



The IRTC Reaches Out in Greenville (SC), at the BPC Synod, and in Minas Gerais

On March 8-10, 2022, Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (GPTS) held its annual Spring Theology Conference, with the theme of “Light in the Darkness.” Praying that the College might grow its community of supporters, the IRTC was privileged to have an exhibitor’s table at the conference, reaching out to the more than 500 participants. Our honorary president, Ralph Boersema and our assistant secretary-treasurer, Lucille Boersema distributed brochures to all of the attendees and had conversations with those who visited the table. The IRTC and GPTS are connected by way of shared personnel: Rev. Breno Macedo teaches three preaching courses for the IRTC and is an adjunct professor of applied theology at GPTS. Another of our instructors, Rev. Charles Oliveira, is an IRTC Board member and is also on the Board of GPTS.

A few months later (August 4-8), President Fernando de Almeida represented the College at the Synod of the Bible Presbyterian Church in Buffalo, New York. There he was able to meet in person with existing and potential supporters and to share some of our current needs and future plans. Rev. Douglas Edward Leaman, who teaches Biblical Spirituality and Biblical Counseling at the IRTC, is a BPC missionary in Brazil through the Presbyterian Missionary Union.

Just a bit further South, in Minas Gerais, Brazil, Board member César Miranda dos Santos visited the IRTC’s oldest instructor, both in age (94) and in time served, since he was with the College from the beginning (in this, he is tied with Rev. Ralph Boersema). Rev. Frans Leonard Schalkwijk has taught several Church History courses at the IRTC for over twenty years. César’s visit had the purpose of presenting him with a celebratory plaque and the title of “professor emeritus”, in honor of Rev. Schalkwijk’s service and ministry to hundreds of students. We thank the Lord for this precious brother’s life and we pray His blessings over him and his family.



Top: Rev. Ralph at GPTS’ Spring Theology Conference
Middle: Rev. Fernando at the BPC Synod
Bottom: César and Rev. Frans holding celebratory plaque

Thankful for New Instructors in 2022

As the IRTC grows in students and in degree programs, it must naturally bring in new instructors to teach these courses. In 2022, the Lord has provided us with many talented new instructors. The youngest of these, **Rev. Geimar de Lima**, has been serving as the IRTC's Registrar for the past four years. During this time, he finished his M.Div. at the Andrew Jumper Presbyterian Post-Graduate Center (CPAJ) in São Paulo, Brazil. He is now responsible for teaching *Intro. to the Bible I & II*.



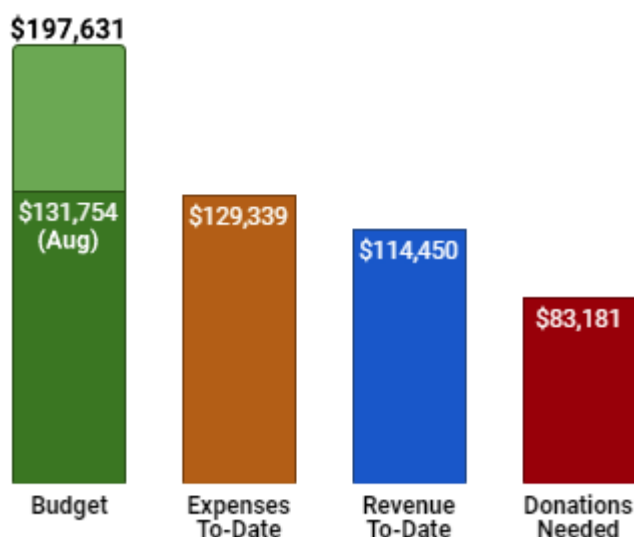
Clockwise from top left: the Revs. Geimar de Lima, Hermisten Maia Pereira da Costa, Welerson Alves Duarte and Rodrigo Cavalcanti de Castro

Our new *Christian Education* instructor also hails from the state of São Paulo, from the city of São Bernardo do Campo, where he is one of the pastors of the 1st Presbyterian Church. **Rev. Hermisten Maia Pereira da Costa** is widely known among Brazilian Christians for his many books, covering subjects such as the Apostle's Creed, biblical inspiration and inerrancy, the foundations of Reformed theology, contemporary theology, principles of worship, systematic theology, God's sovereignty and providence, and of course, Christian Education.

Rev. Rodrigo Cavalcanti de Castro lives in central Brazil, in the city of Contagem, Minas Gerais, where he pastors New Eldorado Presbyterian Church. After graduating from the New Tribes Mission Bible Institute, he served as a missionary in Bolivia before returning to Brazil to further his studies. He has a Master's in New Testament from the CPAJ and is putting this degree to use at the IRTC, teaching courses such as *Acts & the Pauline Epistles*. He recently published *Patterns in the New Testament's Use of the Old Testament*.

The IRTC's instruction in Systematic Theology has been strengthened by **Rev. Welerson Alves Duarte**, who holds a doctorate in this field. He taught *Worship Studies* earlier this year and will be teaching *The Holy Spirit and the Church* next term. While the other instructors mentioned above are all ministers in the Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPB), Rev. Welerson was ordained in the Conservative Presbyterian Church of Brazil (IPC). He is currently the director of the IPC's seminary in São Paulo, Brazil.

IRTC Financial Update August 2022 (US\$)



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