

**A New Man in Christ
Graduation Ceremony of Montie Hansen
Adult and Teen Challenge New England
23 January 2026**

Karen and I were honored to represent the church at the Adult and Teen Challenge (A&TC) New England graduation ceremony in Brockton, MA on 23 January. You will recall that the A&TC New Hampshire program is one of our 10 supported ministries. The state director, Hector Andujar, visited us in January 2025 in company with three program participants. For new members and friends, A&TC is a life changing, Christian-based program for people with alcohol and drug addiction/abuse issues. In contrast to other programs, which too often fail or have transient results, A&TC places Christ at the center of the year-long program and seeks not only sobriety but, through the power of Christ, the creation of new men and women prepared to face the trials to come and to reconcile with family and friends.

The fundamental precept of the program is found in Isaiah 43: 18-19, herewith quoted in part. ***“Forget things that happened in the past. . .I am about to do something new. I am going to make a way for you [and] will make streams of water in the dry and empty land.”***

During their visit last year, I had a long conversation with one of the program attendees, Montie Hansen. He looked me directly in the eye and asserted with great conviction that he would complete the program successfully. I promised to help him celebrate his graduation. I was so impressed that I followed his progress with Hector Andujar and the staff in Manchester. Both promises were redeemed on 23 January. He is now a New Man in Christ and I am even more convinced that the ministry is worthy of the fullest support we can afford.

The large auditorium was filled with families, friends, faculty, and program participants from all over New England to honor the twelve graduates (three women and nine men). Each graduate spoke briefly and testified to God’s power and grace, which sustained them during the demanding program, provided them healing, created renewed relationships with loved ones and others, for support from so many people, and for fulfilling the words of the Lord in Isaiah by showing the way to life anew.

Many emotions were present during the ceremony: pride, satisfaction, thankfulness, and optimism, but by far the greatest was JOY. What an extraordinary experience it was!

Karen and I were privileged to present Montie personal gifts along with an inscribed Life Application Bible (suggested by a particularly insightful member of our congregation) on behalf of the church. Beyond the intrinsic value of these loving tokens, he was struck by our church’s recalling him and supporting his recovery and transformation vicariously. He asked us to be sure to convey to everyone how vitally important it is for people in the program to

know that they are remembered, receive prayers for their success, and realize that they are not alone.

He will express this thought personally when he and others from A&TC visit us again on 22 February.

In the meantime and beyond, we encourage you to write to him to support his maturation in his faith, his transition, and his success in his new role as a program mentor. He can be reached at:

- **Montie Hansen
Adult and Teen Challenge New Hampshire
147 Laurel Street
Manchester, NH 03103**

Ralph Puckett