

"GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST..." 2 PETER 3:18

SUPPORT CANADIAN MISSIONS

TO OUR AMERICAN BRETHREN

Greetings from your brothers and sisters in Christ at Great Lakes Bible College (GLBC).

We are the only Bible college in Canada dedicated to serving the a cappella churches of Christ. We are writing to share how we are working to strengthen the local church—and to invite you to consider partnering with us in this mission.

Our goal is to raise USD \$5.8 million, which we believe will provide long-term sustainability for the college. With your support, we can equip future leaders and continue serving the church for generations to come.

We are constantly humbled and deeply grateful for the partnership we share with friends like you in the United States. Your encouragement and support bridge the distance, strengthening our mission to equip servant leaders for Jesus Christ and build up His church.

Here at GLBC, we are blessed to witness faith in action every day. We see students growing in their knowledge of the Word, developing a passion for ministry, and preparing to serve congregations across Canada and beyond. Our dedicated team pours their lives into this educational ministry—mentoring and guiding the next generation of church leaders, preachers, and committed disciples. This vital work is only possible because of a broader community of faith—a community that includes you.

THE NEED FOR GLBC'S MISSION

Great Lakes Bible College exists to equip Christians for service wherever they are—a unique and vital opportunity in the Canadian context. Consider the following:

- **A unique role:** GLBC is the only post-secondary institution in Canada serving the a cappella churches of Christ.
- **A secular landscape:** Only about 20% of Canadians attend a religious service monthly, reflecting the growing need for trained Christian leaders.
- **A vast, sparsely populated country:** Canada has a population density of just 11.4 people per square mile—less than one-tenth that of Tennessee (158 per square mile). Distance and isolation present unique ministry challenges.



EQUIPPING THE CHURCH IN CANADA

1. A Cost-Effective and Accessible Platform

In addition to GLBC's in-person teaching, our online option offers flexibility, and greater reach. Students can attend live virtual classes from anywhere in Canada—including designated video-conference rooms at local church buildings—or access recordings at their convenience.

2. Empowering Local Churches

Approximately half of the churches of Christ in Canada do not have a full-time evangelist. GLBC equips students to serve as local leaders—whether as teachers, elders, deacons, or evangelists—strengthening their home congregations from within.

3. Sustainability for Future Generations

We have launched a multi-year plan to build our invested funds, ensuring GLBC's long-term sustainability. By strategically investing operational surpluses and bequests, we are working to secure a strong future for this essential ministry.



COMING UP...

- EXPLORE ONLINE LEARNING WITH US
- UPCOMING EVENTS
- FALL COURSES/AUDIT TO CREDIT POLICY
- PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Your support—in any form—is a blessing to our entire community. Here are the most impactful ways you can get involved:

Partner With Us

Your financial gifts have a direct and lasting impact. They help provide student scholarships, fund academic programs, and support the daily operations of the college. Our goal is to raise USD \$5.8 million, which we believe will provide long-term financial stability and sustainability for Great Lakes Bible College. With the current exchange rate of CAD \$1.45, your mission dollars go even further in supporting the church in Canada.

Pray With Us

Prayer is the foundation of our ministry. Please pray for the churches in Canada, for wisdom and endurance for our staff, and for our students as they study and grow in faith.

Share Our Story

Tell your friends, family, and church community about the work God is doing through GLBC. You can also sign up for our newsletter to receive updates and stories to share.

Connect With Us

We would love to connect with you personally. If you or your church leaders would like to learn more, you can book a virtual meeting with our President, Immanuel Velasco, through our website. Visit www.glbc.ca/us-supporters for details.

Thank you once again for your faithful partnership. You are a cherished member of the GLBC family, and your generosity is helping to build up the church in Canada for generations to come.

TO MAKE A DONATION FROM THE U.S.

For our valued U.S. supporters, our partners at Brooks Avenue Church of Christ have graciously offered to process your contributions. This allows you to receive a U.S. tax receipt for your gift.

Please make your cheque payable to: **Brooks Avenue Church of Christ** and mail it to the following address:

**700 Brooks Avenue
Raleigh, North Carolina
27607 USA**

➔ **Important:** Please include a separate covering letter or a note in the memo line indicating that your **donation is for Great Lakes Bible College**.

For additional giving options, including online donations, please visit our Donate page at: www.glbc.ca/give



GREAT LAKES BIBLE COLLEGE

Explore Online Learning With Us

info@glbc.ca | (226) 507-5452 | www.glbc.ca

Experience the benefits of the virtual classroom, including:

- ✓ option to participate in live classes or "on-the-go" with pre-recorded classes
- ✓ works with your schedule
- ✓ college credit available

What do I need to participate?

- ★ High-speed internet access, the Zoom app, and a word processing app.
- ★ Learning software (POPULI) containing all class resources and recordings provided by GLBC.
- ★ Once enrolled, you will get:
 - ✓ A Populi username and password
 - ✓ A course syllabus, book lists, etc.
 - ✓ Access to further resources

CONTACT US NOW

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2025

SEPTEMBER

Fall Term (registration still open)



OCTOBER

AGM & "Meet the President" Luncheon



DECEMBER

Giving Tuesday



TO BE DETERMINED

Regional Ambassadors Meetings



FALL 2025 COURSES (REGISTRATION STILL OPEN)

Spiritual Formation (Omagh Course)

A study of the spiritual disciplines, this course recognizes the need for sustained growth in one's spiritual life with God. Emphasis will be given to prayer, Bible study, meditation, personal accountability, fasting, devotional reading, and writing—all with an awareness of the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The goal of this course is to develop practical strategies for implementing these disciplines in the life of the student.

Psalms & Song of Songs of Solomon

An in-depth study of Psalms and Song of Songs of Solomon beneficial for personal spiritual growth, teaching, preaching, worship, prayer, evangelism and counselling. The course explores the important features and power of Biblical poetry, Psalms types and literary forms and features, collections within the Book of Psalms, and the relationships of Psalms and Song of Songs of Solomon to the gospel of Jesus, Wisdom and Law. In addition to standard introductory matters such as authorship, date, audience, etc., the course also examines these books in their historical contexts, theology, themes, prophetic importance and messages and applications for today including the value of Song of Songs of Solomon in marriage enrichment.

Gospel of Matthew

Close to its beginning, the Gospel of Matthew identifies Jesus as Immanuel, "God with us," by applying a prophecy from the book of Isaiah to Jesus (Matthew 1:23, citing Isaiah 7:14). The Gospel ends with Jesus saying He will be with his disciples forever (Matthew 28:20). That includes us. Join us as we learn what it means for Jesus to be with us spiritually by studying from three different perspectives what the Holy Spirit revealed about the time when He was here physically: 1) the groundwork God laid in the Old Testament (the life of Jesus as the fulfillment of prophecy), 2) how Jesus was present with people during His earthly life, and 3) what does it mean to be His disciple (and, thus, be included in the promise of Matthew 28:20).

Introduction to Research

This foundational course introduces the student to the basics of Bible study and academic research, laying a foundation for success at GLBC and in the student's continuing work in God's kingdom.

Introduction to Bible

This is the first of two courses that survey the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. This course covers Genesis to Song of Songs; the second will cover Isaiah to Revelation. The study of each book includes its historical background, its literary features, its major themes, and how it relates to the other books of Scripture.

Introduction to Worldviews

Intro to Worldviews is a foundational course developing knowledge and skills for life-long growth in our understanding of God, His view of His world and the worldviews of people locally and globally. Ultimately, our view of God's world must align with His. The course examines the formation, content and cultural perspectives of worldviews historically and geographically and its development as a modern discipline. Study of the interrelationships of worldviews, world religions, philosophy, science, and the social disciplines is invaluable in understanding history and the contemporary world. Further to this, knowledge of worldviews as a bridge to understanding others is vital to the growth and health of God's kingdom in an increasingly multicultural world through vibrant congregational life and communicating His truth and transforming power of the gospel through evangelism, apologetics and missions. Importantly, the course aims to help students deepen their relationship with God and articulate and strengthen their Biblical Christian worldview for a meaningful and rewarding life of faith and service in His presence.

Ministry Experience

Our ministry is participation in the ongoing ministry of Jesus. All Christians are in ministry. God works in us and through us to accomplish His purposes while simultaneously transforming us into the image of His Son as we work with Him. Jesus worked with individuals, small and medium sized groups and large public crowds. Ministry is service to God and people: Christians serving others for their benefit, salvation and edification. Jesus' diverse earthly ministry included the dimensions of: 1) gospel preaching, 2) teaching, 3) meeting physical needs and healing and 4) making disciples and leaders. This ministry experience credit provides practical experience in one of the four main areas of Jesus' ministry in the local assembly and community settings.

AUDIT TO CREDIT POLICY

* The purpose of the audit to credit policy is to assist students to succeed without building up a backlog of incomplete and failed courses which brings down their grade point average and makes it very difficult for them to catch-up.

* All new students who intend to do courses for credit should complete the Admissions Inquiry Form which will be followed by a brief interview with the Dean. If prospective students for credit have the time, commitment and aptitude to succeed they will be asked to complete the full undergraduate application form. They will provide academic and personal reference contact information. Referees will be contacted directly by the Dean for their reference responses.

* All new students who intend to do courses for credit will start their first course(s) as auditors. They must successfully complete all the course work for their first course(s) with an acceptable grade before being permitted to take any further course(s). When a course is completed successfully, its designation will be changed from audit to credit. Students on probation at other schools or with marginal study experience and records may only begin with one course at a time.

* New students not intending to do courses for credit can complete the auditor application.

* If after auditing a course or more as auditors, a student decides to take courses for credit the process for the credit to audit track process outlined above will apply.

FOR REGISTRATION OR QUESTIONS:

info@glbc.ca | (226) 507-5452 | glbc.ca



PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

A SUMMER OF SERVICE & MINISTRY

This past summer, I had the privilege of serving in various roles at Camp Omagh. It was a powerful reminder that ministry reaches far beyond Sunday mornings. This principle is central to our mission at Great Lakes Bible College (GLBC), where students are encouraged to engage in meaningful "in-between Sundays" ministry through our required Ministry Experience Credits.

My time at Camp Omagh also provided a valuable opportunity to introduce others to GLBC's educational ministry. A highlight of the summer was hosting a Young Adult Weekend, which brought together over 20 Christians from four different congregations. It was a meaningful time of connection and spiritual growth as we explored the topic of spiritual habits—offering participants a preview of a short course we would later present that summer.

An Exciting Fall Ahead

This fall we are embracing diverse learning models, both in-person and hybrid, to better serve our students. Over the summer, we held a short course in person at Camp Omagh, with five students from three different congregations participating.

As we begin the new school year, we are excited to welcome back Professor Nathan Brown, who will continue teaching with us remotely from Georgia while immigration pathways are being explored. Thanks to our online learning model, this transition will have minimal impact on the student experience.

From October to November, we will be offering an 8-week course titled *"Introduction to Worldviews"*. This class introduces students to God's view of the world as revealed in the Scriptures. It is ideal for church groups or individuals who want to better understand the 12 dimensions of a worldview—and how these shape our relationships, evangelism and service in God's Kingdom.

Looking ahead to January, we are thrilled to offer a 15-week course on *"Biblical Preaching"*. This class is highly recommended for anyone currently preaching—or those who feel called to prepare for that role. It is also an excellent resource for women looking to be equipped for leadership and teaching in women's ministry contexts.

Student Support and Community Connection

We are pleased to share that scholarships remain available through the GLBC Sponsorship Fund. Most of our students are seeking to be better equipped for service within their local congregations, and this financial support helps make their education possible.

In the year ahead, I hope to connect with our stakeholders in different regions through a series of Regional Ambassador Meetings. We are always looking for new ways to engage with our broader community and strengthen the relationships that are so vital to our mission.

Meet the President Luncheon

Before this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM), we will be hosting a special "Meet the President" Luncheon at Great Lakes Christian High School. This will be a great opportunity to hear more about what is happening at GLBC, our mission to serve the church, and to share your feedback with me directly. We are looking forward to a meaningful year ahead and are incredibly grateful for your continued support.

You can see more pictures when you check out our blog post:
"GLBC Sponsors Another Successful Young Adults Weekend at Camp Omagh"



Stay Connected & Fundraising Needs

We hope this newsletter has given you a glimpse into the exciting work taking place at Great Lakes Bible College. It is a privilege to watch our students grow in faith and be equipped for service—both in formal ministry and as active members of their local churches.

More than 80% of our revenue comes from individuals and churches who believe in our mission and want to see it continue. We are currently working to grow our invested funds to help build a stable financial foundation for future generations. Without God's blessings—and the faithful support of His people—our ministry would not be possible.

Your continued prayers, financial support, and active engagement are vital to our work. Together, we can continue to make a lasting impact in God's Kingdom.



GREAT LAKES BIBLE COLLEGE

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..." 2 Peter 3:18

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Made Like Martha

Let's get things done!



Are you a Martha who feels guilty for not being a Mary?

Do you long to sit at Jesus' feet like Mary did—but feel the constant pull to get things done?

Here's the good news: God values Marthas too. He uses those who are ready, willing, and able to serve. But before the work begins, He invites you to pause—to prepare your heart, to grow in His Word, and to deepen your relationship with Him.

At Great Lakes Bible College, we invite you to take that step. Come study the Scriptures with us. Equip yourself for the work God is calling you to. Every faithful servant needs a solid foundation—and you'll be glad you built yours here.



"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

—1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

WANTED

A FEW GOOD MEN



There is a popular song that goes, "God doesn't need an orator who knows just what to say. He doesn't need authorities to reason Him away. He doesn't need an army to guarantee a win. He just needs a few good men!"

**STAND UP
AND BE
COUNTED!**

**GET
EQUIPPED
FOR GOD!**

**WE CAN
HELP!**



**For more information or to
apply, visit www.glbc.ca,
email info@glbc.ca
or call/text (226) 507-5452.**

*"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord
as holy, always being prepared to make a
defense to anyone who asks you for a reason
for the hope that is in you.."*

1 Peter 3:15 (ESV)