

Advent Christian General Conference

Introduction

I am constantly humbled by the generosity and commitment of our churches and leaders to the work we do as a denomination. Everything the Lord accomplishes through us is an example of partnership in the gospel. Everything represented in this report is your work — it is work we all do together. The pastors and churches of the Eastern region are part of a worldwide body of believers that the Lord is using to do amazing things for his glory and the growth of his kingdom.

In the remainder of this report, I would like to highlight some of the ministry we are doing together.

Church Planting

Our work in church planting continues to advance thanks to the excellent efforts of Dr. Adrian Dixon, our church planting coordinator. We are grateful to have a role in the partnership with SACA, ENC and Northside Community Church that made possible the replanting of Redemption Community Church in Clayton, North Carolina. Redemption is a wonderful example of the work the Lord can do through us as each level of our denomination partners together.

The Lord has truly blessed the work at Redemption, and that success has opened conversations with numerous churches from four of the five regions about the possibility of replanting. In addition to the replanting work in SACA, New Albany Advent Christian Church in New Albany, IN, is in the early stages of the replanting process. Churches in the Appalachian Region and in the Eastern Region have expressed interest in exploring replanting. The energy behind replanting is growing, and we are thankful for this movement.

One of the challenges we face in planting and replanting churches is a lack of qualified planters. To address this, we are launching a church planting residency program. Participants will be placed in an approved church for 18 to 24 months, where they can learn ministry best practices and church planting philosophy — all while preparing to plant or replant. Northside Community Church in Knightdale will serve as our first residency site. Berkshire Christian has made a significant financial contribution to support this program. We are excited to see who the Lord will raise up and equip through this effort. Please pray the Lord will draw the right person for this residency.

As seen above, our success in church planting depends greatly on our ability to partner well together. One potential new partnership is with Carolina Movement (carolinamovement.com), an interdenominational movement of churches planting churches in North Carolina. Their vision is to plant 100 churches by 2026, believing that church planting is the most effective form of

evangelism. We are having initial conversations with their leadership about how they might support our planting and replanting efforts.

International Missions

Our 2025 Penny Crusade materials feature stories of how the Lord is working through our ministries in Mexico. A filming trip took place in June for the 2026 campaign, which will feature the work of Agape House in Japan. We are deeply grateful to the churches and individuals who give so generously to make this work possible.

The Lord continues to bless our efforts in Tanzania. Your giving makes frequent visits by our Tanzanian pastors possible. Our pioneering mission work among the Hadzabe continues to grow and has even opened a new mission field among the Datoga — a much larger tribe that historically has been in violent conflict with the Hadzabe. This spring, both groups came together — not to fight, but to build a church.

Another unexpected blessing is that Mang'ola, the town serving as a base of operations for this work, has no church. Each time our missionaries visit, they are overwhelmed with requests to preach, share the gospel and pray. Pastor Johnson Odoyo sees this as a call to plant a church there, and at the time of this report, he has planted a new Advent Christian church in Mang'ola.

The future of our work in India remains uncertain. We can no longer send funds into the country (except for Bread of Life monies). We have reapplied for our FCRA license, which would allow us to resume funding, but due to the growing anti-Christian sentiment in the country, we are not optimistic about approval. However, we are close to finalizing the sale of the Guindy property, which could allow us to fund ministries in India independently. But the kingdom continues to grow there. In 2024, there were 836 baptisms across all our ministries. The Bihar ministry alone had 135 baptisms and has 3,300 members. Please keep our ministries in India in prayer specifically, and Christians in the country more generally, as religious persecution against non-Hindus is growing with a rise in anti-conversion laws in the country.

Explore Missions is a weekend event designed to immerse participants in international missions and inspire deeper engagement — or even a call to missionary service. Such a weekend was held most recently Sept. 4–5 in Dunntown, Maine. If you or your church is interested in hosting an Explore Missions event, please reach out to our missions department. In addition, a medical and teaching trip to Liberia occurred the first of October, with approximately 10 participants from across the country serving together.

Leadership Development

The Rev. Mike Alix took over leadership of this department in July 2024 and has done excellent work. Most of his focus has been on evaluating and improving the processes and curriculum for

the Ministry Training Institute (MTI). The first year of the program is being rebuilt in response to student feedback, all in an effort to provide the best theological and practical education possible.

To date, four MTI students have been called into pastoral roles of some sort in Advent Christian churches. While MTI is not the sole solution to our leadership crisis, it is becoming a meaningful part of it.

Another growing area is bi-vocational and co-vocational ministry. While definitions vary slightly, both terms refer to pastors who hold another job in addition to their church responsibilities. As church size and financial resources decline, fewer can offer a full-time, livable wage. Mike and his team are working to become advocates for bi-vocational ministry and provide practical resources. A guide for churches and pastors navigating this type of ministry will be released within the next few months.

We are also thankful for the approximately 100 pastors, pastors' wives and church leaders who attended the 2025 AC Leaders' Conference at Advent Christian Village in February. The event featured powerful and relevant teaching from the Rev. Andy Addis. ACV was an amazing partner in making this happen — another great example of the great work we can do together.

Communication

Meredith Broadway and Cara Brock continue to lead our communications department with excellence. Their largest recent project was the launch of a completely rebuilt website, which is now faster and more user-friendly. The 2025 Prayer Emphasis materials were published earlier this spring, and the award-winning Witness magazine continues to grow as a tool to instruct and edify our churches.

There are four ways to stay connected with the denomination at large:

1. Subscribe to our biweekly newsletter, E-News.
2. Subscribe to our weekly missions prayer email, Prayer Network.
3. Read our monthly printed newsletter, The Bulletin, and post it in a common area at your church — we're happy to provide extra copies.
4. Share your church news at acgc.us/tellus.

You can connect with us, learn more, or order resources at www.acgc.us.

2026 Triennial Convention

Please join us for the Triennial Convention, Aug. 17–21, 2026, in Ridgecrest, North Carolina. Planning is already underway, and we hope many of you will attend this time of celebration, worship, instruction and fellowship.

The theme for the event is “Press On: The Story Isn’t Over,” and our keynote speakers will be Rev. Daniel Karl, Rev. Matt Rice, Rev. Mike Alix and Rev. John Gallagher. Along with some important denominational business that will be conducted, there will be helpful and practical workshops and gatherings, including the national WHFMS triennial.

We are very excited about the possibility of having some very special guests at this convention. We are working diligently to bring Pastors Johnson Odoyo and Amos Komanya as guests, so you can hear firsthand how the Lord is working in Tanzania. We are thankful to the WHFMS for their work in raising funds to make this possible.

Registration for the convention will open in January, but you can reserve your room at Ridgecrest now. To find register and find the latest information on the event, visit acgc.us/triennial.

Conclusion

In closing, I simply want to say thank you. Everything described in this report is your work — made possible by the faithful giving of our churches and individual donors. We could not do any of this without you.

The churches of the Eastern region make substantive contributions to our work. We thank the Lord for his provision through your generosity. The Lord is still using Advent Christians. Remember, we can do more together than we could ever do alone.

Thank you for your time, your generosity, your prayers and your partnership in the gospel.

Your servant in Christ,

Justin Nash
Advent Christian General Conference