

Ambassador Ministries

In Covenant

208 Forced Road, Russell, Ontario K4R 1A1

Ambassador Ministries in Covenant

1. Ambassador Ministries in Covenant (AMIC) was founded in 1998 by Rev. Dr. Vinita Baker and became an official Not-For-Profit Charity in 2004. AMIC has been serving the local community by helping and counseling families and individuals in need (spiritual, physical, and emotional).

Vision

2. AMIC is called to be a tangible representation of Jesus Christ whenever there is a need.

- Flowing from the Heart of God in response to His love for all people
- Seeking to be obedient to His calling (Is. 61: 1-3) offering hope and light during difficult times

Mission

3. As a representative of Jesus Christ, we seek to share the Good News of God's love for all people and to touch those in need with that love.

- To equip the Body of Christ through prayer, worship, evangelism, and education so that they may be healed, renewed, and encouraged, ready to share what God has done for them and can therefore do for others.

Our Team

4. AMIC is a registered charity and is spiritually covered by a Board of Directors and many intercessors. Our Board Members are all volunteers, located in Russell and Embrun, Ontario.

- Vinita Baker, President/CEO/Founder;
- Nancy Romme, Honorary Lifetime Director;
- Colleen Moore, Director - Spiritual Intercessory/Secretary;
- Carolynn Klym, Director - Ministry Finances;
- Fiona Curley, Director - Event Coordinator; and
- William Norman, Director - Communications & Media.

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Ministry Programs

5. AMIC has a number of local programs and initiatives designed to give back to the community while spreading God's word. All programs are open to the public, all denominations are welcome:

Alpha: A well known and internationally accepted course, is a 15-session practical introduction to the Christian faith. It runs for 11 weeks and addresses foundational questions while providing guests with an opportunity to explore the meaning of life. It answers such questions as, Who is Jesus? What happens when we die? How do we deal with guilt? What is the meaning of life? Does God still heal today? What about evil? These topics and more are discussed in small group settings. Teaching are on video by Nicky Gumbel, an ex-lawyer who had originally set out to prove that God did not exist! This course is for people who have questions about their faith, are struggling with your own faith issues and for anyone with a desire to grow more in their understanding of God, their identity, and their purpose in life.

Bible Studies: An opportunity to teach the Word of God through small group interaction. Open to anyone interested at any level of understanding they have of God. The goal is to teach the Word of God, form relationships with one another as we grow deeper in our faith in God.

Call To Worship: Pastor Vinita Baker initiated a Call to Prayer, Monday March 16 on hearing of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis as it hit Canada. Twenty-two residents of Russell, Ont. joined to pray in solidarity for the halt of, safety and protection in the Russell Prescott Township and throughout Canada and the world. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the Call to Prayer moved from gathering publicly to online. Since March 23, 2020 we have met every Monday morning at 10am to pray through the changing issues as they have arisen. Locally: Russell name change, racism...) to globally: riots, explosions, random shootings in NFLD...We continue to pray for wisdom for our government leaders, Prime Minister, Premier, Mayors and those making decisions in regard to opening up various sectors of the public including the schools. We believe God answers prayer when we humble ourselves and pray and so we continue to be obedient to His call to come together as one and agree that God is in control and will work all things together for good. Already we have seen His hand of protection on our community as we continue to pray for the safety and restoration of health of those who are showing signs of COVID-19 and or have lost loved ones during this time throughout the world. Our prayers continue for a flat lining of the curve and wisdom at every level of decision-making with protection for all.

Counseling: AMIC provides one on one Christian counseling. "We perish for lack of knowledge" and freedom comes with knowledge and understanding. The goal of the

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Counseling sessions is for God to bring revelation and healing, spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Strongholds (generational ties are broken by the power and authority of Jesus) as are vows and judgments and ungodly soul ties. Words of discernment, healing, prophecy, encouragement, and comfort allow God to touch and minister to each need bringing release and wholeness. Ministry is available in all areas to bring freedom and healing.

- **Inner Healing:** praying for and ministering to the broken hearted, and to anyone who has a need for healing of past and present emotional hurts and woundedness.
- **Healing of the Body:** ministering to those who are physically sick encouraging them in the healing process by building and strengthening their faith in a God who can do all things. The person is prayed using the gift of healing.
- **Healing of the Spirit:** Ministering to those who need spiritual healing, renewal and restoration through the authority of the Holy Spirit calling forth the Spirit inner man to be legitimized and given its rightful place. Pastor Vinita has her Doctorate in Practical Ministry and has taken several secular and Christian Counseling courses which prepare her to minister to all in need.

Fundraisers: Annually we have a number of garage sales during the Summer, a craft sale, bake sale as well as a silent auction and a Trivia night in the Fall. AMIC also joined a local flea market where our volunteers sold handmade items crafted by the Covenant Fellowship Church ladies and other community offerings.

Good Friday Annual Community Walk: A procession of the Cross on Good Friday is an annual tradition where locals from Russell Township symbolize Jesus' journey while carrying the cross prior to His crucifixion. People walk through the town, stopping at six stations to offer prayer and celebrate through song. Station 1: Concession and Craig, Station 2: Veterinary Clinic (across from First St.), Station 3: Post Office, Station 4: Dental Parking Lot (across from George's Restaurant), Station 5: Parking Lot (beside the Library); Station 6: Parking Lot (by the River). After praying at the Six Station, the closing takes place Saturday evening or on Sunday morning in church. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the restrictions in place, this year's Good Friday Annual Community Walk took place virtually, Friday, 10 April 2020. Twenty locals from Russell Township symbolized Jesus' journey while carrying the cross prior to His crucifixion by offering prayer and celebrating through song at the Six Stations.

Ladies Interdenominational Breakfast: This is a monthly event that takes place in a local church hall. Here a group of volunteer ladies prepare a banquet of food for breakfast, in a beautifully decorated environment where a guest speaker is invited to share her testimony of what God has done in her life. As these guests share honestly of their struggles, disappointments and hurts the thread of God's timely hand in their lives

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is also shared. Ladies who have attended and heard these testimonies begin to realize, that they too are not alone and even in their own struggles there is One who is there to comfort them. As well, they see that perhaps someone at their own table may be the person that may be able to give them the encouragement they need. This gathering has truly provided opportunities for many women to be helped by each other's stories and their availability to talk. The ministry has existed for twenty one years (having started in the home of Pastor Vinita Baker in 1989) and continues to meet a need to reach out to others so that God's love is seen, heard, and made available to them.

Ladies Retreat: The Ladies Retreat is a time set aside to be refreshed, pampered and filled with the Word of God in a setting of peace and quiet reflection. A time to make lasting friendships and to soak in the presence of the Lord while learning deep truths that have practical applications.

Prayer: This is a one-on-one ministry offering prayer, healing of inner past hurts, mentoring, teaching others about God's love for them and His desire to bring wholeness to them. This ministry is available to anyone who feels they may benefit from talking to someone so that they do not feel alone or abandoned or without hope. These times of getting together, usually in the office of Ambassador Ministries in Covenant, but also in private homes, provide opportunities for those that come, some professionals like nurses, teachers, construction workers, veterinarians, lawyers, government workers, pastors, farmers, auditors, and others like teens and children and stay at home moms, to be able to express what is on their hearts and minds which prevents them from dealing with life at its optimal. Individuals come, share, and are listened to, it is a place to be able to express hurts and disappointments and together we bring these to God in prayer. This is also an opportunity to teach what the bible says about certain issues, provide spiritual direction and comfort and also time to nurture a faith in and a relationship with God.

Intercessory Groups – Watchman and Township: This is a group of individuals who have a desire to pray for the community and surrounding areas. These leaders pray for the businesses, families, schools, health agencies, government leaders, both provincial, federal as well as municipal, that the Lord would bless them and lead them in all the decisions that are to be made, for protection of the community, its members and their spiritual growth. These intercessors have been trained in biblical principles and strategies of intercessory prayer. Intercessory means "to stand in the gap" which implies to pray on behalf of a person or issue that needs God's intervention as if it was our need or concern.

Sponsorship Program

6. **Yogo - Kenya:** AMIC has assisted overseas by helping to build an orphanage, a worship center and sponsoring children within the Migori, Kenya. AMIC continues to raise funds for the less fortunate children who would not otherwise be able to attend

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school in Yogo, Kenya. AMIC purchased land and supplied enough support to lay down a foundation and the beginning of the first three rooms which initiated the permanent school building. The process has begun and now more financial support is necessary. What an encouragement to this small village in Kenya plagued by AIDS and poverty! Helping to educate these little ones by providing a place for them to go to school will enable a community to rise up to their full potential. Education is the gateway to hope out of their poverty, eventually freedom from that poverty and hope for an entire nation!

Outreach Programs

7. **Blessing Bags:** Annually, AMIC donates Blessing Bags consisting of items donated by Russell Township people. Our 2019 drive, volunteers compiled 100 Blessing Bags consisting of items such as socks, gloves, scarfs, hats, sanitary items, snacks, cups, and tarps. Our 2020 drive will be supporting Odawa's Native Friendship Center (Shawenjeagamik Aboriginal Drop-In Center) Helping First Nations and Inuit peoples adults and children. These Blessing Bags provide essentials for winter survival, warmth, and comfort to those less fortunate.

8. **Loaves and Fishes:** Locally Ambassador Ministries in Covenant has helped individuals or families residents in Russell, and surrounding area going through challenging times. In 2021, AMIC opened an emergency "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry where we supply emergency assistance to those in immediate need or when resources have run out and they cannot get to the Food Bank. Several schools have made this ministry available to struggling families and we are blessed to be able to help where we can.

9. **Pond Inlet:** In 2004 we sent a team of seven individuals to Pond Inlet, Baffin Island and ministered in teaching, youth interaction, and praying for the community and schools through acts of forgiveness and repentance bringing release from past hurts and injustices.

10. Three youth and four adults undertook to go to this third most northerly community to minister in teaching, reaching out to the youth and to proclaim victory over the enemy through repentance and forgiveness. Previous to going we had collected many boxes of clothes and toilet items to send ahead of our arrival. The ladies auxiliary committee upon receiving them had immediately set out to make sure the local families would be able to come and benefit from them. Many resources were presented to the community including a sewing machine, youth DVD resources, children's craft resources and books and other teachings as well as a banner made by Lois Box and picture painted (by Debbie Bryski) and conceived by Nancy Romme.

11. Upon our departure the Inuit community also presented us with gifts of carvings, and handmade designs. In such a short time we had made many new friends which we continue to communicate with and visit with when they arrive at Larga Baffin in Ottawa

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for medical reasons. Many have visited our homes and at times we have taken them to their appointments, visited in Hospitals, out for lunch, supper, out to coffee or sight-seeing cows in local farmlands in Russell, Ont. and trees which are never seen in Pond! Long term friendships have been forged and our prayers continue for this community and the Inuit people who have survived in such harsh conditions.

12. **Touch of God's Love:** This is an outreach program directed specifically towards those dealing with cancer. Baskets of essentials are wrapped in love and prayer and are delivered to patient's homes with no other desire than to let them know they are being thought of and prayed for. There are no pre-requisites to receiving these baskets; no specific denomination or religion, age, or income! God's love freely given requiring nothing in return.

13. **Social Media:** AMIC is spreading the Word of God through a number of social media outlets:

World Wide Web:

www.russellamic.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Ambassador-Ministries-in-Covenant-158609327556711>

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCariQdFVERJ3qjisM_LaRtQ?view_as=subscriber

14. **Long term Vision:** Our Vision is to have a permanent site / building. A Healing Centre, a place of counselling, healing for the body and spirit, prayer, and teaching; a place where we can gather to invite those in the community to participate in our events as stated above. To have an outdoor, permanent sign for Covenant Fellowship Church, this way others will know who and were we are: a church beyond denominational barriers or traditions.

15. **Short to Long Term Plan:** Measurable results 1–5-year plan:

- To be known within our community and surrounding areas;
- To welcome more people to our family based church community;
- To increase our involvement locally to diversify our approach to what we can offer;
- To be known as a haven of healing;

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- To make God known more through increasing our activities by promoting community events like a worship night, children's events, outreach;
- To be financially sound so we can concentrate on our mission without financial constraints; and
- To be respected within the community as a church of integrity and compassion.

Covenant Fellowship Church

1. CFC a non-denominational Church established in May 19th 2004 as a small home church without denominational barriers or traditions. This was the beginning of an "Acts" church. The body meeting to fellowship and worship in freedom of movement break bread together and learn the Word of God fully trusting and depending on Him for everything. The small body grew until it started to rent a local hall and happily meets there still. God has been faithful and He continues to bring in the harvest one hungry soul after another.

Mission

2. To equip the Body of Christ through prayer, counseling, evangelism, and education so that they may be healed, renewed, and encouraged, ready to share what God has done for them and can therefore do for others. Covenant Fellowship Church is called to teach the biblical Word of God, cultivate a desire for the Presence of the Lord, and to minister to one another.

Pastor

3. Pastor Vinita Baker has been ministering as an "Ambassador" for God throughout her life. She was born and raised in Ottawa in a strong Christian family who has served the Lord for 5 generations. She is married to Harry Baker, a retired Research Engineer from the National Research Council, and they have 4 children, Nicholas, Ryan, Kari, and Dana. Having graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing God enlarged Pastor Vinita's desire to not only continue in the field of healing at a physical level but also to move into a spiritual one. In 1997, revelation came through scripture, song, and much prayer to begin a ministry based on Isaiah 61:1-3, 2 Corinthians 5:20 and the song "Not to Us" by Robert Critchley about being an Ambassador of reconciliation, all within a few short days. The ministry was to be called Ambassador Ministries in Covenant implying that this would be a ministry based on a Covenant between Vinita and Himself. A co-labouring of love to bring in the harvest, to teach His Word and to bring healing to the hurting and broken hearted. Pastor Vinita is ordained by the Evangelical Church Alliance Fellowship of Canada as well as by the Pinecrest Bible College in New York State, USA. And has her Doctorate in Practical Ministry. Founder of Ambassador Ministries in Covenant, a representative of the King,

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Vinita Baker is available to both God and His people as He leads her not only in Canada but also abroad. She seeks to continue to move under His direction through the Holy Spirit in any way she is led for the rest of her life as an Ambassador to her Lord.

Church Services

4. Services were held every Sunday morning at the Royal Canadian Legion, 24 Legion Lane, Russell beginning at 10:00 AM. Due to COVID-19, church services are held online via Zoom until further notice.

Media

5. CFC is spreading the Word of God through a number of social media outlets:

WWW:

www.russellamic.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-Fellowship-Church-101312335108227>

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCariQdFVERJ3qjisM_LaRtQ?view_as=subscriber