



**FEBRUARY 10, 2017**

**PRAYER CALENDAR**  
**FOR CANADA'S 150TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Believers all across Canada are celebrating Canada's Birthday with prayer over a period of 150 days. God has encouraged us to call upon Him and promised to pour out His blessings upon us, as a consequence.

Attached is a copy of our prayer calendar. Please distribute this calendar to individuals and churches who are interested in joining this initiative.

In Christ's Service,

Esther Bissoon

**NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHES**  
**TIMOTHY AWARD RECIPIENT DATABASE**

Nazarene Youth International recently launched the [Timothy Award Recipient Database](#), an online directory of the more than 650 deserving individuals who have received a Timothy Award in the past 22 years.

Established in 1995, the Timothy Award is presented to youth workers, volunteers, pastors, camp directors, Bible Quizzing coaches, district superintendents, professors, and others who demonstrate personal commitment to youth through service and sacrifice.

Churches, districts, fields, and regions nominate candidates by submitting an application and nomination letter. The letters are typically filled with stories of the generous and loving ways the nominee has faithfully invested in their youth over the years. These

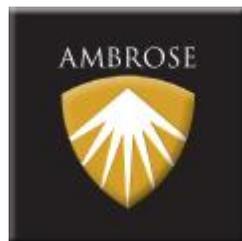
individuals live their lives in ways that embody the words of the Apostle Paul, who recognized Timothy's commitment to the needs of others: *"I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare"* (Philippians 2:20).

Nazarene Youth International came up with the idea for a database during the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Timothy Award in 2015 and set to work collecting quotes about and pictures of as many recipients as possible. Each database entry includes the name of the recipient, the year the award was presented, the recipient's home country, who presented the award, a quote from the nominating entity (if available), and a picture of the recipient (if available). The database will be regularly updated as new recipients are named and as missing details are received.

Candidates for a Timothy Award must have served in youth ministry for a minimum of 10 years. For more information about how to submit an application, [click here](#).

– [Nazarene Youth International](#)

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



## **TEACHING TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN STUDENTS**

When Alex Noel graduated from Ambrose in 2013 with a double major in Music and Biology, he thought he was finished with school. *"My undergrad was one of the most fun experiences of my life, but I chose two degrees that were a lot of work, so I was glad to be finished,"* he recalls.

Thanks to his education, Alex was soon employed as a Community Education Program Coordinator at the Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre. Through this job he learned what a critical role a teacher can end up playing in someone's life.

We sat down with Alex halfway through his first year of the Bachelor of Education program to find out how he decided to become a teacher, and why he chose Ambrose for his after-degree.

**So you were already working in classrooms and enjoying it, what made you decide to go back to school to study teaching?**

It was my wife's idea, actually. Because my job was to facilitate discussions about sexual health and healthy relationships in classrooms across Calgary, I would, on rare occasions, have a student approach me after a presentation to disclose that they had been sexually assaulted.

Legally my responsibility was to report this to the teacher and afterwards I wasn't allowed to mention it ever again, unless the student brought it up. Now that I'm training to be teacher I understand the importance of that rule, but at the time I was torn up.

When I came home one day and explained how I felt helpless in those situations my wife pointed out that maybe I was looking at a possibility rather than a problem – as a teacher I could make more of a difference for those kids.

**What made you choose Ambrose for your Bachelor of Education?**

Even though I had an amazing experience in my undergrad, I wanted to make a well researched decision, so I interviewed at several different universities.

I asked each school a series of questions about their Education program: Are you going to talk about politics? Classroom management? How to interact with parents?

At every other school I interviewed at, the short answer to these questions was “no.” At Ambrose, the answer was “yes.”

**Now that you are in the program, does it measure up to your expectations?**

Yes, it really does. Ambrose prepares you for things that many other schools don't.

The feedback we get from the Rocky View School District is that, alongside students from the University of Lethbridge, which has a reputation as the best school in the province, the district consistently wants to hire graduates from Ambrose. That's impressive – our program has only been around for a couple of years, but it's already a clear leader.

**It sounds like the classroom experience has been a highlight – can you tell us about some of your favourite classes?**

I think the most practical class that I've taken so far was Curriculum Planning with Nicki Rhen. With everything that we learned, she showed us how it would look in practice and

we had to apply it to our own lesson plans. It was more work than any other class I've taken, but it also had the most applications that I could take and use in my own classroom right away.

Society and Culture with John Picard was another highlight – it was all about how the world views teachers. My favourite part of that class was understanding that most of the concepts in education aren't really new.

There's been a lot of debate in the news about the new methods of 'inquiry-based learning' or 'discovery math.' I learned in Picard's class that an Ancient Greek philosopher coined the term 'discovery math,' so the concept isn't new at all. It's helpful to recognize that teaching methods cycle in their popularity, and that when we understand a range of models and approaches we can draw on whatever approach will work for our students.

**What about the hands-on aspect of this degree? Your practicum is also an important part of the program right?**

Yeah, we started our practicum on the second day. For several weeks we were moved around to different schools, from the Calgary Board of Education, to Rocky View, to the Stoney Nakoda First Nation – to give us a taste for the variety of systems and classrooms we could end up working in.

Then, for five weeks I was placed in a class of lively grade four students with many diverse needs and sparkling personalities. We work in tandem with another grade four class and the wall between the two classes is a giant sliding door. Because of this I get to work with another incredible teacher and two groups of rambunctious kids instead of just one. It's been tiring but amazing.

**OK, last question: What is one of the most valuable thing you've learned so far?**

I used to think that the quality of a classroom was largely defined by the kids that ended up in it. But now I recognize that a lot of it comes down to you as a teacher.

You set the tone. You're in control. If you expect that students have the potential to behave and excel, you are giving them the chance to live that out.

Here's how [Bernie Potvin](#) put it in one of my classes: ***“Parents don't send their bad kids to school and keep their good kids at home. They send us their best. The kids we get are the only kids they have.”***

Our job as teachers is to make our classrooms a place where students grow, and that starts with making sure that we have good expectations for the students and for ourselves.

## **Learn More**

Interested in the Bachelor of Education After Degree at Ambrose? Apply by March 15 to qualify for entrance scholarships.

[Learn more about the program](#)

[Visit us](#)

[Prepare to apply](#)

## **BOOK RELEASE BY DR. CLAIR MACMILLAN**

*“As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, several significant social shifts were occurring concurrently in Canada. One of the most significant changes that affected the entire country, was the opening of the Western territories to settlement, and the subsequent development of the provinces Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. At the same time the expansion of the railway system enabled people to move to previously unheard-of locations with an ease that was inconceivable a generation earlier. Thousands of families were drawn from various places in Canada, each seeking a future in the new land. The story I tell is the account of one such family. All of the characters are real people, who by one means or another found their way into a new community and life. The events are all real, but they are not singular. The kinds of things which happen in this story happened again and again, to various people, in various places, at various times. Henry and Velma’s story is the story of countless from countless rural places in Canada, who, for a variety of reasons moved to one city or another looking for an opportunity to build a life. In the process, and in the alienation caused by their dislocation, they came in contact with other people of like mind, who shared a common need: to be loved and accepted as they found their way in the complex society of the twentieth century city.”*

Lost and Found is available for purchase from the National Office for \$13.00 (includes shipping charges). Additionally, Lost and Found can be purchased by following these links:

\*\*[http://www.amazon.com/LOST-FOUND-Kenneth-Clair-MacMillan/dp/1460251245/ref=sr\\_1\\_12?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1430496368&sr=1-12&keywords=lost+and+found+macmillan](http://www.amazon.com/LOST-FOUND-Kenneth-Clair-MacMillan/dp/1460251245/ref=sr_1_12?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1430496368&sr=1-12&keywords=lost+and+found+macmillan)

\*\*<http://www.friesenpress.com/bookstore/title/119734000015731953/Kenneth-Clair-MacMillan-LOST-and-FOUND>

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and see your information appear in the next edition of**

**Nazarene News**