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Build, Lead, Invest: Big Kingdom Moves Happening in Birmingham This May

1 message

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Tue, May 6, 2025 at 9:49 AM

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Kingdom Ledger - May 2025 Edition

ENGAGING BUSINESS LEADERS & INVESTORS FOR CHRIST

☀️ **Welcome to the Kingdom Ledger — a monthly briefing for faith-driven business leaders and investors, built around Leadership, Empowerment, and Community.** ☀️

Hello Builders of the Kingdom,

On behalf of the Elders, shareholders, and Market Partners at **Oasis Venture Studio**, I'm thrilled to bring you the **May edition** of *The Kingdom Ledger*—where we spotlight ventures, voices, and visionaries advancing God's purposes through business.

Every feature in this issue comes directly from within our **Birmingham ecosystem**—entrepreneurs, investors, and community leaders who are moving with intentionality and Kingdom alignment. Wherever possible, we've linked names to LinkedIn profiles to make it easy for you to connect, collaborate, or simply encourage.

Inside, you'll discover what's launching, scaling, and shifting in the lives of leaders just like you. Whether you're exploring new opportunities or nurturing existing ones, we pray this curated collection fuels your journey with clarity and boldness this month.

Nearly everyone included is part of my personal network—so if anything here stirs your spirit or aligns with your calling, don't hesitate to reach out. I'm always happy to help connect like-minded leaders.

With purpose and expectation,

Martin A. Briggs

Executive Producer & Franchise Advisor

Oasis Venture Studio



Shawn Lovejoy, Founder & CEO of **CourageToLead.com**, is bringing the **Killer Team One-Day** experience to **Highlands College in Birmingham, AL on May 15—and it's coming up fast!** This powerful event equips marketplace and ministry leaders to build stronger, healthier, and more aligned teams. As a special bonus for Kingdom Ledger readers, you can use promo code **KILLER30** to receive **30% off your registration**. [Reserve your spot today](#) and invest in the leadership growth your team deserves!



Get 30% Off Killer Team One-Day – Use Code KILLER30





EVENTS

[Dave Woods](#), Co-Owner of [DDS Solutions](#) and Board Treasurer of **The Ladder**, has an incredible story—going from extreme drug addiction to founding a thriving trucking business and launching The Ladder to help others climb higher in life.

You're invited to join **The Ladder's Casino Night Fundraiser** on **May 16th at the Shades Creek Pool House in Ross Bridge**. Enjoy dinner, games, and fellowship—all while supporting a powerful Birmingham nonprofit focused on removing real-world barriers for individuals and families. [Get your tickets here!](#)

[Kevin Moore](#), Area Director of **Mission Increase Central Alabama**, invites leaders from business, church, nonprofit, and government sectors to the next **Cause Conversations** gathering on **Wednesday, May 21, from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM at Shades Mountain Community Church**.

Come collaborate on real solutions for some of Birmingham's biggest needs. [Register here](#)—lunch is provided and there's no cost to attend!

[Liz Harrison](#), Community Engagement Coordinator at **Grace Klein Community**, invites you to the **third annual Golf Invitational** supporting the FeedBHM program on **Thursday, May 22, 2025**, at Ballantrae Golf Club in Pelham, AL. The event honors Oliver Waltman and offers opportunities to **golf, sponsor, or donate**—[learn more and sign up here](#).



LEADERSHIP

[Chuck Welden](#), of **WeldenField Development**, is among the Alabama leaders who supported **House Bill 342**, which would require schools to honor parent requests for **Released Time Religious Instruction** during the school day. Backed by **Lt. Governor Ainsworth** and a **1952**

Supreme Court ruling, the bill moves Alabama toward becoming a “shall” state—joining Tennessee, Florida, and others. Learn more in this [3-minute explainer video](#).

[William Norvell](#), Co-Founder and Podcast Host of **Faith Driven Entrepreneur** and **Faith Driven Investor**, highlights a powerful post about **Henry Kaestner**—the story of making his first \$1 million at 28, leading \$1 billion+ in revenue, and how the **gospel transformed** his approach to business.

Many in Birmingham’s faith and business community know Henry well, and it’s worth noting William is also a proud **Alabama native** and **Summa Cum Laude** graduate of the **University of Alabama**. [Read the full post here](#).

[Duane Donner II](#), Founder and CEO of **Founders Advisors**, recently shared his experience going through the **FREEDOM Ministry** at Church of the Highlands—an impactful journey helping believers walk in deeper healing, freedom, and Kingdom purpose. [Learn more about the Freedom Ministry here](#).

As someone who served in Freedom Conferences for years, I can say it remains one of the most transformative ministries I’ve experienced—even now as I am fully committed to a **home discipleship community**.

EMPOWERMENT

[Paula Mackey](#), founder of **Mackey Meadows**, is a dear personal friend whose journey into plant medicine has become a true gift to the wellbeing of others. After discovering allergies to common antibiotics, she turned to essential oils and herbal remedies—leading to over a decade of study and healing experience.

Her work is rooted in prayer, wisdom, and the belief that our bodies were designed to heal with the help of God’s creation. If you’re seeking natural support for your health, I encourage you to [explore her growing line of tinctures and plant-based remedies](#).





[Thomas Cox](#), Owner of **Table and Thyme** and entrepreneur, shares why he ditched traditional savings accounts in favor of **Infinite Banking**—using properly structured whole life insurance to control, grow, and protect his cash.

If you want a smarter way to think about saving and building wealth, [read his latest post and watch the video here](#).

[Mark Hancock](#), a longtime friend and a well-respected leader in the Birmingham community, is the Owner of **Hancock Construction**. He has grown from running a small light-duty remodeling company to leading a full-service residential and commercial general contracting firm—responsible for outstanding projects like **The Dean** and **The Lindsey Building**.

If you're looking for **office space or coworking space in the Vestavia Hills area**, let me know—I'd be happy to connect you with his team directly.

COMMUNITY

[Austin Hardison](#) has been named the new **Executive Director of Scholarships for Kids**. Austin is a great guy and a strong leader, and we're excited to see the impact he'll make in this new role. Did you know you can **redirect a portion of your Alabama state taxes to support education** through Scholarships for Kids? It's a simple, powerful way to make a lasting difference—without spending a dollar more. [Learn more here](#)



[Jonathan Kiel](#), who leads the Birmingham market for **SURV**, is helping expand a business that first launched through **The Lion's Den of Birmingham** and continues to make a Kingdom impact.

If you need help with **window washing, pressure washing, yard work, moving, or other odd jobs**, I highly recommend Jonathan and the SURV team. They're doing great work across Birmingham.

If you're interested, [click here to book](#) or call **205-502-2862** to get on their spring schedule!

[Gerrick Wilkins](#), CEO of **Omega Advisors Inc.**, is a seasoned buy-sell consultant, author, and civic-minded leader known for his commitment to faith and community impact. In response to recent criticism of **Samford University**, Gerrick offers a compelling alum's perspective rooted in firsthand experience and long-standing connection to the campus.

[Read his article here](#): *"For God, for learning, forever."*



Thank you for taking the time to read the May edition of *The Kingdom Ledger*. If there's any way I can serve, support, or connect you further this month, I'd be honored to do so—just reach out.

If you've been encouraged by the stories and opportunities we've curated, and would like to express your gratitude or support the ongoing mission, you're welcome to make a financial