

U.S. MISSIONS

CHURCH MOBILIZATION

Jamie Holden
 AGUS MISSIONS ASSOC:
 Account Number: 2813962

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May I just say I can't believe it's May? (Is that a double May-ative?) I hope you all had a wonderful April. How awesome is it that the weather is finally turning warmer? This is my time of year!

Still, it's hard to believe that the 2024 Mantour Conference season is almost over. We have just one more event—the East Central Pa Mantour at GT Church in West Lawn, PA on May 4. After that, it's just the Teen Challenge Mantour in July, and then the ***"It's Who We Are"*** theme is retired. Before that happens, let me tell you about our two amazing events in April.

Our first Mantour after Easter was the Northwest Mantour Conference in Hermitage, PA. As seems to be the case this year, it was pouring down rain for the entire 5-hour trip across Route 80. There were several times when Adessa and I commented that we felt a little bad asking our main speaker, Pastor Don Immel, to make the same long drive in the crazy weather. Yet, we so appreciated his willingness to make the trip and share his heart with the men at the event. His sermon was so on point. At the end of his message, 4 men accepted Jesus as their Savior. There was a party in Heaven as we celebrated with these men. That made every mile we drove worth it.



After Pastor Immel, we were excited to have Pastor Scott Lewis join us for the second session and share about ***"It's What We Do."*** Pastor Scott is such a great communicator—you can see his heart as a pastor and a teacher shine through as he shares with the men. Again, the men responded to his message and were inspired.

But it wasn't over yet! We wrapped up the day with Pastor Tom Groot. While it was his first time speaking at the Mantour Conference, he did not disappoint. Using a whiteboard as a prop, Tom talked as a basketball coach would talk to his team about why we do what we do. We ended the day with Tom praying over all the men. What a powerful day!

Some other highlights from this event included Pastor Chris Massey

and the men's leadership team from his church holding a breakfast for the men who attended the event before the Mantour. I know the guys enjoyed their hospitality and the food. It's always an honor to work with the team at Family Life Church.

We were also happy to be joined at this event by the residents of the Hope Center in Bethel and Kittinging Hope Center. As you know, one of our goals at Mantour Conferences is to invite men from local halfway houses or rehabilitation centers to join us for free at our regional events. I was so pleased when two of our local pastors helped us connect with these rescue missions so the men could come and be our guests, enjoy the worship, hear the inspiring messages, and interact with men of God from local churches. As always, each man from these missions went home with copies of our 2024 books, **"It's Who We Are"** and **"It's What We Do,"** courtesy of those who give each year in the Mantour Challenge.

The following weekend was the Greater Philadelphia/DE/NJ Mantour. It was also my 47th birthday. As we were planning the 2024 Mantours, I knew I wanted to spend it in Bensalem when I saw we'd be on the road for my birthday. Why? While I love all of the Mantours equally, this one holds a special place in my heart because I knew I'd get to spend the night before with my two best buddies Mia and Joey Cullen, as well as their parents, who are also long-time board members, Joey and Lori Cullen. I had so much fun playing with the kids! What a time we had!! Even though I turned 47 the next day and Adessa turned 50 on Tuesday (don't bring that up to her; it's a sensitive topic), spending a few hours with our favorite little ones made us feel young again. It was so fun playing with toys, hearing about the adventures of kindergarten and first grade, and just being around all their energy. Yes, I did introduce them to the wonders of the Whoopee cushion. (Hey, I want to be a positive influence on their lives, LOL) It was a fun night with friends, and we really appreciated it.

The next day, we returned to work as 162 men from 15 churches across Philadelphia and New Jersey arrived at the Philadelphia Christian Center. As they arrived, you could feel the anticipation for the conference to start. Included in this count were men from New Jersey Teen Challenge who were there to enjoy the conference and display their merchandise. Again, these men went home with books because of your generosity!

Our first speaker, Pastor Tony Cruz, hit it out of the park right out of the gate. I've known Tony since Bible College, and he's always been an amazing and inspiring speaker. This year, he shared about **"Surely"** (Tony is such a better man than me; I could never have used the word **"surely"** so many times without saying, **"And don't call me Shirley"** at least once!). Tony's message was so powerful and inspiring as he encouraged the men to believe that no matter what they are walking through, they can be assured that **SURELY** God is with them and has their back.



After Tony spoke, we moved into the second session with our speaker, Jason Tourville. However, before Jason could speak, our board of directors surprised me. I was shocked when Adessa and Lori wheeled in a Denver Broncos sheet cake, and the entire crowd sang **"Happy Birthday."** While I was a little uncomfortable having all the attention on me, having a group of Eagles fans eating Denver Broncos cake was very satisfying! Happy birthday to me!



After the birthday cake, Jason was ready to deliver his message. As always, Jason did a phenomenal job, and men flooded the altar to respond to his message about the baptism in the Holy Spirit that enables us to do what we do.



For our third session, we were honored to be joined by Pastor Brian Donnachie, the Men's Director for the New Jersey District. It's



been a few years since Brian has spoken at a Mantour, but we were so happy and honored to have him. Most importantly, 9 men responded to the altar call he gave and accepted Jesus as their Savior. The pastor at their church was so excited, and we celebrated with them while they experienced their spiritual birthday! Again, it was a powerful Mantour Conference!

Now, we have just one more Mantour to go this season. We're excited about this event because it's a new location with a new host church. Having seen a preview of Tony's message at Greater Philadelphia, we're anxious to see how God will use him and our other speakers, Chad Stoecker and Eric Goldsborough at this event. I can't wait to report these testimonies next month.

Until then, we continue to ask for your prayers as we wrap up this Mantour season and begin planning Mantours 2025. (Yes, just two weeks after our last Mantour Conference, we hold our bi-annual board meeting to start planning for next year!) While I already know next year's theme, I'll keep that to myself for now. But trust me, you will LOVE this theme. I am already having a blast with it, and the creative juices are already flowing! I already have the promo images designed and an outline for the new book completed, so I am well ahead of schedule on that! It is going to be so good!

I am so grateful to every one of our monthly partners who financially support this ministry. I couldn't do this work without you! Thank you for believing in us and this ministry. Your giving is making a big difference! I am happy to say we had 6 new partners join the team since the last newsletter, and we have now raised 81% of our budget! Praise God!

WE ARE SO CLOSE!!! HELP ME CROSS THE FINISH LINE!!

If you aren't a monthly partner, you are missing out on a blessing! God is active in this ministry, and He values your investment. So do I. You can help us become FULLY FUNDED as we work to become fully funded by the end of 2024.

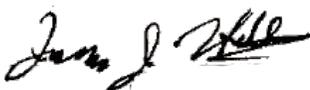
Make a faith promise at <https://usmissions.ag.org/FaithPromise>; my Account number is: James Holden, #2813962.

You can also go to <https://giving.ag.org/donate/700001-281396> to set up a recurring payment and make the faith promise at the same time by simply checking the faith promise box.

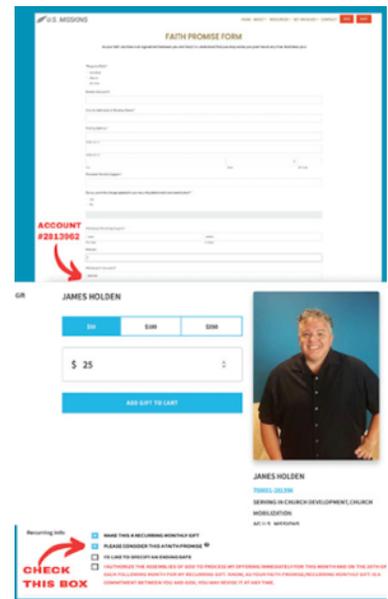
I cannot do it without your help, and we must raise the remaining 19% of our budget by December 31, 2024. Make your Faith Promise today!

Thank you for taking the time to read this message, it is going to be another great month of ministering to men!

Reaching Men Together,



Jamie Holden
 Founder/Director, Mantour Ministries,
 AGUS Missionary Assoc. Church Development



PRAAYER REQUESTS:



Please Pray For:

1. Strength and healing for me as I travel to the Mantour Conferences. It's been a tough year, and sadly, my disability has grown worse. I can't walk much at all, and standing has become difficult. **BUT IT ISN'T GOING TO STOP ME!** I believe in God for complete healing, and until then, I covet your prayers for strength to do what God has called me to do.
2. For men to be reached at our remaining conference, for lives to be saved, men to be filled with the Spirit, and chains to be broken as men experience freedom.
3. Please pray for Adessa and Jamie's health—no one needs to be sick on the road.
4. Please pray for Duane Goodling, who will travel with us to most Mantour Events this year.
5. Please pray that God will continue to help us raise our full missionary budget (we have to be at 100% by the end of 2024).
6. Please pray for us as we hold our bi-annual board meeting this month. Pray for wisdom and God's direction as this ministry continues to grow.

NEW FOR 2024!

FIND OUT YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST!



AVAILABLE NOW!!



JOIN THE TEAM:

I am in need of individuals and men's ministries to partner with me as a Missionary Associate on a monthly basis. I work on Mantour Conferences and the Mantour resources full time year round, and would value your financial support. Will you prayerfully consider partnering with me and with Mantour Ministries on monthly or yearly basis? You can give online at www.giving.ag.org using Account Number 2813962 (make sure to check the box for Faith Promise), or print and return the form below using account Number 2813962.

Jamie Holden
AGUS MISSIONS ASSOC:
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