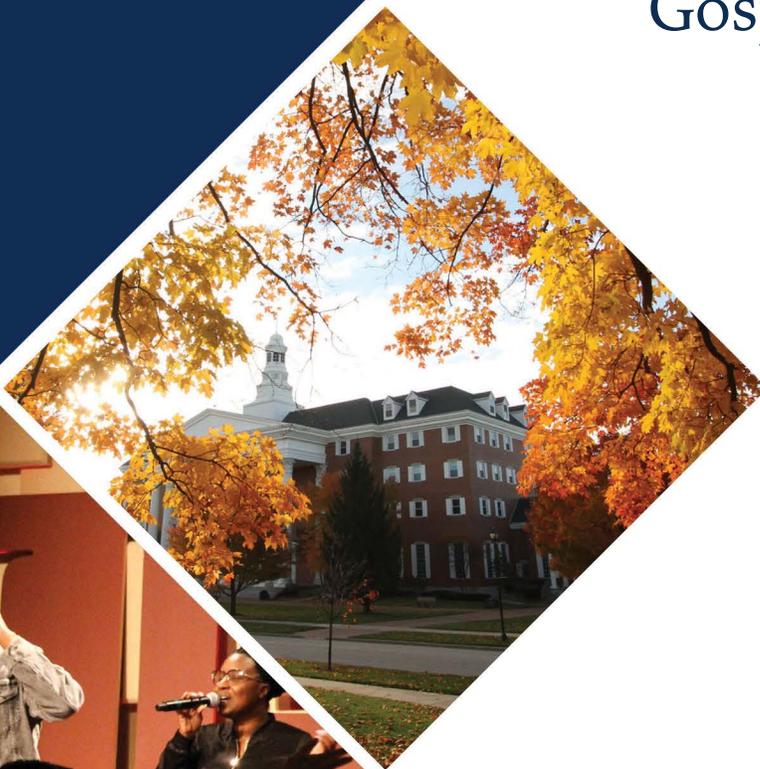




EST. 1980

WHEATON COLLEGE
**BILLY GRAHAM
CENTER**

Equipping and Mobilizing Gospel Witness for More Than Forty Years

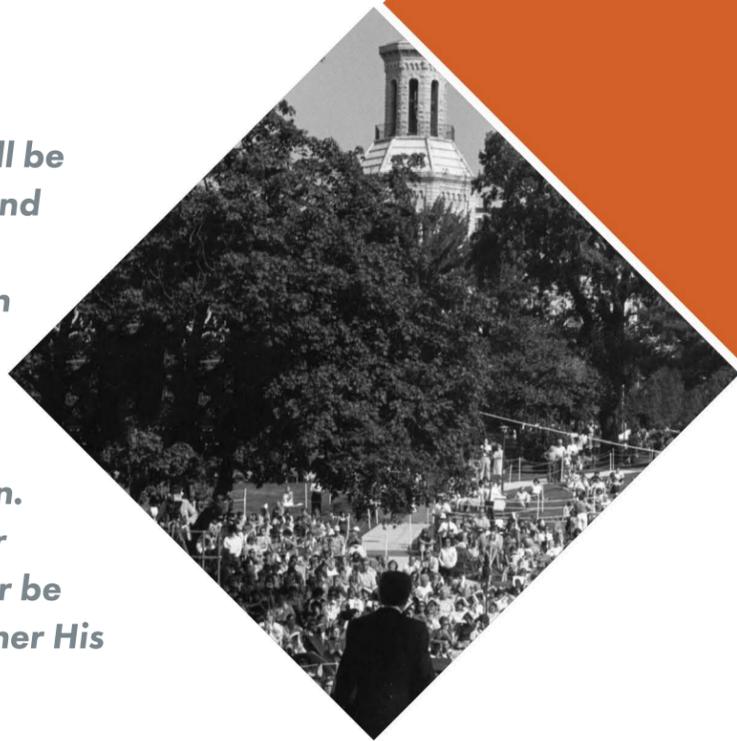


Ministry Report 2020-2021

“We hope and pray that this center will be a world hub of inspiration, research, and training, which will glorify Christ and serve every church and organization in preaching and teaching the gospel to the world. Our desire is that this building will not be interpreted as a monument to a man or an organization. Our desire is solely to glorify God. Our concern must always be that this center be an instrument which he can use to further His kingdom throughout the world.”

-Reverend Billy Graham

September 13, 1980, Billy Graham Center Dedication Ceremony



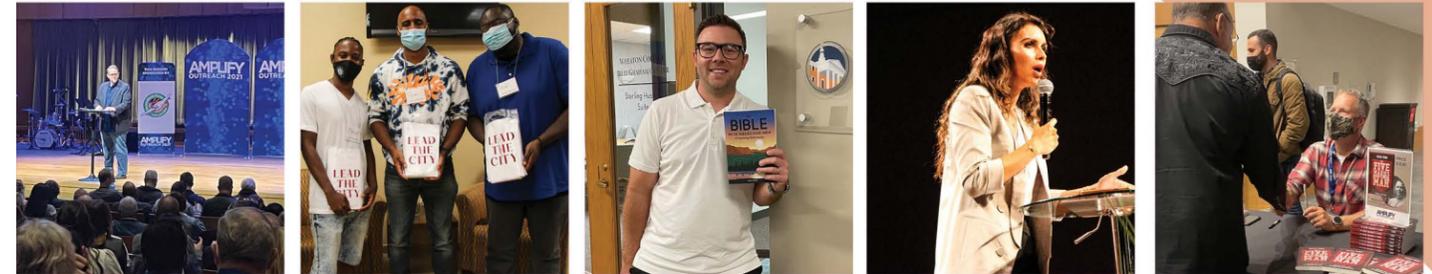
What if every existing and new church was growing by reaching new people with the gospel?

Are leaders dreaming of new models, new mission fields, and new opportunities to share the gospel?

Questions like these deserve robust discussion and evidence-based solutions. Each of our eight institutes are engaged in the vital work of gathering expert leaders around these questions, conducting world-class research, and widely sharing their findings.

Many of our institutes are built around a cohort experience, during which a group of pastors and leaders engage curriculum in the context of a community of practitioners.

Our Eight Institutes and Their Areas of Focus



Our world could use some good news.

For four decades, we have helped churches share the good news of the gospel. Through times of war, pandemic, and cultural turmoil, our vision has not changed:

We want every believer, everywhere, to make Jesus Christ known until He returns.

The Wheaton College Billy Graham Center:

- › Equips churches to share Christ with their community through our eight institutes
- › Convenes gospel-focused leaders across denominations and cultures to share ideas, best practices, and encouragement
- › Leads vital conversations impacting our collective witness, presenting our timeless message to a changing world

Church Evangelism Institute

- › 59% of Protestant churches in America are plateaued or declining
- › 31% are growing through people transferring churches, at the expense of churches that are declining
- › ***Only 10% of churches are growing primarily through reaching new people,*** what we call a conversion community¹

What if more churches were growing by reaching new people? What if churches mobilized every Christian to show and share the gospel?

Our Church Evangelism Institute works with churches and pastors to create more conversion communities. Through a two-year cohort, pastors learn how

to revitalize their congregation by helping them to become “conversion communities” where church and de-churched people come to faith, grow in their faith, and their congregations become more welcoming places for emerging and young adults.

Starting with \$1 million initial investment from the Lilly Endowment Inc., and additional funding from the Harry J. Lloyd Charitable Trust in 2020-2021, we hosted 60 churches in cohorts where leaders engaged our curriculum in a trusted context of other leaders.



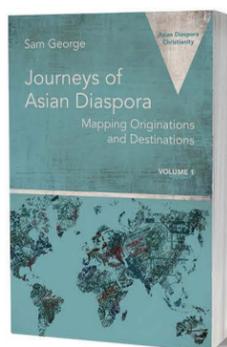
African American Church Evangelism Institute

Based on their experience in our Church Evangelism Institute cohorts, several leaders from predominantly African American churches formed our new African American Church Evangelism Institute with initial contributions of \$1 million from Lilly Endowment Inc., and \$300,000 from Lloyd Trust. This institute is led by respected pastors Pastor John K. Jenkins, Sr. and Rev. Dr. Michael L. Henderson, Sr. The institute researches and contextualizes evangelism strategies within predominantly African American church environments.

This year, our African American Church Evangelism Institute began its research with focus groups and a listening tour with pastors and influencers, equipping 6 coaches, and coaching 20 new churches.

Global Diaspora Institute

More people are on the move than at any other time in human history. These diaspora communities are reshaping societies, economies, nations, and even churches. The



Journeys of Asian Diaspora Institute
by Sam George

diaspora communities have always played a strategic role in the advancement and transformation of Christianity throughout history and continue to reshape the contours of the Christian faith and its missional engagement around the world.

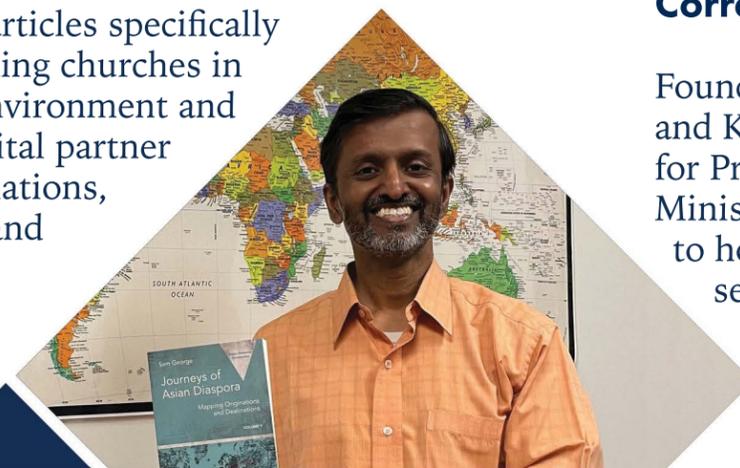
Our Global Diaspora Institute, in partnership with the Lausanne Movement, supports church leaders throughout these diaspora communities, equipping churches to reach new people groups as they move throughout the world.

In 2020-2021, Global Diaspora Institute published vital research on missions strategies among diaspora communities and taught missions courses for pastors in India, Australia, South Korea, and other regions. We also convened a global webinar in five languages serving more than 560 delegates from 70 countries on global missions.

Rural Matters Institute

In the United States, the mission field of rural ministry continues to grow. The work of faithful and effective rural pastors too often goes unnoticed. Our vision is to serve every church and help every believer share the gospel—even where it is hard and resources are challenging.

In 2020-2021, our Rural Matters Institute hosted gatherings both in-person and online for rural pastors to support each other and share ideas. We've published articles specifically about building churches in the rural environment and become a vital partner to denominations, networks, and



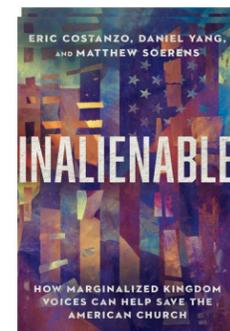
churches working to serve in these non-urban contexts.

Send Institute

Who is starting the churches of tomorrow?

What new models will God use to reach the next generation?

Reaching our world with the good news is going to take thriving existing churches and new local churches. In partnership with the North American Mission Board, the Send Institute is a think tank and convener of church planting networks across many denominations.



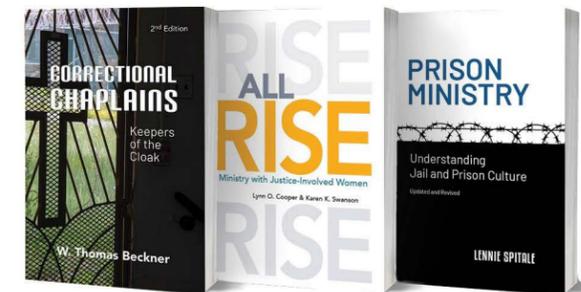
Inalienable
by Daniel Yang,
Eric Costanzo,
Matthew Soerens

In 2020-2021, our Send Institute gathered the church planting leaders of North America to think about new ways to identify, train, and support church planters. Our council brought together 20 leading practitioners, authors, and pastors for peer-learning. We host think tanks to brainstorm new models and strategies for

church planters and existing churches to reach their communities.

Correctional Ministries Institute

Founded by Charles “Chuck” Colson and Kenneth Wessmer as the Institute for Prison Ministries, our Correctional Ministries Institute was renamed in 2021 to honor the diversity of ministries it now serves—including prison chaplains, volunteers, and incarcerated persons.



In 2020-2021, Correctional Ministries Institute developed an online certification program with increasing enrollment, hosted online and in-person webinars, and convened retreats to train churches working in incarcerated environments.

Mosaix Institute

How will North American churches adapt to our changing multiethnic landscape?

As the ethnic diversity of North America increases, just 23% of evangelical church congregations include 20% or more from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Our new Mosaix Institute equips leaders to build healthy multiethnic and economically diverse churches.

Launching in the fall of 2021, this new institute is a partnership with Mosaix Global Network and Ambassador Network, proven leaders in the study of cultural intelligence, church economics, and pastoral ministry in diverse churches.

Research Institute

Where is the gospel advancing?

What is working?

Our Research Institute influences each of our institutes and publications, combining rigorous academic research with a heart for local church practitioners.

In 2020-2021, our Research Institute partnered with the Buford Foundation to study the impact of entrepreneurial evangelicalism through the Leadership Network and other entities, with an eye towards future ministry innovations. We partnered with Biola University to conduct first-hand interviews on how God worked through the Jesus People Movement to spark a generational revival whose impact is felt two generations later. We also conducted real-time research tracking the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on church attendance, normalizing the challenges facing pastors, and giving hope for what God may do in the coming decades as we reemerge.

Evangelism Leaders Fellowship:
Gathering Leaders for Greater Gospel Impact

As the missional landscape of North America continues to shift, how do we connect leaders, who are passionate about the gospel, to share ideas and strategies?

Our Evangelism Leaders Fellowship exists to create a mutual learning community for leaders of denominations and networks in the study and practice of evangelism, mission, and outreach.

In 2020-2021, we saw record attendance at our two gatherings where leaders engaged with one another, identified strategies to reach emerging adults, commissioned research around the ethics of evangelism, and celebrated together how God is working in new evangelism ministries.



In 2020-2021:


75,000

print subscribers through Outreach Magazine, for which our executive director serves as Editor-in-Chief


143,085

readers at ChurchLeaders.com


1.2 million

social media followers


124,460

Downloaded podcast episodes

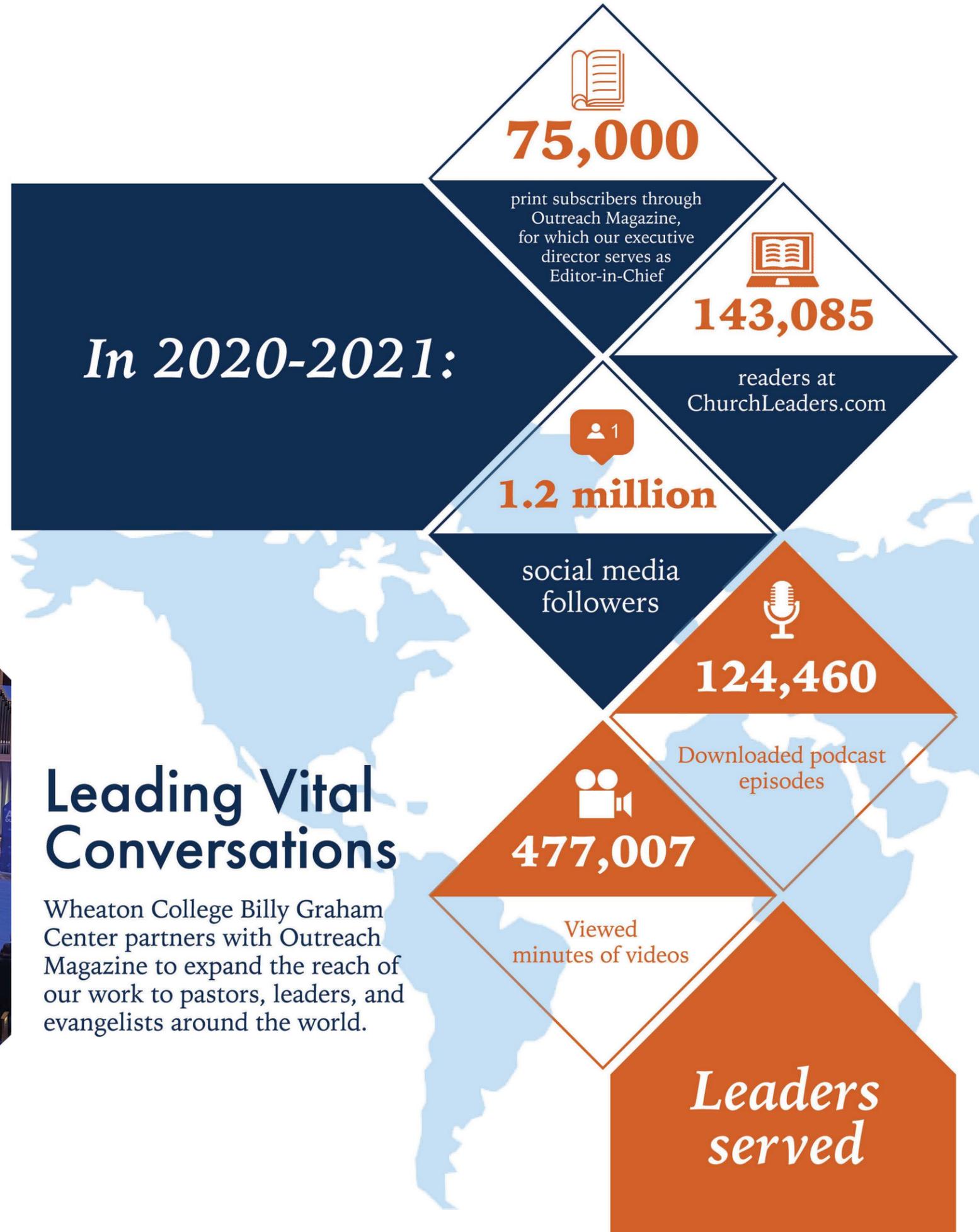

477,007

Viewed minutes of videos

Leaders served

Leading Vital Conversations

Wheaton College Billy Graham Center partners with Outreach Magazine to expand the reach of our work to pastors, leaders, and evangelists around the world.



Ways to Partner



PRAY

The work of evangelism is fraught with challenges and opportunities. Please pray for our ministry overall, our institutes, and the leaders we serve.



GIVE FINANCIALLY

Your faithful monthly or one-time gifts make a significant difference in our ministry.

Support a Specific Institute

You can designate your giving to a specific institute
or
the WCBGC General Fund

Online

Wheatonbillygraham.com/give

Mail checks to:

Wheaton College Billy Graham Center
501 College Avenue
Wheaton, IL 60187



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