



## Why Christian Students Attend College

Larry Carter, *President*

In a recent Barna report, “What’s Next for Christian Higher Education”, survey results were revealed that indicated a huge shift in the reasons why Christian students attend a college. The results are especially important in understanding the place of a Bible College in the minds of Christian parents and their children.

We have always felt that a college education was primarily for the purpose of producing a better person. We agree with Socrates who said at his trial, “Are you not ashamed of heaping up the greatest amount of money and honor and reputation, and caring so little about wisdom and truth and the greatest improvement of the soul...” As a Bible College we take seriously our call to prepare students for a life of service to the King and Lord of our lives. We are focused on “wisdom and truth and the greatest improvement of the soul.” But, apparently, the reasons we believe we are a college do not fit with what Christian parents and students want, according to the following statistics.

**In answering the question, “What’s the purpose of going to college?”, Christian respondents listed three main reasons:**

1. 70% said it was to prepare for a specific career.
2. 56% said it was to increase financial opportunities.
3. 51% said it was to stay competitive in today’s job market.

**What’s interesting is that those who indicated no faith allegiance responded this way:**

1. 69% said it was to prepare for a specific career.
2. 55% said it was to increase financial opportunities.
3. 48% said it was to stay competitive in today’s job market.

**At the bottom of the list there was no difference between the Christian and the non-Christian regarding these reasons for going to college:**

1. Learn how to make a difference in the world – both were at 22%.
2. Develop moral character – both were at 14%
3. Encourage spiritual growth – both were at 7%.

Those findings left me wondering how Christians have become even more materialistic than non-Christians.

In the same study it reported that among Christian young people planning to attend college “less than one-quarter of prospective students express interest in spiritual growth as a goal for their education. About one-quarter says discerning God’s plan for them is a goal, and one in six is interested in growing spiritually. One in nine wants to learn the Bible, and just 5% desire to pursue vocational ministry.”

Our mission, as a college, seems to be at real odds with today’s current crop of potential students. The education we believe is important at GLCC is to make our students better citizens – better people. We want to develop in our students the potential to make a larger difference in the world than simply earning a bigger paycheck. We want our students to dig deeper wells where not only personal significance is found but also a greater capability to impact and improve the lives of others.

But even more importantly, the purpose of the education we believe we provide is to afford our students the opportunity to become a better servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Yes, we all hope our students become gainfully employed and be productive citizens. But, even more than that is our desire for our students to see their place as not merely being producers/consumers – but as those who know the eternal value of things – as ones who spend their lives in loving the Lord, loving His people, and serving the purpose of God.

Reading this Barna report helped us to see why our Bible Colleges seem to be suffering a downturn in student recruiting and in church support. The same churches who decry the current trend of our Bible Colleges becoming liberal arts colleges are full of people who don’t see much value in what we do. The quality of the education we provide is on par and even better than other colleges. The difference between us is one of focus. And the importance of that focus seems to be on the wane in our churches and in our Christian homes.

We have no desire to be simply a technical school preparing students for jobs. We “seek to glorify God by preparing students to be servant leaders in the church and world.” We want our graduates to be the right kind of ambassadors for God’s Kingdom purposes. It looks like it will be a struggle to convince Christian parents, students, and churches of the importance of a Bible College education. But we will continue to do all we can to serve the Lord as a Bible College. Why? The kind of student we graduate will be prepared to change the world - not just get a job.

## The Next Generation of Ambassadors



First row (L to R) Alexia Nightengale, Rebekah Wisley, Emily Richards, Alexis (Craig) Epps, Steven McFarland  
 Second row (L to R) Darien Burse, Eric Sheldon, Warren Epps, Tim St. Louis, Jonathan Parrott

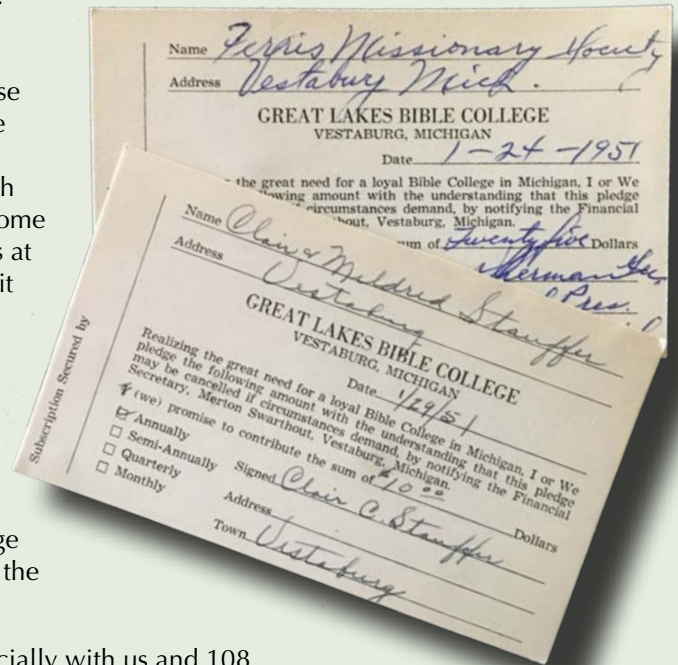


## Discover GLCC...Our Partners

**Phil Beavers**, Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Our theme for this issue is Discover GLCC... Our Partners. In my 19 years with GLCC I recognize the value of partnerships. These partnerships have taken different forms - those who have given their time to those who have invested in the future of GLCC with their treasure. The word "partner" basically means one who undertakes something with another. The phrase, "undertake something" means there is some type of commitment and investment involved. Over my years at GLCC I have seen individuals and churches invest and commit to the mission of GLCC. I praise God for those who joined the mission of Great Lakes back in 1951. Where would we be without those individuals and churches? I was humbled when I first found the commitment cards from 1951 of those who said they would give a certain amount every year or quarter to be sure Great Lakes Bible College continued her mission into the future. They became partners with their treasure "realizing the great need for a loyal Bible College in Michigan." And here we are in 2018 continuing to realize the blessings of their promise.

As of this writing, we have 100 individuals who partner financially with us and 108 churches who regularly send their generous mission funds to us. Just like those back in 1951, the investment of today's individuals and churches assures the future stability of the College. We continue in our mission because people believe in us and want to "undertake something" with us... the training of the next generation of Christian leaders.



## The Blessing of Financial Partners

I began my relationship with Great Lakes when it was known as Great Lakes Bible College in 1971. My last classes were held at the Turner Dodge mansion. I completed parts of two years before beginning my life in public service. My first career was with the Michigan State Police. I have shared with President Carter and Phil Beavers that as a new Christian at the time in 1971, I feel a great debt to the college and to those who taught there for the strong Christian foundation they built within me during that two-year period. It has been and will continue to be a commitment that I will make to the college in hopes that other young impressionable Christians can reap the benefit that I received from my experience.

- Matthew Wesaw,  
Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of  
Potawatomi Indians, GLCC Alumni,  
and current online student

As Christians seek to fulfill the mission given by Christ Himself, we find that in today's world we are at a great disadvantage when we do not have formally-trained leadership. Whether it is from our pulpits, on the mission field, or every day "body of Christ" leadership, we need to have folks who possess the deepest understanding of the Scriptures. This is exactly what we get from Great Lakes Christian College. Why would I - indeed we - not support GLCC?

- Brian Wood,  
Director of Instructional Services for  
Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency  
and GLCC Trustee



*Jim Platner and President Larry Carter*

## Jim Platner ('68) Receives the Divine Servant Award A Compelling Vision

As I reflect on the humbling reception of the 'Doc' Doty Servant award, I have been reminded why I am a partner with Great Lakes Christian College. I am a partner because of the people who have been a part of my journey.

'Doc' was one of them. I knew Brant Lee Doty as a teacher at camp during my childhood years when I got to know the entire Doty family as my preacher during high school years as we started a restoration congregation in Rochester, and a professor and travelling companion on many weekends as we travelled for the college.

It was the vision of men like him, along with Ralph Woodard, Fred Chase, and others that formed the beginning of GLCC. I knew all the campuses, including the Woodard cabin at Rock Lake where I stayed with family as a kid, the Vestaburg farm, the Dodge mansion in Lansing, and the present campus. I was privileged to know people who were compelled to establish and grow this college, and to challenge a young man like me to attend GLCC, serve in ministry, and now contribute as a trustee of this school.

It was people I met time and again at camp, the Michigan convention, events at the college, college teams and musical groups, students that stayed in my parents' home, and a heavenly list of others who compelled me to preach the Word. It was ever before me through the Michigan preachers that I knew. Men like Hi Gates, Max Smith, Jim Warfield, Hank McAdams, Bob Palmer, Gene Beavers, and others who knew I should preach! They didn't always say it, but they lived it in their interest and trust in me.

It was parents and preachers, professors and presidents of GLCC who taught me the principles of Christ and the New Testament Church, and the rich history of the Restoration Movement. I caught it in their words and their support of this college. I learned from these people that we needed Restoration congregations in Michigan and the Tri-State area. At the center of that need was Great Lakes Christian College! I was compelled to be a part of such a great mission! My education at GLCC formed a commitment to the gospel and that movement. I am proud to be part of such a great heritage.

Doc Doty was right in his compelling vision for a Bible college in Michigan! He was right to trust in a young man (like me) who was compelled to participate in that Godly vision. And there is still a compelling reason for the existence of Great Lakes Christian College. As a trustee of this school, please partner with me in promoting the vision for generations to come. Because of Doc's compelling vision, as a friend and brother to so many who matured with me, and as one very thankful recipient of the Divine Servant Award, I am committed to furthering the mission of GLCC. Doc was right! Until Jesus returns, GLCC is still a compelling partner in a world vision of training leadership for the New Testament Church.

**Jim Platner** is now retired from the professional ministry but before he stepped away from over 50 years of full-time service he has helped to lead and serve in many vital ministries. After graduating from GLCC in 1968 and earning his Masters of Theology from Cincinnati Christian Seminary in 1974 he served churches in Indiana and Ohio and ministered as chaplain at Golden Years Homestead in Ft. Wayne, IN. He has served on many para-church and community boards including Lakes James Christian Assembly and the GLCC Board of Trustees.

Jim is known for his keen wit, affable manner, servant's heart and his gift for teaching. But, more than all these other attributes, he is known primarily, for his commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. His life of commitment has led him to be a true servant of the Lord, to the church, and to his family.

## Class of 1968 (those attending the 50 year reunion)



L to R: Becky Hoot, Guy Modlin, Jim Platner, Sally Garman



We want to welcome our new Director of Athletics and Head Men's Basketball Coach - Richard Westerlund who came to GLCC

after two seasons at Wright State University Lake Campus. Coach Westerlund completed his undergraduate in Sports Management and Biblical Studies from Lancaster Bible College in 2013. While at LBC, Westerlund lettered in soccer, basketball, and baseball. He was an all-conference selection in soccer and an all-region selection in baseball. Richard completed his Masters in Coaching and Athletic Administration from Concordia University Irvine in 2015.

He and his wife, Trisha, married in June and both of them are thrilled to be in Lansing as part of the Great Lakes Christian College Family.

Displayed with Richard in the picture is our new athletic logo. He says, "With the fresh start we have in the Athletic Department, I feel like the timing couldn't be better to unveil this new logo. We feel this logo injects excitement, not only with our current students, faculty, and staff but also with our alumni. This clean and crisp logo is something we can be proud of. We have generations of Crusaders who have been bold in living out their faith and serving the kingdom of God. We want this new logo to represent the generations of Crusaders who are and will impact the world for Christ."



[glccathletics.com](http://glccathletics.com)

@glccathletics

@GLCCCrusaders

## Crusader Homecoming and Inaugural Hall Of Fame Induction

There will be a Crusader Homecoming on **November 30 - December 1**.

An Alumni networking event and banquet will take place on **November 30** and we would love to have alumni come back to campus for an awesome weekend of fellowship. Details of the Homecoming can be found on our website.

On **December 1** there will be Crusader basketball (women and men) at 1:00 and 3:00. We are also planning to have an inaugural Hall of Fame induction for GLCC Athletics on Saturday at 2:45 p.m. To sign up for the event, contact Richard Westerlund, [rwesterlund@glcc.edu](mailto:rwesterlund@glcc.edu).

## Men's Basketball Team



## Women's Basketball Team



*"We want our culture to be focused on serving and giving. Christ was the greatest servant leader and we want to model Christ's love. We will create an experience that our student-athletes can be proud of and enjoy."*  
 - Coach Westerlund

If you would like to partner with our Athletic Department through sponsorships, contact Richard Westerlund at 517-321-0242, ext. 233 or [rwesterlund@glcc.edu](mailto:rwesterlund@glcc.edu)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### Men's Fall Semester Basketball Schedule

24-Oct	Lawrence Tech	7:00P	Home
27-Oct	Madonna	3:00p	Home
30-Oct	Holy Cross College	7:00p	Away
2-Nov	Boyce College	5:00p	Neutral
3-Nov	Welch College	12:00p	Neutral
9-Nov	Johnson FL	5:00p	Away
10-Nov	Johnson TN	12:00p	Home
16-Nov	Kentucky Christian	4:00p	Away
17-Nov	Asbury University	6:00p	Neutral
19-Nov	Davenport Univ	7:00p	Away
24-Nov	Lourdes Univ	3:00p	Away
29-Nov	Andrews University	7:30p	Home
1-Dec	Moody Bible	3:00p	Home
5-Dec	Trine University	6:00p	Away
13-Dec	Holy Cross College	7:00p	Home
18-Dec	Pikeville	TBA	Away
19-Dec	Bluefield College	TBA	Neutral
30-Dec	Marian Univ	7:00p	Away

### Women's Fall Semester Basketball Schedule

5-Nov	Sienna Heights	6:00p	Home
7-Nov	Lawrence Tech	11:00a	Away
8-Nov	IU South Bend	5:30p	Away
10-Nov	Adrian College	5:00p	Away
13-Nov	Olivet College	7:00p	Away
16-Nov	Grace College	6:00p	Away
17-Nov	TBA	10:00a	Neutral
24-Nov	Lourdes University	1:00p	Away
29-Nov	Andrews Univ	5:30p	Home
1-Dec	Albion	1:00p	Home
4-Dec	Indiana Tech	TBA	Away
6-Dec	Spring Arbor	6:00p	Home
7-Dec	Southern States	6:00p	Home
21-Dec	Lawrence Tech	4:00p	Away
28-Dec	Bethel College	2:00p	Home
29-Dec	Concordia AA	1:00p	Away



## Partnerships That Last a Lifetime

**Kate Blakely**, *Professor of Cross-Cultural Ministry*

As I write, a map sits on the floor near me. Soon, the map will hang on the wall of my office, and students will begin to mark the places from which they come, their homes. I'm the professor of cross-cultural ministry, so having things like maps in my office is expected. You can ask my students, we use maps a lot in my classes, classes on culture, mission, and what it means to seek God's kingdom first wherever we are on that map. One of the things that I always emphasize is that it's not really the place, but rather the people who make special the different spots on a map.

Ministry Internships create an opportunity for a student to develop roots in a community and to be mentored in ministry. The community gathers around the student, welcoming, encouraging, providing feedback, and shaping the student. While an internship only lasts a few months, our hope is that the relationships and partnerships will last much longer, because the Christian community will become a new home for the student.

As we retooled the Ministry Internship program, we looked back at the long history of internships provided by our mid-Michigan churches. We felt humbled by the long tradition of faithful communities who have hosted interns and excited about the partnerships we'll continue to develop with churches and Christian organizations around the world, communities of faith in which our students will find new homes.

My map will quickly become full of marked spots. Those spots are God's people, scattered like salt all over the world. It's not just the place; it's the people.



## Partners Are Needed to Grow a College!

**Greg Stauffer**, *VP of Enrollment Management*

The Great Lakes Admissions Department is made up of one director, one office manager, two part-time admissions counselors, a handful of student workers, and an alumni and support base of several thousands. If you are reading this, I hope you consider yourself a part of the Admissions team at GLCC. We need you in order to be successful.

Here are two things that you could do to help us. If you know a student who is considering options in higher education, traditional or online, please direct them to us, or better yet, give us a call or drop us a line. We need leads! Secondly, encourage students to stop by and visit us. We have found that over the last seven years, over 64% of the students that visit GLCC when considering their college options, choose Great Lakes. I am confident that if you take the time to visit us, you will leave campus excited about the opportunities that are afforded at GLCC. We can meet the needs of the students that decide to pursue an education that prepares them to be servant leaders in the Church and world. But we need you to give us that opportunity.

I look forward to working with you as a member of the GLCC Admissions team. A great example is Joe Moleski (Class of 1996). He asked Dottie England in the church entryway where he attends what her college plans were following her high school graduation this past May. He suggested she check out GLCC and sent me a message. After several phone calls and a visit, Dottie applied and she is now a member of the Freshman class this fall. You might not be able to partner with us financially but you can recommend quality students to a quality education at GLCC. Partners are needed to grow this college! Thanks for joining the team.



*Dottie England*

## Adult Online Courses Available

Great Lakes Christian College understands what it takes to be an online learner while being committed to family and other obligations. We want to help you fulfill God's plans for your life. GLCC courses are designed to be flexible and affordable for the adult learner by investing time entirely online 24/7 from the comforts of their office, home or coffee shop. Also, veteran and military personnel qualify for a 20% tuition reduction of which spouse and dependents are included. Ask about our benefits for ministers, missionaries and dependents.

The course lengths are a two year Bible Theology track and a four year Christian Leadership and Communication track. Each track is designed to start a new cohort every 5 weeks and each class is three credits with an investment of \$395 per credit hour. So, if you are looking to finish your education or to get it started, call today.

### HOW TO ENROLL - Adult Online Courses

Contact Jon Jakubowski for the next cohort start date.

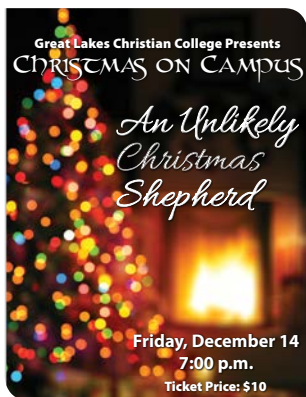
jjakubowski@glcc.edu

800-YES-GLCC

Go to [glcc.edu](http://glcc.edu) for a description of the courses.



"Going back to school after taking a break is hard, but the new online program makes it easy! I work full-time and I was nervous to make the commitment to finish my education. When I realized that GLCC had a program that was intended for people who work full-time I jumped at the opportunity. This program has made it possible to continue my education while working the amount that my life requires!" - Kory Stratton, group camping coordinator at YMCA Camp Hi-Rock in Massachusetts



### Christmas on Campus December 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Get your tickets for the musical and drama presentation in the Doty Center of "An Unlikely Christmas Shepherd." What better way to usher in the Christmas season in a delightful atmosphere with dessert, lively music and drama that will be unforgettable. See our Events page on the website for information and tickets.



Mark your calendar and plan to join us for the 70th Anniversary Celebration of Great Lakes Christian College October 19, 2019.

### Cover Picture:

Thanks to the following partners who assisted in the library updates:

**Rhonda Morgan Vance ('06)**

created the paintings over the fireplace

**Sharon Bunce and Cathy Moore  
(Duplain Church of Christ)**

created and donated the quilt in the tech lab

**Delta Community Christian Church**

donated the grey chairs in front of the fireplace

**Phil ('81) and Pam Vance**

loaned the beautiful brass vases which they acquired in India on a mission trip 25+ years ago

**Chris Adleman and staff**

worked hard to paint the walls and ceiling

## Calendar of Events

<b>October 22-23</b>	Fall Break
<b>October 26</b>	Board of Trustees Meeting
<b>October 26 &amp; 27</b>	Refresh Women's Retreat
<b>November 2-3</b>	Great Lakes Weekend
<b>November 13</b>	Admissions Visit Day
<b>November 21-23</b>	Thanksgiving Break
<b>Nov 30-Dec 1</b>	Crusader Homecoming
<b>December 14</b>	Christmas on Campus
<b>December 18-20</b>	Final Exams
<b>January 14</b>	Returning Student Enrollment Day
<b>January 15</b>	Classes Begin

# Discover GLCC...Our Partners

Great Lakes Christian College

# KEY

Volume 65

No. 1 Fall 2018

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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.

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