



# ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2019/2020

## THE IMPORTANT WORK CONTINUES



In this Annual Impact Report, we pause to reflect on all that has happened over the past year. Over the past months, our lives have been consumed by a new way of living. Appropriately so. It is important to remember all that God continues to do in our midst and to celebrate what He has done over the past year.

It feels like a distant memory. In December, we concluded our celebration of 125 years of God's work in the lives of students at Tyndale. After an extensive external review, in January 2020, the Province of Ontario granted authorization to call ourselves **Tyndale University**. It was an affirmation that the kind of education Tyndale provides – unapologetically Christian in focus and oriented toward educating the whole person – is delivered with

excellence and meets or exceeds the Ministry of Colleges & University standards. The new name creates opportunities for graduates and opens the door for new program development.

There have been leadership changes with the search for a new President concluding with the announcement that Dr. Marjory Kerr would be joining us this summer. The Office of the Provost, the Chief Academic Officer, was created, and Dr. Beth Green was appointed. Other leadership changes were announced. A summary is provided in this publication.

Tyndale is a special place. Alumni work and serve on every continent and in numerous professions, organizations and agencies, educational institutions, businesses, churches and ministries.

The work of Tyndale continues. It looks different in the current context; that is where Tyndale shines. Through its various names and locations, for over 125 years, it has always sought to prepare students to meaningfully engage the critical issues of the day.

Thank you for walking with Tyndale students. Your support through gifts and prayer enable this bold mission of preparing this generation of students to make a difference.

Blessings,

**Kevin Kirk**

*Sr. Vice President, External Relations  
President, The Tyndale Foundation*

# YEAR IN REVIEW

## **New President: Dr. Marjory Kerr**

Dr. Marjory Kerr was welcomed into the Tyndale community as President and Vice Chancellor of Tyndale University on July 1, 2020. Dr. Kerr comes to Tyndale from Booth University College in Winnipeg. Dr. Kerr holds a PhD in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from the University of Waterloo and is a registered psychologist. A lifelong member of The Salvation Army, Dr. Kerr is committed to integrating her faith into her vocation as she continues to respond to God's call in her life.

## **New Senior Vice President Academic & Provost**

Tyndale University appointed Dr. Beth Green as Acting Sr. Vice President Academic & Provost on January 1, 2020. Reporting to the President, Dr. Green serves as Tyndale's Chief Academic Officer, providing leadership and accountability for all academic matters. She is helping Tyndale create an integrative framework in which the Seminary, Undergraduate Studies and the Open Learning Centre will be able to collaborate and grow.

## **Change in Seminary Leadership**

Effective January 1, 2020, Dr. Janet L. Clark, Senior Vice President Academic and Academic Dean of the Seminary, began a year-long sabbatical. Upon her return, Dr. Clark will step down from her role as the Seminary Academic Dean and will explore new ways to contribute to the mission of Tyndale.

Dr. Arnold Neufeldt-Fast, Associate Academic Dean, has been appointed interim Acting Dean of Tyndale Seminary during this period. Dr. Neufeldt-Fast has worked closely with Dr. Clark. Most recently, they completed the Tyndale Seminary self-study and coordinated the site visit for the Association of Theological Schools' Commission on Accrediting which led to the successful reaccreditation through to 2029.

## **New Name: Tyndale University**

Tyndale's undergraduate programs provide access to top graduate schools around the world and employment opportunities in many fields. Our Bachelor of Education program, for example, has an impressive reputation, and our teacher candidates are actively sought after. However, the term "University College" had proven difficult to explain and promote. And now that we are officially "Tyndale University," there will be no confusion any more.

Tyndale Seminary, with its exceptional global reputation, will continue to be known by the same name.

## **Tyndale Celebrates 125 Years**

Tyndale celebrated its 125th anniversary in September 2019, commemorating the incredible legacy of women and men who stepped into classrooms and were changed – our graduates who went all over the world and shaped lives and legacies in every walk of life. We celebrated the remarkable institution that God has used to influence students to live faithfully and vibrantly wherever they found themselves after graduation. On September 21, 2019, Tyndale welcomed alumni from its many years of history to celebrate a very special Homecoming.

## **The Alister E. McGrath Chair of Christian Thought and Spirituality**

Early this year, Tyndale announced its vision to establish the endowed Alister E. McGrath Chair of Christian Thought and Spirituality. The twofold focus of the Chair (Christian Thought and Spirituality) is a key theme in Dr. McGrath's scholarship and is foundational to the educational ethos at Tyndale Seminary. The term "Christian Thought" includes, among other things, the reformation theologies that are an important stream within the transdenominational Christian heritage of Tyndale. The joint emphasis in the title underscores the inseparability of theology from the life and practice of faith.

Dr. Dennis Ngien, Professor of Systematic Theology and Director of the ThM Program, was installed as the first holder of the Alister E. McGrath Chair of Christian Thought and Spirituality at Homecoming in September 2019.

## **New Pastoral Thanatology Program**

Tyndale Seminary is pleased to introduce the new Pastoral Thanatology Program. The study of Thanatology revolves around the multifaceted aspects of the end-of-life process, including grief, bereavement, death and dying. Thanatologists examine the process of grieving, as well as attitudes towards death, from cultural, gender-specific and social contexts. Other areas include the rituals and ethical issues surrounding death and the biblical and spiritual resources to help those going through this phase.

## **New Director of the Tyndale Family Life Centre**

Tyndale University appointed Wilma Nevers (MDiv 2007, RP, RMFT) as the new Director of the Tyndale Family Life Centre (FLC), effective July 1, 2019. Ms. Nevers assumed this role previously held by Dr. Marion Goertz, who concluded her visionary years of service at the end of June 2019. Previously, Ms. Nevers served as Manager of Tyndale Counselling Services and was closely involved in the centre's planning and visioning from the beginning. She has worked alongside Sheila Stevens, Director of Tyndale Counselling Services, for many years.

**THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!**

# HOPE-FOCUSED WORK

## *A BALM IN ANXIOUS TIMES*

With everyone facing heightened levels of anxiety, severe economic stress, socio-political upheaval and racially motivated violence in the context of the pandemic, **Genevieve Alao (MDiv 2018)** has her hands full.

Fortunately, she has a limitless capacity for empathy, which is serving her well as a clinical counsellor and psychotherapist caring for an anxious community.

“Lack of connection, increased loneliness, fear and uncertainty are at an all-time high,” Genevieve says. “As each day goes by, we realize more and more that things will never be the same again. The mental health fallout is immeasurable.”

Genevieve is deeply grateful to be building on the foundation Tyndale provided.

“I found intellectual minds and compassionate hearts at Tyndale, and I was stretched to expand my understanding of God’s compassion,” she says.

**“I am a home-grown Tyndale alumnus who was served by Tyndale and is now honoured to serve at Tyndale. I cannot think of a better discipleship example. It’s Jesus at His best.”**



Right now, Genevieve’s hope-focused work is mostly done online, helping people who are finding it difficult to manage everyday life and offering free support to frontline workers. She is also working with social justice organizations to address the disproportionate impact of current events on the Black community.

The pandemic, Genevieve says, has changed everything. And although she knows it is impossible to quantify the impact she is having, she is doing everything she can to make a difference.

“From small things, like posting an encouraging note on social media, to building workshops, speaking on panels, and providing a presence as others process their fear and pain, the ripples of those acts resonate far beyond the moment.”

# MAN ON A MISSION IN TORONTO'S POOREST NEIGHBOURHOODS



**“My heart breaks for broken families, those in poverty, those who don’t have a community.”**

Urban missionary **Julius Naredo (BRE 2009)** serves as the hands and feet of Jesus, and his heart for the most vulnerable has never been more visible than it is right now.

Leading by example in a pandemic, Julius is a community director for UrbanPromise Toronto, a Christian non-profit organization raising a generation of young leaders from Toronto Community Housing to serve and restore their own communities.

Known fondly as Kuya, a Filipino term of respect for a “big brother” figure, Julius faithfully lives out his calling through MoveIn, a movement of Christians prayerfully following Jesus’ example by literally moving into vulnerable neighbourhoods to minister among the unreached, urban poor.

“My heart breaks for broken families, those in poverty, those who don’t have a community,” Julius says. “We go to the darkest areas, where a lot of the lost and broken are, in Toronto where the nations are at our doorstep, sharing God’s love and demonstrating how God designed things to be.”

Tyndale, Julius says, helped prepare him for a life of service in many ways: being the Gospel and demonstrating what it stands for, leading the way with evangelism and discipleship, and building bridges of empathy and compassion.

In the pandemic especially – with the focus on delivering emergency food and advocating for the elderly and the young – Julius’s empathy for the most vulnerable has strengthened his already-deep community connections. The impact of his work with struggling families is profound.

“This is not a God-forsaken land, just a church-forsaken land,” Julius says. “It’s about providing a church community presence, even though there is no institutional church building.”

## CALLING 911

### BEHIND THE SCENES OF A PANDEMIC

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**“The fact that God is able to allow me to develop my skills while also helping people makes this job very meaningful.”**

Before COVID-19 hit, **Rouben Manukian (BA 2020)** never could have imagined how his Tyndale co-op jobs would prepare him for service in a critical area of pandemic response.

While studying for his degree in business administration, Rouben spent two co-op terms at the Ministry of Health's Public Health I&IT branch. After graduation, he was offered a contract with the branch of Emergency Health I&IT that supports Ontario's 911 emergency system technology.

Rouben says Tyndale's business courses helped him develop critical communication skills, but it was the co-op experience that really prepared him for a fulfilling work life.

In helping ensure that paramedics and other frontline responders have what they need to stay safe themselves while carrying out life-saving tasks,

Rouben's role is to keep the management team organized, liaise with other branches and facilitate smooth planning and information sharing.

For Rouben, this experience has helped reinforce what God has in store for him, making him grateful to have meaningful work that helps protect Ontarians' health.

“The fact that God is able to allow me to develop my skills while also helping people makes this job very meaningful,” Rouben says.

“The pandemic has further reinforced the value and importance of what I do. I continue to learn what God has in store for my life as days go by. Each job I have prepares me further by increasing my skillset and experience in the field. This was something that has been nurtured and grown at Tyndale and continues to be developed every day at work.”



## SERVING THE MOST VULNERABLE THROUGH A CHRIST-CENTRED LENS

Joshua Valley (MDiv 2015) began to discover God's calling midway through his degree at Tyndale.

As a chaplain and writer, he says that embracing the historic Christian faith with an openness to balancing life's complexities has helped him serve from the perspective of the Cross, instead of being driven by modern religious culture wars.

"At Tyndale I was introduced to the paradox of the Cross — that God's power and love is are greatest in Christ's weakness on the Cross — and the importance of perceiving Scripture and reality through a Christ-centred lens," Joshua says.



"I discovered that God is not afraid to enter the reality of human existence, no matter what the cost or how dark the wastelands of our fallen world. At Tyndale, it became apparent to me that God was calling me to go into the world as a representative of the cruciform Christ caring for the forgotten, neglected, oppressed and weak."

Joshua is now back in his hometown of Thunder Bay, serving in the field of youth justice and caring for patients with acute health-care complications.

"The residents I care for have been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 lockdown," Joshua says.

"I am thankful to have the opportunity to make a difference during the pandemic, serving the most vulnerable during this time of existential angst. I never dreamed of being a chaplain in such a critical practice environment. I hope my passion for writing and teaching will lead me to become a professor and scholar — maybe even at Tyndale. After all, **it was at Tyndale where that God created in me a passion and purpose to follow Jesus and the Way of the Cross.**"



# FINANCIALS

We are all too familiar with how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected each of us in ways we could never have imagined. This has certainly been the case at Tyndale. Even in the midst of these extremely difficult times, we are continually reminded of God's faithfulness. His continual care for us, meeting our needs even before we knew of the needs, has been remarkable.

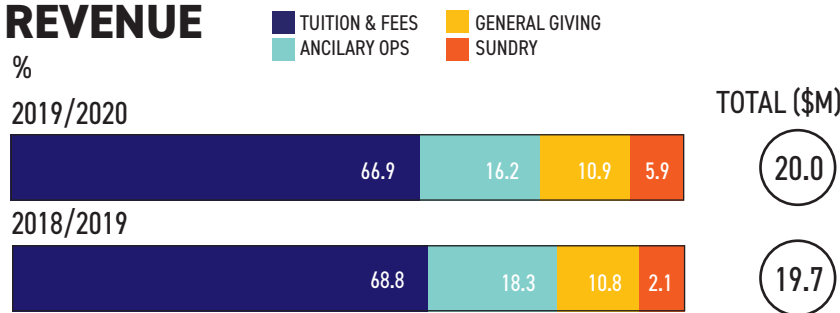
One of the challenges we faced was delivering courses and providing student services remotely. Tyndale experienced a full shut-down of the campus in mid-March. Students and most employees transitioned quite seamlessly to a work-from-home model. There were some staff members whose roles could not be performed remotely, and consequently, we faced the very difficult decision to lay them off. The majority was part-time student workers.

During this past fiscal year, our Tyndale Fund goal was achieved because of your amazing generosity. At the same time, we experienced a decline in revenue during the same period. During March and April, Tyndale was eligible for the government wage subsidy. The combination of all of these factors has enabled the university to weather this storm and keep the majority of our employees working, delivering courses and student services. We are so grateful.

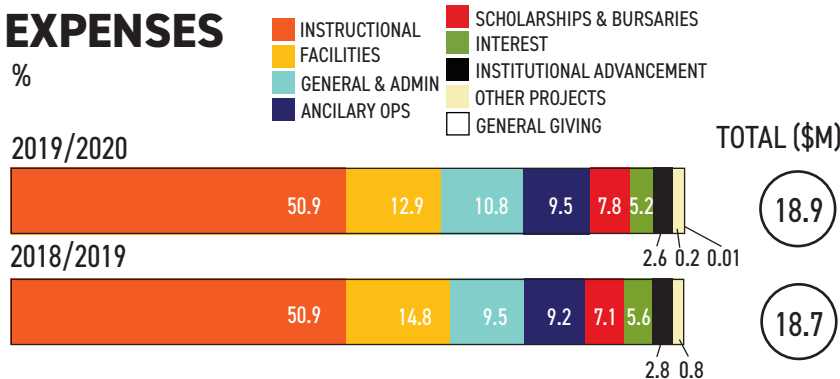
In the current environment, fall enrollment is precarious and uncertain. The challenge before us is great. Greater still is the God who goes before us and beside us as we continue navigating these uncertain days. Many of you will realize that operating the university goes beyond operational expenditures and often involves significant capital expenditures. In his final address to supporters, President Nelson communicated our urgent need to

address the refurbishment of our chapel. The cost of the project is upwards of \$1.25M. We are so thankful that to date, we have contributions of \$252,000 towards this project. - **Glen Roadknight**, *SVP Administration & Support Services*

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



## You are a light to students feeling the darkness.

Tyndale University alumni and students live out their faith in a complex and shifting culture. They go where many cannot. They are voices of hope in the darkest times. They speak the truth to today's issues. Students and alumni truly are light in darkness.

## You make this possible.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, as in other times of crisis throughout Tyndale's 125-year history, alumni have been called to be hands and feet in many different places.

The Tyndale Fund provides student financial aid and other supports that impact the student experience. Your support makes it possible to continue preparing this new generation with disciplined minds, transformed characters, and passionate faith.

This year, students are facing challenges. These challenges have increased significantly with the arrival of COVID-19 and the inability of students to maintain or secure meaningful employment. For the majority of Tyndale Undergraduate Studies students, the summer employment season is key to raising needed funding. These have all but disappeared. For Seminary and Graduate Studies students in full-time employment, their sources of income have decreased drastically, just as it has for so many Canadians.

Yet, these students have a calling to study and grow at Tyndale. They are determined. They need your help.

**Will you enable and encourage Tyndale students as they discover and pursue their calling?** To help Tyndale meet real, practical needs today, The Tyndale Fund needs to reach \$1,700,000.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can help Tyndale in the year ahead. Thank you for all you do in prayer, encouragement and giving – and in supporting your own communities during these times of challenge and uncertainty.

[tyndale.ca/give](https://tyndale.ca/give)  
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WITHOUT YOU!**



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