

Herald and Banner



Report to the 2025 General Convention of the Churches of God (Holiness)

This year has been eventful for Herald and Banner, and we would like to bring you up to date on a few items. Thank you for your time and interest.

Global Methodist Church

By the time you read this, H&B will have participated in their first GMC annual conference as invited vendors. This annual conference includes GMC churches from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. If you want to hear a report about how our materials were received at this conference, please talk to Dan or Gordon. They will be happy to give you the details!

Spanish materials update

As planned, our updated adult Spanish curriculum went on sale on December 1, 2024. A quarterly sample packet for this material is available upon request. We are very grateful to our translators, Rigoberto Linares of Houston, TX, and David Martinez of Mexico City, for their excellent work on this project. As with any new project, getting the word out about its availability takes time. Any help you can give in spreading the word will be much appreciated. Leaders of Spanish ministries operating under the umbrella of the IHC have been contacted. Sales are slowly increasing. Your prayer support for this project is appreciated.

Word Alive! Children's curriculum

In 2015, H&B launched a new children's curriculum project under the name of Word Alive! The old children's curriculum was known as Way, Truth, and Life, and is still available. Word Alive! has new content, educational design, and contemporary layout. It is undated, so it can be used for kid's clubs, children's church, or other contexts where dated material cannot be used. Because it is undated, it requires a separate order blank, creating confusion. If you are looking for an updated children's product, please look for the Word Alive! order form. It is currently available for Pre-school and Early Elementary levels.

Last fall, we launched the Pre-teen (junior) level. Unit 1 is available for purchase. Unit 2 is in process.

In addition, H&B is working toward a Word Alive! Teen level product. We understand this is a critical need and want to get it right. Shawna Wright has been hired to coordinate this project. She has assembled an advisory board from across the holiness movement and is getting some excellent input. We appreciate her work, and look forward to the products that will result from it. Please pray for this vital endeavor.

Marketing trips

The past year has been busy with Herald and Banner marketing trips. In 2024, we represented H & B at the St. Louis Holiness Convention, the Inter-church Holiness Convention in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Ministerial Convention in Indiana, COGH General Camp, Northwest Arkansas Camp in Gravette, Arkansas, and COGH Minister's Conference.

So far in 2025, we have attended the Children's Pastor's Conference in Orlando, Florida, the annual conference of FEA Spanish churches in Hobe Sound, Florida, and the Inter-church Holiness Convention in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

In addition to visiting Camps and Conventions, we would love to visit your church and share with your congregation how God is blessing us at H & B. Please let us know if you would like a visit. Or you can visit our "virtual booth" at heraldandbanner.com.

Bardales book available at heraldandbanner.com

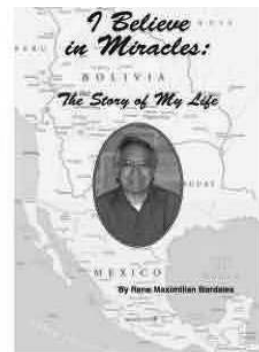
I Believe in Miracles: The Story of My Life, written by our very own Rene Bardales, is available on the H & B website. This 74-page softcover book sells for \$6.95 plus shipping and handling, and is the autobiography of Bro. Bardales.

From the preface:

"Why do I write this? Well, through the years, many people, including ministers, friends, and family members, have asked me to put the story of my life in written form because they think that by reading it, some may discover that God could take a very ordinary life and use him or her to accomplish something for His glory. That is what happened to me. He has taken me on an unbelievable journey... allow me to relate my life history that has been wrapped in miracles since my birth."

Price: \$6.95 plus shipping & handling

To order, please go to heraldandbanner.com or call 913-432-0331



H & B App

We are happy to remind you that the adult student quarterly and the Opening the Word devotional are available in the new Herald and Banner app, which can be found in both the Apple and Android app stores!

Church Herald and Holiness Banner

We have heard from some that they have inadvertently let their *Church Herald and Holiness Banner* subscriptions expire. To help you out, we are including a sign-up form for the Banner at the end of this report. Don't be the last one to hear about the important things happening in the Church of God (Holiness) Departments. Banner subscription prices are scheduled to increase on July 1, so renew that subscription today!

Conclusion

We at H&B will continue to move forward, embracing new technology and expansions to our product line, while staying firmly rooted in our Wesleyan Arminian doctrine. Thank you for taking the time to read our update. Visit us anytime at heraldandbanner.com.

Gordon Snider
Director of Publications

Dan Merkley
Director of Finance and Marketing

Subscription Form – Church Herald and Holiness Banner

Current prices good through June 30, 2025

Please complete and submit with payment. On the day of General Convention, please give this form and payment to Dan Merkley. Or, sign up at heraldandbanner.com or mail this form with payment to:

*Herald and Banner Press
PO Box 4060
Overland Park, KS 66204*

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please select:

- ☐ \$29.95 United States Home delivery (one year – 12 issues, postage included)
- ☐ \$59.90 United States Home delivery (two years – 24 issues, postage included)
- ☐ \$89.85 United States Home delivery (three years – 36 issues, postage included)
- ☐ \$51.45 International Home delivery (one year – 12 issues, postage included)
- ☐ \$18.00 Online access for one year plus access to archived past issues of the Banner

Please indicate:

- ☐ New subscription (I have never before received the Banner)
- ☐ Renewal subscription (I currently subscribe to the Banner, or I used to in the past)

Church of God (Holiness) Home Mission Department

Report to the Delegates and Ministers of the 2025 Church of God (Holiness) General Convention

The following reports have been presented by your Home Missionaries. In compliance with the ruling of the General Convention, these reports are in lieu of oral reports. Our hope is that you will take the time to be informed as to what God is doing in the different areas of ministry, and perhaps use this material to report to your churches. It is impossible to express adequately our appreciation of your loyalty to this ministry. Thank you for your support in finances and prayer. It is true, "Together, we CAN make a difference!"

Haitian Ministries - Brooklyn, NY

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It is with joy I send you this report from the Brooklyn Church of God (Holiness)

I would like to start with a heavy heart by saying, the year 2024 was very challenging for us, as you are aware, we have been going through some very difficult times in the history of our church. We are down in all aspects, but Jesus is still strong in our lives. We are working, we are building, and we are moving forward.

At the same time, we want to say thank you again, words cannot express to you and to the Home Mission Board for the Grant and the Loan from the Foundation that helped us to survive during the influx of refugees and the second-floor Renovation. The renovation was completed 10 months ago, and the apartment is rented to one of our church members. The pastor's apartment is also rented to one of the church member's family just to help the bills of the church. It was critical for us to rent both apartments because, financially, we are not doing well. Most of all, the number of memberships is down due to the fact that people are leaving NY because of immigration and other issues. In addition, many are not givers with their offerings and tithes. The rent we collect helps us to pay some of our bills.

Many of the church bills have increased in cost tremendously: for instance, the property tax has tripled over the past four years, we have the van insurance, the building insurance, which has doubled also, and utilities, just to name a few. We do not like to complain, but this is the reality right now. Our offerings and tithes are two times less than what we used to collect. We believe in God's providence, and we know this is temporary. We still have about 10-15 refugees in the church. We believe God will make a way where there seems to be no way. The world and everything in it belong to God. We believe before long God will lift us up for his name and for his glory's sake.

All our regular services are in function, and all our programs and activities are also in function. The church is alive, and we are blessed even in the midst of difficulties. We had a deficit in our finances for the past couple of years, but the rent is what is helping us to fill in some of the gaps. We also now have a newsletter every quarter, our first quarter was from January to March, and Charlen Charles-Lors is our News writer. Our total collection for 2024 was about \$88,000. The complete renovation for the two apartments cost about \$250,000. We got a loan from the Foundation board for \$125,000, and the rest of the cost came from drawing out all our savings and all the tithes and collections we received. Our regular expenses outside the construction are an average of \$110,000. We have also used some credit cards for additional expenses. We are in debt right now, but hopefully, our finances will stabilize within a year, but by the grace of God, we are managing. Our prayer request from you is for God to give us

strength through the power of the Holy Spirit, for guidance, for courage to overcome discouragement, to heal from our wounds, and to continue to reach the lost souls for the kingdom of God.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Jean-Pierre Lors

Hallsville, Missouri - New Heights Church

This letter is from Kevin, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be a pastor and sent out to preach his Good News in the mission field of Hallsville, Missouri. I am writing to God's church assembled in Overland Park, Kansas for the general convention of the Churches of God (Holiness). May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

There have been many good and evil events that have taken place in the last year, and many whose end is not yet known. Even the very wise cannot see all ends.

Our highest attendance for the year was Easter Sunday, which was around 60. I attribute that mostly to the children's Easter Pageant. The second highest attendance was Christmas for the same reason.

Our Wednesday night children's program is continuing, with moderate levels of success. In the past year, we've decreased the number of children we are picking up in the bus, but we've increased the number of children coming. Two families in town are bringing their children.

Last fall, we started a Third Saturday Outreach Program (TSOP) where volunteers canvas neighborhoods and invite people to church on the third Saturday of each month (hence the name). We are nearly finished remodeling the fellowship hall/parsonage basement.

We had a couple of good outreach events, vacation bible school, a Thanksgiving meal-in-a-box that we hand out just before Thanksgiving to families in need, and a Christmas toy drive for families in need.

If anyone does not love the Lord, that person is cursed. Our Lord, come! May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus.

Hispanic & Mexican Ministries

PERSONAL REPORT

First, I would like to thank God for the victory I feel in my heart and for the privilege he has given me to serve and honor Him in the Church of God Holiness. It has been wonderful to walk this path with the support of God, my wife, family, and you.

DISTRICT REPORT

A- We have 9 established churches and a developing mission.

B- We have 3 Bible institutes in operation: one in the Houston area, another in Seguin, and another online.

C- At the District level, we have 7 activities:

- General Camp
- Youth Camp
- Men's Camp
- Women's Camp
- Pastoral Convention

-District Conference (Reports from Pastors and District Leaders)

-District Tour (Visit to each church for local reports and re-elections of local pastors and leaders. We will be accompanied by the beloved Rev. Jack Smith.)

D- There is a highly valued ministry called the Ministry by Extension. It is led by Rev. Julio Gonzalez, our founder.

It is a ministry for prisoners and their families. The brother sends letters to them in prison, and each year, with the support of the District Missionary Society, he gives a gift to the prisoners' children on Christmas Day.

REPORT FROM MEXICO

A- The Church in Mexico has 9 established churches and one mission launching.

B- We give thanks to God for the persevering work of Rev. Guadalupe Turruiates and his wife. We appreciate their complete dedication despite their secular work in Schools.

C- It is worth highlighting the good spirit and enthusiasm of each pastor in their local church.

D- They also have a joint service each month and an annual visit by our brother

Turruiates to each church, like a conference during the year, where each pastor gives their report.

NICARAGUA

GOD has blessed the work here greatly. It is growing thanks to Pastor Luis Raudes Caldera. They have new converts and recently celebrated Baptisms. To God Be The Glory.

DISTRICT MISSIONS

We give thanks to God for this Department that has supported the Work Of The Lord here In The United States, Mexico, and Nicaragua by sending a monthly offering for each Pastor.

GRATITUDE

Grateful to God for His many blessings and the support of the pastors and families. Of course, grateful to the Seguin Church, Rev. Jack Smith, and the Church of God the Holiness.

Sincerely

Rev. Victor Parra

Loveland, Colorado

Dear 2025 Convention Delegates and constituent COGH family:

Greetings from Mountain View Church of God (Holiness) in Loveland, Colorado, "America's Sweetheart City." Big news from our congregation has to do with the awesome faithfulness of God to bring victory out of defeat, peace out of chaos, and life out of death!

The intense challenges reported last year were minor compared to the ones our fellowship has encountered since that time. Cancer proved to be the gateway to Heaven for our church pianist, organist, treasurer, pastor's wife, and two Council members; all within a few short weeks during the winter holiday season. In keeping with the preference to make these reports positive in nature, I find it very easy to announce that throughout the most difficult year in more than five decades of ministry, the phenomenally amazing grace of God has been powerfully evident in the life of our church and the individual lives of every congregant.

Despite the intensity of obvious Satanic attempts to discourage, the blessed Holy Spirit has forged, at Mountain View, an ever-stronger unity, love, and determination to press forward with hope "in the bond of peace." In the last six months, new leadership from within and without our congregation has risen up, stepped up, and "signed up" to fill the gap and is exhibiting anointed leadership. Additionally, an inspired "Mountain View Growth Partnership" was formed with 2 or More Church, Kansas Christian College, the COGH Home Missions Dept., and Mountain View COGH. The purpose of this coalition is to broaden and intensify the search for a new pastor and prepare for resurgent growth. Over the past four years the "interim" pastor has been occasionally tempted to "throw in the towel," only to hear a heart-whisper from the Lord saying, "It's not over until I say it's over!" So, with the encouragement and prayer support of our congregation, our ever-faithful Home Missions Board and Director, and many friends and colleagues throughout the movement, Wanda and I would commit to continuing until our Lord directed otherwise.

Our loving God has given some of Mountain View's core leadership early retirement, but theirs is a legacy of following Jesus in steadfast faith. Therefore, the people of Mountain View are "looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" and are more than ever, leaning forward with anticipation of "the Lord [adding] to the church...such as should be saved."

With Kingdom joy in a time of personal sorrow, I am Gratefully Yours,
Wayne Skeen, Interim Pastor

Maysville, Arkansas

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, from our congregation at Grace Meadows Fellowship in Maysville, Arkansas!

We are so thankful to Bro. Jack Smith and the Home Missions Board for their continued support! They have proven to be valuable partners with our church as we minister to the Maysville community.

We have begun a prayer and fasting campaign. The focus is prayer for our church to reach our local community. We continue to be encouraged by the spiritual progress of those who attend. God is at work! The vast majority of the teens and children we are reaching are from broken homes and would most likely not be attending church anywhere if not for our ministry. Despite that, we see genuine displays of worship, such as raising hands to praise God. Many are accepting volunteer positions of responsibility in the church. We are planning a baptismal service, as several have accepted Christ and have the desire to be baptized.

We continue to focus on reaching the community by engaging in local parades, hosting a "Trunk or Treat," and ministering through Christmas caroling, to name a few. We also partner with the Maysville Bible Church to assist them in their monthly food pantry, and fellowship with the local Baptist church, participating in their "Gospel Sing" events. The three local churches work together for special inter-church community-wide events such as Christmas and Easter Sunrise services.

We ask that you visit our Facebook page, "Grace Meadows Fellowship of Maysville Arkansas."

South Park – Overland Park, Kansas

Things are steadily moving along on top of the hill at South Park Church of God Holiness! In all honesty, the burdens have been heavy, the prayer requests never ending, but God is still in control and holding our little group. In the past year, all the church properties were incredibly blessed to find an amazing roof company to work with our insurance and miraculously get all three of our roofs done. If you remember, we had our church roof done in the not so distant past. Because of some necessary roof needs with the rental property the church owns, we had to get the rental property roof redone quickly. And incredibly, we were able to get the church, parsonage, and rental property done and covered by the insurance. It's nice to know that it is done and in good shape for our crazy, Kansas weather! Maybe small to some, but big for us, we recently were able to get a free full sized fridge for our church basement. This will be a huge help as we continue to meet monthly for our Fellowship Sundays. Our church people are the best prayer warriors around, and continue to hold needs from all around us up in prayer everyday. We have also just recently had a young mom and her sweet baby attend and they have interest in making our church their home church. This is encouraging news for our little church on the hill. God is always working, even through the hard times.

Kansas City 2orMore Church Ministries

To the Church of God (Holiness) Annual Convention,

On behalf of 2orMore Church, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Home Missions Board and the wider Church of God (Holiness) family for your unwavering support in the establishment and ongoing work of 2orMore Church in Overland Park and Armourdale. By God's grace, we have now existed for four years, and we are seeing the Lord at work in both locations.

Overland Park:

The Overland Park congregation continues to serve between 40-60 people each week. We have been blessed with a vibrant young adult group that meets regularly for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. This group has become a close-knit community, fostering spiritual growth and discipleship.

This summer, we are excited to launch an 8-week gathering for teens, led by a young couple who are recent graduates of Kansas Christian College. This initiative seeks to engage and disciple the next generation, providing a safe space for spiritual development.

However, due to changes in our rental situation, we have had to adjust our Sunday service time from 10:45 AM to 9 AM. This shift has presented challenges in attendance and morale but has also prompted us to earnestly seek the Lord for a new location and a more refined articulation of our vision, mission, and practices.

Armourdale:

In the largely Hispanic neighborhood of Armourdale, we continue to house five college students who actively participate in church, Bible studies, and Discovery Bible Study training with the mission of discipling others.

Additionally, we have established consistent rhythms of prayer at the Armourdale location with daily prayer meetings from Monday to Friday and a monthly men's breakfast aimed at building community and spiritual camaraderie.

We are grateful for the ongoing prayers, financial support, and encouragement from the Home Missions Board and the Church of God (Holiness). As we look ahead, we ask for your continued prayers as we seek clarity, direction, and provision for the future of both ministries.

Thank you for partnering with us in the mission of making disciples and expanding the Kingdom.

With gratitude,
Matthew Lee
2orMore Church

Church of God (Holiness) Retirement Program

We are pleased to acknowledge these Churches and General Departments that have pastors or employees participating in the Church of God (Holiness) Retirement Plan:

- Black Jack, Missouri
- Blue Ridge, Missouri
- Cuba, Alabama
- El Dorado Springs, Missouri
- Fulton, Missouri
- Carthage, Missouri
- Harmony Hill Youth Camp
- Herald and Banner Press

- Home Mission Department
- Osawatomie, Kansas
- Rockbridge Church, Columbia, Missouri
- Kansas Christian College & Overland Christian Schools

We have 41 participants with \$1,131,862.02 total assets as of May 9, 2025. Participants are enjoying tax breaks, providing for their future, and demonstrating loyalty to a program established by the General Convention of the Churches of God (Holiness). Obviously, there are many ways to save for retirement. Doesn't it seem reasonable that every Christian worker supported by the Church of God (Holiness) would choose ours? We would encourage every Church of God (Holiness) entity to include a contribution to this retirement program as part of the pay package for those on their payroll.

Ministers' Conference

The dates for the 2025 Ministers' Conference are September 9-12. We are honored to have Dr. Marlin Hotle as our guest speaker this year. Dr. Hotle has served in a number of ministry settings. He has pastored, taught in a Bible College, and served for 22 years as a District Superintendent in the Wesleyan Church. He is the author of eight books. He comes to us well prepared to help us in our ministry.

We are excited to announce that this year's Conference will once again be held at Harmony Hill Youth Camp. We are honored to be there and ask you to pray that once again God will meet us on the Hill! The Home Mission Department encourages the delegates of this convention to share this information with your churches and the importance of making sure your pastors have the privilege of coming at no personal cost of their own. It is one of the greatest investments a church can make in its future.

Harmony Hill Ministries

“God meets people on the Hill!”

Dear Friend:

First John 1:7 says “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” Although this is the theme verse for Youth Camp this year, it’s an accurate representation of what Harmony Hill has been throughout the years and what we want to continue to be – A light to a lost and dying world.

We are deep in the throes of constructing the new hotel style dorm. A special committee, with God’s help, put together another memorable, successful weekend to raise the remaining amount necessary for paying for this incredible addition to our campus. May 23-25 was a tribute to heroes – Those who fought the fight for freedom and those who fought the fight for faith. People who have been a part of HHYC for generations and people who were new to the hill enjoyed a weekend of fellowship, friendly competition, and spiritual enrichment. One attendee had this to say: “I think God used this weekend for a different purpose that we did not see coming. This [Sunday] morning through the devotional and morning speaker, God was there in a very tangible way. He was moving on the hearts of many people. After lunch, I saw something happen that I haven’t seen before at camp. A group of [older generation] broke out in prayer – Prayer for camp, prayer for each other. I just love seeing how God took this weekend and used it for building His kingdom.”

At the beginning of the weekend the goal was to raise the remaining \$300,000 of the original \$800,000 to fully fund the construction project. In only three years, we are only \$65,000 short of that goal – Praise God! Thank *YOU* for your sacrificial investment in Harmony Hill.

The “Harmony Hill Contractors” have invested hundreds of volunteer man hours so far. We are currently working to finish the exterior – Concrete work for retaining walls, sidewalk, and porches. There is some sheet metal to be installed to fully enclose the building. We are also beginning the rough interior work such as plumbing and electrical work.

Upon completion, depending on the type of event, this building will allow us to serve 60-80 more individuals and 25-30 more families. Having its own kitchen and conference

rooms will enable us to serve a different demographic in off season rentals; specifically, those groups who are smaller, but are still looking for a quality event space. This will allow us to invest even more in our young people and the Churches of God (Holiness) as a whole. We are thankful for the Lord's provision for this building. We are trusting Him to continue using His people for completion. Not only will this impact the current generation, but for generations to come.

Although the new building is exciting and somewhat "center stage," we also continue to steward well the rest of the maintenance of our beautiful camp ground. Everything from replacing air conditioning units in the Solid Rock Café, mowing, replacing washers and dryers, to maintaining any number of smaller projects. The ongoing, daily details many times go unnoticed. The details, along with hosting guests all year long are consistently and well taken care of by our dedicated caretakers, the Wright family.

Camp season may occur in the summer months, but it's truly a year long process. Sometimes planning even begins the week of camp one year for the next. The time and creativity it takes to plan each week with intentionality is more than many would assume. As volunteers are planning the camp season, you should be making your own plans to make sure you *and* your young people make it to Kids Kamp and Youth Camp 2025.

Kids Kamp 2025 will be July 7-11. They will "Set Sail" and explore different port destinations where they will learn:

- God gave us the Fruit of the Spirit and how to use it to show love to others.
- How to trade our worries in for the peace of God.
- God gave us our gifts so that we can help each other.
- How to put on the Armor of God and share the gospel with others.

As always, the kids and staff alike are looking forward to experiencing the camp favorites of night adventures, morning and evening chapels, and meals at the Solid Rock Café. All of this happens while making new friends, and growing closer in our relationship with Christ at a special place that is "The Hill."

Youth Camp is July 20-27 with the theme "Walk in the Light." Learning how to distinguish light from darkness must begin with knowing Who the Light Giver is before we can begin walking in it. Through deliberate Scripture memorization time, intentional team time topics, and scheduled services, campers and workers will both be challenged with a deeper walk with the Lord.

Dr. Aaron Profitt is excited to be joining us as our speaker this year. Graduating from Overland Christian Schools and attending Southpark Church of God (Holiness) in his formative years, Dr. Profitt is not a stranger to many of you. He is a gifted communicator with a contagious passion to reach young people.

Our worship team this year will, once again, be led by Jordan Jackson and Jesse Keep. They too are passionate for reaching young people and can barely contain their excitement to return to HHYC.

Whether you have personally been impacted by Harmony Hill or have been around someone who has, it's easy to recognize the way God continues to use it to transform hearts and lives. I hope you are already making plans to help your young people make it to each of these life changing, life giving camps – It is eternally worth the time and the effort.

In Christ,

Alex Fourman, President



KANSAS CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE
Est. 1938

Church of God (Holiness)
General Convention Report
June 5, 2025

The 2024-2025 school year was our 87th consecutive year of ministry at KCCBS. That's a long time and we must not forget God's faithfulness and blessings through the decades. Our campus theme this year was "Relentless" and our theme verse is Psalm 40:11 which says, "As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!" (ESV). This year we helped our students understand the depths of God's relentless pursuit of us. But we also wanted them to reflect on whether or not they were pursuing Him with the same intensity, passion, and commitment.

From our early beginnings our founders understood the importance of providing a place of learning where students would have a personal encounter with Jesus Christ...that they would know God intimately and recognize that they are loved by Him with a radical love. Our founders desired to provide **a place of learning that had both a focus on discipleship and evangelism!** Students today are being discipled through their classes, their small groups, in chapel and through daily encounters with faculty and staff. Others are coming to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and wanting to be baptized – students like Peter in the high school and Emma in the college. Countless students have come forward for prayer following a chapel service or in seeking counsel from a staff member. Those students are being baptized on our campus or in their churches. And it's not just the spiritual victories we celebrate. Our students are immersed in classes that help to form a biblical foundation for their life and calling. Biblical values are being taught each day whether they are 3 or 23. And this year God has blessed us in the Fall term with 408 students across all departments.

Throughout our rich history, this institution has had over 1,600 graduates. Hundreds of these graduates have served faithfully in full-time Christian ministry here in the U.S. and in over 27 countries around the world. Countless others have served the Lord faithfully in the marketplace and in their local church by engaging their generation and their culture with the gospel message of Jesus Christ. In fact, just since 2019 we have had 205 college graduates. Of those, about 70 have graduated with an associates or bachelors degree in an area of ministry. With multiple emphasis areas in Leadership and Ministry, Pastoral Ministry, Biblical Studies, Missions, and Youth Ministry, these graduates have been prepared to serve the Lord in ministry across the country and around the globe. Musonda is one of those graduates. "Moose", as he is called, graduated in 2022. During the Fall semester he stopped by my office. Moose was originally from Africa but his family settled in the Kansas City area a number of years ago. He graduated with a degree in ministry from KCC and began pastoring in the UMC. He now pastors a congregation in rural Missouri that holds

to biblical values and wanted a pastor with a solid Bible background. Moose credits his time at Kansas Christian College as being foundational in helping him form biblical positions on issues facing our culture and the church today. In May we had another record graduating class at Kansas Christian College. Forty-eight graduates walked the stage to receive their diplomas. With a high school (Overland Christian) graduating class of 11 students, the combined 59 graduates this year is also a school record.

It has been no secret to many of you that the last three years have been financially challenging for the college. For two and a half years we saw significant delays in receiving the federal student aid (grants and loans) owed to the school. These delays slowed down cash flow and caused us to make some hard decisions along the way. This has been an extremely taxing situation on the Board, the administration, and many within the campus community. At one point we were owed about \$2.2 million. Last year I asked for your continued prayers following a visit to Washington D.C. And God answered those prayers. We began to see timely payments from the Department of Education (under three weeks) throughout the 2024-2025 school year and all the outstanding money has been received. But wait! There's more! In January our Board started the year with a forty-day prayer and fast and had two specific requests. One of those was that God would allow us to be removed from the Department of Education (DOE) probationary status by July 1, 2025. In March, I made contact with the KC office of the DOE and asked them if I could have a meeting to discuss the status of the probation and what else they needed us to do to have it fully removed. In my mind, we had done enough to warrant removal, but we needed them to recognize that. I was told they wanted to see our audit (due March 30) before a decision was made. This was no problem as far as I was concerned, as it only added more evidence to make our case stronger. We had a clean audit, again with no findings. During Spring break, I received a text from one of our VP's saying "I saw the email!" I wasn't sure what this email was, so I quickly opened my inbox and read an email that said, *"The School Participation Section – Chicago at the U.S. Department of Education (Department) has removed Kansas Christian College (KCC) from the Heightened Cash Monitoring 2 (HCM2) method of payment....effective March 17, 2025."*

I will tell you that there was a lot of joy and celebration, and even a few tears, as we celebrated this victory and the Lord's provision! The next morning I read in my devotions Deuteronomy 3:21-22 which says, *"And I commanded Joshua at that time, 'Your eyes have seen all that the Lord your God has done to these two kings. So will the Lord do to all the kingdoms into which you are crossing. You shall not fear them, for it is the Lord your God who fights for you.'"* My mind was instantly drawn to the lyrics of a song that says this:

*When all I see is the battle, You see my victory
When all I see is the mountain, You see a mountain moved
And as I walk through the shadow, Your love surrounds me
There's nothing to fear now for I am safe with You*

*So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high*

*Oh God, the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
Oh God, the battle belongs to You*

I don't know what battle you might be facing in your life today, but be encouraged that the Lord is fighting for you! All you may see is the battle, but he sees the victory! Getting off of HCM2 opens up a lot of opportunities for us that we haven't had available to us for three years.

- (1) We can receive near-instant payments from the DOE for grant and loan money.
- (2) We can move forward with getting additional academic programs approved for funding (Sport Management, Interdisciplinary Studies, MBA, MCM, etc.)
- (3) We can move forward with initiatives in confidence, without the uncertainty of funding.

While this is wonderful news, we still have some concerns ahead of us that we must address:

1. Financial stability (budget surpluses, reserves, endowments, elimination of debt)
2. Improvement of infrastructure
3. Growth of online program
4. New pools for recruiting ministry students
5. New donors

Highlights:

- In October at our Fall banquet we honored individuals from our past who had a tremendous impact on our organization. We inducted Arthur Scott and Leslie Palmer into the Society of the Lighted Torch.
- I love seeing God at work in the lives of our students. There is so much to celebrate when it comes to the work he is doing in the lives of students. I have had the privilege of working with the Ministry Team this year. It has consistently been a group of about 8-10 students that meet on a monthly basis for lunch. We have also had a few service opportunities together throughout the school year. The capstone of the year was a mission trip to Costa Rica. We took a team to San Jose from May 26 - June 2. We did some work at the Los Angeles church (Nazarene) in San Jose, preparing a foundation and pouring concrete on a new classroom building. We also shared messages with children and youth during their Youth Week and led in worship during a couple of the services. It was a great week of ministry.
- We raised tuition for next year and are expecting a bit of a drop in enrollment on the reset. We would love to still see enrollment reach 375 – 400 next year across all departments.
- Partnerships agreements continue to increase with several that have been finalized or are in process, such as:
 - Bachelor of Science in Biology
 - Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 - MA in Elementary Education (3+1)
 - MA in Counseling, MDiv, and DMin (dual degree)

- o MA in Education (3+1 @ KCC) – BA to MA
 - o JCCC – trades
 - o BA in Interdisciplinary Studies (pathway to further joint degrees)
- We broke ground on the Beckham Education Center completing the first couple of phases. We are trying to raise the money as we go so that we don't incur additional debt. Progress has slowed a bit, but we continue to trust the Lord for provision as we will soon need the space for Overland Christian School.
 - A number of our faculty and administration recently completed advanced degrees as we work to continue to raise the level of scholarship within the institution.
 - o Dr. Steven Kelso – DMin
 - o Carolyn Harris – MA
 - o Suzy Meyers – MA
 - o Leandra Martin – MA
 - Dr. Jim Poteet was inducted into NCCAA Hall of Fame on Wednesday, May 28 at a ceremony in Greenville, South Carolina. Dr. Jim Poteet is the Vice President for Athletic Advancement at Kansas Christian College and has served at our institution for the past eight years.

We are grateful to the Lord for the work He is doing in our midst. Thank you for your prayers and support. The lives of students and their families are being impacted for generations to come. Thank you for your investment in the lives of our students.

In His Service,



Dr. Chad Pollard

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