

For Immediate Release: December 8, 2020

## **PRINCIPAL'S T.E.G. 2021 AWARD RECIPIENT NAMED FOR THOUGHTFUL, ENGAGED AND GENEROUS CHRISTIAN PRACTITIONERS**

VANCOUVER, BC, December 8, 2020. The **Vancouver School of Theology** has named **Rev. Curtis Bablitz** as the 2021 recipient of the T.E.G. Award, established in 2019 by VST to recognize leading practitioners in Christian ministry.

Rev. Bablitz is a St. Andrews Hall/VST graduate, class of 2011, receiving a Master of Divinity (M.Div. Honours) specializing in Homiletics. In 2016, Curtis received a ThM from Knox College. He has excelled in both congregational ministry and camp leadership. Curtis is the minister of Brant Hill Presbyterian Church in Burlington, Ontario where he has served since 2011. He has also served with St. Columba Presbyterian Church in Vancouver and as Interim Director with Camp Douglas in Roberts Creek, BC. Curtis has also held the position of Moderator with the Presbytery of Hamilton, and as Convenor on the Camp Kintail Board, where he represented the Synod of Southwestern Ontario. Curtis was ordained by the Presbytery of Hamilton in 2011.



Endorsements of Curtis' nomination state:

*"Curtis displays a positive innovative approach to his work in ministry and has been, and continues to be, an important part of this community of faith. He is doing good work and has much to offer. I know that there is much more that could be said in his support but this is a person that brings a sense of enthusiasm to all that he does and I sincerely feel that he deserves to be encouraged and deserves such an award."*

*"Curtis is creative and enthusiastic in his approach to ministry and it's contagious! His ability to winsomely present the gospel and live it out with integrity made a lasting impact on all who led with him in camping ministry at Camp Douglas. I'm sure that continues to be the case in his work with Camp Kintail in Ontario. A passion for young people learning of Christ's deep love for them is a hallmark of Curtis' serve to God still today in his work with Canada Youth, Camp Kintail and his ministry at Brant Hills Presbyterian Church in Burlington, Ontario."*

*"I am pleased to hear that Curtis Bablitz has been nominated for this valuable award. I had the privilege of teaching Curtis both during his MDiv studies at VST and also a course in homiletics in his ThM course through Knox College and TST. I can say definitely that he is one of the best students I have had in my 35 years of teaching homiletics. It is worth noting that this is not simply a matter of natural eloquence or of having kissed the homiletical Blarney Stone. Curtis demonstrates a keen understanding of the theory beneath the art of preaching."*

### **About the T.E.G. Award**

The VST Principal's T-E-G Award is an expression of VST's stature in the wider community, with a strong and growing reputation for leadership development, innovation and change. It is not restricted to alumni or affiliates of VST.

This award is intended to have a continuous presence in the community, through the annual support of its founding donors and others who also recognize the importance of the VST Principal's T-E-G Award. VST is grateful to accept annual contributions and those earmarked to endow this award to ensure its continual presence and acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Christian leaders.

For Immediate Release: December 10, 2020

## **PRINCIPAL'S T.E.G. 2021 AWARD RECIPIENT NAMED FOR THOUGHTFUL, ENGAGED AND GENEROUS CHRISTIAN PRACTITIONERS**

Nominations for the 2022 VST T.E.G. Award are welcome. They should be received by November 30, 2021. The award is open to all full-time ministry leaders within the first ten-years of full-time employment. Candidates will be known for their exemplary leadership and contributions in Christian ministry for the 21st Century, reflecting the virtues of thoughtful, engaged and generous in keeping with the mission of VST. Nominations should be directed to the VST Principal. Successful recipients may receive this award once.

### **About VST**

VST's core mandate is to educate and form thoughtful, engaged and generous Christian leaders for the church in the 21st century. Among theological schools, VST is viewed as a change agent and an innovator for the church. As an affiliated college of the University of British Columbia, VST is now ranked in the top 50 schools globally and in the top 10 of most improved theological schools. VST is accredited by the Government of British Columbia, and internationally by ATS (Association of Theological Schools).

The Vancouver School of Theology welcomes students from many Christian communions, other faith traditions and Indigenous communities, while celebrating its core relationships with the Anglican Church of Canada, Presbyterian Church in Canada, and United Church of Canada. The Indigenous Studies Program at VST is central to the school's identity and commitments. In 2021, the Vancouver School of Theology will celebrate its 50th Anniversary as a leader in theological education.

The Vancouver School of Theology acknowledges that the land on which they are located is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the *xwməθkwəyəm* (Musqueam) People.

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