

POWERteam



Honoring our Veterans

Betty and I moved to St. Thomas Ontario just over two years ago. Shortly after the move we were invited out for an evening with another “older” couple. The man shared in the conversation that he had retired from Bell Canada a number of years ago and that they had just recently been honored by an invitation to a meal for all the Bell retirees in the London area of Ontario. He mentioned how appreciated he felt because of this. This event happens every year.

I thought, what do we do as the church or denomination for our “retirees”, those who have served as IW’s or those in pastoral ministry?



Rightfully, we honor our Veteran’s on November 11th. We hear on the news as well as social media about those who gave their lives for the freedom of our country. Our soldiers have served in many countries of this world to assure freedom for those who live there. We honor the memories of those who died in service. We honor those who served and were wounded and those who are still able to stand, displaying their badges or medals.

What do we do to honor those who have served in our denomination locally and globally to bring peace to people’s hearts, to reach the unreached of this world, not only in far away countries but those without God in our districts in Canada. One of our statesmen in the C&MA in Canada expressed that “those who have served their time are now treated with ‘benign neglect’”. **POWER Team** is in the process of trying to change that, and we are taking small steps. One step is just in the publishing of **the CONNECTOR** you are now reading, “**to connect, to encourage**” and honor those who have served with the Alliance. We have also had a meal together at General Assembly as well as had some gatherings in our Districts where we invite those who have served for a lunch and a time to share and pray for one another in this season of our lives.

I have no medals or ribbons to show for my service- or do I? Yes, I do have a few trophy's. One is a roll of toilet paper wrapped in Saran Wrap with the pen written inscription "**For the Best Performance by a Pastor in a supporting Role**" -Nov 28/82.



again, and if I did, they would not come to my rescue even if it was real.

This was given to me after my participation in a drama/play that we had to illustrate my message on the Good Samaritan, when pastoring at Glencairn in Regina.

One of our newest **POWER Team** couples is David & Cheryl Fowler. They were leading our drama team while they were attending CBC/CTS. I faked a heart attack on the platform which shocked the congregation even though the other actors appeared on the stage immediately after I hit the floor. I was told by some to "never do that



I still have a framed "encouragement Card" given to me by Marilyn Kirk who was my church secretary at the time and husband Ed was my intern. She wrote: "Dear Wayne, YOU'RE A NEAT BOSS!! Thanks for your consistent example as our pastor." I also have a plaque from interns which have touched my heart.



Recently I found my only "medal" from the Alliance -a tie and lapel pin for Betty and my 25 years of service. After 25 years, generally no



recognition. I also have a lovely tribute from our then DS John Healey. Its inscription says "C&MA Faithful Servant". I know the rewards that count for any thing will be in heaven, but give me a little grace here. I treasure these ministry trinkets. I have kept this roll of toilet paper for 37 years. It represents a time of a harvest of souls for the Kingdom as well as hilarious stories of ministry.

We want to honor our veterans/**POWER Team** members whose service was cut short because of "ministry battles", those who have the scars and deep woundedness because of ministry experiences and felt that they were left alone or not heard. We honor all of our **POWER Team** members and are thankful for each one of you. Maybe we should be honoring those who have served beyond the 25 years. I know of one district (WCD) that did publicly honor their veterans and it was well received.

Veterans who have graduated to Heaven



Veteran **Eunice Guinevere Smith**, 89, passed away November 14, 2019. Eunice was born in Belleville, ON to Milton and Emily Veley. She served with her husband Cecil as a missionary with the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Ecuador (1956-1981) and then in Mexico, retiring in 1996. Eunice was living in Richmond, BC and serving at the Richmond Alliance Church.

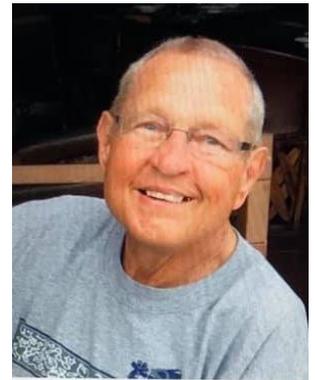
Eunice & Cecil's son is Gordon, president of Ambrose University.

Ron McKinnon, one of our founding members of **POWER Team**, believes that, "the most important thing that Eunice and her sister did was invite a young girl named June, who lived nearby, to go to church with them. She went, came to know the Lord, received a call to missions, went to Canadian Bible College and met and married some "joe" named Ron MacKinnon.

Edward (Ed) Kirk

December 13, 1945 - November 24, 2019

Ed was born in Hamtramck, Michigan on December 13, 1945. He married Marilyn on January 24, 1970. Ed grew up believing in God and respecting Him, but he didn't understand the relationship that God wants with each one of us until 1979. It was then that Ed repented of his sin, asked Jesus to come into his life and Ed became a Christian. He now trusted Jesus to be his Lord and Saviour, to guide and direct his life, to empower him to live out the Christian life, to trust Him to know what was best in life and ministry and give him real joy! It was then that Ed's life became full & transformed.



In 1984, Ed & Marilyn moved west with their two children: Marcy & Ken to Regina; where Ed attended Canadian Theological Seminary for the next four years. Their plan was to grow as a family in their faith and Biblical knowledge; so that they would be better equipped to serve God as He continued to lead them.

Ed sensed God's call to pastor three churches: Muir Lake Community Alliance Church (Spruce Grove, AB) Nipawin Alliance Church, Luseland Alliance Church. As a family, we are thankful for each church family & the lessons God taught us as we served together. We are thankful for friends and the caring and kindness shared with us as we moved and served in new communities.

PowerPoint of Ed's memories: <https://www.facebook.com/marilyn.kirk.90/videos/10156597090278239/>

Veterans who are “retiring”

Ron & Myra Brown



Yes, we've retired! Although Myra retired from her ESL position seven years ago, Ron's last day at the WCD office was July 17, 2019.

Many of you know we went to the DRC (Dominican Republic of the Congo) via French language study in France in 1979 following our two year assignment at Vegreville Alliance Church.

By 1990, that DRC chapter had closed due to civil unrest. We wondered if our overseas life was over as Ron took a position at Southview Alliance Church in Calgary. A door opened in

Brazzaville, Congo, so 1994 found us back in Africa. Civil war ended that assignment three years later and once again we returned to Alberta wondering if our Africa years were over.

To our surprise, Wally Albrecht called us to extend an invitation to join the Global Ministries Leadership Team as Regional Developers for Africa. That invitation saw the beginning of a decade of involvement as workers in "reached" areas moved to "unreached" areas to give more and more people access to Jesus. During those years we lived in Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal. Yes, we have moved many times; in our 45 years of marriage that total is now at 23 moves!

Family concerns led us to resign from the GMLT in the Spring of 2002 and settle in Calgary. Myra found part time employment at a church and worked with new Canadians while Ron took on a new role at the district office as Global Coach, working first on Ken Driedger's team and then Brent Trask's. Finishing there just before Ron turned 70, he has now embarked on a six month "sabbatical" during which he is asking the Lord to lead Him towards his next serve. This sabbatical finds us now in Three Hills where we are also doing much-needed renos on a modest rental property. We anticipate moving back to Calgary in 2020.

As we move into retirement we have a heavy heart because of a family concern but we believe with all our hearts that God has blessed us. We also believe just as fervently that He has blessed us in order that we would be a blessing. We feel a particular calling towards the nations - through a mobilization tool, the Kairos Course, and through a growing burden for international students.

Have you read Esther Lutzer's biography which Ron published [here](#)? Have you listened to Ron's podcast conversation with Ray Downey about Alliance missiologist L.L. King? Listen [here](#). Ron recently found [this book](#) about retirement helpful.

John & Donna Barach



,After Donna and I graduated from CBC, Mr. McIntyre sent us to Invermere where I pastored the Alliance church for two years. Because my heart was set on teaching, we moved to Red Deer to earn enough to go for further training.

I got a job as a partsman where I worked for six years in a motor cycle and snowmobile shop. Donna worked in the Red Deer hospital ER.

During those years I filled the pulpits of a number of churches and helped to start the Rocky Mountain House Alliance church. Then we went back to CTC in Regina where I received my MDiv degree while Donna did secretarial work.

Afterward, we moved to Calgary, First Alliance hived off to start Southgate, I was the first to fill its pulpit. Then Mr. McIntyre asked me to go to Linden, Alberta where he heard that a few people wanted to start an Alliance church. I thought I was just going to fill the pulpit, but they asked me to be their pastor and start their church under the Alliance.

My heart was still set on teaching, so when Brandon Olson asked me to become a prof at the Peace River Bible Institute, I felt that this was God's call for me. I taught for 15 years there. I also became the academic dean. The job of the academic dean is to give all the teachers the courses they like and to take whatever is left over. As a result, I taught several Bible courses, Introduction to Theology, Contemporary Theology, Greek, Homiletics, Pastoral Ministry, Ethics, History of Missions, and even the first course of Women in Ministry. I couldn't get a woman to teach it until the following year. Usually I taught 16 to 18 hours of classes per week each semester.

I was also the MC for a half-hour weekly radio broadcast. Donna worked in the school library.

At the same time, Grande Prairie Regional College asked me to teach some extension courses in computers and Organization Behaviour in Grande Cache.

When I retired from the college, I moved back to Red Deer and was asked to be the service manager at the motorcycle shop where I had once been a partsman. Donna was very successful in sales.

For many Sundays, I filled the pulpit in Ponoka and Leduc Reformed churches. Donna's mother, was in her late 80s and living in Abbotsford, so we moved to Chilliwack to be closer to her and to Donna's brother and family. Now Donna's health is poor. She has severe fibromyalgia. I've had two heart attacks and a few other medical issues.



I try To keep active, I have been an avid cyclist doing randonneur events (long-distance riding within a specified time limit) of 200 km in 13.5 hr and 300 km in 20hr.

I keep busy with my Greek website which features the full Greek texts of the NT, LXX, Apocrypha, and Early Church Apostles which are all linked to a comprehensive analytical lexicon:

www.GreekDoc.com

Up until recently, I have been volunteering in a retirement home holding Sunday services. We had about 25-30 people attending from a variety of denominations.

Oh yes, before I forget, I also have an afternoon nap each day



Don & Doris Scott

Doris and I are both 81 and doing reasonably well health wise. I have type 2 diabetes and Doris is recovering from both knees being replaced in the past 14 months! She's doing okay but still has a lot of pain!

We live on Doris' acreage 8 Kms east of Wetaskiwin. She and her husband Earl were dairy farmers for a number of years. We met in 1955 just after my mother died. Her uncle, Emil Axene, a pastor in the EV Free church in Edmonton took me and my two brothers into their home becoming surrogate parents to the three of us ages 16, 15, and 14! I am the oldest!

The interesting thing is that after being together 56 years, Nola entered the arms of Jesus August 1, 2014.

Doris' husband, Earl, after being together 52 years entered into the presence of the Lord, August 14, two weeks later! Doris and I married 14 months after losing our mates. We married in Wetaskiwin and settled in her home on the acreage. We have 21 grandchildren between the two of us! We are so grateful to our precious Lord for the joy we share together!

I am thankful for Nola & my service under the C&MA as IWs in Thailand as well as serving as President of World Vision Canada.

Veterans who are being Re-assigned -Roy & MiriamTaylor

MIRIAM has been a Bible Study Fellowship Leader and participant as well as a grade 5/6 Teacher at Valley Christian School - April through June. In September she started a new career as a Distributed Learning teacher. She also has been a piano and theory teacher for their grandchildren.

ROY has been leading a weekly Bible Study in their complex. He has been singing bass in their church choir. He has had a privilege of being a transitional Pastors Network participant. One unique ministry has his being the BC Lions Football Team – On field timeout coordinator.



They write: “In April of 2019 we began corresponding with the leadership of Milan Bible Church, an



International English_ speaking church in Milan, Italy. We spent three weeks with the church in July and the call is “**COME OVER TO MILAN AND HELP US**”. Roy now has an Italian Visa and we left January 8th, 2020 to become their pastor. Please let us know if you would like to receive our ministry email updates from Milan. May God richly bless you and yours as you trust and follow Him in 2020. Roy and Miriam roytaylor45@gmail.com

Roy will clarify if this is his church in Milan.

Veterans Enjoying this season of life.

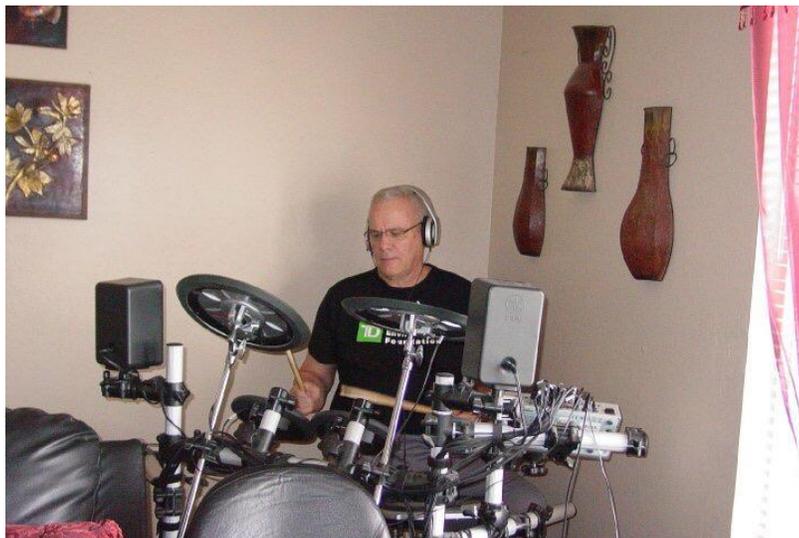


Ray & Vi Downey

Warm greetings from Victoria, BC's Capital and our home for the last 13 years. It's the

longest Viola and I have lived at one place without a move during our 56 years together. The Mediterranean climate year-round here suits us just fine and it is an added blessing is to be close to immediate family. Having lived in five Canadian provinces, in two American states as well as France and the Democratic Republic of Congo, it's been a dream to settle down

here. I realize we all have our own stories of different places we've lived. **CONNECTOR** did not know that Ray is now preparing to be the drummer at church.



Miriam Charter with Gordon Fowler

It is no secret that Miriam Charter has entered her 8th decade.



If you are connected with social media of any kind you will find displayed across the headlines that Miriam is 70. Yes, it happened November 1st but there have been numerous celebrations of this momentous occasion in many places, in my cultural settings and expressed in many languages. Even though the Bible tells Miriam that she has reached her 3 score years and 10, she is celebrating the borrowed time God is giving her to bless others and be blessed by others as they play the "Martha" role, like we see in the picture of Gordon Fowler slaving in the kitchen, while others relax on the couch

playing the "Mary" role just waiting to be fed by their mentor.

Gordon Fowler in the kitchen keeping his hands clean or is that preparing food for Miriam's perpetual 70th party tour?



These pictures turned up in December on the web

Important Information

All Emeritus Workers take note.

The following Email is sent out by President Hearn for all Emeritus workers

This is an exciting time in the Alliance – God is on the move and doors continue to open to bring access to Jesus where few or none have heard.



Amid all that God is doing, the last few years have seen unprecedented social changes in Canada. The commitment of Alliance leadership is to ensure that its workers are well-trained. In light of this, for the past year, leadership has been working to develop clergy sexual abuse training materials that will help provide Alliance workers with a greater awareness around the **issues of clergy sexual abuse** and provide them with **tools to help develop plans and procedures in their area of ministry on how to maintain healthy boundaries** in relationships, equip those in their sphere of influence, and start healthy conversations about how everyone can work together to ensure **their area of ministry is a safe**

place. The District Superintendents believe it is important for **emeritus workers to take this training along with official workers** and wanted me to inform the Power Team prior to any communications being distributed.

Training will be made available to workers via an **online platform on January 2, 2020 and must be completed by December 31, 2020** for a worker to **receive their 2021 credentials.** For those who do not have access to an online format, an alternative method of taking the training will be made available upon request. Training is also being made available in French and Chinese.

Districts will be informing all emeritus workers and official workers regarding this training in early December and will provide clear instructions on how and when the training will be rolled out. The DSs and I are please to be able to offer this training to all workers and we look forward to the positive culture it will help foster in our denomination.

It is anticipated that some emeritus workers may contact the Power Team with questions. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Blessings,

Dave (Hearn -President)

CONNECTOR'S Response: Some have asked, why do I need to take this as I am no longer serving? Since you want 'to keep in touch with your times", this is a great opportunity to know what is happening in our world. It will inform us what our licenced workers and churches are facing in todays world. It will help you if you are coming along side of your pastor in encouragement and prayer. Join us in supporting our mission as a denomination, and feel back from you would be welcomed.

Wayne & Betty Kerr -National **POWER Team** Coordinators and **CONNECTOR** editors

waynebettyk@rogers.com

New Resource Video

We have updated our **POWER Team Web site**

<https://www.cmacan.org/ministries/ministry-networks/>



While attending District Conferences and talking with Lorna Stewart who is the Alliance's main contact for Manulife and Reuters that handles our ARF (Alliance Retiral Fund), she agreed to help us flesh out **Step #1 Preparing Our Workers Entering Retirement.**

Lorna has given us a great presentation on **Alliance Retiral Fund Plan Fundamentals.**

-click on the site above, go to the bottom of

POWER Team and click on "Learn More"

-scroll down to "See Video Resources for Each of the Steps Above" and click on the vimeo file. Or just click on <https://vimeo.com/channels/1419189> This gives us all of our videos in one place.

We are thankful that the NMC is also placing this on their web site for all to see so gives this more exposure.

If you have anything to include in the next **CONNECTOR** please pass it along.

Wayne

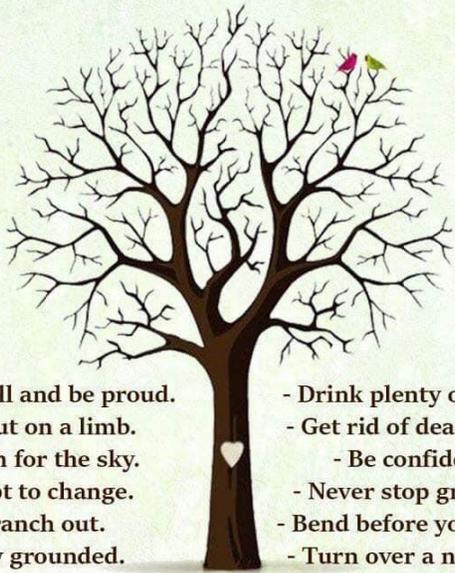
See General Assembly promotional

<https://vimeo.com/368781265/ca139e1d9c>



Some lighter things.

Advice From A Tree



- Stand tall and be proud.
- Go out on a limb.
- Reach for the sky.
- Adapt to change.
- Branch out.
- Stay grounded.
- Remember your roots.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Get rid of dead wood.
- Be confident.
- Never stop growing.
- Bend before you break.
- Turn over a new leaf.
- Enjoy the view.

For those having a birthday in January



As we talk to some of our POWER Team members, one comes away thinking, "I was just at an organ recital". So as we have entered into 2020 we urge..

you to take care of yourself and avoid accidents because spare parts for old models like you are no longer in stock.

Click on this

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dbBfXCMbH4> The Green side of the grass



You have been given the gift of....



Our prayer for you is that this New Year and New Decade will be fruitful and fulfilling in this season of our lives, as we put Christ on Display