



ABLAZE

FALL 2020



40 Years of Excellence

Ivan Graham

Retirement Celebration

 **KINGSWOOD**
UNIVERSITY

A Word from the President



Rev. Stephen J. Lennox, Ph.D.
President

Lately we've been keeping our distance from each other. Whereas before COVID-19 we would give a hug or shake a hand without thinking, now we carefully calculate the risk. More than likely, we keep our distance.

One of my favorite tasks in my role as Kingswood's president used to be greeting students and staff as they entered chapel. I would open

the door and welcome them with a hearty handshake. Now I can only smile (under my mask) and give them an elbow bump. Awkward, but apparently necessary. (You can read more about how we're dealing with COVID-19 in this issue).

Physical distancing like this is certainly unusual, but "keeping our distance" is nothing new. We experience it all the time. It may be the emotional distance that separates you from someone else. It could be a financial gap, the distance between income and expense at home or work.

Some of us experience a gap which separates us from the goal we're working hard to reach. Or it could be the gap between what you can afford to pay and what something actually costs. We all understand what a gap feels like, when something we need lies just beyond our reach.

The greatest gap that ever existed was the distance between humanity and God. Although created for fellowship with Him, we followed our own desires and found ourselves very far away. God Himself bridged this gap by sending His Son, Jesus, to reconcile us to Himself.

Now it's our turn. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, God not only reconciled us to Himself, He gave us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18). He called us to be those who bridge gaps.

You could say this is why Kingswood exists, to bridge gaps. Most importantly, our students experience God's work in their own lives and go out to be ambassadors, helping others be reconciled to God.

We also help people be reconciled to each other and to themselves. This is a primary purpose for our Christian Counselling major, to prepare people for this kind of ministry. The new agreement with Indiana Wesleyan University, described in this issue, will strengthen this program.

You'll read about Kingswood "gap-bridgers," like Ivan Graham, who retired in June from his role as Vice President for Finance after serving at Kingswood for more than 40 years. In those four decades, Ivan worked tirelessly to bridge the gap between the cost of a university education and what students could afford.

This issue also features an interview with Kingswood alumnus and current trustee, Dr. Eric Hallett. In his role as Superintendent of the Central Canada District of The Wesleyan Church, Dr. Hallett leads a team that is helping people be reconciled to God.

You'll read about Bernadette Hadad and her dream of building a bridge for those incarcerated. Kingswood is helping to bridge the gap for Bernadette, so she can bridge the gap for others. We're helping her dream come true.

We remember the life and legacy of the late Dr. Bill Burbury, whose long career was spent building many bridges to God's glory. And we'll celebrate the ongoing work of Greg Mann, who has been building bridges with students over food for nearly 30 years.

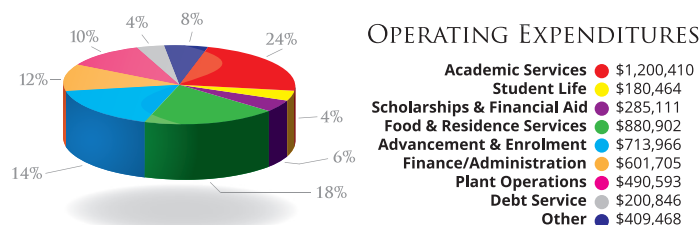
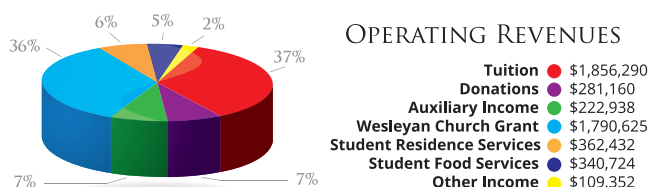
Inside you'll read about our successful Kingswood Classic in September. Thanks to our sponsors and golfers, we raised a near-record amount of money for student scholarships, helping students bridge their financial gap. And you'll read about how you can help us bridge this gap even more through your estate plan.

At Kingswood, we're doing our part to keep a physical gap between us. Even more, we're doing everything we can to bridge spiritual, relational, financial, and other gaps. By helping us accomplish our mission through your support and prayers, you're part of our team of Gap Bridgers. Thank you so much and enjoy this issue of Ablaze.

Steve

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020



40 Years of Excellence

Celebrating Ivan Graham's Retirement

Little did anyone realize the wide-ranging impact of President Mitchell's decision more than 40 years ago. It was January of 1979 when Ivan Graham and his wife, Debbie, moved with their family from Nova Scotia to begin his ministerial preparation at what was then Bethany Bible College. Ivan had been working in the banking industry when he heard God's call.

Dr. Mitchell recognized Ivan's abilities and hired him to work part-time as a bookkeeper. As his abilities quickly became evident to the President and others, Ivan was eventually invited to join the staff full-time as Business Manager. At first he resisted, not sure how this would fit with his calling to ministry. President Mitchell assured Ivan that working as the Business Manager at Bethany would definitely be a ministry.

More than 40 years later, these words have been proven true over and over again. Dr. Dave Medders, who served as Bethany's president for 19 years, called Ivan "trustworthy, dependable, solid as a rock." Dr. Mark Gorveatte, Kingswood's president from 2011-2015, describes his service with Ivan as an absolute joy. "He always found a way to make things happen on time, under budget, with excellence, and with a positive attitude."

Current President, Steve Lennox, highly values Ivan's combination of faith and financial expertise. "Ivan found a way to do much with little all the while believing in a God who owned everything. He was passionate about bridging the gap between the cost of a high-quality education and what a student was able to pay."



Everyone who knows Ivan also celebrates his sense of humor. They speak of his ready laugh and the ever-present twinkle in his eye.

For his part, Ivan looks back at the past four decades as a "great experience." He especially appreciates his Kingswood co-workers, trustees, and donors, and the opportunity to raise his family in the university community. Looking back over his career, Ivan confesses, "there's very little I'm not thankful for."

Ivan's ministry was celebrated by staff last spring and at the Board of Trustees dinner in Wesley Hall on Friday, October 16th.

FLAME into University Credit Hours

A Way Through



After completing the FLAME program,* Bernedette "Bernie" Haddad went on to become a licensed and ordained minister in The Wesleyan Church. Knowing she was called to ministry, but unsure of her next steps, she cried out to God for direction.

The next step came when the phone rang 30 minutes later. She was invited to participate in a weekend event for women affected by incarceration. That weekend led her to establish Mercy Unleashed, a non-profit which includes a discipleship program and church within three Indiana prisons.

With a heart to develop the programs further, increase her knowledge base, and bring lasting change to the incarcerated community and their families, Bernie looked to further her education. She decided to enrol at Wesley Seminary, but discovered doing so would require at least an Associates degree, no small feat in terms of time and financial resources. Just when it seemed there was no way through, her District Superintendent

suggested a conversation with Dr. Janet Starks, VP for Academic Affairs at Kingswood University.

Dr. Starks developed an educational plan that allowed Bernie to transfer her FLAME program into university credit. In December, Bernie will graduate from Kingswood University with an Associates degree in Biblical Studies in a fraction of the time and cost she originally anticipated.

We celebrate with Bernie on her upcoming graduation, and look forward to aiding others in finding a way through!

For more information on Bernie's ministry, visit mercyunleashed.org. For more information on how to convert a FLAME certificate to university credit, contact Kingswood University at enrolment@kingswood.edu.

*FLAME is a program that provides ministry training to lay and clergy through Kingswood Extended, see www.kingswood.edu/extended.

Understanding God's Call and Mission

Eric Hallett Shares His Kingswood Journey



What years did you attend Kingswood University and what was your major?

I attended Kingswood from 1986 to 1990, graduating with a BA in Religion with a major in Youth Ministry.

What graduate and ministry work did you do after completing your degree at Kingswood?

I graduated in 1995 with a Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary then returned to Asbury as a Beeson Scholar and graduated with a Doctor of Ministry degree in 2004.

Tell us about your family.

I met my wife Kimberly at Asbury in 1991 and we married in 1993. Kimberly homeschooled our four children and raised them with a love for Christ and passion for serving in the local church.

How long have you been in your current role and what does your role include?

I have been serving as District Superintendent of the Central Canada District of The Wesleyan Church since June of 2019. My main role is catalyzing Kingdom mission by inspiring church leaders to consider how to reach and disciple people in their communities, in Canada and around the world. I also love supporting pastors who have given their lives to serving the mission of Christ.

How did your Kingswood education prepare you for the work you are currently doing?

Kingswood provided a loving, multi-faceted formative environment. I encountered an administration, faculty and staff who made it their mission to provide education and experiences designed to help me understand God's call and mission. I was encouraged to pray and dream great dreams for God and have seen those dreams come true.

What changes do you envision for the church in the coming decades?

The North American church will become a more decentralized, flexible agency for Kingdom mission. The hunger for solid biblical understanding and discipleship will increase at the same time some of our institutional structures morph and adapt to meet the needs of a world in the midst of massive change.

What advice do you have for our students and graduates?

We are all missionaries now. Every student and recent graduate should consider how to become co-vocational missionaries. Get a job to feed you and your family so you can accomplish your vocation of Kingdom mission.

Estate Planning

"Would you consider including Kingswood University in your estate plan?"

Increasingly, Kingswood staff are asking our donors this non-threatening question. In reply, many assure us they've already done so.

Others welcome this question, since it stimulates serious thought. They have given to Kingswood during their lifetime. Why not include the university in your estate plan, allowing continued support for a ministry you value?

However donors respond, each can be grateful for the question's gentle reminder. Statistics show fewer than half of Americans

and Canadians have made a will. This means it will be more expensive and time-consuming to settle their estates with no guarantees that their hard-earned resources will be distributed according to their wishes.

Making a will provides you peace of mind, knowing your resources will continue to support what you believe is important. It's also easier than you think. Kingswood has engaged trusted advisors who can walk you step-by-step through this process. We can help. Give us a call at 506-432-4411.

Greg Mann

Foxhole Prayer Thirty Years Later



"If you get me out of this, I'll do whatever you want me to do." That was the prayer Greg Mann prayed 28 years ago. He had found himself in a spot of trouble and did what many of us tend to do, he negotiated with God. Little did Greg know that God would take him up on his prayer. Two weeks after those words left his lips, Greg was working as the chef at Bethany Bible College, now Kingswood University. He has remained a beloved fixture in that role for nearly three decades.

On October 16, 2020, the newly renovated dining hall was named in Greg's honour. As President Lennox noted at the dedication, this naming was "in recognition of Greg's long service to the university and its students, his dedication to the task, and his commitment to build into the lives of our students."

Those students, now alumni, still deeply appreciate Greg and his influence on them. When it was announced in a ministerial gathering made up largely of Kingswood alumni that the new dining hall would be named after Greg, the place erupted in enthusiastic applause. One alumnus confessed later that he had never been more proud of his alma mater than for this decision to honour Greg.

The renovations to the dining hall were extensive, including new flooring, wall covering, ceiling, ventilation, lighting, serving stations, furniture, and more. As well, one end of the dining room was designed with a "Starbucks-feel," complete with a propane fireplace for a relaxing ambiance.

The renovations were completed debt-free, thanks to generous donors, and are being thoroughly enjoyed by Kingswood students. A dedication service was held on Friday, October 16th to formally open this facility. A livestream of the ceremony and a video tour of the Greg Mann Dining Commons are available at <https://youtu.be/e9ruxkxhhK8>.



Dr William C. Burbury

Remembering a Kingswood Champion



Dr William C. Burbury (1928-2020) had an immeasurable impact on Kingswood University and its alumni. His passing came with deep heartache for many, but also with great celebration of a life well lived, for the Glory of God. We rejoice with him to be "at home with the Lord." (1 Corinthians 5:8)

Bill joined the Bethany (now Kingswood University) staff in 1968, and before retiring in 1991 he served as Professor/Dean of Men (1968-70), President (1970-74), Executive Vice-President/Academic Dean (1974-89), and Interim President (1989-90). The Burbury Administration Centre was named in his honor for his dedicated service to God at Bethany.

In addition to his roles and responsibilities, Bill was a scholar with a strong, biblically grounded education, who desired to provide

the same to others. In 1957, Bill graduated as Valedictorian from Bethany's three year ministerial program, and pursued excellence in his education through to his PhD in Pastoral Counselling from Trinity Theological Seminary in 1987. Ivan Graham, Executive Director for Financial Affairs, remembers him as "a principled person, who took his responsibilities seriously . . . a dedicated scholar who loved teaching, and was approachable."

Bill's commitment to his family and the lives of others created a deep, lasting impact. Dr. Art Maxwell, Academic Dean Emeritus, recalls Bill working to "make my transition to Bethany as smooth as possible . . . and he took a personal interest in my progress and the welfare of our family." Art continued, "the words caring, thoughtful, supportive, integrity, and genuine come to mind. He was all of these and more to me."

Bill's love and dedication to his family can be felt in the words of his granddaughter, Joy (McElhinney) Pusey (2005). "I remember his laughter. I remember playing games with him—he was nearly impossible to beat at Scrabble! He loved his family, and prayed for each of us every day."

Bill will be missed greatly. We are so grateful for him, his wonderful wife, Wilma, and his family, for their enduring commitment to the Kingdom of God!

Closing the Gap for Counselling Students

In September, Kingswood University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU), to assist students pursuing their Graduate Degree in Counselling*. This partnership allows third and fourth year KU Christian Counselling students, who meet the necessary criteria, to be eligible for admission into five graduate level Counselling courses through Indiana Wesleyan University. At 3 credit hours each, completion of all five courses would put undergraduate students 15 credit hours into their future graduate degree.

According to Dr. Allen Lee, Program Director for Kingswood's Christian Counselling program, "having this Memorandum of Understanding in place with IWU allows a Kingswood Counselling student to start his/her first year of studies and be able to see a clear path forward to the completion of graduate studies and licensing."

"Dr. Allen Lee and Dr. Janet Starks, VP for Academic Affairs, led the charge with this opportunity," said President Steve Lennox. "Their forward thinking and strategic efforts will build a strong foundation for KU Counselling students."

*In Canada, the word counselling contains two "l"s.

COVID-19 Update

With the arrival of the COVID-19 virus last March, Kingswood University suspended in-person courses and moved all classes online. Although the shift was not without its challenges for students and staff, in the end everyone agreed that things worked out well.

Planning began immediately to welcome students back to campus in September. Kirk Sabine, VP for Campus Life, led these efforts in conjunction with the provincial and federal public health officials. Also, Janet Starks, VP for Academic Affairs, and the faculty began preparing to offer all fall semester courses in both on campus and online formats.

Public Health guidelines called for a mandatory quarantine for those entering the province from outside the Atlantic "bubble," the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador. This meant 14 days of isolation for 28 Kingswood students, all of whom tested negative for the virus.

Classes and other aspects of campus life have been going very well, a testament to the excellent preparations and cooperative spirit of students and staff. The on-campus portion of the fall semester will end at American Thanksgiving in late November. Students will complete their studies online.

At this point, plans are in place to hold the Spring semester on campus, with classes beginning January 19th. Once again, all courses will be offered both on-site and online to allow for maximum flexibility, essential in these challenging times.

24th Annual Kingswood Golf Classic

Tournament was second most-successful in money raised for scholarships

One of the COVID casualties was the Kingswood Golf Classic, held for the past 23 years in June. According to President Lennox, "As soon as we realized how difficult it would be to hold the tournament at its regular time, we rescheduled it for the fall. This allowed us more time to raise funds but also meant we could incorporate our students in the tournament."

In hindsight, this decision proved the right one. More money was raised in corporate sponsorship than ever before. With the amount raised by golfers, this year's golf tournament was the second most-successful in money raised, over \$52,000. All proceeds from the Golf Classic support student scholarships.

One of the highlights from the tournament was the arrival of 17 golfers from Coastal Church in South Shore Nova Scotia. They were led by Kingswood alumnus, Pastor Jason Parker. One of the golfers from this church, Adam Kenney, raised a record amount of over \$5,000 in his very first tournament. The trip was part of a men's retreat from the church.

The three teams who raised the most money each received the opportunity to name their scholarship. Prizes were also awarded for the best team score, longest drive, closest to the pin, and most honest score. During the banquet that capped off the day, student Devon Armstrong and alumnus Jason Parker shared with the gathered golfers the positive difference scholarships make in obtaining a Kingswood education.

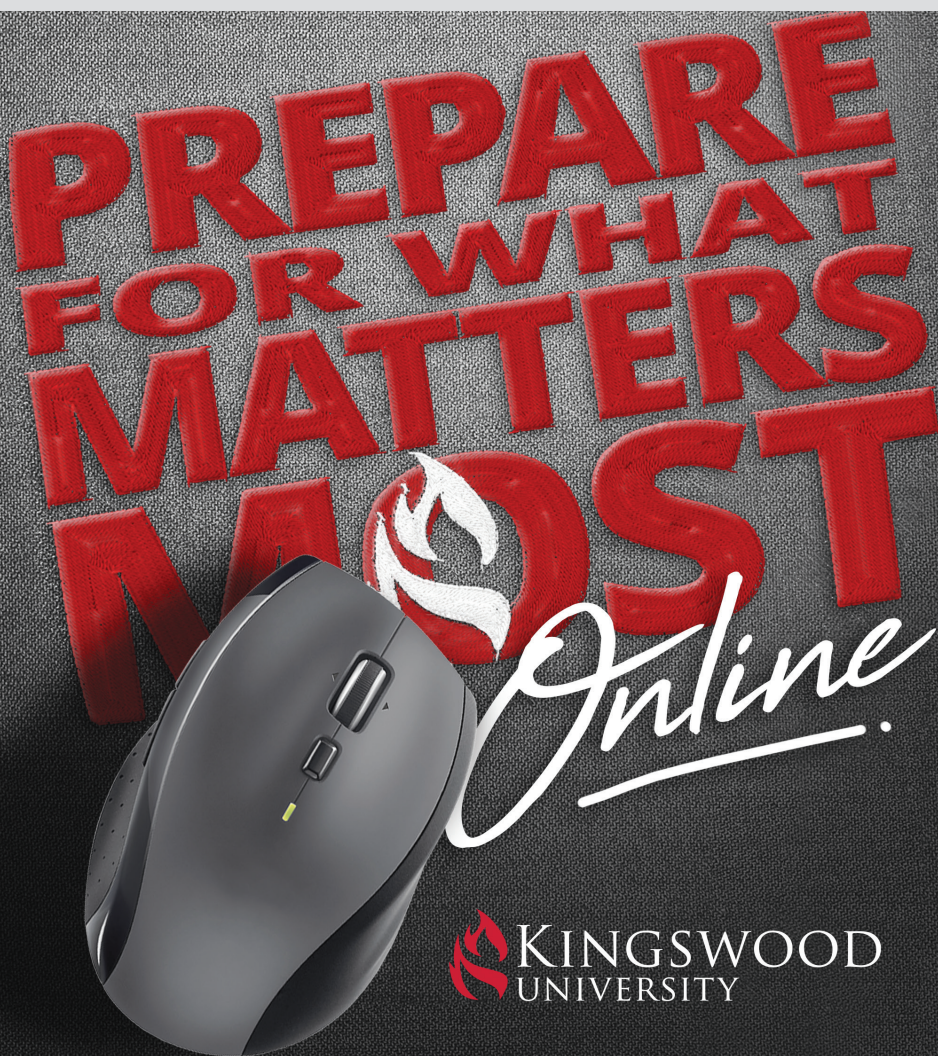
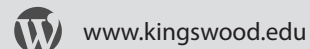
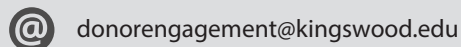
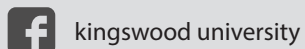
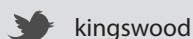
Dr. Lennox was glowing in his praise for Debbie Benson, Director of the Annual Fund at Kingswood. "Debbie brings the perfect combination of qualities that helped this event be so successful. She has a great way with people, a keen attention to detail, and a work ethic that never quits."

With this year's tournament such a success, the decision was made to continue to hold this tournament in the fall. Mark your calendar to join us for Friday, September 10, 2021. More details will follow.



Join us next year for our 25th Kingswood Golf Classic.

September 10, 2021



Earn Your Ministry Degree Online!

Experience the quality education you expect with the flexibility you need.

Bachelor of Arts in Ministry

Business

Children & Family Ministry

Christian Counselling

Evangelism, Compassion & Social Justice

General Ministry

Marketplace Ministry

Pastoral Ministry

Youth & Family Ministry

Associate of Arts

Biblical Studies

Evangelism & Compassion Ministry

Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology

Courses Required for Credentialing

The Wesleyan Church

The Church of the Nazarene

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada