

Mission Update – 2012-2013

Great Lakes Christian College, 6211 W. Willow Hwy, Lansing, MI 48917

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MISSION STATEMENT: Great Lakes Christian College, an institution of higher education affiliated with Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, seeks to glorify God by preparing students to be servant-leaders in the church and world.

1. Describe your work during the past year. How would you evaluate it?

The work of GLCC continues to progress and be blessed by God. The students who are sent to us and the lives that are changed determine our progress and success. We had 210 students studying on campus for the 2012-13 school year. Our prayer is that we get to that 300 mark in the next 5 years.

Our alumni can be found in 40 of the states and in many foreign countries. We praise God for this...evidence of our mission being fulfilled. It's a joy to see young lives open to God's leading. In May of 2013 we graduated 21 students.

Our work is dedicated to the teaching of God's Word and the training of students for ministry related careers. Our qualified professors are dedicated to develop every student intellectually, spiritually, and personally.

2. What are the goals and objectives for the coming year?

The Doty Center, dedicated in March 2008, is a multi-purpose gymnasium that is being used for athletics, chapel, concerts, and major events. This new building has been a blessing as many groups from the community and from our churches use it for their activities and events. Our goal is to become better known in our community which will generate more students. As a result, we have scheduled more concerts and community events. We are also currently hosting the Michigan Christian Convention.

We have initiated a new campaign to build the Knowles Learning Center on to the Student Mall that will make way for new classrooms, expanded library and cafeteria, and new office space for our faculty. The Expanding the Capacity for Learning campaign focuses upon three aspects of Christian higher education, teaching, mentoring, and the tools necessary to facilitate learning. At Great Lakes Christian College we find all three to be important to the training of workers for ministry.

Our programs are well designed and meet the educational goals of those going into full-time Christian ministry as well volunteer and vocational careers. With the Bible as our core curriculum, we create an atmosphere in the classroom that nurtures critical thinking and the ability to integrate faith into everyday life.

Our professors are prepared to offer quality teaching in and out of the classroom. Their goal is to expand the knowledge of every student as well as assist them in the formation of Christian character and personal devotion to Christ. You will find at GLCC a corps of professors who see the value of mentoring every person in their spiritual journey.

We have taken a step of faith to expand our facilities in order to provide the tools necessary to encourage the best learning atmosphere possible. The Knowles Learning Center will be a tool to position the College for growth in the coming decade. It will provide adequate space for the teaching and research of God's Word through more classrooms and library. It will also open up greater opportunity through the new office suite for our professors to connect with students as we meet their intellectual, spiritual and personal needs.

As of this writing, phase one, the faculty office suite is completed and paid for. Our current campaign effort is toward raising the money for phase two, the library. We have \$1,003,977 in cash of the \$2 million needed for the project.

3. Describe any significant changes that have taken place in the past two years with your mission/organization?

A few transitions have taken place in personnel. Kris and Emily Barga resigned as Student Life Director and Resident Supervisors. Ryan and Christi Bushnell have taken their place. Ryan Lambright replaced Adam Novello as student recruiter. Betsy Carter completed her time in June and was replaced by Levi Huffman, the new Dean of Students. Adrienne Stratton has become our new Director of Student Success taking Sandra Kuest's place.

We continue to nurture a partnership with the Instituted for Black Family Development out of Detroit. We are the accrediting institution providing an Associates degree in Family Life Education to any African American over 25 years of age who want to pursue leadership in a church or Christian organization. We graduated three from the program this last spring.

We have added a new major and two new minors to our programs.

Business Management – Nonprofit: Students in the Business Management-Nonprofit major are prepared for entry-level management positions in large nonprofit organizations as well as leadership positions in smaller organizations. The degree will also prepare the graduate to envision, start up, and manage a nonprofit entity.

Urban Mission Minor: The Urban Missions Minor is a unique program of study involving international placement in an incarnational, missional community, meaning students will be living in an urban low-income area with leaders and urban missionaries who are practicing mission through creating neighborhoods of hope. In addition to rigorous course work, students will also be involved in practical fieldwork as they live and study in these low-income urban areas.

TESOL Minor: The Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Minor provides a high-quality innovative educational program that enables individuals to become highly competent instructors of ESOL; success in TESOL significantly contributes to the highest standard of language teaching and teacher training.

4. What specifically does our money go to support?

Your money goes to support the training of more workers in the Kingdom of God. We need more preachers, youth ministers, missionaries, to name a few. God has placed us in a unique place where we function as an extension of the local church so we can equip workers for the church and world.

5. Is the current level of financial support sufficient?

God continues to provide through churches and individuals. Our budgeted gift income from churches is \$550,000 for the 2012-2013 of which \$270,000 come from churches. Private gifts from churches and individuals are 23% of our income. There are 136 donor churches. With the gift income and our tuition money we are able to function as a college. We have faced some challenges financially but God has seen us through. Church and individual support is important to us. God uses small gifts and large gifts to provide the needs that we have. We are thankful for all who partner with us.

We are members of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability and therefore do everything possible to stay accountable for the funds that God has entrusted to us.

The cost of tuition is increasing (Fall 2012 - \$416 per credit hour). We need churches and individuals to understand that an increase in support will assist us in keeping these costs down for the student. What a church gave ten years ago is not adequate today in order for us to keep up with the costs of education. Presently, approximately 23% of our revenue is received from individuals and churches. Without this support, tuition costs would be much higher. We believe God will continue to provide for His kingdom work and we trust Him to do so through His people.

4. Copies of budget included. Also a listing of our Board of Trustees is available upon request.

We do appreciate your prayers. Call on us if you have a special service need. May God bless your efforts as you minister in your community.

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