

Outreach Ministries Information – 2016-2017

Great Lakes Christian College

Judy Beavers, Director of Outreach Ministries

The Philosophy

Great Lakes Christian College views “Outreach Ministries” as a vital tool in the mission of preparing servant leaders for the Kingdom of God for service in the church and world.

Our purpose is to encourage students in actual ministry opportunities, through experience in conjunction with churches, para-church ministries, individuals, and community service agencies.

Student opportunity for ministry is a distinctive part of the academic program at Great Lakes Christian College. Truth learned in the classroom must have a means of finding expression not only in students’ lives but also in service to others. This experience prepares students to make practical application of classroom instruction.

As students minister, they are brought into vital relationships with people. Hopefully students can demonstrate the love of Christ in practical and life-changing ways.

O.M. is based on Scripture

Philippians 2:3-7 – “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus, Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.”

Colossians 1:10 – “And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God....”

O.M. Program Objectives

1. Outreach Ministries will meet the requirements set by GLCC.
2. Students will gain valuable, practical experience in both familiar/typical types of service, and unfamiliar/new opportunities.

O.M. Student Objectives

1. Students will know the scriptural basis for Christian servanthood.
2. Students will incorporate their unique gifts and abilities into his/her ministry experiences.
3. Students will develop a mature attitude toward Christian organizations and their personnel.
4. Students will demonstrate responsibility in fulfilling service activities.

The O.M. Director

Mrs. Judy Beavers is the Director of Outreach Ministries. She has served GLCC in this capacity since 1987. Judy is also the Piano Instructor and Gifts Coordinator at the college, teaches piano in her DeWitt home, and is Worship Coordinator at the Duplain Church of Christ, St. Johns, MI.

Judy is a 1978 GLCC graduate. Her husband, Phil is the Vice President of Institutional Advancement at GLCC. They have been married 41 years and served in the located ministry together for 24 years until 1999 when Phil moved to his present position. The Beavers have three daughters and 10 grandchildren.

The O.M. Director will:

1. Communicate the requirements of the program to the students
2. Communicate opportunities to the students by posting, announcement, and individual contact
3. Evaluate and record student responses concerning their O.M. activities
4. Be available a minimum of nine hours/week to offer counsel and guidance to students
5. Create and coordinate plans for the "Weeks of Outreach" when needed
6. Evaluate and make efforts to improve O.M. at GLCC
7. Host an "Outreach Ministries" chapel early in fall semester which will serve as a ministry fair. Several local organizations, churches, ministries will be represented to inform students of available service opportunities

~The O.M. office is located across the hall from the GLCC Bookstore ~

A Few Examples of O.M. Opportunities

Athletic Ministry (coaching/assistant coaching for church/community children's teams)

Benevolent Ministry (Nursing/Retirement Homes, Hospice, Visiting/Helping Shut-ins)

Bible Bowl (quizzing/coaching)

Bible Studies Leadership

Campus Ministry

Children/Youth Ministry

Community Service/Volunteerism

Church (Serving in any capacity at a local church – greeting, nursery, maintenance, etc.)

Counseling (Substantial time/purpose given; regular accountability with faculty mentor required)

Deeds - (Term given to areas of service such as babysitting, car repairs, giving rides) These are all viable areas of service, but students can use only 6 hours/semester from these opportunities for O.M. credit)

Discipleship

Drama Ministry

Missions

Music Ministry

Preaching

Pregnancy Centers

Tutoring

O.M. Questions

Why is O.M. an academic requirement?

The trustees, administrators, faculty, and staff of GLCC view "Outreach Ministries" as an academic function. The experience gained in these activities and the ministry in the Kingdom of God are both valuable to the growth of each student. OM is viewed as an integral part of the student's academic experience, thus the requirement for graduation.

How do I 'do' O.M.?

Soon after arriving on campus, the hope is that each student will seek God's direction in finding ministry areas that will benefit the Kingdom of God. If currently involved in a ministry/service, they are encouraged to continue, if it meets the O.M. requirements.

What are the O.M. requirements?

- 75% of full-time semesters must have earned a SA grade (Satisfactory) to graduate
- A MINIMUM of 15 hours/semester of ministry hours must be completed and reported, and a supervisor must complete a general evaluation of one of those OM activities.
- A SUPERVISOR EVALUATION/VERIFICATION form must be completed and turned in (online or hard copy) to the O.M. Office by the given deadline to receive O.M. credit
- A maximum of 7.5 hours can be earned in one event. For example, if you serve on a mission trip, choir tour, weekend retreat or lock-in, and many hours were spent at this event, you can earn only up to 7.5 hours

How do I communicate my ministry activity to the Director of O.M.?

Use one of these methods -

- Record your ministry hours on the form provided in Chapel on Tuesdays
- Email the O.M. Director (jbeavers@glcc.edu)
- (An on-line version of the reports will be available soon, so your info can be recorded there, or you may download hard copies to turn in. Located under "Academics")
- Go to the O.M. Office and verbally communicate activities
- Keep record of hours throughout the semester, and then record them on the "Final Report" form that will be placed in your mailbox toward the end of the semester
- If you are involved in an on-going ministry (2+ hours/week), you may fill out the "Release Form" (available in rack across from O.M. Office) and forego other communications throughout the semester.

A Supervisor Evaluation will be needed to complete the requirements

How am I evaluated?

You will be evaluated by -

- A "Supervisor/Mentor". This should be someone who has observed or supervised one of your activities. They will complete a Supervisor/Mentor Verification form that will be placed in your mailbox along with the Final Report, toward the end of each semester. These forms are also available on the rack across the hall from the O.M. Office, (and also online under Academics). Possible Supervisor include: GLCC Faculty or Staff, leaders in churches/organizations, other students, and spouses. ***If your service is on a one-on-one basis, and no supervisor is present, you must have a GLCC faculty/staff member fill out the mentor verification form. You are to have met regularly with that faculty/staff member throughout the semester as an accountability partner in this ministry***
- Yourself. Evaluating yourself is always helpful as you consider blessings of your service and also improvements that can be made
- The O.M. Director. Substantial time and effort should be given to any ministry/service. The Director will evaluate how many hours and types of ministry opportunities you have been involved in.

The Weeks of Outreach (I & II) **

The "Weeks of Outreach"*** are dynamic life-changing weeks in the lives of GLCC students! During spring semester, 2 weeks of classes are cancelled so that students may utilize the time to participate in ministries in an intensified way. Although not required, every GLCC student is *strongly encouraged* to participate in at least one of these weeks while attending GLCC.

This year's dates are: **I - February 20-24, 2017 and II - April 3-7, 2017.**

A few areas of interest -

- Foreign mission trips (most trips are in Feb.)
- U.S. mission trips
- Inner-City missions work
- Campus ministry
- Leading/staffing retreats and church conferences
- Concert Choir Tour
- More time in on-going ministry

****No more than 50% of required O.M. hours can be earned during these special weeks****

