

Great Lakes

Christian College

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Volume 62 No. 1 Fall 2015

Discover GLCC... Our Purpose





I was talking recently with a woman who was concerned about the future of her church. It seems that her church is experiencing some leadership problems and the subsequent friction has led it to the brink of a serious financial crisis. There's talk that the church might not survive. She placed the bulk of the blame on the preacher. The church wasn't growing, the members weren't happy, and, according to her, the "preacher just sits around waiting for his paycheck." Other churches were growing. Other churches seemed happy. Why was her church in such a mess?

I know the church she's talking about. It has a long history of dissatisfied, disgruntled church members. I said to her that I have known the preachers they had since the mid 1960's and everyone of them has had to face a large contingent of unhappy folks who never seem to get past the grievances they hold in their hearts. One of the ministers actually had severe health problems because of the stress of dealing with this dysfunctional church.

In our fellowship of churches there are some that have the reputation for being "plum" churches and others for being "pills". Seasoned preachers could tell you which is which. The "plum" churches are those who generally have preachers stay for a long time. Their leadership is healthy and solid. Their members are committed. All are focused on the future. The "pill" churches see a new preacher every few years. Their leadership is weak or non-existent. And their members are more centered on what they want than in serving the purpose of God. All are focused on the past.

This church is a "pill" church. Other than commiserating with her I didn't have much else to say. Unhappiness is endemic to their congregational culture. It's not their preacher's fault, although he could be an enabler, it is the church. Until there is a realization that the problem is within the fellowship itself there will never be healing. Until the church faces the truth that the problem is in the membership there will never be a thriving church – it will continue to be one that simply survives if at all. Until each individual asks him/herself if they are a part of the problem or a part of the solution, the church will never be what God intended.

Taking ownership of a bad situation doesn't come naturally to a lot of us. It is easier to point fingers and assign blame. Yet, whenever we are faced with difficulties in the church our first question shouldn't be, "Who's at fault?" The question needs to be, "What can I do to make it right?" It is about taking responsibility, making a sacrifice and following through on a commitment. If you are any kind of student of the Word of God you have seen that throughout the Scriptures the focus is not on what the church owes you, it's not about what others have to do to make you happy – it's about you doing all you can to make sure you are right with God and living according to His purpose.

We at Great Lakes Christian College are an arm of the church. So the health of the church is of primary concern to us. We are trying to prepare the next generation of leaders to lead the church in a new era of growth. Our prayer is that our students are blessed by serving in a "plum" church. But if not, we are sending out students that know that they need to be the first believers in the church. They know they are to be the examples of what it means to take responsibility, to make a sacrifice, and to keep a commitment. Not all of our graduates will be perfect. But they will all know that for the church to be what it needs to be – it starts with them. Just like it starts with you.

- Larry Carter, President

Our Purpose Fulfilled Class of 2015



Top row, left to right: Victoria Hetcel, Carmichael Gully, Amy Gallagher, and Matthew Barnum

Middle row: Matthew Love, Sasha Lockwood, Clayton MacDonald, Caleb McCarrick, Lester Norris, and Tony Lamson

Bottom row: Sydney McIntosh, Christopher Powell, Kevin Scharer, Mahrley Teachworth, Julianne Patterson, Michael Vickers, and Abigail Weller



It is our privilege to have churches and individuals partnering with our ministry. We have found that over our 65 years of existence it is because of these churches and individuals, who believe in our mission, that sustain us from year to year. We have come a long way in developing a quality institution that trains students for ministry and ministry related careers.

Discover GLCC is our Advancement Department theme for the next five years. We plan to pursue different avenues to connect churches and individuals to our mission and purpose. Our desire is to connect and reconnect with the churches that have supported GLCC over the years, or who are in our constituent area, and to bring about a great confidence in our ministry. Our plan is to encourage individuals to renew their commitment to underwriting our purpose with the resources God is providing them.

We are confident in the mission that God has given us. He calls us to raising up the next generation of Christian leaders who will lead churches, Christian non-profit organizations, mission agencies and stations, and Christian schools. He leads us to equip more preachers, youth ministers, teachers, Christian writers, and missionaries as well as Christian leaders for the marketplace.

We want people to discover who we are and the impact that our mission has on the church and world. **Discover GLCC... Our Purpose** is the direction of this issue and we anticipate that you will find confidence in what we do. I encourage you to also go to our website (www.glcc.edu) and discover the personal stories of some of our alumni (see page 3). We are proud of all of our alumni and what they are doing for the Kingdom.

- Phil Beavers, Vice President of Institutional Advancement



GLCC Institutional Goals

1. To provide our students a foundation for Christian faith, thought, and character that is relevant to the challenges and opportunities of the world;
2. To develop in our students a greater awareness of the need for the Gospel in a fallen world and a personal commitment to be bearers of that message;
3. To prepare educated, faithful vocational ministers, able to lead and administer churches and/or Christian institutions throughout the world;
4. To prepare both volunteer and vocational Christian students for leadership and professional roles within the church and world;
5. To instill the restoration principles as espoused by Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in the life, faith, ministry and witness of our students;
6. To assist the churches of our constituency through special events and educational programming.

GLCC Purpose Statement

Since our students will be serving primarily in Church-related, congregational contexts, our primary task is to educate men and women to be servant-leaders in preaching and other ministry roles. Secondly, GLCC educates students to be servant-leaders in careers related to the church (e.g. para-church organizations such as Christian schools) or institutions in the public sector. In both instances, preparing students to be servant-leaders is central to the College's founding character, history, curriculum, and campus ethos.

As a Christian academic community, Great Lakes Christian College integrates Biblical studies into every aspect of its curriculum and community life. The faculty, staff, and administration of Great Lakes Christian College regard the Scriptures as the revealed, inspired, and infallible Word of God. The Scriptures find their place not only in the classroom, but throughout the campus community, especially in student life and service.

My GLCC Story

Since graduating from Great Lakes Christian College in 1985, Michael Wetzel has been led down many roads, guided by the strong ties and the principles he learned throughout his time there at GLCC. From an HR Manager to a writer, Michael's career may have veered but his beliefs and the values he gained from GLCC have not.



On his first day at Great Lakes Christian College in 1970, Michael met his wife. A year and half later, they were married and today have four children and nine grandchildren.

Like many, Michael entered the ministry immediately after leaving GLCC, but after 15 years of serving, God led him on a different path. A chance incident during his time in the ministry opened his eyes to a different career choice. As he was finishing his last class...read more online <http://www.glcc.edu/my-glcc-story-michael-wetzel/>.

If you would like to submit your GLCC story go to <http://www.glcc.edu/advancement/alumni/tell-your-glcc-story/>

Do you order from Amazon?

Be sure to order through Smile.Amazon.com and designate GLCC as your charity of choice.

Future Crusaders

Parents: David Hodgman ('11) and Rebecca (Zeedyk) Hodgman ('13)

Name: Sawyer Jean

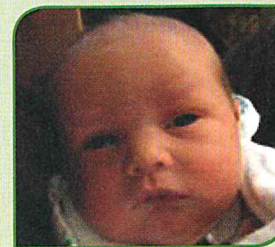
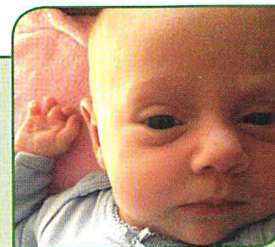
Born: 9/22/2015.

Parents: Jon Hatter ('07) and Nicole Hatter

Name: Ian David Hatter

Born: 9/10/2015

Weight & Length: 8 lbs., 8 oz., 20in. long



Send your alumni information to alumni@glcc.edu

Alumni News

Don Stowell ('81), minister of the Lockland Christian Church in Cincinnati, is offering a seminar titled, "Grief Journeys." This seminar will approach subjects such as "Why Do We Grieve?" "What Does God Say about Grief?" and "Well-Intentioned (but wrong) Things People Say to Try to Comfort You." Don can be contacted at locklandcc@aol.com for information and pricing of the seminar.

Luke Elie ('01) continues to work with athletes, coaches, and fans in cross-cultural settings. Luke has written a book, "By Faith And Fear: When All Else Fails." Find it on Smile.Amazon.



Emory "Dan" Johnson and wife Sherry

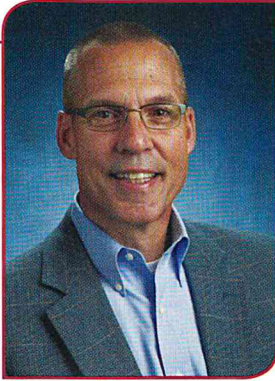
Divine Servant Award Recipient 2015

Dan Johnson served as the Senior Minister of the Kalkaska Church of Christ in Kalkaska, MI for over 28 years. His work with the church and the community has not only been long – but it has been a dedicated and faithful ministry that has been a blessing to thousands of people who have been impacted

by his leadership and influence. Following graduation from GLCC with a Bachelor of Religious Education degree in 1981, he jumped right into full-time ministry becoming the Executive Director of Great Lakes Christian Homes and led them for their first five years of existence. He then left that position in 1987 to become the Senior Minister of the Kalkaska Church of Christ.

Dan is married to his wife of 42 years, Sherry. They have been effective partners in ministry and in raising a wonderful family. They have three adult children: Jeremiah, who is the Senior Minister of the Bangor, MI, Church of Christ. David, who lives in Madison, WI, and Sarah who is married to a minister who serves with the Northwest Christian Church in Decatur, IL.

(The Divine Servant Award is a recognition given to a Senior Student or alumnus whose life has consistently illustrated the sacrificial servant spirit as taught by Jesus Christ and demonstrated in the life of Dr. Brant Lee Doty.)



The mission of Great Lakes Christian College, “to glorify God by preparing students to be servant-leaders in the church and world,” drives everything we do in the Admissions Department. We hold to the firm conviction that what the world needs most is for men and women to be salt and light in our increasingly dark world. To do this it is important

that we prepare students with a solid education from a Christian worldview that includes an in-depth study of our Creator and His design and purpose for our lives. We train our students to exemplify the servant-leadership of our Lord and lead others to a deeper knowledge of His life-changing grace.

It is also our firmly held belief that the church needs servant-leaders, including vocational ministers, which have a deep Biblical/Theological education. We need servant-leaders capable of leading others deeper. We need servant-leaders able to develop and deliver strong Biblical teachings. We need servant-leaders competent to address the truths of

Scripture in contrast to false teaching. Frankly, we see a greater and greater need in our churches today for strong servant leadership.

These firm convictions drive us to encourage students to consider an education at GLCC that is Bible-based and Spirit-driven. We are also driven to motivate every student to consider full time Christian service. Every student who graduates from GLCC will have the privilege of completing a Bible Theology major along with their major of choice.

Beautiful Are the Feet of Those Who Bring Good News—Romans 10:14-15

My son Kevin graduated from GLCC last May. He transferred back from Michigan State University where he was studying pre-med. When I told Larry Carter of his plans to study missions instead of medicine he stated, “He will save more lives in the mission field.” While medicine is very important, how much more important is it to encourage our children to be life-changing servant leaders? Would you join us in encouraging students to consider an education that will make a difference?

- Lloyd Scharer, Vice President of Enrollment Management

Free Tuition Extended to Churches

Last year GLCC celebrated 65 years of faithful service to the Lord and to His church. As a part of that celebration we wanted to thank all those churches and individuals for their prayer and financial support as partners in this important and critical ministry. We, together, have been helping to prepare the next generation for Christian service, both in the church and in the world.

Our thanks, in part, was reflected in our offer of a one-time, one-year tuition free scholarship for one student per church. We had a great response! Thirty-six students took advantage of the scholarship and are now a part of the GLCC family. But, in the process, we became aware that many of our churches couldn't use the scholarship because of their lack of potential candidates. So, we want to make the offer again to those churches who couldn't use it for the 2015-2016 year. We don't want you to miss out.

If your church was not able to use the tuition free scholarship this year – we want to extend our 65th Anniversary Give Back to you for one more year. Call our Admissions Department today to see if your student qualify for this free tuition (800-YES-GLCC).

- President Larry Carter

Matching Church Scholarship

Student debt is a real problem. While we are doing everything we can to keep the cost of their education as affordable as possible we know that some student debt may be required. Too many of our students leave GLCC with a heavy and crippling financial burden. The problem is made evident when churches want to hire a recent graduate - the salary requirements of the candidate, due to the debt, become problematic for churches that find themselves unable to afford that level of financial commitment. Another problem is the inability of other graduates to move to the mission field because the level of support needed to pay on their student loan debt is prohibitive. This is a real concern – both for us and for the church. We suggest a partnership with our churches to help reduce the cost of a student's education and thus lower the amount of debt he/she incurs. We will match any scholarship offered by a church up to the amount of the cost for tuition for the 2015-2016 school year. For example, if a church offers a \$2,000 scholarship we will match it with another \$2,000. If a student remains for four years that means he/she will have saved \$16,000 off of their school bill! That is significant! Imagine what that kind of scholarship would mean for the Kingdom! Call our Admissions Department to learn more of this matching scholarship (800-YES-GLCC).



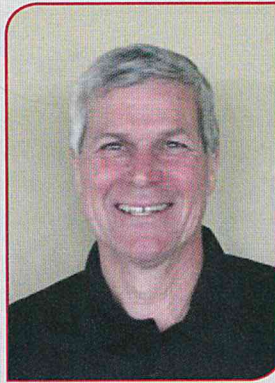
From Athletics... Why Athletics at a Christian College?

Great Lakes Christian College views the athletic program as a fundamental part of its educational mission. The education of the whole person, encouraging physical well-being and the best use of leisure time, is the reason for our athletic offerings. The athletic program seeks to provide a range of sports for both men and women so the highest possible number of students have the opportunity to compete. The goal of the athletic program is to serve the student-athlete and to promote physical growth, Christian character and development within the collegiate context.

We believe that our highest calling is to be effective witnesses of the Kingdom of God on the court and off. From the opening whistle to the final horn, the Crusaders will always strive to win while honoring God and advancing the Kingdom. We invite you to join us this season for all of the action in soccer, basketball, and volleyball.

Students who are interested in playing for GLCC should contact me at slockwood@glcc.edu.

- *Sasha Lockwood,*
Athletic Director



GLCC soccer coach leads homeschool team to National Homeschool Championship

We want to congratulate Lennie Mailand for leading the L.A. Dragons, a Lansing Homeschool Soccer team, to the 2015 National Homeschool Soccer Championship. Lennie Mailand has been around soccer for nearly 40 years as a player, referee, and coach. He began his soccer career at John Wesley College where he was a four-year starter, and played for a team that finished at the NCCAA National Runner-up in 1978. He currently serves as Club Director for the L.A. Dragons, a greater Lansing area youth sports ministry providing interscholastic playing opportunities for home-educating families and others, and is the head coach for our GLCC soccer team.

Intellectual, Spiritual & Personal Growth

Great Lakes
Christian College
Lansing, Michigan

www.glcc.edu

Java Jam

February 8-9, 2016

Bring your youth group for great coffee and music in the Doty Center!

GLCC Open House

April 12, 2016

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
The Doty Center



We Need More Servant Leaders

Delegation of qualified spirit-filled servants has always been the call of the local church. In reality, it began in reflection with Moses and the advice he received from his father-in-law Jethro (Exodus 18:14-24). But we observe it in a more contemporary setting in the New Testament with Paul's advice to Timothy "... commit thou to faithful men" (2 Timothy 2:2).

Where and how do we get such leaders who are indeed servants? The local church alone cannot supply the many that are needed. Therefore, in the history of the church there have been, to complement the local congregation, such intense and flourishing institutions as Great Lakes Christian College. My connection with Great Lakes is not as an alumnus, but as one who saw the benefit of supporting, encouraging and training those young men and women who came our way. As I closed my ministry of twenty-two years in St. Louis, Michigan, I recall a time when our church had as many as fifteen people who attended, served, or graduated from Great Lakes. We could not have done what we did as a local church without the proximity, expertise, and enthusiasm these individuals brought to our eldership and staff with attitudes of serving, loving, and leading.

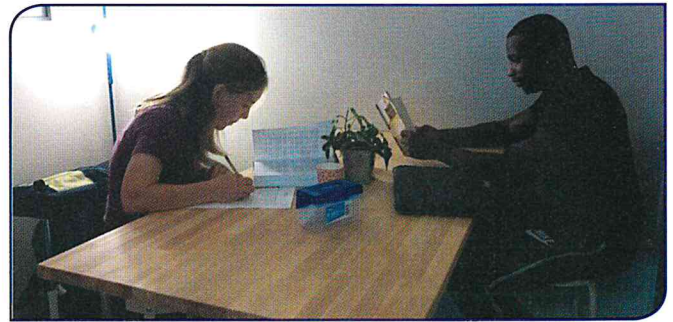
- Dr. Keith J. Wise, Associate Minister
St. Louis Church of Christ
Chairman of the GLCC Board of Trustees



Student Success Department

The student success department was founded to enhance student success by supporting students in making a positive transition to college, achieving good academic standing, and reaching their lifelong educational goals. This is accomplished through an intentionally designed, comprehensive array of programs, services, and resources including tutoring labs, workshops, academic counseling, test preparation, writing and reading assistance and test proctoring.

-Brandy Shooks, Director of Student Success



Brandy Shooks, Director of Student Success



Dean's List

Spring 2014 & Fall 2014

Two successive semesters
of 3.5 GPA or better

Whitney Brazeal

Joshua Bush

Morgan Coney

Sarah Hall

Matt Love

Clayton MacDonald

Julie Mavin

Nolan McCausey

Tiffany McMillie

Casey Monroe

Caleb Nightengale

Gabraelle Parrish

Sarah Sager

Nathan Shelton

Gracia Tader

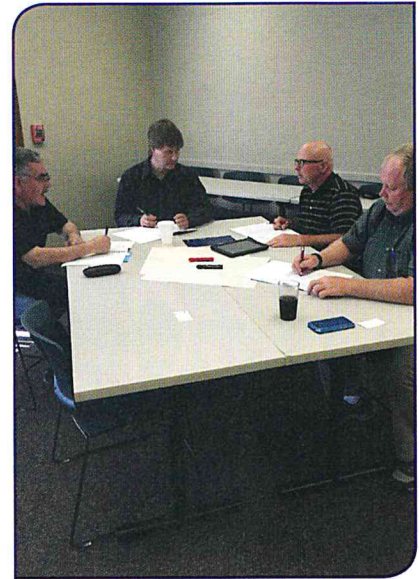
Mahrley Teachworth

Beyond the Classroom

Dr. Lloyd Knowles, Professor of History, presented two workshops on Restoration History at the Michigan Christian Convention in April and another at the adult retreat at Rock Lake Christian Assembly in September. Dr. Knowles is also active in pulpit supply when requested.

Professor of Music, Ryan Apple's poetry was published in *A Hundred Gourds*, *Acorn*, and *A Time of Singing*. He also played a series of guitar recitals of Argentinian music.

Professor of Interpersonal & Organizational Communication, Mike Harrison, facilitated a Lead Like Jesus Leadership Encounter in September (at right). Church leaders and students studied together.



Dr. John Nugent, Professor of Old Testament, as a part of his sabbatical published an article on "Nationalism" in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Bible and Ethics*, led a seminar on "Jesus and the Sacrificial System" at River Terrace Church in April, led a Journey through Scripture Seminar at Macomb Christian Church, and spoke at a minister's retreat. He had opportunity to present a paper on believers' baptism at the Ekklesia Project Conference in July and wrote a book on the church's responsibility in the world (publishing pending). Dr. Nugent also just completed a six-week Old Testament study at the Memorial Church of Christ.

Dr. Esther Hetrick, Professor of Music, led a group of outstanding young highschoolers in our summer music camp, PROMISE.

Do you need a living trust and estate plan?

Contact

Phil Beavers
517-321-0242, ext. 215
or
pbeavers@glcc.edu

Great Lakes Christian College

Calendar of Events

January – June 2016

January 11

February 8 – 9

February 15 – 19

February 26

March 28 – April 1

April 8 – 9

April 12

April 22

April 22

May 10 – 12

May 13

May 13

May 14

Classes Begin

Java Jam

Week of Outreach 1

Board of Trustees Meeting

Week of Outreach 2

Michigan Christian Convention

GLCC Open House

Senior Presentations

Women's Spring Celebration

Final Exams

Board of Trustees Meeting

Graduate Banquet

Commencement

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KEY

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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.

The KEY is published by Great Lakes Christian College, located at the corner of N. Creyts Road and W. Willow Highway.

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On the cover Freshman Orientation 2015

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