



# LEADERS *by Example*



Principal Kerri Kennedy ('90), Amy Sandiford ('00), and Vice Principal Dwayne Williams ('85).

*...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Jesus, Matthew 20:26b-28

*The authority by which the Christian leader leads is not power but love, not force but example, not coercion but reasoned persuasion. Leaders have power, but power is safe only in the hands of those who humble themselves to serve.*

John Stott, theologian

Leaders are hard to find. Leaders who are servants at heart are harder to find. Good servant-leaders who are faithful followers of Christ are the hardest to find, which is why we feel so blessed at Great Lakes Christian High School. We have several strong, faithful, and dedicated servant-leaders. We are happy to share with you our current academic and residential administrative team that helps shape the every day experience of our students.

## PRINCIPAL:

### **Kerri Kennedy – B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., OCT, Principal's Qualifications I & II**

Kerri is the daughter of Bruce ('63) and Linda Minter. She was a student at GLCHS for her senior year, graduating June 1990. Not only did she earn a couple degrees while away from the school, she married her high school sweetheart, Jeff ('90). Both Jeff and Kerri joined the faculty of GLCHS in August 1996. Although Jeff moved on to become Principal of Oakville Christian Elementary School in 2007, Kerri has served at GLCHS for 22 years, most of them as our lead English teacher. Kerri had two years away from teaching to welcome her two

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children: **Ethan** (2001, a current senior student at GL) and **Sadie** (2005, currently in Grade 8 at Covenant Christian School in Smithville). Kerri has always volunteered tirelessly for the school, church, and in the community. Moreover, she recruits others to volunteer in a way only someone who “walks the talk” can. She and Jeff have long been involved in all levels of Strawberry Point Christian Camp.

### VICE-PRINCIPAL:

#### **Dwayne Williams – B.Sc., Professional Ed. (U.S.), OCT, M.Sc. in Education**

Dwayne is the son of **Roy** ('59) and **Edythe** (grades 9-11 '58 – '60) Williams. Dwayne graduated from GLCHS June 1985; his future wife, Janine (Seabrook), attended GLCHS for her Grade 13/OAC year 1986-1987. Their two children, **Jenna** ('08) and **Maddie** ('11), are GL alumni and both married GL alumni: **Jordan Jones** ('07) and **Allen Garcia** ('11), respectively. Dwayne first worked for GLCHS 1997-2000 in the Admissions department. After a brief sojourn away, he returned in August 2001 to join the faculty and he has remained at GLCHS since. Mostly teaching Social Sciences and Phys.Ed., he has been a cornerstone coach in our athletic program all these years. In 2007, **Dwayne**

Dedicated to doing everything for God's glory, Kerri sets high expectations for herself, her students, and her colleagues. Well organized, empathetic, and collaborative, she brings out the best in others, which makes her an ideal Principal. Officially, she served as Vice-Principal since August 2014; unofficially, she served as Co-Principal, which makes this a natural and exciting transition. **Jeff** and **Kerri** and their family worship at the Tintern Church of Christ.

became Athletic Director, a mantle he has passed this year to **Duane May** ('97). In recent years, Dwayne has often been “acting Principal” when needed. An entrepreneur at heart (he has facilitated countless creative fundraisers for the school over the years), he brought an Entrepreneurship course to our offerings, which continues to be well subscribed. He teaches three academic courses and two Bible classes in addition to his administrative responsibilities. With a great sense of humour, laid-back but no nonsense approach, active faith, and ability to give **Earl Clint** ('75) a run for the title of “punmaster,” Dwayne creates a warm and welcome place in which to serve and study. Dwayne and **Janine** worship at the Tintern Church of Christ.

### GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:

#### **Amy Sandiford – B.Sc., B.Ed., Honours Specialist General Science, OCT, Guidance and Career Education I & II**

Amy is the daughter of **Ed** (Gr. 13 '70-'71 and long time faculty member) and **Rhonda (Whitfield) Whittington**. Amy graduated from GLCHS in 2000. Amy married **Adam Sandiford** in 2002. They have a daughter, **Robin**, born in 2013. Amy returned to GL as a teacher August 2006, focusing in her early years on the Sciences. In recent years she introduced Food and Nutrition classes and she teaches chemistry. Amy has served as Guidance Counselor since August 2017. She distinguishes

herself in the areas of planning, especially when considering complex decisions that require sifting through an abundance of data points. Meticulous, dedicated, and a good listener, she excels in her new role, allaying the anxiety of students and parents as they navigate through high school and the post-secondary application process. Deeply committed to Christ, Amy is active in her church and eager to live out her faith in the world. Amy and Adam worship at the Beamsville Church of Christ.

We rejoice in the strong leadership, selfless servanthood, and active Christian faith embodied by Kerri, Dwayne, and Amy, especially as they influence and guide our staff and students into

the years ahead. Our prayer is that together with them and by God's grace, we will be more effective educating learners to seek, serve, and become like Christ.

# VISION 2020

*Expanding in Faith. Growing to Serve.*

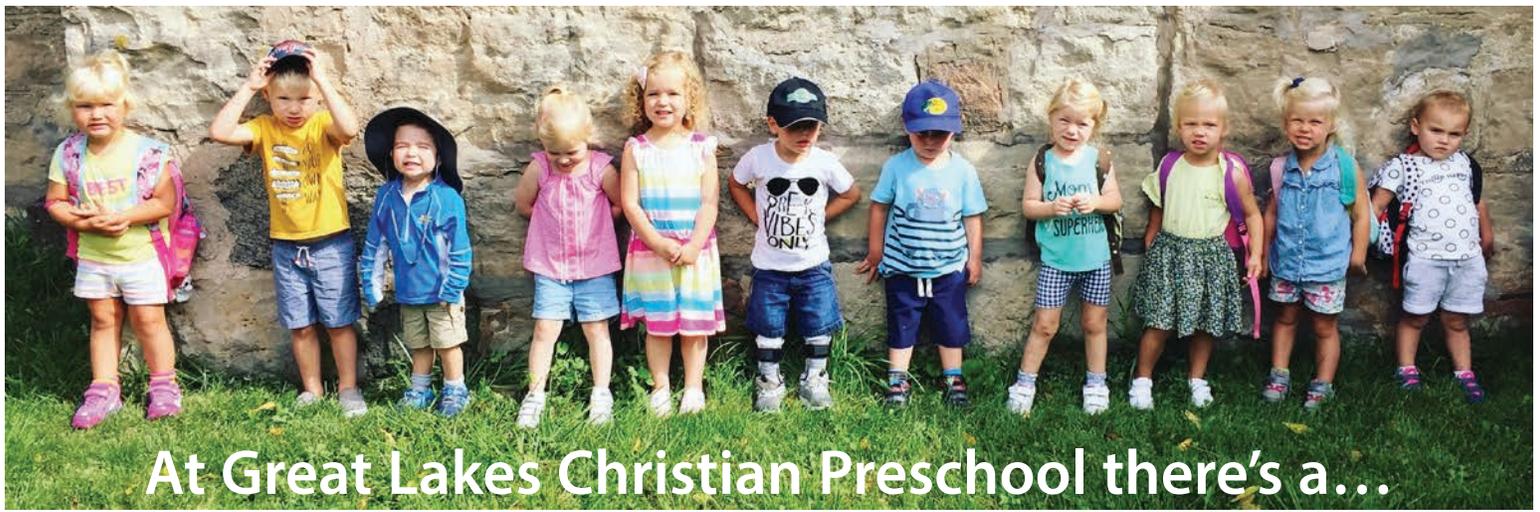
**A**t the 2018 Homecoming Banquet, we announced the planning for an upcoming capital campaign: Vision 2020. The goal is to raise \$500,000 in funds outside of general annual giving. These funds will be used in conjunction with up to \$500,000 in borrowed funds and \$200,000 in our capital budget to drive a \$1,200,000 renovation project in Ellis Hall.

The outcome of these renovations achieve four distinct goals: to become a fully accessible school, to exceed fire safety requirements, to create more academic space for a growing student

body, and to refresh an aging building by bringing it into the twenty-first century.

The wonderful news is that through the Alumni Association over two Homecoming Weekends in 2017 and 2018, we have already raised \$50,000 or 10% of our fundraising goal! The next few issues of Laker Connection will feature our progress and more information will be available when we have a “hard launch” of the campaign in February 2019. We also encourage you to visit our website, [www.glchs.ca](http://www.glchs.ca), for more information and updates beginning in February.





At Great Lakes Christian Preschool there's a...

# Good Future Here



Preschool students enjoying Kindermusik with Miss Corrie, a recently new and very well received addition to our offerings.

The staff at Great Lakes Christian Preschool were presented with the question, “What is the best thing about working here?” The answer received was a resounding, “The staff, my colleagues, the people that I work with!” As the supervisor of a child care facility, it’s rewarding to hear this

unanimous response. Working in the early years sector places a continuous relational demand on employees for effective communication and positive interactions. Early childhood educators share a varied workload of tasks that are not always pleasant nor easy and strong relationships are vital.

At Great Lakes we are thankful that our work life never becomes a burden because the people who share it with us are joyful, conscientious, and exhibit the goodness of the Lord. As we continually grow together in unity we are reaching a new level of excellence for a community of young families in the Beamsville area.

*I urge you, my brothers and sisters, for the sake of the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to agree to live in unity with one another and put to rest any division that attempts to tear you apart. Be restored as one united body living in perfect harmony. Form a consistent choreography among yourselves, having a common perspective with shared values.*

1 Corinthians 1:10 (TPT)

“There’s a good future here. There have been modern changes that speak well to the future of Great Lakes Christian Preschool.

These developments encourage us as staff and also the parents because the improvements provide for the children every step of the way.” These words, spoken by staff member Pauline Lacroix, are indicative of observations made during her eleven years at the preschool.

As our discussion grew, staff members included more insightful thoughts about their pleasure working at Great Lakes. Julia DeHaan, a new graduate from the Early Childhood Education program at Niagara College, has the opportunity to work at Great Lakes part of her week and do supply work in other Child

Care locations around Niagara. She expressed, “The Christian atmosphere I feel among my colleagues each day and the interaction with families make all the difference. I feel like I’m making a change in the lives of children and that I’m impacting families here at Great Lakes.”

Laurie Allard is a former parent who made it her goal to work at the preschool soon after her own daughters attended. Now working part-time as a program assistant, Laurie says, “The best part of working at Great Lakes is the people, young and old.” Kirsten Jones, who has worked at Great Lakes since

2015, shared: “This is a place where it’s okay to love the kids.”

It’s easy to love the children, support the families, and spend time preparing that perfect activity when you look forward to working with a team whose desire is the same. We are purposeful in bringing the love of Jesus to each child that enters through our doors. The foundational principle for all of us at Great Lakes Christian Preschool is to love. Joy blesses, love heals, and kindness brings growth. We are blessed to have this amazing job with amazing people.

*Heather Moyer,  
director of GLCP.*



Some preschoolers who are enjoying a program recognized by the Niagara region as exceptional. Our staff look happy too! From left to right: Kirsten Jones, Heather Moyer, and Laurie Allard.



Kerri Kennedy ('90), Lynn Mackenzie, Dianne Gardner ('79), and Marijka Bean in May 2016.



Lynn Mackenzie

# Love Letter to Lynn From Anna Cox

It is a daunting task to summarize a cherished friendship of more than forty-five years into a short “letter.” In the 1970’s, you and I were young married women and then young mothers with the arrival of **Laura** ('94), **Andy** ('98) and **Mark** ('00) to you and **Dave** ('68) and **Steve** ('96) and **Ken** ('99) to me and **Mervin**.

*Our friendship was always intertwined with GL.*

You began your years in Canada living on campus since Dave was employed by the school at the time. At some point, you managed the Student Book Store.

As members of the Beamsville

WAVES we were involved in many fundraising efforts but the “highlight” of the year would be working with other WAVES chapters preparing and serving meals at the Beamsville Fair every September. What a lot of hard work that was, but we had a lot of fun, too, with some wonderful women who loved GL as much as we did.

All five of our children attended GL and when Mark graduated, we began our time working together in the Business Office.

We struggled (at least I did) trying to learn all we needed to know while sharing one computer! Thankfully we had the infinitely patient **Don Whitehead** ('78) to

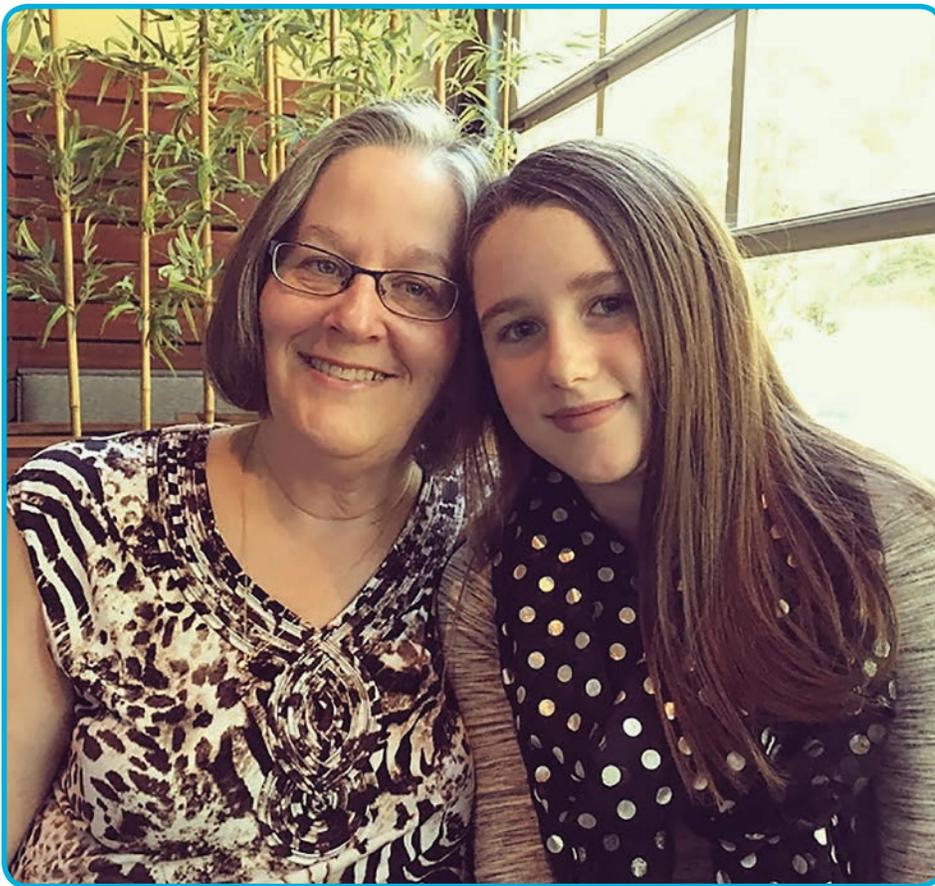
guide us through those early days. Things did improve greatly when we were able to move our office upstairs, closer to **Don and Art Ford** ('65). It got even better when we acquired a second computer, so we could be in the office together and get our work done without “waiting our turn”.

As the years went by and staff changes

occurred, you were able to “go with the flow” and expanded your knowledge to be able to take on more



Lynn 2002-03



Lynn and her granddaughter, Lillian (December 2017)

responsibilities. Whatever you were asked to do, you did to the best of your ability with grace and dignity.

When not at work, your hands were always busy: quilting (I still have the baby quilt you made in 1978 for Steve), sewing and smocking wedding dresses and baby

outfits or making doll clothes for your grandchildren. Many people have been fortunate to receive some of your handiwork over the years. I have been so blessed having you in my life for nearly fifty years. We've worked together, laughed and cried together and enjoyed our time together. I always knew you were there when I needed a hug or help with a sewing project.

So, dear Lynn, enjoy your retirement, although not much will change. You will always be busy doing things for your family, your friends, your church family, and "your" school, but now it will be on your timetable.

Take a little time now and then to relax by the water somewhere to refresh your body and soul. You deserve it!

Love Anna

*P.S. When can we "do lunch"?*

*Submitted by Anna (née Maddeaux) Cox ('68). Anna worked with Lynn in the Business Office at GLCHS from 2001 until her retirement in 2013. Five years later, and after nineteen years of non-consecutive service at GLCHS, Lynn is following her friend and colleague into retirement. Lynn's role in the Business Office changed over the years from "Accounts Receivable" to Development Support (with a very broad job description) in the last decade. Lynn embodied a deep respect and love for those who supported and served the school, and she took joy in explaining family and church connections to the Chief Administrator on many occasions! A language lover, she was the reliable and judicious editor for her verbose supervisor. Lynn is a compassionate peacemaker whose timely, loving gestures and sage advice were a constant blessing to those who had the privilege to work alongside her. As an example, she once suggested to some of us who were struggling through differences of opinion and approach: "I always find it is difficult to be angry with someone for whom I pray." Amen. God bless you in your retirement, Lynn!*



Lynn and Anna Cox 2003-04 Gifts for Hannah House



The staff cake for Lynn's birthday and retirement.



More than forty students were involved in this year's play production, *A Christmas Carol*. This picture was taken of the cast after our final performance on December 16, 2018.

## An exceptionally MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE

December 14-16, 2018 marked the final play production I will participate in as a Great Lakes student. As the curtains closed on our final performance, I saw two of my friends, **Sydney Cook** and **Emily Rose**, with watery eyes. Like me, they have participated in play every year since grade nine, and it has been an exceptionally meaningful experience for all of us. I remember during our first play, they told me

that they had gone to see the Great Lakes plays with their families for years and had waited with anticipation for the opportunity to participate in one. Now, we can hardly believe that this experience has come and gone in our lives.

This year we performed an adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic "*A Christmas Carol*" with **Jacob Walker** ('18) playing the notorious Ebenezer Scrooge. **Rebekka Gondosch**, our

wonderful director, prefaced each performance by describing how the play is a collaborative, interdisciplinary event for our school. She couldn't be more correct! The Grade 11 Technological Design class played an integral role in creating the sets. Several student artists assisted in painting a Victorian streetscape and interiors. Ten



Jacob Walker as Ebenezer Scrooge

students were required every performance for staging. **Clara McLean**, a Grade 11 student, was the Narrator and served as choreographer for a key scene. **Josh Hunter**, the Chorus director, helped us incorporate several seasonally appropriate songs. Twenty-four actors left their mark on a well-known story. Play helps unite and build community within our school. I know for me personally, it has allowed me to get to know many of my peers through a fun and enriching experience. For this, I am incredibly grateful.

When I saw my friends crying, I must admit that I teased them for their display of emotion; however, there was an unspoken understanding that we shared. With graduation sneaking up on us, it feels as though we are going to have to let go of a lot in the next few months, and play is one of those things that is going to make it so difficult to say goodbye.

*Kylee Gault, Grade 12*



The Cratchit Family (left to right): **Ellie May** (Grade 9), **Emily Rose** (Grade 12), **Peter Ton** (Grade 12), **Wendy Li** (Grade 11), and **Daniel Walker** (Grade 10).

# STAFF HIGHLIGHT

First of all, I would like to say thank you to the Great Lakes community for all the support I have received since joining the faculty this year. As a first-time teacher, I have felt the full support and encouragement of everyone at Great Lakes, and I can't wait to see where this experience takes me. I not only get to begin establishing my career as a teacher, but I can also follow in the footsteps of my grandmother, Joan Smith, who taught at Great Lakes before I was born. Although I never had the chance to meet her before she passed away, the stories I have heard about her strong faith, her reputation as a teacher, and her connections to the church community have always inspired me to be a light in the world. This inspiration is also what has encouraged and driven me to start a career in the world of teaching.

In June of 2017 I graduated from the Concurrent Education junior/intermediate program at Brock University with a teachable in English. Unsure about whether I wanted to pursue a teaching career, I decided to apply to the Masters of Education program at Brock, with a focus on mental health literacy and resources being used in schools. Although I originally planned to complete a major research paper, I have recently made the decision to switch to a course-based program in order to focus my time on teaching at Great Lakes.

I began my career at Great Lakes Christian High School as a supply teacher at the end of April, 2018. After spending the last six years of my undergrad at Brock working multiple part-time positions, I had decided it was time to start looking at building my career. After re-connecting with Don Rose ('89) at the Training for Service meeting this past March, I was encouraged to contact

Kerri Kennedy ('90) with a resumé and cover letter to discuss supplying for the school. Although I only supplied for a few days at the end of the 2017-2018 school year, I felt connected and well supported in the school from the first second I walked through the door. Shortly after starting as a supply teacher, I was offered a part-time contract teaching

a volunteer counsellor. While at camp that week, I connected with another counsellor, Carrie Sommerville, from Niagara Falls. As we got to know each other over the week, she invited me out to service and continued to encourage me to come after the week was over. At the time, I was working multiple summer jobs and struggled to get out to church, but Carrie and the other members continued to encourage and support me.

The first time I planned to attend a service I pulled into the church parking lot, sat in my car for twenty minutes, then turned around and left. It wasn't until a week later that I finally got up the courage to walk through the doors, and it was the best decision I have ever made. While at the Church of Christ in Niagara Falls I was able to connect with Bruce ('87) and Marni Boland, who became strong mentors and friends in the beginning of my walk with Christ. Through their guidance and encouragement, among others, I made the decision to be baptized in February of 2018. Since then, I have volunteered in various areas with the church, such as helping to organize the Club Rock youth group and teaching on Sunday mornings. I have also recently been involved in helping to organize the Stand Conference, and I am excited to start working on the events for the upcoming year.

As I mentioned before, this journey has not been an easy one, but as it says in Romans 5:3-4, "suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." In our walk with Christ, every good day is a blessing, and every tough day is an opportunity to grow.

*Olivia Corbett*



Olivia Corbett, teacher

ESL and Grade 9 English. Being an excited and over-enthusiastic twenty-five-year-old, I gladly accepted the offer and began to prepare myself for the upcoming year. Although it has been anything but easy, I have learned how encouraging and rewarding the work of a teacher can really be.

It wasn't until I began attending the Niagara Falls Church of Christ in August of 2017 that I really began to build a relationship with my faith and God. Shortly before, I had attended Week Three at Camp Omagh as

# Tributes

August 1, 2018 – December 15, 2018

## IN MEMORY OF:

### Jim Allcock

Cyndy Allcock

### Hazel Baverstock

Leonard & Dorothy Graham

### Jennifer Stanley Desvaux

Cyndy Allcock

Leonard & Dorothy Graham

Jeff & Suanne Whitfield

Renee Wilkins

### Rachel Fortin

Leonard & Dorothy Graham

### Bob Hunter

Leonard & Dorothy Graham

### Rick McBay

Brian & Shanna McBay

### Grace Porter

Al & June Langford

### Wesley Taylor

Randy & Lois Morritt

Madeline Cook

### Tony Toews

Kent & Judy High

### Dana Zartman

Sam & Elvira Cariaga

## IN HONOUR OF:

### Valerie Lane

Cyndy Allcock

Ina Smith

### Sharon Osborne

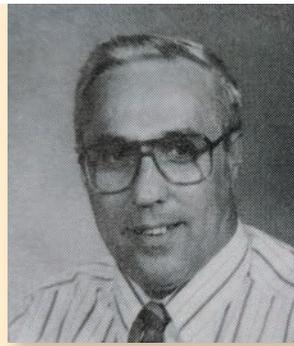
Cyndy Allcock

Ina Smith

### Richard and Myra Tallman

### 60th Anniversary

Mervin & Anna Cox



Alvin and Marie Cramp, Staff Photos 1990-91

## IN MEMORY OF: Kevin Cramp (1960-2018), Marie Cramp (1935-2018), Alvin Cramp (1935-2018)

We mourn with the Cramp family who lost three members within a month of each other: **Kevin** in November 2018 and his parents, **Alvin** and **Marie**, in December. Having grown up on the family farm in Griersville, Alvin returned to work there after marrying Marie Brown of Ajax on January 31, 1959. They had three children: **Kevin**, **Shawn**, and **Heather**. After a farming accident in 1969 left Alvin confined to a wheelchair, he went back to school and completed a bookkeeping course at Georgian College. In January 1976, Alvin came to work in the business office of Great Lakes Christian College, where he would serve for sixteen years. Marie was dormitory custodian for three years. Kevin and Shawn each spent a year at GL as students, and Heather attended five years. We are grateful to have known and been blessed by these beautiful servants and our hearts and prayers are with those loved ones who mourn their passing.

When making a memorial or in honour of donation, please include contact information of the family members to be notified.



### Lawrence Whitfield ('74), Chairman GLCC Brd, and Ashley Hibbard, Chairwoman GLBC Brd, honour Ruth Zimmerman

At Partnership Dinner 2018 we were pleased and privileged to honour **Ruth Zimmerman ('90)** who has served as a missionary in Papua New Guinea since 1992. Ruth was inspired as a student to pursue mission after hearing **Art Ford ('65)** deliver a message in Chapel about the need and the work in PNG. Ruth's work continues among the people of PNG and, more recently, with the Melanesian Bible College in Lae. We are encouraged by Ruth's conviction and service. In addition to raising money for our Ontario schools, we were also able to send \$2,700 to support a building project at Melanesian Bible College.



Honouring Samson Ling are Martin Cann ('76), Lawrence Whitfield ('74), Elizabeth (Ling) Willard ('02), and Mike Toohey.

The highlight for many who attended the Homecoming Banquet at Alumni Weekend in October 2018 was recognizing Dr. Samson Ling ('75) as alumnus of the year. While Samson has distinguished himself professionally, what those who honoured him highlighted was how Samson and his wife Susan have been an encouraging and faithful presence in several Ontario congregations, supporting many ministries including our Great Lakes schools. Also joining us for the joyful evening were their son Michael ('06), their daughter Elizabeth ('02), and her family: husband Ben Willard and their children Logan, Sam, and Julia.

**AGES 13-18 WELCOME FOR A WEEKEND OF WORSHIP, ACTIVITIES, FOOD, AND FUN!**

Great Lakes Christian High School – Beamsville, Ontario  
April 5 – 7, 2019

## GREAT LAKES YOUTH RALLY 2019



Stand firm and you will win life.

LUKE 21:19

**Speaker:** Paul Rasmussen,  
President, Great Lakes Bible College

[glyouthrally](https://www.instagram.com/glyouthrally)
 [greatlakesyouthrally](https://www.facebook.com/greatlakesyouthrally)
 [youthrally@glchs.on.ca](mailto:youthrally@glchs.on.ca)

# All Golfers Welcome

Knollwood Golf Course, New Course  
1276 Shaver Road, Ancaster, Ontario

May 25, 2019

8:30 a.m. Tee Time

Single players or Men's, Women's, and  
mixed groups up to four invited

Cost: \$140 includes 18 holes of golf, cart,  
lunch, and donation to fund  
scholarships provided by the GLCHS  
Alumni Association

To register or ask questions please  
email or call Shannon LaVictoire  
shannon.lavictoire@glchs.ca  
905-563-5374 Ext. 230

# ANNUAL ALUMNI Golf Tournament

## *Please Save the Dates for 2019*

Youth Rally - Friday, April 5 - Sunday, April 7

GLBC Graduation & Dinner - Saturday, May 4

Alumni Golf Tournament - Saturday, May 25

Celebration of the Arts - Monday, June 3

Baccalaureate Service - Wednesday, June 12

Commencement & Graduation - Friday, June 14

AGM & Partnership Dinner - Saturday, September 28

Alumni Weekend - Saturday, October 26 - Sunday, October 27

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