



# *Commencement*

MAY 11, 2024



**COMMENCEMENT**  
**COMPASS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

May 11, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Prelude	MRS. DEBBIE LAMB
* Processional	FACULTY AND 2024 CANDIDATES
* Invocation	DR. FRANK SCHATTNER <i>President Emeritus &amp; Board Chair, Fidelis International Seminary</i>
Welcome	PRESIDENT BRIAN D. SMITH
* Scripture and Prayer	DR. AJAI & INDU LALL <i>Executive Director, Central India Christian Mission</i>
Special Music "Grace"	DCC CHOIR <i>arr. Hayes</i>
Special Presentation and Introduction of Speaker	PRESIDENT BRIAN D. SMITH
Commencement Address	DR. JOSHUA R. HOWARD <i>President, Fidelis International Seminary</i> <i>Global Mobilization Catalyst, E3 Partners</i> <i>Director of Vision, Discipleship.org</i>
Honors Recognitions	DR. CHRISTOPHER A. DAVIS
Presentation of Graduates	MRS. CRYSTAL LAIDACKER
Awarding of Degrees	REPRESENTATIVE <i>Board of Trustees</i>
Conferral of Degrees	PRESIDENT BRIAN D. SMITH
* Alma Mater "Hail to Dallas Christian"	MR. SCOTT SPIES <i>James Earl Ladd II</i>
* Congregational Singing	DCC WORSHIP TEAM
Closing Statement	PRESIDENT BRIAN D. SMITH
* Benediction	MR. ANTHONY BREWER <i>Director of Admissions, Dallas Christian College</i>
* Recessional	FACULTY AND 2024 CANDIDATES
Postlude	MR. SCOTT SPIES

\* Audience please stand.





## DR. JOSHUA R. HOWARD

Dr. Howard has been living in India since 2008 and has a passion to see the Kingdom of God spread throughout the world. He desires to raise up disciples who make disciples, leaders who create leaders, and churches that plant churches. In order to see this happen, Dr. Howard oversaw the church planting school at Central India Christian Mission (CICM) which prepares church planters to go to unreached areas in India and the surrounding countries. In 2015, he launched a branch of the ministry called "Ignite," which started over 30,000 churches in about eight years through movements of multiplication, including over 9,500 churches in 2023. He is currently serving with E3 Partners as a Global Mobilization Catalyst, the President at Fidelis International University, and most recently was named Director of Vision for Discipleship.org.

Dr. Howard earned his Bachelor of Science in Ministry and Leadership as an online student from Dallas Christian College in 2010. Since then, he has gone on to earn a Master of Arts in Missional Church Movements from Wheaton College, and now an honorary doctorate from Dallas Christian College. He is also the co-author of the book *Christian Extremism: A Life Worth Dying For* and of the book *Igniting Movements: Multiplying Churches in Dark Places*.

Besides God's grace through Jesus, Josh is most thankful for his wife Lashi, his two sons, Josiah and Jeremiah, and his daughter Zara. DCC is honored to welcome this year's Commencement Speaker, Dr. Joshua R. Howard.





## MISSION STATEMENT

Dallas Christian College educates and mentors students to be people of influence, engaging in their calling to the work of Christ in the Church and in the world.



## THE MACE

*“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.” Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)*

The mace has historically been a symbol of progress and authority dating from the early Middle Ages in Europe. The mace of the College, made of mesquite wood harvested on the DCC campus, has three rings on its ferrule that represent the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit and five rings on the collar for the College’s core values and mission. On the head, unadorned, stands the cross of Christ, the most important symbol of all.

The DCC mace is carried by the president, in whom the authority is vested by the Board of Trustees to govern the institution.



## THE SHEPHERD’S STAFF

*“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Psalm 23:4 (NIV)*

The Shepherd’s Staff represents the role of leadership. It can be used to steady one’s footing on an uneven path, to gently prod sheep in a particular direction, and to protect the flock in times of peril. Most importantly, it is a symbol of God’s blessing on His leaders, and upon the sheep for whom they would lay down their lives.



## THE WORD

*“The Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow.” Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)*

The declaration of the Word signifies that the Bible is the foundation on which the Dallas Christian College curriculum stands. The inscription on the College Seal translates to, “Preach the Word.” The faculty, staff, and administration desire that all students be capable of individual study of the Word and be living examples of its enduring wisdom (I Peter 2:21).





## ALMA MATER

*“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort,  
with complete patience and teaching.” II Timothy 4:2 (ESV)*

Hail to Dallas Christian, college fair and fine.  
Hail to all her heroes; who serve the Lord Divine.  
Hail to all proclaiming the Kingdom of the light.  
Hail our Alma Mater; hail her future bright!

*James Earl Ladd II*





## ADMINISTRATION

### PRESIDENT

DR. BRIAN D. SMITH

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MR. CHRIS WINSLOW

### VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

DR. MARSHALL DUNBAR



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### BIBLE & THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

DR. MARK HAHLEN

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DR. LARRY THOMPSON

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### SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

DR. LYNDSY NEAL

### SPORTS SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

MR. ANDREW PACHECO

### E.L. & SUE DERR

### DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

DR. TRACY HAHN

### WORSHIP ARTS PROGRAM

MR. SCOTT SPIES

### ASSOCIATE ACADEMIC DEAN/ASSOCIATE DEAN OF DISTANCE LEARNING

MR. BRUCE L. LONG





**CLASS OF 2024**



**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS**

***HUMANITIES***

TRAVIS DEACON WHITEHURST



**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

***PRACTICAL MINISTRIES AND BIBLE***

ZACKERY RICHARDSON

*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Magna Cum Laude,  
Team Leadership/MVP (2021 & 2022),  
Student Athlete of the Year (2022), Outstanding Student Worker (2022),  
& Preaching Award (2024)*



**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

***INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AND BIBLE***

HANNAH RAQUEL GALLEGOS

*Offensive Player of the Year (2021), Team Leadership/MVP (2023), &  
DCC Student Government President (2023-2024)*

OLIVIA MARIE WITHERS

*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Magna Cum Laude,  
DCC Student Government Vice President (2023-2024),  
Faith in Action Award (2024), Humanities Award (2024),  
Dr. Cara Snyder Humanitarian Award (2024), & Delta Epsilon Chi.*

***INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AND BIBLE***

***HISTORY MINOR***

TRAVIS DEACON WHITEHURST

**INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
BIBLE MINOR**

MALACHI LENTZ  
*Cum Laude*

MAKENNA TAYLOR RAMBO

MIKAYLA NICOLE SWIFT

**BIBLICAL MINISTRY**

RONALD L. ANSELL  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad & Wineinger Award (2024)*

WILLIAM BOYD  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad & U.S. Army Veteran*

DILLON ARTHUR BRANDT

WESLEY KYLE GREEN

CHRISTIAN J. MARSHALL  
*Magna Cum Laude*

**BUSINESS AND BIBLE**

NATHANIEL BRISCOE  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Summa Cum Laude, &  
Perkins Award (2024)*

JAHAZIEL CASTANEDA  
*Faith in Action Award (2022)*

ISAIAH T. GOMEZ  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Magna Cum Laude, &  
Outstanding Business Leadership Award (2024)*

MICHAEL ARON RABINOWITZ  
*Campus Living Award (2022) &  
Team Leadership/MVP Award (2022)*

CARLOS TORRES

JABEZ M. VILLARREAL  
*Offensive Player of the Year (2022)*

CALEB WILLIS  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Cum Laude, &  
Crusader of Excellence (2022)*

**BUSINESS AND BIBLE  
CHRISTIAN LIFE COACHING CERTIFICATE**

EZEKIEL HUMEK  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad & Summa Cum Laude*



***BUSINESS AND BIBLE  
LEADERSHIP MINOR***

COOPER NESS  
*Crusader of Excellence (2023)*

***BUSINESS  
BIBLE MINOR***

KYLE MATTHEW BREALOND

ROBBI ANN BREWER

MICHAELA MARIE FABER  
*Team Leadership/MVP Award (2024)*

ANGEL ANTONIO MEDEL  
*Fruit of the Spirit Award (2023)*

***BUSINESS  
BIBLE & HISTORY MINORS***

JOEL STONE  
*Summa Cum Laude & Faith in Action Award (2023)*

***BUSINESS  
BIBLE & LEADERSHIP MINORS***

PARKER TAYLOR

***PRACTICAL MINISTRIES AND BIBLE***

BRIAN MITCHELL  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Summa Cum Laude, &  
Biblical Studies Award (2024)*

***PSYCHOLOGY AND BIBLE***

ELIJAH BARTH  
*Crusader of Excellence (2020 & 2021), Campus Living Award (2021),  
Kings Award-Academics in Psychology (2021), &  
Kings Award in Applied Psychology (2022)*

TAYLOR GRACE LARSEN  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Magna Cum Laude, &  
Outstanding Psychology Student (2024)*

STEFON JOSÉ REYES  
*Crusader of Excellence Award (2021) & Defensive Player of the Year (2023)*

***PSYCHOLOGY  
BIBLE MINOR***

HANNA R. ROYE  
*Team Leadership/MVP Award (2023)*

***EDUCATION AND BIBLE  
7-12 SOCIAL STUDIES CONTENT***

MARCIAL LARA, JR.  
*Biblical Studies Honor Grad, Summa Cum Laude,  
Leadership & Service Award (2024), & Teaching Testament Award (2024)*



**DOCTOR**

***DIVINITY***

JOSHUA RAY HOWARD





## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The American tradition of wearing academic regalia originated in medieval European universities. Since the clergy composed the majority of the educated class and since most universities at that time were under the jurisdiction of the church, academic dress became an adaptation of the cape or mantle, which was usually of silk or wool, and worn by church dignitaries in religious processions.

The gowns commonly have pointed sleeves for bachelor's degree, long, closed sleeves (with a slit for the arm) for the master's degree, and bell-shaped, open sleeves for the doctor's degree. The gown for the doctor's degree is faced down the front with velvet trim and three bars of the same trim across the sleeves. The trim, hoods, and tassels may be black or a color distinctive of the faculty or subject to which the degree pertains.



## ACADEMIC COLORS

*Arts and Letters – White*  
*Business – Drab*  
*Criminal Justice – Midnight Blue*  
*Education – Light Blue*  
*Fine Arts – Brown*

*Law – Purple*  
*Library Science – Lemon Yellow*  
*Medicine – Green*  
*Music – Pink*  
*Philosophy – Dark Blue*

*Psychology – Citron*  
*Science – Golden Yellow*  
*Social Sciences – Citron*  
*Sports Science – Sage Green*  
*Theology – Scarlet*



***Special thanks to:***

*Compass Christian Church*  
*Second Photography*

