

Resourcing pastors to
build lives that thrive

On behalf of everyone
encouraged through
Pastors Day

A Big Thank You

For partnering with us
through your generous
support and prayer, to bring
a time of refreshing and
equipment for 43 pastors
and church leaders from 10
different denominations this
year!

And thanks to the following
individuals and businesses for
supporting Pastors Day 2020. We
couldn't have done it without you!

Niagara Symphony Orchestra

Niagara Helicopters

Pearable Ministries

Northend Church

YMCA of Niagara

Heritage Christian Book Store,
St Catharines

Bird Kingdom

Book Outlet

St Catharines Parks & Recreation

Kiwanis Aquatic Centre

Agora Network Ministries

Café Amore

Starbucks,

Martindale Rd., St Catharines

Sobeys, Vine St, St Catharines

Red Lobster, Niagara Falls

Fun and Faith – Date Night Tour

Zehrs, Fairview Mall, St Catharines

Vine Floral

Message from Thrive's Director – Cathy Gates

The heart of Thrive is to come alongside of pastors and their families as they face challenges in life and ministry. 2020 is impacting church leaders like no other time in our recent history. We have witnessed the effects of 'covid' stress on pastors in their marriages, finances and in their emotional, spiritual and physical health. The need for Thrive's services has increased significantly with no end in sight for 2021. The blessing of moving services online has been a broadening of our 'reach' across Canada and beyond. Here is a sampling of how your financial support has had a direct impact on church leaders.

- Marriages have been strengthened through four online Date Night events including one dedicated to addressing the effects of 'covid' on marriage relationships.
- Pastoral families have been encouraged by gifts of homemade cookies and notes of encouragement. We have been surprised at just how important these gifts have turned out to be this year! It is due to generous donations that we are able to put together these little packages, if this is something you would like to donate towards, please see the donation info on this newsletter
- Pastors have deepened their connection to God through four online Soul Focus retreats. Topics included 'Identity' and 'Living within Limits'



We would like to highlight our 'in person' Pastors Day even held in January 2020.

Pastors Day 2020

Who Am I? When Everything Else is Stripped Away?

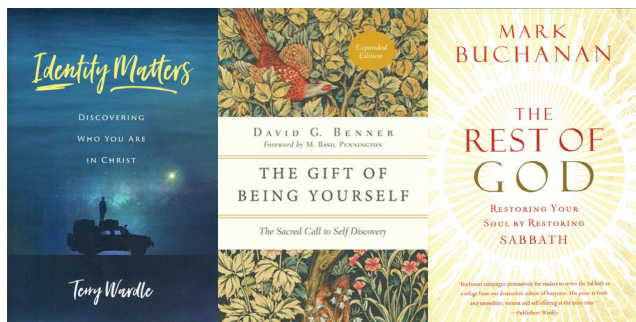


At Thrive we know that being grounded in who we are in Christ is foundational for healthy, effective Christian leadership. Pastors Day 2020 assisted pastors to examine where their identity lies – in what the world offers, or in who we are as children of God.

Over the course of the day we experienced:

Solid Teaching. Liz Honeyford from Healing Care Canada skillfully unpacked this statement: "When you know your value is secure because Jesus says so, you can lay down your life to serve. When you don't know your value is secure because Jesus says so, you will do service to gain value. (Terry Wardle)

Personal reflections by Thrive's own David Forrest pinpointed how service to gain value can impact a pastor's life and ministry.



Gifts and Resources.

The prize draw for gift cards (from our generous local donors), provided some fun and excitement during our gourmet lunch provided by Seared Catering. Each attendee received a book that resources them to further explore the 'identity work' that God began in them during the day.

Here is what one pastor said:

"Today has impacted me deeply. It will influence the way I approach ministry and life."

The Thrive team considers it a privilege to provide individualized support and encouragement as we impact one leader's life, family and congregation at a time.



Welcome to the Team – Paige

This Fall we were able to add a new member to the Thrive team! We are excited to announce that Paige Rutherford is joining us as our new administrative assistant. You will be hearing more from her as she assumes most of our communication.

Paige has a background in church ministry in the Niagara Region as well as spending 6 years in the UK. She, her husband, and 2 young daughters have recently moved back to Niagara and are excited to continue their ministry work within their local church as well as Thrive Ministries. Her ministry roles within have included a little of everything from administration, to worship, to children and youth ministries, event planning, community programs...and more. She is looking forward to using her experiences to help grow and develop the ministry of Thrive as we impact the lives of church leaders.



What Donations Go Towards

Your donations:

- Enrich pastoral marriages through Date Night
- Deepen church leaders connection to God through Soul Focus Retreats
- Equip church leaders to deal with bullying
- Support our annual Pastors Day

How to donate:

By Credit: TEL: 1-855-488-7020 (Great Commission Foundation, Thrive Ministries Project #139)

By Cheque:

Payable to: "Great Commission Foundation",
Memo/Note: "Thrive Ministries Project #139."
Mail to: "Thrive Ministries, 61 Meredith Drive, St. Catharines, L2M 6R5"

Online: www.thriveministries.ca/donate



Pastors Day 2021

Thursday, January 28, 2021 9 am – noon

EVENTS IN 2021

Date Night: March, June, Sept. and Nov.

Soul Focus:

March 11, June 10, Sept. 9, Nov 4

Unfinished Business Groups:

Beginning the week of
February 8 – 14 weeks

Ministry Wives Group:

Meets monthly September – June

Visit www.thriveministries.ca
for more information or
e-mail info@thriveministries.ca
to register for these retreats and
groups.



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info@thriveministries.ca