



# Eastern Nazarene College



## **Welcome to the December edition of our ENCounter ENC newsletter!**

Dear Friends,

As I send and receive Christmas cards this year, I'm reminded of how important it is to connect with the people and places that have shaped us and rooted us in Christ. I hope ENC checks both of those boxes for you or someone you love in the same way it has for me and many of our current students and alumni. This newsletter is just another way to connect us all this December.

Advent is upon us and I want to be sure you've experienced the [Advent Devotional](#) ENC's Office of Spiritual Development created this year to help us prepare for Christmas. We also want to share a student spotlight on Jose Ruiz ('22), an entrepreneurial student achieving his dreams while pursuing his degree; fill you in on what we are offering during our first Winter Term in years (remember J-Term?!); and let

you know about some important faculty positions we are looking to fill.

We caught some of our alumni wearing their new ENC masks around town (see photos below). If you are interested in your own mask, just make a request by tapping the button below.

[Request A Mask](#)



**Rev. Elmer Wilson ('68) & Cheryl (Gordon) Wilson ('70)**

***Mooreville, North Carolina***



**Ed Robles ('97) & Kim (Demmons) Robles ('93)**

***Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania***

Finally, we want to wish all of you a blessed and joyous Christmas. We pray that God will bless you and keep you during this season of hope and celebration, and that He will use each of us to share His love with those in need.

In Him,

*Daniel*



**David P. Bergers ('89)**  
Vice President of  
External Relations  
and General Counsel

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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Meet Jose Ruiz ('22)



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**Major: Global business and environmental studies**

**Hometown: Jerez De la Frontera, Spain**

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While currently studying online with us in his home country of Spain due to COVID-19, Jose Ruiz ('22) is never far from ENC. Jose is a global business and environmental studies major at ENC with a minor in finance. He's also also the founder of his own company, JOAGA, an entrepreneurial venture using ocean waste to create sustainable products.

On a surfing trip to Indonesia, the second largest contributor of ocean waste, Jose realized how much waste was occupying the beaches there. A short six months later, Jose and his business partner developed a watch made from recycled ocean waste, recycled steel, and pineapple waste.

Jose acknowledges that it is a delicate balance to attend college and manage a start-up company — and he is grateful to his ENC professors who have

helped him navigate his courses while advising him regarding JOAGA.



Jose aspires to open multiple non-profits around the world to clear oceans of waste and transform it into different products. Coming up next — creating eyewear and credit cards from ocean waste!

JOAGO's November [Kickstarter campaign](#) was a success. According to Jose, *“The main goal is to end ocean waste as much as we can and increase awareness.”*

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## WINTER TERM COURSES



*"Adaptability has been one of the watchwords of this year, and I am gratified that one result of the lessons we have learned is that we can offer a unique Winter Term to our students, full of creative offerings that might not otherwise have been possible."*

**Professor Bill McCoy**  
*Interim Academic Dean*



Our Winter Term offers exciting opportunities for students to study at an affordable cost.

***Course offerings include but are not limited to:***

Interpreting the Psalms  
Seminar in Biblical Studies: The Practice of Lament  
Sociology of Religion  
Christian Faith, Protest, and Racial Justice  
Business Seminar: Exploring International Cultures...Communicating Successfully Across  
Cultural Borders  
Introduction to Film Studies  
and more...

Questions regarding our **Winter Term** can be directed to [winterregistration@enc.edu](mailto:winterregistration@enc.edu).

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## FACULTY OPENINGS AT ENC

Please Share Widely with Your Network



Our ENC faculty members leave indelible marks on the lives of their students, as they seek to provide the transformational education that is at the heart of our mission. That's why we hope you will help us spread the word about three critically important faculty openings we are looking to fill for Fall 2021. We are recruiting new faculty in [Education](#), [Psychology](#), and [Social Work](#). The postings will remain up until the position is filled, but candidates who submit their application materials by **January 15** will receive priority consideration.

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## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR STUDENTS



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## STAY CONNECTED

### We Want to Hear from You!

The Office of Alumni Relations wants to hear from our alumni. Please keep your information up to date with the Alumni Relations Office by visiting the [Update Alumni Record Page](#) and share any news with us by visiting the Contact Alumni Relations page or by emailing [alumni@enc.edu](mailto:alumni@enc.edu). Please send us good news, obituaries, and other life events or achievements.



**Eastern Nazarene College**

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