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SPRING 2016 THE MAGAZINE OF AMBROSE UNIVERSITY

A mission to teach

**Alumna Kendall Delamont
teaches young students lessons
for life — including the power
of God's love**

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insideanthem

|| We impoverish ourselves by marginalizing our Indigenous communities. Once you immerse yourself in a more holistic world-view, there can be deeper resonance between the Indigenous world-view and the biblical world-view.

Mark Buchanan

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AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY

A note from the President

I have served as the president of Ambrose University for four years. And through those four years, I have had many high moments — and, sure, a few lows as well (of course). But it is the “highs” that I most remember. One of these was the convocation chapel in January 2016 at the launch of our winter semester.

Dr. Linda Schwartz gave a superb convocation address; and, overall, there was a wonderful energy in the place with the opening gathering for the launch of another course of studies. But also this: five of our students led us in worship — John on the piano and Bronwyn, Amy, Bryanne and Richard at the mics, on vocals. And what so caught my attention was the maturity and grace with which these five were leading the community in worship.

Admittedly, there was also a moment of, well . . . what word to use, if I do not say “pride”? I was proud of them. Some of those leading us in worship had begun their course of studies at Ambrose in my first year. So, over the four years, I have seen them mature as students, servants and leaders. It all seemed to happen so quickly.

I was reminded of the tremendous power of a quality undergraduate and seminary education in forming women and men for capable leadership in the church and in the world. These five students made me so very pleased to be associated with this institution of higher learning — and grateful to God for what He has done in their lives through the course of their time in this academic community.

I wish those five and indeed all of our graduating students this year the grace and blessing of God on their lives — granting them clarity of conviction, depth of compassion, strength of will and skill and capacity in their service for the ascended Christ.



Gordon T. Smith, PhD

President

Professor of Systematic and Spiritual Theology



*These five students made
me so very pleased to be
associated with this institution
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has done in their lives through
the course of their time in this
academic community.*

Breaking News

**At press time,
more than 80
families whose lives
have been turned
upside down by the
devastating fires in
Fort McMurray were
finding welcome refuge
at the Ambrose University
residence. We are blessed
to be able to help at this
incredibly difficult time,
and gladly open our hearts
and doors to new friends
and neighbours.**

**For the latest news
and information, visit
ambrose.edu**

Changing lives and energizing youth ministry

Ambrose University's Legacy Youth Conference — one of only a handful of events this size across North America to be led by student volunteers — added another chapter to its rich 65-year history on March 11–13, 2016.

Central Planning Team members' (in photo, L–R, back row: Matt Wilks, Director; Alex Saayman, Facilities and Ministry Team; Paul Numrich, Rallies; Trent McDowell, Rallies; Spencer Young, Assistant Director; Emily Hyrcha, Student Director + Apparel; front row: Dori Tanasieciuk, Entertainment and Rallies; Miranda Casey, Delegate Care, Meals,

Business and Service Projects) highlights of the weekend included reading the stories and prayer items received on the LYC app, the sharing of prayer requests on a prayer wall, and leading rallies.

"Getting to hear the stories of how God transformed lives and realizing that I played a small part in allowing God to work brings me an overwhelming joy and excitement for what God is doing in people's lives," says student Paul Numrich.



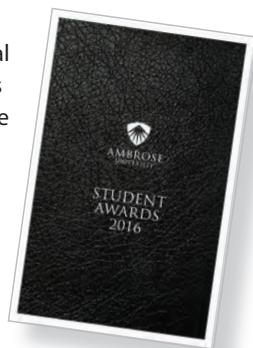
Expanding access to Christian higher education



Ambrose University will offer its first eCampus Alberta course — *Jesus and Muslims* — this September, joining the consortium of 26 Alberta post-secondary institutions providing access to more than 900 high-quality online learning opportunities. A second course, *Jesus and the Gospels*, will be launched in January 2017. Both courses help extend the University's reach to students who otherwise may not be able to attend Ambrose to access Christian higher education. *Jesus and Muslims* is open to anyone seeking to learn more about Islam, enabling students to see the commonalities and differences between Islam and Christianity. Only 20 students will be accepted for each course. More information is available by contacting Dr. Rob Snow, Associate Professor of New Testament and Chair of the Christian Studies Program, at Rsnow@ambrose.edu. Learn more about opportunities available through eCampus Alberta at ecampusalberta.ca.

Celebrating excellence

Student accomplishments were in the spotlight at a special Student Awards chapel on April 12. Academic scholarships and awards, Dean's List membership, and Male and Female Athletes of the Year awards recognized the excellence Ambrose University students exhibited throughout the year. Donors have established many student awards, making them especially meaningful to grateful student recipients. Learn more about Student Awards and how you can donate at ambrose.edu.



2016 Downey Lectures promote Scriptural scholarship

Rev. Dr. Chris Wright presented the 2016 Downey Lectures on Integral Mission and the Great Commission at Ambrose University on February 10–11, 2016. Wright is the International Ministries Director of the Langham Partnership, which provides literature, scholarships, and preaching training for pastors and seminaries across the globe. He is one of the most respected Christian leaders and thinkers in the world. His thought-provoking and inspiring presentations included: Making Disciples... Teaching Them; To Obey All that I have Commanded You; All Authority in Heaven and Earth (Mission and the Goodness, Glory and Goal of Creation); and, a question-and-answer session. Held annually, the Downey Lectures honour the service, passion and commitment of Murray Downey, a founding faculty member of Canadian Bible College who taught at CBC for more than 30 years.



Sharing the vision to end poverty

Responding to God's call to justice has led Derek Cook to Ambrose University, where he became the new director of the Canadian Poverty Institute (CPI) in November 2015. Through his work as an educator in labour camps, a farm union organizer, a counsellor and settlement worker with new immigrants, and a researcher and policy maker in government, Cook has spent the past 25 years working alongside those who have found themselves excluded in order to bring them more closely into community. Most recently, he spent the past four years as Executive Director of the Calgary Poverty Reduction Initiative. Established in 2015, the CPI aims to eradicate poverty through research and training. The Institute connects scholars at Ambrose with the wider community and also inspires and empowers Ambrose students to think critically and practically about the many facets of poverty in Canada, providing an avenue for redemptive engagement in society.



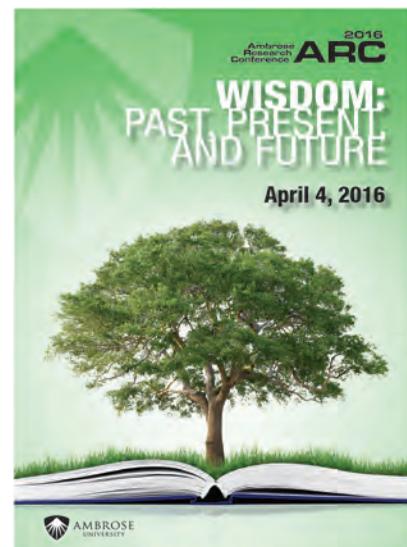
Leading in faith and reconciliation

Following release of the Government of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) final report on December 15, 2015, institutions like Ambrose University have been engaging in important conversations about how to take the first steps in the journey to make reconciliation a reality. On March 1–2, 2016, Bishop Mark MacDonald, the Anglican Church of Canada's first National Indigenous Bishop, visited Ambrose University to speak about Evangelicals and First Nations: Repentance Required? A chapel service, public lecture with panel discussion and open class lecture all looked at the role a Christian community, and especially a Christian educational institution, can take to lead in learning and healing. Read more about the implications of the TRC report and how education is the key to undoing prejudice on page 8 of this issue of *Anthem*.



Wisdom past, present and future explored at annual conference

The 2016 Ambrose Research Conference (ARC), held April 4, 2016, showcased the best of student, faculty and alumni research. Papers and posters from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and theology showed the breadth and quality of scholarly work undertaken at the University.



ARC is a collective learning experience on an array of topics, and this year reflected on how wisdom is understood and studied, with a particular focus on the question of how to practically apply wisdom in the fields studied.

"This annual conference is particularly beneficial for senior students considering graduate school, who have the opportunity to gather and disseminate original research, and to experience academic life in a different way from the normal rhythms and routines of the classroom," explains this year's Research Committee Chair and Associate Professor of Sociology Dr. Joel Thiessen.



Score one for the Lions!

Ambrose University's debut season in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) and the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) proved the Lions are up for any and all challenges — and things just got better on March 16, 2016, when Men's Basketball first-year captain Kyler Shula became one of only 10 players



from across the country to receive a CCAA All-Canadian Award. Shula was also one of 20 top players named to the ACAC Men's Basketball South All-Conference team. Four Lions (Katie Knopp, Bethany Herman, Jared Zimmer and Alexander Fabbri) were named to ACAC Futsal All-Conference teams, and Graham Schmuland was named ACAC Men's Volleyball South Rookie of the Year.

Journeys to understanding continue Down Ancient Paths

In the past is a hint of the future, and Down Ancient Paths enables travellers to experience the history, theology, spirituality and geography of the diverse traditions of ancient Christianity worldwide. Over the past 21 years, the program has opened eyes and hearts — from Spain to Greece to Turkey to Ethiopia. New journeys to new destinations are planned for 2017. Each of these travel studies can be taken for credit, audit or personal enrichment. Find out more at downancientpaths.com.



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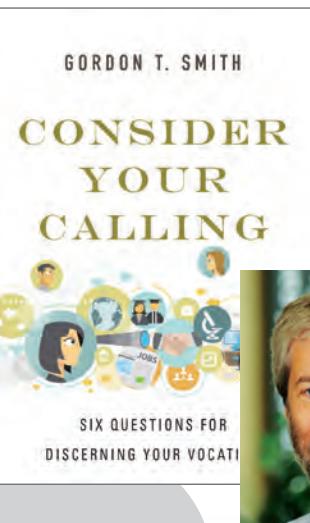
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AUTHOR! AUT



Three recent books by Ambrose University authors offer new perspectives, deepen understanding and inspire conversations about faith in our everyday life.

Buy all three at the Ambrose Bookstore!
While you're there, check out more titles that will expand your mind, open your heart and give you a new perspective on faith and religion.

Make the most of your one precious life

Ambrose University President Dr. Gordon T. Smith is passionate about inspiring young people to find and follow their calling in life. In *Consider Your Calling: Six questions for discerning your vocation*, he advances a conversation at the heart of the University's mission.



The book's six chapters ponder six questions. They expand on six sermons Smith preached in Chapel last year to help students make sense of the calling of God in their own lives.

"It's not fair to ask high school graduates what they want to do when they grow up," Smith explains. "They don't know themselves well enough. They're here to grow their capacity to understand what God's doing in the world and to understand who they are. In undergraduate education, if you gain that understanding, you're well on your way to a successful life."

Those questions asked as an undergraduate — and in the book — are the same ones people will ask time and again in their lives.

"We all go through vocational transitions in life," Smith says, explaining that the capacity to make those transitions becomes more urgent at three critical stages in life: from adolescence to adulthood; approaching mid-career; and entering the senior years. Success hinges on the ability to make those transitions well, and to remain flexible in an increasingly fluid career and social environment.

"This is a changing world, even in the church, and to succeed, people need to be able to adapt."

By inspiring readers to reflect on the good work which God is calling them to do, and to find the threads of passion that run through their entire lives, Smith's book helps develop the intellectual and emotional tools to successfully navigate major transitions.

"People are multidimensional," he says. "We want our graduates to have the imagination, courage and capacity to read their environment with a deep hopefulness — to be employed and also to understand the reality in which they are being called to do God's good work."

Knowing God through motherhood

Understanding motherhood helps people understand their world and their connection to Christ in a new way. In *Making Sense of Motherhood: Biblical and Theological Perspectives*, edited by Dr. Beth Stovell, Assistant Professor of Old Testament, learning more about motherhood is a way to learn more about God.



"We don't often think about mothering as being connected to our spiritual journey," Stovell says. "We think about God as a father, but if we look at scripture, motherhood is often referenced in what it means to connect with Christ and to journey with God. There are even two men in the Bible who are described using motherhood imagery (Moses as mother in Numbers 11 and Paul as nursemaid in 1 Cor 3:1-3)."

"If we only think biologically and see women as separate from other people, which is sometimes what happens, we miss the larger messages of scripture."

HOR! AUTHOR!

Stovell's book delves into motherhood in all its complexity — including looking at kinds of motherhood not often talked about, such as adoptive mothers or mothers who have children with disabilities, and addressing issues such as post-partum depression — through a series of personal and poignant stories. Many are stories women only tell one another, and all offer the promise of deeper understanding of scripture when shared.

Through them, for example, Christ's death and resurrection is reflected. "The closest a mother ever comes to death is when giving birth," Stovell says. "There is a tension between pain and joy. While we often focus on the joy, we don't see the grief, loss and pain that can come alongside beauty, joy and hope. We don't often see the potential loss and fear that accompanies joy."

Greater understanding of all facets of motherhood could enrich all

facets of ministry. "Understanding more about adoption, for instance, parallels Paul's description of being adopted into God's family, and could be very meaningful for adoption ministries," Stovell notes.

"And when we look more deeply into what it means to be a minister and

a mother, we see that motherhood helps us be good ministers."

The book, she says, is for everyone. "Just as I can learn about the fatherhood of God, others can learn from this."

Making Sense of Motherhood
Biblical and Theological Perspectives



Painted by Beth M. Stovell

Forward by Lynn H. Cohick

Exploring the connection to church

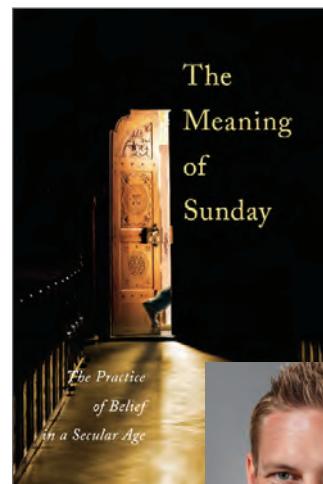
Do people who don't attend church regularly want to be more involved? Would more people attend if churches "did religion" differently? Would "better music" or "better preaching" attract more people?

The questions that partially influenced a recent study were provocative. Dr. Joel Thiessen, Associate Professor of Sociology, began testing a popular hypothesis of the day in research for his doctoral dissertation in 2008, and augmented it with a second round of research in 2012–13. *The Meaning of Sunday: The Practice of Belief in a Secular Age* is the result of this Canadian-based investigation.

"Overall, Christian leaders have been very receptive of the book," he says. "The biggest challenge is what they now do with the information and the conclusions."

Those conclusions flow in three streams. One is that personal experiences and social connections influence why people are or are not involved with religious organizations. "If God answers prayers, if experiences with God and others in churches are positive, then they are more likely to connect with the church," Thiessen explains. "But if they're chastised for not attending church regularly and their commitment to God is questioned, they tend not to remain involved."

There may be little churches can do to coax greater involvement. "I emphatically conclude and argue that why people leave the church or have no ongoing involvement has little to do with what the church does or doesn't do," Thiessen says.



"Engagement is driven by many things beyond the church's control, and is anchored in broad cultural and social changes."

And therein lies the biggest challenge and the third conclusion: Should an increasingly secular society be a concern? The answer isn't clear. "On one hand, we know that people who attend church tend to give more, volunteer more and are more honest. But at the same time, there is a broad Canadian ethos to help the less fortunate, volunteer and give to charity. So does our societal fabric fill the narrative to be socially and civically engaged?"

By casting light on some of the challenges churches face, *The Meaning of Sunday* challenges readers to find answers. □



Treaties between the Government of Canada and First Nations were made in the name of Jesus. The brutal legacy of residential schools, most of which were church-run, continues to exact a heavy toll on Aboriginal lives. The Ambrose University campus rests on Treaty 7 lands.





1 The plaque at Blackfoot Crossing marks the historic site where Treaty 7 was signed. It was installed in 1927 to recognize the Treaty's 50th anniversary.

2 Blackfoot Crossing on the Bow River, now the Siksika reserve, was the site of the signing of Treaty 7 in 1877.

3 The Ambrose University campus in southwest Calgary rests on Treaty 7 lands.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's groundbreaking final report in December 2015 called on Canadians, post-secondary institutions and churches to repair the relationship with Aboriginal people — to honour the truths of the past and reconcile for the future. At Ambrose University, cross-institutional dialogue has begun to open hearts and minds, increase understanding and explore how this entire community can help make a difference.

Anthem invited Rev. Ray Aldred, who is Cree, the Director of Indigenous Studies and one of Canada's leading Indigenous Christian voices, and Mark Buchanan, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, to share their thoughts about why writing a new chapter in the story of Canada's First Nations is a vital concern to everyone at Ambrose University — and to every Canadian.

Why is this issue close to home for Ambrose University?

Mark Buchanan: The Ambrose University campus is on traditional Blackfoot, Treaty 7 land. So there is a physical connection to the issue, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report called on post-secondary institutions to act. As a Christian community of learning, we have a dual responsibility. Most treaties were written with a clear consciousness that government representatives were acting as Christ's followers. Canadians and Christians have a biblical, moral and spiritual responsibility to uphold our treaty agreements. We help do that when we recognize that we are on First Nations land, and understand that the land is being shared through a treaty.

People talk about writing a new narrative. What is the old narrative?

Ray Aldred: Schoolchildren learn how explorers "found" Canada. But Indigenous people were already here. God had already put us here. This is an example of a story that is broken

and needs to be deconstructed. It is only one of many.

MB: In 1493, Pope Alexander VI issued a Papal Bull that made it okay for any Catholic to claim territories that were inhabited by "savages." In essence, he said "the land is yours and people are subject to you, and you have a responsibility to educate and civilize them." Similar proclamations were made over hundreds of years, affirming the right to take over lands and subjugate people. Indigenous people were infantilized. It was assumed they didn't know anything or have any skills.

In the 1880s, residential schools were launched in Canada with a vision to "educate" children, and an intent to "kill the Indian" in the child. Now, we are at this moment in history where Aboriginal people have been oppressed and marginalized for generations, where the impact of kids being torn from their families (and half of them abused physically, sexually, emotionally, or all three) and stripped of their culture and language, is still felt.

continued on next page >

Changing the narrative about First Nations

continued from previous page

Most Canadians have no idea what the reality is or why it is, but have an opinion regardless. People see only high rates of unemployment, suicide and drug use, horrible living conditions and reserves that lack even basics like clean drinking water.

What does ‘writing a new narrative’ mean?

RA: Canadians tell a new story. We talk about the great gifts Aboriginal people give to Canada. We talk about Aboriginal people not as a problem to be solved, but as part of our diversity. The cool thing about the collapse of old ideas is that you can see things in a better way, and you can look toward meaningful and lasting solutions. I challenge young people to write the new story.

Over the past 20 years that I have been talking to people, pastoring, trying to be a change agent, my goal has been to change one person at a time, to help them understand that the situation is more complex than they thought it was, and to encourage them to question it on their own.

MB: Somehow we think we can do something right away and help these “poor natives” get over it. But what happened to Canada’s Aboriginal people — not by occupation, but by rule of law — has been a profound injustice.

RA: We’re still on First Nations land and Treaty 7 is an agreement to share it. This makes us all “treaty people.” If we are all treaty people, we are supposed to be family.

If we can develop empathy, then we at least have the potential for reconciliation. The only way that happens is through stories, like the gifts from survivors heard by the TRC.

Who benefits from a new relationship?

MB: We impoverish ourselves by marginalizing our Indigenous communities. Once you immerse yourself in a more holistic world-view, there can be deeper resonance between the Indigenous world-view and the biblical world-view. I read the Bible more effectively. I see things I missed when I read Scripture only through the lens of strict rationalism.

RA: Repentance is good for everyone, everywhere, all the time. All people need to admit that we’re busted and broken, and that we need to work on our stuff.

MB: We’re learning the way of the gospel in real time. There is value in forgiveness, and when we hold onto bitterness, we’re the ones who are poisoned.

RA: At Ambrose, greater engagement with Indigenous people, and making Aboriginal friends, will change the school and will change students.

What are some of the ‘lessons’ that need to be learned?

RA: Elders tell me that non-Indigenous people need to listen. There needs to be awareness about our differences. For example, the non-Indigenous community draws significant value from what people do. The Indigenous community draws it from relationships, from connections. This doesn’t make one right or one wrong, but different.

MB: This difference might reflect more of what God had in His heart when he created community.

RA: We need to finally come to a place where we realize there is a higher power that can help us. When we find that help, we can help others. When we talk about blame, we should also think

about responsibility. Is there another way to live? Is there a way to improve all the relationships in our lives? An abused person is not guilty of sin, but trapped by it.

MB: We always want to do something right away, to “fix” things, when we should realize that God has us on this journey for a different reason.

RA: We live in a world focused on the pursuit of happiness and we don’t like tension, ambiguity or uncertainty. But reconciliation is going to be long and messy.

What is the Ambrose community doing?

MB: The President has struck a committee to respond to the 94 calls of the TRC Report, with a focus on those related to educational institutions, churches and seminaries.

In March, Mark MacDonald, the Anglican Church of Canada’s first National Indigenous Bishop, was here and offered a sustained argument for how the Indigenous view is more spiritual than we give it credit for. This is the first time an event on campus began with a prayer from a First Nations Elder, and we acknowledged we were on Blackfoot Territory. This protocol is important.

We are helping students, the church and Christians understand what’s happened and how we can help to move forward. I’m teaching a course on reconciliation, for example.

RA: Listening to stories causes pain, so we want to shut down. But if we can just allow pain to be our tutor and lead us someplace, we will walk towards healing.

MB: We are letting God open our eyes and break our hearts — so we can open our hearts. □

**// Education ...
is an ongoing,
iterative process,
and we're always
discovering.**

The professor is always learning

Inspiring students to ask questions
of themselves enriches the Ambrose
University experience.

Joining Ambrose University eight years ago felt a little strange for **Dr. Joel Thiessen** (NUC Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science '04). People who had taught him only four years earlier were now his colleagues, and he was teaching former classmates.

But crossing this new threshold in life has opened great opportunities and unleashed Thiessen's passions and energy.

"I absolutely love teaching ... pushing students to think and even, at times, making them feel uncomfortable because I'm helping them acquire knowledge they didn't have before," says the associate professor of sociology who teaches a popular Sociology of Religion course. "The most life-giving moments are when students say 'I didn't know this, and now that I do, it changes how I think about the world.'"

Research animates Thiessen's teaching. "Sharing my research, not just the data but the experiences and the stories, shows students that the discovery of new knowledge is an important part of the education process. "I don't want them to think education is about downloading information we read about dead guys. I want them to know it's an ongoing, iterative process, and that we're always discovering." Students and faculty are always learning, he says, and bringing research and teaching together reflects the core of Ambrose. "The best teachers are students themselves and have a passion to learn. The foundation of being a good teacher is being a good learner."

Thiessen's research engages his inquiring mind, and he has a number of projects underway. One recently begun with Ambrose colleagues is looking into why some congregations in Canada flourish, and identifying the variables that support vibrant, dynamic churches.

A "made-in-Canada" understanding is important, he says, because there is a fundamental difference in the approach to religion in this country, versus in the U.S. Through interviews, focus groups, national surveys, case studies and extensive time spent within congregations, the team hopes to "make research helpful, useful and practical" by developing tools and resources that help pastors minister well within the Canadian context.

This, too, he plans to share with students. "I'm keenly aware that how I share knowledge is always evolving," he says. "And if you engage students early, you earn their trust and the right to guide them down new paths." □



Photo courtesy Joel Thiessen

Dr. Joel Thiessen's *The Meaning of Sunday: The Practice of Belief in a Secular Age* was published in November 2015. Read more about the book on page 6 — and for more information visit his website at joelthiessen.ca.



Kendall Delamont draws on the example set by her own Grade 4 teacher in her interactions with students. "She was amazing. She was tough, but I knew she loved and cared about me. If she could make school that much fun, I knew that one day I wanted to show kids the same love I was shown."

Years later, Delamont shared a precious moment with that teacher. "I contacted her and we met for coffee that turned into dinner — and lots of tears. I told her then that I prayed my kids would track me down one day, go for coffee, and tell me that I was instrumental in them coming to God, and that my actions showed them God's love."

Not long afterwards, the teacher contacted Delamont. "She told me she had cancer and asked me to take all of her teaching materials. It's pretty special to have that."

A mission to TEACH

In the classroom, young students learn lessons for life — including the power of God's love.

Kendall Delamont (BA – Behavioural Science '10; BEd '12) already knew in Grade 4 that she wanted to be a teacher. Today, she teaches Grade 4 at Prince of Peace Lutheran School in the Rockyview School District, bringing together her passion for teaching and a calling to speak the gospel.

"So many kids go to school without the love, time and energy they need to receive in their homes," she says, "and our school is a safe place where children know they are loved. Teaching is a remarkable mission field and I know God can work through me."

Delamont integrates faith where it's appropriate in the nine different subjects she teaches to her students. Many are non-Christian and have never heard of Jesus (a large number are Sikh, and parents welcome a school that promotes strong values, even if not in their specific religion). Almost half are ESL students and students' families may also have significant needs.

The school has become a tight-knit community and there are easy and natural opportunities to talk about issues of faith in the classroom. A book

Kendall Delamont shares a laugh with students (L-R) Isaiah Baker, Paige Lawson and Lauchlan Bagley.

where characters face a dilemma about whether to betray a trust or to lie to their best friends, for example, becomes an opportunity to talk about whether there are different levels of wrong, and what the Bible says about sin. "It's amazing how often faith comes up and how easily we transition into conversations about it.

"This school allows me to have a lot of freedom in how and what I teach," Delamont notes, saying she delights in those "aha" moments of authentic learning, when the lesson "clicks" and she can see it on students' faces. She relishes the opportunity to establish relationships with students, so in addition to the reading, writing and arithmetic lessons, it's not unusual to find Delamont sewing up a rip in someone's pants or putting a Band-Aid on a finger.

It can be a bit overwhelming, she notes, to keep up with changes in teaching pedagogy and follow best practices, while at the same time assessing and meeting students' diverse learning needs — but she can't think of a better place to be.

"Teaching really is a bit of everything and, at the end of the day, what are kids going to remember? The cool lesson on long division? Or that I loved and cared about them? Before I went into teaching,

I talked to many people who could name their Grade 4 teacher and say 'she's the reason I hate math' or 'he was so funny.' I pray that my kids say 'I know she loved me.'"

Grade 4, it seems, is a key point in students' lives and a great fit for Delamont. "It's the perfect grade," she says with a laugh. "The students are young enough that they still think I'm cool, but old enough that I don't have to baby them and can push them to be independent. I can encourage them to solve their own problems.

"I can't imagine any other job where, no matter how crummy the day was, I still get 25 hugs. And if, at the end of the day, my students know I loved them, then that's a good day." □

Teaching really is a bit of everything and, at the end of the day, what are kids going to remember? The cool lesson on long division? Or that I loved and cared about them?



PROVIDING

SYRIAN MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE
ESCAPING THE HORRORS OF WAR TO FIND SAFE
HOMES IN CANADA. THOUSANDS ARRIVE INTO
WELCOMING ARMS OPENED WIDE BY CHURCHES
FROM COAST TO COAST.



Members of the Ancaster Village Church eagerly await the arrival of the Saloum family.

Hugs. Tears. Joy. Fear. And, above all, hope.

In a scene already played out hundreds of times across Canada — and to be repeated hundreds of times more in coming years — a weary, apprehensive Syrian family takes its first tentative steps toward a new life. On this day, **Joanne Beach** (CBC, Bachelor of Religious Education '89) is among those waiting to greet the newcomers at the Hamilton airport.

For the Saloums, and for thousands of Syrians who will never meet her, Beach is the passionate, driven and seemingly tireless woman working behind the scenes to make new lives possible. She is the Director of Alliance Justice and Compassion for the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, and with her small team has been the primary point of contact for a constant stream of questions from churches across Canada eager to help refugees.

"I never would have dreamed I would be doing this," she says, explaining that opening hearts and minds to smooth the way for refugees has been nothing short of spiritually and emotionally rewarding.

It is also only part of a much larger portfolio of responsibility. Over the past 16 years, Beach has gone from being a pastor's wife — her husband, **Dr. Lee Beach**, graduated from CBC in 1988 and pastored for about 15 years before completing his PhD in 2004 and becoming a full-time teacher — to serving global ministry work. She has travelled to more than 45 countries to connect with Alliance teams, shoot video, tell stories and conduct field site visits to report on worldwide efforts, and moved into her current position nine years ago.

The role Beach and her team play in coordinating the refugee-sponsorship response of churches large and small is a

milestone on a journey started years ago. With strong churches in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq, the Alliance has direct lines into what happens on the ground in those countries. When the conflict in Syria intensified in the spring of 2011, Alliance workers predicted great need and the denomination approached the federal government to become a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH), authorized to sponsor refugees to Canada.

Beach travelled to the Mid-East in 2013 and returned convinced that the plight of Syrians was a story in urgent need of telling, and determined to bring refugees to Canada. Then, when three-year-old Alan Kurdi's body washed ashore in Turkey in September 2015, the world's attention was galvanized and efforts to bring refugees to Canada accelerated.

Hundreds of churches across Canada, from all denominations, wanted to answer the call. Because the Alliance was already an SAH able to sponsor refugees, it was able to accelerate the process. It stepped forward and today

continued on next page >

REFUGE

**Our responsibility
is... to care for people's
needs and get them back
toward wholeness, and
then let God do what
He needs to do.**

**II This is
breaking down
walls between
people, and
some beautiful
relationships
are emerging.**

Joanne shares a precious moment with Pamela (L) and Melina Saloum at the Ancaster Village Church.

PROVIDING REFUGE

continued from previous page

serves as the umbrella organization providing support to about 175 churches from three denominations. The Alliance helps churches complete their sponsorship application paper work, and offers practical advice and support for churches whose families have already arrived.

Fourteen families have been sponsored by churches to date, 30 additional applications have been submitted and more than 100 additional applications are in various stages of the process. The churches' responses have been inspired by compassion, not conversion.

"Biblically, when you see a person in need, you meet the need," Beach says of sponsoring Christian and Muslim



HUGS. TEARS. JOY. FEAR. AND, ABOVE ALL, HOPE.

refugees alike. "Our responsibility is to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give a drink to the thirsty ... to care for people's needs and get them back toward wholeness, and then let God do what He needs to do."

"We are casting the vision — and what an extraordinary opportunity this is to reach out to a family that may have grown up in an anti-Christian context. This is breaking down walls between people, and some beautiful relationships are emerging."

It has been nothing short of amazing to see churches raise the necessary funds (an estimated \$30,000 to support a family of four for the first year), a daunting prospect made easier for

some because Beach and her team have also been able to link individuals who want to fund a refugee family with churches who have the ability and volunteers to make the long-term commitment.

When their families arrive, churches work hard to help them resettle and integrate into Canada. Fulfilling their year-long commitment means doing everything they can to help Syrians become self-sufficient and independent.

"It's a massive way to express the love of Christ," Beach explains. "The result isn't up to us. Our role is to fill a need just as Jesus would."



On their very first night in Canada, both girls slept in their own beds all night. It was the first time they had felt safe, the first time they had slept apart from their mother, since a bomb went off near their home in Syria.

WELCOME HOME, MELINA

Like millions of children worldwide, Melina Saloum loves all things Hello Kitty. Joanne Beach's home church, the Ancaster Village Church just outside Hamilton, Ont., did everything it could to welcome Melina and her family to Canada by creating a dream bedroom that led to squeals of delight from the little girl and tears from her mother.

The Saloums — dad Nidal, mom Roula, daughters Melina (age 6) and Pamela (age 2) — spent the first two weeks of their life in Canada

living in a basement suite in Joanne Beach's home, until permanent accommodation could be found.

What this small, young church — three years old with a congregation totalling only 60 — did in partnership with a generous couple who provided sponsorship funding has been truly life-changing for the Saloums.

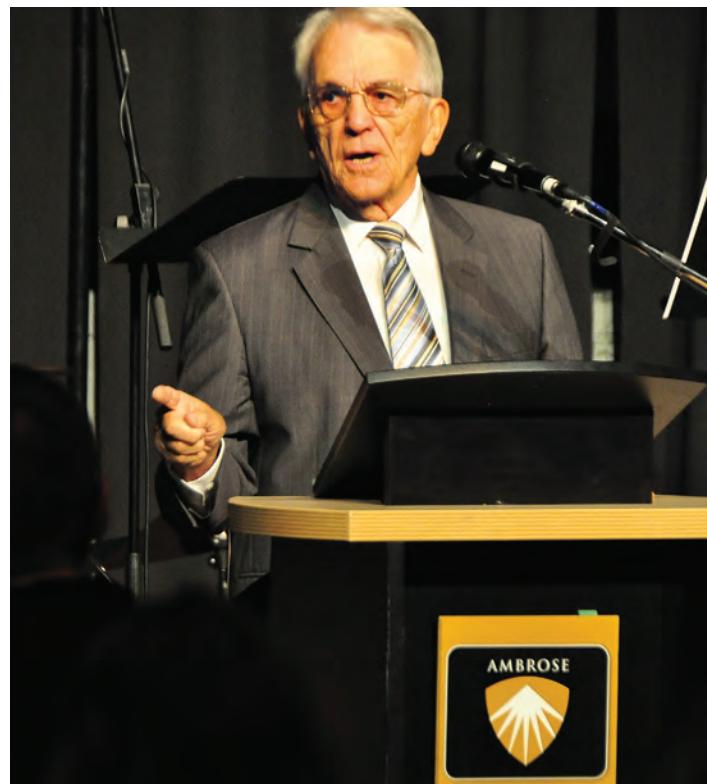
"On their very first night in Canada, Roula said both girls slept in their own beds all night," Beach says. "It was the first time they had felt safe, the first time they had slept apart from their mother, since a bomb went off near their home in Syria, terrifying Melina and causing the family to flee to Jordan."

The family is saddened to think about the friends and family they were forced to leave behind two-and-a-half years ago (Burlington Alliance, a church close to Ancaster, is now working to sponsor Nidal's brother's family), and equally saddened by how their country has been forever changed. "It's impossible for us to imagine what it's like when war comes to your city," Beach says, "when brothers fight against brothers and everyone hates."

In Canada, the Saloums and other Syrian families find love and hope for the future. "Sponsorship is just the tip of the iceberg. Families who live near the Saloums are welcoming them. My son adores the family and sent a tweet with a picture of the little girls asking how, knowing what they've experienced, anyone could ask why they're here."

"Their being here has helped our entire community." □

Renowned Canadian evangelist Dr. Barry Moore lived a large life leading small-town revivals. His gift to Ambrose University will ensure his legacy continues.



Ambrose University photo

A preacher's legacy continues

Over more than 50 years, Barry Moore led more than 1,000 evangelism rallies in 90 countries. He ventured behind the Iron Curtain and braved grueling tours through Africa and India. He rubbed shoulders with World Vision founder Bob Pearce and American evangelist Billy Graham.

Now in his nineties, Moore is ensuring his ministry continues. A generous gift to Ambrose University in 2012 established the Barry Moore Chair of Preaching & Evangelism.

Moore never aspired to become an evangelist. Turning down a promising baseball career at 19 (he refused to play on Sundays), Moore settled into a respectable job as a school teacher. He and his beloved wife, Audrey, volunteered with Youth for Christ, and Moore later became the group's full-time director. To build his knowledge of God's Word, he

attended Columbia Bible College (now Columbia International University) in South Carolina.

Moore had planned to return home to Ontario to raise funds to plant churches in France, but when that didn't happen, God stepped in. Moore accepted a request from an evangelist to do a one-week rally at a church in Regina. Three weeks and three churches later, he returned home with eight more invitations — and a new vocation.

Barry Moore Ministries (BMM), originally established in 1960, was the first international interdenominational evangelistic association in Canada. Moore intentionally visited obscure locations in Canada and by invitation only.

Reaching retirement age and winding down BMM, Moore accepted Ambrose's invitation to use the Ministry's assets to continue its work by establishing the Barry Moore Chair of Preaching & Evangelism. The

endowment exists to strengthen existing ministry programs, launch new initiatives and provide resources to the church within Canada and abroad. Mark Buchanan, Ambrose University professor, pastor and author, is the inaugural chair.

Moore saw the natural fit between his ministry and Ambrose, and wanted to see the Gospel spread throughout a broken world. He believes it is still essential to preach the gospel purposefully.

"That, to me, is what needs to be done," Moore says. "The world is in chaos, and a mess. There doesn't seem to be any way out, but thank God there's a way up." □

READ MORE about continuing Barry Moore's legacy in a Q&A with Mark Buchanan at ambrose.edu/news_and_events/carrying-torch

YOUR GIFT MATTERS!

Tuition Free Day celebrates the people and organizations who support Ambrose University students — and offers a heartfelt ‘thank you’ from students for investing in their future.

Ambrose University photo



Every year, Ambrose University students are helped on their academic and life journey by thousands of alumni, parents, faculty, staff, businesses, churches, foundations and others who donate because they believe in the value of an Ambrose University education.

Because revenue from tuition and government funding only goes so far — covering just 71.5 percent of the full cost of an Ambrose student's education — your support provides for the remaining 28.5 percent. This enables Ambrose to keep tuition costs as low as possible, and literally makes attendance possible for many students who otherwise may not be able to afford to study at the University.

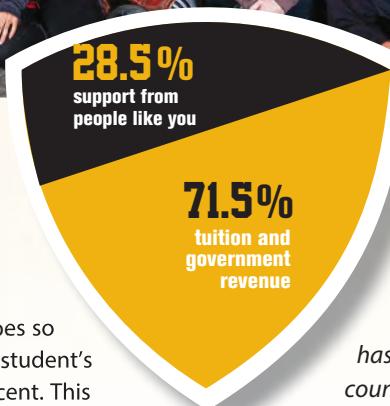
Your gift to Ambrose University has a meaningful and tangible impact: students feel blessed to receive financial support from a caring community.

Your investment in students is truly an investment in the future. As you enable students to learn, play, perform, experiment, study, live and worship, you invest in the next generation of church, society and business leaders. These are the men and women society will rely on to spread God's word and to serve the world.

Tuition Free Day was an opportunity to say “thank you” to you and all donors who have given to support students' education. Your support makes all the difference to them, academically, emotionally and spiritually.

To read some of the many stories from students expressing their gratitude, visit the Student Impact page on the Ambrose University website at ambrose.edu. You can also learn more about the many ways you can support students and can donate today online. Email development@ambrose.edu or call 403-410-2920.

Your gift matters. □



The annual Tuition Free Day — this year February 23 — marks the point in the fiscal year when revenue from tuition fees and government funding has been expended, and students count on your generosity. This was the perfect day to say “thank you” to people like you, who give so students can realize their dreams.



2016 GOLF CLASSIC

Proceeds in support of Lions Athletics teams

**The Links of GlenEagles
Friday, September 16**

Registration – 11:00 am
BBQ Lunch – 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Shotgun Start – 1:30 pm
Post Game Dinner – 6:30 pm

PRICING

Until August 8, 2016
Foursome – \$1,000 per (save \$400)
Individual Golfer – \$300 (save \$50)

After August 8, 2016
Foursome – \$1,200 (save \$200)
Individual Golfer – \$350

Ambrose University
is a community
of transformative
Christian higher
education – with
a vision for the
welfare of our city
and our world.

**Register online
at ambrose.edu**
**Or contact Jason Demers
at 403-410-2920**

Driven by God's love

A family opens their heart — as well as their garage and home — to serve Christ and offer fellowship.

(L-R): Ashley, Jeff, Dale, Barb and Daniel Sevcik.

To say that the Sevcik family and a host of volunteers from the family's church "go the distance" when it comes to helping others is an understatement. Mom and dad Dale and Barb Sevcik, son Daniel, and daughter Ashley Williams (an Ambrose University Master of Divinity student) and her husband Jeff are committed to making a difference.

For the past 11 years, they've taken their knowledge of all things automotive, a passion to serve Christ and support from generous sponsors to literally keep struggling, low-income Calgarians — typically seniors, single moms, widows and new immigrants who rely on their vehicles every day but can't afford regular maintenance — safely on the road. On a Saturday in both the spring and fall, the Sevciks provide free auto servicing (oil changes, basic maintenance and minor fixes) in their southeast-Calgary garage, and a home-cooked meal in their kitchen, to somewhere between 50 and 55 people.



"It's just a natural thing to do," Dale says. "The Lord puts the right people in the right place at the right time, and we trust God to change people. He has been very good to us, blessed us, and we're thankful to continue to serve."

"There's lots of need out there," explains Barb, who knows how a shared meal can transform strangers into friends. "So many people don't have a relationship with God or are living in isolation. Working together as Christians, we show how much He loves — and the walls between people drop."

"The body of Christ needs to step up right now to help," Dale continues, saying that today's economic downturn is adding to the burden carried by many. "There is huge need, and huge opportunity to serve."

For everyone involved, "it's an opportunity to be involved in the richness of God's goodness," says Ashley, who is building her own approach to ministry by following in her family's footsteps. "Knowledge builds faith, understanding and love for God. I wouldn't be complete without helping others."

"Everybody knows there is despair in our community. We just have to choose to see it," Daniel concludes. "Love, respect, kindness ... this is what we give. We give of ourselves and show we care with our smiles." □

THIS SPRING, the Sevcik's church opened its three-bay garage and commercial kitchen to the family-led ministry, welcoming it into the church family.

|| Students shouldn't be afraid to be the best they can be, to strive to reach their potential, or to believe they can achieve more with the gifts God has given them. They can be humble and win and be excellent — all for the glory of God.

Colin Kubinec



COURTING DISCIPLES

The Ambrose University Lions prove that humility and the pursuit of athletic excellence can be a winning combination.

In the heat of competition, the Ambrose University Lions play as hard for the win as any other team — but there's more to these student athletes than a great dunk, deke or dribble.

"We are striving for a culture of pursuing excellence, building family and being disciples of Christ," explains Colin Kubinec, Director of Athletics and Women's Volleyball coach. "We want the way Jesus lived to inform our lives, and that includes how we play sports in the 21st century context."

"We believe Jesus called us to be disciples. That doesn't mean we tack discipleship onto life, but that we walk with Christ in every aspect of life."

Through sports, student athletes demonstrate what it looks like to compete to the best of their ability and represent their school, bringing to the game the values and character Christ would show. "When we seek to be the best we can be, we honour God," Kubinec explains. "We don't strive for excellence for self-glory or to prove ourselves to God, but to honour Him, and to recognize where our gifts come from."

This, he says, doesn't mean that Ambrose athletes are less competitive. Like other post-secondary athletes in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference, players train four days a week, compete at home and across the province two days a week, and travel to tournaments. They strive to reach the provincial playoffs and to parlay that success into a berth at the nationals.

What's different is that come game time, athletes pray before and after their games. And while the Lions compete on the court and the pitch to the best of their physical ability, they do so with a heightened attitude of gratefulness and joy. This inner fabric is developed consciously by Ambrose University, where even the organizational placement of Athletics within the Student Development Department signals a philosophical approach different from the "win at all costs" mentality that can pervade higher-tier athletics.

Ambrose's student athletes are inspired to develop physically, emotionally and spiritually, Kubinec explains, because the University intentionally blends the focus on

COMPETITIVE CHARACTER

They may have made their debut in the provincial ACAC and national CCAA leagues only recently, but the roar of the Ambrose University Lions is already being heard. The teams proved worthy competitors provincially and, now that rookie jitters are out of the way, promise to give opponents a tough time in the coming season. Follow the Lions at ambrose.edu.

academic performance with the support of coaches, teammates, career counsellors, the chaplain and others, and includes Bible study and leadership lessons.

The result is an exceptional holistic learning opportunity that prepares graduates to excel in all facets of their lives.

"We want our athletes to be leaders in society and to build God's kingdom — to build a kingdom of love, peace and joy," he says, explaining that investing in players during the one to five years they attend the University forms character and lays the foundation for becoming people of influence when they graduate. "We want to be there for more than what they need to be good athletes."

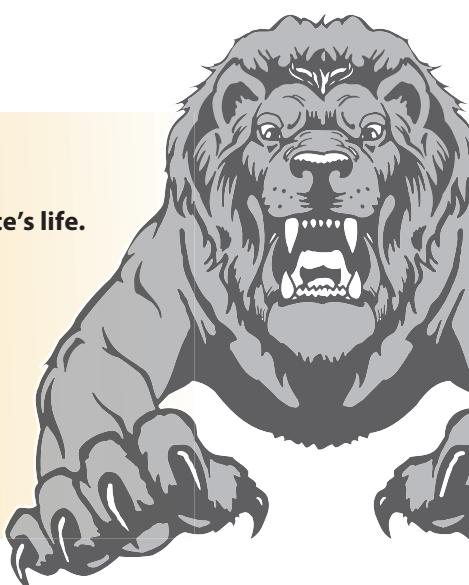
Living with humility is not incompatible with athletics or playing to win. Rather, both honour the Creator and inspire others to appreciate and develop their gifts.

"Students shouldn't be afraid to be the best they can be, to strive to reach their potential, or to believe they can achieve more with the gifts God has given them," Kubinec says. "They can be humble and win and be excellent — all for the glory of God." □

ATHLETES SCORE A BIG WIN FOR CAREER LIFE SUCCESS

The benefit of taking part in varsity athletics extends throughout a student athlete's life. This time of "character education" develops aptitude and attitude, fostering:

- a passion for developing the gifts God has provided
- leadership among peers
- confidence to work through difficult situations
- discipline and a work ethic
- selflessness in achieving shared goals
- physical, emotional and spiritual well-being



Ambrose University is blessed to be part of a large, growing and vibrant community.
Meet some of the many people within it — and share your own news with others by visiting ambrose.edu or emailing anthem@ambrose.edu.



**Stay in
TOUCH!**

family&friends

Joelle (Bachelor of Religious Education: CBC '01) and **Timothy Brown** are sharing the heartbreaking story about the loss of their twins, Aelyn and Declan, who were born at just 25 weeks old and passed into the Lord's arms after only two-and-a-half days on July 2, 2014. They have created the Aelyn and Declan Brown Memorial Fund at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg to honour their twins and to show gratitude for the care and support provided at the NICU. They hope to raise funds to purchase two new state-of-the-art incubators. Read more at saintboniface.ca/foundation and watch a January CTV interview with Tim and Joelle at winnipeg.ctvnews.ca (search for "Joelle Brown"). ▼



Stephen Conklin (Bachelor of Arts – Ministry; CNC '95) has been guided by God's hand and has served for the past five years as the Protestant Chaplain for the Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Centre in Fort Saskatchewan, Alta. "It is a calling I truly enjoy in that I get to tell people — all kinds of people — about my work with the Lord, and the Alberta government pays me to do it!" Stephen's wife, Joanne, is in the final stretch of her Education Assistant Certificate and their daughter Faith is entering Grade 10. The family attends Sherwood Park Church of the Nazarene, where Stephen preaches once a month and leads Bible Study. "This is where God has brought us and we continue to rely on Him to direct and guide us."

Luke Dargatz (Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science student) contributed content to *Minecraft*, a book about the video game of the same name. YouTube videos he created a couple of years ago about architectural structures he was building in the game received hundreds of thousands of views. Luke is one of several students sharing their stories on the Ambrose University website, showing donors the powerful impact of their gifts to the University.

Gordon Hallett (Donor Relations staff member), who many alumni have come to know through their support of Ambrose University, retired on April 30, after eight-and-a-half years at the University.

Louise Jewell (Bachelor of Religious Education; CBC '98 and Master of Arts – Religion; Ambrose Seminary '10) is a registered clinical counsellor



specializing in betrayal trauma and is a certified clinical partner specialist candidate. She lives in B.C. and is also a coach with Journey to Healing and Joy.

Mabiala Kenzo (Master of Divinity; CTS '86) and his wife **Lau Kenzo** (Master of Divinity – Leadership and Ministry; Ambrose Seminary '06) are currently serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mark Kitzman (Bachelor of Arts – Christian Studies; NUC '03) is married to Jocelyn, and they pastor the Cambridge-Preston Church of the Nazarene, their childhood church, in Cambridge, Ont. The couple has three children and Mark is working on his Master of Arts – Theology through Nazarene Theological College, aspiring to teach at the university level.



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Leah Nel (Bachelor of Arts – English '15) is a budding writer who shared her story at a special event hosted by Ambrose University English Department Head

Dr. Rita Dirks in January 2016 to inspire creativity and writing among students, alumni and professors. Leah offered words of wisdom and used her own blog (walkintheriver.com) as an example of how students can express themselves while still completing their school assignments.

Jeff Pasche (Bachelor of Theology '15) is the Senior Pastor at Calgary Community Reformed Church and has been married to



Maria for five years. He credits Ambrose University for contributing deeply to his personal and professional formation: "Not only was it a fantastic place to develop critical-thinking skills and acquire knowledge that would help me in the future, but it also allowed me to discover who I am as a pastor and as a servant of God."



Carol (Dodds) Rose (CBC/CTS student 1966–67) says that in the three years following the passing of her husband, **Bob** (CBC/CTS student 1966–67), and served as Academic Dean and

President 1969–96), she continues to be surrounded by friends and family and has a greater awareness of the Lord's presence than ever before. Carol lives in White Rock, B.C., and worships at Pacific Community Church, the place of ministry to which she and Bob were taken almost 20 years ago (following

Bob's 30-plus years at CBC/CTS). "The companionship of Jesus on my journey is such a comfort, and I enjoy over 40 years of memories of my life together with Bob, and the wonderful friends and colleagues we had at Ambrose."

Megan Silver (Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science '11) and husband **Chris** (Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science '14) welcomed son Maxwell James Silver into the world on Feb. 25, 2016. Megan is a member of Ambrose University's Enrolment Team, which is the primary point of contact for prospective students and is staffed by people passionate about helping students succeed.

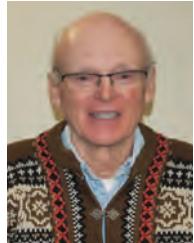


Passing into the presence of Jesus

Prayers and condolences are extended to friends and family who have passed away. Please submit your memorial announcements at ambrose.edu/anthem.

Alta Mae (Oke) Hanna passed away on Jan. 8, 2016. She met husband-to-be Vern while both attended CNC in the 1950s. The couple completed their Bachelor of Arts degrees in the U.S., and Vern also completed his Master of Divinity. Returning to Canada, Vern pastored Nazarene churches, and he and Alta Mae raised four children. They moved to Winnipeg in 1975, where Vern taught at CNC for 22 years and Alta Mae became a grandmother to seven and a great-grandmother to three.

Gary Maclean Hutton (CBC '70), a faithful follower of Jesus Christ, died peacefully with family



at his side on Dec. 23, 2015, at the age of 70. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Pat, children Loralee (Mike) and Jonathan (Christina), and grandchildren Emily and Melody. Gary served five communities as pastor across Manitoba (Hilltop Baptist, Minnedosa Baptist, McDiarmid Drive Alliance, Hilbre Gospel Chapel), Saskatchewan (Weekes Evangelical Chapel, Watrous Baptist) and Alberta (Flatbush Community Church) before semi-retiring in Manitou Beach, Sask. He reached out to people in love wherever the Lord led him, and for 33 years of ministry in remote communities was the only pastor available for funerals and weddings.

Dr. David Rambo, former President of Canadian Bible College and Canadian Theological Seminary from 1972–78, passed away on

March 11, 2016. Over his many years of leadership in Canada and the U.S., he had an extraordinary impact on the next generation of Christian leaders, including many faculty at Ambrose University and current President Dr. Gordon T. Smith.

Rev. Jack W.K. To

(CTS '86) passed away on March 30, 2016. The first Christian in his family, Jack led his siblings and parents to Christ when he was a teen, and later inspired generations of people in Hong Kong, Canada and the United States. He is survived by wife Rose, son Josiah and daughter Rachel. The memorial service was held in San Diego, Calif.



Ambrose University alumni use their degrees in myriad ways to make a difference in lives and communities. In this fun, new, regular feature, *Anthem* asks alumni to answer a few questions — and proudly presents a quick introduction to some of our many ‘family and friends.’

asked & answered

family&friends



Sara Dasko

*Bachelor of Arts – General Studies 2010;
CEO, Free Mind*

Tell us about yourself in 25 words

In one hand, holding out for the next grand adventure while embracing all that I currently have with the other. Live. Laugh. Love.

What advice do you offer current students?

Get involved in whatever things you can. Try new things. If you don't like them, move on. Find your passions, explore them, discover new ones. Remember: it's not about the mark you get, it's about what you learned.

What should every new grad know?

Get ready to keep learning. We can't do the next great thing until we're ready internally to take it on, so keep bettering yourself. Follow your loves and passions. Live fully who you are and who God created you to be. Don't let people control you, bring you down, or say you can't do something. When God speaks to you, His voice is all that matters.

Almost all of life is what you make of it. Change your mindsets so they're setting you up for success rather than limiting you with excuses. Find and keep awesome people in your life. Let go of people who are hurting you.

You've got one life. You can't do everything, but do what you can. And love every single second of it. Don't waste time with worry, fear or anger. Feel it. Deal with it. Move on. It all comes down to love. So if nothing else, just love.



Rory Jipp

*Bachelor of Business Administration 2014;
Master's student in International Affairs,
specializing in Intelligence and National
Security, Carleton University, Ottawa*

Tell us about yourself in 25 words

Motivated individual with big dreams relating to politics, international security, development, social justice, business, missions, sports, coffee and cats, not necessarily in that order.

What impact has Ambrose had on your life so far?

It is often a misconceived notion that faith and work have to be two separate facets of our lives. After being at Ambrose for four years, I have a greater understanding of how to incorporate my faith into the work I do. Learning what it means to live an integrated life, where our faith permeates every aspect of our lives, is the most important lesson that a Christian university can provide. Ambrose does this well.

What should every new grad know?

Your first job after university does not necessarily determine your overall calling in life. Despite how boring or purposeless your first job might seem, it is just one step in the process. Learn to find contentment and joy from the place you are in, but continue to strive for the things that God has put on your heart.

What do you miss most about your time at Ambrose?

I miss the small-school environment and all the benefits that came with it: going to school and seeing familiar faces, hanging out at professors' homes, and being involved in activities that I would never get to experience at a larger school.



Christopher Primeau

*Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science 2016;
Development Manager, Calgary Dream Centre*

Tell us about yourself in 25 words

Before Ambrose, I spent five years in youth ministry with my wife, Rachel. I continue to build my career with the Calgary Dream Centre, helping people escape homelessness and addiction.

What advice do you offer current students?

Take time to build relationships with other students, faculty members and staff. There is a vast network at Ambrose that can and will help you prepare for your future.

If you could have one university ‘do over,’ what would it be?

I would complete my degree before I begin my career.

What do you miss most about your time at Ambrose?

Great professors and working on research projects.

What impact has Ambrose had on your life so far?

Ambrose equipped me to do the work I currently do to help the most vulnerable in our city experience life change. Without the guidance, support and knowledge I've received from Ambrose, I would not be able to face the challenges that I do.

What should every new grad know?

It's not what you learn, but how you use it.



Daniel Yu

*Bachelor of Business Administration 2011;
Student Accounts and Receivables, Ambrose University*

Tell us about yourself in 25 words

I'm married to Kara-Anne and we're expecting our first minion (err child) in July! I'm a Calgary Flames and Manchester United fan, and in my spare time I enjoy video games and photography.

What impact has Ambrose had on your life so far?

Ambrose enabled me to deepen my faith and get an education at the same time. I met some lifelong friends here and even reconnected with a childhood friend who I'd lost contact with.

What's your favourite campus memory?

C.U.T.S. (Chairs Under The Stairs)

What advice do you offer current students?

Be an adult and take ownership of your decisions. No one respects or likes someone who blames everyone else. However, enjoy your four years for what it is. Life will always bring about more responsibility.

What do you miss most about your time at Ambrose?

The lack of responsibility that being a student sometimes has.

What was your favourite study spot?

The cafeteria. You always need food when you study.

joinus

Here are just some of the many events that are happening at Ambrose University in coming months.

Visit ambrose.edu for a complete listing and all the details.

All events take place at Ambrose University, unless otherwise noted.



family&friends

2016 Jazz Camp

With special guest Al Kay, trombone, and the Ambrose Jazz Faculty

Monday, August 22

For musicians 14 years of age and up
Register before July 25 and save.

For more information or to register visit <https://ambrose.edu/jazzcamp> or email music@ambrose.edu.



Golf Classic

In support of Lions Athletics



Friday, September 16

The Links of GlenEagles (Cochrane)
11:00 a.m. (MST)

Your participation in the golf tournament helps 80+ student athletes benefit from Ambrose's vision of "Pursuing Excellence, Building Family, and Becoming Disciples." Contact Jason Demers at jason.demers@ambrose.edu for more information or to register.

Game On!

Lions Home Openers

Volleyball vs. Olds
October 15

Basketball vs St. Mary's
November 4

Open House

November 18–19, 2016

Interested in enrolling at Ambrose? Come and visit the campus, experience our community, and see for yourself what the City of Calgary and area has to offer. Activities for the two days include information sessions, classroom experience, faculty meet and greet, and fun in Banff. Experience life at Ambrose University! Out of town students can take advantage of our travel bursary.

Journey Down Ancient Paths

Explore these new offerings for 2016–17 and other journeys at downancientpaths.com.

The Cross, the Conquest and the Civilization of the Inca in Peru and Ecuador

January 10–23, 2017
(optional extension to the Galapagos Islands January 23–27, 2017)

And Christianity Came to Tahiti: A South Pacific Odyssey

March 1–13, 2017

The Reformation Institute: A 500th Anniversary Journey into the World of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation

May 2–20, 2017

Legacy Youth Conference

March 17–19, 2017

Next March, high school students from across Canada will join us for this life-changing event. Send your youth group and build a connection with Ambrose or support us in prayer as our students learn to minister and youth come together to worship and grow.

Legacy

Great Scott!

by Rev. Bryce Ashlin-Mayo



// As we bravely enter this new and emerging world, we need a Church that is equipped to enter it with the person and truth of Jesus.

Our world is experiencing change on a scale unheard of in its history. This reality is echoed in Stephen Spielberg's classic movie franchise, *Back to the Future*. Dr. Emmett Brown, the frazzled, grey-haired, semi-unstable professor, creates a time machine in a DeLorean with a complex power source that propels the car back and forth from the past to the future. The power source of the DeLorean, aptly called the flux capacitor, propels it through time and space.

As we move forward through time and space in our rapidly changing future, we also need to be propelled by our own flux capacitor. Our flux capacitor needs to be fuelled by an amplified flux capacity — the ability to adjust and respond to change at an ever-increasing rate. Flux capacity in our emerging world will propel us into the future fueled with thoughtful questions, deep reflection and the ability to engage in the advances of our culture with wisdom, truth and grace.

How will we respond to advances in robotics that increasingly merge human with machine (*cyborg*)? How will we respond to nanotechnology altering our natural human experience as ultra-small robots are used to fight cancer cells or replace/augment red blood cells (*respirocyte*)? How will we respond to the increasing ubiquity of mobile devices that record, manage and narrate our lives and history (*mobiuity*), in a way that balances security with privacy? How will we respond to the emerging tide of virtual and augmented reality that reshapes how we experience the world and how we live out unfiltered fantasies and desires?

In the immortal words of Doc Brown, "Great Scott!"

As we bravely enter this new and emerging world, we need a Church that is equipped to enter it with the person and truth of Jesus. We need a Church filled with courageous leaders who are equipped to boldly respond with expanding flux capacity, rather than react with retracting, fearful anxiety.

The Church needs a new generation of Christian leaders across all professions who are applying truth to the questions and challenges of our emerging world. May we increase our ability to respond rather than react and may we speak prophetically into our fluctuating future with the eternally consistent hope and truth of Jesus.

Ambrose University is uniquely poised to meet this challenge because of its size, culture and scope. Ambrose is equipping students with increased flux capacity to engage our emerging and constantly changing world with the hope and truth of Jesus. This is what Ambrose did for me when I attended years ago, it is what it has done for the young staff I have the pleasure of leading at Westlife Church, and what it is currently doing with the university and seminary students I have the honour of teaching. As we experience the flux in our world, we may exclaim, "Great Scott!" However, as we enter our emerging world, may we also, with great hope and a prophetic voice, proclaim, "Greater Jesus!" □

Rev. Bryce Ashlin-Mayo, Lead Pastor at Calgary's Westlife Church, graduated from Canadian Bible College (Bachelor of Theology) in 1998. He blogs regularly, connecting the dots of culture, technology, faith, ministry, mission and life. Read more at bryceashlinmayo.com.

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