

Stephanie Green – ethical leadership

Why did you choose your degree program? How has it helped you grow personally and professionally?

As a nurse for over 25 years, seeking an advanced degree in nursing made sense in that it would expand opportunities for professional and personal growth and leadership enrichment.

What activities are you involved in at McKendree?

I've joined Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Theta Tau honor societies.

What are you most proud of accomplishing during your time here?

Probably my proudest accomplishment is completing McKendree's MSN in education and DNP programs with selection by the Division of Nursing for academic excellence.

If you could go back in time, what advice would you give your first-year self?

I would have gone on to finish my advanced nursing degree back then instead of waiting over 15 years. I would also give myself the advice to prioritize self-care, which is something I'm still not doing as much as I should.

Who helped you the most on your journey?

McKendree University has wonderful nursing faculty and staff who made my educational journey fulfilling and rewarding. One of the greatest influences in my life was my late grandmother, Ethel Buggs, who instilled in all her grandchildren the value of lifelong learning and education toward accomplishing life goals. Another person that heavily influenced my attitude toward education was my late sister, Lawanda, who taught math and science at the high school level. Although she died over 5 years ago, I still have strangers approach me to tell me what a great teacher she was and how she taught them not only math and science but also logic and reasoning that they have used throughout their lives. My sister was the one who told me to finish my BSN and seek a graduate degree.

What's next after graduation?

First, I'm celebrating both my daughter and me achieving doctorate-level degrees with a well-deserved vacation. Then, I'm focusing on using my educational experiences to enhance the quality of life for geriatric residents in our organization through program enhancements and evidence-based practices.