

## POWERteam

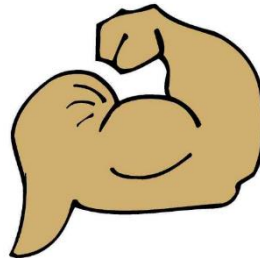
**POWER** -used for good or bad? We see this all the time in



the world as we are surrounded by it. Most of our cars are moved along by controlled power resulting in a fuel that is exploded. Others use that same fuel, ignite it in an uncontrolled environment, it blows things up, kills people. We are thankful for our



electricity that “powers” most things in our houses, from lights, to washing machines, to computers and furnace fans or heating grates. When it is in a controlled environment it adds great joy to our comfort and productivity. When out of control, the power of electricity is deadly, harmful and destructive.

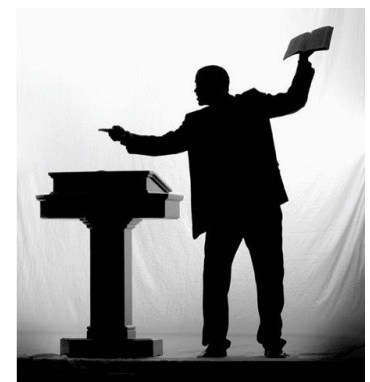


There are many situations where the **POWER** of God is at work and transformation of life is happening, people are entering into a new relationship with a Holy God. This does not get much press. We hear too often in the news about our peers (fellow leaders in the “Christian” faith) who have abused that **POWER** resulting in abuse of others and a mark against Church of Jesus Christ.

We are the **POWER Team**. This name was borrowed from its use in the Bible as to

the Creator expressing Himself through us under the control of His Spirit. We are to be conduits of the **POWER** of His love.

-the Gospel is “the **POWER** of God unto salvation...” Romans 1:16  
-His Word is quick and **POWERful** and sharper than any two-edged sword” -Heb 4:12



-don't go and make disciples (after he had commanded us to go) until you "have been clothed with **POWER** from on high" -Luke 24:49

As credentialed pastors or IWs, we all signed on to the 4-Fold emphasis of our denomination, one being Christ our Sanctifier, which is **POWER** for holy living and service. All of us have had the experience of the **POWER** of the Holy Spirit in our



lives and ministry. If

like me, you have experienced the lack of it when self took over or we moved forward without His **POWER**. If like me, you may have experienced the opposition to that **POWER** and you have scars to prove it. Remember the risen Christ still had the scars after His resurrection to prove his sacrifice and the cost of moving forward in His **POWER**.



Whatever HIS story is in your life and ministry in the past or present, let these verses be an encouragement

-Wealth and honor come from You; You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and **POWER** to exalt and give strength to all." I Chronicles 29:12

-“Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your **POWER** to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come” -Psalm 71:18

-“When Jesus called the twelve together, he gave them **POWER** and authority” to minister -Lk 9:1

- “I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the **POWER** of your name” -John 17:11

-“With great **POWER** the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.” Acts 4:33

-“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the **POWER** of the Holy Spirit.” -Romans 15:13

-“the message of the cross is...the **POWER** of God”. -I Cor 1:18

-“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s **POWER**” -I Cor. 2:4

-“My grace is sufficient for you, for my **POWER** is made perfect in weakness’. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s **POWER** may rest on me”..

-“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty **POWER**”. Eph. 6:10

-“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the **POWER** of his resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death,” Phil. 3:10

As you read more of our **POWER Team** member’s stories, may you give Glory to God for His **POWER** being manifested through these who gave of themselves to “make disciples” in Canada and various countries of the world.





## **Ernest Regier -CMD**

-submitted by editors Wayne & Betty Kerr  
-church planter, quiet servant, construction church designer contractor and carpenter. Disciple maker who faithfully and gently allowed the **POWER** of God lead his life and ministry.

-Having lost his wife Helen, a number of years ago, he is now living in Elim Lodge in Saskatoon

- Ernie faithfully attends and serves at Erindale Alliance Church, the church he planted on the east side of Saskatoon after starting Lawson Heights church on the north Central part of Saskatoon.

-over five decades ago he planted Prince Albert Alliance Church where Betty (CONNECTOR's editor in chief) grew up

-Betty came to faith in Christ and started attending CBC. During her Medical Lab training, during the summers of 1966 and 1967, she helped Ernie and Helen along with Doug Wiebe and Lois (Downey) Westerlund, who were then social workers in that area.

-August 19, 1967 Ernie performed his first wedding as a pastor and the first wedding of the Prince Albert Alliance Church -that was of Wayne & Betty. It was truly ecumenical. Since there was no Alliance Church building, the wedding happened at the Presbyterian Church with United Church people officiated by an Alliance pastor.

-August 1968, Betty was the first one associated with the PA Alliance Church to enter into ministry (partnering with Wayne in Truro NS)



## **Art & Betty Quist -WCD**

God called us to leave the farm in the early winter of 1976. This would be step one of a series of events over the next several years. We moved to Williams Lake, BC where Art served as Assistant Pastor of a Full Gospel Church as well as being employed in a local hardware store. The following spring we 'hit the road' as the old saying goes with a van, camper trailer and a little family of the two of us and three children ages 4, 3 and six months old. The next ten years saw us criss-crossing western Canada doing five-day Kids Crusades in many churches and chapel sessions at six or seven weeks of camp every summer. We also had two short stints serving in pastoral roles in High Level, AB and Hanna, AB

In 1984 our travels changed somewhat, slowed a bit and changed denominations as we took the role of Associate Pastor at Marwayne Alliance Church where we served for the next three years. It was then on the move, to another Associate Pastor role.



but this time at the Alliance Church in Stony Plain, AB. Art served there another three years, then we headed east to serve as Lead Pastor of the Alliance Church at Shaunavon, SK. After four years of happy ministry there, the nest was 'ruffled' by an invitation from the Western Canadian District Office to come back to Alberta and serve as the Lead Pastor at the Alliance Church in Slave Lake, AB.

The Lord's call changed somewhat as we began what was about to be just under 18 years serving with AWANA Clubs Canada as their Regional Directors for Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. (ready to take the step of faith and "walk on the water" of the Sea of Galilee)

We made Spruce Grove Alliance Church our church home and settled in the Stony Plain area. These were good years of ministry and God's blessings were abundant but there were many miles of driving every year. Art was beginning to weary of these long rides across the region, even though we knew that when we arrived at our destinations, there were many wonderful people with whom we could find great fellowship and encouraging ministry. We know that God was at work as He was preparing a place for Art to serve on staff at our home church - Spruce Grove Alliance. Today Art serves a Senior Lead Associate Pastor and Betty serves in several volunteer roles in the church community.

We live in the rural area near Stony Plain and enjoy life with the families of our three daughters and their husbands - nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. God is good.

Thanks again for showing interest in us.

## **Ron & Cynthia Baker -CMD**

I was born in 1953 in the prairie town of Kindersley, Saskatchewan. A few years later my father sold the family farm (homesteaded in 1909), and we moved around to Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Toronto/Unionville, and Regina. My father finished his career as a meteorologist – the next best thing to being a minister (you have no choice but to depend on God to figure out what will happen next).

I returned to this lovely oasis of beauty, called Kindersley, in 1976 to enter my first vocational ministry assignment – Assistant Pastor to Dennis Keith at the Kindersley Alliance Church.

In 1980 I left to pursue further education [my first degree was a B.Th. (CBC – 1976), then M.Div. (CTS - 1983), then MLS (U of A - 1986)]. Feeling like I had enough in school education, I returned to CTS (Canadian Theological Seminary) as Registrar and Director of Admissions (1986-1994). Music has always been in my bones so off to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan to serve as the Pastor of Worship and Music, as well as dipping into administration (1994 – 2005).

The time had come to return to my home town. From 2005 – 2015, I served as Senior Pastor and for a year or so, while transitioning to retirement, as an associate pastor. I have since retired in Kindersley.



An interesting factoid about Kindersley Alliance Church. Over the 80year history, three pastors have served for more than nine years. Two of us were raised in the church as young children. Dennis Keith's baby dedication was by G.C. Anderson. I was brought to church as a newborn. When I returned in 1976, I was still being called "Ronnie" by some of the parishioners who had carried me around (and probably changed my diapers!).

Along the way, I have had two wives and six children. My first wife, Jill Cooper, (married 1976) passed away on May 17, 2012. We adopted two children – Tim and Allison. I remarried on July 13, 2013, to Cynthia (Warkentin-Bellamy). She brought along four children – Samantha, Justin, Michaela and Jared. Cynthia is a professional interior house painter and a superb interior designer and renovator (needless to say we are currently renovating our third house!).

I am an ardent rural church fan. I recently presented a paper on the rural church at the Ambrose Research Conference. I will continue to pursue this interest by serving in a consulting capacity.

As well, I love to write – I've written one book. I write for our local social media outlet (kindersleysocial.ca), and journal everyday. I've been commissioned to write a history of the Kindersley Alliance Church, and have another book on a funeral director in my back pocket.

## Dennis & Eleanor Keith

### EARLY BEGINNINGS

Eleanor Marion Dick was born and raised in Saskatoon. Her parents were Godly people who learned at the school of hard knocks that God answers prayer. Her father was a lay minister with the Mennonite Brethren Church. Mom and Dad Dick prayed their children through and also prayed that one of their children would someday be in full time church ministry.

Eleanor graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a BSnN. Upon graduation in 1961, she took a teaching position at Regina Grey Nuns Hospital and helped to facilitate the Nurses Christian Fellowship ministry in that city. Her move to Regina was part of the answer to her parent's prayer because we met the year she was teaching in Regina

I was born in Mildren, Sask and raised on a farm south of the village of Sovereign Sk. My parents became believers a month before I was born, and from that day forward, they strove to raise their five children to know and love the Lord. They were instrumental in getting an Alliance Church started in Mildren Sk and faithfully attended and supported that work to the longest day that they lived. My mother led me to the Lord. Wise and godly pastors poured their lives into our family. Elbow Bible Camp was an annual event each summer, and it was here that I sensed God's call on my life for full time ministry. My parents whole heartedly supported this decision and invested in my education at Canadian Bible College in Regina, Sask. During my final year at CBC, Eleanor and I met and with my parents praying that God would lead me to the right mate and Eleanor's parents praying for one of their children to be in ministry, sparks flew and our course was set.



## CAREER SUMMARY

### I. Portage La Prairie, Manitoba

In the fall of 1962, as a single person, Roy McIntyre appointed me to a church plant in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. I found room and board in the city and set about starting a church. By God's amazing grace, over the next five and half years the church began to grow, a small building was built and the Portage Alliance Church became a reality. Eleanor and I were married in September of 1963, and with her by my side, we happily served both the Portage and Oakville Alliance churches for the next 4 years. Portage La Prairie is special to us for another reason since our first two children were born there.

### II. Kindersley Saskatchewan

In the spring of 1968 we made the move west to Kindersley, Sk. and had the joy of serving that congregation for almost ten years. Having come from a farming background, Kindersley was a perfect fit for our family. We had the delight of seeing the church grow, a new church building and a new manse were built. Also during these years Ron and Jill Baker became valued members of the ministry team.

The time in Kindersley was not just about "Church Work," since our family expanded by two more members with the arrival of Janet and Greg.

### III. Sherwood Park Alberta

In the fall of 1977 we bid a sad farewell to the Kindersley family in order to take a position on the staff of Sherwood Park Alliance under the leadership of Rev Harald Thrones. Working with this visionary man, I learned a great deal about managing a staff, shepherding a large and growing church, and being a pastor who cared about people, not just numbers. During those years the congregation expanded to its present beautiful facility.

### IV. Tsawwassen British Columbia

In the spring of 1980 we were called to serve the congregation at Tsawwassen Alliance church in beautiful BC. Sometimes it was hard to believe that we were working there and not just on an extended vacation. We took on the lead pastor role and joined Phil Jenion and Ralph Shereski who were already on staff in this exciting church. Construction of a new facility had been discussed for many years and it was our privilege to see the congregation move forward with this project.

Working under and worshipping with our District Superintendent, Gordon Fowler was a great privilege. Early morning men's prayer time found Gordon in attendance whenever he was in town.

### V. Westgate Alliance Saskatoon Saskatchewan

In the fall of 1983, we were invited to serve in the beautiful new facility at Westgate Alliance. For the next nine and half years, we experienced God's blessing and the love of a wonderful congregation. The move brought us back to our roots, back to our aging parents and into what we know now was God's leading for us and for the congregation. We were privileged to work with a wonderful staff and see the church grow spiritually and numerically. During these years our three oldest children were married, and we moved into a new stage in our lives.

### VI. Deer Park Alliance, Red Deer Alberta.

On February 1, 1994 we took up the lead pastor roll at Deer Park Alliance and joined Debbie Palskie in serving this beautiful and well-established congregation in central Alberta. We were empty nesters for the first time as our youngest son stayed in Saskatoon to attend university. By God's grace, the staff and the congregation grew during those years. We experienced our first attempt at a Saturday night service and had a taste of multiple Sunday morning services. It was obvious we had a lot to learn and were working with a very patient bunch of people.



During these years we walked through the experience of serious illness. Eleanor was diagnosed with cancer. The surgery went well, but her reaction to the follow-up chemotherapy took a life-threatening turn. People prayed, and the Lord graciously answered by sparing her life.

In the spring of 1999, it became obvious that a lifestyle change was needed. We retired from active pastoral duty and watched the Lord open the next chapter in our lives.

#### VII Mildren Sk. and Semi Retirement.

In the fall of 1999 we purchased Mom Keith's home in Mildren, took on care of this active 90 year old, and settled into semi retirement, anxious to see what would happen. For the first three years we did interim ministries in Elrose Alliance Church, Lawson Heights Alliance Church in Saskatoon, and Outlook Alliance Church. Following these wonderful opportunities to minister, the Rosetown, Mildren and Outlook Alliance churches asked if we would head up a ministry to seniors in the three churches. God blessed our efforts, and for the past fourteen years we have served the pioneers who made the Alliance what it is in central Saskatchewan today.

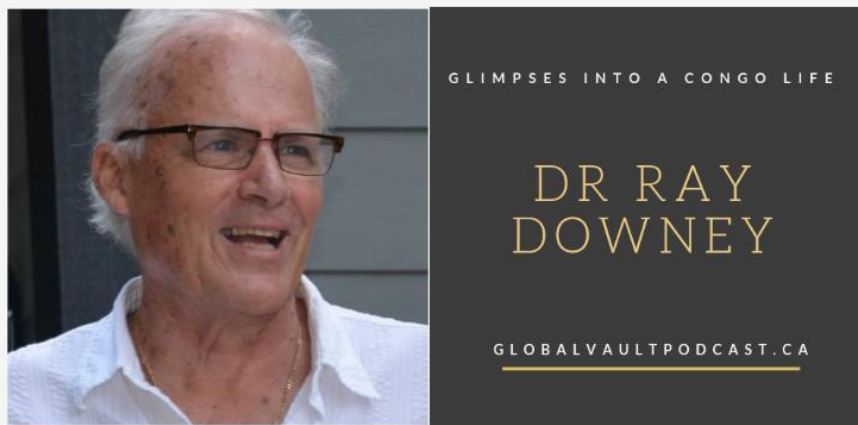
#### IX. The Present:

In September of 2016 we withdrew from what had become known as the "Mountain Movers Ministry, (check out Caleb and Joshua) and by God's grace were able to purchase a condo - duplex style home in Saskatoon. We are attending Erindale Alliance Church (founded by Ernie Regier-see article above), reconnecting with friends we have known over the years.



**Ray & Vi Downey** are our Volunteer Coordinators for CP District **POWER Team**

-in April Ray was interviewed by Ron Brown, the founder and maintainer of Global -Vault. In May there is Part 2 with a conversation about "Who is L.L. King?". Take the time to listen to this podcast by clicking on the following web site:



<https://www.globalvaultpodcast.ca/?sapurl=LytiZm13L2xiL21pLyt3eXh4YnRyP2F1dG9wbGF5PXRydWUmYnJhbmRpbmc9dHJ1ZSZlbWJlZD10cnVl>

Regularly Check in on:

<http://globalvault.ca/the-media-room/>



## Dave Tjart Graduated from his Ministry on Earth

Oct 28/31- April 19<sup>th</sup>/19

Born on October 28, 1931 in Hearst, Northern Ontario, Dave was the youngest child of Mennonite Russian immigrants, Jacob and Maria (Sawatzky) Tjart.

Dave attended Western Canadian Bible Institute (now Ambrose University) in Regina in the early 1950s, where he prepared for pastoral ministry. It was while he was on a musical tour on behalf of the school, that he met a young woman from Lethbridge, Dagmar Westcott (sister to Nancy Mclean who along with husband Laurie are POWER Team leaders in the ECD).

After both graduating from WCBI in the spring of 1955, Dave and Dagmar were married in Lethbridge on August 13. They moved to Sudbury, where they planted a church and started a family. Later they pastored the Beach



Gospel Chapel in Hamilton, The family moved west to Edmonton in 1962, where Dave served at Beulah Alliance Church and then was the founding pastor of Southgate Alliance Church.

During the next season of his life, Dave invested over 20 years in the students of the County of Parkland, teaching in Stony Plain and serving as a guidance counsellor at Spruce Grove Composite High School. After retiring from education, Dave returned to the staff of Beulah, pastoring seniors.

Regardless of his position or title, Dave continued to care for people wherever he encountered them, whether serving as a cook in a road construction camp in the north or counseling a reluctant high school student or officiating at a wedding ceremony or walking around the West Edmonton Mall and stopping at the Timmie's by the ice rink.





**80 seems to be a magic number this spring.** We are sure there are many more out there but POWER Team heard of a few who have entered their 9<sup>th</sup> decade and are still serving faithfully on borrowed time. Psalm 90:10



**Bob Gould**



**Norma Bailey-Holtlander**  
(also in May Norma was ordained by the Baptists in Regina)



**Joan Carter**



## The Ralph Connection

It was our (Betty & my) privilege to connect with two “retired” pastors and their aging father Easter weekend. Our connection with the Ralph’s of Stoney Creek Ontario was during our pastorate at Glencairn Alliance Church in Regina (1975-1990). We were a young congregation with only one family attending that was older than ourselves. This is when Russ & Ruth Ralph (Russ was the head cook at CBC/CTS) felt God’s call as lay people to leave the comfort of one of the other Regina Alliance churches to come over and help us. They were a great blessing and encouragement. Ruth has entered her eternal home and Russ (now 97) is living with Dan & Melodie in St. Catharines.



**Dan & Melodie Ralph** - Melodie is the daughter of Kenn & Joyce Opperman who served as missionaries in Peru, pastor of Avenue Road Alliance Church (now called Bayview Glen Alliance), President of Taccoa Falls Bible College, pastor of Tenth Avenue Alliance in Vancouver and missionaries in the Dominican Republic before serving again at Bayview Glen Alliance before their retirement. Dan & Melodie pastored churches in Assiniboia, SK, Winnipeg, and Edmonton before ministry in the Westburne Alliance Church in St. Catharines, Ontario. Dan has fully transitioned out of the lead pastoral role in St. Catharines and now is the cheerleader of his successor Moe Gillard. Dan & Melodie took on the ministry of caring for Melodie’s mom and dad as well as Dan’s mom, Ruth (now all in glory) and Dan’s father, who has been living with them since 2016. What a great ministry to those who gave them birth.

**Peter & Sharon Ralph** Sharon is the Volunteer Coordinator for **POWER Team** in the Western Canadian District. Not only does Peter have his roots in the Stoney Creek area but Sharon also began life in southern Ontario in the great metropolis of Normandale bordering on Lake Erie, and next door to her grandparents' inn (that is why Sharon’s email is [normandaleinn@gmail.com](mailto:normandaleinn@gmail.com). Peter & Sharon who live in Calgary were vacationing and reconnecting with family in Normandale and in St. Catharines. On our way home from our family gathering in Buffalo we visited the quaint village of Normandale and had a great time as Peter & Sharon gave us a guided tour. During that time, we discovered that Peter & Sharon met when Sharon was the secretary at the E&CC District (before it was divided into the Eastern Canadian District & the Central Canadian District). Peter & Sharon served as the first fulltime pastors of the Georgetown Alliance Church (Living Hope Alliance Church now) before moving west and eventually Peter holding the position of Professor of Pastoral Ministries, and also heading up Chaplaincy at Ambrose Seminary. Sharon served in Campus Services, Enrollment,



and then Alumni at CBC/CTS and Ambrose. Both Peter and Sharon are now retired from their ministry at Ambrose.

This picture is of Wayne & Betty Kerr, Sharon & Peter Ralph standing in front of the old church Sharon attended as a child in Normandale. Now it is a rental “cottage” that the Ralph’s were enjoying for a couple of weeks.

What a blessing it was to connect with Russ Ralph, his two pastoral sons and their spouses. It brought back many fond memories of a family that impacted ours. Peter, Sharon and family were members of Glencairn in Regina while serving at CBC/CTS and it was good to hear how their children (whom we pastored) are also in ministry. Peter JR has just taken over the pastoral leadership of the Kindersley Alliance Church which is mentioned above in the info of Ron Baker and Dennis Keith.



## The Lighter side for some POWER Team members.

### Item #1.

Have you ever listened to “The Green Side of the Grass”?  
Check it out by clicking on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dbBfXCMBH4>



### Item #:2

There are a few “retired” **POWER Team** members who regular meet together at Tim Horton’s to solve the worlds problems and rejoice in the joys and challenges of ministry. One email to inform the members of the next gathering called it the **ROMEIO** group. This caught their attention and felt it

**ROMEIO**

out of place but did offer a few words to relate the name to the group. The email sender then challenged the others to come up with a good acrostic for the **ROMEIO** group.

-so we are asking you to help them with some good words to describe this acrostic

-one member suggested **R**etired, **O**verlooked, **M**oody, **E**nergized **O**vercomers

-you are invited to submit your suggestions and we will report in the next **CONNECTOR**

-send to [waynebettyk@rogers.com](mailto:waynebettyk@rogers.com) now while you are thinking about it

### Item #3

#### A little coffee time reading

I JUST discovered my age group!

I am a **Seenager** (Senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later.

I don't have to go to school or work.



I get an allowance every month.

I have my own pad.

I don't have a curfew.

I have a driver's license and my own car.

The people I hang around with are not scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared?

And I don't have acne.

Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a **Seenager**.

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much.

People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains.

Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!!

#### Item #4

#### Staying Young

by Charles R. Swindoll

**Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness**

I like the question once asked by Satchel Paige, that venerable alumnus of baseball: "How old would you be if you didn't know how old you were?" An honest answer to that question depends on an honest admission of one's attitude. It has nothing to do with one's age. As someone young at heart has written:

I have become a little older since I saw you last, and a few changes have come into my life since then. Frankly, I have become quite a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five gentlemen every day.

As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go to see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along and when he is here he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life!

PS The preacher came to call the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him, "Oh, I do all the time. No matter where I am—in the parlour, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement—I ask myself what am I here after?"

Five tips for staying young:

1. Your mind is not old, keep developing it
2. Your humour is not over, keep enjoying it
3. Your strength is not gone, keep using it
4. Your opportunities have not vanished, keep pursuing them
5. God is not dead, keep seeking Him

*Remember, old folks are worth a fortune—they have silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet, and gas in their stomachs.*

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## Item #5

### U Got 2 read 2 the end girl



A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off, he asked what she'd like as a gift. "I'd like to be eight again." she replied, still looking in the mirror.

On the morning of her birthday, he rose early, made her a nice big bowl of Coco



Pops, and then took her to Adventure World theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was.

Five hours later they staggered out of the theme

park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.

Then it was off to a movie, with popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&Ms. What a fabulous adventure.

Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed, exhausted.

He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, "Well dear, what was it like being eight again?"

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed.

"I meant my dress size, you idiot!!!!"

The moral of the story: Even when a man is listening, he is gonna get it wrong.



## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ambrose in Calgary and 2019 Graduation

**Is there a Doctor in the house?** At least there were three all decked out at the last graduation of Ambrose University/College. The Rev. Drs. Tim Moore (soon to be a **POWER Team** Member); Bernie Van De Walle (now the DS of the CMD and longing to be a member of **POWER Team**); Bill McAlpine recently retired from Ambrose and a full-fledged **POWER Team** member. Ambrose will really miss these 3 die hard Alliance profs.



## Some 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Attendees



I-r -Mel & Joan Sylvester,  
Peter & Sharon Ralph, Irene  
Draper, Nancy & Tim Moore



Here is an article for your soul and service

### **Four Considerations for Baby Boomer Pastors** by Thomas Rainer

I am one of you.

We are the generation born between 1946 and 1964. Until the Millennials came along, we were the largest generation in American history. Our influence is still great.

But most of us are surprised our older years arrived so quickly. We can remember when we didn't trust anyone over the age of 30. Now we think 30-somethings are kids. Many of us have difficulty dealing with this phase of our life and ministry. Older age was for "those people." It never was supposed to be about us.



And now we are here. Our ages range from 54 to 72. We are in our fourth quarter. How do we end well, especially if we are in vocational ministry? Allow me to make four suggestions.

1. **Make your life one of mentoring.** You have rich experiences. You have served as pastor of good churches and tough churches. You know the joys of ministry. You know the pains of ministry. You know what it is like to be ready to throw in the towel. Find a Millennial pastor. Grab a coffee with him. Go with no agenda other than to get to know him better and to pray for him. See what God will do with that relationship.
2. **Don't let your vocation be your identity.** Your identity is child of the living God. Your identity is Christ. It is not your title or your position or your church. We Boomers often get so caught up in our work and ministry that it begins to define who we are. As a consequence, we have trouble letting go when it's time to leave. That brings me to the next point.
3. **Know when to leave.** We Boomers won't retire in the classic sense. We want to keep making a difference. But sometimes that means we hold on to a position too long. You are not indispensable. Trust God to find your successor. Trust God to help you with your finances. Trust God to find you a place where you can make a difference. But don't hang on so long your church or organization declines and wonders if you will ever leave. It's not about you. Make room for the next person. Make room for the next generation.
4. **Consider a fourth quarter ministry in another place.** Perhaps it's time to move on and serve under a younger pastor in another church, even if it's part time. Perhaps it's time to be highly intentional about mentoring, coaching, or consulting with other churches and pastors. Perhaps it's time for you to take a subservient role even though you have led as a pastor for years. Consider all the options God may put before you.

We are about to see a great exodus of Boomer pastors and church leaders through retirement and death. The data indicates we don't have enough church leaders to fill these vacancies. Maybe we Boomers can be highly intentional about raising up this next generation of church leaders.

It's time, fellow Boomers. It's time for us to consider how to transition in this phase of our life and ministry. Don't hold on to those things where God has told you to let go.

It might be a scary next step. But, like your original call to ministry, the God who gave you a path and opportunities will do the same in this new, and possibly, last phase of ministry.

It's time to let go, whatever that may mean, and trust God.

He will provide. ThomRainer.com



We do get good feedback from our **POWER Team** members. We desire that and welcome your input for future publications.

-one correction -Franklin & Gay Pyles moved to Wisconsin and not Michigan re last issue

#### **Responses to March/April CONNECTORS**

-A very good read! Thank you for being a 'connector' and a blessing to the Alliance golden alumni. Together in Mission, BT

-Thank you for all the work you do to keep us all connected. Blessings to you M&MD

-Thank you for this update. Bless you for your caring ministry. AF

-Please do keep us on the mailing list so we can keep up to date on things related to people our age. Blessings KRP

I enjoyed reading and seeing pictures of many of my friends who have now retired. May God continue to use them. It is good to get this. DH

- Beautiful write-up and much entertained contents and information of the CONNECT. J&KK

-Thanks for the latest CONENCTOR. It was interesting to read -ST

-this CONNECTOR is another masterpiece. Well done -again -SL

-thanks for all your work to make the latest CONNECTOR available to us all -LB



As the **POWER Team** Leadership, we want to bless you with an enjoyable and fruitful summer as you represent Christ and His **POWER** to all who may cross your pathway.

