



**SEPTEMBER 8, 2017**

**GROW HOPE MARKDALE HARVEST CELEBRATION!**

All weekend (August 25–27) people from near and far gathered at the big tent located at the Grow Hope Field near Markdale, Ontario. They were entertained by family singing groups and informed by presentations about Canadian Foodgrains Bank and their projects to feed hungry people in our world.

On Friday evening, over 250 people enjoyed a BBQ with hotdogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, and all the ice cream they could eat! Helen Keenlside, a CFGB food study tour participant, showed pictures and spoke about her recent trip to Nicaragua to visit CFGB–funded projects and talk with beneficiaries there. The Stiff family brought two sets of bluegrass music.

On Saturday evening, the tent was nearly full again as the Crutchfield family delighted us with music and song. Elaine Bumstead gave an update on the Grow Hope Markdale project and showed pictures and told stories of recipients of the food in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Malawi.

On Sunday morning and evening, Rev. Phil Sabine of the Markdale Church of the Nazarene brought short sermons/devotionals and the Hiller family sang and played their many instruments.

By the end of the weekend, all 43 acres of the Grow Hope Markdale project had been sponsored and an additional \$9,700.00 was raised in offerings and donations to feed hungry people in our world.

This year's cost to sponsor one acre was \$350.00. The spring wheat crop is being harvested this week and is expected to bring \$500.00 per acre. It is anticipated that the crop proceeds plus the offerings will total about \$30,000.00, which when matched 4:1 by the Canadian government, will translate into \$150,000.00 to feed hungry people. This project proves that many people each giving something and working together can make a significant difference!

Thank you to all who sponsored acres and who helped to make the Grow Hope Markdale project a success!

If you are interested in sponsoring an acre next year or you want to be on our mailing list for Grow Hope Markdale updates, please call the National Office at 1-888-808-7490. You can also visit our website at [www.growhopemarkdale.org](http://www.growhopemarkdale.org) or [www.ncmcanada.ca](http://www.ncmcanada.ca) and sign up for the updates/newsletters there.

Rev. Elaine Bumstead  
Executive Director  
Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada

**FROM NCM CANADA:**  
**BANGLADESH, INDIA, NEPAL FLOODING**

Much of South Asia is experiencing unprecedented flooding due to heavy rainfall that is overflowing rivers and reservoirs. Severe flooding has claimed over 1,000 lives and has affected millions of people. It is reported that about a third of Bangladesh is under water.

People are in desperate need of food and water/water purification tablets. Crops too have been destroyed, therefore seed is needed for replanting.

NCM International is responding with food relief, seed for planting vegetables/food crops, and some training in flood preparedness. So far, \$172,000.00 has been committed to flood relief in Bangladesh alone.

To donate to this flood relief response, please send your donation to the National Office or call 1-888-808-7490 and specify NCM Project **ACM1198**.

Donations are also received online on our website at [www.ncmcanada.ca](http://www.ncmcanada.ca) under Disaster Response. Please specify **ACM1198** when you donate.

**FROM NCM CANADA:**  
**HURRICANE HARVEY AND HURRICANE IRMA RESPONSE**

First Hurricane Harvey came and battered Texas, particularly Houston. Dr. Bob Broadbooks, Director of the USA/Canada Region, has requested prayer for families and individuals in the affected communities. *“We encourage the church to join with others*

*in prayer for those affected and for the first responders,”* he said. For further information and opportunities to volunteer, visit the [www.ncm.org](http://www.ncm.org) website.

As the Hurricane Harvey cleanup continues, Hurricane Irma has gathered in the Atlantic and is a Category 5 hurricane. It struck the Leeward Islands and Puerto Rico on Tuesday, and swung just north of the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba. All these islands have been impacted. It is expected to reach Florida this weekend.

To donate to this flood relief response, please send your donation to the National Office or call 1-888-808-7490 and specify **Hurricane Harvey – 128206**.

Donations are also received online on our website at [www.ncmcanada.ca](http://www.ncmcanada.ca) under Disaster Response. Please specify **Hurricane Harvey – 128206** when you donate.

Please pray for all those impacted by these hurricanes. Pray for the churches impacted and for those who are responding to those in need.

### **STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES ANNOUNCES 2017–2018 SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST FOR USA/CANADA STUDENTS**

Each year, the Church of the Nazarene's [Stewardship Ministries](#) invests in Christian education and religion students by awarding scholarships to up to five winners of a sermon contest.

*“We recognize that understanding the blessing and communicating the discipline of generosity is an important skill for ministers to attain,”* said Mark Lail, Stewardship Ministries Director.

*“We challenge ministry students to write and submit a stewardship sermon in the hopes that they will learn to teach the blessing of generosity to their congregations.”*

This year’s submissions should be based on Philippians 4:10–20, explore tithing and sacrificial giving, relate to funding the mission of the Church of the Nazarene (to make Christlike disciples in the nations), and exemplify a Wesleyan–Holiness perspective. Full-time religion and Christian education students attending Nazarene colleges, universities, and seminaries in the USA and Canada are eligible to participate.

The submission deadline is April 9, 2018. Winners will be announced in May 2018. The \$1,000 scholarship funds will be credited directly to each winner's student account balance.

For example sermons and additional instructions, [click here](#).

– [Stewardship Ministries](#)

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

### **FROM NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL**

Calvin Black, Pacific NYI President, has stepped down from his role after serving the NYI for close to 13 years.

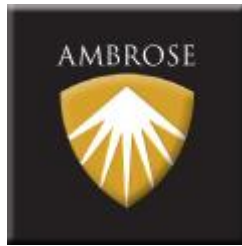
Calvin, Associate Pastor at Victoria First Church of the Nazarene, has served both our district and national NYI tirelessly – bringing an ability to adapt to how our youth have changed along with a stability and commitment to our youth.

Thank you Calvin – the sacrifices you have made over the years have been appreciated!

Helen Thiessen  
Canada Field Youth Coordinator



Calvin Black, Rev. Earl Wood (Pacific District Superintendent), Matt Wood (new Pacific District NYI President)



## **AMBROSE RECOGNIZED FOR PROVIDING SHELTER IN THE STORM**

On May 6, 2016, Ambrose University opened its doors to 130 people escaping ‘The Beast,’ a raging forest fire threatening the homes and lives of people in Fort McMurray, AB.

The university provided more than a residence in which to stay during days of great fear and stress – it offered open arms, warm hugs, and staff and faculty who cared deeply about guests’ well-being. By doing all it could to ensure friends and neighbours felt comfortable, supported and welcome, the university showed what it means to live its mission and be a good citizen.

On Tuesday, August 22, 2017, the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) offered a token of appreciation for Ambrose’s efforts, presenting a plaque recognizing the university’s heartfelt response to an urgent call for help.

*“We’re fortunate in Calgary to have post-secondary institutions such as Ambrose University willing to partner with the community to provide services to those people displaced by emergencies,”* says Tom Sampson, CEMA Chief, who made the presentation to university leaders. *“Ambrose went above and beyond to ensure that our friends from Fort McMurray were well cared for, not only by providing accommodations, but also by ensuring that the families’ emotional and physical well-being improved during their stay.”*

*“We’re very much an integral part of this community and welcome the opportunity to respond to crises when they happen,”* affirms Ambrose President Gordon Smith, noting that the university was also a refuge for people displaced by the flooding in southern Alberta in 2013. *“We take great pride in our ability to help, and it is crucial missionally for us.”*

### **Offering Physical, Emotional and Spiritual Support**

Ambrose’s residences offered a home-like environment for people from Fort McMurray who couldn’t return to – and were worried about the fate of – their own homes. Recognizing the importance of supporting more than physical needs, the university cared for families’ emotional and spiritual well-being, opening the library, computer lab and gym for use.

Staff and faculty from across the university lent a hand, working closely with families as well as social services and Red Cross workers, enabling them, in turn, to work more efficiently with and offer better support to Fort McMurray residents.

That willingness to “go the extra mile” is appreciated, Sampson says, noting that CEMA is reassured to know it can count on Ambrose at a moment’s notice and in difficult situations. ***“CEMA is unable to predict what displaced individuals will require when they are asked to leave their home, and this activation was no different,”*** he says, noting that in this instance, needs spanned cultures, and Ambrose was able to assist with halal meals and private rooms for prayer.

### **Acting Locally to Develop Global Citizens**

Civic and global consciousness are both central to the Ambrose University mission, and having the privilege to respond to a community’s call for help demonstrates the university’s commitment to be a full, active member of Calgary and Alberta. It is also a profoundly meaningful way to develop global citizens.

***“The providence of God has placed Ambrose in this city, and we are deeply committed to our community,”*** says President Gordon Smith. ***“We are also deeply committed to the formation of our students, and cultivating a caring disposition helps empower people to respond wherever God takes them, and however they are needed.”***

***“The civic well-being of wherever God takes you is incredibly important,”*** Smith explains. ***“Regardless of program, it is important that students understand they are part of a university that is very much located within its city. In many ways, this is the laboratory for where God may take you next. You will need to seek the peace of that place.”***

While emergency situations bring out the best in people and cast the spotlight on immediate actions, responding to community need is central to Ambrose’s identity and arguably part of its institutional DNA. From courses and programs, to undertakings like the Canadian Poverty Institute and the Jaffray Centre for Global Initiatives, which tackle difficult issues affecting millions of people worldwide, Ambrose prepares graduates to serve.

***“Responding to human need, no matter how or where it is presented, is a natural and logical expression of what we do,”*** Smith says. ***“Last May, we were privileged to have the opportunity to represent the best of Calgary and the best of Ambrose University.”***

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

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