

George Whitefield College Annual Report 2023





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Chairman of the Board

The opportunity to reflect as we prepare for the Institutional Audit called for by the Council for Higher Education (CHE) has made me realise what a special college GWC is.

I am grateful to God for His kindness in his provision, grateful for the financial support of the donors and grateful for all those who continue to pray for the students and the staff at the college. It is a privilege to witness the hard work of the GWC staff and to be part of a skilled and committed Board of Directors.

Faculty members strive to fulfil the GWC 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.

At the start of every year, each lecturer signs the following declaration of faith in front of the students: I believe and hold the Christian faith and, in particular, as set forth in the creeds known as the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed and the doctrine contained in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion interpreted according to their plain and literal sense.

In particular, I believe:

- that the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the ultimate rule and standard of faith given by inspiration of God and containing all things necessary for salvation; and
- that man is justified before God only because of the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by faith and not because of his own works or merit.

At GWC, the Bible is accepted as God's revelation to humankind. During the three-year Bachelor of Theology degree, Hebrew and Greek are mandatory courses so that the original language of Scripture can be understood when certain words need more clarity. Students are trained to expound and apply



the Word of God to 21st-century Africa in ways that are consistent with evangelical doctrine and relevant to their context.

This year has seen the development of new modes of provision, as the college adapts to the post-pandemic context:

A digital lecture room has been fitted with technology, allowing students at a distance to be part of GWC's postgraduate classes on campus. Cameras and microphones track each speaker, making this possible.

Two new online programmes: a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Theological Education (NQF 8) and a Higher Certificate in Bible and Ministry (NQF 5) are being submitted to the CHE for accreditation, which will broaden GWC's support of theological education and the Church on the continent.

A range of new online short courses in theology are already being offered.

However, the full-time residential experience at GWC remains the richest learning experience. Having fellowship with other students from various backgrounds, experiencing face-to-face contact with the lecturers, having access to the well-stocked library, and being able to turn to the Deans and Chaplains for support are just a few of the advantages that enhance this experience.

In order to support our vision to fill Africa “with preachers and teachers who deeply love the Lord Jesus and who have a profound understanding of Scripture,” it is essential to offer bursaries to worthy students who cannot afford to pay for their studies. R9m was granted in bursaries during 2023 to students who will take the gospel to South Africa, Africa and beyond. Your prayers and financial support remain so crucial in equipping workers for the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19).

Our Explore self-study programme continues to spread a deeper understanding of God’s Word throughout Africa and, with a recently revised strategy and God’s continued mercy, has the potential to

transform Africa with the gospel. We thank God for Nevil Carrington’s leadership and for being at the forefront of various outreaches into Africa. Please pray for his successor and Nevil, as the latter will soon retire from this key position.

The Board of GWC has had the privilege of Glenn Lyons’ leadership as Chair of the Theology and Ethics Committee as well as Chancellor during his term as Presiding Bishop of REACH-SA. We are grateful to God for raising up someone who gave such wise counsel over the years and someone who brought a broader perspective to decisions taken by the Board. As he steps down from the office of Presiding Bishop, we are again conscious of our Lord’s provision as we welcome Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane, with his wide experience, to take over this role.

My thanks and appreciation go to the Principal of GWC, Rev. Dr Mark Dickson, and the Vice Principals, Dr Jonathan More and Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo, for their leadership and commitment to GWC. The dedication and huge work ethic of Manny de Freitas, our Business Manager, keeps everything running smoothly, and he is appreciated by us all.

Mr Dave Shaw
Chairman of the Board



Presiding Bishop and Chancellor's Report

As we reflect on the past year within REACH-SA, I am delighted to share some significant developments that have shaped our community and broadened our impact. This year marked an important milestone in our relationship with the Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON).

The formalisation of our membership as part of GAFCON has invigorated interest in the theological education offerings at George Whitefield College (GWC), and we have seen an increase in study requests from candidates across the GAFCON partner network, underscoring GWC's reputation as a key centre for theological training on our continent. It is a testament to the quality and relevance of our programmes that they attract such wide attention and engagement.

This was the second year of my honorary designation as Chancellor of GWC, which formalised my duties as an ambassador for GWC and highlighted the close unity between REACH-SA and the college. In our international Anglican circles, this title has proved invaluable in discussing our academic initiatives with other church leaders, including bishops and archbishops. This enhancement in role has facilitated better communication and advocacy for GWC's mission in various global forums, further establishing the college's significance within our theological and ecclesiastical community.

My tenure as chair of GWC's Theology and Ethics committee concludes this year. This committee plays a crucial role in overseeing the college's theological direction, ensuring that our curricular offerings remain robust and reflective of our denominational values. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside the principal, other bishops, and elected members in guiding such a vital aspect of college governance.

2023 has been a particularly momentous year as REACH-SA has seen the birth of what amounts to the Province of The Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church in Southern Africa. This new federation, encompassing REACH entities from multiple African



nations, represents a significant evolution in our organisational structure and strategic outreach.

It has been my honour to contribute to the establishment of this new body, which positions GWC prominently as the central training ground for our clergy and lay leaders across these nations.

This alignment enhances our ability to equip leaders with the theological depth and pastoral skills needed for effective ministry.

Lastly, at the Synod in September 2023, we elected a new Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane. I extend my best wishes to Siegfried with a spirit of earnest anticipation and brotherly affection. With his rich background in missiology and previous involvement at GWC, I am confident in his capabilities to lead us forward. As I prepare to pass on the baton, I am grateful for our progress and excited for the future under Bishop Ngubane's guidance. May the Lord continue to bless GWC and REACH-SA as pivotal institutions that spread His word and equip His servants in Africa.

Rt Rev. Glenn Lyons
REACH-SA Presiding Bishop
GWC Chancellor

Principal's Reflection



As principal of GWC, keeping the College's theology robust and founded on Jesus Christ is my core responsibility.

This has become the central thread of our strategic plan for the next five years.

The centrality of Christ within the academy is not popular, and we have to be very intentional to maintain this, even at a Bible College.

The Enigma of Ken Wilber and the Allure of Grand Theories

The name Ken Wilber has reappeared in conversations lately. When someone recently mentioned following his teachings, I realised I needed to refresh my memory. Online, I found him described as “the smartest man you've never heard of,” a philosopher and mystic who seeks to unify all knowledge into a single framework. This piqued my interest afresh.

Humans have a deep desire for a singular theory, model, or belief system that explains everything. In science, this manifests as the search for a Grand Unified Theory (GUT) or Theory of Everything (TOE). The hope is to reconcile quantum mechanics and relativity, understand time and space completely, and validate String Theory. To date, none of these have

been fully understood because a singular theory is nowhere in sight.

Similarly, Darwin's proposal of evolution initially brought excitement, offering a unifying explanation for life and much else. A “universal acid”, some called it, able to eat through all other ideas and theories of origins. However, even though Darwin's theory is often portrayed as infallible, it now faces increased challenges. New research has called into question our understanding of fossilisation. Recent studies published in peer-reviewed journals reveal fossils can form remarkably fast, even within a day, under specific lab settings. Additionally, the presence of clotted blood in some dinosaur fossils suggests a potential link to rapid suffocation. While the researcher who made this discovery was initially dismissed from his position as manager of the university biology lab, he was later cleared and compensated. This raises an intriguing question: could a global event have caused these creatures to be buried by sediment rapidly across the globe? However, the mainstream still champions established Darwinian theory, prioritising its theoretical elegance over any new evidence.

The same applies to biblical studies. The theory that attributes the Old Testament to the work of Jewish editors in 500 BCE gained traction as a ‘respectable’ explanation for the origin of the Hebrew Bible. Today, some universities even require PhD students to accept this theory as a prerequisite for Old Testament research, as a friend of mine recently discovered when applying to a major UK university. The allure of a single, naturalistic explanation trumps alternative viewpoints, even in supposedly post-modern times. Sometimes, I think the motto of our intellectual world is ‘naturalism above all things’.

Ken Wilber's Unifying Vision and a Different Perspective

Ken Wilber attempts a similar unification, proposing a spectrum where Eastern mysticism and Western thought coexist. He sees all knowledge—religious, philosophical, and scientific—as parts of a single map of reality. Many believe Wilber's work allows us to integrate all disciplines into one theory.

While the desire for unification is understandable, I am convinced Wilber's project is flawed. True unifying knowledge, I believe, lies in Christ, not a synthesis of East and West. Lasting unity comes from God's revelation through his Son, not from human rationalistic efforts to unify into one theory various fields like physics, biology, or even theology.

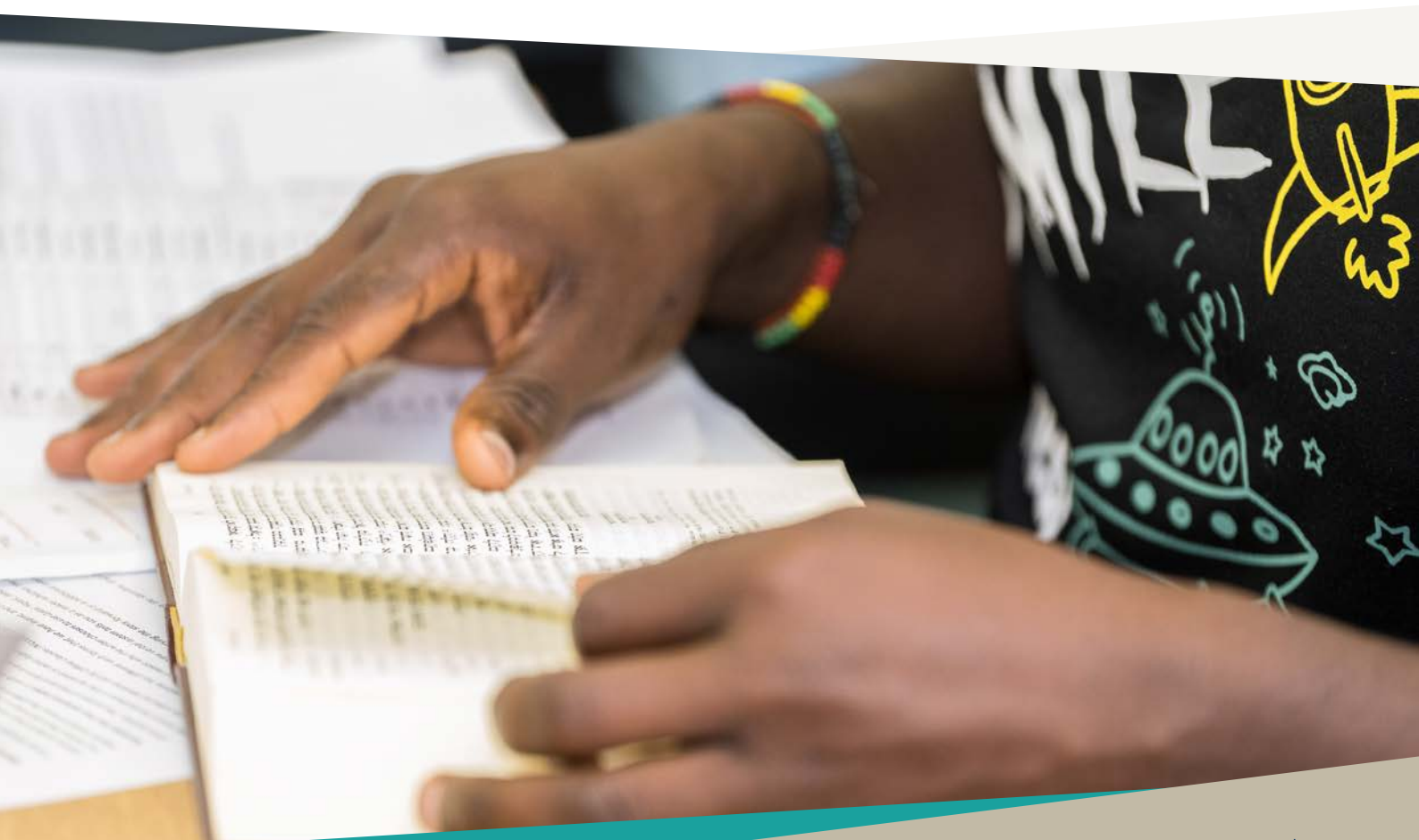
Now, of course, the pursuit of unification, or the very act of seeking it, is not inherently problematic. In fact, it formed the cornerstone of the Christian university concept: a space where diverse fields of research are guided by Christian thought, all conducted within the framework of Christ's teachings. Many historical universities, like the University of Cape Town, were established with this very principle in mind.

Beyond Human Theories: The Power of Christ

The vast universe may seem like a self-governing entity (and some people think the universe controls their destiny), but according to Christian belief, it operates under the will of Jesus Christ. He guides the course of all events and ultimately shapes human discoveries. Even earthly power, as evidenced by Pilate's experience, is ultimately subject to God's authority.

However, Jesus' significance extends far beyond this earthly realm. He holds the key to eternal life. Let us reflect on the profound truths of his arrival, sacrifice, resurrection, and ascension.

Jesus offers the gateway to eternal life, and he holds the power to grant or deny access. This truth represents the very foundation of reality and merits our deepest contemplation, perhaps the most significant reflection we can undertake.



Looking back at 2023

Graduation Ceremony 2023

GWC held its graduation ceremony at St James Church, Kenilworth. Bishop Glenn Lyons served as the graduation speaker, making it a joyous and celebratory afternoon.

This may be the last time we have a year-end graduation, as GWC will transition to holding ceremonies in March, aligning with most universities. This means there will be no graduation in 2024, but instead in March 2025, and at that time of year from hereon.

REACH-SA and GWC Leadership Changes

The graduation ceremony provided an opportunity to acknowledge the historical ties between GWC and REACH-SA, the Anglican denomination that founded GWC. St James itself exemplifies this connection, being one of many REACH-SA churches nationwide.

In September 2023, REACH-SA held its annual Synod and bid farewell to Bishop Glenn Lyons, who completed his term as Presiding Bishop. Bishop Lyons has been a significant supporter of GWC, serving on the Board of Directors for a decade, representing GWC to the public in his capacity as Chancellor, and promoting the college globally. Synod also highlighted the formation of a new federation of Reformed, Evangelical and Anglican churches in Southern Africa, called The Province of The Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church Southern Africa (REACH Southern Africa). Bishop Lyons played a key role in establishing this federation while simultaneously raising GWC's profile as a crucial training ground for Anglican leaders in Africa.

Succeeding Bishop Lyons as Presiding Bishop is Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane, who will also assume the role of GWC Chancellor in 2024.

New Leadership at GWC

Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo assumed the role of Vice Principal of Development at GWC in July 2023. This

establishment of a dual Vice Principal structure sees Dr Sindo collaborating with Dr Jonathan More, who retains the position of Vice Principal of Academic Affairs. The core leadership team now consists of the Principal, both Vice Principals and the Business Manager, under the title of Lead Focus. Dr Sindo's primary responsibilities in this new role include fostering relationships with internal and external stakeholders, as well as undertaking ambassadorial duties. Additionally, he will maintain his roles as a faculty member, lecturer, and author.

Strategic Planning

Strategic discussions initiated by the GWC committee in February 2022 culminated in a finalised plan presented to the board in early 2023. This new Strategic Vision, set to guide GWC until 2028, was subsequently adopted.

Building Stakeholder Relationships

Throughout 2023, the Principal and Executive Ambassador fostered relationships with donors and built new partnerships in several parts of the world. A visit to the United Kingdom took place in June. Later in the year, the Executive Ambassador and Explore leadership visited Australia. Finally, Dr Vuyani Sindo spent time connecting with potential GWC partners in November.

We are tremendously thankful for the faithful giving of our Gospel partners which sustains the work of GWC.

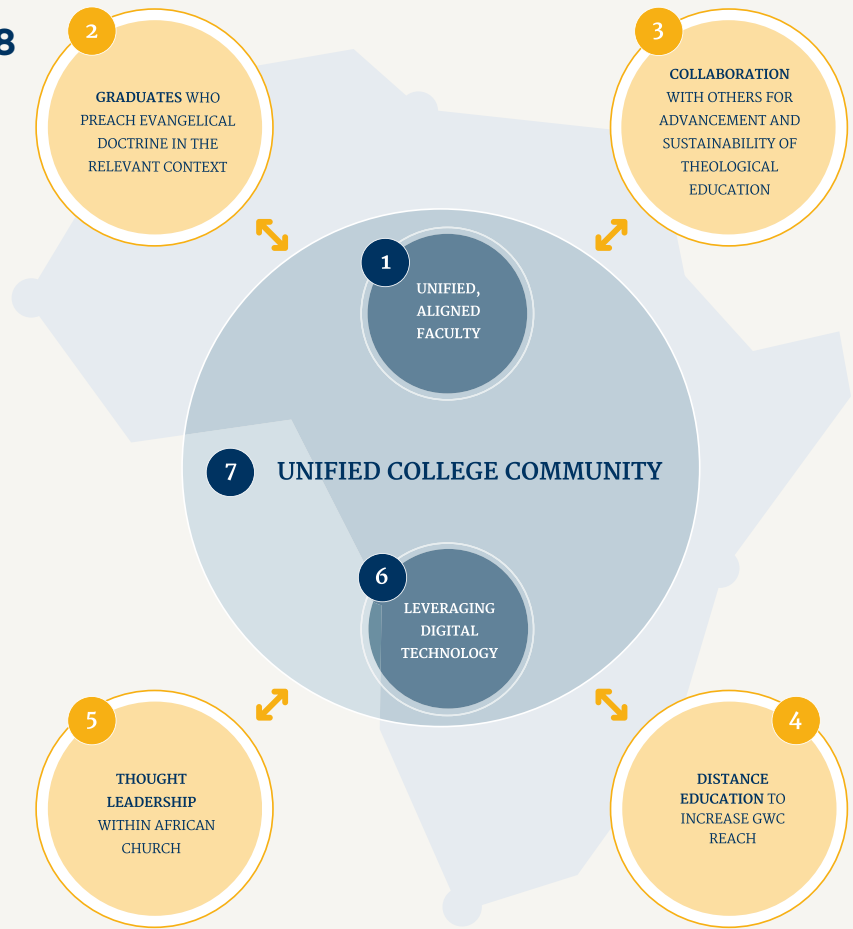
God rules from his throne.

The 2023 Annual Report highlights the college's vital role in equipping men and women for ministry. Throughout the report, we see evidence of God's faithfulness in overcoming challenges and enabling GWC to flourish. Additionally, there are countless examples of God's abundant blessings showered upon us.

Rev. Dr Mark Dickson
GWC Principal

GWC Strategy 2023 - 2028

To be an influential Reformed Evangelical Anglican theological institution in and for Africa.



7 Global objectives

- 1 To build a **unified faculty team** where each member is encouraged to be **openly Reformed and Evangelical**
- 2 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**
- 3 To **collaborate** with individuals and organizations who desire to see the **advancement and sustainability of theological education** in Africa
- 4 To **increase** the reach of GWC through **distance education**
- 5 To be a **thought leader** within the church in **Africa**
- 6 To leverage **digital technology** for effective administration as well as student learning whilst preserving time-honoured practices
- 7 To build a **unified college community** of faculty, staff and students

Board of Directors



David Shaw

Chair of the Board;
Chair of Academic,
HR & Nominations;
Chair of Student
Welfare.

Education



Matt Dundas

Chair of Campus & Estates;
Chair of Fundraising &
Relationships Development

**Property Management &
Development**



Peter Willig

Chair of Audit & Risk;
Chair of Investments;
Chair of Distance
Learning; Chair of Ark
Endowment Advisory.

Business, Finance



Niki Giles

Audit & Risk;
Investments

**Governance, Risk,
Finance & Compliance**



Trevor Petersen

Chair of Bursary;
Audit & Risk.

**Governance, Risk,
Finance**



Bp Glenn Lyons (ex officio)

Chair of Theology &
Ethics.

**Presiding Bishop,
Theology & Teaching**



Bp Raj Moodley

Theology & Ethics.

**Bishop
Theology & Teaching**



Mark Dickson (ex officio)

Principal;
Chair of Marketing;
Ethics & Theology;
Academic,
HR & Nominations;
Fundraising Relationships
Development;
Distance Learning;
Ark Endowment Advisory.

**GWC Principal
Education, Theology &
Teaching**



Manny De Freitas (ex officio)

Board Secretary; Chair of IT & Knowledge
Centre; Audit & Risk Secretary; Remuneration;
Investments; Academic, HR & Nominations;
Bursary; Distance Learning; Ark Endowment
Advisory Secretary.

GWC Business Manager

Board Committees

	Audit & Risk	Investment	Campus & Estates	IT & Knowledge Centre
Chairperson	Peter Willig	Peter Willig	Matt Dundas	Manny de Freitas
Secretary	Manny de Freitas	Manny de Freitas	Clive Alfino	Jody Leukes
Members	Niki Giles Belinda Scriba Trevor Petersen Allan Anderton	Hugo Nelson Niki Giles Allan Anderton	Paul Theodosiou Manny de Freitas	Collin Majackie Johan Walters Gary Adams Nicole Barnes
	Theology & Ethics	Academic, HR & Nominations	Remuneration	Distance Learning
Chairperson	Bp Glenn Lyons	Dave Shaw	Ashley Croeser	Peter Willig
Secretary	Mark Dickson	Lulu Jampies	Manny de Freitas	Saralee Molodi
Members	Bp Raj Moodley Haley Tubman Vuyani Sindo Vacancy - Clergy	Mark Dickson Rob Sieborger Nathan Lovell Manny de Freitas Jonathan More	Rob Sieborger Mark Dickson	Mark Dickson Nevil Carrington Rob Wright Manny de Freitas
	Fundraising Relationship Development	Marketing	Student Welfare	Bursary
Chairperson	Matt Dundas	Mark Dickson	Dave Shaw	Trevor Petersen
Secretary	Alison Lee	Charmaine Erasmus	Jonathan More	Nina van Veen
Members	Dale Smith Mark Dickson Manny de Freitas Vuyani Sindo Peter Willig (Optional)	Alison Lee Johan Walters Lorcan McHarry	Phumezo Masango (Dean of Men) Diane Lovell (Dean of Women) SRC Chair Jotham Mwale SRC Vice Chair Edin Heasley Vuyani Sindo	Jonathan More Lulu Jampies Phumezo Masango Alison Lee Gavin Millard Manny de Freitas Diane Lovell Allan Anderton
	Ark Endowment Advisory			
Chairperson	Peter Willig			
Secretary	Manny de Freitas			
Members	Hugo Nelson Akeel Sachak Mark Dickson Alison Lee Bob Collins Dale Smith			

Academic Report



From left to right: Rev. Dr Richard Seed, Dr Caroline Seed, Rev. Dr Thapelo Khumalo, Rev. Dr John-Paul Harper

Faculty Report

The college's full-time faculty increased dramatically in 2023 with the appointments of Rev. Dr John-Paul Harper, Rev. Thapelo Khumalo, Dr Caroline Seed, and Rev. Dr Richard Seed to our teaching staff. Caroline and Dick join the college in partnership with the Theological Education Development Services (TEDS). All four scholars had been serving as part-time lecturers but will now bring their subject expertise and ministry experience to the college and its students on a full-time basis.

Ms Niki Hodson left the college's teaching staff at the end of the year after having served as the coordinator of our children's ministry stream since 2015. Niki is furthering her studies in psychology at Stellenbosch University.

Dr Mike Roe and his family were on home assignment with the Church Missionary Society in Australia for the 2023 academic year. Dr Ian Kissel, a North American theologian, spent the first semester with us and taught some of Mike's courses.

The college is very grateful to all those who served as part-time lecturers in 2023. They provide students with insight into ministry "at the coalface" and are invaluable members of our teaching staff and the GWC community.

We are also grateful to our visiting scholars: Dr George Athas, Dr Gerald Bray, Dr Dan Darko, and Rev. Stephen Rockwell, who gave very generously of their time to teach in our biblical languages summer school and postgraduate programmes.

"I'm excited to continue studying ancient Hebrew and seeing its significance in the study of the Old Testament, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have participated in the summer school program this year, despite all of the hard work!"

Esthermarie Apps (BTh2)

Two of our faculty were invited to teach at the Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary (Grand Rapids, Michigan) in 2023. Dr Nathan Lovell and Dr Jake Griesel taught intensive courses on the Book of Kings and "Texts of England's Long Reformation", respectively.

Dr Griesel commented:

"It was wonderful to teach sharp and inquisitive students at ThM and PhD level, and to intensively engage the development of Protestantism in England through key primary texts. I particularly enjoyed the experience of teaching students from different countries and contexts than what we are typically accustomed to at GWC, including from the USA, Brazil, China, and South Korea, though there was also one Kenyan in the cohort. In the second semester of 2023 I then taught an adaptation of the same course to GWC's postgraduates, which also went very well."

Academic Report – Continued

Dr Dick Seed and Dr Caroline Seed were invited to teach on research methodology in Indonesia, curriculum development in Sierra Leone, and integration of faith and learning in Uganda. They also offered their course on Teaching and Learning in Higher Theological Education (TALHITE) in Egypt and Uganda, as well as online.

To increase access to sound theological training, the design and implementation of online learning programmes is of paramount importance. The faculty spent a lot of time in preparation for a number of new programmes. We hope to soon have a higher certificate as well as two new postgraduate diplomas accredited through the Council on Higher Education.

Conferences and Travel

Most of our full-time faculty were involved in attending or presenting papers at local and international conferences. These events are important for several reasons. Lecturers are able to advance in their particular fields of study by engaging with the latest research while also networking with colleagues. The college's profile is enhanced through our participation in these events and as lecturers initiate discussions with others about potential partnerships.

Of special note in 2023 was Rev. Dr Vuyani Sindo's election to co-chair the Pauline Subgroup for the New Testament Society of Southern Africa. Vuyani also served as part of a theological working group in preparation for the Fourth Lausanne Conference on World Evangelization to be hosted in Seoul in 2024.

GAFCON

The fourth Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) was held in Kigali, Rwanda, from the 17th to the 21st of April. GWC was pleased to be represented at the conference by Alison Lee, Nathan Lovell, Caroline Seed, Dick Seed, and Vuyani Sindo. The college's primary stakeholder, the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa (REACH-SA), was also present at the conference and was recognised later in the year by GAFCON as an authentic Anglican province.

We trust that our presence at GAFCON will increase the confidence in a growing number of African bishops to send their ordinands for training at GWC.

REACH-SA Synod

The college was invited to send a delegation to the REACH-SA Synod, held at Christ Church Umhlanga from the 11th to the 13th of September. GWC rejoiced at the election of The Most Rev. Dr Siegfried Ngubane as the denomination's new Presiding Bishop. Siegfried is a graduate of the college and also served as a member of our faculty before his appointment as Director of SIM in 2009. Three GWC alumni were elected as Area Bishops at the same synod: Rev. Mbulelo Maliza (Gauteng), Rev. Goodenough Mthembu (KwaZulu Natal), and Rev. Peter Makapela (Western Cape).

Research and Publications

Dr Nathan Lovell and Rev. Dr Mark Dickson completed commentaries on Kings and Numbers, respectively. Their manuscripts are with the publishers. Dr Jake Griesel published a review of *Grace and Conformity: The Reformed Conformist Tradition and the Early Stuart Church of England* (2021), in the *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, while Nathan reviewed Graeme Goldsworthy's *1 & 2 Chronicles: The Lion of the Tribe of Judah* (2021), for *Themelios*.

Undergraduate Students

We were pleased to enrol 72 students in our Bachelor of Theology programme at the start of 2023, an increase from 2022. Our Higher Certificate enrollment unfortunately dropped from 12 students in 2022 to 3 in 2023, but our 2024 enrollments are back into double-digits.

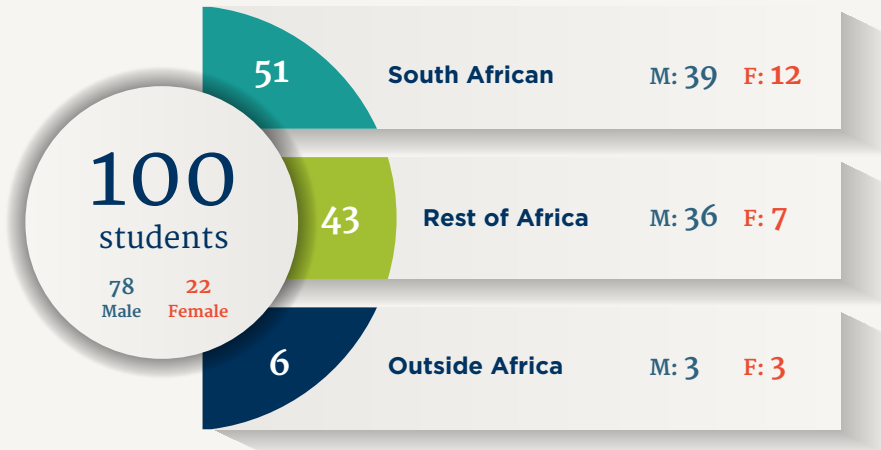
It was a joy for the college to host 12 brothers and sisters from the United Kingdom in 2023. This group was part of Crosslink's Gap Year programme.

In December, we celebrated the graduation of two Higher Certificate students and 15 Bachelor of Theology students. The following students were awarded prizes for their academic accomplishments: Esther Akinyi, James Carter, Jotham Mwale, Derrick Ntambi, and Erin Thomas.

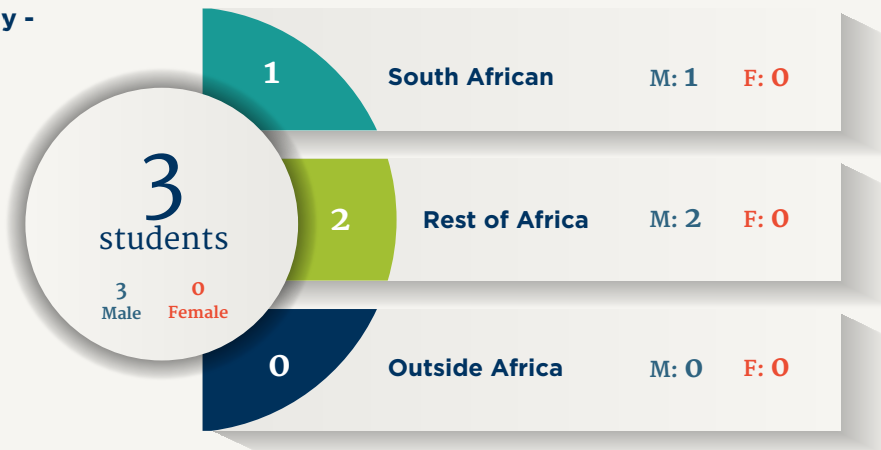
Breakdown of total student complement in 2023



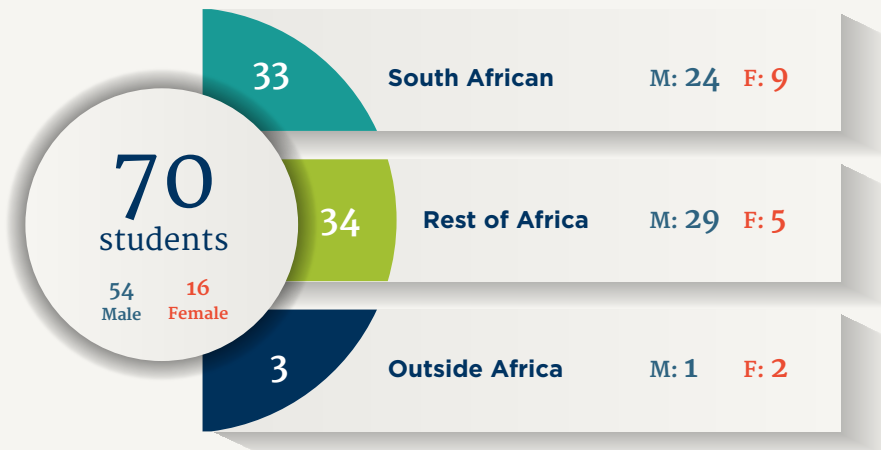
Student numbers



Higher Certificate in Theology - (HCert) - NQF 5



Bachelor in Theology (BTh) - NQF 7



Where is the HCert class of 2023 now?

Progress Report



Sixolile Ndyindila

Will return for our BTh.



Trymore Mviha

Will return for our BTh.

Where is the BTh Class of 2023 now?



Ebenezer Ahinsah

Will be serving his curacy at Cross Central Church in Parow, Cape Town.



Sophie Ashelford
with Distinction
and awarded “The Principal’s Award for Excellence”.

Will return for our BThHons.



Herbert Babu

Will return home to Kenya and serve in full-time ministry at Thika Diocese of the Anglican Church of Kenya.



Edin Heasley
with Distinction

Will return to Gqeberha in the Eastern Cape, serving in youth and young-adults ministry at Covenant Grace Church.



Jesmine Kanyenda

Will return for our BThHons.



Henry Long

Will return for our BThHons.



Thokozani Mntungwa

Will be returning to Christ Church Msinga, to serve his curacy.



Joshua Muwowo

Will return for our BThHons.



Jotham Mwale
Wins the annual Third-Year Academic Prize for Preaching.

Will return for our BThHons part-time while doing a ministry placement with Common Ground Church.



Derrick Ntambi
with Distinction and wins the prizes:

- 1. The Theology Prize**
- 2. The Old Testament & Hebrew Prize**
- 3. The New Testament & Greek Prize**

Will return for our BThHons.



Joseph Salasamba

Will return to the Anglican Church of Uganda in the West Buganda Diocese. He will be ordained as deacon and serve as an assistant minister.



Jade Smit
with Distinction

Will return for our BThHons and serve in children's ministry at St Matthew's Church Table View.



Ashley van der Merwe

Will be moving into full-time children's ministry here in Cape Town.



Gift Vhukani

Will be planting and pastoring a church in Mutare and serving as a GWC Explore Facilitator in Mutare.



Unathi Yose

Will be serving his 2-year curacy at Christ Church Khayelitsha.

Postgraduate Programmes

GWC's Postgraduate Department is dedicated to developing individuals who can equip and strengthen the African Church. Our postgraduate programs include a Bachelor of Theology Honours degree and two options for a two-year Masters in Theology, one with a research focus and the other with a structured curriculum.

The honours programme aims to strengthen the undergraduate experience and equip students for research or ministry. We thank God for the four students who graduated with honours and the eight who will continue part-time in 2024. The structured masters is a professional development degree. The programme equips people in full-time ministry with research skills and trains them in current theological trends and specialised subjects. It also allows them to investigate a particular area of interest in depth. We thank God for the two students continuing their structured masters programme in 2023. The research masters prepares students for academic ministry. Students may continue into a PhD or engage in other academically oriented ministries within the body of Christ. Examples include writing and publishing, teaching, Bible translation, engaging in public theology, or denominational leadership. We thank God for the seven students who will continue their research masters programme in 2023.

This year, we were privileged to host Dr Dan Darko who taught our postgraduate module in Ephesians. Dr Darko was a senior lecturer at Gordon College in Boston. Shortly afterwards he became Dean for Global Engagement at Taylor University in Indiana. We were also glad to once again welcome Dr Gerald Bray, who taught a module on Theological Hermeneutics. Dr Bray has been a regular and much-loved lecturer in our postgraduate programme over the years.

We continue to be grateful for the academics who devote their time and expertise to training our students and strengthening our curriculum. We are grateful to the Lord for the strong academic partnerships we have developed all over the world.

Other modules were taught by GWC faculty. Dr Jake Griesel, for the first time, taught his Church History module, Texts in England's Long Reformation (1559–1662). Dr Nathan Lovell repeated his module on 1–2 Kings. Dr Mark Norman and Dr Caroline Seed taught the honours and masters level Research Methods modules, respectively.

New Programme Development

This year saw much development towards future capacity and capabilities in research and teaching. We submitted a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Theological Education to the CHE for accreditation and now await the outcome. If it is received, then GWC will offer a two-year online course that equips those already working in Theological Education with skills and tools related to curriculum design, academic administration, and pedagogy. This complements the (unaccredited) short course in Teaching and Learning in Higher Theological Education (TALHITE), which has already been run through Theological Education Development Services (TEDS). This has been an initiative of Drs Richard and Caroline Seed, who have a passion to better equip educators all over the developing world.

New Online Facilities

Thanks to the generosity of Local Leaders International, we were able to construct a Hyflex teaching centre in the Elma Kingswell room. This was done in preparation for offering hyflex mode courses in 2024.

The term “hyflex” refers to a mode of teaching that caters to both online and in-person participants, at the same time. The room can now host a virtual classroom, allowing seamless online participation in classes and meetings via Zoom, using cameras and microphones placed around the classroom. Beginning next year, we will offer our entire postgraduate curriculum in this mode. We hope to encourage online participation in meetings and seminars of the Evangelical Research Fellowship. For the moment, this mode of teaching uses the accreditation provisions extended to us under Emergency Remote Learning

Academic Report - Continued

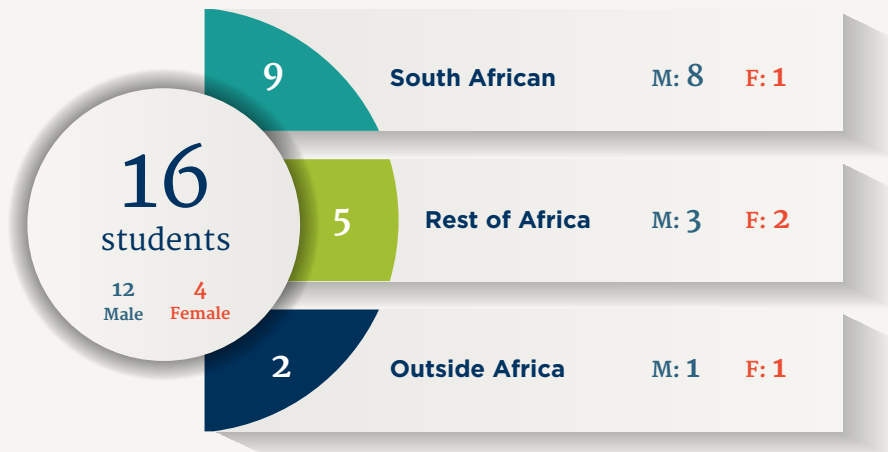
during COVID-19. But, going forward, we will need to formally register our programmes for this mode. The purpose of extending our programmes to hyflex mode is to allow greater participation in the research programmes by graduates located around the country and even farther away, who would otherwise not be able to relocate back to Cape Town.

The 2023 research committee consisted of Drs Nathan Lovell (chair), Mark Dickson, Jonathan More, Vuyani Sindo and Caroline Seed, as well as Mrs Nina van Veen (secretary).

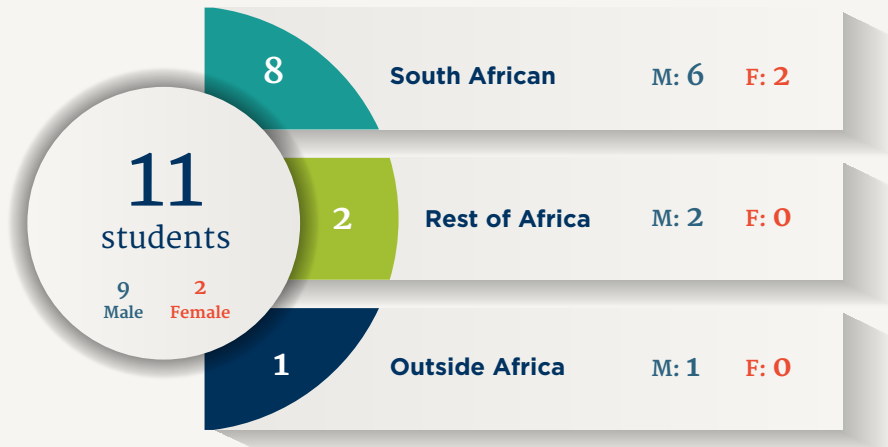
We are grateful for the students God has brought and entrusted to us, and we crave your prayers and support as we endeavour to equip them for the amazing ministries that God has prepared for them. We praise God for the many new developments and opportunities.

Breakdown of Postgraduate student complement in 2023

Bachelor in Theology Honours (BThHons) - NQF 8



Master of Theology (MTh) - NQF 9

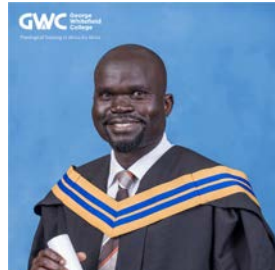


Where is the BThHons class of 2023 now?



Tyla Gill

Will be working and pursuing studies in Biblical Counselling and will strive to continue growing in her ability to serve her local church in this area by putting into practice what she has been learning, particularly in personal discipleship with teenagers and children.



Seme Ludanga

Plans to return to GWC for the Master of Theology programme.



Tumelo Matsitse

Is returning to Johannesburg to explore possible ministry opportunities and consider furthering his theological studies.



Bongolomzi Mkiva

Graduating in Absentia



Dean of Men's Report



Looking back at 2023, it is with joy that I can say it was a good year for us as deans. I also feel enthusiastic about the prospects of our students. The whole community of staff and faculty have embraced the task of loving, guiding and caring for the students. The REACH-SA Western Cape churches and a few other local Anglican churches have partnered with us to make the lives of students, especially those from outside the province, easier.

2023 was a busy year for us. We faced many challenges, especially at the beginning of the year as new students settled in. However, there were many joys too. God has really blessed us with some truly incredible students. Their godly character is amazing. I would like to highlight two areas that cause so much joy for us.

Students' Representative Council (SRC)

Firstly is the way in which the SRC has immersed themselves in the lives of the students they serve. They really care for them. They always communicated with us, availing themselves to serve the student body. It was encouraging to see such a genuine concern for their fellow students.

The SRC went beyond what was required of them to ensure that no student was left behind in terms of care.

Whenever we met with them, they always wanted to know how they could make our lives easier by assisting us. Personally, I think they grabbed the opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills.

Fellowship Groups

Secondly, is the way the chaplains have devoted themselves to the task of caring for the students. I commend, in particular, the chaplains who are not part of the GWC staff and faculty. They were available every week to care for the students.

Our chaplains did not only care for students in groups, but individually as well. They have been great mentors along the students' journey of developing as ministers of the gospel.

We thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve His people here at the college. It is such a privilege for us to partner with everyone at GWC to ensure that the students are afforded the right environment for their growth in the knowledge of God.

All glory to the Lord.

**Rev. Phumezo Masango
Dean of Students**



Dean of Women's Report

As I reflect on the past year, I'm again reminded of just how many people at GWC exhibit a steady, faithful commitment to Jesus and his gospel.

The female students have shown time and time again how much they are growing and changing because of their time with us at GWC.

That development is by God's grace and through the faithful service of the many women engaged in caring for those students. Our female chaplains served our female students with admirable dedication. Thanks be to God for each and every woman at GWC.

Meeting Together

Other than our regular Fellowship Group meetings, it was a joy to continue with our termly All-In Gatherings and social activities. The highlight was returning to Villiersdorp for our annual Women's Retreat, where we enjoyed a relaxing weekend of board games, knitting and walks in the rain.

Our annual Women's Retreat was a much-needed respite in the middle of the year and a great opportunity for friendship building.

A few weeks later, we enjoyed another rejuvenating weekend with the staff women.



Counselling Support

For the first half of the year, we were blessed with voluntary counselling services offered by Kauri Talent, a qualified counsellor and visiting missionary from the USA. While we have a robust chaplaincy programme, it was a bonus to have a kind-hearted and wise woman like Kauri come in to listen to our students. We're grateful for her ministry to us.

Safe Ministry Practices

As part of our commitment to creating a safe learning environment for all our students and their families on our campus, we invited Jo Taylor from St. Stephen's Bible Church to train our chaplains and other staff in safe ministry practices for children and vulnerable people. We also partnered with REACH-SA's service provider, The Guardian, to ensure all our chaplains and other staff met the compliance requirements for safe ministry clearance certificates.

Mrs Diane Lovell
Dean of Women



The SRC President Report



All praise to God for beginning with and sustaining us up to this point in the year. It has been a wonderful period, filled with a variety of the best that Africa has to offer, fun-packed and full of community-building. The SRC has seen and taken many opportunities to strengthen the relationships among the student body.

The international students have settled well since they arrived in Cape Town. Together with the finance department, we introduced them to the area, helped with transportation, and assisted in getting them bank accounts and SIM cards. We also welcomed all students to the college with handwritten cards that greeted them in their home language.

We had our launch at the beginning of 2024. It was a fantastic and entertaining time, with team bonding activities to set up the year on an energising and positive note. Throughout the year, we arranged birthday cards to celebrate the students' lives, even though they were far from home. We've held a couple of international prayer meetings where we prayed for students, their families and their sending organisations. Our goal was to try to make a home for them here while remaining connected with their families.

Along the way, there's been hiking, games nights, movie nights, braais and a wonderful night praising our God in song. Another highlight was Kauri Tallant's talk on dating, sexuality, and singleness. Our goal was to have a professional, godly opinion on the matter, and it was outstanding.

Beyond campus, we also held gatherings extended to the student body to help them connect and build friendships. Soccer still happens on Wednesdays, and students continue to play and build relationships with other young men from the area; we have created a close relationship with False Bay College and play with them regularly. We concluded the first semester with a student braai to celebrate the end of the semester and Youth Day, where we remembered the youth of 1976 who sacrificed much to help bring greater equality and freedoms to the country. As the youth of today, we walk in their legacy and continue to work towards empowering young people and helping them realise their God-given purpose and potential.

Yours in Christ: Wilma, Jotham, David, Edin, Josh, Michael, Miriam, Sarah, Andrés and Gift.

The Explore Distance Learning Programme

Strategic Focus and Structural Changes

The Explore team began the year with a gathering in Kigali, where an agreement was reached on certain structural changes that have been slowly implemented throughout 2023. This included the implementation of an Explore regional structure, with a strategic focus on South Africa, alongside Kenya and Malawi. Although we only have six full-time Explore employees, we are able to support our partners across Africa, as part of our strategy to provide Explore in many local contexts.

Our plan for the latter portion of 2023 and into 2024 and 2025 is the development within three regions: Nairobi, serving Kenya and Uganda; Lilongwe, serving Malawi and Zambia; and Johannesburg, serving South Africa and its satellite countries Lesotho and Eswatini.

This revised structure will allow us to improve the quality and cost of delivering Explore in a local context.

We will endeavour to maintain our existing partnerships and will increase the number of countries in each region, as well as expand into new areas once these three regions have been established.

In 2023, we were blessed with some very generous financial donations, with 27 donors. A large core donation has enabled us to develop this regional delivery structure.

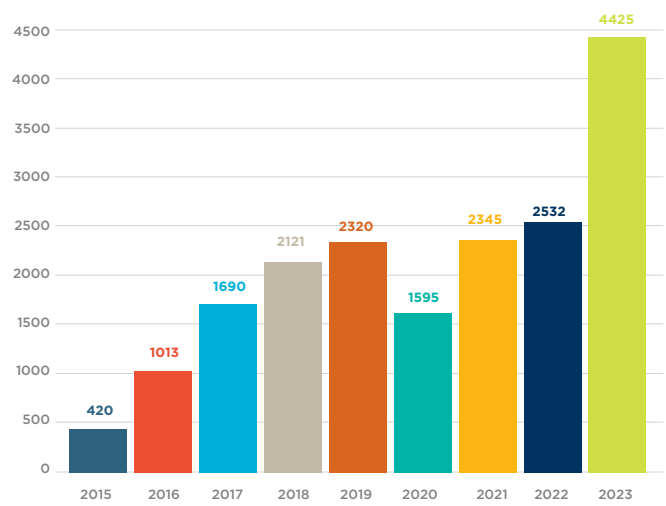
Student Success

During 2023, we had 2 713 students who enrolled in 4 425 Explore modules. This represents an increase of 75,5% over the previous year, with much of this growth coming from Kenya and Malawi, together with consolidations from other countries.

One key success factor for Explore is the number of students who complete all eight course modules. In

2023, although the number of graduates decreased from the previous year, we saw a distinct increase in the number of new students who have continued their studies beyond the first module. This is a very encouraging trend, and credit must be given to the facilitators for encouraging their students to continue.

Explore modules registrations



Another area where the impact of Explore is evident is in the number of students who go further with their theological studies. In 2023, we had 22 students who had completed at least one Explore module and who registered for further studies at George Whitefield College.

Translations

A core component of delivering Explore in a local context is providing Explore in several African languages. This is one of the most challenging and expensive aspects of our strategy. However, with the financial blessings we received during the year, we have developed a partnership with professional translators. We intend to have at least three modules translated into a number of key languages by the end of 2024. These include Zulu, Xhosa, Sotho, Afrikaans, Swahili, Chichewa, French, Portuguese, Arabic, and Kinyarwanda.

Communications

We have developed an in-house communication strategy including:

- A webpage at www.explore.org.za, which includes regular videos and news
- Newsletters published three times during the year
- Regular social media postings through Facebook and Instagram.
- Prayer letters published bi-weekly
- Holding our first general prayer meeting in December. We will be structuring a number of general prayer meetings hosted at different times to suit different countries.

Succession

It is vital for the sustainability of the Explore programme that a plan of succession for key staff members is implemented. We have begun the process of employing a new Explore Executive to lead Explore in the years ahead. As an interim measure, one of the GWC Directors, Mr Peter Willig, will assume that role. We hope to have made this appointment before the end of 2024.

We give all the glory and praise to the Lord, who continues to sustain this wonderful programme. Thank you to all our financial and prayer supporters across the world.



The Explore team



Mr Nevil Carrington
Distance Learning Manager



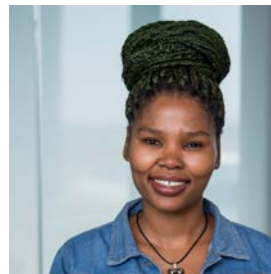
Mr Peter Willig



Ms Saralee Molodi
Distance Learning Operations Manager



Mrs Leatitia Meyer
Explore Administrator Team Leader



Ms Khayakazi Mgoduka
Explore Admin Assistant



Mrs Yasmine Erasmus
Communication and Admin Assistant



Ms Danielle Nel
Explore Assistant

Theological Education Development Services

In 2023, the TEDS team, consisting of Rev. Dr Richard Seed and Dr Caroline Seed, with Karen Roe on home assignment in Australia, undertook a number of activities to provide training in learning, teaching and curriculum development for theological institutions. This included a series of events and conferences, together with Teaching and Learning for Higher Theological Education (TALHITE) professional development courses for theological educators who are already engaged in teaching and learning in their institutions. This short course is certified by GWC.

TEDS events

- **30 January – 3 February:** Research Methodology, course in Indonesia, face-to-face.
- **6 – 9 February:** Local Leaders International (LLI) conference in Australia (2 presentations).
- **20–24 February:** Africa Mile Deep Strategy conference in Entebbe, Uganda (2 presentations).
- **20–24 March:** Curriculum development training in Sierra Leone.
- **17–21 April:** GAFCON IV conference in Kigali (1 presentation).
- **15–19 May:** Integration of Faith and Learning workshops Uganda Christian University (UCU).
- **12 – 15 June:** TEASA (The Evangelical Alliance of South Africa) conference in Pretoria.
- **26 – 30 June:** Research Methodology (RM511) at GWC.
- **6 – 10 November:** Generosity Project writers' workshop, Uganda at UCU.

TALHITE courses

Brazil (Phase 1 & 2)

This training took place online with ten participants, half of whom were seminary professors, and the other half responsible for congregational Bible teaching programmes in churches in the dioceses. On the last day, the participants did demonstration teaching sessions which were of a very high quality.

Egypt (Phase 3)

Five of the original seven participants completed the course at Alexandria School of Theology (AST) and qualified for a TALHITE certificate from GWC. The lecturers' growth and confidence was encouraging, as was the use of the training received in previous phases. Their teaching skills were being used in a variety of contexts both inside and outside the classroom.



Egypt TALHITE Phase 3, August 2023

Southern Africa Online (Phases 1-3)

This was the first entirely GWC-generated online TALHITE with participants registered on Canvas. 27 participants, mostly from South Africa and Zimbabwe, registered for phase 1. After some initial technical difficulties and the need for IT support, the programme ran smoothly and participation was excellent, with positive feedback.

“I learnt that to become an effective leader I have to understand the culture of the leadership in the institution, know different approaches used in leadership styles, and of course, the role leadership plays in a theological college.”

In the end, 17 participants graduated and the deep level of learning and quality of assignments was encouraging. It was noted that running the course over three months instead of 12 is better in terms of interaction and outcomes.

Uganda (Phase 3)

16 participants completed phase 3 which took place in Jinja. The training week followed the standard TALHITE 3 pattern, with a focus on deepening skills in promoting student learning at the beginning of the week and growing leadership skills for higher theological education in the context of wisdom in the second half of the week. Oral feedback given at the conclusion of the session was positive:

The overwhelming response was one of transformation, with many lecturers saying “I have completely changed through this course” or “I am not what I used to be”.

The Broughton Knox Study Centre

The library forms an integral part of the teaching and learning experience at George Whitefield College, and exists to support faculty and students in their teaching and learning endeavours. This means close collaboration with faculty, students (especially postgraduate), and staff to actively solicit input for the selection of academic resources.

Our 2023 objectives, in line with and building on foundations laid in previous years, remain fourfold:

- To provide sufficient resources to meet the library resource requirements of all our Programmes.
- To be an efficient and well-run resource centre offering seamless service to residential and non-residential users.
- To offer a creative and effective studying environment meeting the standards of a modern 21st century Knowledge Commons.
- To be a resource hub reaching beyond our campus and building capacity in other theological institutions across Africa.

“For me, GWC’s library is one of the premier theological libraries in Africa, with remarkably strong collections in biblical studies, systematic theology, and church history/historical theology, among other subjects. Furthermore, the library’s collection is regularly updated. Certainly in terms of my own field, my postgraduate students enjoy access to scholarly collections that are unrivalled on this continent, which of course greatly facilitates my own ongoing research as well, and is one of the main attractions of working here.”

-Jake Griesel, GWC Faculty

Objective 1: Collection Development

The librarian added 263 new items in 2023, across print and electronic formats. eBook usage increased by 61%, indicative of the College’s expanded online course offering. We are drastically increasing our online resources, so that students can access them anytime, from anywhere.

The acquisitions included:

Format	Area of speciality				
	African Resources	Youth Ministry	Biblical Studies, Biblical Languages, Missions, Study & Writing Resources	Anglicanism, Missions, Systematics, Pastoral Ministry, Counselling, Church History, Current Affairs	Resources for our new online Higher Certificate, Church History and Biblical Studies reference materials
Print titles	57	15	140		
eBooks	51				
Print journals				37	
Online journals					Annual subscription to ATLA

The Broughton Knox Study Centre - Continued

New titles were based on requests from faculty and postgraduate students.

Our continued investment in African resources is a long-term project and is part of the transformation work at GWC. This assists our students to consider application of their learning in their context and to read and critique the work of African theologians. These will be a resource for a new module being developed on African Contemporary Theology.

Many of our students are involved in youth and student ministry, and there is a work group of students who have formed a learning group for this ministry.

Objective 2: Seamless Service

In 2023, our Library Management System was updated, with records added according to international cataloguing and classification standards. This facility allows students and faculty to find resources easily, renew books online as well as put holds on popular titles. All new books were tagged by our CSX book security system, to protect against loss and theft.

Staffing

The library was staffed by two permanent employees and 21 bursary student assistants (seven CDAs and 14 shelf readers). The librarian attended a LIASA conference in October 2023.

Objective 3: 21st Century Knowledge Commons

In 2023, ZAR 65 million was pledged towards the building of a new Knowledge Centre, the Phand'ulwazi Knowledge Centre, a four-five year project to establish a "library of the future". The physical environment of the current library will not change in the next few years, but the resource collection will continue to grow to provide for our growing programmes and facility.

Objective 4: Building Capacity Across the Continent

In order to be a resource hub reaching beyond our campus, book donations were made to students and other theological training colleges in Africa.

“With some of the books I received as a donation, I have been able to start a small library at the church where I am now based in Uganda. There are many pastors who have no access to these kinds of commentaries, and these resources help them in their sermon preparation and in their handling of the Word of God.”

-Rev. Joseph Salasamba (Graduated 2023)



Theological Development Africa (TDA)

In 2023, TDA awarded a total of 236 bursaries to students of the TDA colleges. These colleges include:

- **Wolaita Evangelical Theological College** - Ethiopia
- **Johannesburg Bible College** – Johannesburg, South Africa
- **Rusitu Bible College** – Zimbabwe
- **Alexandria School of Theology (AST)** - Egypt
- **St Andrew’s Theological College** – Kenya
- **Uganda Martyrs Seminary** - Uganda
- **Dumisani Bible College** – Eastern Cape, South Africa
- **George Whitefield College** – Cape Town, South Africa
- **St John’s College Kilimatinde** – Tanzania

The TDA programme also provided financial training underwritten by the African Council for Accreditation and Accountability (AfCAA) for St Andrew’s Theological College to pursue further AfCAA accreditation.

Special scholarships were also awarded to students from partner colleges to enable them to send certain students to GWC to further their training, so that they can return to build capacity in the local Church and Bible colleges.

Here are some quotes from students at some of the colleges, all of whom are dealing with various contextual challenges. The common thread that emerges is the relevancy of the gospel amidst these localised concerns.

George Whitefield College, Western Cape, South Africa

“The study of theology here has cultivated in me the spirit of a loving God, and given me a zeal to understand the correct interpretation of the Bible for personal growth and edification. I have amassed many skills and been exposed to numerous ministries, all of which have encouraged me to think about a faithful contextualisation of Scripture. With these skills, I



pray that God will give me the strength and energy to help my Church back home in South Sudan, an area of conflict, expanding Islamic religion, and growing security threats to those preaching the gospel.”

Marko Mou, Bachelor of Theology.

St Andrew’s Bible College, Kenya



“The Church in Kenya faces several challenges in its mission work, with political interference and manipulation being one of them, where politicians seek to co-opt religious leaders and institutions for their own agendas, compromising the Church’s autonomy and moral authority. Through my training at St Andrew’s College, I have acquired skills that will help me address these challenges in my ministry. I have learned ethics in different fields that will guide me in decision-making, how to address and relate to all kinds of people, and leadership skills that will help me address vices like corruption and immorality in the Church.”

Peter Muguora Mwangi, Diploma in Theology and Ministry.

Uganda Martyrs Seminary - Namugongo, Uganda



“Rampant poverty in Uganda makes the majority of Christians unable to sustain their local Church, and a lack of well-trained pastors hampers ministry. Namugongo Seminary has equipped me to be a change agent who can help congregants identify possible ways to overcome their poverty. It has equipped me to stick to Christ and His saving powers in my ministry of preaching to all people. I desire to know Him and make Him known. It has equipped me in resource mobilisation and utilisation for good as a Christian steward.”

Bagaya Bosco, Certificate in Theology and Church Development.

St Johns Theological College, Tanzania



“The Church in Tanzania faces many challenges, including false teachings of new denominations. New ministries, apostles, and prophets nowadays deceive people with appeals to faith. Another challenge is the Islamic movement around my village. Many people are Muslims and preaching to them is challenging, particularly because they have been influenced by Arabs who stayed in this region during the slave trade.”

Verina Gamal Melek Mikhail, Bachelor’s Degree in Theology.

Wolaita Evangelical Seminary, Ethiopia



“My studies at Wolaita Evangelical Seminary (WES) have been very effective, and I have seen myself well equipped for my future ministry in the Church. It prepared me to overcome the challenges of financial limitations, incompetent leadership, racism, and gender issues and to serve the Church patiently through leadership challenges.”

Mikias Moges, Bachelor’s Degree in Ministry.

Alexandria School of Theology, Egypt



“I serve a group of ladies who meet, pray and share together. I listen to them and try to help them with different life situations and difficulties. We read books that focus on the work of Christ and help them grow spiritually. God is using what I learned at AST: biblical theology, biblical counselling, and pastoral theology. I always try to deal with them with the ultimate biblical truth, together with compassion. In addition, I have good relationships with my church pastors, and I regularly discuss theology with them, suggesting many things to the Church, such as returning to liturgical worship.”

Verina Gamal Melek Mikhail, Bachelor’s Degree in Theology.

Campus and Estates

Itumeleng Hope Motlhope Student Centre



Our Hope Centre has been up and running since the beginning of January 2019 with a full complement of students, 44 in total. The first and third floors are occupied by males, and females occupy the second floor. The designated public areas are serving their purpose as intended. The Ecclesia lounge on the ground floor is now a communal area for all students to enjoy a coffee break and social interaction. It is often used for early morning prayer meetings. Doc's diner on the fourth floor serves all three meals daily and is regularly used for social functions and conferences.

We were fortunate enough to install a 12kVA inverter and battery system for load shedding, which keeps the essential services going.

Morris House (admin building) and the Broughton Knox Study Centre (library)

The exterior of these buildings was painted a new grey that is in keeping with the MID (Muizenberg Improvement District) palette and has become iconic in the area. They are heritage buildings and must be maintained with the greatest care as the salt content in the air increases the rust factor. Many of the roof tiles had to be replaced due to ageing.

We currently use generators for load shedding, but the noise created is in question. Solar solutions have been

investigated, and we are in the process of raising the funds necessary to execute those plans.

The existing single-person lift has aged considerably and is beyond repair. Drawings for a new lift have been issued, and proposals were sent to donors for consideration.

Foord House

This is a two-storey building consisting of 18 rooms for males, a lounge, kitchen, computer room, classroom and the postgraduate study area with work stations for 18 students. The building was fully refurbished in 2019 and is still in a fair condition. A solar solution is also currently being evaluated.

Mountain View

The building consists of seven apartments that are seriously ageing. We were, however, able to upgrade the interior of all the units, but the timber floor on the first level is in question. We are repairing it on a needs basis, but a renovation is due once sufficient funds are available.

Frankfort Mews & Rodlean Court

These premises have six apartments, each consisting of two bedrooms, a lounge, a bathroom and a kitchen. It also has two further buildings adjoining it with several apartments. These are family units with a children's play park and a communal social area. All the apartments are in good condition. However, the wooden windows either need a total upgrade or to be replaced with white aluminium frames.

41 Clevedon Road

This two-storey building consists of five rooms, a lounge and communal ablutions on each floor, with the kitchen on the second floor. It has an outside flat, laundry facilities and a carport for three cars. The building is still in good condition, and we are replacing the furniture according to a theme, as the old pieces were very much mixed and matched, having all been donated.

15 Clevedon Road

This free-standing single-storey house has four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen with a scullery and a garage. The building was upgraded a year ago and is still in good condition. The wooden floors are due to be sanded and sealed soon.

9A Yarmouth (Ebbtide)

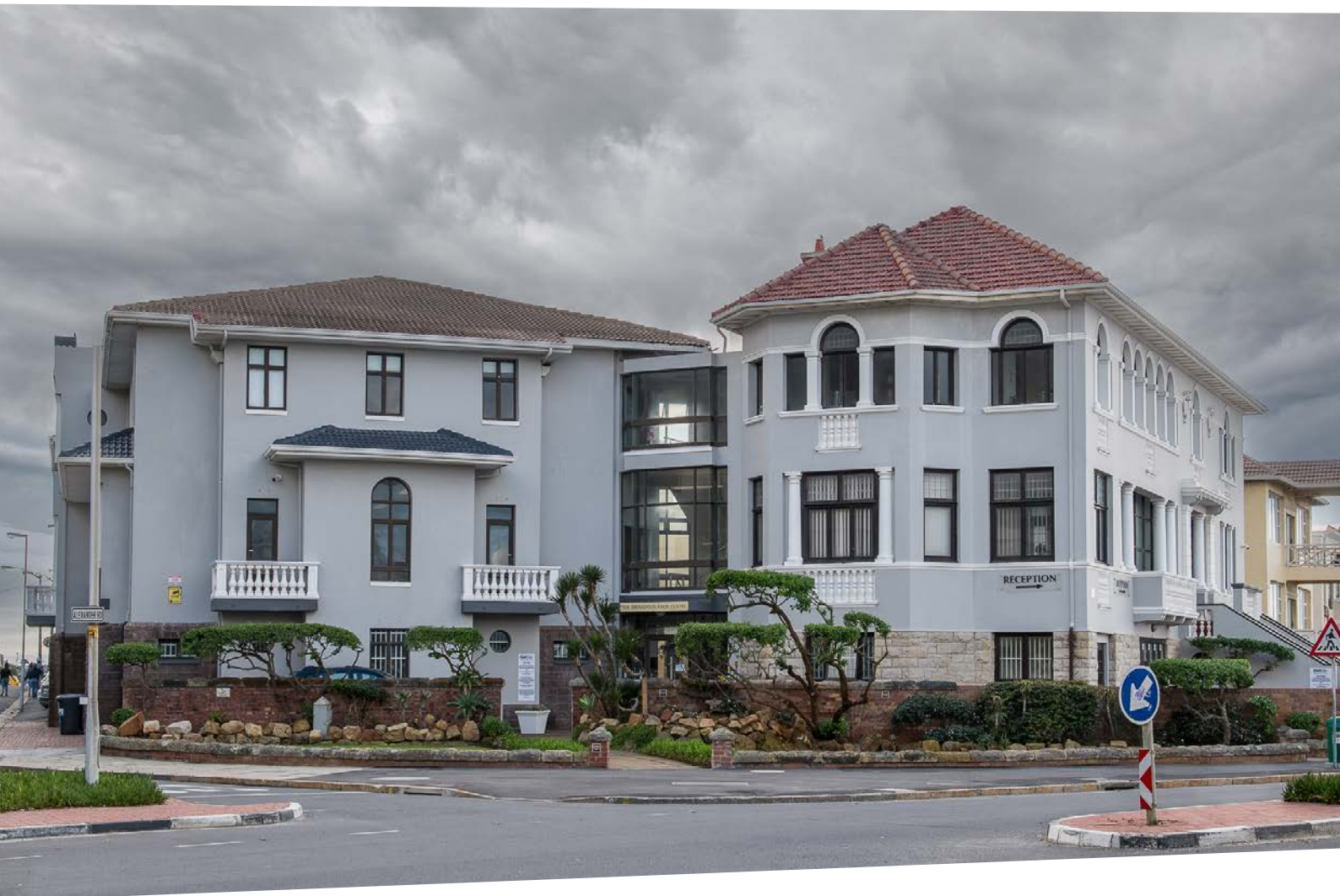
This two-storey building is furthest away from the college across the Vlei. We only own and occupy the ground floor, which consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen and laundry. The building is still in good condition.

Faculty building

This building primarily houses the faculty and academic support offices. The exterior was upgraded two years ago, and the interior passageways were completed during the year. Each office, however, needs refreshing.

General

Ongoing maintenance is essential as the harsh weather conditions in Muizenberg take their toll on all the buildings. We, therefore, covet your prayers for the Lord to provide. Our current budget for 2024 is R1 815 000, but this is well below the industry standard.



The Financial Report

We are grateful for the continued financial support of our donors in furthering our mission at George Whitefield College (GWC). This year presented both challenges and successes in our ongoing financial journey. The net outcome has only been possible because of the generosity of God's people supporting this kingdom work as churches, individuals, trusts and foundations. We are also grateful for the legacy gifts from several friends of GWC over the years, which were left to our Seeds for Hope legacy programme.

The Principal and his team have travelled internationally and been greeted with open arms and hearts for the gospel work of GWC. We are deeply thankful for this.

The following report, although not a perfect picture, is an encouragement to us that theological education is still greatly needed and desired on the African continent, not to mention supported globally by Christ's Church.

Financial Highlights

- Donations (non-designated) earmarked for operations landed on R22.3m (R18.7m in 2022). We acknowledge an increase compared to last year and are thankful for the individual donor pledges, which provided a solid contribution to the operating budget.
- Designated donations, primarily for bursaries, landed on R26.6m (R6.4m in 2022), which is a great blessing.
- Income from ARK Endowments: It is pleasing to see the positive impact of the ARK Endowment strategy. The distribution of R2.9m was a welcome contribution to our operations funding and certainly alleviated the pressure on our new donations target. This supports the endowment strategy for the long-term sustainability of GWC.
- Operating expenses landed on R39.6m (same as budget) due to tightly managed expenditures.
- Operating result: unfortunately, we faced an operating deficit of R3.1m (R1.6m for 2022) for the year. Excluding the R1.8m depreciation, the net operational deficit was reduced to R1.3m, which is

more respectable and better reflects the impact on cash flow and the strategic fund. Distance Learning (Explore) landed on a deficit of R1.8m and was covered by its own accumulated reserves. A focused strategy is in place for 2024 and beyond. Excluding the effect of the Explore deficit and depreciation, the net result is a small but respectable surplus of R0.5m.

- Strategic operating reserves: donations given for ring-fenced (designated) funds for the year are not available for funding the college operations. Any deficit is largely funded from the Strategic Operations Reserve. This reserve landed on R6.8m, which covers more than double our operations deficit. Ideally, this fund should be around 50% of the annual operating budget to support ongoing concern risk mitigation.

Looking Forward

We are committed to responsible financial management and will continue to actively explore steps to address deficits and impact on the college as a growing concern.

Diversifying our income streams remains a key strategic priority. GWC continues to depend on a core group of donors who make a three-year pledge to assist the college's sustainability. We are moving away from our previous XVII group to a broader group of supporters who are invited to be Kingdom Inspired Investors, which will launch in 2024.

A significant donation for the new Phand'ulwazi project pledged in November 2023 spurred us on to push forward with plans for our new PhD programme. This was a great encouragement to the team and served as a reminder that our labour is under the providence of a great and almighty God.

The generous giving that sustains GWC rests on our shared commitment with our gospel partners to see Africa increase its share in the kingdom of God.

We are confident we can meet the increasing budget needs of new programmes and the increasing student

body by developing further resource mobilisation strategies to generate new income sources and increase donations through targeted campaign fundraising. These include the US-based Focus Campaign and the Australian Scholarship Campaign for Explore.

We remain committed to stewarding our resources in line with biblical standards and to provide financial transparency through our audited financial statements, which are available upon request.

Financial Sustainability

The pressure on donations and operating deficits raises concerns about our long-term financial sustainability. We are not unique as a faith-based, non-profit organisation in having to be constant in managing this risk. As responsible stewards, we are taking active steps to address these challenges. These include:

- Cost-effectiveness. We will continue to review our operational expenses to identify cost savings areas and use technologies to exploit process efficiencies.
- Fundraising efforts. As mentioned above, we are developing strategies to increase and diversify our donor base. Given the increasing fundraising targets and the diverse strategies and effort required to meet those targets, it has also become evident that we need to increase the fundraising team.
- Responsible financial planning. By identifying the costs that can be allocated to our various projects and fundraising for them specifically, we will continue to strengthen our financial planning process to ensure responsible budgeting and resource allocation.

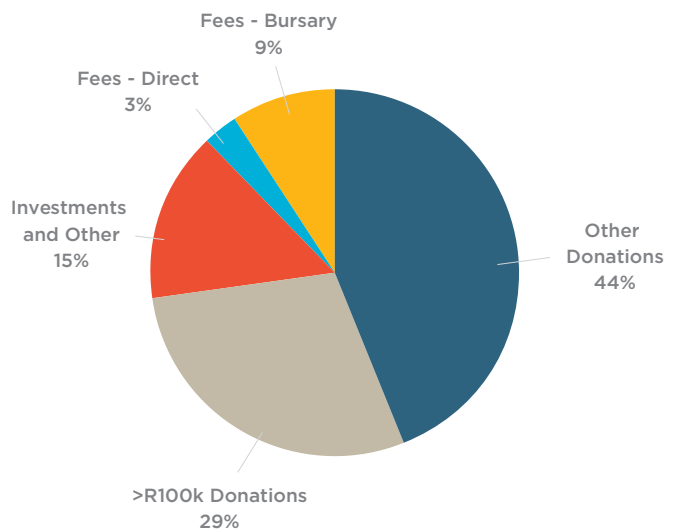
The absence of a solid strategic reserve may impact our ability to weather unexpected financial difficulties. Building the strategic reserve is a key goal moving forward to create a safety net for future operations.

While the current financial situation presents challenges, we are confident in our ability to continue

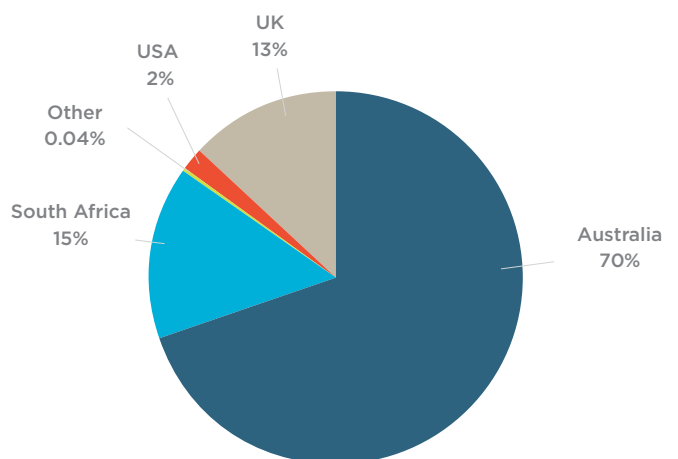
with the mission. We have a strong commitment from our leadership, dedicated staff, and a loyal donor base.

We are actively working to ensure a sound financial future so that we may continue this gospel work. We remain committed to fulfilling our mission and appreciate your continued support as we navigate these financial goals. We are confident that through seeking new strategies along with your support and prayers, we can ensure a sustainable future for GWC.

Sources of Income 2023



Donations by Country 2023



Income Statement 2018 - 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000
Revenue	62 217	36 448	34 583	34 190	48 039	43 040
Investment & other Income (loss)	5 399	1 900	5 589	3 229	5 029	(16)
	67 616	38 348	40 172	37 419	53 068	43 024
Operating expenses	(54 636)	(44 637)	(39 013)	(34 723)	(32 767)	(28 312)
Statutory (Deficit) Surplus	12 980	(6 289)	1 159	2 696	20 301	14 712
Plus (Less): Designated Funds	(16 057)	1 675	(4 343)	(5 091)	(20 396)	(19 085)
Actual Operating Deficit	(3 077)	(4 614)	(3 184)	(2 395)	(95)	(4 373)

Balance Sheet 2018 - 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000
Assets	149 199	136 568	144 016	143 036	140 176	118 602
Property, plant and equipment	78 528	78 427	78 780	78 446	78 362	74 850
Investments	62 202	51 291	53 730	56 920	48 086	32 306
Current Assets	8 469	6 850	11 506	7 670	13 728	11 446
Equity and Liabilities	149 199	136 568	144 016	143 036	140 176	118 602
Accumulated surplus	76 041	75 659	76 747	75 925	75 436	73 466
Reserves	68 512	55 913	61 161	60 824	58 657	40 326
Non-Current Liabilities	2 827	3 029	3 264	3 547	3 800	2 670
Current Liabilities	1 819	1 967	2 844	2 740	2 283	2 140





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