

Wesley Burns and the Burns-Hagin Family

Public Leadership, Ministry, and Records Review

Purpose and scope

This document compiles publicly available information about Wesley Burns; his parents, Rev. Denise Hagin Burns and Don Burns; and their publicly described roles within the Rhema/Kenneth Hagin Ministries network. It separates verified public facts from unverified claims and does not treat shared surnames or search-result matches as identity evidence.

Research date: June 23, 2026

Prepared for: Oklahoma Child Wellbeing

Scope: Official ministry biographies, ministry publications, public event programs, host-church promotions, and readily searchable public-web materials.

This is not a criminal-history background check, a credit report, a private-investigation report, or a finding of wrongdoing. Court, licensing, employment, and disciplinary systems are not uniformly searchable and may contain identity ambiguities. The absence of a finding in this review is not proof that no record exists.

Executive summary

Public sources establish that Rev. Denise Hagin Burns is currently a co-pastor of Rhema Bible Church, an instructor at Rhema Bible Training College, and a long-serving staff leader with earlier roles in children, youth, family, and executive ministry. Her official biography identifies her as the daughter of Kenneth W. and Lynette Hagin and says she and husband Don Burns have two sons. [1]

Public ministry materials identify Wesley Burns as a 2025 Oral Roberts University finance graduate who works at Rhema Bible Church in Student Ministries, Creative Media, and the Ninowski Recreation Center (NRC); the same official program says he travels with the Living Faith Crusade team. [2] Public posts by his uncle, Craig Hagin, identify him as Craig's nephew, consistent with the Burns-Hagin family relationship. [3]

This review located public evidence of education, staff assignments, youth-facing ministry, conference travel, and guest preaching. It did **not** locate a reliable public source connecting Wesley Burns, Denise Hagin Burns, or Don Burns to an arrest, criminal charge, civil judgment, professional discipline, or substantiated misconduct finding. Search results did contain unrelated people with the same names; those were excluded because identity was not established.

Important reading note

A ministry biography, church post, event flyer, or host-church endorsement documents that an organization publicly gave someone a role or platform. It does not independently verify every claim, prove character, or replace background checks, safeguarding procedures, references, or institutional accountability.

1. Family and organizational context

The family relationship and institutional context are relevant because the people discussed hold, or are publicly presented as holding, roles within the same ministry ecosystem.

Person	Publicly documented relationship / role
Rev. Denise Hagin Burns	Daughter of Kenneth W. and Lynette Hagin; co-pastor of Rhema Bible Church; Rhema Bible Training College instructor; on Rhema staff since 1993. [1]
Don Burns	Denise Burns' husband. Rhema alumni materials identify the couple as former pastors of The Harbor Church in Austin, Texas, and credit them with joint ministry and financial-management content. [4][5]
Wesley Burns	One of Denise and Don Burns' two sons according to family/public context supplied for this research and consistent with public family posts. A 2025 Rhema program identifies him as an ORU finance graduate, Rhema staff member, and Living Faith Crusade team traveler. [2][3]

Denise Hagin Burns: verified leadership history

- Official Rhema biography: on staff since 1993; earlier assignments include nursery/preschool director, children's minister, youth pastor, family ministries pastor, and executive pastor; currently co-pastor and RBTC instructor. [1]
- Education stated by Rhema: bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Oklahoma State University and 1998 RBTC graduate. [1]
- Official historical materials show Denise and her brother Craig presenting their mother Lynette Hagin with an RMAI ordination certificate in 2004. [6]
- Rhema's 2015 publication identified her as Student Ministries Pastor and reported she led a team of 19 teens and 11 Varsity Youth leaders on a trip to Bogotá, Colombia. [7]

Don Burns: verified public ministry history

- Rhema alumni content identifies Don (RBTC classes of 2004 and 2005) and Denise (1997 and 1998) as pastors of The Harbor Church in Austin, Texas at the time of publication. [4]
- A 2008 Rhema alumni publication attributed financial-management and household-budgeting guidance to Don and Denise Burns, who were then reported to live and work in Round Rock, Texas. [5]
- A 2025 Rhema service listing identifies Don Burns as helping with financial management and wealth-building goals. [8]

2. Wesley Burns: education, role, and ministry activity

Official and host-ministry material presents Wesley Burns as a young adult staff member and speaker whose work is substantially youth-facing. The available public documentation supports the following:

- **Education:** A Rhema Summer Blitz 2025 program says Wesley graduated from Oral Roberts University with a degree in Finance. [2]
- **Rhema work assignments:** The same program says he works at Rhema Bible Church in Student Ministries, Creative Media, and the NRC. [2]
- **Ministry travel:** The program states that he travels with the Living Faith Crusade team. [2] A public post by Craig Hagin places Wesley speaking at a Living Faith Conference in Fort Worth, Texas. [3]
- **Youth and event activity:** In 2026, Rhema promoted Wesley as a host for the 37th Annual Rhema Basketball Camp. [9]
- **Guest preaching:** Public host-church announcements identify him as a guest speaker at a church service, with promotional language describing his youth-focused ministry. [10][11]

Publicly identified speaking or event platforms

Venue / event	Public documentation
Living Faith Conference, Fort Worth, Texas	Craig Hagin publicly described Wesley as his nephew and posted that Wesley was ministering at the conference. [3]
Rhema Summer Blitz 2025	Official Rhema youth-event program lists Wesley among speakers and provides biographical details. [2]
Guest church service - February 1, 2026	A public livestream listing identifies Wesley Burns as a guest speaker. The host church name is not visible in the available search excerpt, so this review does not attribute a specific venue without direct confirmation. [12]
Camp Fearless	Camp Fearless publicly promoted Wesley as a guest speaker from Rhema Bible Church. [10]
Dominion Church	Dominion Church promoted Wesley as a guest speaker and described him as working in Rhema Bible Church ministry. [11]
Rhema Basketball Camp, 2026	Rhema’s public promotion states that Wesley had the role of hosting the camp. [9]

What the evidence supports

The sources support that Wesley is publicly positioned in youth, event, and conference ministry; has an ORU finance degree; works within Rhema-related departments; and has been invited to speak beyond the Rhema campus. They do not establish ordination status, a complete travel schedule, full employment scope, safeguarding training, background-check status, or independent ministerial credentials.

3. Records and social-media review

Public records and online-content review must be handled carefully because common names often produce false matches. This review used identity controls: a result was included only when it contained sufficient ministry, family, location, or official-role context tying it to the person under review.

Findings

- **No substantiated adverse record found in this review:** Searches of public-web reporting and indexed legal-result pages did not produce a reliable, identity-matched arrest, criminal charge, adjudication, civil judgment, professional discipline, or regulatory action for Wesley Burns, Denise Hagin Burns, or Don Burns.
- **Same-name exclusions:** Search results returned court and crime items involving people named “Wesley Burns.” The results did not contain verifiable Rhema, family, age, location, or other identity data tying them to this Wesley Burns. They are not evidence about him and are excluded.
- **Social content reviewed:** Public Rhema/KHM social posts and host-ministry promotions generally showed ministry invitations, conference appearances, teaching clips, youth-event participation, and family references. These posts are evidence of organizational affiliation and public promotion, not independent factual verification of character claims.
- **Awards:** This review did not locate a reliable independent award, professional honor, or accredited distinction specific to Wesley, Denise, or Don Burns beyond education, job titles, ministry roles, and speaker promotions described by affiliated organizations.

Credibility indicators present in the public record

- Denise’s documented multi-decade progression across child, youth, family, executive, teaching, and co-pastor roles within Rhema. [1]
- Wesley’s named education credential and published work assignments in an official Rhema event document. [2]
- Multiple organizations publicly inviting Wesley to speak, including Rhema-associated conferences and outside ministries. [3][10][11]
- Don and Denise’s historical pastoral and family-ministry work documented in Rhema alumni publications. [4][5]

Accountability questions that remain appropriate

Because Wesley’s public roles include student ministry and youth-focused speaking, the relevant questions are prospective safeguards rather than unsupported allegations. Responsible institutions may ask:

- What written background-check, youth-protection, reporting, transportation, supervision, and two-adult-rule policies apply to each youth-facing role?
- What training is required for staff and traveling speakers on mandatory reporting, boundaries, grooming prevention, and response to disclosures?
- Who evaluates and documents readiness for guest preaching or youth-conference platforms, particularly for young adult staff members?
- What independent complaint, review, and appeal process exists when concerns involve relatives of senior leadership?
- What public disclosures distinguish a family connection, staff assignment, volunteer role, credential, and formally authorized ministerial position?

4. Limitations, corrections, and source list

Limitations

- This document uses public sources available as of June 23, 2026. Websites, event pages, and social-media posts can change or be removed.
- Official ministry sites are authoritative for the organization's own titles, bios, invitations, and published claims, but they are not independent investigative sources.
- No conclusion is drawn from family association alone. A parent's position, a relative's conduct, or a shared last name does not establish responsibility or wrongdoing by another person.
- This review does not claim that it searched every court, jail, law-enforcement, licensing, corporate, tax, employment, or social-media database.

Corrections and response

Oklahoma Child Wellbeing welcomes verifiable corrections, updated official biographies, or primary records that materially change a factual statement in this document. Submit information to info@okchildwellbeing.org. Corrections should identify the specific statement, provide a source or record, and explain the requested change. The goal is accuracy, not rumor amplification.

Publication disclosure

Prepared from publicly accessible sources for education, research, and accountability discussion. This document does not accuse Wesley Burns, Denise Hagin Burns, Don Burns, or any associated church or ministry of criminal, civil, ethical, or professional wrongdoing. Inclusion of a person or source reflects public relevance, not a conclusion of liability or misconduct.

Sources

- [1] Rhema Bible Church, "Rev. Denise Hagin Burns - Co-Pastor," official biography, accessed June 23, 2026. <https://www.rhemabiblechurch.com/im-new/denise-hagin/>
- [2] Rhema, "Summer Blitz 2025" program brochure, Wesley Burns speaker biography, accessed June 23, 2026. <https://rhema.org/blitzbrochure>
- [3] Craig W. Hagin public Facebook post, "my nephew Wesley Burns ministering ... at the Living Faith Conference in Fort Worth," accessed June 23, 2026. <https://www.facebook.com/cwhagin/posts/here-is-a-screenshot-from-my-nephew-wesley-burns-ministering-this-morning-at-the/27066412976297847/>
- [4] Rhema Alumni, "Leaders: Relating to Staff & Volunteers," identifying Don and Denise Burns as pastors of The Harbor Church in Austin, Texas. https://www.rhema.org/alumni/index.php?Itemid=141&catid=50&id=127%3Aleaders-relating-to-staff-a-volunteers&option=com_content&view=article
- [5] Rhema Alumni, "Financial Freedom: Getting Your Hou\$e in Order," 2008. https://www.rhema.org/alumni/PDFs/2008_Spring_CNXXN_72.pdf
- [6] Kenneth Hagin Ministries, "History of the Ministry," entry for February 19, 2004. https://www.rhema.org/index.php?id=9%3A..&option=com_content&showall=1&view=article
- [7] Kenneth Hagin Ministries, Word of Faith magazine, September 2015. <https://rhema.org/PDFs/WOF/SeptWOF2015.pdf>
- [8] Rhema Bible Church, YouTube service listing, "Mr. Don Burns | Goals for Growth," January 22, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-T6T3RGY9o>
- [9] Rhema Bible Church, public 2026 basketball-camp promotion featuring Wesley Burns as host. <https://www.facebook.com/rhemabiblechurch/videos/get-ready-for-3-days-of-hoops-skills-competition-and-fun-at-the-rhema-basketball/951093867533800/>
- [10] Camp Fearless public event promotion, "guest speaker Wesley Burns from Rhema Bible Church," accessed June 23, 2026. <https://www.instagram.com/p/DZP-F4EE0Q4/>
- [11] Dominion Church public event promotion naming Wesley Burns as guest speaker, accessed June 23, 2026. <https://www.facebook.com/DominionchurchAL/posts/next-sunday-june-14th-is-not-the-sunday-to-miss-lots-of-exciting-stuff-planned-f/1398311738992803/>
- [12] YouTube, "Guest Speaker | Wesley Burns | Feb 1, 2026," accessed June 23, 2026. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0GIPKlaLPM>