



## Great Lakes Christian College

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October 5, 2022

Dear Friend,

A new era at Great Lakes Christian College began on September 24 when I was inaugurated as GLCC's tenth President. The weekend focused on "preparing students to be servant leaders in the church and world." That is our mission, and it is more critical than ever.

Earlier this year Christian Standard predicted that 1,000 lead ministers will retire from our churches in the next five years. That is one out of every five preachers! They anticipate another 2,000 ministers retiring in the next twenty years! We are committed to raising up the next generation of ministers for the church. Last year Gallup revealed that most Americans don't go to church. There was a time when people found a church, then found Jesus. Today, most Americans will find Jesus before finding a church. Our marketplace ministry degrees prepare students to take Jesus to the workplace.

Yet, at a time when our mission is most critical, we face significant challenges in enrollment and giving. College enrollment in Michigan is the worst in the nation. Twelve of Michigan's 15 public universities face enrollment declines. Ours has held steady, but to sustain our mission we need our enrollment to grow. Additionally, many of our supporting churches are struggling. According to one analysis, 73% of Michigan's Christian Churches are in decline. As a result, church giving to GLCC has declined as well.

**Our accrediting association, auditor, and the Department of Education are seriously concerned about our ability to financially sustain our mission. If enrollment and giving do not increase, they have indicated they may impose sanctions. Our mission is too important to be jeopardized by that happening!**

We need churches and individuals to step up to sustain a Bible college in our region. We are the only accredited Restoration Movement Christian college remaining east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio Rivers.

Our initial budget for this year called for \$515,000 in church and individual gifts. To meet the challenge in front of us we need to increase that by an additional \$300,000. I need your help. If you're not a monthly supporter, would you pray about becoming one? If you're already giving to GLCC, would you consider increasing your gift to meet the challenge? What we face is serious and yet we continue to pray believing.

Who will raise up the next generation of servant leaders for the church and world? With your help, GLCC will. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. And, thank you for your prayers and support.

Together in service,

Dr. Frank E. Weller  
President

