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A LETTER FROM THE DEAN



I have discovered during the last six years in my role as Academic Dean that RTI students have one thing in common: hearts to serve God no matter where he calls. Twenty-eight students have graduated since our 2013 launch, and many have followed the call on their lives to permanent ministry positions in the neighborhoods and nations.

Cameron West (2018) is serving full-time with the C&MA in Cambodia.

Brandon Miller (2018) serves as High School Pastor at Salem Alliance Church.

Stacey Rempel (2019) serves in Children's Ministry at Salem Alliance Church.

Cary Wood (2018) serves as Ministry Coordinator in Adult Ministries at Salem Alliance Church.

Alex Yermachenkov (2018) and Yuriy Murashko (2018) planted The Way Church in Salem.

Stephen Wanek (2019) was hired by Pathway Church in Redding, CA.

Isabel Miller (2018) is working for Salem Free Clinics.

Robert Garcia (2018) serves with Salem Leadership Foundation.

Carlos Morales (2018) serves with Young Life at South Salem High School.

Cole Flanigan (2019) serves at the YWAM base near Honolulu, Hawaii.

Several have or are currently pursuing Masters degrees: Evan Fowler (2018), Colby Holloway (2018), Valonda Leichty (2018), Jessica Mitchell (2018), Alex Yermachenkov (2018).

Our students gain a clear sense of God's call on their lives during their time with us. While few begin the program knowing specifically where this calling may take them, all have said "yes" to pursuing this call with their whole hearts. On behalf of the entire RTI family (students, faculty, Academic Council, and staff), we say "Thank you" for your faithful and continuous support of RTI!

STEVE DANGARAN

RTI Academic Dean

Ph.D. Leadership Studies/Gonzaga University

CLASS OF 2022 11



ISAAC BARR

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: The Lord has been preparing my heart to disciple others through the faithful and practical teaching of God's Word. I want the Lord to use me to help connect the minds and hearts of His people.

FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican



SCOTT CALENTINE

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: God is continually revealing my place in the neighborhoods and the need for His kingdom here and now. God may have me church planting next, I really don't know for sure, but He is faithful to lead the way!

FAVORITE FOOD: Any Mexican food is a gift from the Lord.



DAKOTA SHAW

HOMETOWN: Aumsville, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: When I was 18, the Lord began stirring a call to international work in my heart after my first missions trip to Haiti, and my time in YWAM.

FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican food! All of it!



GRANT SHAW

HOMETOWN: Portland, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: The only thing I have consistently been excited about in my life is spreading the Kingdom of God. I love seeing people grapple with truth for the very first time and understand the implications of the work of Christ.

FAVORITE FOOD: Banana and Peanut Butter



SAMUEL WIEBER

HOMETOWN: La Pine, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: The more I have come to know God, the more I want others to experience relationship with Him. I desire to use my gifts of teaching, communication, leadership and evangelism to help others KNOW God. One day I see myself leading a church.

FAVORITE FOOD: Cinnamon Rolls



SAMSON DUMANOVSKIY

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: God is calling me to witness to the unreached, specifically those that are overseas.

FAVORITE FOOD: A medium-rare steak



MORGAN DUNN

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: I recognized that my heart is broken for lost people when I was in middle school. Ever since then, God has continued to invite me to partner with him in the work He's doing to pursue their hearts.

FAVORITE FOOD: Tacos!



LANA GIDENKO

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: God has placed within me a love for Scripture. He has been calling me to teach it to others to help deepen their walk with Him.

FAVORITE FOOD: Sushi



CLASS OF 2022



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 to help give others the opportunity to know their heavenly Father!

FAVORITE FOOD: Sushi!



GABRIELA CANDELARIO

HOMETOWN: Vineland, NJ

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: I feel called to tell others about God's goodness in Jesus, the same God who saved me. I feel this call in my cross-cultural friendships, but I'm open to wherever God will take me.

FAVORITE FOOD:
Cheeseburgers!



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 FOOD: Guacamole



MATTHEW NIMMO

HOMETOWN: Albany, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: I feel God has given me a call on my life to reach high school students who don't know Christ. I feel called now to the community of Albany but also feel a strong pull to go over to Japan one day.

FAVORITE FOOD: Qdoba Queso



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. I am willing to go where He sends me.

FAVORITE FOOD: Lasagna



PAIGE GREENE

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 FOOD: Fries all day!



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 FOOD: Ice Cream Cake



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 in just a church setting. I am excited to share the Lord wherever God takes me.

FAVORITE FOOD: Wings



MACIE RUBLE

HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: God first called me to overseas missions in the 7th grade. I continue to pursue this call by following God and loving His people wherever and whatever He calls me to.

FAVORITE FOOD: Any cultural food! I'm ready to try anything!



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 FOOD: Mashed Potatoes & Gravy



JOSEPH ZYSK

HOMETOWN: Genesee, ID

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: This past year I have felt called to pioneering new ministries and discipling new leaders in ministry at The Way Church.

FAVORITE FOOD: Chinese food

CLASS OF
2023



HOPE ALEXANDER

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 follow.

FAVORITE FOOD: Hot wings



MADDIE ASHCRAFT

HOMETOWN: Puyallup, WA

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: Our saving, gracious God has been drawing my heart towards missions for my entire life. I'm unsure as to where or to whom He'll lead me yet, but I desire to be a bridge for the Gospel to go the nations.

FAVORITE FOOD: Anything Thai!



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 FOOD: Enchiladas



KAILEY FRITTS

HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: God has kept 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 FOOD: Enchiladas



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 FOOD: Thai food!



EMILY BOATWRIGHT

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: I feel called to support and raise up women and children in our neighborhood. My aspiration is to work vocationally as a children's or youth pastor to love on and encourage the next generation with all the love God has instilled in me.

FAVORITE FOOD: Sushi!



ABIGAIL CAULDER

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: The more I know about God the less I seem to understand. I do not know my calling, except that I am called to follow Him.

FAVORITE FOOD: Curry



ANNA CHICA

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:
Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: After moving to Arizona for a year of college, God called me home to Salem to pursue a degree in ministry. He is continually revealing my next steps as I look forward to a career in ministry.

FAVORITE FOOD: Thai food



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 that have fallen victim to the system and have been overlooked by many around them. I want to provide a safe place of peace for them.

FAVORITE FOOD: Lutefisk-Lefse (Norwegian dinner)



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 FOOD: Cheeseburgers



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 FOOD: Breakfast foods



JACOB OYER

HOMETOWN: Rocksprings, TX

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: My heart hurts for those struggling with depression, addiction, self-harm and suicide in places of the world with no access to professional resources. I want to equip leaders and counselors overseas so we can treat people with mental illness.

FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican



PATIENCE SINUR

HOMETOWN: Keizer, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Christian Ministries

CALL TO MINISTRY: Calling is not standstill, but rather it is constant. I am discerning what calling means for me in regards to vocational ministry, but I have full confidence that God will be faithful to lead me in the right direction.

FAVORITE FOOD: Chicken Enchiladas



KORRINE SLYH

HOMETOWN: Dallas, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: I've really been learning more about my identity in Christ. I want to help others feel accepted and loved, and realize what they mean to Him as well.

FAVORITE FOOD: Thai food with mango



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 FOOD: Pizza



KATLYN UEECK

HOMETOWN: Salem, OR

ANTICIPATED DEGREE:

Global and Cultural Studies

CALL TO MINISTRY: I believe God has placed a call on my heart to minister to teenagers and young adults. I feel a pull towards the nations, U.K. and Europe in general. I want to be a part of the revival in England and break through to the youth.

FAVORITE FOOD: Sandwiches



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 FOOD: Hamburgers



“RTI is the single most impactful decision I have made to become more fully equipped as a pastor and disciple of Jesus.”

LETTERS FROM ALUMNI

JESSICA MITCHELL

Class of 2018, Currently serving in New York

I chose RTI because it was biblically-based education, but also because it had a high focus on practical hands-on ministry skills. I wanted a school that was going to teach me how to take my knowledge into the real world, and RTI did just that.

My Project Management class gave me the tools to know how to submit a proper project proposal. Preaching and teaching helped me to effectively communicate a biblically based sermon. Our theology courses prepared me to pass my licensing and ordination exams, but more importantly gave me a secure foundation for my beliefs. Emotionally Healthy Leadership and Peacemaking equipped me to be a leader who knows how to identify my own issues and handle conflict in a God-honoring way.

In addition to the personal transformation RTI provided, the reality that RTI helped me graduate debt-free was one of the greatest gifts I have received. My “yes” to God’s call couldn’t have been as assured without the financial freedom provided through RTI. When God called me to move to New York to attend Alliance Theological Seminary, I had to face the reality of the financial aspects of living in the city and obtaining a Master’s. However, having finished RTI debt-free I knew I was in a place where I was able to drop everything and go.



CAMERON WEST

Class of 2019, Currently serving in Cambodia

I've learned to be persistent in achieving my goals, whether it has been going through the process of Alliance Apprenticeship, understanding a Biblical/theological doctrine, learning a language or learning to thrive in a new culture. The RTI faculty always encouraged us to lean in to the subject matter and ask hard questions so that greater understanding for everyone could be found.

Being in the second cohort, the way classes or assignments were done could sometimes change frequently, as some of the curriculum was still being figured out. While it was certainly stressful at times, it has also helped me learn how to work effectively and have a good attitude when things do not go according to plan, which is just about every day in Cambodia. In fact, one of the first things my field director in Cambodia told me was "Do not be surprised if you have to go all the way to plan D to get something accomplished."

Spiritual disciplines have been incredibly important as I have been starting my missions journey in Cambodia. Nearly all of my deeper community is on a different continent than me, and the language spoken most often here is still a barrier to me. This has led me to have an increased reliance on God and make sure to set aside time to be with him and meditate on his Word. I can safely say that had I not learned, practiced and had spiritual disciplines modeled for me at RTI, I probably would not be able to cope or do ministry in a healthy manner here.



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