



Strengthening the spiritual
vitality
of Christian ministry
leaders.



Upcoming Events



Oct
19



Nov
2



Nov
16



Nov
19



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up to date

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update

Fall
2026

"Give Him no rest with your Prayers"

Strengthening Those Who Shepherd Others | Cathy Gates

One of the things I value most about Thrive Ministries is the opportunity to come alongside Christian ministry leaders and their spouses as they seek to live well, grow in their relationship with God, and faithfully serve those around them. When a leader is strengthened, the impact reaches far beyond that one person. Families, churches, ministries, and communities are touched as well.

Over the past year, I have been grateful to see some new pieces of Thrive take shape.

We recently launched our new Thrive Ministries website. This has been a long-awaited project, and I am so pleased with how it reflects more clearly who we are and what we hope to offer to ministry leaders. Our desire was not simply to have a new website, but to create a place where people can better understand Thrive, find the support that may be right for them, and get a sense of the heart behind this ministry. The new site also makes it easier to register for our retreats and programs and support the ministry through online giving.

I am especially grateful to Sean Bernardino, who volunteered countless hours to develop the new website. His time, creativity, patience, and willingness to serve have been a tremendous gift to Thrive. I am very thankful for the care he put into helping bring this vision to life.

We are also preparing to launch something new: Thrive Prayer Ministry.

This ministry began with Karen sensing a call from the Lord to create a space where Christian ministry leaders could come simply as themselves, set aside their ministry role for a while, and make room for God. As Karen shared what she was sensing, I became increasingly excited about the possibilities. During our early planning conversations, we spent time in Isaiah 62, and two phrases in particular stayed with me: "I have posted watchmen on your walls" and "Give Him no rest with your prayers."

Those words have continued to shape how I think about this ministry. Prayer is such an important part of being strengthened for the work God has called us to, and I am grateful that Thrive can create a space where ministry leaders can come, be still, listen, pray, and seek God together.

We are looking forward to opening this space this October and seeing how God chooses to use it.

As I look at these new developments alongside all that continues through Thrive—Soul Care, Soul Focus, Unfinished Business, ministry groups, mentoring...

continued on next page



Thrive Prayer Ministry Setting





INTRODUCING THRIVE PRAYER MINISTRY

1st and 3rd Monday, every month, 1-4pm

Niagara Region

For Christian Ministry & Nonprofit Leaders

Come as you are. Bring what's on your heart. Make room for God.

www.thriveministries.ca/events

encouragement, and the many quiet ways we come alongside leaders—I am reminded again that this ministry is made possible through many people.

Thank you for being one of those people.

Whether you have prayed for Thrive, given financially, volunteered your time, encouraged a ministry leader, or simply shared our work with someone who needed it, you are part of what makes this ministry possible. I am deeply grateful for your support and for your belief in the importance of strengthening those who shepherd others.

Thank you for continuing to walk alongside us.

Personal Story

Diane Talbot-Schoenhoff

It's not often that, as a strategic communications consultant, I get to experience firsthand the transformation I help a client communicate. But that is exactly what happened when Thrive invited me to attend a Soul Focus Retreat as a thank-you for my recent work.

I arrived with curiosity but no particular expectations. Through a creative exercise, thoughtfully and skilfully guided by Cathy, something unexpected emerged. I experienced a sense of healing and gained a clearer vision for living out my work, life and mission with greater order, simplicity and beauty. Several weeks later, I am still marvelling at the experience and how deeply it continues to shape my spiritual life and ministry practice. The retreat gave me more than a meaningful pause; it offered clarity and direction for the season ahead.



Can You Help Us Connect with the Right People?



As Thrive continues to grow, we're looking for a few people who may be able to lend their skills and experience:

- **Bookkeeper (Paid Position)** – someone with charity/nonprofit bookkeeping experience, preferably an individual rather than a firm.
- **Board Members (Volunteer)** – we are welcoming nominations for people who may be a good fit to serve on the Thrive Board.
- **Student Volunteer** – a student who could help with some light administrative and marketing tasks.

Do you know someone who might be a good fit for one of these roles? We would be grateful for your recommendations or nominations. Please contact us at info@thriveministries.ca.

Your donations help to:

Deepen
ministry leaders' walk with the Lord

Equip
leaders to deal with the stresses of life and ministry

Support
our Soul Focus Retreats



How to give:

Visit
thriveministries.ca/donate



e-Transfer
finance@thriveministries.ca

Cheque
Payable to
Thrive Ministries (Niagara)

Mailing Address
Thrive Ministries (Niagara)
PO Box 28013 Lakeport
St. Catharines, ON
L2N 7P8

Thank you!



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of Christian ministry leaders.*