

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Theological Training in Africa for Africa



Contents

- 1 [Principal's Reflection](#)
- 2 [Vision, Mission and Strategic Pillars](#)
- 3 [Chairman of the Board Report](#)
- 4 [Board of Directors](#)
- 5 [Board Committees](#)
- 6 [Research and Scholarship](#)
- 8 [Students, Teaching and Learning – Undergraduate](#)
- 10 [Students, Teaching and Learning – Postgraduate](#)
- 12 [Theological Education Development Services \(TEDS\)](#)
- 13 [Explore Correspondence Course](#)
- 14 [Student Care and Support](#)
- 15 [Students' Representative Council \(SRC\)](#)
- 16 [Theological Development Africa \(TDA\)](#)
- 17 [Financial Report](#)
- 20 [A Word from the Chancellor](#)

George Whitefield College
34 Beach Road
Muizenberg
7945
Cape Town
Phone: +27 21 788 1652
Email: info@gwc.ac.za
Website: www.gwc.ac.za



Principal's Reflection

Around the world, there are clear signs that theological institutions are under strain. Some are closing, while others are being absorbed into broader academic structures – often at the cost of their theological clarity and evangelical conviction. Conservatively speaking, about two Bible colleges close their doors every month globally. The opening of new similar institutions is almost nil. The journal *Christianity Today* reported in February that perhaps “50% of Christian Bible Colleges in the UK will close in the next year or two.” There are probably only 20 Bible colleges remaining across the UK.

My reflections on this reality are penned in *The End of Theological Education*, a work which I finalised this year and which stresses the deeper issue: When theological education weakens, the training of faithful preachers weakens. And when that happens, the long-term health of the church is placed at risk. This is why this present moment in time is not simply one of organisational development, but of spiritual significance.

Africa remains widely spoken of as the future heartland of global Christianity, and while the Church is growing rapidly across the continent, growth alone is not enough: without depth, developed through careful, rigorous, and faithful teaching of God's Word, that growth will not endure.

If the church is to stand firm in the decades to come, it will require leaders who are not only passionate, but well-trained – men and women who can handle Scripture with knowledge, clarity, and conviction. That has always been at the heart of GWC's calling. And it remains so today.

One of the encouraging developments in recent years has been the strengthening of our academic pathway, enabling us to serve students at every stage of their formation. For those beginning to explore theological study, the one-year Higher Certificate offers an accessible and formative entry point to lay initial foundations. From there, students may progress into the Bachelor of Theology, and for those called to further study, into our Honours and Masters programmes.

What is particularly helpful is that this pathway does not force a choice between academic rigour and ministry preparation. Rather, it seeks to hold the two together – equipping students both to think deeply and to serve faithfully in pastoral contexts. In 2025, we made further inroads towards the introduction of our PhD programme, which we trust will further strengthen the theological ecosystem not only within the College, but across the continent.

We give thanks for all the progress that has been made this year. We rejoice in the growth of our student body, for the hard work demonstrated by faculty and staff, and for the generosity of those who support this work. To all who have partnered with us – through prayer, giving, and encouragement – we express our deep gratitude. We have learnt a lot about the global fundraising landscape through the launch of our *Unlocking Gospel Impact* campaign this year, and have much still to learn. It is humbling to meet many individuals who recognise that wealth, while powerful in this life, has no enduring value unless it is directed toward what will last beyond it, and who are investing in the training of those who will proclaim the gospel for years to come.

We look ahead to 2026 with boldness – knowing that the work of theological training is central to growing a Christ-centred church in Africa – and ever continuing dependence on God's sustaining grace.

Rev Dr Mark Dickson
GWC Principal



Vision, Mission & Strategic Pillars

Vision

That Africa be filled with preachers and teachers who deeply love the Lord Jesus and who have a profound understanding of Scripture, in order that Africa may increase its share in the Kingdom of God.

Mission

To shape minds via a classical theological education, nurture hearts devoted to Christian service and train voices to effectively communicate the word of Christ.

Strategic Pillars

1

To produce graduates who expound and apply the word of God to 21st Century Africa in ways that are consonant with evangelical doctrine and contextually relevant.

2

To collaborate with individuals and organisations who desire to see the advancement and sustainability of theological education in Africa.

3

To increase the reach of GWC through distance education and through building the capacity of theological institutions located in different parts of Africa.

4

To develop thought leadership within the church in Africa.

5

To continue to build a unified, aligned faculty.

6

To leverage digital technology to best achieve our goals.

7

To invest in a faith-filled, growing College community.



Chairman of the Board Report

2025 has been a year of continued strategic development for GWC, and the Board remains convinced of the College's unique opportunity to serve the church in Africa by equipping those called to ministry with sound theological education.

Academically, the College continued to strengthen and expand its offering. A strong student intake across all programmes – particularly within our flagship Bachelor of Theology degree – has been a source of great encouragement. Significant progress was made on the Online Higher Certificate, which is set to launch in 2026 and will further extend access to theological training.

Important groundwork was also laid for the launch of the Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Theological Education in January 2026, aimed at strengthening teaching skills and capacity across Bible colleges in Africa. The TALHITE (Teaching and Learning for Higher Theological Education) course, which also falls under Drs Richard and Caroline Seed of TEDS (Theological Education Development Services), continues to grow in reach and influence, having been delivered throughout a number of African contexts. An academic administrator was appointed to support this programme's development. At grassroots level, more than 7000 modules of the Explore correspondence course were studied across 14 African countries, demonstrating the hunger that exists for training in God's Word.

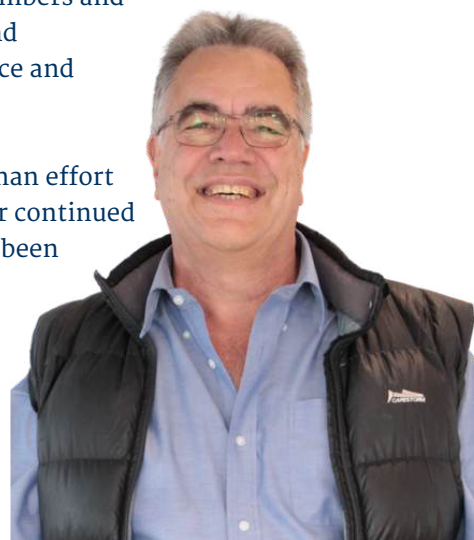
The College has also been strengthened through key faculty appointments in 2025. Rev. Gerard Jampies and Rev. Sivuyile Lurai joined faculty during the year, both bringing with them several years of ministry experience and a deep commitment to theological education within the African context.

In terms of infrastructure, we are grateful for funding received for a new campus lift, scheduled for installation in March 2026. This will provide much-needed improved access and reflects our ongoing commitment to serving the entire College community.

The long-term sustainability of the College remains a central focus for the Board. In this regard, the launch of the *Unlocking Gospel Impact* fundraising campaign marks an important step in securing the financial future of GWC and enabling it to fulfil its mission with confidence in the years ahead.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my fellow Board members and the various Board Committees for their ongoing diligence, wisdom, and commitment throughout the year. Their contribution to the governance and oversight of the College is invaluable.

Ultimately, we recognise that the work of the College rests not on human effort alone, but on the Lord's provision and grace. We therefore ask for your continued prayers, that we may remain steadfast and faithful in all that we have been entrusted to do.



Mr Peter Willig | Chairperson

Board of Directors



Mr Peter Willig
(Chairperson)



Most Rev. Dr Siegfried
Ngubane (Chancellor)



Rev. Dr Mark Dickson
(Principal)



Rt Rev. Raj Moodley



Rev. Sibusiso Mdluli



Mr Peter Shaw



Mr Matt Dundas



Mrs Niki Giles



Mr Trevor Petersen



Mr Manny de Freitas
(Secretary)

Executive Committee



Rev. Dr Mark Dickson
(Principal)



Mr Manny de Freitas



Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo



Dr Jonathan More



Dr Mawonga Celesi



Mrs Lulu Jampies



Mrs Alison Lee



Rev. Phumezo Masango



Ms Simone Odendaal
(Secretary)

Board Committees

	Audit & Risk	Investment	Campus & Estates	IT & Knowledge Centre	ARK Endowment
Chairperson	Mr Peter Willig	Mrs Niki Giles	Mr Matt Dundas	Mr Manny de Freitas	Mr Peter Willig
Secretary	Mr Manny de Freitas	Mr Manny de Freitas	Mr Clive Alfino	Mr Jody Leukes	Mr Manny de Freitas
Members	Mrs Niki Giles Ms Belinda Scriba Mr Trevor Petersen Mr Allan Anderton Mr Stephanus Lombard	Dr Hugo Nelson Mr Peter Willig Mr Allan Anderton Mr Stephanus Lombard	Mr Paul Theodosiou Mr Manny de Freitas Mr Stephanus Lombard	Mrs Nicole Barnes Mr Collin Majackie Mr Gary Adams Mr Steve le Roux	Dr Hugo Nelson Rev. Dr Mark Dickson Mr Dale Smith Mrs Alison Lee Mr Bob Collins (TBG) Mr Adrian Pust (TBG)

	Theology & Ethics	Academic, HR & Nominations	Remuneration	Explore	GWC Trust
Chairperson	Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane	Mr Dave Shaw	Mr Ashley Croeser	Mr Peter Willig	Mr Ashley Croeser
Secretary	Rev. Dr Mark Dickson	Mrs Lulu Jampies	Mr Manny de Freitas	Ms Saralee Molodi	Mrs Nina van Veen
Members	Rt Rev. Raj Moodley Mrs Hayley Tubman Rev. Sibusiso Mdluli Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo	Rev. Dr Mark Dickson Prof. Rob Sieborger Dr Nathan Lovell Mr Manny de Freitas Dr Jonathan More	Prof. Rob Sieborger Rev. Dr Mark Dickson Mr Trevor Petersen	Rev. Dr Mark Dickson Dr Mawonga Celesi Mr Nevil Carrington Mr Manny de Freitas Mr Stephanus Lombard Mrs Alison Lee Mr Steve le Roux	Mr Manny de Freitas Rev. Gavin Millard Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane Mr Dave Shaw Mr Peter Willig Mr Stephanus Lombard

	Fundraising Relationships Development	Marketing	Student Welfare	Bursary
Chairperson	Mr Matt Dundas	Rev. Dr Mark Dickson	Mr Dave Shaw	Mr Trevor Petersen
Secretary	Mrs Alison Lee	Mrs Charmaine Erasmus	Dr Jonathan More	Mrs Nina van Veen
Members	Mr Dale Smith Rev. Dr Mark Dickson Mr Manny de Freitas Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo Mr Peter Willig Mr Steve le Roux Mr Stephanus Lombard	Mrs Alison Lee Mr Lorcan McHarry Mr Johan Walters	Rev. Phumezo Masango Mrs Diane Lovell Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo SRC Chair SRC Vice-Chair	Dr Jonathan More Mrs Lulu Jampies Rev. Phumezo Masango Mrs Alison Lee Rev. Gavin Millard Mr Manny de Freitas Mrs Diane Lovell Mr Allan Anderton

Research & Scholarship

Evangelical Research Fellowship (ERF)

The Evangelical Research Fellowship (ERF) at GWC is a community of evangelical scholars engaged in research in theology and related disciplines. Within this stimulating gospel-shaped academic environment, our postgraduate students and faculty members support one another in the pursuit of scholarship that produces a mature contextual understanding of the Gospel to serve evangelical ministry on the African continent.

Conferences Attended by Faculty Members

- Fourteenth REFORC Conference on Early Modern Christianity, Vienna
- Reformation Research Forum, Sydney
- Protestant Reformation Society annual conference, Sydney
- Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Boston, Massachusetts
- Evangelical Theological Society Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts
- Receiving Nicaea – On Creeds, Culture, and Christian Witness – 1700 years after a Council (Conference hosted by Stellenbosch University, Cape Town)



Dr Jake Griesel at the Reformation Research Forum held at Moore Theological College in Sydney, Australia (August 2025)

Visiting Lecturers, Scholars & Guests

- Rev. Dr George Athas (Moore Theological College, Sydney)
- Dr Dirk Jongkind (Tyndale House, Cambridge)
- Mrs Karen Roe (TEDS Lecturer)
- Dr David Fleming (Lanier Foundation, Houston)
- Rev. Dr Roydon Frost (Christ Church, Midrand)
- Rt. Rev. Dr. Ashley Null (Bishop of North Africa; Wittenberg Center for Reformation Studies)
- Prof James Kombo (ERF Sabbatical Scholar, St Paul's University, Kenya)
- Daniel Yilma (ERF Sabbatical Scholar, Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, Ethiopia)
- Habtamu Kebede (ERF Sabbatical Scholar, Scholar Leaders)
- Bolingo Kamble (ERF Sabbatical Scholar, Langham)
- Oscar Lugusa (ERF Sabbatical Scholar, Langham)

Examples of some Faculty Publications in 2025



Dr Jonathan More

Dr Jonathan More

- Philippians, Hodder Bible Commentary: Hodder & Stoughton, 2025



Dr Nathan Lovell

Dr Nathan Lovell

- 1&2 Kings, Book chapter in T&T Clark Handbook to the Masoretic Text, edited by George Athas and David Davage: T&T Clark Bloomsbury, 2025



Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo

Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo

- Riches and Poverty in James: Exploring Christian Identity within a Covental Framework in Reading James Missiologically: The Missionary Motive, Message, and Methods of James, edited by Abeneazer G. Urga, Jessica A. Udall, and Edward L. Smither: William Carey Publishing, 2025, 129-146



Dr Caroline Seed

Dr Caroline Seed

- Being Church in the Post-apartheid South Africa in The New Testament Around the World, edited by M. Kovalishyn: Baker Academic, 2025, 285-297

Students, Teaching & Learning

In 2025, 120 students representing 15 different African countries studied at GWC at both undergraduate and postgraduate level – a rich and diverse community united by a shared commitment to Christ and His Word. In March, the College held its first combined matriculation and graduation ceremony, with 2024 graduates receiving their theological qualifications and 35 new students welcomed into the College. At the December commissioning service, 51 exiting students were celebrated and commissioned into the ministry positions to which God has called them.



GWC graduates 2024 together with members of Faculty



Commissioning service – December 2025

UNDERGRADUATE

Higher Certificate in Theology (HCert Theol)

This one-year (full-time) programme continued to grow in 2025, addressing the fundamental needs of full-time or part-time pastors (particularly in townships near the College) who have had little or no theological training; part-time church workers and group leaders seeking to improve their biblical understanding and skills to better serve their churches and/or communities; and potential candidates for the Bachelor of Theology degree who fall short of its requirements on initial application, chiefly in terms of English language proficiency.

Bachelor of Theology (BTh)

The goal of the BTh degree remains to produce graduates who are highly qualified to exercise ministries of various types, for example, pastoral ministry, children's work, youth work, mission, evangelism, pastoral care, apologetics, preaching, counselling. It also provides the gateway to lifelong study and to formal postgraduate programmes for those who wish to specialise or teach. The programme design thus exhibits an appropriate mix of theory (where the emphasis is on guiding students to think theologically and biblically, rather than covering vast tracts of material) and practically-oriented modules. In 2025, Dr Nancy Njagi (Local Leaders International) provided input on how the BTh curricula might continue to address the problems that some of our poorer churches face, with this being taken into account in an internal review of the programme and with redesign elements earmarked for 2026.



I was born and raised in Lavender Hill on the Cape Flats, an area of Cape Town notoriously known for its gang violence and drug smuggling. Since my conversion, I have been serving at St. Paul's, a REACH-SA church in Lavender Hill, where I was encouraged by the leadership team to pursue full-time pastoral ministry. There is a great need for equipped and trained preachers throughout the Cape Flats, as the ministers there lack knowledge and people are exposed to and taught false doctrines, which distort the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

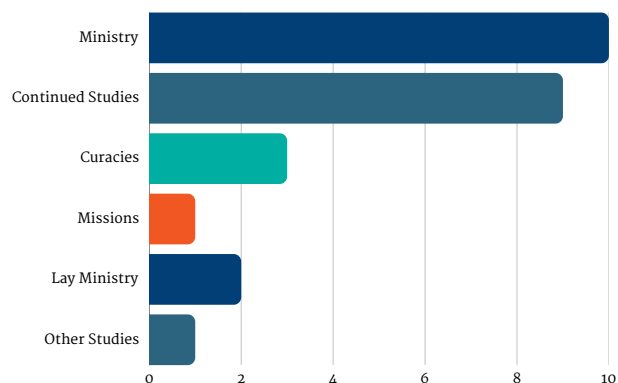
The BTh course at GWC stretches me daily, especially the intense Greek studies, but I feel stimulated and excited to learn. My favourite modules are Greek, Ministry, and Public Speaking – they're truly equipping me for future ministry. While the academic demands are high, I'm also growing spiritually. I trust God to deepen our relationship as I grasp everything I study. GWC is shaping me in ways I never imagined, and it is all to the glory of God.

Marcello Brown, BTh 1, South Africa

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NUMBERS

	Higher Certificate of Theology 17 students	Bachelor of Theology 75 students
South Africa	12	36
Africa & International	5	39

2025 GRADUATE MINISTRY PROGRESSION



“Studying the Higher Certificate this year has been transformative. Two modules in particular, Religious and Worldview, and Evangelism, have deepened my understanding of worldviews and equipped me to share God’s Word in ways that touch hearts. I’ve learned how to invite others to experience God’s love and live by His Word. I am inspired by GWC’s mission – to shape minds with biblical truth, nurture hearts for service, and train voices to proclaim the gospel – and it has become my own. My prayer is to know God more deeply so I can make Him known to people around the world.” Gerald Fute, HCert, Tanzania

Short Courses

In 2025, GWC offered its series of online courses in Bible and ministry-related subjects, providing an opportunity for members of the local church to develop skills and be trained for ministries they are currently engaged in or are seeking to be equipped for within their context. These included Biblical Theology, Mark’s Gospel, and Reading Your Culture.

“Studying the short course in Biblical Theology has deeply transformed my understanding of Scripture and how to handle God’s Word faithfully. I learned how to interpret the Bible more accurately by paying attention to literary style, historical context, and the overall redemptive story of Scripture. I stand in wonder at how consistent, faithful and true His Word is, and my faith has grown stronger – I now know God more intimately than before.” Divine Mwanji, Kenya



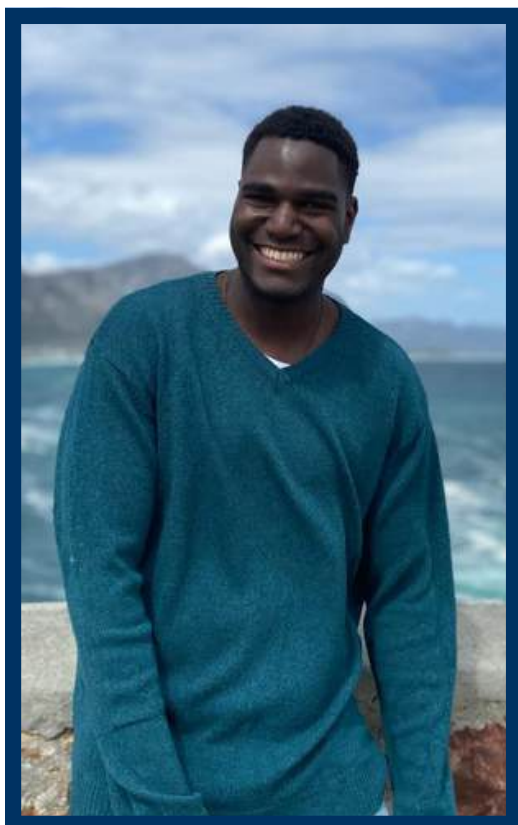
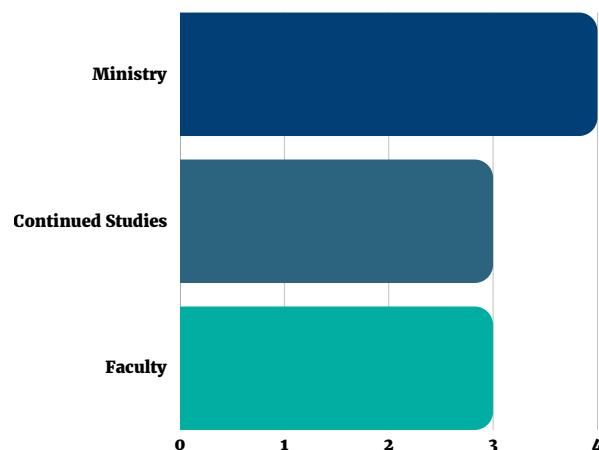
POSTGRADUATE

Students enrolled in our Bachelor of Theology Honours (BThHons) and Master of Theology (MTh) programmes develop advanced exegetical, theological, and ministry skills, which equips them to serve in a variety of contexts. As GWC works to serve as a hub for scholarly engagement and an incubator for African thought leadership, our postgraduate cohort are increasingly invested in as a community of Christian academics who can bring Africa’s voice to the global theological landscape.

POSTGRADUATE BREAKDOWN

	Bachelor of Theology Honours (BTh Hons) 12 students	Master of Theology (MTh) 8 students
South Africa	7	3
Africa & International	5	5

2025 GRADUATE MINISTRY PROGRESSION



“My name is Darlington Kufa and I’m doing my research Masters in Biblical studies, Old Testament. My postgraduate studies are challenging me to think critically around theology from Old Testament narratives, which helps me to contribute to the Church’s thought life of Hermeneutics in Old Testament narratives, particularly in the African context where this area of the Bible is often misunderstood and misused. I have particularly benefited from wrestling with the process of authorship, compilation, reduction and reception of sacred texts and how they shape theology, and by implication identity formation and future imagination.

Over the past two years I have been part of the Evangelical Research Fellowship, which I have enjoyed thoroughly in gaining the opportunity to get a foot into other disciplines as I converse with researchers and experts from that field. More than that, the informal conversations that take place are so crucial, and have helped me think through my own research as I share progress with other people. I have learnt that you don’t really know where your thinking is until you talk about it with someone. The availability of staff and faculty who are very knowledgeable in different fields has made the process even better.” Darlington Kufa, BTh Hons, Zimbabwe

Theological Education Development Services (TEDS)

In 2025, TEDS, under the leadership of Drs Richard and Caroline Seed, continued to build capacity for transformational holistic theological education that grows the faith, mission and leadership capacities of theological educators in Africa and beyond. This was achieved through continuing to expand the reach of Teaching and Learning for Higher Theological Education (TALHITE) in both its online and in-person modes, and in advertising and admitting students for the online Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Theological Education (PGDip HTE). TEDS continued to deepen its work with different partners, including Local Leaders, Gafcon, and the Relay Trust.

TEDS EXPANSION MILESTONES FOR 2025

- Karen Roe, who served with TEDS until September 2024, started teaching some of the TALHITE courses on her own through Local Leaders, with the assistance of local facilitators (Papua New Guinea and Francophone). This enabled greater deployment of facilitators and more courses.
- Dr Thapelo Khumalo accompanied Dr Caroline Seed and Karen Roe to Johannesburg and co-taught some TALHITE Phase 1 lessons.
- Dr Caroline Seed ran TALHITE 1 in Angola for the Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola, with the assistance of two TALHITE graduates from Brazil. This was a GWC-Relay Trust initiative.
- Students were admitted for the PGDip HTE starting in February 2026, with the target number of 20 looking set to be achieved.
- Dr Richard Seed presented the TEDS 5-year vision to the GWC Ops Exec and the GWC Faculty.
- An Assistant Programme Manager was appointed in November (starting 2026) to support with academic administration.

TALHITE COURSES DELIVERED:

- Johannesburg Bible College (in-person) – TALHITE Phase 1
- Nigeria (hybrid) – TALHITE Phase 3
- Francophone (online) – TALHITE Phase 1a
- Chile (in-person) – Phase 3
- GWC online – TALHITE Phase 1 & Phase 3
- Papua New Guinea (in-person) – TALHITE Phase 3
- Angola and Mozambique (in-person) – TALHITE Phase 1

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- Ran second Integration of Faith and Learning workshop, Uganda Christian University
- Attended ICETE (International Council for Evangelical Theological Education) Conference in Tirana, Albania
- Theological Education Association of Southern Africa (TEASA) conference – Dr Richard Seed presented a paper.
- Ran third Research Methodology workshop, PASTI in Indonesia
- Local Leaders Research Conference, Australia



“When we go back to our teaching, we shall be making a difference. Something has already changed in us. The story will not be the same.” – Feedback from participant in TALHITE Phase 1 Angola and Mozambique



“The course challenged me. It showed me that theological teaching cannot remain theoretical. I interpret this as a call to always connect doctrine and academic content to the concrete situations of my students and society.” – Feedback from TALHITE participant, West Africa

Explore Correspondence Course

The Explore programme, under the leadership of Explore Executive Dr Mawonga Celesi, continued to develop as a valuable tool across the continent of Africa, helping people engage meaningfully with the Bible in fellowship groups within their local churches and communities.

2025 AT A GLANCE

	Students	3237
	Module enrolment	7483
	Graduates	385
	Countries Reached	14

	Regions Developed	3
	Pastors	1100
	Translations in Progress	8

“We are deeply grateful to all who partnered with us in 2025 in this journey of learning, growth, and faithful service. I am thankful for the team who supported me in my first full year in this role, including previous Explore Executive Nevil Carrington who focused on fundraising efforts. At the end of 2025 we said goodbye to Danielle Nel, who assisted us so faithfully with Explore communications. We also began a season of operational realignment for Explore, guided by responsible stewardship, greater clarity and accountability, and a commitment to long-term sustainability. Looking ahead, a key focus is strengthening our model to ensure growth that is scalable and contextually appropriate.

As a department, we continue to trust God for wisdom, direction, and provision. We are constantly reminded that this is not ultimately our work, but His. As Scripture declares, “Unless the LORD builds the house, they labour in vain who build it” (Psalm 127:1, NKJV). Our confidence rests in Him alone.”

Dr Mawonga Celesi, Explore Executive



“Living in Kakuma, Kenya, and serving as a teacher and youth minister, the Explore course has been a game-changer. It gave me a solid foundation in theology and biblical interpretation, allowing me to study Scripture with greater clarity. Now, I can confidently answer the hard questions and doubts of my students. This has deepened their faith, sparked meaningful Gospel conversations, and helped these young people grow into passionate followers of Christ.” – Amos Wekesa, Kakuma, Kenya

“I’m currently in module 3 of the Explore programme. I am a youth leader at my congregation, Church of Christ. I couldn’t think of a better opportunity to study Theology and dive deeper into understanding the word of God than studying with Explore. Despite the context we live in, this programme is affordable and reliable. More importantly, it has drawn me closer to God as a servant in His great commission.”

Explore student, Nuba Mountains



Facilitator training, Nuba Mountains

Student Care & Support

The students' learning experience at GWC is greatly enriched by the diversity of its student body. Individuals from a wide variety of cultural, family and life experiences are brought together in our community, and we strive to provide an ecosystem of care and support so that they can be fully equipped for a lifetime of sustained ministry and service to the Gospel. This takes place through:

Chaplaincy

In 2025, Jake Griesel, Mark Norman, Vuyani Sindo, Thapelo Khumalo, Gerard Jampies, Sandile Mthwetha, Sivuyile Lurai, Jonathan More, and John-Paul Harper served as male chaplains under Rev. Phumezo Masango (Dean of Men). Diane Lovell (Dean of Women) served with female chaplains Michelle de Freitas and Danielle Nel, with Maggie Odendaal continuing as female staff chaplain.

Fellowship Groups

Six or seven students met weekly in different fellowship groups, under the guidance of a chaplain. This time included the sharing of devotional time, prayer, and receiving pastoral input and guidance to help navigate personal and study-related experiences.

Counselling Support

Part of our mission is to nurture hearts at GWC, and at times this requires counselling support as God does His healing work in the students. We are thankful for the support that has enabled us to provide this to several students in their preparation for ministry.

“All-in” Joint Fellowship Meetings

The men and women fellowship groups each held joint meetings once a term, to gather together and enjoy devotional time and fellowship.

Retreats

The annual men's camp took place locally in Pelican Park, while the women's retreat took place at Rocklands Centre in Simon's Town. Both received positive feedback in terms of good teaching and opportunities for relationship building.

“Gathering together weekly to share about our lives and talk about the practical side of ministry has been a great blessing. We've all greatly benefited from the care of Mark Norman, our chaplain. He's shared much of his ministry experience and wisdom with us. I've appreciated our time together in prayer and supporting one another through life's trials.” – Jared Verster, BTh 1

“Fellowship groups have been important for my spiritual growth and connecting with the community. It is a time where we get to share testimonies, pray together, support each other, and also to connect with some of the ladies who stay off campus. I also learnt to crochet, a skill that helps me relax!” – Cecelia Ngoma, BTh3



The GWC “all in” joint fellowship meetings

Student Representative Council (SRC)

The Students' Representative Council (SRC) at George Whitefield College is made up of students elected by their peers to serve and represent the student body. The SRC plays a vital role in fostering community life on campus, supporting student welfare, and providing a bridge between students and College leadership. During 2025, the SRC worked diligently to strengthen both the spiritual and practical life of the student community through a range of initiatives, including:

The GWC Launch

The academic year began with the annual GWC Launch event, which once again provided an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to connect outside the classroom. While the event was a success, it also proved demanding to run over multiple days. Based on student feedback, the SRC recommended a more streamlined approach, which has since been implemented by condensing the programme into a single day from 2026.

Student Welfare and Prayer Initiative

In collaboration with the Student Welfare Committee, the SRC initiated discussions around the need for a dedicated prayer space on campus. This vision was carried forward and, with the support of the incoming SRC, came to fruition in providing students with a quiet and intentional space for prayer and reflection.

Student Emergency Fund Support

A significant aspect of the SRC's work in 2025 was the care of students in times of hardship. Through the Student Emergency Fund, financial assistance was provided to several bereaved students, with thousands of rands distributed to support them during difficult circumstances. Recognising the strain on the fund, the SRC also introduced targeted fundraising campaigns, which proved highly effective – raising over R6,000 in a single month by September 2025.

Bicycle Initiative

In an effort to ease student transport challenges, the SRC successfully sourced and secured ten bicycles through a partner organisation. These bicycles have been made available for student use and continue to serve the community in a practical and meaningful way.

Student-Led Worship Nights

Amid the academic pressures of the year, the SRC organised a series of student-led worship nights. These gatherings provided much-needed spiritual refreshment and encouragement, particularly for students experiencing fatigue, and became a valued space for fellowship and renewal.

Ongoing Community Life

Alongside these initiatives, the SRC continued to support the rhythms of student life through regular gatherings, events, and opportunities for connection, helping to cultivate a strong sense of community among a diverse student body.

Bringing together students from across different countries and contexts remains both a joy and a challenge. The SRC has worked hard to nurture unity within this diversity, creating opportunities for students to build friendships, support one another, and grow together in Christ.



SRC-organised events: Heritage Day (left) and GWC Launch event (right)

Theological Development Africa (TDA)

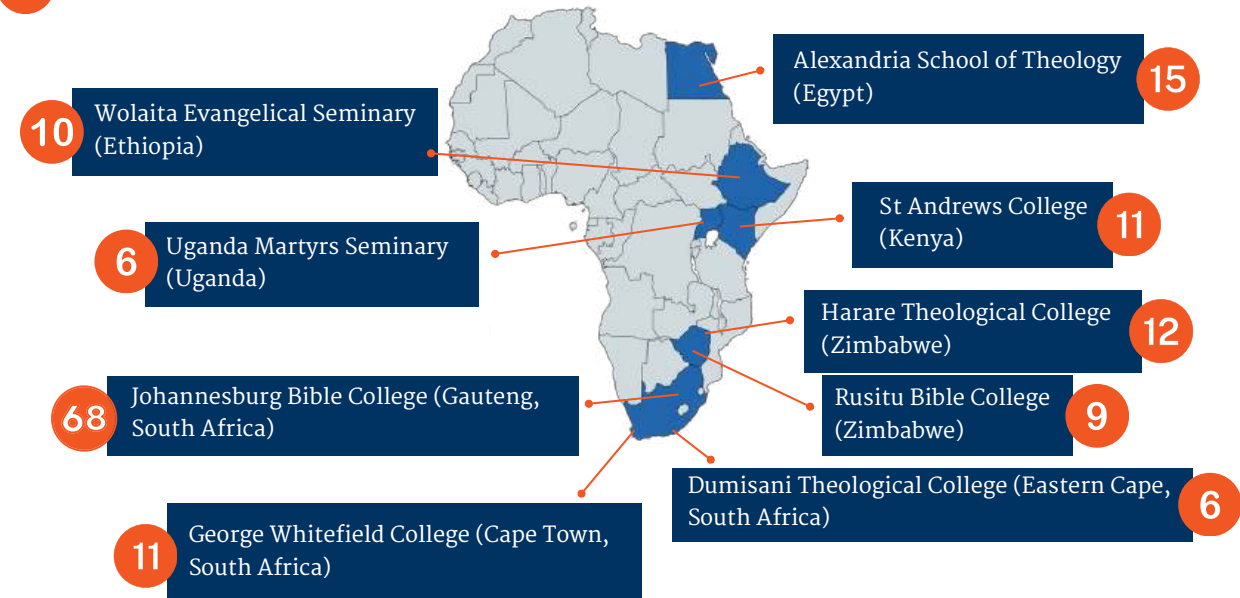
In 2025, GWC’s TDA programme continued to build capacity into Reformed and evangelical Bible colleges across the continent, providing bursaries for theological education to our partners.

A total of 148 grants were made available to nine colleges in six African countries.

The Fish Fund remained as foundational support for this programme, with the fund administered by a GWC staff committee.

	TDA Committee
Chairperson	Manny de Freitas
Administrator	Nina van Veen
Members	Vuyani Sindo Alison Lee Caroline Seed White Zibophe Allan Anderton

Number of bursaries per college



“Studying theology at Wolaita Evangelical Seminary is preparing and equipping me for effective ministry within my church, Bokoji Kale Hewet Church, where I will be a pastor. We are fighting against the growing number of prosperity preachers in our country, who focus on money and do not have sound doctrine. I am looking forward to being able to defend the gospel against these false teachings.” – Naol Shelmo, Bachelor's Degree in Ministry, Wolaita Evangelical Seminary

“My training has prepared me to be a good counsellor for parents and their children, as in today’s busy world there are a number of conflicts and divisions between the two, and I am looking forward to assisting more in being a listening ear and sharing the Word of God, for families as well as for widows and orphans, and the disabled, groups that are often neglected even in the church.” – Tapiwa Mwandisiyeyi, Diploma in Biblical Studies, Rusitu Bible College



Financial Report

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

We thank God for His continued faithfulness and provision throughout 2025. In a financially demanding environment, the College has continued to benefit from the generosity and partnership of churches, trusts, foundations, alumni, and friends who share in the vision of equipping men and women for faithful Gospel ministry across Africa.

Their support has enabled the College to continue providing high-quality evangelical theological education, residential community life, student support, and growing ministry formation opportunities despite significant financial pressures facing the broader non-profit and theological higher education sectors.



Mr Manny de Freitas
(Business Manager)

Financial Overview

The 2025 financial year was marked by ongoing operational and cashflow challenges. Nevertheless, through careful stewardship, disciplined expenditure management, and the faithful support of donors and strategic partners, the College was able to preserve operational stability during a constrained financial period.

The operating position reflected an operating deficit of R2.8m (R2.5m excluding Explore). However, significant measures implemented during the year helped contain the impact on cashflow and operations.

These included:

- targeted expenditure reductions;
- deferment of selected capital projects;
- tighter operational controls; and
- continued focus on financial discipline across the College.

Importantly, the operational cash position improved materially once non-cash depreciation expenses were excluded, reflecting the effectiveness of these stewardship measures in preserving liquidity and operational sustainability.

Donations, Bursaries and Strategic Partnership

The College remains deeply dependent on donor partnership in sustaining both operations and student formation.

A major encouragement during the year was the significant Theological Development Africa (TDA) bursary allocation received toward the end of 2025. These designated bursary funds will play an important role in strengthening future student access to theological education and supporting the long-term sustainability of ministry training across Africa.

This support is especially significant given the College's continued dependence on bursary funding to make theological education accessible to students preparing for Gospel ministry.

The College remains profoundly grateful for the partnership of donors, churches, and organisations who continue to invest sacrificially in theological education and Gospel growth on the African continent.

Financial Report

Sustainability and Stewardship

Like many faith-based educational institutions, the College continues to face the ongoing challenge of balancing affordability, operational sustainability, infrastructure needs, and long-term ministry growth.

The strengthening of strategic reserves, growth in endowment support, diversification of income streams, and expansion of fundraising capacity therefore remain important strategic priorities for the College and Board.

The ARK Endowment continues to provide valuable long-term sustainability support, while the ongoing Focus Campaign and related fundraising initiatives are expected to play a critical role in strengthening future operational resilience and reducing pressure on annual fundraising requirements.

The College also continues exploring opportunities for operational efficiencies, improved resource utilisation, and additional income-generating initiatives that align with the mission and values of the institution.

Looking Forward

We remain encouraged by God's continued provision and by the faithful commitment of our Board, faculty, staff, students, alumni, churches, and supporters.

As we look ahead, the College remains committed to:

Faithful stewardship of all resources entrusted to us;

financial transparency and accountability;

responsible and sustainable budgeting;

strengthening reserves and long-term sustainability structures;

expanding strategic partnerships and fundraising initiatives; and

continuing to provide accessible, high-quality evangelical theological education for the Church in Africa.

We pray that God would continue to provide for the work of the College and raise up future generations of faithful Gospel workers to serve Christ across Africa and beyond.



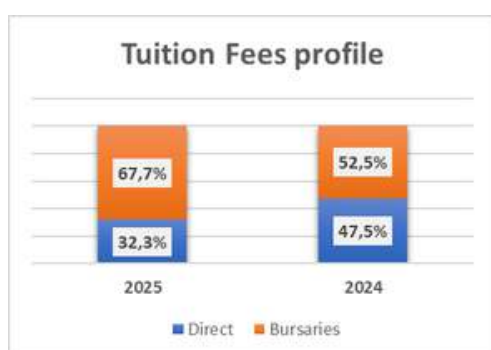
	R000's 2025	R000's 2024
INCOME	47 777	41 820
Tuition Fees 1	4 995	4 502
Residential Income 2	8 017	6 787
Donations (non-designated)	25 501	21 002
Ark Endowment	3 509	3 801
REACH SA Grant	1 134	1 134
Investment Income	2 401	2 761
Other Income	2 220	1 833
EXPENSES	50 539	43 505
Employee Costs	20 739	17 822
Operating	2 268	2 195
Depreciation	1 836	1 747
Maintenance	2 384	2 722
Catering	3 475	2 894
Distance Learning	10 142	9 222
Other	9 695	6 903
Actual Operating Deficit	(2 762)	(1 685)

Note 1 & 2 above:

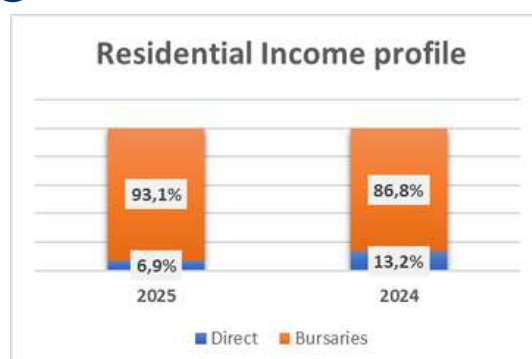
Direct students paying fees represents 5% of income in 2025 and 7% in 2024

Fees funded from bursaries represents 23% of income in 2025 and 20% in 2024

1 Tuition fees split



2 Residence Income split – Bursary dependency



A Word from the Chancellor

It has been a continued joy and privilege to serve as Chancellor of GWC, and to spend time among a community that has played such a formative role in my own life and ministry. As I reflect on the past year, I do so with deep gratitude to God for His sustaining grace over the College, and for the innumerable ways in which He continues to use it to strengthen His church across Africa.

I am reminded of the apostle Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 4:7: "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." These words capture something essential about the task of theological education. At its heart, GWC is engaged in the work of stewarding the treasure of the gospel – entrusting it to men and women who are, by nature, weak and dependent, yet called to proclaim Christ with clarity and conviction. The strength of the church, therefore, ultimately lies in the strength that God gives as He blesses the message that the church's leaders carry.

It is deeply encouraging to see how this conviction continues to shape the life of the College. The commitment to keeping the gospel at the centre of all that is taught and practised remains evident – not only in the classroom, but in the lives of students as they prepare for ministry in diverse and often challenging contexts. One of the ongoing questions we must continue to ask is this: what kind of leaders are we forming? In a world that prizes influence, status, and visibility, the gospel calls us to the very opposite; to humility, faithfulness, and to willingly serve where the need is greatest.

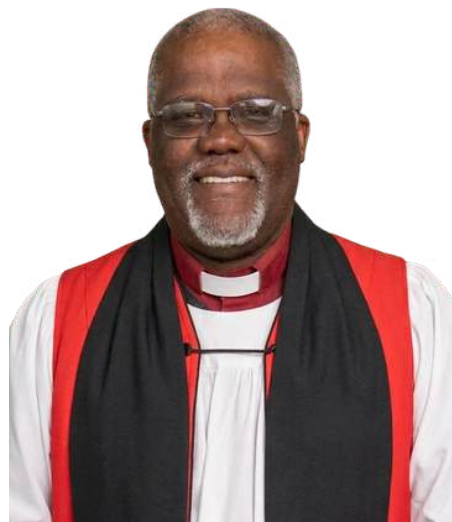
Many of our churches are situated in communities facing significant social and economic pressures. We need to continue to explore ways to strengthen engagement in these underserved areas, knowing that it is through the faithful preaching of God's Word that lives are transformed and communities are renewed.

In my role as Chair of Ethics and Theology, I remain mindful of the responsibility we shoulder under God to ensure that the education and formation provided by the College remains anchored in Scripture and shaped by the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is not only a doctrinal commitment, but a pastoral one, and I am grateful for the leadership of the Principal, the dedication of the faculty, and the diligence of chaplains, staff and others who serve in so many different capacities. Together, they contribute to an environment in which students are not only taught, but formed – prepared for lives of faithful service in God's Kingdom.

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence not in ourselves, but in the God who has called us and who continues to build His church.

We give thanks to God for His faithfulness in the year that has passed, and we entrust the future of the College into His hands.

The Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane
GWC Chancellor & Presiding Bishop for REACH SA







Theological Training in Africa for Africa

TELEPHONE: +27 (0) 21 788 1652

EMAIL: info@gwc.ac.za

ADDRESS: 34 Beach Road, Muizenberg,
Cape Town, 7945

WEBSITE: www.gwc.ac.za



George Whitefield College NPC (Registration No. 2003/003197/08) Registered as a non-profit organisation (NPO No. 042885). Registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institution, under the Higher Education Act, 1997, Registration Certificate No. 2007/HE08/002. Registered as a public benefit organisation (PBO ref no. 130003148)

