

# MICHIGAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BULLETIN



## Student Center - Chapel Construction Underway

Marking the end of an academic year and the beginning of an era, students and staff gathered on a bare hill for chapel on May 6, 1977. Hands joined, the group thanked God for a year shared together. Prayers also looked forward to a permanent chapel facility on the same site. Three days later digging began.

The new chapel structure seats 410 in a unique arrangement that can within minutes be converted into three lecture rooms. Two sections, one on each side, are tiered and face the center. Permanent theatre seating with folding tablet arms serve these areas. The center section, with movable seating, faces the stage. Major funding from a large gift of the former West Side Central Church of Christ in Detroit makes this building possible.

The student center portion of the project about triples current space available. It connects the present student center and new chapel. The facility will be named the Utley Student Center in honor of L. C. and Elizabeth Utley. Gifts from the Utley family and MCC Associates are funding this part of the construction.

With the moving of chapel to the new facility, the current cafeteria will all become cafeteria space. Builders are aiming for a September opening.



20th Annual

## MCC LECTURESHIP

October 3-6, 1977

*“Christ or Crisis in the Family”*

Monday Evening - Batsell Barrett Baxter

Tuesday Evening - Hardeman Nichols

Wednesday Evening - Carl Brecheen, G. P. Holt

Thursday Evening - Jim Bill McInteer

*Lectures throughout every day*

*beginning Tuesday morning featuring*

Batsell Barrett Baxter

Carl Brecheen

Wayne Briggs

Ken Chaffin

Mildred Freeland

Susie Hall

G. P. Holt

Jim Bill McInteer

Betty Muns

Hardeman Nichols

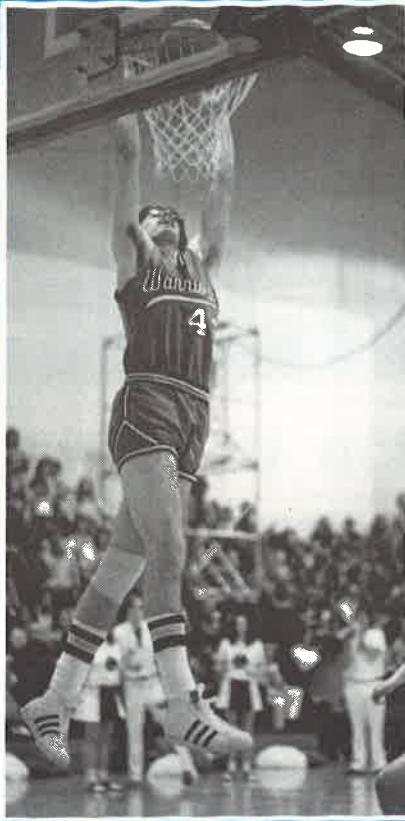
Fausto Salvoni

Keith Stotts

Mary Etta Stowe

Helen Young

(details coming in August bulletin)



## “Year of Reaffirmation”

Fall **enrollment** records again broke when 347 students registered for classes. Students came to Michigan Christian College from fourteen states and four foreign countries to be a part of the 1976 - 1977 academic year.

Early in the year, President Don Gardner presented the year's **theme scripture** in chapel. Students and faculty often shared in a responsive reading of John 21:15-19, reaffirming their love for the Lord. Further evidences of reaffirmation and rededication surfaced during the year as over sixteen students were baptized and 139 asked for each others' prayers at the Rochester church.

Highlighting the year's intercollegiate sports program, the Warriors captured the conference championship in men's **basketball**. After facing four losses in their first six games, the team pulled themselves together to finish their season with a 15-6 record. In spite of competing in an otherwise all senior college league, the team finished 9-1 in league play. Three sophomores and ten freshman made up the squad, leaving a good base for the next season. The beginning of women's intercollegiate basketball also added to the depth of the athletic program at MCC.

Musical talent thrived with the addition of former MCC student Randy Gill as a full-time music instructor. The 42 voice **A Cappella Chorus** visited over 31 churches in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, New York, and Ontario. Several new small music groups provided opportunities for further experience. A new album of spirituals entitled "My God is a Rock" featured all campus music groups.

Spring break provided the opportunity for a group of students and sponsor Mark Gardner to conduct a ten-day **campaign** in Morvant, Trinidad. Immediate positive results led to requests for a return of campaigners.

A fall production of **Pride and Prejudice** gave drama participants an opportunity to initiate new lighting and stage equipment obtained through a Title VI grant. Two full houses witnessed **Brigadoon**, MCC's first major musical in several years. A sight and sound spectacular, **Celebration in Song**, ended the spring semester with what many acclaimed as the finest stage entertainment ever produced at MCC.

Yet as all good things must come to an end, **graduation** took place under the pines on May 7. Compared to an average of fifty graduates per year for several years, 103 students received diplomas before an overflow crowd of guests.



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## Accreditation Visit Highlights Academic Year

Reaffirmation of present accreditation looks promising after a March 28-30 visit by a four member inspection team from the North Central Association. Following a 66 page self-study prepared by college personnel, the inspection team reviewed college progress in meeting institutional goals and in improving areas of concern noted from the last visit in 1974.

Among other things, the report to NCA about the visit noted that "the team found at MCJC a strong junior college performing well in accord with its stated mission." They also stressed the "remarkable financial support for the College from members of the churches of Christ." College representatives will meet with a final review panel in Chicago in July.

Also highlighting the academic year, the MCC Board of Directors in their October meeting approved the implementation of a bachelor's degree in Bible. The third year of extended studies has been added to next fall's curriculum. Tentative plans call for the fourth year to begin the following year. State approval is currently being sought.

## Partnership Dinner VII Moved to Silverdome

Steadily growing from an original ticket sale of 838, Partnership Dinner has realized dramatic growth for six years. For the past five, Cobo Hall in Detroit has housed the event. A major change of scenery has been finalized for the dinner to take place on April 29, 1978 in the Pontiac Silverdome. Free use of the facility by using the stadium catering service has made possible the ticket price remaining at \$60 per plate.

Partnership Dinner VI this year marked a total ticket sale of 3,350, an increase of 695 over the previous year. In addition to making possible the annual payments on the Alma Gatewood Residence Hall, a challenge grant of \$50,000 was met through ticket sales to be used in remodeling the present gymnasium.

## Associates Reach Million Dollar Mark

Maintaining their distinction as the group that raises the largest amount of funds of any such group among the Christian schools, the MCC Associates have reached another milestone in Christian education. In 1972 the ladies reached the half million dollar mark. This year, they achieved their millionth dollar.

While many sister groups have raised nearer \$100,000 in their history, the MCC Associates pass \$100,000 annually. Their largest single project is their annual Fall Festival, which this year netted over \$30,000 with an estimated crowd of 7,000. Other major projects include providing a workforce for the souvenir stands in the Pontiac Silverdome, Gift-a-Rama, and a spring fashion show. Hundreds of local projects by individual chapters provide further support.

Partnership Dinner VI focused on the "million dollar ladies." Dinner proceeds provide the annual payments on the Alma Gatewood Residence Hall, which is appropriately named in honor of the founder of the Associates. Mrs. Gatewood began the Associates in 1959 with 350 at the kick-off meeting. Since then, the campus and total operation of the college has been nourished by the loyal support of thousands of dedicated women.



**MEMORIAL GIFTS**  
June 1976-April 1977

**FRED ADAMS**  
Martha Smith  
Beth Yuhas

**ALBERT BARRETT**  
Riverdale Church of Christ

**MRS. EVA BEEBE**  
Parkside Church of Christ

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Mayme O'Bryant  
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Milton & Phoebe Thornton

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Mrs. Julia Watterworth

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Earl & Lorraine Hickey

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Parkside Church of Christ

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Jimmy & Darleen Davidson  
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**JOHN HINES**  
A Friend

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Roy & Faye Russell

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**Campus Calendar**

- AUG. 28 Residence Halls Open
- AUG. 29 Registration
- AUG. 30 Classes Begin
- OCT. 1 Fall Festival
- OCT. 3-6 Lectureship
- NOV. 10-12 Drama Production
- DEC. 3 Gift-a-Rama
- DEC. 16 Residence Halls Close