



# **2020 Annual Report**



2020 Graduation

A non-profit community organization
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# **Two Thousand Twenty Annual Summary**

We all know that 2020 was filled with both challenges but also victories and breakthroughs. We are so grateful for every supporter, each donor, every faculty member, each staff member, every student and every volunteer.

We are so thankful for what the Lord has done in us and through this organization. We are filled with expectation that each one that has contributed, whatever that contribution, will reap a blessing from Heaven.

"Arise shine for your light has come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold the darkness shall cover the earth, the deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory shall be seen upon you." Isaiah 60:1-2

This world is going through a period of deep darkness but when it is the darkest is when God's true people rise up! Elijah was a prophet when Jezebel was ruling the nation. When wicked Ahab and Jezebel controlled the nation God raised up Elijah.

God is raising up strong anointed people when the world seems dark. The strongest anointings are raised up when things around us are bad. At Midwest Bible College we are raising up world changing leaders who know how to pray, fast, preach, teach, rebuke, take authority and prophesy.

These world changers are being trained in ten different nations. In addition to America students are being trained in Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Ghana, Kenya, Congo and Jamaica.

#### **MBC Africa**

Because of the extreme shut down in Uganda we were able to send aid to assist in supporting the professors and staff of Yesu



Akwagala Bible College.

Significant advancement was made when the Government of Uganda's Counsel for Higher Education encouraged a Memorandum of Understanding be initiated between Midwest Bible College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Yesu Akwagala Bible College, Kampala, Uganda. This was achieved successfully on October 19, 2019. The Counsel of Higher Education, Uganda has looked very favorably on the cooperation between the two colleges in our efforts to raise the level of education and degrees earned by the professors at Yesu Akwagala Bible College. To date Midwest Bible College has graduated Eighteen online students under this program. Five of these graduates are professors at Yesu Akwagala Bible College.

Several of the African students are heads of the ministry in their nation and have churches under their care. There are four hundred and one churches in this network of churches. Pastors are being trained and sent out to pioneer new churches and grow the Kingdom of God.

# **Veterans Administration, US**

We are excited to have received approval from the Veterans Administration for students to be able to attend MBC under the GI Bill. This means students can attend

MBC while obtaining funds under the GI Bill to pay for their education. Full approval has been granted and we currently have two students approved and enrolled.

## **Ordinations**

To date we have ordained seventeen ministers that are active in ministry. The majority of these ministers are working in the greater Milwaukee area. These ministers are making a positive difference in the community they serve. We are thankful for each of them and the sphere of influence they have. Other ordained ministers cover the length and breadth of America.

#### **Professors**

There are currently eight professors that teach at Midwest Bible College. We are so thankful to have such a dynamic and dedicated cadre teaching who care about each student.

The majority of our professors have graduated from Midwest Bible College with advanced degrees.

# Volunteers

In 2020 many individuals gave untiringly through volunteering of their time to help in so many ways. In 2020 volunteers logged over eight hundred and twenty hours. We simply could not do what we do without the efforts and dedication of the volunteers who are so faithful to assist in helping with the workload. Thank you volunteers!

# Graduation

Graduation is always a special time for the graduates and their families. Because of restrictions graduation was delayed until August 14, 2020. Students invited their families and friends to attend this event. The audience of about three hundred fifty saw sixty-four students receive various degrees and certificates.



To date Midwest Bible College had graduated six hundred forty-two students. This includes twenty-six degrees earned by African students.

Since we were unable to go to Kampala for the African student's graduation each African student's name was read and a special congratulation shout out was given by the audience.

# **Curriculum Addition**

Eight students received a Certificate in Biblical Counseling. This is a one-year post bachelor certificate class that prepares students to help individuals with counseling issues. This does not prepare individuals to be certified through the state as counselors but enables them to work through their churches and offer biblical answers to life's issues.

#### **Online Students**

The online activity is growing rapidly with many more students finding us on line throughout the nation and abroad. In this venue they can pay for and take any class at any time. When they complete one class, they can begin another and continue until they receive their degree. When that degree is earned, that student is invited to attend graduation and graduate with the campus students. The curricula is virtually the same as the one that the students take at MBC's headquarters.

We have nearly completed video recordings for each online class and when the library is complete we will exchange the current audio feed for video. The new online administrator is beginning to load the first year Master's lectures guides and handouts. This process is arduous but is progressing well.



# **Going forward**

We continue to plan toward a permanent home for the college here in the Milwaukee area. We have some funds reserved for the purchase of an adequate headquarters building with ample parking in a location that will attract more students. We believe that an additional amount of one and one half million dollars together with what we

currently have would be adequate to purchase or build this new location.

We also continue to work toward building an endowment fund that will additionally sustain and keep the college stable while adding new programs and classes as needed.

The future is bright and we anticipate substantial growth this year both in the USA and abroad.

Again, we thank everyone that has assisted in any way to propel us this far in "Teaching Others To Teach Others" the Word of God!



Board of Directors

#### **Testimonies from Recent Graduates**

"Throughout my life, I had occasionally opened the Bible, read a "religious" book, watched instructive videos, and talked about God or the Bible. This all changed when I started the Associates program at MBC. If there is something that completing all of these courses has taught me, it is that I need more of God and His word in my life than ever before. Mark 4:12 "seeing but never perceiving, hearing but never understanding". That was my life. Although I thought that just because I was born and raised in the gospel, I knew it all, I knew NOTHING! Since day one of my online courses, the Lord has placed in my heart a hunger and desire for His Word. The more I read, the more I want. Completing these courses has taught me that there is just so much more to the word of God than just reading it. The historical context, the Greek translations, the valuable Christian life and fellowship information, the relationship with God quide, everything is there! All I had to do was read, but not just read, "search the scriptures"." ~ 2020 Online Associates Class

"Because I was encouraged to search the Bible so often, it has given me a deeper and better understanding of God's Word. It greatly enhanced my relationship and walk with the Lord."  $\sim 2020$  Master's Class

"MBC has made my relationship with God stronger, and it has made me more confident as a Christian. Attending Midwest Bible College has also helped me to not only understand scripture but explain the Word to other people." ~ 2020 Associates Class



# Midwest Bible College - Fact Sheet

#### Overview

Midwest Bible College was founded in 2004 to train servants of God to deepen their faith and understanding of God's Word through Scripture and education so they can effectively communicate God's Word to others and graciously minister to their local churches, communities and the world.

Midwest Bible College engages individuals from all denominations, in all stages of their personal development, and from all facets of life to achieve degrees ranging from the Biblical Counseling Certificate Program, to Associate's, Bachelor's and Doctoral Degrees. Midwest Bible College is dedicated to enlightening and educating people of all faiths about the teachings of the Bible.

#### Mission

"Midwest Bible College prepares men and women for service and ministry in the local churches, their communities and the world by helping them develop an understanding of God's Word and learning to apply its teaching to everyday life."

# History

Midwest Bible College was founded in 2004 by Doctor R. L. Bowen to provide sound, affordable Biblical teaching for students age 19 years and older who have earned a high school diploma or equivalent.

In the words of Doctor Bowen,

"Our goal is to assist you in obtaining the knowledge that you need so that you can accomplish what God has called you to do. That foundation of knowledge is found in the Word of God."

#### Accreditation

Fully accredited, at the highest level, by the Association of Independent Christian Colleges and Seminaries, Midwest Bible College is devoted to preparing its graduates for service in a comprehensive, affordable manner.

#### **Testimonials:**

"What I enjoyed is how to take the knowledge we gained and break it down so those lacking Bible knowledge can understand God's love for them."

> "When speaking with others about God I can reference Scripture that is pertinent to their needs."

# Accessibility

A recent relocation to improved facilities and location within Milwaukee County in Wisconsin is enabling Midwest Bible College to better serve the needs of its students. Midwest Bible College recently moved onto this new campus. This new location offers many advantages:

- The campus is centrally located so that people from all over the city of Milwaukee and surrounding suburbs can easily access the College via public or private transportation.
- ◆ The portion of the campus being utilized by the College was once a school, so the logistical arrangements of the offices, hallways, classrooms

and parking lots are conducive to an educational institution.

#### Advancements

This new facility provides technological upgrade possibilities for its audio and visual systems to serve the students in this new age, including the capabilities to offer online and live-stream classes. Upgrades include a new server, switch, additional workstations with software, one additional laptop, three video cameras, ten flash drives, and editing software.

These upgrades will better serve the needs of current students and will help reach more prospective students so that they can deepen their understanding of the Bible. Through the continuity and expansion of the solid instruction at Midwest Bible College, students gain knowledge that fortifies their foundation of faith, the Kingdom of God grows stronger, more lives are transformed, and area churches strengthen in the unity of the faith to reach others in their sphere of influence.

# Accountability

Midwest Bible College has built a strong fiscallyresponsible business that sustains itself primarily through the tuition and fees of its students and the prudent management of expenses. This conservative approach to finances however necessitates that a modest fundraising initiative is engaged to underwrite capital improvements to meet the needs of the increasing number of students who are called by Jesus Christ to gain enlightenment.

# Inclusivity

This year, in the Milwaukee area alone, Midwest Bible College has welcomed students from more than forty different churches to become better Christians and Pastors, Professors, Chaplains, Biblical Counselors and Leaders in their own churches and communities!

In addition this year we have welcomed students from nine other nations as online students assisting them to earn upgrades in their degree level.

Midwest Bible College preaches and teaches inclusivity. Professor Dr. Tony Whitley expresses it best:

"It does not matter where you are socially, economically, or what race is on your birth certificate. In the society of Heaven, there is no division, no segregation, no ethnicity label, and no social injustice. We see this heavenly model exemplified every day at MBC.

Here we not only learn the Word of God; we also live the Word of God.

'There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; there is neither male nor female. You are all one in Christ Jesus. (2 Cor. 3:2)"

#### Staff

# Midwest Bible College employs eight instructors:

- ◆ R. L. Bowen, Th.D., President & Founder
- ◆ N. Bowen, M.Ed., Th.D., Lead Instructor
- ◆ T. Whitley, Jr., Th.D., Lead Instructor
- ◆ C. Christofferson, M.A, *Lead Instructor*
- ◆ D. Daniels, Th.D., Guest Instructor
- ◆ D. Hadnot, Th.D., Guest Instructor
- ◆ P. Rouse, M.A., Guest Instructor
- ◆ R. Smith, B.A., Guest Instructor

# **Abundance**

As the need for knowledgeable Christian workers and leaders grows among our churches and in our world, Midwest Bible College graduates are being trained to answer the call to serve the Lord and to build the Kingdom of God in the church where they attend and in their communities for the Glory of God. This solid education of the Scriptures includes practical applications to everyday life and encourages personal responsibility.

From 2004 to 2020, 642 students have graduated from the program and are serving in their local churches.

# Curriculum

Our curriculum is streamlined, emphasizing key areas of study that are of major academic and spiritual significance. We provide flexible core and continuing educational programs, both at the Milwaukee campus, and for those unable to attend fulltime classes through external program studies and online distance learning systems. Midwest Bible College has created a unique curriculum that crosses denominational and ethnic lines, bringing believers from diverse spiritual perspectives together for the sole purpose of building the Kingdom of God.

With its expanded capacity, Midwest Bible College has an on-line presence that can be accessed by anyone wanting to have an in-depth study of the Bible. In addition Midwest Bible College has extended its curriculum through its distance learning program to assist those desiring to earn higher degrees in biblical studies.

# **Opportunities**

General Fund (use where needed most)  Pandemic restrictions have limited our resources.
During this time extra funds are needed in this area.
MBC Scholarship Fund US
To provide needed assistance for US Students in need
Ministry Training Center US
To provide permanent home for MEACO/MBC Classrooms, Administrative offices
MBC Scholarship Fund Africa
To assist African Pastors who are students of MBC online to obtain Bible training and degrees
Africa Travel Fund
To provide resources for US staff to travel to Africa to hold graduation exercises for African
students/Pastors and to do missions outreach

# **Training World Changers one student at a time!**

Please make check payable to:

MEACO or Midwest Bible College Mail to P. O. Box 270184, Milwaukee, WI 53227

Give online at <a href="MidwestBibleCollege.org/donate">MidwestBibleCollege.org/donate</a>

Thank you for your generous support



www.MidwestBibleCollege.org