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## [TEST] KEY - Great Lakes Christian College

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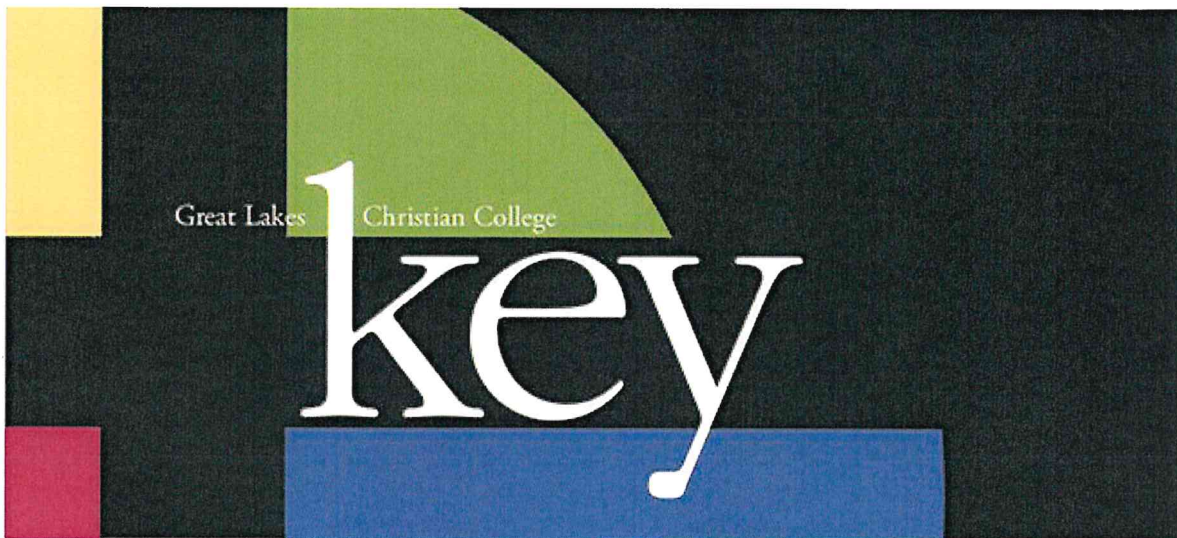
Great Lakes Christian College <GreatLakesChristianCollege@mailman.bloomerang-mail.com>

Wed, May 26, 2021 at 1:28 PM

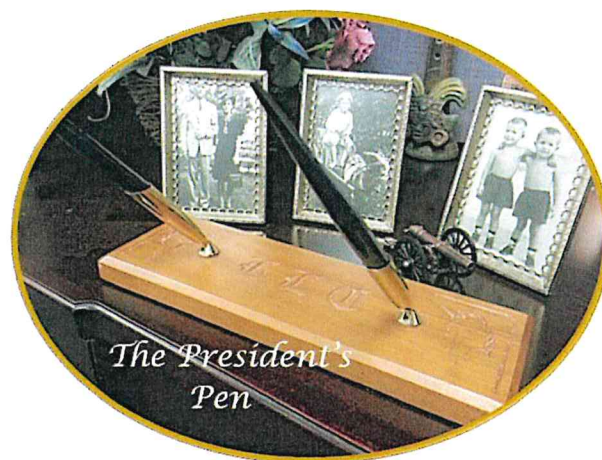
Reply-To: key@glcc.edu

To: pbeavers@glcc.edu

THIS IS A TEST EMAIL



**Volume 67 No. 1**  
**January 2021**



**Encourage Ministers to Keep On**  
**President Larry Carter**

In the last few months I have heard about ministers who, for a variety of reasons, have decided to leave the ministry. Underlying these reasons is a common thread – many committed, gifted, capable ministers find themselves increasingly tired and discouraged. Their discouragement is not so much because of the emotional toll of ministry or the 24/7 nature of the work or the relatively low salaries and lack of benefits – it is because they feel isolated, unsupported, marginalized, and treated like a “hired hand”. It is no wonder that we are seeing a decrease in students desiring to enter the ministry – their preachers and youth ministers aren’t encouraging them to do so. They don’t want their best and brightest to end up where they are.

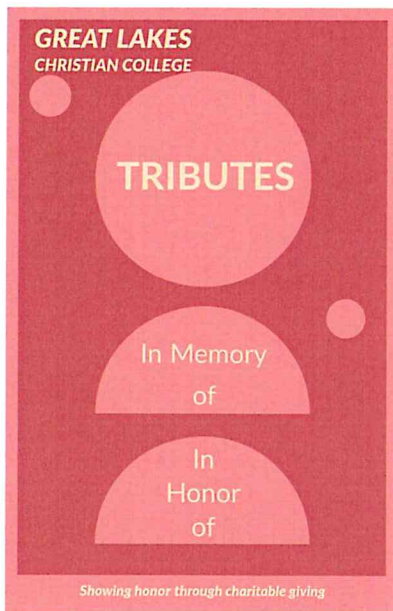
Henri Nouwen has written about those in ministry, *“We are able to do many hard things, tolerate many conflicts, overcome many obstacles, and persevere under many pressures, but when we no longer experience ourselves as part of a caring, supporting, praying community, we quickly lose faith.”* Many ministers are finding themselves not being cared for, not supported, and not prayed for, so they are losing faith in their ability to minister to people in the church. Oh, they will find a place of service, they are committed to the Lord’s work, it just won’t be in the church. If we want to encourage our ministers to stay in the ministry and in the church we need to find better ways to be encouragement to them. We need church leaders to “have the minister’s back” when the ever-present critic takes shots at the minister. We need churches to look for ways to believe in and trust the leadership their minister provides. We need to treat ministers like members of the family not like a “hired hand”. To put it another way, ministers aren’t leaving because of the heavy responsibility OF ministry but because of a lack of a trusting relationship IN ministry. The question ministers ask is, “Are you for me, with me, and do you believe in me?”

I am concerned about the future, 20 years hence, as we continue to see a decline in the number of students coming from our churches who desire to enter the ministry. We can reverse this trend. When churches cherish their ministers and give them the honor due them, our young people will see the esteem accorded to them and look at the ministry with new eyes. They will see that the ministry isn’t some peripheral activity people do on weekends. It isn’t a religious social club where the job of the minister is to keep the membership happy. It is an enterprise that centers on Jesus and where everyone, including the minister, is a part of God’s great family. When we recapture the idea of the importance of the church and of those who lead it, I



believe we will see a resurgence of those who will give their lives in service to the ministry – in the church.

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*A tribute gift is a meaningful way to convey sympathy to the bereaved, memorialize a loved one, commemorate a special occasion, or honor someone special with a gift to Great Lakes Christian College. Making a gift in this way shows your appreciation for the impact they have or had on your life.*

*Any gift can be made “in memory” of or “in honor” of someone and we will notify the person or family of your kindness and thoughtfulness if we are supplied with a name and address.*

*Go to our [Tribute page](#) and see those honored or memorialized in 2020.*

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## Online Degree Programs



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The online degree program at Great Lakes has been designed for a student who needs flexibility in a college schedule. Courses are asynchronous and completed entirely online. New courses begin every seven weeks. There are no campus visits or residency requirements. Programs include Bible Theology, Business Logistics, Church Planting, Christian Leadership & Communication, and Youth Ministry.

### **Online Degrees at a Glance**

Course Length: 7 Week classes

Delivery Format: Online

Style: Accelerated course style with flexible learning choices

Total Program Credit Hours: 60 or 120

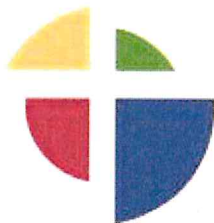
Start Date: Continuous enrollment with new courses beginning every 7 weeks

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# ROUNDUP APP

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Great Lakes  
Christian College

Intellectual, Spiritual & Personal Growth

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Campus COVID updates can be found [here](#).

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We want to thank everyone who gave to the Fill the Gap Scholarship appeal. We were able to raise over \$106K to help students who need financial help in order to return the next semester. The RoundUp App mentioned above will help to fund this scholarship in the future.



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**Our Contact Information**  
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