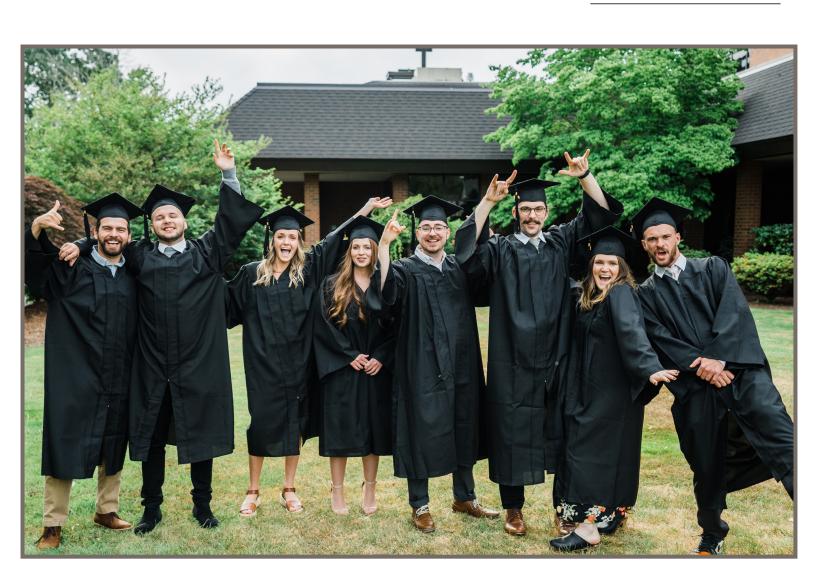
**CALL TO MINISTRY:** God has called me to mentor and pour into the youth. I want to help them to realize who God is and what their identity is in Christ. **FAVORITE HOBBY:** Outdoor

activities.



# **NATE FRIESEN**

HOMETOWN: Redding, CA
ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies
CALL TO MINISTRY: To clearly
explain the Good News to those
who have not yet heard it,
FAVORITE HOBBY: Drawing.



# LETTERS FROM

# ALUMNI

# **BRANDON MILLER**

Class of 2017, Currently serving at Salem Alliance Church

I watched friends graduate with ministry degrees from other Christian colleges and witnessed the limitations that debt placed on their ability to serve and pursue their calling. I knew I would need to be wise in how I approached my Christian education. I chose RTI not only for its affordability, but also for its high academic standard and thorough equipping for a wide range of ministry.

My theological courses prepared me to confidently pursue licensing and ordination through the C&MA and more importantly, gave me a firm foundation for my beliefs. Through



practicums, I explored my giftings and strengths as a Christian leader, learned pertinent and transferable skills, and gained understanding of how the gospel message can be presented in a number of different contexts. *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* and *Peacemaking* courses prepared me to be a leader who can identify personal areas of spiritual growth and handle conflict in a God-honoring way.

RTI's cohort model provided me with a small group of emerging leaders like myself who acted as spiritual accountability, community, and a safe place to process my calling and convictions alongside. I am now serving as a Pastor of Student Ministries at Salem Alliance Church. To this day, I am still in contact with many members from my cohort who are serving all over the world. We continue to be a resource and sounding board for one another's current ministries.

For its high level of academic excellence, personalized care for students from faculty and pastoral staff, and commitment to launching ministers into the world who are "debt-free and field-ready," I would strongly recommend RTI to anyone pursuing spiritual leadership.

# **COURTNEY ANDERSON**

Class of 2019, Currently serving at Eastpark Church

When heading into college, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in ministry. I also knew I needed a great education to prepare me, but the cost of Christian universities was a major roadblock. When I heard about Reach Training Institute's mission of students graduating debt-free and field-ready, it was clear God was calling me to RTI.

The cohort classroom environment cultivated great discussions, brought in new perspectives, and helped me learn how to work better on a team. My cohort became family. We studied, served, and often worked together. RTI provided a village of



support through the students, teachers, mentors, and supervisors. These people taught and challenged me to become a strong spiritual leader.

In the *Life and Ministry of Jesus* class, I learned about stories of Jesus' life on Earth from the perspective of the culture he was in, which opened my eyes to countless gems of knowledge within the Gospels. My theology courses stretched me to ask hard questions and articulate my faith. Now that I can articulate my faith, I feel confident going into ministry and teaching others to do the same.

During my junior year, I chose to do my practicum in OMNI, the preschool ministry. Through that experience, I had multiple leaders express to me a clear gifting for children's ministry. I am beyond grateful for God leading me to RTI where I found a loving and supportive place where I could become confident in my calling and gifting.

For the past year, I have been serving as the Children's Pastor at Eastpark Church in Vancouver, Washington. I get to work alongside a talented group of leaders and pastors, and I hope to stay here for many years. RTI gave me the training and support I needed to be equipped and feel confident in myself. I learned to lean on God every day, which is the only way I can faithfully minister to the kids and families at Eastpark Church.

# RTI DIRECTORY

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EFRAIN PERDOMO-LOPEZ (Student Development Director) Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, TX.

SARAH THURSTON (Administrative Coordinator) MCAA, Concordia University, Irvine, CA.

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