



CELEBRATING YOUR PAST.


HONORING THE PRESENT.

INSPIRING OUR FUTURE.

Welcome to the

Golden Bishops Circle





*Wesleyan's First
Graduating Class*

**“THE FUNCTION OF EDUCATION
IS TO TEACH ONE TO THINK
INTENSIVELY AND TO THINK
CRITICALLY. INTELLIGENCE PLUS
CHARACTER—THAT IS THE GOAL
OF TRUE EDUCATION.”**

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



What is the Golden Bishops Circle?

In 2021, North Carolina Wesleyan University created the Golden Bishops Circle (GBC) to honor alumni who have commemorated 50 years or more since graduation. Founded in 1956 and officially opening our doors to students in 1960, Wesleyan's first class of 33 graduated in May of 1964 (pictured left). While many things have changed since then, we are still known today as the Battling Bishops and our collegiate colors remain blue and gold.

The GBC's mission is to connect Bishop Alumni, share common stories and memories, as well as inform, educate and engage with North Carolina Wesleyan University. GBC members are vital to keeping Wesleyan's history and future alive, and are encouraged to actively participate in ensuring the success of the institution for generations to come.

As a Golden Bishop, when you return to campus and engage with current students and other alumni, your different perspectives, ideas and stories enrich the University community and alumni legacies that have been a part of our history since 1956.



Class of 1964

Our history combined with the legacy of Bishop Alumni enrich and strengthen the bond that we share; the preservation of those memories, relationships and stories define our history and create the foundation for our future. Alumni are a part of the foundation upon which NC Wesleyan continues to build upon even today.

Without the dedication and support of so many people, particularly Bishop Alumni, NC Wesleyan would not be a leader in higher education within eastern North Carolina. From our main campus in Rocky Mount, to the ten satellite campuses for Adult & Professional Studies, together, we have made an impact on students, businesses, and communities for more than six decades...and we're committed to doing more!



How do I become a member of the Golden Bishops Circle?

Membership is comprised of North Carolina Wesleyan alumni who have commemorated 50 years or more since graduating. When Bishop Alumni celebrate their 50th Class Reunion, or as some may refer to as “their Golden Reunion,” they will be inducted into the Golden Bishops Circle, thus becoming a Golden Bishop. Enrollment is automatic and there is no annual cost or membership fee.

Each year, a graduation ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the spring semester; at that time, new members will be recognized, officially inducted and honored as they lead the procession into graduation followed by the current class of Wesleyan graduates.

Membership Benefits:

Golden Bishops Circle members enjoy access to unique invitations and other privileges, including:

- ***Special Invitation to Commencement***
- ***Special Invitation to Alumni & GBC Gatherings***
- ***Designated GBC Area at Homecoming***
- ***Free Access to Certain Sporting Events***
- ***GBC Member Discounts in the Campus Bookstore***
- ***WESmagazine (published twice a year)***
- ***Bishop Beat E-Newsletter (monthly)***



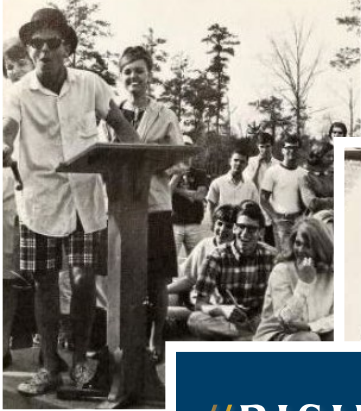
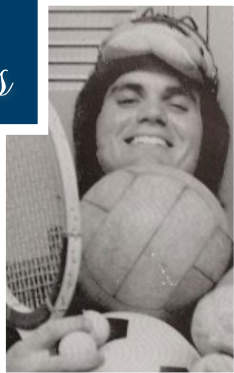
“ I’m impressed with the advancements and programs taking place at our alma mater. I encourage all Bishop alumni to join me in visiting campus and supporting Wesleyan. ”

R. Bruce Sharer Sr. '68

Celebrating Your Past. Honoring The Present. Inspiring Our Future.



Friends & Memories



**#BISHOPS
4LIFE**





Golden Bishops Circle Constitution

I. Name

The official, name of this organization shall be the Golden Bishops Circle or GBC.

II. Purpose

It shall be the purpose of the Golden Bishops Circle to:

- (1) Provide members with an association that promotes their social interaction and camaraderie and that shall facilitate their desire to assist and support North Carolina Wesleyan.
- (2) Provide at least one gathering annually where official business of the Golden Bishops Circle may be conducted. This may happen at Commencement, Homecoming or at an event off-campus.
- (3) Collect, update and preserve histories of all members and their NC Wesleyan experience.

III. Members

All persons who graduated from North Carolina Wesleyan shall automatically become members of NCWU'S Golden Bishops Circle 50 years after graduation.

IV. Honorary Members

Honorary membership may be extended to those who exhibit an active interest and a desire to promote the objectives and purpose of the Golden Bishops Circle. Such persons shall be nominated by Club members, friends, family or members of the NC Wesleyan community. The names of nominees shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration with final approval by GBC members at the next meeting.

V. Officers

GBC Officers shall consist of the President, First Vice President and a Second Vice President.

Section 1. Duties

The **President** shall preside at meetings whenever possible, perform the duties prescribed by Parliamentary Authority and serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint standing committees and special committees and may call special Executive Committee meetings if the need arises.

The **First-Vice President** shall participate on the Executive Committee and perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President.

The **Second Vice-President** shall participate on the Executive Committee and perform the duties of the First Vice-President in the absence of the First Vice-President, as well as keep the minutes of all meetings and record them in permanent form.

Section 2. Election of Officers—Nominations

All officers shall be elected for two years and shall be committed to attending meetings whenever possible.

Section 3. Executive Committee

The Officers shall comprise the Executive Committee.

VI. Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

There shall be at least one annual gathering to conduct the business of the Golden Bishops Circle. It may be held during the weekend of Commencement, at Homecoming or at an event off-campus.

Section 2. Special Meetings

Special meetings to conduct the business of the Golden Bishops Circle may be called by the President, University staff or by a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Events & Gatherings

Special events and gatherings may be sponsored by, or held on behalf of, the Golden Bishops Circle at various times and locations throughout the United States. Members, honorary members and

friends of NC Wesleyan shall be encouraged to attend and celebrate their NC Wesleyan affiliation.

VII. Induction of New Members

Members of the Class having attained its 50th anniversary year shall be inducted into the Golden Bishops Circle. The Class shall be recognized at a celebration in conjunction with their 50th reunion and/or annually at spring graduation ceremonies.

VIII. Membership

Every NC Wesleyan alumni who meets the criteria previously stated is automatically a member of the Golden Bishops Circle. There are no annual fees involved with membership at this time.

IX. Committees

Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President. The President may also appoint any special committees deemed necessary at any time.

There shall be three standing committees: Constitution Committee, Nominating Committee and the Social Committee. Each standing committee shall be composed of a chair and two or more members.

Section 1. The Constitution Committee

The Constitution Committee shall meet at least once every five years to review and recommend, if needed, amendments and updates to the Constitution.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President. They shall submit to the members a slate of candidates for approval and election for each office the term of which shall be vacant following the Commencement meeting.

Section 3. The Social Committee

The Social Committee shall be made up of five members and one chair. The Committee shall be appointed by the President with the assistance of the University staff. Each member of the Social Committee shall serve a two-year term. The Committee shall work in conjunction with the Alumni Office.

X. Parliamentary Authority

Robert's *Rules of Order* shall be the authority in all meetings of the GBC procedure not covered by this Constitution.

XI. Amendment of Constitution

This constitution may be amended at any meeting by a vote of 2/3 of the members in attendance and voting at that meeting. The proposed amendment must be provided to the members at least twenty-one days prior to the meeting date.

*For questions regarding
the Golden Bishops Circle,
contact **alumni@ncwu.edu**
or call **252.985.5266**.*



3400 N. Wesleyan Blvd. | Rocky Mount, NC
ncwu.edu/alumni-relations

