

For Immediate Release: February 3rd, 2022

## **VST PRESIDENT'S T.E.G. 2022 AWARD RECIPIENT NAMED FOR THOUGHTFUL, ENGAGED AND GENEROUS CHRISTIAN LEADERS**

**VANCOUVER, BC. February 3, 2022.** The Vancouver School of Theology has named Rev. Germaine Lovelace as the 2022 recipient of the T.E.G. Award, established in 2019 to recognize leading practitioners in Christian ministry.

Rev. Lovelace served as Student Minister at Brentwood Presbyterian Church in Burnaby, BC before accepting a call to First Presbyterian Church (Kenora, Ontario) where he was Minister for five years. While in Kenora, he also served on the Board of the Kenora Fellowship Centre where he learnt so much about what reconciliation actually looks like. Germaine served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Winnipeg from June 2016 to June 2018. He currently serves as Minister at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Mississauga. He also serves on the Assembly Council of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Germaine is a member of the Healing and Reconciliation Advisory Council of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. He has a deep love for serving people, helping people through their struggles, and sharing the message of Christ's redeeming grace with everyone. Prior to his service in Canada, Rev. Lovelace received his Master of Divinity, Diploma in Ministerial Studies and Bachelor of Arts in Theology from the United Theological College of the West Indies. He completed a Diploma in Denominational Studies from the Vancouver School of Theology.



Rev. Germaine Lovelace

Germaine always acknowledged everyone who crossed his path, with kind acceptance and validation as his sister or brother in Christ. Germaine didn't even have to mention Jesus, and the community would notice that his kindness came from a deeper source, which was indwelling and consistent. As His faithful ambassador, Germaine demonstrates irrefutable trust in God, love for Jesus Christ and a yielding to the Holy Spirit, propelling him to exude thoughtfulness, desire healthy engagement and relationships and radiate generosity to all he meets, no matter who or where you are.

- Lisa Baker, on behalf of First Presbyterian Church, Kenora, Ontario

Germaine is kind, compassionate, earnest, and boundless in positivity and energy. I can think of no one more deserving of this award and I heartily support his being nominated for it.

- Rev. Barbara Piloow, First Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Germaine was a wonderful student during his studies at VST. He brought a strong Christian witness from his own background combined with an openness and curiosity that helped him engage in theological study. He was eager to learn and often spoke eloquently of how a class or topic had influenced his thinking about his faith. His presence in a class inspired a feeling of shared learning. Germaine, both as a student and now as a minister, embodies the qualities of thoughtfulness, engagement and generosity that VST is proud to recognize in its graduates who are serving the church with distinction.

- Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls, Professor of Hebrew Scripture, Vancouver School of Theology

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

The VST President'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.

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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 President'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.

Nominations for the 2023 VST T.E.G. Award are welcome. They should be received by November 30, 2022. The award is open to all full-time ministry leaders within the first ten-years of full-time employment in Canada. 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 Rachael Shi [rshi@vst.edu](mailto:rshi@vst.edu) in the President's Office. 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. In 2020 VST was identified by In Trust Magazine as instituting bold transformative change for the renewal of theological education. Most recently (2021), VST was the recipient of a prestigious Pathways for Tomorrow grant from the Lilly Endowment to help redefine theological field education. VST is accredited by the Government of British Columbia, and in North America 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.

The Vancouver School of Theology celebrates its 50th Anniversary (2021-22) 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.

### **Contact: Richard Topping**

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