The Ronald and Thelma Kratzer Ministerial

SCHOLARSHIP

Ronald Kratzer was born on March 4, 1936, in Denver, Colorado. His father was preparing for the ministry and moved to his first pastorate in 1938 to Arlington, Oregon, then to Moscow, Idaho, in 1943. His father was called to pastor Nampa First Church in 1952. Ron graduated from College High in 1954 and from Northwest Nazarene College in 1958.

Thelma Alexander was born June 11, 1936, in Olathe, Colorado, but lived in the Treasure Valley during her childhood. In 1950, the Alexanders moved to Nampa so that all six children could attend a Christian school. Thelma graduated from College High in 1954 and from Northwest Nazarene College in 1958.

Ron and Thelma were married in 1959 and moved to Kansas City where Ron attended Nazarene Theological Seminary and Thelma taught school.

The Kratzers began their pastoral ministry in Ritzville, Washington, in 1963. In 1967 they accepted the call to pastor in Baker, Oregon, where they served for over 21 years. In 1988, Ron was elected District Superintendent of the Intermountain District and served until his retirement in 2002. He served as a regent for NNU for 30 years. Their daughter, Ronda, and son-in-law, Scott Walker, both graduated from NNU and pastor in California.

While serving as District Superintendent, Ron challenged young people to be open to accepting a call into full-time ministry. He kept a record of each one as pastors reported them, and over 200 young people responded. He wrote each of them a letter of encouragement and prayed for them often and encouraged them to further their education at NNU.

The Kratzers’ lives continue to be wrapped up in ministry as Ron serves part-time at the Meridian Valley Shepherd Nazarene Church as an associate in Pastoral Care and Prayer. They continue to find opportunities to encourage and equip those called of God to minister.

Criteria for the Award

Recipients are to be students who are preparing for lives of service in ministry.

Recipients are to be students with a minimum GPA of 2.5 who meet the additional criteria of the Ministerial Scholarship Fund Program.

Financial need shall be a consideration in the awarding of this scholarship.

Nominations for this award are to be made through the School of Theology and Christian Ministries and the Office of Financial Aid.

A most satisfying way to honor a loved one or friend is to invest in a life yet to be lived.
Gifts to NNU’s Endowed Scholarship Program become a “helping hand” to students as they prepare for their vocations and for lives of service to others.
For more information, contact the Office of University Advancement, NNU, 625 Holly St., Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8772.
Northwest Nazarene University admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

Northwest Nazarene University