

# MICHIGAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BULLETIN



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## “Year to Proclaim Liberty” in Review

May 8 witnessed the largest graduating class in the history of Michigan Christian College as 87 students gathered under the pines to receive degrees. The graduates were among the 236 students that broke the enrollment record in the fall of 1974.

Last fall, **enrollment** again soared to another record as 343 students came to MCC from sixteen states and five foreign countries. A very marked difference became quickly obvious since 305 of these students lived in the residence halls, filling the present dorms for the first time.

Early in the fall, President Don Gardner presented the year's **theme scripture** in chapel, “*For the Lord has anointed me . . . to proclaim liberty to the captives.*” (Isaiah 61:1) The theme regularly reminded the student body of the most important type of freedom available as the nation focused on the bicentennial.

In addition to the academic thrust of the year, extracurricular learning experiences thrived. Larger numbers caused regular weekly **devotionals** to be moved to the gym. The all-school **banquets** demanded wall-to-wall tables to facilitate larger groups. Over one hundred pints of blood were donated during the **Red Cross drive**.

The **Student Council** furnished the ideas, funds, and manpower to complete their student center remodeling project, in addition to planning campus activities and trips to such places as the Detroit Zoo and the Stratford Festival in Canada. A newly revived **Ski Club** frequented several Michigan slopes including Alpine Valley.

**Mission Emphasis** contacted over 16,000 people in campaigns to nineteen cities, setting up Bible studies and helping several congregations with bus programs. Sunshine baskets, food drives, and student scholarships resulted in an active **Women's Club**, while future preachers learned from local minister Ernie Gill in **His Wordsmen**.

Twenty-seven congregations hosted the fifty voice **A Cappella Chorus** in Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, and Illinois. New suits on the men, provided by Muirheads of Dearborn, and brightly-colored formals for the girls complimented the appearance of the chorus. The group cut and completely sold out of a new album before completing their spring tour.

**The Crucible** in the fall and **An Italian Straw Hat** in the spring involved very large casts for the year's on-campus drama productions. A portable one-act setting from **Plaza Suite** traveled to Canton, Ohio, and to Flint, Michigan, to be witnessed by over 1,600 high school students.

Newspaper journalists gained experience by working on the **North Star**, which increased its subscription list to include prospective MCC students. As yearbook workers put together an even finer edition of the **Totem Pole**, the 1975 **Totem Pole** received an “A” rating from the National Yearbook Association and took second place in statewide competition among both public and private colleges and universities.

Beta Rho won the intramural trophy by accumulating the most points in **intramural sports** competition, which this year added basketball-golf and women's flag football to its

list of sports. **Intercollegiate teams** participated in basketball, baseball, tennis, and for the first time, cross country. The **Cheerleaders** won first place in competition at the annual Christian College Tournament in Searcy, Arkansas.

More important, and many times partly because of the abundance of activity at MCC, lives were changed. Although over 85% of the student body came to MCC as Christians, over seventeen students were baptized and 161 asked for each others' prayers at the Rochester church. In the words of one graduating sophomore, “*Being at MCC for two years has changed my life. I found real love and new heights in my Christianity. I have found that Christianity is not all taking, but giving, giving everything you have and in that giving finding true freedom in Christ. MCC has changed my life and drawn me closer to the Lord.*”



# Campus Improvements Focus on Remodeling

Almost every area on campus has either received major upgrading within the past two years, or will receive major work in the near future. Most future improvements should be completed for the coming fall semester. The overall effect is quite impressive!

**GALLAHER CENTER.** A gift from the James Gallaher family of Bay City, Michigan, made possible painting and repairs on the exterior of the administration building this past summer. Inside, new carpeting and drapes brightened the entire building, along with new chairs placed in the large classroom. Currently, the Music Department is being reorganized and redecorated.

**MULTI-PURPOSE COMPLEX.** After new chairs and tables arrived in the cafetorium, students painted the entire area, complete with a dramatic, Indian-looking wall mural. The kitchen received major renovations last summer, including new walk-in freezer and refrigerator units. This summer the remainder of the kitchen will receive new equipment. The student center (formerly the bookstore) received a new ceiling, carpeting, furnishings, and painting courtesy of a Student Council drive. Plans are currently being finalized for a large addition to the student center, made possible by the Utley family and MCC Associates. A second floor construction project above the student center is being considered for chapel and additional classroom space. The residence hall area is being completely carpeted.

**MODULAR UNITS.** One classroom unit and one office unit recently became available from another college. These units will be placed behind the classroom wing of the Multi-Purpose Complex to facilitate a growing academic program.



Photo by Douglas Bauman, Rochester Observer and Eccentric

**BARBIER RESIDENCE HALL.** Remodeling of closet units and restrooms along with complete carpeting and relighting is currently underway in old Dorm No. 2.

**MEN'S RESIDENCE HALL NO. 1.** Complete reorganization of the entire one-story dorm this summer will result in six large suites which include private entrances, private baths between two rooms, and complete carpeting.

**GYMNASIUM.** A resurfaced floor and new glass backboards made possible through donations of local businesses have improved physical education activities. Sewer lines to the north end of campus are being planned to enable the addition of shower rooms and offices to the gym. Mrs. Faye Dilgard of Fort Wayne, Indiana has made the first gift toward starting this construction project.

**SCIENCE CENTER.** Grants through the Federal Government's Title VI program, matched by gifts from the MCC Associates, have made possible new cabinets and additional electrical work in the Biology Lab. The Chemistry Lab is also being completely remodeled this summer through similar funding.

**GROUNDS.** Last summer, the old lines to the lake were repaired and reopened, restoring the lake's level and circulation system. Trees and shrubs along the lakeside are currently being trimmed to restore a full view of the recently cleared lake.

The MCC campus has always stood apart as one of the most beautiful college campuses in the country. The many recent improvements will enable better service and comfort to a rapidly growing student body.

**Breaking last year's astounding record of 2012 tickets, Partnership Dinner V realized 2655 tickets on April 10, 1976. Almost filling Cobo's banquet room to capacity, 1833 people attended the dinner. In order to accommodate a growing dinner and to continue reducing debt on the Alma Gatewood Residence Hall, a larger facility has been reserved at Cobo Hall for Partnership Dinner VI on April 2, 1977. Tickets will again sell for \$60-a-plate. Mark your calendar!**





## Growing Faculty Develops New Programs and Courses

Developing institutions have changing academic programs, as Dean Larry Journey more fully realized while completing revisions for the next MCC catalog. A two-year degree in secretarial science and numerous new courses will highlight the next catalog.

With the addition of two full-time faculty members last year and five more this coming year, several new courses have been made possible such as Creative Crafts, Guitar, Ear Training, Physical Science, Organic Chemistry, and History of Western Thought. A major focus in the Bible Department has resulted in several new courses and a movement toward a bachelor's degree in Bible.

In order to compensate for a national trend of less academic preparation in high school, several special remedial programs have been instituted. Included are courses in reading techniques, basic grammar and writing skills, basic math, study methods, and personal motivation.

Foundation work is already underway in preparation for the next accreditation visit in the spring of 1977. MCC received full accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in July, 1974.



## Board Expands to 47

Beginning its existence in 1954 with nine members, the MCC Board of Directors grew to 21 members by 1972. Since that time, the board has increased its size to 47 dedicated men and women. Among the most recent additions is Jim Bruce, the first former MCC student to serve on the board.

### MCC Board Of Directors

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**MEMORIAL GIFTS**  
January - May 1976

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**LARRY GITSCHLAG**  
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Johnnie & Zola Watts  
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**ELMER BERYL YAHN**  
Robert L. Yahn

**Associates Pass \$100,000  
Approach First Million**

Surpassing the \$100,000 mark for the current academic year, the MCC Associates continue to raise the largest amount of funds of any such group among the Christian schools. In 1972 the ladies reached the half million dollar mark, and in their coming eighteenth year they can optimistically look to reaching the million dollar goal.

A new project, supplying the workforce for Elias Brothers' Pontiac Stadium souvenir stands, netted the largest single project total for the year with \$20,385. Former MCC student and Associate, Terry Potter of Pontiac, directed this program. The group's largest single event of the year, the annual Fall Festival, is scheduled for October 2.

Hats off to these fine ladies and best wishes on reaching their first million!

**19th Annual MCC  
BIBLE LECTURESHIP  
October 12-14, 1976**

**They write us . . .**

*"The MCC Chorus sang at our building last night . . . They did a magnificent performance . . . We believe that the chorus did an excellent job of representing MCC as a quality educational center."*

Willis Rush, Terre Haute, IN

*"It was a delight for me to . . . visit the Michigan Christian College campus . . . The chapel period was heart-warming. I wish there were some way to transport its uniqueness to . . ."*

Visitor from a senior Christian college.

*"Thank you so much for . . . information regarding Michigan Christian College . . . As I am making an information center of the different colleges, I am receiving their annuals and I am very happy to tell you that yours is one of the finest."*

Gene Gilliland, Bartlesville, OK

*"I shall cherish the four days spent . . . at MCC as one of the more pleasant interludes in my life. The kids there are a wonderful crowd and are the best advertisement possible for the quality of the college. My daughter Cherry . . . solemnly avows that she will be at MCC in three years time."*

Eldred Echols, Benoni, South Africa

*"I am enclosing a check to the college to be used for whatever it is needed. This is such a small gift in return for the influence MCC has had on my life. The love and friendship shared in a Christian atmosphere has been a lovely and lasting memory that I continue to cherish."*

Darlana Wolven, Bloomington, IN