

April 18, 2013

The Bethany College Connection

Written by Rick Guenther, Director of Advancement

Photos courtesy of Cora Lynn Carey, Graphic Designer



Winter Semester Awards Chapel: Love is its own Award



Kevin Koop's challenge to students

On March 18th students at Bethany College were reminded that “love is its own award,” similar in thought to a recent movie called *Wreck it Ralph* that reminds viewers, “you don’t need a medal to be a hero.” It was with these words that **Kevin Koop**, Pastor of the Blaine Lake Gospel Chapel and guest speaker at the winter semester awards chapel, challenged students at the ceremony where three scholarships were presented.

Dynel Weber was the recipient of *The Henry and Luella Krahn Memorial Scholarship* and **Andrew Reddekopp** was the recipient of *The Rueben and Emma Baerg Scholarship*. Both Dynel and Andrew are second year students and awarded \$1000 each. **Andrew Wilson**, a first year student, was awarded *The Bethany Alumni Scholarship* for \$500. Cliff Brandes, Alumni and Donor Relations representative, who announced the recipients of this semester’s awards, said these three were chosen out of a total of 15 others who applied. They were chosen on the basis of academic

performance, financial need, and the quality of their application in conjunction with the stated requirements of the scholarships.

Kevin Koop, speaking from his own experience of having received a scholarship as a student at Bethany, admitted to his own appreciation of the public encouragement that awards provide to the individuals who receive them. Kevin asserted that we *all* probably enjoy recognition and affirmation like this. However, he acknowledged that in some ways, the recognition we receive from awards “contradicts the job you are trying to do” in humbly serving those around us and living as a follower of Jesus. Nonetheless, “awards can inspire us to achieve bigger goals” like it did for him when he received the words of affirmation from the donor of his scholarship, Elsie Harder.

He went on to say that the award he received along with Elsie’s words impacted his life significantly. She said to him that her prayers would be with him and challenged him to live for God and to be assured that “He is watching over you.” The award was the starting point of a friendship with Elsie, and Kevin noted that it’s the relationships we build that will leave us with a lasting legacy, not simply the awards we receive along the way.

At the same time, Kevin reminded students that “many of the things you do in service will go unnoticed” but as Paul’s words in 1 Corinthians 13 remind us, “these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

In other words, love is its own award.

For more information, see www.bethany.sk.ca.



Award Recipients (l-r): Andrew Reddekopp, Andrew Wilson, Dynel Weber, with President, Howie Wall

Nurturing Disciples and Training Leaders to Serve

Box 160 Hepburn SK S0K 1Z0 www.bethany.sk.ca

Phone: 1-866-772-2175 Fax: (306) 947-4229 Email: info@bethany.sk.ca