



The current season at Green Lake reminds me of when I first served here, joining the Multicultural Student Staff program while in graduate school in 1994 and 1995. Rev. Dr. Arlo Reichter (Vice President of Program 1983-1993) started the program to bring students from around the world to serve at Green Lake in the summer. We tried to keep up with our leader Harriet Dowdy (retired missionary to Zaire) who treated us with her Congo Peanut Chicken dinner, loved us, and outran us even in her 80s! My father-in-law, Ken Giacoletto, had begun his presidency at the beginning of 1994 and it was an exciting era of facility improvements and program growth. In 1994 many buildings were tired, but in 1995 we were able to meet in brand new Kern Lodge.



**Multicultural Student Staff, 1991
(Harriet Dowdy in the blue dress)**

There was a wonderful student staff in those years, and I grew as a Christian. Fellow staffer Paul Ethington and I befriended Thang Ling. He was a Burmese pastor in our program (while in the U.S. for seminary) and he had a baby in Burma that he had not yet met. Paul and I decided to try to raise the \$1,600 needed to get Thang a plane ticket home by asking conferees if they would help.



Paul, Thang and Ben paddling to goal, 1994

Conferees promised to donate if we paddled Thang in a canoe to Camp Grow and back. "To Burma or Bust" was our slogan. We succeeded, and Thang was able to meet his baby. Paul Ethington is now a Pastor in Ripon, Wisconsin and brought a work group to Green Lake to serve last fall.

Ministry friendships born from my student ministry continue to this day. When we needed a great worship leader for our 75th anniversary conference in 2019, we brought in Rev. Dr. Vince Godfrey - aka the "turkey" who pushed me into the lake when we worked together at the boathouse in 1995!



**Vince leading worship at Green Lake's
75th Anniversary Celebration, 2019**

In 2024, God is expanding our young adult student ministry programs. Our Quest conferences are powerful in the way they minister to church youth groups and the pastors and adult volunteers who bring them. Quest is led by 10 college students under the direction of Rev. Dr. Heather Henson. S.A.L.t. (serve and learn together) is our student work and discipleship program led by former American Baptist missionary to Thailand Lisa Simmons and Green Lake's Human Resources Director, Matt Becker. Students from Puerto Rico, Haiti, Brazil and several states across the U.S. have already committed to participate in the 2024 S.A.L.t. program. It's wonderful to offer young adults the opportunity to grow as leaders, have fun, and form friendships as I did 30 years ago.



Youth group at Quest



**Carol Bauer & Ken Giacoletto
Bauer Lodge Dedication, 1998**

Ken Giacoletto led the building of Kern Lodge in 1995, Bauer Lodge in 1998, and Carroll Youth Center in 2000. Today the original, worn carpet in these buildings is distracting from ministry.



S.A.L.t. staff

We recently began the long road of replacing carpet, starting with some of the meeting rooms at Carroll Youth Center. New hallway and lounge carpet was installed in Bauer Lodge. As we turn to Green Lake's future and all its possibilities to help people discover God's best version of themselves and their world, our prayers focus on:

- Success and funding for student staff ministry programs
- Refreshed facilities with new carpet and finishes so guests can focus on ReCreation of themselves and their world.

We invite you to join us in engaging this focus, as well as in prayer and support for the overall ministry of GLCC.

In this Easter season, "All God's people here (at Green Lake) send you their greetings. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." *2 Corinthians 13:13-14*

Ben Mott, President/CEO



New carpet at Carroll Youth Center



Fresh carpet at Bauer Lodge

Online: glcc.org/give • Phone: (920) 294-7349

**Mail: make checks payable to Green Lake Conference Center and send to
Green Lake Conference Center, W2511 State Road 23, Green Lake, WI 54941**

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