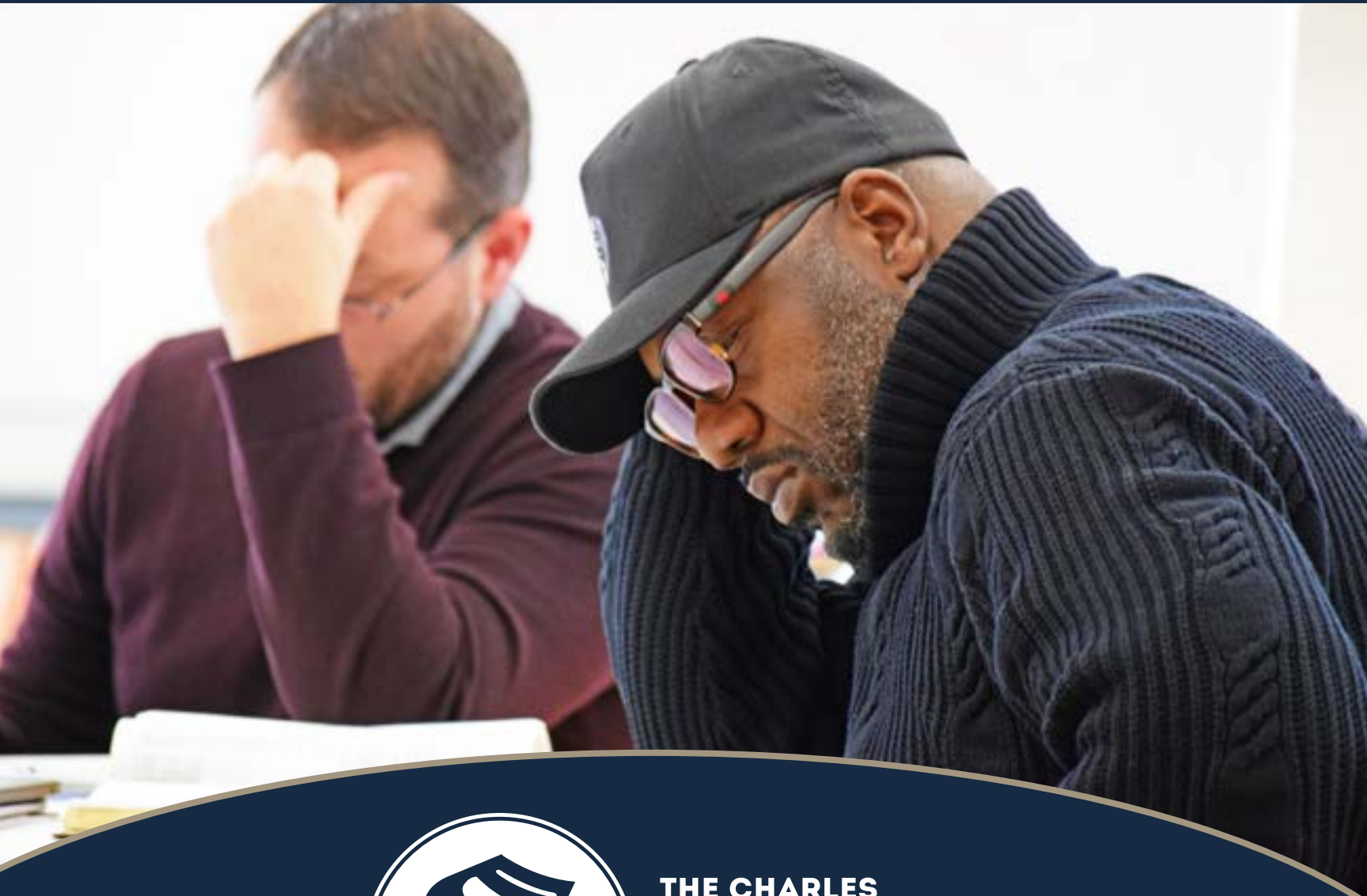


2019 ANNUAL REPORT



THE CHARLES
SIMEON
TRUST



Charles Simeon Trust © 2019
P.O. Box 15212
Chicago, IL 60615
www.simeontrust.org

Dear Friends,

The check was for \$10,000. “Seed money” was the way my dad put it. It came from a portion of the estate of Doris Lowe Helm, my grandma. At the time the check was given, the session of Holy Trinity Church had recently decided to create a free-standing organization intended to train an emerging generation of pastors. We wanted to help preachers better handle God’s Word. The new work even had a name. We were going to call it the Charles Simeon Trust. A charter document had been drawn up by Jon Dennis and me. The input of Kent Hughes and Dick Lucas had been given. And a founding board had been appointed.

And yet, before any were even able to give money to this new organization—our idea needed funding. Legal fees were required for our constitution and bylaws. Paperwork with governing authorities needed filing. And some small amount of cash on hand would be necessary. This is where my dad and my grandma came in. My dad, who liked our vision, knew that if his mother were still alive, she would want to get behind it. She loved God’s Word. She knew the value of going to a church committed to an expository ministry. Hailing from a small town in central Illinois, she had been a wife, mother, schoolteacher, small farm owner, faithful Christian, Sunday school teacher, lifelong Methodist, and frugal saver of funds (having lived through the Great Depression). Why do I share this story here? Because I want to encourage you with a recollection of where the Charles Simeon Trust began. With \$10,000 from her estate. One woman. Generous in outlook. Devoted to investing in works that might grow the gospel. “Seed money.” Sown to great eternal effect.

When we started, those 18 years ago, we were running one preaching workshop each year that helped 90 pastors. In the pages that follow, you will read about the thousands who are presently benefiting from our training—and beyond them are the hundreds of thousands of congregants who are being better taught each week. I am especially excited to have you learn about our latest initiative—the Chicago Course on Preaching. This seed has incredible potential for gospel growth in the coming years.

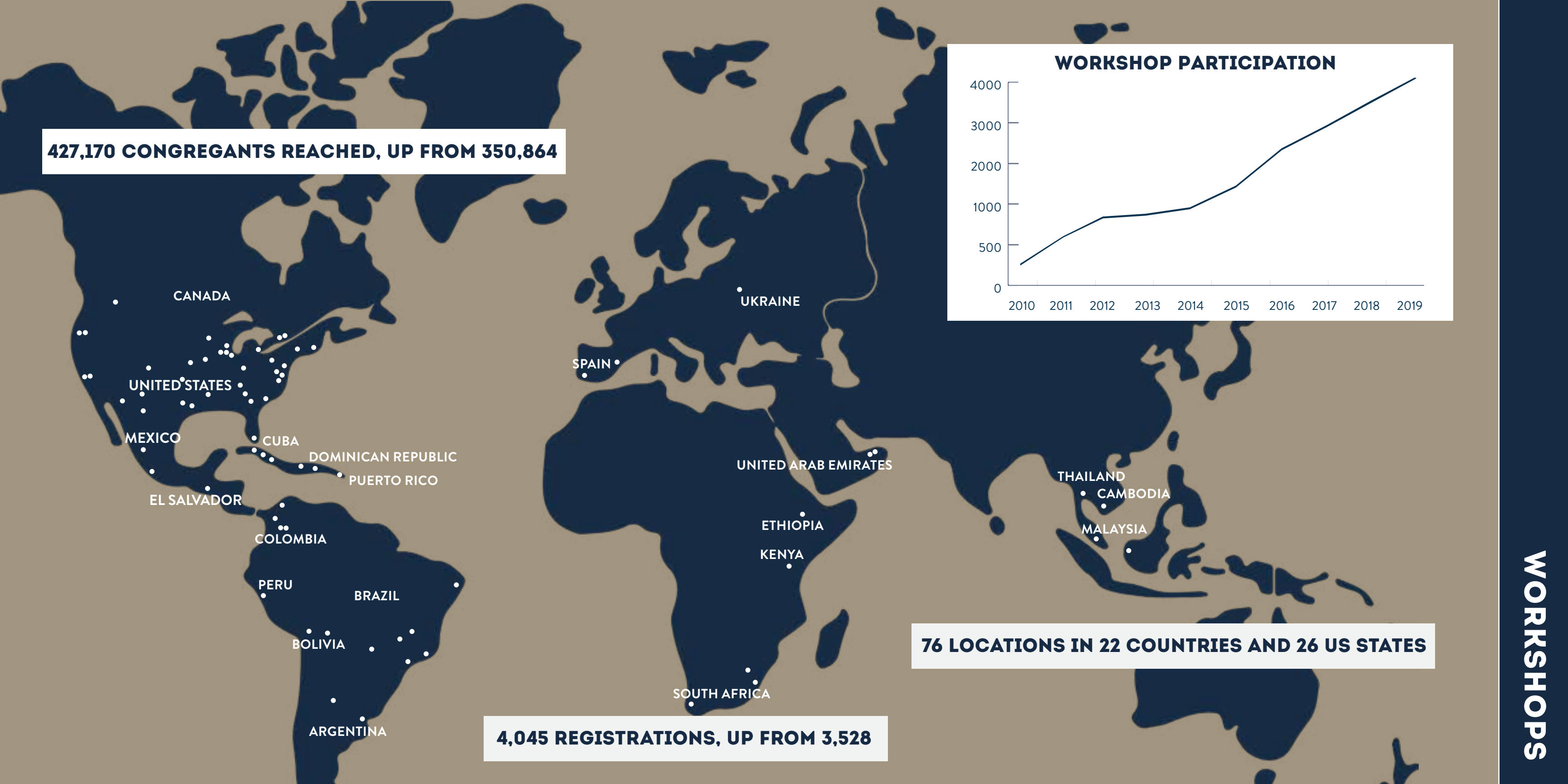
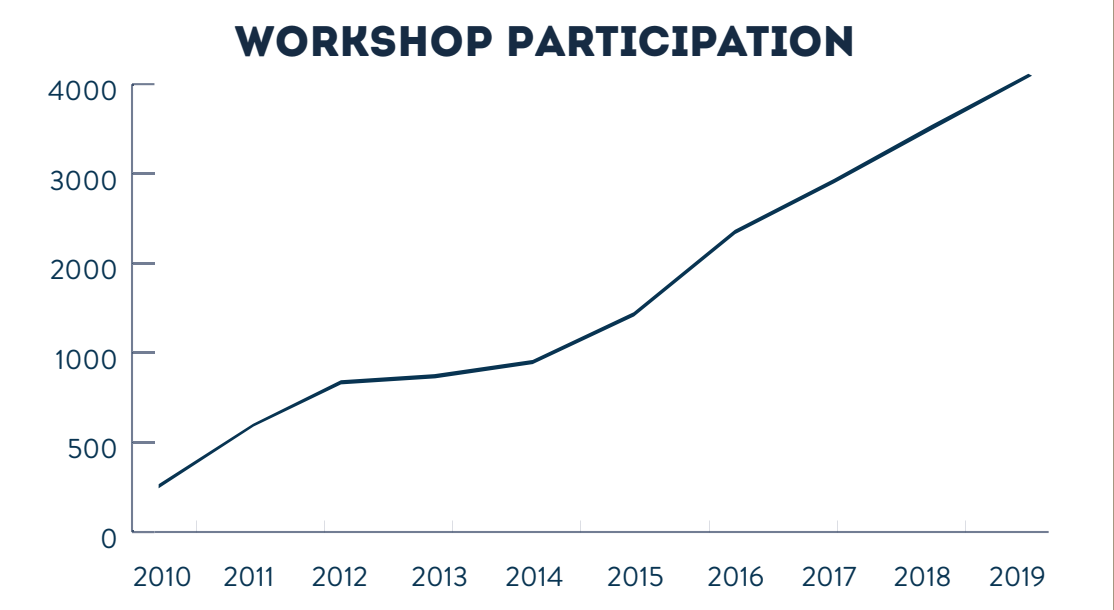
Enjoy reading about what God has done. And never underestimate the power of your own giving—oak trees come from small beginnings!

In Christ,



DAVID R. HELM
CHAIRMAN

427,170 CONGREGANTS REACHED, UP FROM 350,864



76 LOCATIONS IN 22 COUNTRIES AND 26 US STATES

4,045 REGISTRATIONS, UP FROM 3,528

WOMEN'S ARABIC SMALL GROUP

Increasingly, God is creating paths to run Workshops in places with large populations of unreached people. Many of these are carried out quietly for security reasons. But we can share about one strategic location: Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. With a population that is 85% expatriates, Dubai contains the world. More importantly, it is also easy to travel to from other Islamic nations that can be hard for Westerners to enter.

When 74 women gathered at a Women's Workshop in Dubai in April, 13 had come from Islamic countries where it is difficult to be a Christian. Sandy, from Daru Church in Lebanon, learned, "the importance of the faithful and correct study of the Bible and the importance of seeing Jesus in everything. Not making this about us but about him. This will lead us to bring out the gospel correctly to the people." In an Arabic small group, these women encouraged each other to stand strong in their gospel work.



PASSING THE BATON

Last summer, Stonebridge Church had a change of leadership. After 27 years of serving this church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Senior Pastor Randy Scheil retired. Randy is a man deeply committed to proclaiming God's Word. He has been involved with the Charles Simeon Trust for a decade, having hosted our first Iowa Workshop. "The Workshops transformed my ministry," said Randy. "When it came time to think about my replacement, it felt natural to look within the Trust's circles."

That led them to someone who has also been involved with the Trust for a decade. Brandon Levering helped us pilot our first Online Course while a student at Wheaton College. After he graduated and began pastoral ministry, he kept coming to Workshops. Today, he's an instructor. Brandon clearly shares Stonebridge's commitments to expository preaching. The conclusion was logical: Randy would pass the baton to Brandon.

It's encouraging to see the work come full circle. And we're further blessed by this: in his "retirement," Randy has joined the Trust's team as Associate Director of International Workshops for Brazil.



PASTORS ENCOURAGING PASTORS IN SPAIN

Julio Rosillo pastors a church in El Puerto de Santa Maria on the southern coast of Spain. In 2018 he attended his first Workshop in Sevilla. The experience completely changed his preaching. Afterwards, he began gathering other pastors from his region once a month to review the principles and tools he had learned. He encouraged his colleagues to come the following year. And they did. This year Julio arrived with a handful of pastors from his region. "The Charles Simeon Trust Workshops have impacted my life," Julio said, "They have truly revolutionized my ministry."

"My appetite and thirst for God's Word is always heightened as a result of these Workshops. Glory be to God!" – **James Proctor**, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Anderson, Indiana

"The training on how to prepare a message has been life-changing . . . of inestimable worth." – **Angie Thornton**, missionary in Montreal, Canada

"Very useful and practical. It helped me realize how many mistakes I was making as a preacher and gave me the tools and skills needed to begin fixing those mistakes." – **Jimmy Malla**, Pastor of Iglesia Evangélica Betel in San Fernando, Spain



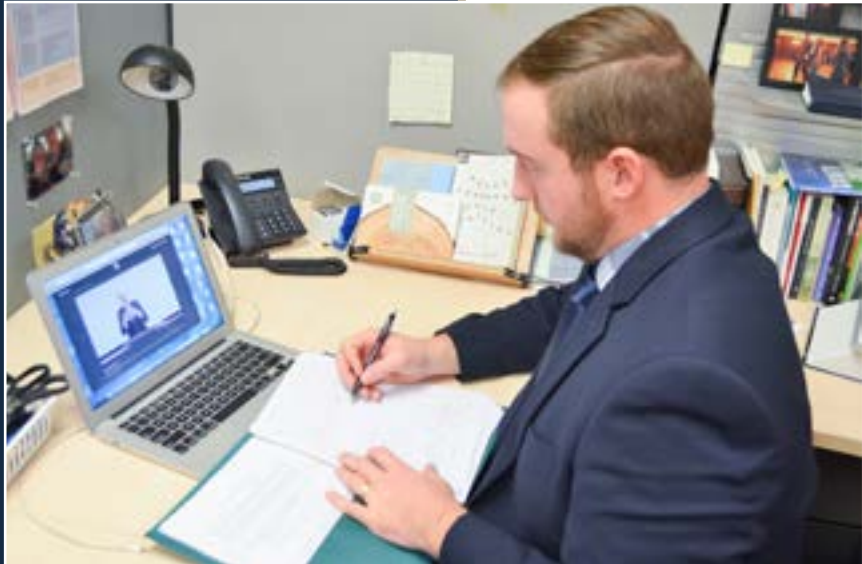
CHURCH USES ONLINE COURSES TO TRAIN

When Old North Church in Youngstown, Ohio decided to start a ministry apprenticeship at their church, they knew they wanted to emphasize Word ministry. The core of the preaching training would be the Charles Simeon Trust’s Online Courses. There was really no alternative examined. Old North Church hosts an annual Workshop, and Marty Sweeney, Pastor of Adult Ministries, said they “knew that there would be no better way to train them in principles of exposition and Word work.”

Two young men were selected and vetted: Connor Holloway and Kyle Kennicott. In their second week at Old North, they started First Principles. Each would work through the videos and prepare their textual work on their own, then come together with pastors to share and receive feedback. “While both of them had a good evangelical foundation in the faith,” said Marty, “neither of them had really ever worked a text in this way. As expected, they struggled in the first few months. In God’s kindness, they stuck with the work. Willing to be open about their struggles in getting under the skin of the passage, they made quite good progress.”

Connor and Kyle have been practicing their new-found expository skills working with the Youth Group. They’ve also moved on from First Principles, completing courses on Old Testament History, Gospels and Acts, and Wisdom Literature. In time, the church plans to introduce them to multiple areas of the church’s Word ministry.

Old North Church is one of many churches using our Online Courses as a tool in their training ministries. We’re grateful to see the courses being used as intended – to support the ministries of the church.

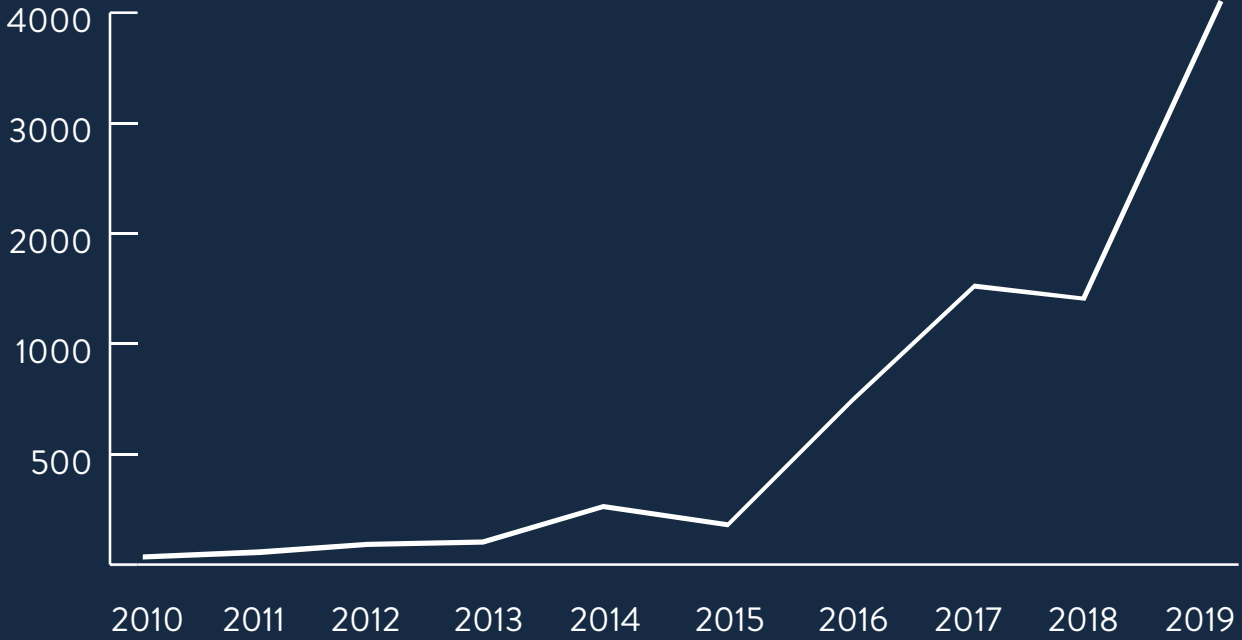


5,932 ACTIVE ONLINE COURSE STUDENTS IN 43 COUNTRIES

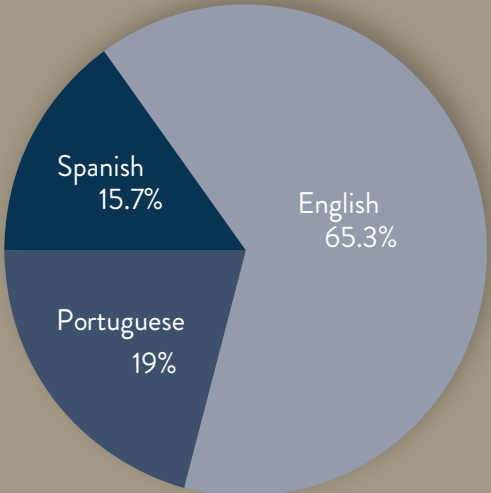
1,327 FREE ONLINE RESOURCES IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH

13 COURSES IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, PORTUGUESE

ONLINE COURSE PARTICIPANTS



Online Courses Breakdown



ONLINE COURSES

The faithful proclamation of God's Word requires faithful expositors. As our Workshops have multiplied around the world, we've asked: "What if we could both intensify and lengthen our training?" Our inaugural cohort of twelve students came together this fall to start something that could: **the Chicago Course on Preaching.**

WHAT IS THIS COURSE?

The *Chicago Course on Preaching* exists to provide the best training in exposition found in North America. What makes the Course unique is the residential, immersive, and singular focus on training in Bible handling and proclamation, guided by experienced expositors. Our goal is the preparation of men and women who teach the Bible faithfully and equip others to do the same.



WHAT HAPPENS?

Mornings are spent on instructions revolving around exposition. Afternoons are given to practicing what we are learning in small groups and helping each other hone our skills. Days off are spent engaged in local church ministry, as mentors help students apply what they're learning.

HOW WILL STUDENTS BENEFIT?

Each student will leave the Course with an excellent ability to read and understand the Bible, a large portfolio of sermon outlines and full sermons, practical preaching/teaching experience in a local church, a certificate of completion, and friendships with fellow students dedicated to exposition.



WHO SHOULD TAKE IT?

The Course is for people who are:

- Considering a call to ministry, and who desire to get practical experience reading and teaching the Bible before seminary or some other path of ministerial training.
- Sure of their call and have received theological training, but desire to get more practical experience in preaching and ministry in a local church.
- Already pastors, ministry leaders, women's ministry leaders, or other ministers who desire to grow in their ability to teach the Bible.
- International leaders who are pastors or educators and desire to teach God's word better, not just for themselves, but to train others in their local contexts.

People can join as full-time, half-time, or modular students.



WHO IS TEACHING?

The Course is directed by Jeremy Meeks and K. Edward Copeland. Other instructors include David R. Helm, R. Kent Hughes, Michael Lawrence, Mike Bullmore, Josh Moody, Romell Williams, Jr., Jon Dennis, Douglas S. O'Donnell, Colleen McFadden, Robert S. Kinney, Kevin C. Walker, and many others.

As God grows the work around the world, we are blessed by the small but growing group of people supporting the work financially. Thank you to those who have given. And if you have not yet, please prayerfully consider coming alongside the work through generosity.

Number of Donors: 140

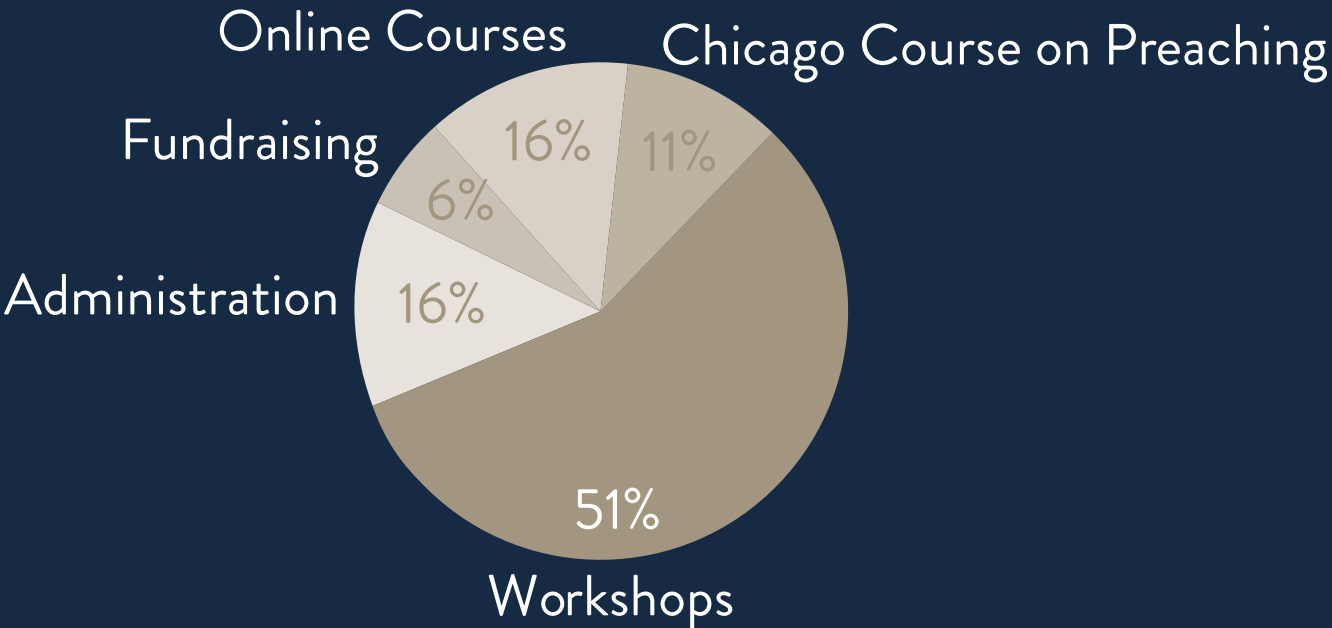
Donor Income: \$2,020,474

Other Income: \$305,402

Total Income: \$2,325,876

Total Expenses: \$921,347

FY19 Expense Categories



ONE WORLD CAMPAIGN UPDATE

When the One World: The Word at Work Campaign quietly began in the summer of 2017, it’s 6.5M fundraising goal seemed a mountain too high to climb. So we are thrilled to report that God has carried us up that mountain. By the end of October, \$6,502,662 had been committed by 188 donors. Praise God!

The funds have helped to grow every aspect of our ministry. We launched a new website, new resources, and new Online Courses in English, Portuguese, and Spanish. We launched the Chicago Course on Preaching. By August we will have grown the number of Workshops around the world by 31 percent. All this will result in more people in more places hearing clear biblical preaching.

WORKING CAMPAIGN BUDGET (OVER 3 YEARS)

2.4M	Annual Fund (Workshops, Online Courses, and operations)
3M	Creation and Sustainability (securing future work)
1.1M	Chicago Course on Preaching (residential training)
6.5M	Total Campaign Goal

We are praising God for his provision through the generosity of his people. Thank you for praying. Thank you for giving. Please continue to pray as committed funds will continue to be given over the coming months.



