



**JANUARY 27, 2017**

**IN SYMPATHY...**

It is with sadness that we report Reverend Raymond Spence passed away on Sunday night in Northern Ireland. Reverend Spence was the father of Pat Fitzpatrick and father-in-law of Reverend Ian Fitzpatrick, Canada Central District Superintendent.

The funeral will be held on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, officiated by Reverend Ian Fitzpatrick.

Reverend Spence pastored churches in the U.K. as well as here in Ontario (Niagara) and in Nova Scotia (Trenton). He retired from the Trenton Church and returned to Northern Ireland where he enjoyed "retirement" until his passing.

Please remember Pat, Ian and their entire family in prayer during this time of loss.

**A NOTE REGARDING THE PASSING OF MAE BAHAN**

Dear Pastors, members and friends of the Church of the Nazarene Canada Pacific District:

On Friday, January 13, Mae Bahan, our friend and dear sister went home to be with her Lord and Saviour. Earlier that week, on January 10, Mae had suffered a severe heart attack. We will greatly miss her.

Mae and her husband Pastor Bill Bahan started dating at the age of 16, and they never looked back! Married for over 66 years, they ministered together as a team in various capacities with the Church of the Nazarene clear across Canada.

During her life and in the days leading up to her death, Mae was quite clear in giving instruction to her family and to her pastor that she did not wish to have a public funeral or memorial service. At a later date her family will be having a private gathering in her honour, as well as a family graveside service in Calgary, Alberta.

Mae touched so many lives over the years, and many have been asking how they might pay tribute to Mae's life and express comfort and support to Pastor Bahan and his family; son and daughter-in-law Richard and Pat Bahan; daughter and son-in-law Dell Marie and Victor Wergeland; and daughters Lorilee and Te'a, and their families.

In the coming days, we would like to encourage our church family and people across Canada and around the world who have been touched by the life of Mae Bahan to write a special memory of Mae and/or a word of encouragement and comfort to her family.

Please send it to:

Victoria First Church of the Nazarene  
4277 Quadra Street  
Victoria, BC V8X 1L5

Or email: [firstnaz@pacificcoast.net](mailto:firstnaz@pacificcoast.net)

If you have a picture of yourself and family and/or your connection with Mae over the years, the family would be pleased to have you include that also.

We offer our condolences and our prayers to Pastor Bill Bahan and his wider family during this time.

God Bless,  
Earl and Vernita Wood

### **CHURCHES INVITED TO UNITE** **AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON FREEDOM SUNDAY**

Over the past three years, more than 400 Nazarene congregations in various countries around the world have participated in [Freedom Sunday](#). The event is a day set aside for prayer, worship, and support around the issue of human trafficking, which enslaves as many as 45.8 million people globally, according to the [2016 Global Slavery Index](#).

This year, Nazarene churches are encouraged to participate in Freedom Sunday on September 24, 2017, the last Sunday of that month.

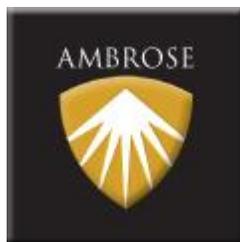
The Church of the Nazarene's participation in Freedom Sunday began in 2014 in coordination with other denominations within the [Wesleyan Holiness Connection](#) (formerly Wesleyan Holiness Consortium). In the same year, the Church of the Nazarene's Board of General Superintendents endorsed the [Declaration for Freedom](#), a document drafted by the Wesleyan–Holiness leaders, including Nazarene representatives.

In the past, the event took place on the first Sunday of Lent. This year, the Wesleyan Holiness Connection's Freedom Network decided to move the date to the last Sunday in September. In part, the change was to allow churches that plan traditional Lenten services to participate, and in part it was to create greater momentum and unity as additional churches and organizations have begun to participate in Freedom Sunday events.

Congregations are encouraged to plan a Freedom Sunday at any time that works in their calendar. Freedom Sunday planning resources are available as free downloads through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries at [ncm.org/freedomSunday](http://ncm.org/freedomSunday).

– [Nazarene Compassionate Ministries](#)

The above article appears courtesy of NCN News. For more global Nazarene news, please visit [www.ncnnews.com](http://www.ncnnews.com).



### **JOIN US IN PRAYER ON FEBRUARY 7**

Dear Partner Congregations,

Our Board of Governors has designated Tuesday, February 7, as a Day of Prayer for Ambrose University.

We will be observing the Day of Prayer on campus with a number of [prayer events and gatherings](#), led by our Chaplain (Terry Fach), myself and other members of the Ambrose community. These events are open to guests – parents, alumni, and friends of Ambrose

who would like to participate (parking in our main lot is free).

In particular, our chapel that day (11:15 a.m. in the gymnasium) will have a prayer focus and I would be delighted if you felt able to join us for corporate prayer. But, even if you cannot be present on campus, would you commit to spending some time in prayer for Ambrose University on February 7, whether personally, or as a part of a staff prayer time?

Additionally, please consider including Ambrose University in the pastoral prayer or Prayers of the People on Sunday, February 5. You can visit our website for a full [schedule](#) and updates on the Day of Prayer event.

Warmly in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gordon". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a large, light blue oval shape.

Dr. Gordon T. Smith  
President  
Ambrose University

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and see your information appear in the next edition of  
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