



ANNUAL REPORT

2025



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A Word from Our Board Chairman



This year has not been an easy one. The continued war and its political and economic consequences have touched all of us in very real ways. There have been moments of uncertainty, pressure, and even exhaustion. Yet in the middle of it all, we made a decision, not to retreat, but to keep building.

With gratitude and steadfast faith, we launched a new Professional Diploma in Psychological (Trauma) Counseling, initiated the Middle East Graduate Theological Consortium (MEGTC) doctoral program, and celebrated the accreditation of our MA Program in Theology in the Public Square. These milestones were more than academic achievements; they were acts of hope. We continued equipping leaders through our programs and invested in our staff through retreats and training in Greece, believing that strong leaders build strong communities.

We hold on to the promise: *“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58).*

Thank you for standing with us. Even in difficult times, together, we are building for peace.

*Blessings,
Dr. Tanas Alqassis*

A Word from Our President

“The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever” (Isaiah 32:17)

As we walked through 2025, we did so amid the ongoing weight of war and its deep political and economic strain on our communities. For us, this was not distant news but a lived reality—affecting our faculty, staff, students’ families, our churches, and our daily ministries. In such a fragile environment, fear can easily paralyze vision. Yet this year, we made a deliberate choice: we would continue building. Building for Peace was not a slogan; it was an act of resistance rooted in faith.

While instability surrounded us, we launched a new Professional Trauma Counseling Diploma to meet emerging needs in our context. In partnership with two great institutions in the Middle East, we inaugurated the MEGTC doctoral program, strengthening advanced theological scholarship in the region. We also celebrated the government accreditation of our MA Program—an important milestone affirming academic excellence amid adversity.

Beyond programs, we invested in people. We continued empowering Christian leaders who serve in complex and divided societies. We strengthened our staff through retreats and advanced training in Greece, nurturing resilience, unity, and spiritual health.

We believe peace is cultivated through faithful presence, theological depth, and courageous leadership. As Scripture reminds us, *“Let us not grow weary of doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up” (Galatians 6:9).*

Even in a year marked by uncertainty, we did not retreat. We planted, we built, and we trusted that God is shaping peacemakers for this land and beyond.

Ad gloriam Iesu

Rev. Dr. Jack Y. Sara





Building for Peace

The year 2025 unfolded again in the long shadow of war. The devastation of Gaza, the deepening economic crisis of the West Bank, and the collective trauma carried by Palestinian communities formed the backdrop against which Bethlehem Bible College continued its work. In this context, “Building for Peace” was not an abstract theme—it became a daily commitment to faithful presence, truthful witness, and the patient rebuilding of lives, leadership, and hope.

Peace, as we understand it, is more than the absence of violence. It is the slow, faithful work of forming leaders who can speak with moral clarity, communities that can endure suffering without losing compassion, and institutions that remain rooted even when circumstances push relentlessly toward despair. Throughout 2025, Bethlehem Bible College sought to build this kind of peace through theological education, community engagement, humanitarian response, and global advocacy.

Across our academic programs, students continued their studies amid instability, movement restrictions, and economic uncertainty. Enrollment reached 164 students across on-campus and online programs, and a major milestone was achieved with the official accreditation of the MA in Theology in the Public Square by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. In February, we also marked an important leadership transition as Dr. Yousef AlKhouri was recognized as the College’s new Academic Dean. Under his leadership, the College continues to strengthen its academic depth and spiritual formation.

New initiatives reflected our commitment to long-term, contextual theological development. The Middle East Graduate Theological Consortium (MEGTC) saw the selection of the inaugural cohort of four doctoral students shaping research proposals designed to serve both the region and the global Church. Alongside this, the Professional Diploma in Psychological Counseling responded directly to the widespread trauma affecting families, churches, and institutions, equipping leaders to address deep emotional wounds with faith-informed care. Through all of our programs, courses in public theology, peace studies, pastoral care, and leadership equipped students not only to interpret Scripture but to engage courageously with the social and moral crises shaping Palestinian life today.



Peacebuilding also required strengthening our own community. In April, with the generous support of faithful donors, our staff, faculty, and Board of Trustees gathered in Athens for a long-awaited leadership and renewal retreat. Designed as both capacity-building and respite after years of war-related strain, the retreat created space for worship, learning, and honest conversation. In a season marked by exhaustion, it was a tangible investment in the people who carry this mission forward.

Even as we invested in information and leadership, we also strengthened the College's practical sustainability. Through the persistence of a generous advocate and the support of environmentally conscious partners, additional solar panels were installed on campus, now powering three of our four buildings and reducing annual energy costs by up to 43%. In a context of instability and rising expenses, this step represents both stewardship and resilience.

At the heart of our academic witness, the launch of the first bilingual Journal of Palestinian Christianity embodied our conviction that theology must speak from within lived reality. In a time when narratives are contested and voices are silenced, this journal stands as an act of intellectual and spiritual resistance, preserving Palestinian Christian thought and inviting the global church into deeper, more honest engagement. Alongside it, the Palestinian Christian Library expanded access to decades of Arabic theological scholarship, ensuring that students and scholars are no longer dependent solely on Western sources to articulate their faith and identity.

Peacebuilding also took tangible form through service. Through the Shepherd Society, Bethlehem Bible College remained present in some of the most painful spaces of 2025. In Gaza, emergency food relief, educational support for displaced children, medical assistance, and prosthetic care for wounded children became lifelines amid ongoing blockades and scarcity. In the West Bank, along with food distribution and medical assistance, job creation programs restored dignity and income to families facing severe unemployment. These efforts did not end suffering—but they bore witness to a love that refuses to look away.

Beyond Palestine, the College continued to raise a prophetic voice. Conferences such as Church at the Crossroads gathered Christians from around the world to confront the realities of Gaza and the West Bank, challenging the global church to respond with courage, nonviolence, and fidelity to the Gospel. Faculty, staff, and graduates carried this witness into churches, universities, and public forums across multiple continents, insisting that peace grounded in justice remains central to Christian faith.

As we look back on 2025, we do so with sorrow—but also with resolve. Building for peace is slow, costly, and often unseen work. Yet it is precisely this work that sustains hope. We remain committed to forming leaders, serving communities, and telling the truth—believing that even in the ruins, God continues to build something lasting.



Academic Programs

Bethlehem Bible College's 2025 academic year was marked by growth, innovation, and a renewed commitment to contextual theological education. BethBC launched the Professional Diploma in Psychological (Trauma) Counseling with 23 students, while 7 new BA and 5 new MA students joined other programs, bringing total enrollment to 164 students across campus and online. The MA program received official accreditation from the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education, now offering three minors: Public Theology, Peace Studies, and Christian Leadership.

In June 2025, BethBC published the first bilingual Journal of Palestinian Christianity in English and Arabic, available in both print and digital formats. Academic development included new courses in Christian Education, mandatory English instruction, and an online Pastoral Counseling course. Continued collaboration with Nazareth Evangelical College enriched the MA program through joint teaching and resource sharing.

In February, we celebrated the recognition of Dr. Yousef AlKhouri as the new Academic Dean, succeeding Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac. This transition marks an important moment in the college's history, as we look ahead to a new chapter under Dr. AlKhouri's leadership. Stepping into this esteemed role, he expressed his gratitude and respect for the leaders who have gone before him. "I stand on the foundation laid by visionary leaders with great hearts to serve God and His people."



Rev. Dr. Jack Sara spoke with enthusiasm about the appointment: "I am filled with joy in appointing Dr. Yousef as the new Academic Dean of Bethlehem Bible College. His deep commitment to theological education, passion for equipping future leaders, and strong academic background make him the right person for this role. I am confident that under his leadership, the college will continue to thrive as a center of biblical learning and spiritual formation."

Faculty growth included the appointment of Alaa Qasasfa as a Vice Academic Dean, alongside active participation in AI and theological education initiatives. Student engagement expanded through church and school recruitment, retreats, and community activities. Looking ahead, BethBC seeks to address challenges in student housing and publication funding while advancing digital integration and international partnerships.

Student Body

The 2025 academic year saw a total enrollment of 164 students across all academic programs, including on-campus and online learners. This included the welcoming of 7 new BA students and 5 new MA students, alongside strong participation in diploma and certificate programs. Students represented a growing and engaged learning community, supported through academic advising, spiritual activities, and community engagement initiatives.





Academic Expansion

A key milestone in 2025 was the launch of the Professional Diploma in Psychological (Trauma) Counseling, which enrolled 23 students in its first cohort. This program responded to an urgent need for faith-based counseling skills in local communities. In parallel, the Academic Department expanded its curriculum by introducing new courses in Christian Education and Educational Methods, making English instruction mandatory each semester, and offering an online Pastoral Counseling course through Moodle to enhance flexibility and reach.

2025 also saw the first steps of the Middle East Graduate Theological Consortium (MEGTC), a strategic partnership with the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary (Beirut), the Evangelical Theological Seminary of Cairo, and the Protestant Theological University (Amsterdam). The Consortium was created to offer a doctoral program in theology grounded in a Middle Eastern context. One of the aims of the program is to increase the production of in-context theological resources for the region and to serve as a voice to the global Church.

This year, leadership screened and selected the first cohort of four students - from the Middle East and beyond - into the program. Three of these students have prepared their proposals and will present them to scholars from BethBC, ABTS, and ETSC in January.

MA in Theology in the Public Square



The Master's Program in Theology in the Public Square at Bethlehem Bible College experienced a year of consolidation, academic strengthening, and important institutional milestones in 2025, even amid continued political and economic instability in the region.

A major highlight of the year was the program's official accreditation by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. This milestone affirms the academic quality and long-term sustainability of the degree and strengthens its credibility locally and regionally. Accreditation also positions the program to serve future cohorts more effectively as it continues preparing Christian leaders for engagement in church, society, and the public sphere.

In 2025, a total of 13 students were enrolled, and student commitment and participation remained strong. All MA courses are now offered fully online, allowing students to continue their studies despite movement restrictions and other regional constraints. Courses deepened students' engagement with local theology, church history, and contemporary social realities. Building on this foundation, the program now offers three focused minors—Public Theology, Peace Studies, and Christian Leadership—adding clarity, relevance, and depth to students' academic pathways.

Continued collaboration with Nazareth Evangelical College enriched the program through shared teaching, joint academic input, and faculty exchange. This partnership strengthened course quality and fostered regional academic cooperation.

Throughout the year, students demonstrated meaningful academic, personal, and spiritual growth. They developed stronger critical thinking, research, and writing skills while gaining practical tools to engage thoughtfully with church and community challenges. Several students published articles addressing social and theological issues for online magazines, and many remained actively involved in local churches and Christian organizations, integrating their studies directly into ongoing ministry.



Despite the challenges, students continue to articulate a clear sense of calling to remain rooted in Bethlehem and serve as steady, informed leaders within their communities. Their resilience and commitment highlight the growing importance of this program in sustaining a thoughtful and engaged Christian presence in Palestine.

BA in Biblical Studies

The BA in Biblical Studies program continued to attract new students in 2025, with seven students joining during the academic year. The program remained committed to rigorous biblical and theological training while also benefiting from broader curriculum development across the College. These efforts included strengthened English instruction and the introduction of new educational methodologies aimed at better equipping students for academic study and ministry. Recruitment visits to local churches and schools played an important role in generating interest in the program and supporting future applications.

Alongside academic formation, the Student Affairs Department focused on strengthening students' holistic development by encouraging academic responsibility, spiritual growth, and active community engagement. Key achievements during the year included the development and updating of several academic courses, expanded community service initiatives—





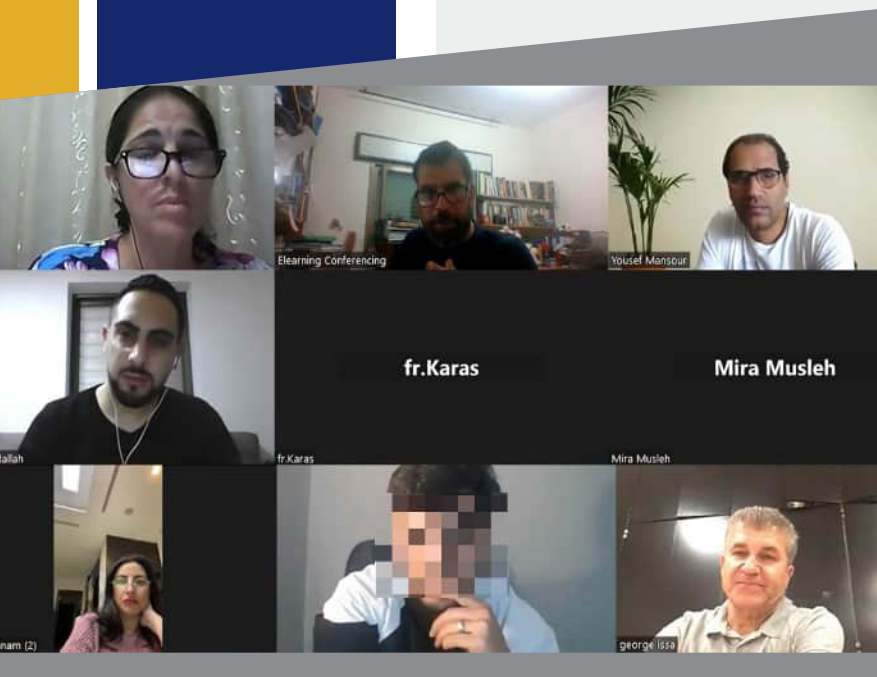
such as visits to elderly homes and participation in national awareness days—and increased opportunities for students to take on leadership roles in spiritual and educational activities. Students were also given practical opportunities to serve by assisting with conferences and engaging meaningfully with the local community, fostering responsibility, compassion, and a deeper commitment to Christian service. In parallel, the College continued to build relationships with schools, organize campus visits, and promote the BA program among prospective students.

One clear expression of this student engagement was seen in a weekly outreach initiative led entirely by BA students. Throughout the academic year, college students planned and facilitated Friday encounters with high school youth (grades 9–11) who visited the campus for spiritual gatherings. Through these regular meetings, students practiced leadership, shared their faith, and served their community in tangible ways. This experience not only provided younger students with a meaningful space for spiritual growth but also strengthened our students' sense of calling, responsibility, and commitment to ministry and service.

Online Biblical Studies Program

In 2025, the online theology programs at Bethlehem Bible College continued to grow in both reach and impact, serving students across a wide range of cultural, geographic, and often difficult contexts. The program remained focused on expanding access to solid theological education while responding realistically to the challenges students face due to conflict, instability, and displacement.

This year, approximately 55 students were actively studying in the online programs. Others remained enrolled but temporarily inactive due to personal or contextual pressures. Sixteen new students joined the program in 2025, reflecting continued growth in diversity and reach. By Spring 2025, seven students completed their studies. All graduates remain connected through ongoing mentoring, prayer, and regular communication, primarily through online platforms.



Several important academic developments took place during the year. Program information on the website was fully updated, including the program vision, curriculum plans, faculty details, and application procedures. Work also began on new promotional videos. One notable success was the introduction of a seven-week intensive summer model, which allowed students living in unstable situations to complete courses more effectively without compromising academic standards. In addition, the BA program expanded from 110 to 120 credit hours, supported by the development of new elective courses.

Student feedback throughout the year remained consistently positive. Students expressed appreciation for the academic depth of the courses, as well as the pastoral and relational approach of the faculty. Graduates are already applying what they have learned in tangible ways—teaching in churches, leading Bible studies, mentoring others, and encouraging new students to join the program. Several recent graduates continue to be mentored closely, and some have been invited to serve as teaching assistants, strengthening the program from within. Spiritually, many students describe the program as more than an academic experience. It has become a place of formation, resilience, and hope, helping them integrate theology with lived faith during times of trauma and uncertainty. Through mentoring, prayer groups, and shared learning, the program continues to function as a transnational Christian community marked by mutual care and commitment.

While challenges remain—particularly limited internet access, faculty workload pressures, and the continued impact of the war in Gaza—the program enters the coming year with renewed clarity, strengthened structures, and a growing emphasis on mentoring as a long-term strategy of care and formation.

Peace Studies

The Bethlehem Institute of Peace and Justice (BIPJ) was very active in 2025, with students from a wide range of countries, including Australia, Tanzania, Hong Kong, the UK, the United States, and Canada.

In our Spring course, Introduction to Peacemaking and Justice in the Palestinian Context 2, 32 students participated. Our Summer Intensive is a residential program that immerses students in the local context of Palestine. In May 2025, 15 participants enrolled despite the unsettled Palestinian



context. 30 students took our Fall course, Peacemaking and Justice in the Palestinian Context 1. Anne Plested and Molly Batchelder assisted Rev. Dr. Andrew Bush in leading the courses.

One student wrote:

"The BIPJ courses have really changed the direction of my life. The ongoing dialogue in the course has been very helpful to me in maintaining mindfulness as a peacemaker. Also, the support provided to us by our instructors and fellow students as we grappled with genocide and how to respond in our own communities has been enormously helpful."

Another student says:

"Wow, what an incredible class. Every part of it was truly outstanding! The information was so relevant throughout, but ending by centering it all on Jesus lit up my soul."

Besides leading the courses, Dr. Bush delivered a lecture titled 'Reclaiming Radical Witness through Prophetic Anabaptist Missiology' in Amsterdam. This paper is being published in a new book in Europe.





Tour Guide Diploma Program

The Tour Guide program has recently focused on enhancing student quality by fostering a high academic standard. Over this period, students have completed intensive courses in archaeology, biblical studies, and history to strengthen their knowledge base. They have also engaged in practical training, including courses in ethics, guiding techniques, and fieldwork—despite challenging circumstances. Additional components included external lectures by field experts, a first aid course, theatre training, and a coordinated field visit—organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism—to a newly discovered site east of Bethlehem.

The current cohort comprises 13 students who are now in their final year and expected to graduate in 2026. In addition to proficiency in English, several students also possess knowledge of other languages such as Italian, German, Norwegian, and Greek.

The program remains committed to supporting its graduates, particularly in light of the recent announcement of the national guiding exam by the Ministry of Tourism. In this regard, the program coordinator has organized a series of Zoom meetings to assist alumni with their studies and exam preparation.

Conferences

Church at the Crossroads Conference – September 2025



In September 2025, just outside Chicago, more than 800 people—both in person and online—gathered for the Church at the Crossroads Conference, sponsored by the Bethlehem Institute of Peace and Justice. This was not simply another Christian conference. It was a moment of collective reckoning, as the global church confronted the realities facing Gaza and the West Bank and asked, with honesty and urgency, what faithfulness requires now.

Participants came from across the global and theological spectrum—Palestinians, Black Americans, Caucasians, Latine, First Nations, and Asian Christians; Evangelicals, mainline Protestants, Catholics, and Orthodox. Through these diverse voices, a shared conviction emerged: the gospel calls the church to see clearly, to care deeply, and to act courageously. This gathering was not about sentimentality or silence, but about responsibility.

The conference opened with a challenge to recover the church's prophetic voice. Speakers emphasized that Christian faith cannot be separated from justice, dignity, and love of neighbor. One speaker described the goal of the conference as "to educate, agitate, and organize," underscoring that this was not a passive experience, but a moment of commissioning.

Biblical reflection played a central role. Through the story of Naboth's Vineyard (1 Kings 21), speakers explored how systems of power continue to dispossess and dehumanize, and challenged participants to recognize both overt injustice and quiet complicity in today's world. Again and again, the call was clear: faithfulness requires discernment, courage, and action.

Solidarity with Palestinian Christians was woven throughout the conference. Speakers reminded participants that while suffering cannot always be stopped, it must never be ignored or faced alone. One evening was set aside to celebrate Palestinian culture through music, dabke, and shared food. There were tears and grief, but also laughter and hope—reminders of resilience, dignity, and life.

Across every session, a shared commitment emerged: to nonviolence, to human dignity, and to following Jesus in the pursuit of justice and peace. The conference concluded with a global declaration responding to the call of Palestinian Christians, now being shared worldwide.

The Church at the Crossroads Conference was challenging, hopeful, and deeply unsettling in the best sense. It affirmed that the church still has a voice—and that this moment demands it be used with clarity, courage, and faith.



Staff Capacity Building Retreat to Greece

With the generous support of several faithful donors, we were able to take 37 members of our staff, faculty, and Board of Trustees to Athens, Greece in April for a long-awaited capacity-building and recreation retreat. Designed as both leadership development and much-needed respite after years of war-related stress and daily pressures under occupation, the retreat was a resounding success. For some, it was their first time ever leaving the country. Board members, Senior Leadership Team, faculty, and staff shared meals, worshiped, learned, and explored together, breaking barriers and strengthening relationships across every level of the College. Through interactive sessions addressing psychological needs, communication, and emotional resilience, participants were reminded that “outcomes = events + our response,” underscoring the power of intentional, Christ-centered leadership. The time away not only refreshed minds and hearts but also deepened unity, gratitude, and hope for the work ahead.



The group took time to visit some of the iconic sites in Greece – the ancient city of Corinth, the Acropolis and Parthenon, and other sites around Athens. The hotel was located on the sea, which was a treat for the staff who are normally landlocked in Bethlehm. This helped alleviate the stress they experience daily due to the challenging situation in Palestine. Relationships were strengthened among the staff, faculty, and Board members, fostering a united team dedicated to serving God through our college.

“We really enjoyed the special trip with everyone, and our biggest thanks to the college and the administration, who honored us and did more than we expected, honestly. Thank you from the heart to everyone who worked hard. We love you all.”

Community Outreach & Development

Community Training

This year, we continued our mission of empowering both local and international communities through meaningful education. We offered a range of short and intensive courses designed to broaden understanding, encourage cultural exchange, and deepen biblical insight.

Language learning remained a cornerstone of our programming. English and Hebrew courses equipped local participants with practical skills for academic, professional, and cross-cultural communication. At the same time, we welcomed international students and missionaries into our Arabic language classes, opening doors for deeper connection with local communities and meaningful service within Arabic-speaking environments.

Our UCMAS after-school program for children, designed to maximize their mental capacities, witnessed remarkable development across all levels, with a clear and significant increase in the number of participants. This reflects the growing interest in the program and the trust the community places in it. The outstanding results achieved in the international competition held in Georgia also played a key role in strengthening the program's reputation, as high global standards were reached, demonstrating the competence of the participating students and the efforts made throughout the year. Our participating students achieved notable accomplishments - three students in various levels won Champion titles, and another won First Place.

In addition to language instruction, we introduced unique thematic courses rooted in biblical history. These sessions—covering topics such as Animals of the Bible, Plants of the Bible, and Food of the Bible—offered participants a fresh and engaging perspective on Scripture. Taught by one of



our passionate and knowledgeable faculty members, these courses brought ancient texts to life, connecting faith with the land, heritage, and daily life of biblical times.

This summer, we launched a new initiative designed to empower the next generation with knowledge, purpose, and pride in their heritage. Young Guides of Tomorrow: Explore & Lead was created in response to a growing need among adolescents to strengthen both their spiritual foundation and their understanding of their homeland—especially the rich history and legacy of Bethlehem.

Throughout the camp, participants embarked on a journey that combined learning, discovery, and personal growth. Each morning began with heartfelt devotions that encouraged reflection and fostered a deeper relationship with God. These moments of spiritual grounding set the tone for the day, preparing campers for a meaningful blend of education and adventure.

Historical sessions were conducted for campers to introduce the geography, history, and cultural significance of Bethlehem. They explored ancient landmarks and hidden local treasures—transforming familiar surroundings into living lessons of identity and heritage.

Active learning was at the heart of the program. Following each classroom session, campers had the opportunity to immediately apply what they had learned through guided tours and hands-on workshops. These experiences opened space for thoughtful

discussion, teamwork, and leadership development.

Young Guides of Tomorrow not only equipped young people with knowledge but also inspired them to take pride in their roots, share their stories, and lead with purpose. Through faith, exploration, and fellowship, these young participants began a journey toward becoming confident storytellers of both the Bible and their beloved Bethlehem.





Shepherd Society

The Shepherd Society, the humanitarian outreach arm of Bethlehem Bible College, continued its mission throughout 2025 to extend practical love and compassionate care to marginalized and low-income Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. In a year marked by unprecedented violence and instability, the Shepherd Society remained a steady presence—an anchor of hope for both Christian and Muslim communities facing profound loss and uncertainty.

In Gaza, the humanitarian situation remains catastrophic. Despite the October ceasefire declaration, border crossings have remained heavily restricted, leaving aid in critically short supply. Families seeking refuge, including those sheltering at St. Porphyrios Orthodox Church and the Holy Family Latin Church, have endured prolonged shortages of food, medicine, and basic necessities. During November and December alone, we delivered more than 1,000 food parcels and provided 600 hot meals. Preparing hot meals has been especially difficult due to the soaring cost of gas, now reaching approximately \$1,500 per container. We were encouraged when a local vendor donated a tank of gas to St. Porphyrios Church, enabling continued meal preparation for displaced families.

Alongside emergency food relief, we continued an educational support program for 70 children living in and around the church shelters. Many of these children have been without formal schooling for nearly three years. The program offers tutoring in Arabic, English, and Mathematics, along with basic psychosocial support to help restore routine and stability. Beginning in early 2026, we plan to formally integrate trauma counseling to address the deep emotional wounds these children carry. We also continue to support a small medical clinic in the courtyard of the Orthodox Church, where a doctor sees patients regularly despite the severe shortage of medicines.

In the West Bank, the economic crisis has deepened sharply. Bethlehem's tourism-based economy is in poor shape, unemployment has surpassed 45%, and movement restrictions continue to limit access to work. Through our Job Creation Program, the Shepherd Society has now served more than 400 families. In 2025, we supported a new group of more than 100 breadwinners and graduates through subsidized employment, helping restore dignity, purpose, and hope amid widespread joblessness. During the Christmas season, we also distributed 600 food packages to families facing chronic unemployment and daily violence. Also, we had launched the Home Food Kitchen for Seniors, the Sick, and Children with Disabilities, a humanitarian and faith-based initiative providing three nutritious homes-delivered meals per week to 107 of the most marginalized beneficiaries in Beit Sahour, Bethlehem, and Beit Jala. Beyond food, the project restores dignity, human connection, and hope by combining meal delivery with regular home visits and pastoral care.

Medical assistance has become increasingly urgent. Requests for aid have tripled, and in 2025 we assisted over 1000 direct beneficiaries with essential medications, medical supplies, and life-saving surgeries. Our year-end outreach included a partnership with the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation to provide 3D-printed prosthetic limbs to children in Gaza who have lost limbs due to the war. We were blessed to raise funds, enabling prosthetic devices for 200 children, along with rehabilitation and trauma counseling for them and their families.

As part of our commitment to strengthening the Christian presence and supporting local faith-based initiatives, we provided financial assistance during the Christmas season to 22 Christian organizations. This support enabled them to organize community activities, youth programs, and outreach events that fostered social cohesion, spiritual engagement, and community resilience during a significant time of the year.

As we reflect on 2025, the Shepherd Society remains committed to being a living expression of Christ's love and compassion. We are deeply grateful for the prayers and partnership of the global community as we continue to bring healing, dignity, and hope in these dark times.





New Vision Media Center

The New Vision Media Center ([NVMC -https://newvisionmc.org/](https://newvisionmc.org/)) is more than just a production studio—it's the storytelling heart of Bethlehem Bible College. From behind the cameras and editing screens, a small but dedicated team works to capture the life, vision, and voice of the College in ways that connect both locally and around the world.

Through professional video production, NVMC shares the stories that matter—introducing academic programs, celebrating milestones, and inviting people into upcoming events. Monthly media content keeps students, alumni, partners, and friends engaged, helping the wider community stay connected to what God is doing through the College.

The Center also records and livestreams spiritual meditations (<https://bethbc.edu/bible-live-videos/>), allowing people to participate even when movement restrictions or distance make it impossible to be physically present. For our growing online Biblical Studies and Theology programs, NVMC produces high-quality educational videos that support students learning from across the region and beyond. Faculty members regularly collaborate with the team to create media that strengthens teaching, research, and public engagement.

But NVMC's work doesn't stop at the campus. The Center has increasingly become a platform for advocacy—using storytelling, interviews, and digital campaigns to promote peace, justice, and human dignity. By partnering with local civil society organizations, NVMC helps amplify voices that are often unheard and encourages awareness and thoughtful dialogue. Investing in the next generation is also central to the Center's mission. Through media training courses, young professionals gain hands-on skills in production, editing, and communication—tools that open doors to employment while strengthening responsible public discourse.

This year, NVMC also launched a series of 15 short podcasts—each just 60 to 90 seconds long—focusing on women's rights and civil liberties. Brief but powerful, these digital pieces sparked meaningful conversations and expanded the College's reach across social media platforms.

<https://www.instagram.com/newvisionmc/>.

At its core, NVMC exists to tell stories of faith, resilience, and hope—ensuring that the message of peace continues to be heard, even in challenging times.





“A Pot in His Hand” Women’s Ministry

This year, A Pot in His Hand continued to strengthen women in the Bethlehem area through intentional formation, practical support, and sustained community engagement. Building on previous growth, the focus in 2025 was not simply expansion, but depth—creating consistent spaces where women could grow emotionally, relationally, and spiritually.

Four large gatherings were held during the year, each welcoming an average of 45 participants. These events were complemented by smaller group meetings, team-building activities, mental health seminars, a dedicated trauma support group, and ongoing one-on-one counseling sessions. Together, these initiatives provided structured, safe environments where women could address personal challenges, strengthen relationships, and develop greater self-awareness and confidence.

The ministry’s integration of mental health care and spiritual formation remains central to its effectiveness. Rather than treating emotional and spiritual needs separately, the program intentionally weaves them together, helping participants develop resilience, clarity of values, and practical tools for daily life. This holistic approach continues to foster long-term transformation rather than short-term inspiration.

Digital engagement also played an important role. Over 55 new teaching videos were produced by the Women's Ministry Coordinator, Dr. Madleine Sara, and shared across social media platforms, offering accessible, biblically grounded guidance on topics related to emotional well-being and relationships. Younger team members expanded outreach through short-form reels, while interactive polls and stories encouraged active participation and dialogue. These online platforms have become an extension of the ministry's in-person work, broadening access and strengthening ongoing connection.

More than attendance numbers or content production, this year was marked by sustained engagement. Women are not only participating—they are taking initiative, strengthening their churches and communities, and growing in confidence and responsibility. Through steady, intentional investment, A Pot in His Hand continues to shape women who understand their value, embrace their faith, and contribute meaningfully to the lives around them.



Income-Generating Programs

Bethlehem Bible College Guesthouse

As 2025 comes to an end, we reflect on a year marked by both hardship and perseverance. The ongoing conflicts in Gaza and the region deeply affected travel to Bethlehem, resulting in reduced occupancy and limited activity at the Guest House. Yet, throughout these challenges, our commitment to offering warmth, rest, and Christian hospitality remained strong.

Despite the decline in international visitors, we continued to host individual travelers and local groups who used our facilities for retreats and gatherings. Their presence reminded us that our mission is not measured by numbers, but by the spirit of welcome we extend to every guest.

Our small but dedicated team worked faithfully to maintain high service standards while managing limited resources. This year, we focused on essential upkeep and made modest improvements, adding new artwork and enhancing the meeting room. Staff also received training to strengthen service quality and guest care.

Financial constraints required careful budgeting, so major purchases were postponed. However, we look ahead to 2026 with renewed determination, believing it will be the year we complete the furnishing and full preparation of the Guest House. Planned upgrades include mini-fridges and side lamps in all rooms, new artwork and wall décor, center tables/ coffee tables in the lobby, a new kitchenette refrigerator, TV channel subscriptions, and floor runners for the rooms. These improvements will allow us to confidently invite travel agencies to visit, helping us attract more guests and present a welcoming, competitive environment with other local accommodations. You can view our Guest House here: <https://bethbc.edu/guest-house/>. It will be our pleasure to host you and your group!





Star Bazaar Gift Shop

This year marked an important season of renewal for the Star Bazaar. While small in size, the shop plays a meaningful role in welcoming visitors, serving supporters, and generating income that supports the mission of Bethlehem Bible College.

One of our first priorities was to refresh the shop's presentation. The entire display area was cleaned, reorganized, and thoughtfully categorized to improve visibility and accessibility. High-priority items are now easier to find, and the overall atmosphere is brighter and more inviting. These practical improvements have made the shopping experience smoother and more enjoyable for customers.

We also focused intentionally on two key retail seasons: Easter and Christmas. For the Christmas campaign, we introduced a fresh marketing approach. Through the Shepherd Society's jobs project, we welcomed an intern whose specialization is marketing. She developed a clear marketing plan, designed promotional photos and videos, and helped implement the campaign. Shortly after launching, we began receiving email inquiries about products—an encouraging sign that the campaign was reaching a wider audience.

Social media has become an important tool in this growth. We reactivated the shop's Facebook page, launched a new Instagram account, and began posting regular reels, with shares from the College's main page. This effort brought new customers, including some placing larger orders alongside our regular sales.

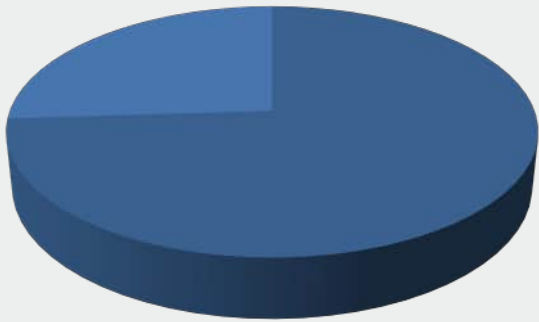
At the same time, we began introducing new, high-quality items that reflect current trends while maintaining the charm our customers value. Older, less popular inventory is gradually being retired, supported by updated promotional strategies.

This year's renewal has strengthened Star Bazaar's identity and laid a solid foundation for continued growth, creativity, and sustainability. You can view the Star Bazaar at our website here:

<https://starbazaar.bethbc.edu/>

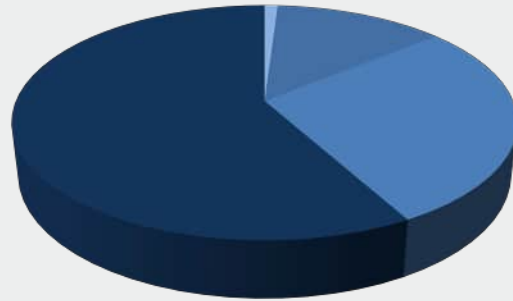
2025 Financial Overview

Source of Funds



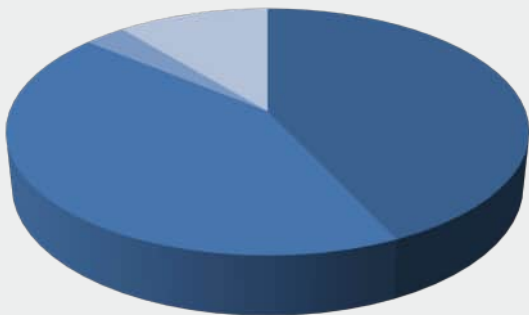
■ Revenues from Activities	(28%)
■ Contribution	(72%)

Contribution by Type



■ Businesses	(1%)
■ Churches	(10%)
■ Individuals	(29%)
■ Foundations	(60%)

Functional Expenses



■ Admin & General Expenses	(48%)
■ Program Expenses	(41%)
■ Cost of Goods Sold	(1%)
■ Depreciation	(9%)

\$1,971,972
Total Expenses

\$2,927,398
Total Income

Summary Financial Statement

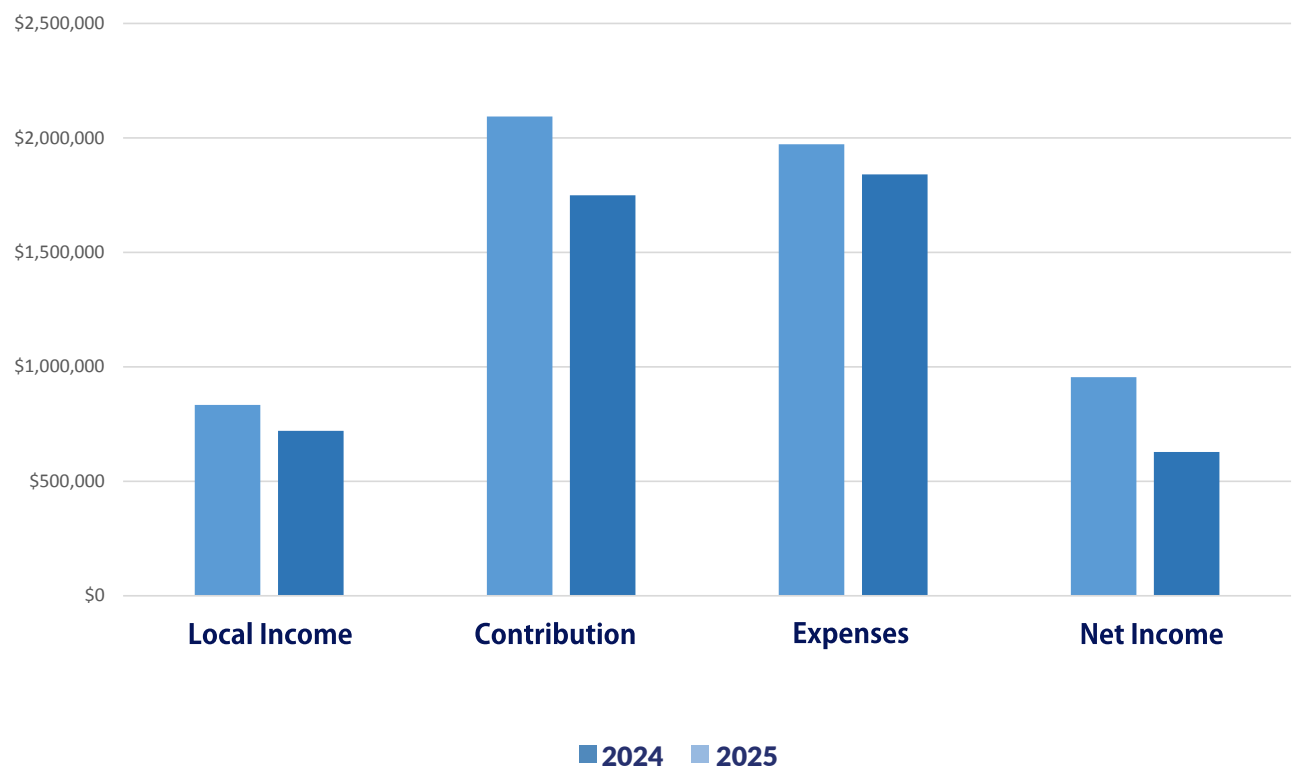
Statement of Financial Position 2025

Assets	\$ 8,168,393
Liabilities	1,924,672
Net Assets	6,243,721
<hr/>	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 8,168,393

Statement of Activities 2025

Income	\$ 2,927,398
Expense	1,971,972
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Net Income	\$ 955,426

Income Expense Comparison



• Please note that this information is based on unaudited financial statements; any variations will be noted in the 2025 audit report.



Thank You!

We give thanks to God whenever we remember you, and we are deeply grateful for your faithful partnership in His work through Bethlehem Bible College. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity are a true blessing, strengthening this ministry and helping to equip Christian leaders to serve the Church in this land.

As we reflect on the past year, we rejoice in the many ways God has worked through your faithful stewardship. Your support makes it possible for this ministry to continue teaching, discipling, and sharing the hope of Christ with our community and beyond.

Thank you for standing with us. You remain in our hearts and prayers with our sincere gratitude.

May the peace of Christ be with you and your family today and always.

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers.” — 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Connect with us

