

PRIMUS 25 YEARS

UNIVERSITY OF THEOLOGY

Christ first in life and education

CELEBRATING 2001-2026

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Karen Drake: President

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER DR. KAREN E. DRAKE — CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Primus University of Theology, my heart is filled with gratitude, reflection, and renewed vision. Twenty-five years represents far more than a milestone in time — it represents thousands of lives touched, ministries strengthened, leaders equipped, and callings affirmed through Christ-centered education. Since our founding in 2001, Primus has empowered hundreds of students from around the world to pursue Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees by recognizing not only formal education, but ministry experience, Biblical knowledge, lifelong learning, and servant leadership. What began as a God-given vision has grown into a global community of pastors, chaplains, educators, business professionals, and Kingdom builders who continue to impact churches, communities, and nations worldwide.

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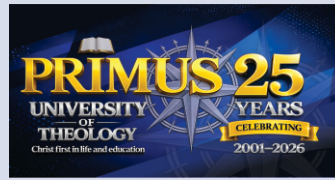
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Recognizing Our Founder

This milestone celebration would not be complete without honoring the life, vision, and legacy of my late husband, Dr. Richard N. Drake, founder and visionary architect of Primus University of Theology. Dr. Drake believed deeply that ministry experience, independent study, and lifelong

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

learning deserved both recognition and academic value, and through that conviction he pioneered a contemporary model of Christian higher education rooted in discipleship, mentorship, and practical ministry. As an ordained minister, educator, humanitarian, and founder of multiple outreach initiatives — including the Army of Compassion — Dr. Drake dedicated his life to equipping servant leaders for Kingdom impact. His passion for accessible, faith-driven education continues to shape Primus University's mission and direction today.

Our Celebration Logo and New Website

This historic year also marks an exciting new season of growth and advancement for the University. As part of our 25-year celebration, we are proud to introduce our commemorative anniversary logo, featuring an open Bible and compass set in our signature blue and gold — symbolizing the Biblical truth, wisdom, guidance, and excellence that have defined Primus since its beginning. Blue reflects wisdom, faith, and spiritual depth, while gold represents achievement, honor, and the enduring value of Christian education.

We are also excited to announce our newly redesigned website and digital engagement platform, which will provide a modern, accessible, and student-focused experience for the next generation of learners. The website is in the development phase and we will let you know when it is live.

Our New Board of Directors

As Primus University of Theology enters its 26th year, we are honored to welcome our newly appointed Board of Directors — a distinguished group of accomplished alumni who embody the institution's mission and vision.

Over the years, these graduates have established themselves as respected leaders in ministry, business, education, and organizational development, and today they return as trusted stewards of the University's future. Working alongside the President and Co-Founder, the Board will provide strategic oversight, governance, and visionary guidance as Primus continues to grow and expand its global impact. The University proudly welcomes these exceptional leaders and looks forward to a new season of unity and advancement together.



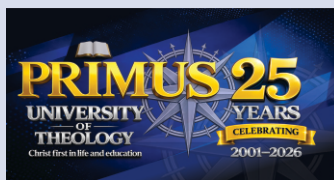
Annual Eagle Forum and Graduation Celebration

Looking ahead, we are especially excited for this year's Annual Eagle Forum and Graduation Celebration, centered on the theme "*Milestones and Markers.*" The Forum will provide a meaningful opportunity for alumni, leaders, and ministry voices to reflect on how Primus University has shaped their lives, ministries, businesses, and personal journeys.

The Graduation Ceremony will once again celebrate students who have answered God's call to pursue higher learning, Kingdom leadership, and servant ministry. Thank you to every student, graduate, supporter, faculty member, and ministry partner who has been part of this extraordinary 25-year journey. Together, we continue to place Christ first in life and education — and the best is yet to come.

CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT: DR. DON ENEVOLDSEN

Primus University of Theology is pleased to announce two upcoming courses taught by Dr. Don Enevoldsen, designed to equip students with deeper Biblical understanding and practical theological insight. Beginning in June, Dr. Enevoldsen will lead *Christian Ethics*, a course focused on helping students thoughtfully engage contemporary and often controversial issues from a solid Biblical perspective. Topics will include divorce, women in ministry, immigration, homosexuality, and other ethical and cultural issues facing the Church and society today.



CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT (Continued)

Beginning the last week of June, Dr. Enevoldsen will also offer *Introduction to Biblical Languages*, an engaging foundational course exploring the basics of Greek and Hebrew. Students will gain practical tools for using online Biblical study resources more effectively while also learning about textual criticism, ancient manuscripts, and the historical development and preservation of the Bible.

Class days and times will be scheduled according to student availability. Those interested in registering for either courses are encouraged to contact Dr. Karen Drake at Primus University of Theology for additional information and registration details at (602) 224-1161 or Dr. Don Enevoldsen at (310) 728-0509.

OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. John D. Melby



Dr. Edward Smith



Rev. Dr. Donna J. Matlach



Dr. Charles Matlach

Dr. Jon Melby — Board Chair Dr. Jon Melby is a systems strategist, entrepreneur, and advisor who specializes in helping organizations build scalable, faith-aligned infrastructure for sustainable growth. He is the founder of FearBoss and co-founder of LoveJoy Hormone Clinic, and is the author of KingdomNomics, a framework that integrates Biblical principles with practical business strategy. In his role on the Primus Board, Dr. Melby is leading the University's modernization efforts — including the implementation of new platforms for student engagement, enrollment tracking, and alumni management — ensuring that every step forward reflects both operational excellence and sound Biblical stewardship.

Dr. Edward Smith — Chancellor Dr. Edward Smith is a distinguished chaplain, humanitarian, and ministry leader whose decades of service have taken him into some of life's most demanding environments — from law enforcement and correctional facilities to disaster response operations and international missions in Ukraine. A Doctor of Ministry graduate of Primus University of Theology, Dr. Smith also

enjoyed a distinguished career in global aviation and travel, and is widely recognized as an international speaker, trainer, and crisis ministry pioneer. As Chancellor and Board member, he brings a rare combination of compassion, courage, and Kingdom-minded leadership that continues to inspire students and graduates worldwide.

Rev. Dr. Donna Jean Matlach Dr. Donna Matlach is a Christian counselor, life coach, author, ordained minister, and tireless advocate whose career has spanned grief and trauma counseling, chronic illness awareness, and faith-based community leadership. She earned her Doctorate from Primus University of Theology and founded the Severe Asthma Foundation, later serving on the Board of the Allergy and Asthma Network, while her television appearances, global lectures, and publications have reached audiences across multiple continents. Today she leads a Christian counseling network and her Christ-centered coaching ministry, 360 Life Coaching, dedicated to helping individuals find healing and renewed purpose through God's grace.

OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

Dr. Charles Matlach Dr. Charles Matlach is a retired dental educator and academic leader who served for 25 years as an Associate Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine before being appointed Director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Clinic at A.T. Still University in Arizona, where he oversaw a graduate program of 14 residents and 77 faculty and staff. A holder of a Master of Ministry from Phoenix

University of Theology, Dr. Matlach also served five years as President of the Board of the Christian Academy of Western New York, and together with his wife Donna remains actively involved in volunteer and fundraising leadership at Cardinal O'Hara High School in Tonawanda, New York. His breadth of experience in both professional education and Christian institutional governance makes him a valued and trusted voice on the Primus Board.

OUR ANNUAL EAGLE FORUM AND GRADUATION



FORUM THEME: MILESTONES AND MARKERS

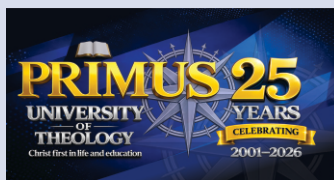
This year's Annual Eagle Forum will take place on Thursday and Friday, October 8–9, beginning with a special Welcome Event on Wednesday evening, October 8 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM.

The Graduation Ceremony will follow on Saturday morning, October 10. Thomas Richburg will serve as Program Director and Master of Ceremonies, and we are honored to welcome an outstanding roster of speakers including Dr. Edward Smith, Dr. Lance Wallnau (awaiting confirmation), Rev. Mark Biltz, Dr. Danny Bengigi, Dr. Jon Melby, Attorney Sherra Kisse, Dr. Carousel Pieterse, Dr. Susan Salvestri, Dr. Scott Bitcon, Michael and Johanna Claire, Dr. Don Enevoldsen, Dr. Robert Wolff, Dr. Kenneth Caldwell, and Dr. Nathan French.

The theme "Milestones and Markers" could not be more fitting as Primus University celebrates 25 years of Christ-centered education, ministry development, and Kingdom impact.

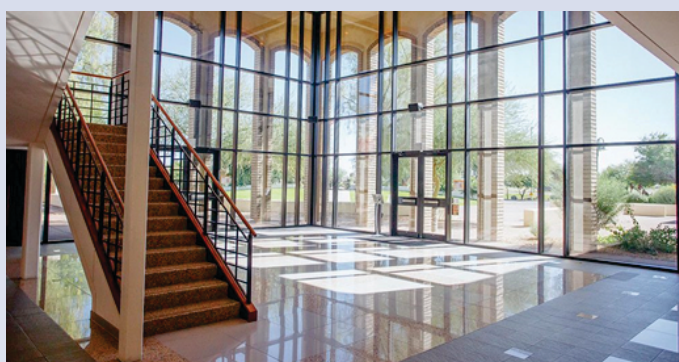
Speakers will share personal testimonies of how Primus shaped their ministries, leadership, businesses, and spiritual journeys — reflecting on the defining moments and opportunities that have marked their paths. For many graduates, Primus became more than an institution; it became a catalyst for purpose, affirmation, and Kingdom advancement.

The Forum will celebrate 25 years of extraordinary milestones while casting a bold vision for the generation of leaders now rising to carry the mission of Christ-centered leadership into every sphere of influence.



PRIMUS 25th ANNUAL EAGLE FORUM

AND GRADUATION CEREMONY
OCTOBER 8 - 9, 2026 - make your plans NOW to attend!
ONLY \$250.00 PER PERSON



ANNUAL EAGLE FORUM

Room block reservations at:
DoubleTree by Hilton North Phoenix
Address: **10220 N. Metro Pkwy East,
Phoenix, Arizona 85051**
Booking deadline: **September 23, 2026**
Primus guests will receive a special
Group Rate up to the closing date.

Booking Link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhoen=PHXNTDT&groupCode=CDTPUT&arrivaldate=2026-10-07&departuredate=2026-10-09&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Rooms & Rates:

King/Double Queens beds: \$149.00
Parking is free.

GRADUATION EVENT

Venue:

Rhode Auditorium

Date:

Saturday October 10, 2026

Address:

**Arizona Christian University/
Primus University of Theology Campus
1 West Firestorm Way, Glendale, Arizona 85306**

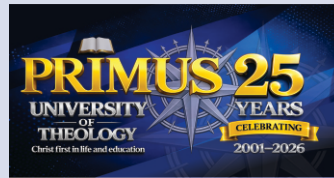
Commencement Ceremony:

10:30am- 12:00pm

Reception on site following Graduation Ceremony:

12:15 pm-1:30 pm

Call (602) 224-1161 to register and receive college credits for Eagle Forum attendance and participation.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH ACU Mentor Protégé Strategic Alliance Partnership

Primus University has been modeled after the original university systems at the advent of education, where Bible teaching was required even for medical and law students. Our graduates become our Adjunct Professors. This allows our students to learn from Christian Leaders that are experts in their field, and authors of the books and materials they teach.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH ORU Educational Partnership Agreement

Primus University of Theology and Oral Robert's University have entered into an Educational Partners agreement, to expand opportunities for essential career skills, to benefit students as they prepare to impact the world for the kingdom of God. ORU is committed to develop Holy Spirit-empowered leaders through whole person education to impact the world.



Dr. Karen E. Drake
President