



# IRTC

INTERNATIONAL REFORMED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

## Gratitude and Hope at the End of 2025

### Recognizing the Lord's Blessings

As we approach the end of another year, we are led, as an academic and Christian community, to look back with gratitude and ahead with humble confidence. This year was marked by clear signs of the Lord's goodness and faithfulness toward the IRTC, and it is with this spirit of gratitude that we prepare for the challenges that lie ahead.

First, we thank God for the continued year-over-year growth of our student body. This growth has enabled the College to serve the Body of Christ in an ever-increasing number of countries and local churches, expanding the reach of Reformed theological education throughout the Portuguese-speaking world.

We are also grateful for a record number of graduates this year. Each completed program represents not only an academic achievement, but another step in the preparation of men and women for faithful service in the church and in mission. Some of these testimonies can be read in the other article in this issue of the newsletter, and we praise God for every story of perseverance and calling.

We likewise recognize the Lord's continued financial provision. Growth and expansion bring additional costs and responsibilities, yet God has been faithful in supplying our needs, even as He challenges us to seek new partners in this work. We are deeply thankful for all those who walk alongside us in this ministry.

Another reason for gratitude is God's provision in bringing new, highly capable instructors to join the College's faculty. Over the course of the year, some professors retired, others stepped away due to health concerns, and still others were called to serve the Lord in different contexts. In each case, the Lord has raised up prepared and committed individuals to continue the work of teaching with excellence and faithfulness.

We are also thankful for the Lord's provision through the IRTC Society, which made possible our transition to the Canvas platform as our new learning management system—an important step forward in improving the academic experience, as highlighted in this newsletter's previous issue.

Finally, 2025 marked a significant milestone in our history: 25 years of service in the ministry of theological education. This anniversary leads us not only to celebrate the past, but to acknowledge that all glory belongs to the Lord, who has sustained this work for a quarter of a century.



### Looking Ahead to 2026: Prayer Requests

As we look toward 2026, we ask our readers to join us in prayer for several important challenges. The first is the funding of a growing number of students who require scholarships, particularly in developing countries facing economic hardship and political instability.

We also ask for prayer that the Lord would raise up additional supporters and partners to join us in the mission of spreading quality Reformed theological education throughout the Portuguese-speaking world, especially during this season of growth and expanding needs at the College.

Finally, we request prayer for the process of relocating the administrative headquarters from Bristol, Virginia, to the state of Florida. This transition involves many legal and administrative steps, and we ask that the Lord would grant wisdom, clarity, and peace to all who are involved.

We move forward confident that the One who has sustained us thus far will continue to direct our steps. May all our gratitude and all our hope be firmly grounded in the faithfulness of the Lord, yesterday, today, and forever.

# Fruits of Faithful Teaching: Voices from the IRTC Community



**Paulo Diego Moreno Martins, BBS – Cape Verde**

When I went to Cape Verde as a missionary, I longed to study theology, but it seemed unfeasible. During a trip to Brazil, I was offered the opportunity to study, on the condition that I remain in the country. After prayer and counsel, I understood that I needed to return to Cape Verde.

Shortly before my return, I learned about the IRTC, but the cost was beyond my reach. Once back in Cape Verde, a friend offered to cover half the cost of a course, which encouraged me to take the first step. Later, I was surprised to receive a full scholarship for being the first IRTC student in Cape Verde. It was a clear confirmation that God knows our needs and acts at the right time.

Today, after completing my bachelor's degree, I am pursuing a master's degree in missiology. I give glory to God for the IRTC and for all the partners who make this ministry possible.

**Paulo César Júlio, completing BBS – São Paulo, Brazil**

As I complete my bachelor's degree, I am deeply grateful for the education I received at the IRTC and for its direct impact on my ministry. The faithful teaching and the care shown by the instructors significantly raised the quality of my preaching and teaching, preparing me for the next stage of my pastoral calling. Now, on the verge of beginning a master's program, I can say with confidence that investing in the IRTC is investing in solid training so that the Word of God continues to be taught faithfully.

**Fernando Sulate Mangare, ACS, BCS – Qatar**

My experience studying at the IRTC has been deeply enriching for my devotional life and for my ministry in the local church. I learned to read the Scriptures more carefully, to see the beauty of Christ, His promises, and the role of each biblical character in the plan of redemption. The interaction with instructors marked by godliness, wisdom, and patience shaped not only my knowledge but also my vision of ministry, awakening in me a strong calling towards missions and theological teaching. Even though I began my studies with significant practical limitations, I grew in confidence and preparation, serving my community more effectively and gaining a deeper understanding of the importance of biblical knowledge for the edification of the church.

**Thiago Rosendo de Souza, MMs student – Burkina Faso**

The IRTC provides me with a level of training that exceeded my expectations, combining solid content with an accessible and well-structured platform. The teaching is inspiring and focused on what is essential for the challenges of our time, addressing the needs of communities with deep deficiencies in biblical training. In the context of supporting churches facing persecution because of the Gospel, the IRTC has been a reference for serious and humble instruction, firmly rooted in Scripture, strengthening the faithful proclamation of the Word and the witness of the Kingdom for the glory of God.



*Photos: Paulo Diego Moreno Martins (top) and Thiago Rosendo de Souza (above), serving in Cape Verde and Burkina Faso.*

\$227,245  
2025 Budget

**91%**

\$207,516  
Raised (Nov 30)



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