

A Report of the AGK Superintendent for 2022

Not as predictable, but constant as the tide of the ocean, adjustments remain a consistent companion to every life, ministry, church, network, or nation. Last year proved a year of leadership adjustments to this now 105-year-old Kingdom organization.

In January, we said farewell to Dayton Poe as the Director of Wheat State Retreat Center. Dayton invested seven years leading this multi-faceted ministry. His leadership took the ministry to new heights. He left the director post to pursue a national appointment with AG-US Missions.

Dayton's departure created the opportunity for me to prayerfully choose Travis Dumond to take the helm at Wheat State Retreat Center. Travis and his team labored diligently and tirelessly throughout the year. The summer "shoulder season" proved especially difficult due to labor shortages. Nevertheless, Travis and company endured so that multiple lives could easily experience the presence of Jesus. As our 140 acres of property – located at 8648 SW Lowenberg Street, Augusta, KS – stays in working order, *students, and adults from the AGK. and from multiple denominations, get to experience the presence and forgiveness of Jesus in the unique and fun retreat setting we call Wheat State Retreat Center.*

In May, after more than 30 years serving as Executive Secretary of the AGK, Pastor Vance Cauthon retired. We did our best as a Network to properly celebrate his tenure of tireless, excellent, Spirit-filled, administrative labor. He expressed much appreciation for the accolades and kindness extended to him and Linda. He declared that we went "way over the top." While very glad he felt honored, I believe he deserved more. *Thanks again, Pastor Vance Cauthon, for serving this fellowship so well.*

With the departure of Brother Cauthon, and with his personal encouragement, the AGK combined the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. The Network then elected Dr. Kent Duncan to fill the combined office. Kent has served a full year as the first "full-time" Secretary-Treasurer in more than 40 years. *His daily presence regularly proves the value of having two full-time executives housed at the AGK Ministry Network office.*

Another adjustment involved reinstating the Executive Office of Assistant Superintendent. In Council-2022 the Body in session elected Pastor Nathan Sheridan to fill this post. After a full year of Nathan serving this office, *I gladly report he consistently adds value with wise counsel.* Additionally, he gives energetic and steady oversight of our US Missionary family living in Kansas. He also maintains a portfolio that requires him to monitor the Regional Presbyters in the supervisory duties they execute with our Network Affiliated Churches. Finally, he has added value through his tutelage of the relationship building efforts we call Regional Connect.

An anticipated adjustment came in August when Darin and Marleen Stroud bade Kansas farewell. For several months, they had allowed Karen and me the honor of helping them pray and process the transition they knew the Spirit intended to bring their way. *Therefore, after more than 17 years serving as Ministries Department Director and Youth Ministries coordinator, Darin and Marleen accepted a lead-pastor position in the North Texas District.* The Network Board helped

Karen and me send them off in proper style with appropriate gifts, a party, and their hearts filled with love and prayers from so many who benefited from their friendship and ministry.

To fill the vacancy created by the Stroud's leaving, the Lord brought an adjustment opportunity to our church in Topeka – Mission Hill. *That local church released Hannah and Josh Peoples to accept my invitation for them to assume leadership of our AGK Ministries Department.* Hannah serves as Department Director and gives general oversight to all the ministries. She gives *specific* oversight to student and children ministries. Her husband provides specific oversight to adult oriented ministries. I have repeatedly emphasized to Hannah and Josh: *A new day, a new way!* They both bring a fresh perspective to their assignments. Since taking office in September, they have acclimated wonderfully and will, by their Spirit-filled leadership, help write an exciting new chapter in the areas under their administration.

Heraclitus, the Greek philosopher said, "*Change is the only constant in life.*" The adjustments I mentioned in this brief report reflect leadership from the Holy Spirit. Any life, ministry, church, network, or nation will benefit as they depend on and embrace any adjustment He requires.

We certainly experienced other adjustments throughout the course of 12 months. I hope the stated adjustments remind us of God's faithfulness and unchanging intention to use the AGK in the process of making *Kansas an easy place to experience the presence and forgiveness of Jesus.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Terry L. Yancey
AGK Ministry Network Superintendent