

OCCOM MINISTRIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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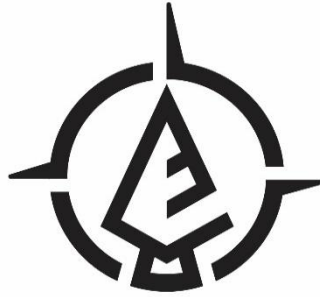
GO. GATHER. GROW.

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“Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

—Psalm 46:10 ESV



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"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17, ESV

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Occom Ministries is a 501(c)(3)

non-profit organization.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To Our Co-laborers in Christ,

We are thankful to report what the Lord has done with Occom Ministries in 2025. There is too much to tell with all the exciting details as they unfolded. The Lord has given us gracious lessons in providence in so many ways.

As our Native brethren on the ground remind us, ministry in Native America is hard. Because of the nature of this particular mission field, there are challenges that are simply not understood by those living in the dominant culture. Seemingly impossible barriers to the gospel and kingdom advancement are everywhere. But we serve a God who specializes in things thought impossible. We have seen and heard the reports from our friends on the ground how the Lord has been blessing His people in Native America. Churches are experiencing growth and the people are being fed the word of God. By the grace and power of our sovereign God, we press on.

I want to express my gratitude to Lord for calling His people to support this ministry, both with financial gifts and prayer. Please continue to beseech the Lord with us that He will call others to join us as we advance the Kingdom of Christ together.

As reported in last year's annual report, some corners of our foundations have been laid, and there is much more to be done. We are still trusting the Lord to continue expanding our foundational footprint and build on what has already been established. Looking forward to 2026, we are praying and believing that the Lord will continue to bless our work among the Indigenous brethren throughout Indian country.

All for the Kingdom!

In Christ,



Patrick Lennox, President



ABOUT

Occom Ministries is a three-fold ministry dedicated to building the church from the harvest among the indigenous peoples of North America. We recognize that Jesus has been at work for centuries among this diverse field. The Lord of the Harvest instructed us to pray for workers for the harvest. We could (and should) raise up more non-Native missionaries to go to the 1,200 tribes in North America, but we also recognize the Native workers who are already serving in their communities. We strive to equip them as they serve on the field the Lord has planted them.

We want to equip Native pastors to better lead their flocks and fulfill the Great Commission. We want to identify potential Native pastors and train them for every good work. Additionally, we want to help those Native disciples who may not feel called to the pastorate to discern the Lord's will for their lives, to discover the richness of God's Word, and to be more engaged and equipped to fulfill the Great Commission in their local church and community.

Training Leaders



We pray the Lord of the Harvest to send more workers to the ripe harvest field in North America, but we do not want to lose sight of those who are already on the ground serving among Native peoples. Occom Ministries seeks to support and train Native leaders in Native American and First Nations communities, whether they are already serving in the pastorate or are aspiring to the office of teaching elder.

Our annual **Native Pastors Gathering** is also another outreach ministry designed to encourage and equip pastors in their high calling to shepherd the flock of God. Pastors and their wives (if married) are invited to Florence, MS at the Twin Lakes Conference Center.

This three-day event has been our flagship ministry, which allows us to bring together Native pastors from all over the country, to learn, worship, pray, and forge new relationships with one another.



1 | MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ABOUT | 2

We are committed to assisting pastors, aspiring pastors, and teachers to pursue continued education. We are seeking to establish **The Samson Occom Institute for Biblical and Theological Studies** (a.k.a. Occom Institute), beginning as a certificate program utilizing Thirdmill for our core curriculum. Recognizing the life circumstances of so many Native pastors, we will offer distance education, and Lord willing, once our headquarters and discipleship center is complete, residency will be an option. Not only will this better equip pastors in their current position as shepherd over God's flock, but it will also give them better footing for further study in a seminary setting.

Growing Disciples

The Great Commission is about making disciples. The mandate by our Lord was given to the church, and it is primarily the work of the local church through the ordinary means of grace. Like any parachurch ministry, Occom Ministries seeks to encourage and equip Native churches in that process. We recognize that some Native pastors simply do not have the time to invest in their flock as much as they would like. So many Native pastors are bi-vocational, splitting their time between work, family, church, and the challenges in Indian country.

We want to help grow the Native Christian church by growing disciples and enabling them to better serve where they live and worship. We want to help strengthen the sheep of the flock, which we trust will help the pastor fulfill his call to lead the charge in the Great Commission in Indian country.

Our vision is to establish the **Occom Discovery Center**. As the name implies, ODC aims towards discovery. Above all, we seek to discover the glories of the Triune God who is as he has revealed himself in the Holy Scriptures. In light of that revelation, we seek to discover our place in his kingdom. God has gifted every believer. ODC seeks to help Native American/First Nations disciples of Christ discover their gifts and foster a vision to engage them in the kingdom. In this regard, ODC is a place to discover their calling in this world as ambassadors for Christ. ODC seeks to cultivate a Christian worldview that is both taught and caught, recognizing that changed lives are more influenced by the latter in community grounded in Scripture.



ODC is a place to serve young disciples where they are at in their walk with the Lord. Perhaps it is a “gap year” experience for some who are considering college or just their next phase of life. Perhaps their stay will be shorter for some of our proposed programs.

A bedrock conviction at ODC is that we as creatures created in the image of our Creator were created to create. ODC is a community that dares God’s people to dream. We are seeking those who are visionaries, makers, thinkers,

tinkerers doers, happen-makers, craftsmen, artists, builders, and anyone else who wants to dare to dream and apply their gifts and talents to further the kingdom of God. All those who are timid, hurt, scared, curious, contrite, poor in spirit, meek, and willing to be shaped by the hands of the Potter, are encouraged to join us.



The discipleship program at ODC is not a Bible college, although we will have an academic element incorporated in the program, which will better equip a student who may be pursuing that route. Ultimately, ODC seeks to be a place where a Native Christians can come to getting a solid grounding in the gospel, to ask the hard questions, and to discover the God who is and their place in his kingdom.

Our vision is to also make the center available to those pursuing seminary level education. Our vision is to have a biblical and theological library on par with any other seminary, as well as a separate wing dedicated to Native Christian studies. We envision ODC as a place to serve Occom Institute students, local pastors in the area and those on study sabbaticals, and researchers who want to understand more about the diverse mission field in Native America and how the Lord has been moving among Native peoples. We currently have two significant pastors’ libraries in storage donated to Occom Ministries awaiting their new home.

Pictured above is a conceptual rendering of the Occom Discovery Center/Occom headquarters.



HISTORY

Occom Ministries was officially organized as a 501(c)(3) on December 22, 2022. The ministry was first imagined by Patrick and Regina Lennox sometime in 2018. After living and serving among Christian Native brothers and sisters from both sides of the U.S./Canadian border, it became clear that of all the ministry opportunities throughout Indian country, discipleship and especially leadership training is where they are called.

Since 2014, they have been serving with Mission to the World (MTW), the missions agency of the Presbyterian Church in America. They have served in Native America in various capacities, most notably as resident staff members at the Mokahum Ministry Center in Cass Lake, MN.

In 2019 they moved towards establishing Occom Ministries with our current three-fold ministry approach. In October 2020, Patrick and Regina organized the first Native Pastors Gathering in Florence, MS. Since that initial gathering, the Lord blessed three more annual events. It has served as our flagship ministry introducing Occom Ministries to Native American and First Nations pastors as well as those aspiring to become pastors. Recognizing the vital role of wives in the life of the pastor, we seek to serve them too.

In 2022, they decided it was time to organize as a non-profit. It would allow them to build and expand the various ministry initiatives, which require funding and more administrative demands beyond the scope of Mission to the World. Patrick and Regina continue as MTW missionaries serving on-loan to Occom Ministries. They derive no income from Occom. Currently all funds raised are for administration costs and ministry initiatives.



Rev. Samson Occom

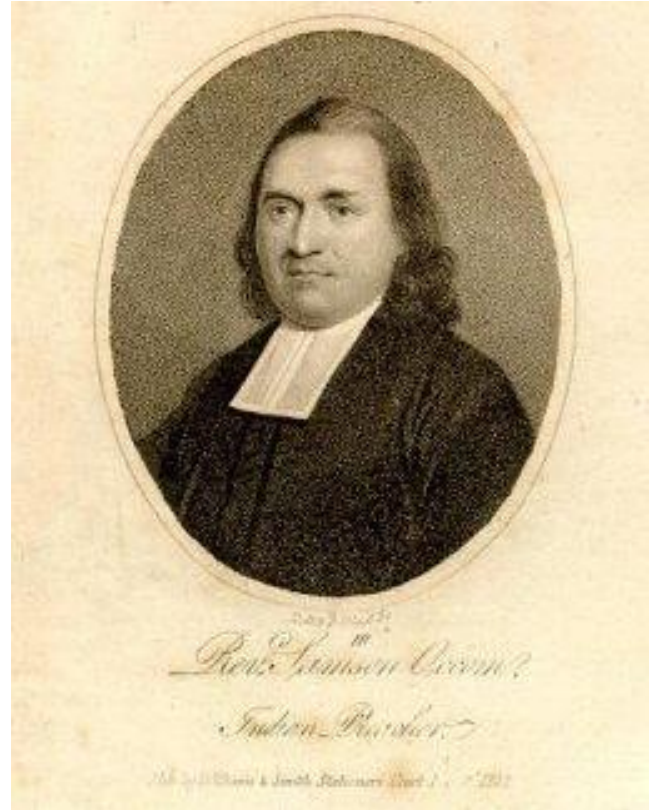
The namesake of Occom Ministries is the Rev. Samson Occom (Mohegan, 1723-1792). Rev. Occom was the first Native American Presbyterian minister, ordained by the Long Island Presbytery in 1759. He was husband, father, pastor, hymn writer, and missionary. His driving desire was to give the gospel to Native people and provide them with education that would enable them to live in and thrive in their rapidly changing world.

As a Presbyterian minister, it is reported that his salary was only half of his fellow white ministers. As a missionary, Occom received a stipend from the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge (SSPCK).

He is known as the Father of Native American Literature because of a sermon entitled, *A Sermon, Preached at the Execution of Moses Paul, an Indian*, found its way to publication, making Occom the first published Indian of his day, indeed ever.

He was tutored and mentored by Rev. Eleazar Wheelock of the Wheelock School. Occom was his first Native student. Occom, a brilliant student, inspired Wheelock to establish the Moor's Indian Charity School in Lebanon, CT. Wheelock asked Occom to raise support for the school in Britain, traveling to London, Scotland, and Ireland with the understanding that Wheelock would look after his wife and children while gone. After two-years, Occom raised £12,000. Upon his return, he learned that Wheelock did not follow through on his agreement. More than that, Wheelock, under the direction of an influential donor, Lord Dartmouth, the school was moved to New Hampshire and became Dartmouth College, far from its original location, and more to Occom's dismay, its charter to educate Indian children. Dartmouth College has gone on record to say that its very existence is owed to Samson Occom.

In God's good providence, Occom became the co-founder of the first Christian Native tribe, called the Brothertown Indians, once in Brothertown, NY, but now living today in Wisconsin, seeking Federal recognition. Occom's story is full of great achievement and heart-breaking disappointments displaying perseverance through pain. We find great inspiration in his commitment to the kingdom of Christ as he sought to bring the gospel to the Native people in Colonial America.



Our Board of Directors

Our founding board members have partnered with Patrick and Regina at various capacities throughout the years. All of them have a sustained and proven desire and collective wisdom to serve the Lord's people throughout Native America.

Patrick Lennox – President

Robert Good – Treasurer

Regina Lennox – Secretary

Christi McCullars – Legal Counsel

Mike Peifer – Director

Mike Ebert – Director

Billy Tallas – Director

Administrative Services

Auxilio Partners



Ministry Report



This year was a heavy year of travel. In all, with the exception of July, we were on the road every month from February through October, each trip being 7--10 days.

Our February trip brought us to the Pearl River Choctaw Reservation in Mississippi. There we helped with some of the finish-work inside the Canaan Missionary Baptist Church, working alongside Pastor Mark Patrick, local folks, and a small ministry group from Navajo, called One Accord

(Pictured with Choctaw Chief Cyrus Ben). The essence of our ministry is not construction, but we put our hands to work when needed -- especially if it encourages a pastor striving to grow the church in Native America.

Mark has been a great friend and fellow servant for Christ. Serving with the members of One Accord -- Dale, Charlotte, Scott and Hazel -- has been a true joy. Pray for them as they seek for more opportunities to serve Native churches with their hands and voices.

In March we completed the second leg of a mission trip delivering our *Essentials Pastors Libraries* we began in the summer of 2024. Our trip had multiple stops in Arizona -- Phoenix, Mesa, Many Farms, and also a stop in New Mexico to meet up with fellow servants of Christ in Native America, Dino and Nannette Bulter (Navajo) to discuss future projects. While there we attended the 50th anniversary celebration of CHIEF, Inc., led by Huron Claus (Kiowa/Mohawk). As a fifth generation Christian on his father's side, Huron has been a faithful brother, friend, and ministry partner.

From April through September, most of our travel was speaking engagements and support-raising for the ministry.

In October we held our fifth Native Pastors Gathering. This year was very different from the four years prior. Pastor Mark Patrick of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church offered the new church building to hold our gathering. Yes, this is the church we helped build over the last couple years. More than that, we coupled the Native Pastors Gathering with the dedication of the new church building on the Choctaw reservation in Mississippi.



Pastor Billy Tallas, Many Farms Bible Church

It was a smaller and shorter gathering than in years past, but we are celebrating how the Lord timed it all and placed it on the Pearl River Reservation! A particular blessing for Patrick was that he was able to teach mid-week Bible study at the church the night before the gathering. Patrick also had the privilege of speaking at the dedication service. The new building dedication was a testament to the faithfulness and goodness of God. We marvel how the Lord used the Native Pastors Gathering in 2023 as an occasion for ministry leaders to meet for the first time and ultimately partner together for this building project.





Statement of Activity
Occom Ministries Inc.
January-December, 2025

Distribution account	Total
Income	
4000 Contributed income	
4100 Donations-Individuals	10,956.50
4150 Donations-Churches	600.00
Total for 4000 Contributed income	\$11,556.50
4600 Cost Recovery Income	5,000.00
Total for Income	\$16,556.50
Gross Profit	\$16,556.50
Expenses	
6000 Office Supplies & Expenses	595.50
6050 Books	26.74
6200 Shipping & postage	408.54
6300 Conferences, Meetings & Travel	9,412.03
6560 Storage	2,783.88
6600 Computer Software & Apps	1,868.19
6610 Donor Management Software	-131.63
6800 Advertising & marketing	1,011.55
6820 Contract & professional fees	5,591.00
7000 Bank fees & Merchant service charges	335.23
7050 Uncategorized Expense	-1,200.00
7200 Insurance	550.00
Total for Expenses	\$21,251.03
Net Operating Income	-\$4,694.53

Statement of Financial Position

Occom Ministries Inc.

As of December 31, 2025

Distribution account	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10000 Cash & Securities	
10100 Business Checking (0881)	4,521.63
10200 BMSH - Savings (0873)	5.00
Total for 10000 Cash & Securities	\$4,526.63
1072 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	0.00
Total for Bank Accounts	\$4,526.63
Other Current Assets	
1300 Prepaid expenses	
Total for 1300 Prepaid expenses	\$0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total for Current Assets	\$4,526.63
Total for Assets	\$4,526.63

Continued on next page

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

2000 Accounts Payable (A/P)	0.00
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Total for Accounts Payable	\$0.00
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Credit Cards

2100 Divvy Credit Card	0.00
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Total for Credit Cards	\$0.00
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Total for Current Liabilities	\$0.00
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Total for Liabilities	\$0.00
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Equity

30000 Retained Earnings	6,469.00
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3105 Pastor's Essential Library	0.00
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3110 Occom Discovery Center Bldg Campaign	2,325.00
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3115 Library Fund	0.00
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Total for 3100 Net Assets with donor restrictions	\$2,325.00
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3900 Opening balance equity	0.00
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3999 Net Assets	427.16
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Net Income	-4,694.53
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Total for Equity	\$4,526.63
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Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$4,526.63
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ADVANCING OUR MISSION IN 2026

We are eagerly praying and believing that the Lord will continue to bless our labors with Occom Ministries. There is so much yet to be done.

We still need to grow organizationally. We are praying for volunteers and staff members, particularly in the areas of communications and development. In the administration department, we continue to be thankful to be working with Auxilio Partners.

Occom Discovery Center – We will continue to cast vision and raise funds to purchase property for our proposed headquarters and study center. We are still praying towards Western Carolina.

Occom Institute – In our 2024 Annual Report, we were hoping to have the certificate program established in 2025. Although that did not happen as we hoped, the good news is that we have a core team assembled to complete the internal administrative structures, which we plan on completing by summer of 2026. We were waiting on the Lord for the right people, which the Lord has provided. We are thankful.

Native Pastors Gathering – We are looking to 2027 for our next gathering.

We are trusting the Lord to advance Occom Ministries further and more effectively in 2026. As we have said, we have a big vision and lofty goals that stretch us beyond our human limitations, but we serve an infinitely bigger God “who is able to supply all [our] needs according to his riches and glory in Christ Jesus,” (Phil 4:19), and he is “able to do far more than what we can do or think” (Eph 3:20). Pray with us as we venture into this new year. Pray the Lord will bring a genuine revival in the Native communities across this continent, and that Occom Ministries would be able to meet the need of growing disciples and training leaders.



Will you join us by praying for us and generously supporting Occom Ministries?

Your prayers and financial gifts are what makes it possible for us to make disciples and equip leaders in Native America. We are grateful to the Lord for bringing us thus far. He has given us a blessed burden, clear vision, generous partners, and many ministry opportunities. We have every reason to believe the Lord stands with us ready to advance forward with his kingdom in Native America.

Zechariah 4:10 tells us not to despise small beginnings. We certainly have started small, still in our foundational stages, but the Lord's hand of providence has moved on our behalf since our inception.

We pray the Lord of the Harvest is burdening you with the need among the Native peoples of North America. The Lord has gone before us. We invite you to join us as we answer the call to raise up and equip Native pastors and make disciples among the nations.

Gifts can be mailed to

Occom Ministries, PO Box 471435, Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1435

Online gifts can be made by going to [**www.Occom.org/Give/**](http://www.Occom.org/Give/)



“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.”

– John 17:20–23 (ESV)





www.Occom.org
www.NativePastorsGathering.org



www.Facebook.com/OccomMinistries



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