

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

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# Journeying Toward *Reconciliation* Together

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Kim S. Phipps  
President

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Messiah University  
August 17, 2021



# 2020

## COMMUNITY DAY







# THANK YOU





# 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

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Mentoring students toward:

**Mature Intellect**

**Professional Competence**

**Personal Integrity**

**Hospitable Christian Faith**







# University Rising

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024  
Community Day | August 17, 2021



## Our shared vision

Messiah University will expand its influence as an institution of educational excellence committed to Christ-centered learning for life where students are mentored toward **deeper intellect, professional competence, personal integrity and mature faith** expressed in love of God and neighbor.

### CONSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVES

- Commitment to a gracious Christian approach to faith and education expressed in love of God and neighbor
- Commitment to educational excellence for all programs across all levels
- Commitment to inclusive excellence rooted in the recognition of our missional outcomes of service, leadership and reconciliation



### THEME 1

## Distinctive teaching and learning

With teaching and learning at the heart of our educational mission, we seek to leverage the distinctives of a Messiah education to reinvent or revitalize compelling teaching and learning practices for learners from high school age to older years. In particular, we seek to attract, enroll and retain new students from outside of our current student demographic.

### GOAL 1

**Messiah University will strategically use technology and campus spaces to increase educational access and student success across the learning experience.**

- Assess curriculum to identify and clearly articulate the role of digital citizenship competencies (skills and ethics) in different learning environments (grad, undergrad and co-curriculum).
- Assess students' current access to technology resources and services to identify and work toward addressing gaps in equitable access and inclusion.
- Assess campus space to strategically align technology, room capacities, room utilization and course/section capacities with teaching & learning priorities.

### GOAL 2

**Messiah University will reflect Messiah distinctives across educational programs, support structures and staffing.**

- Revise the undergraduate general education program to be flexible, compelling, relevant and reflective of Messiah's core mission, values and distinctives.
- Provide professional development for all employees toward increasing awareness, understanding and integration of those distinctives into all aspects of the Messiah experience and equipping employees to effectively tell the Messiah story.







An aerial photograph of a university campus during sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the background, a tall, thin steeple rises above a line of trees. The foreground shows a brick building on the left and a modern building with a curved glass facade in the center. A paved walkway curves through the middle ground, with a few people walking. The text "Missional commitment to reconciliation" is overlaid on a dark blue rectangular area in the center of the image. "Missional commitment" is in white, "to" is in white, and "reconciliation" is in a yellow cursive font.

Missional commitment  
to *reconciliation*





# RECONCILIATION

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**LISTENING**

**TRUTH-TELLING**

**LAMENTING**

**CONNECTING**

**TRANSFORMATION**

**RESTORATION**



MESSIAH BIBLE SCHOOL AND S. R. SMITH RESIDENCE, GRANTHAM, PA.



Brethren in Christ Archives / Messiah College Archives





# *Moving the Needle*

working together to enhance our campus climate



Investigations

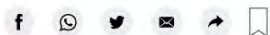
# The death of George Floyd: What video and other records show about his final minutes



The New York Times

## 'No Vaccine for Racism': Asian New Yorkers Still Live in Fear of Attacks

New York Police Department patrols aimed at stopping anti-Asian violence have been cut back even as anxiety lingers.



## A timeline of Breonna Taylor's case since police broke down her door and shot her

By Eric Levenson, CNN

Updated 12:15 AM ET, Thu September 24, 2020



## Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf orders statewide shutdown over COVID-19

Wolf urged residents to 'stay calm, stay safe, stay home'

ANGELA COULOMBIS  
Spotlight PA

MAR 16, 2020

The New York Times

## 'Blue Lives Matter' and 'Defund the Police' Clash in the Streets

A recent number of pro-police rallies have led to fights and arrests as civilian New Yorkers turn on one another over their view of the N.Y.P.D.

# STILL COUNTING

## How Trump or Biden could...

### Race unsettled as Trump and Biden...

TURNOUT SOARS, ALONG WITH SUSPENSE, AS NATION IN TUMULT DELIVERS VERDICT



Tight races in battleground states of election









“Diversity is part of what it means to celebrate the goodness of God’s creation and to renew our understanding of the reality that all of humanity reflects the signature of God.”

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**DIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN**





**Dr. Todd Allen**

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**Dr. Kris Hansen-Kieffer**

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*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*

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# RECONCILIATION

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GOD'S LANGUAGE TO HEAL A BROKEN WORLD



**Click here to watch “Understanding the Mpatapo Symbol” from Dr. Obed Mfum-Mensah**  
**<https://youtu.be/1RO9BinP3go>**





*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*

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# RECONCILIATION

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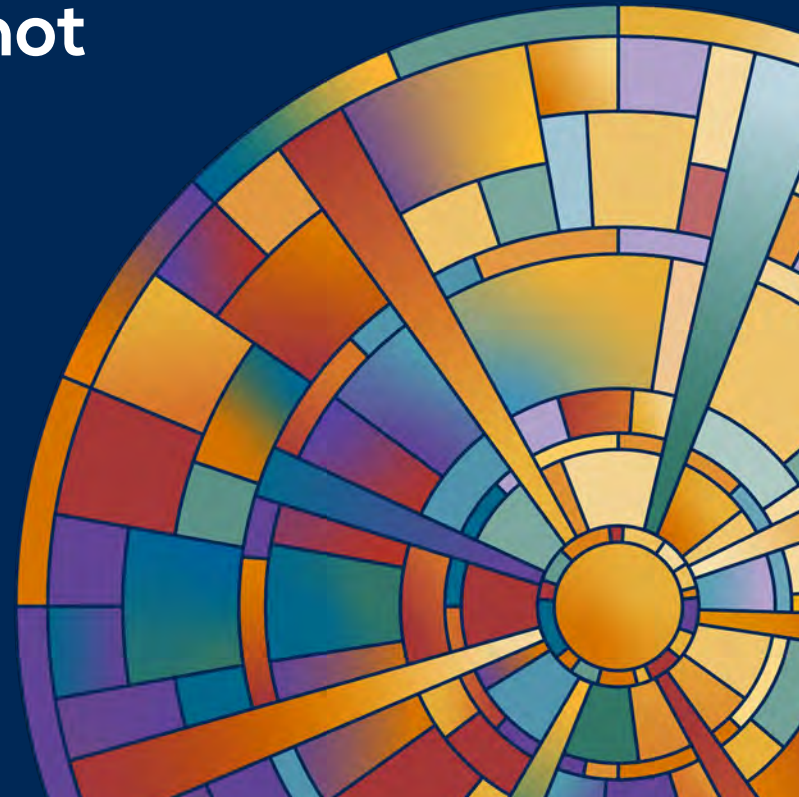
GOD'S LANGUAGE TO HEAL A BROKEN WORLD



“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, **everything has become new!** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the **ministry of reconciliation**; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting the message of reconciliation** to us. Therefore, **we are ambassadors for Christ**, God making his appeal through us.”

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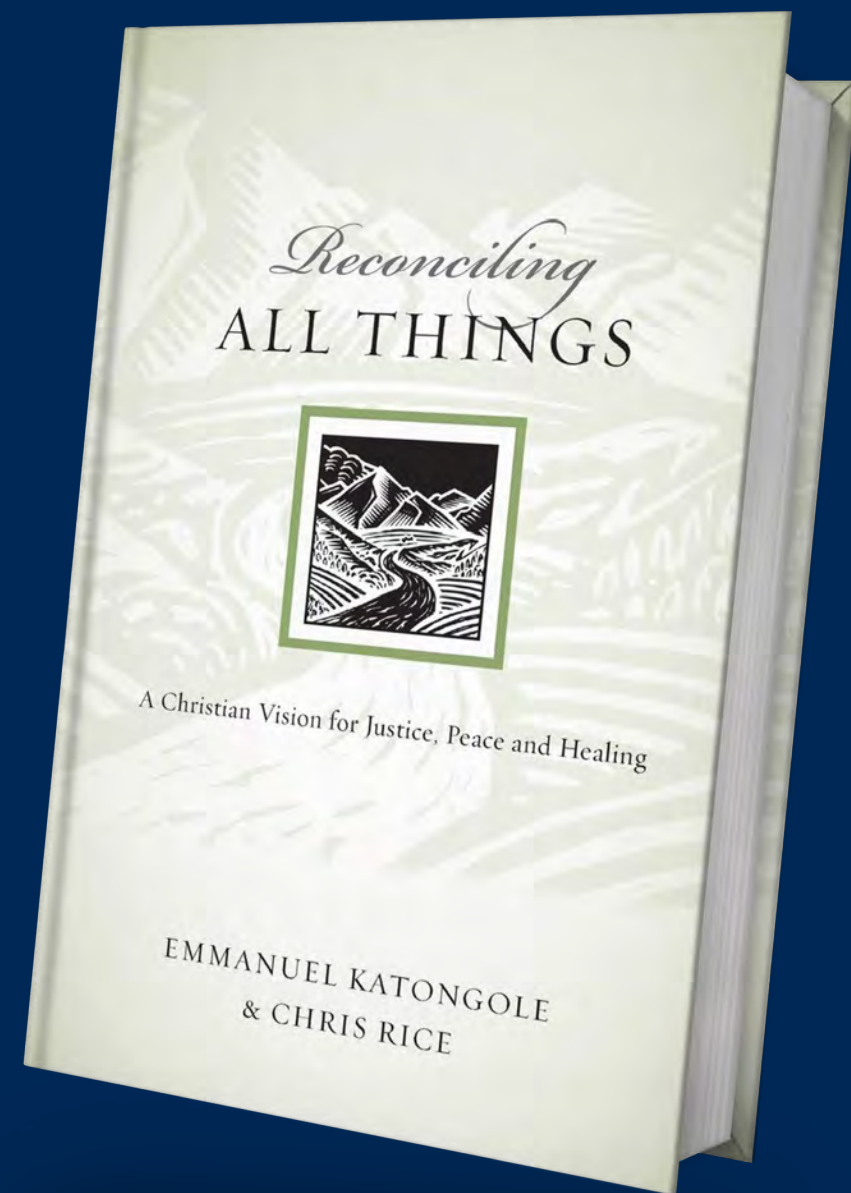
*2 Corinthians 5:17-20a*







**“The first movement is about God and what God has done in Christ. The second is about the transformation this first movement has enacted in the world and in the lives of people.”**







ere, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'Do not tempt the LORD your God' and 'Do not put the LORD your God to the test.'"

evil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

### Jesus Begins

heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He went first to Nazareth, then left there and went to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and of Naphtali. <sup>14</sup>This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah: "In Galilee of the Gentiles I have sent you, to preach to the poor, to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is near, and to heal the sick, the lame, the deaf, and to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor."

land of Zebulun and of Naphtali, on the sea, beyond the Jordan River, where so many Gentiles live, to preach to the poor, to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is near, and to heal the sick, the lame, the deaf, and to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor.

then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to the Kingdom of Heaven is near."

### Disciples

as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing their nets into the water, for they fished for a living. <sup>19</sup>Jesus called out to them and said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

11-12. <sup>4:7</sup> Deut 6:16. <sup>4:10</sup> Deut 6:13. <sup>4:15-16</sup> Isa 9:1-2 (Greek version). <sup>4:17</sup> Isa 61:1-2.

crowds followed him from the Ten Towns,\* Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from the Dan River.

### The Sermon on the Mount

**5** One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them.

### The Beatitudes

<sup>3</sup> "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,\* for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

<sup>4</sup> God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

<sup>6</sup> God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,\* for they will be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup> God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

<sup>10</sup> God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

<sup>4:25</sup> Greek Decapolis. <sup>5:3</sup> Greek poor in spirit. <sup>5:6</sup> Or for righteousness.

5:1 Luke 6:12 John 6:3

5:3-12 // Luke 6:20-23

5:3 Isa 57:15 Matt 25:34

5:4 Isa 61:2-3

5:5 Ps 37:11 Rom 4:13

5:6 Isa 55:1-2

5:7 Matt 18:33 Jas 2:13

5:8 Ps 24:3-4

5:9 Heb 12:14 Jas 3:18

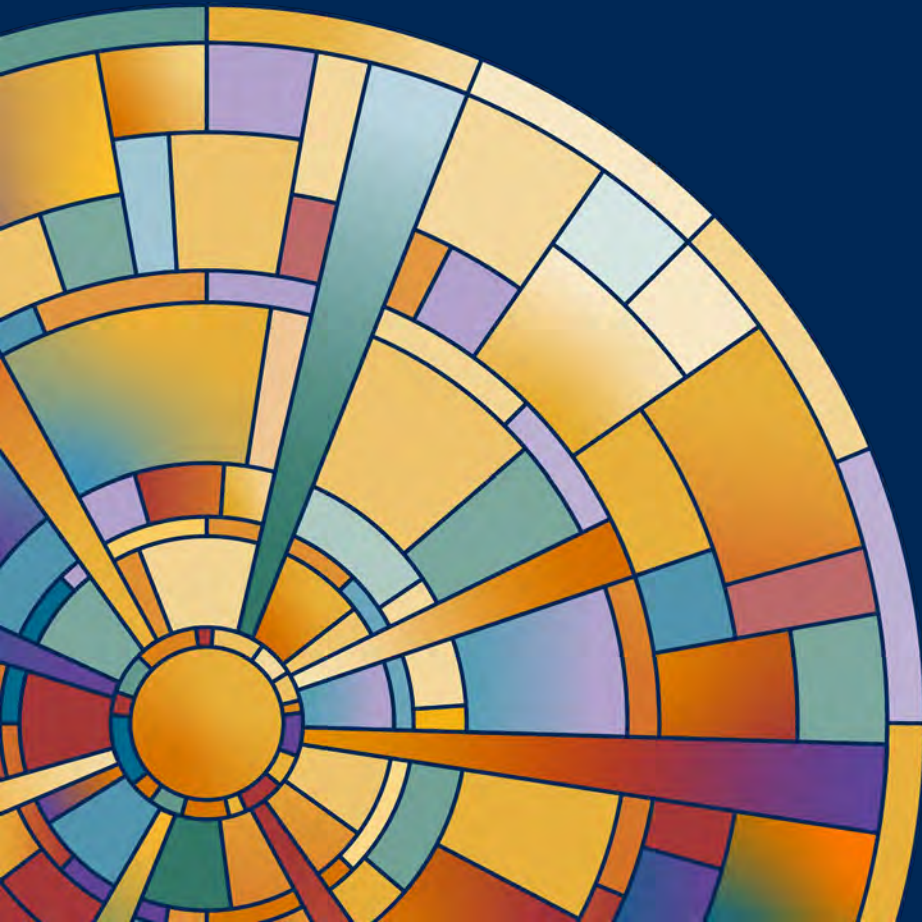
5:10 2 Tim 2:12 1 Pet 3:14





*Reconciliation* requires sincere  
conviction and bold courage





“He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your **heart**, and with all your **soul**, and with all your **mind**.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”

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*Matthew 22:37-38*

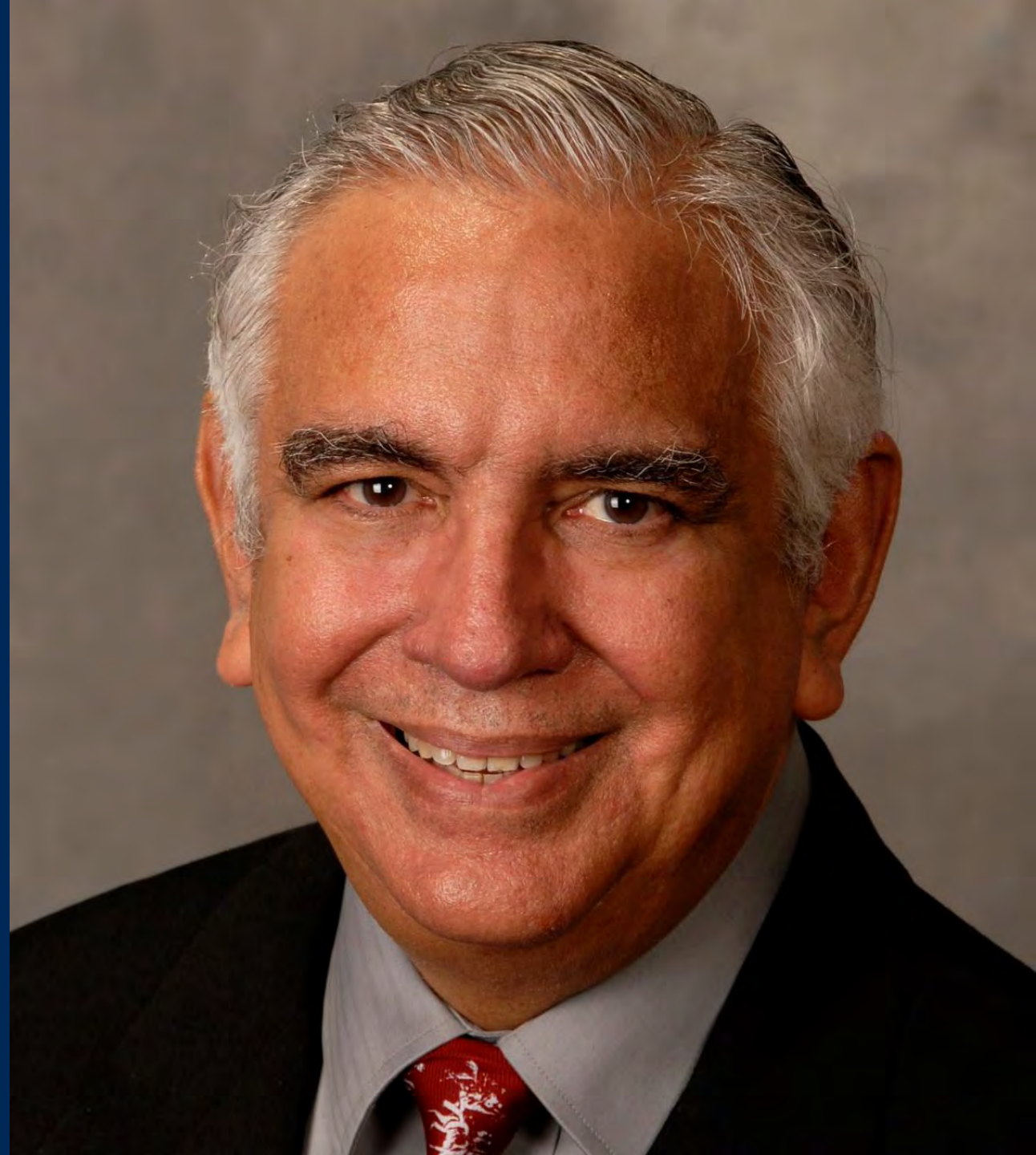




The gift of the Holy Spirit  
“undermines distinctions of  
power and hierarchy that might  
otherwise exist” and serves as  
an equalizer among all people.

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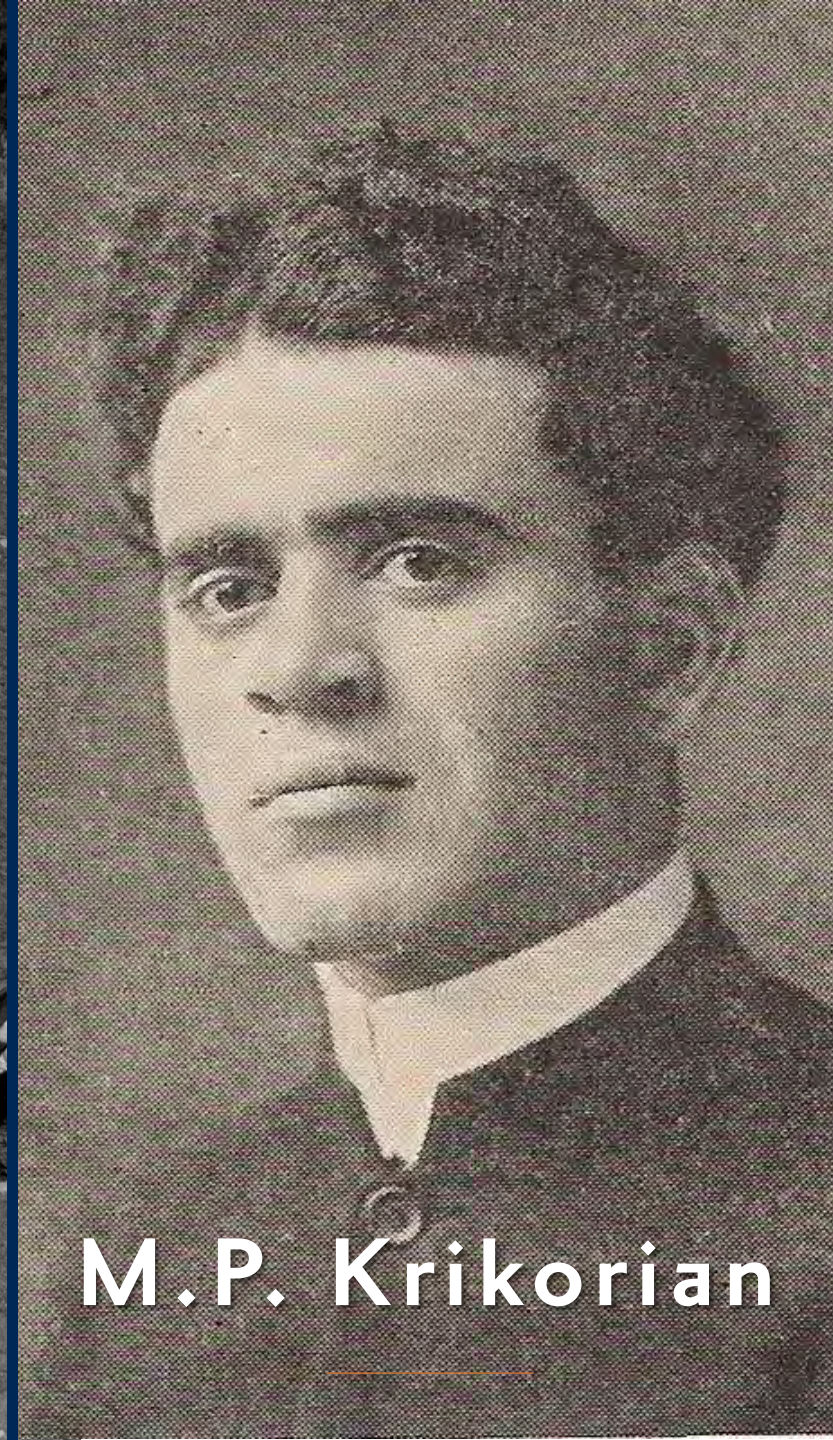
**JUSTO GONZÁLEZ**





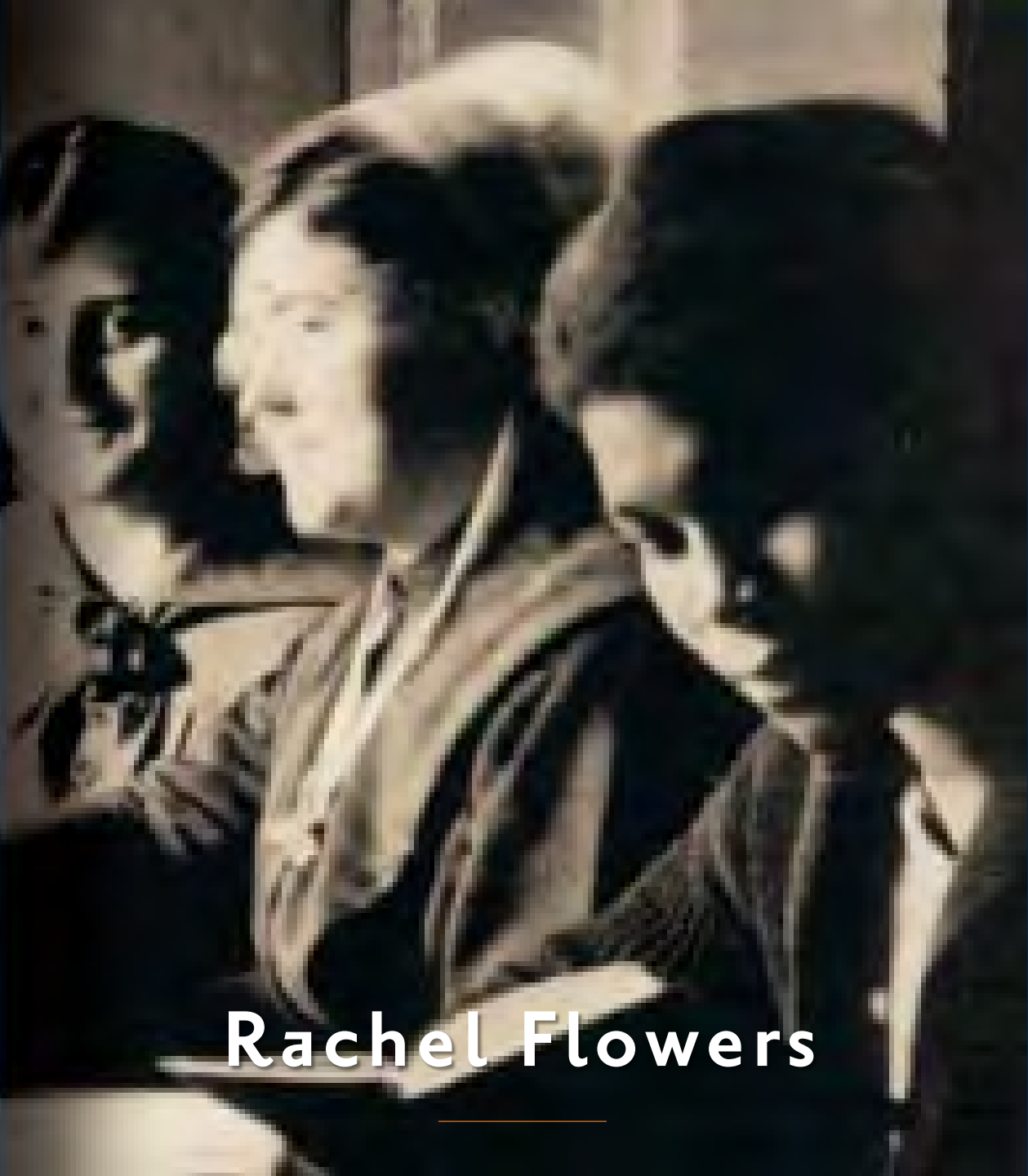




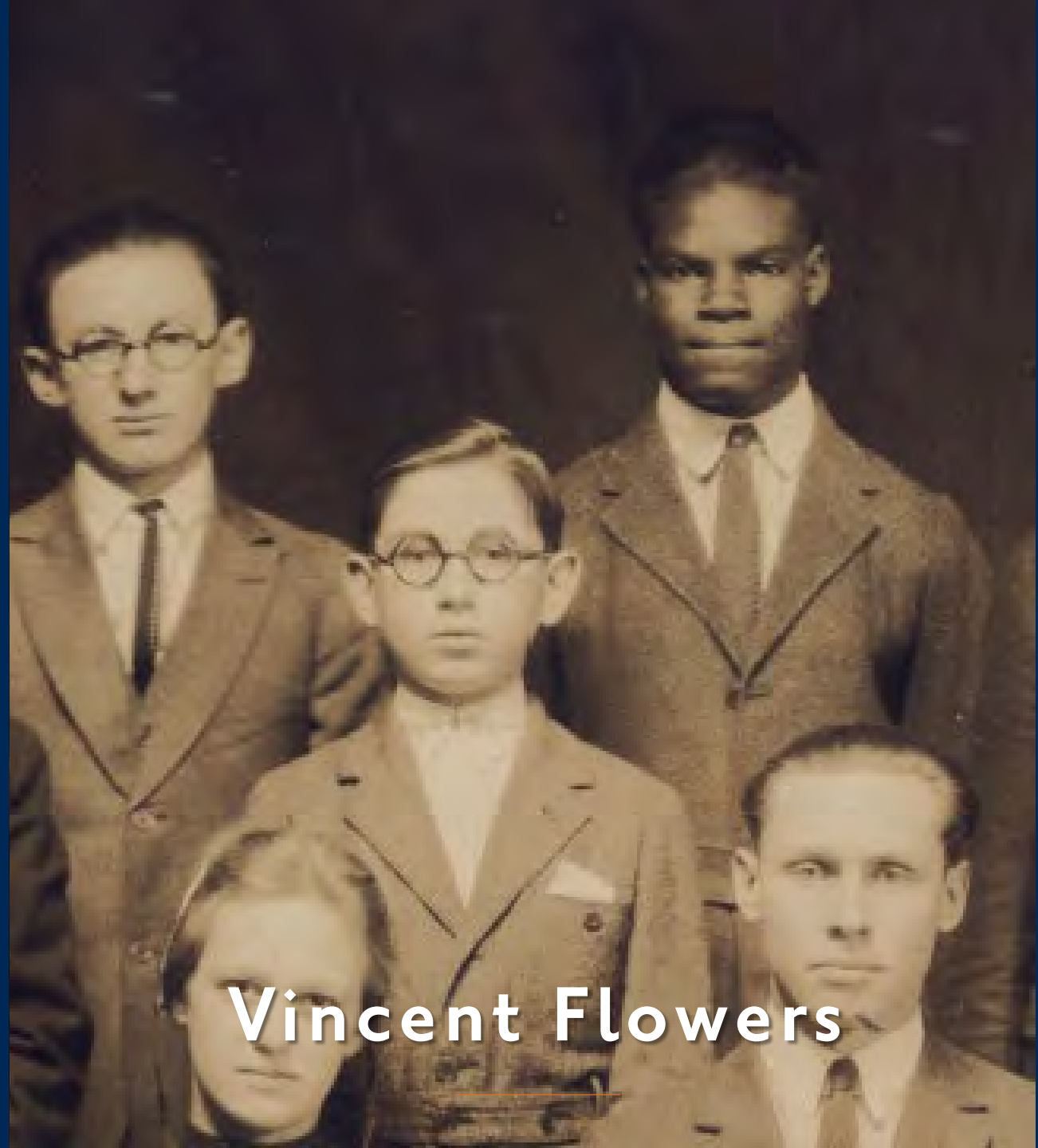


**M.P. Krikorian**





**Rachel Flowers**

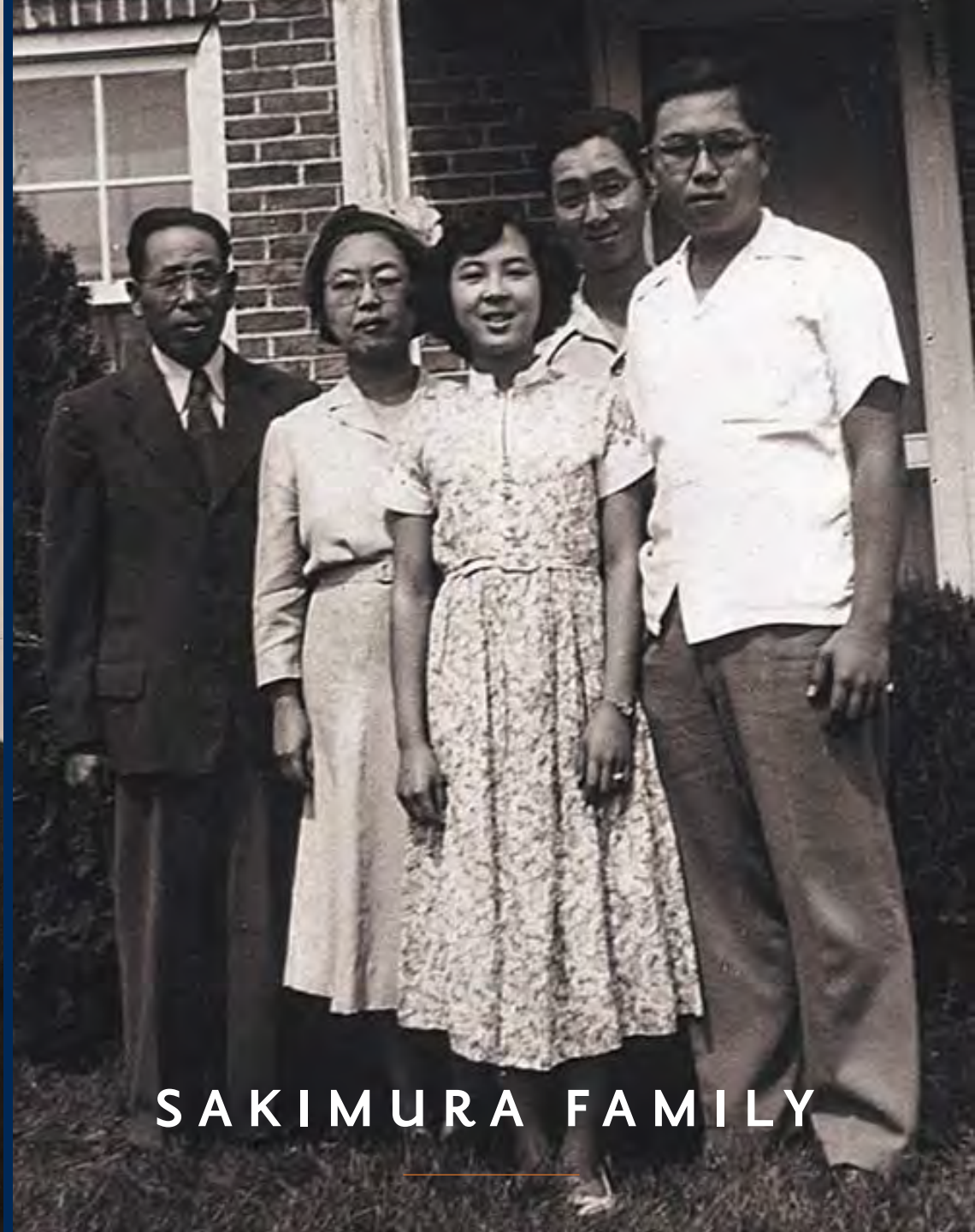


**Vincent Flowers**





PRESIDENT C.N. HOSTETTER JR.



SAKIMURA FAMILY













## IDENTITY STATEMENT

Messiah University is a Christian university of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. The University is committed to an embracing evangelical spirit rooted in the Anabaptist, Pietist and Wesleyan traditions of the Christian Church.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society.





**Diversity Strategic Plan**

**VP for Diversity Affairs**

**Harassment Protocols**

**Inclusive Excellence Programming**

**Revised Term Tenure Criteria**

**Cultural Intelligence Training**





So if anyone is  
**IN CHRIST**,  
there is a new creation:  
everything old  
has passed away;  
see, everything has  
**BECOME NEW!**

2 Corinthians 5:17



see anew

HOSTETTER CHAPEL





A campus environment of  
**TRUE BELONGING**





Heart



Soul



Mind









We need *God's help* to live out  
the call of reconciliation





**HOSPITALITY → TRUE BELONGING**





**HOSPITALITY → TRUE BELONGING**





OFFICE OF  
ACADEMIC ACCESSIBILITY

*Celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary of the  
Americans with  
Disabilities Act  
October 21, 2020*







“Theological education could mark a new path for Western education, one that builds a vision of education that cultivates the new belonging that this world longs to inhabit...”

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**WILLIE JAMES JENNINGS**



The  
Cultural Intelligence  
**DIFFERENCE**



Master the One Skill You Can't Do Without  
in Today's Global Economy

**David Livermore, Ph.D.**  
Author of LEADING WITH CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE

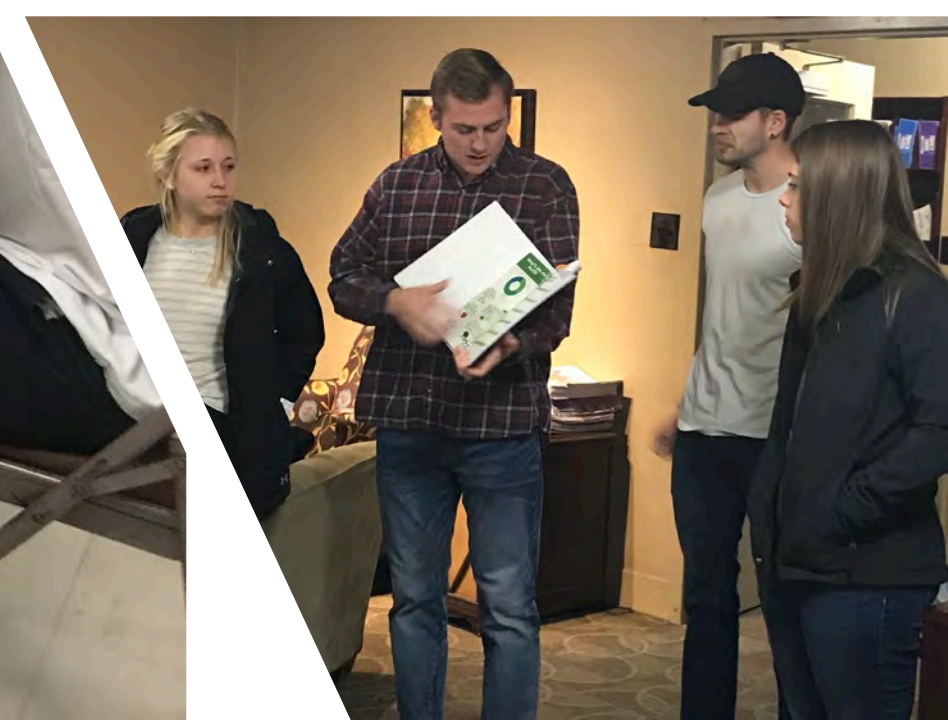




**Brethren  
Housing  
Association**

**Dr. Mindy Smith**











**Click here to watch “Interfaith Peacebuilding” from Dr. George Pickens**

**<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oLgXP9Kz4LmsOVJos4tfJZh9tAU4VQRy/view?usp=sharing>**









Common steps in the

*reconciliation journey*





We must be *attentive*

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We must *listen*

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“Listening is an ordinary,  
everyday virtue, but it’s  
an essential way we can  
reach across the mystery  
of the other.”

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**KRISTA** TIPPET







We must *lament*

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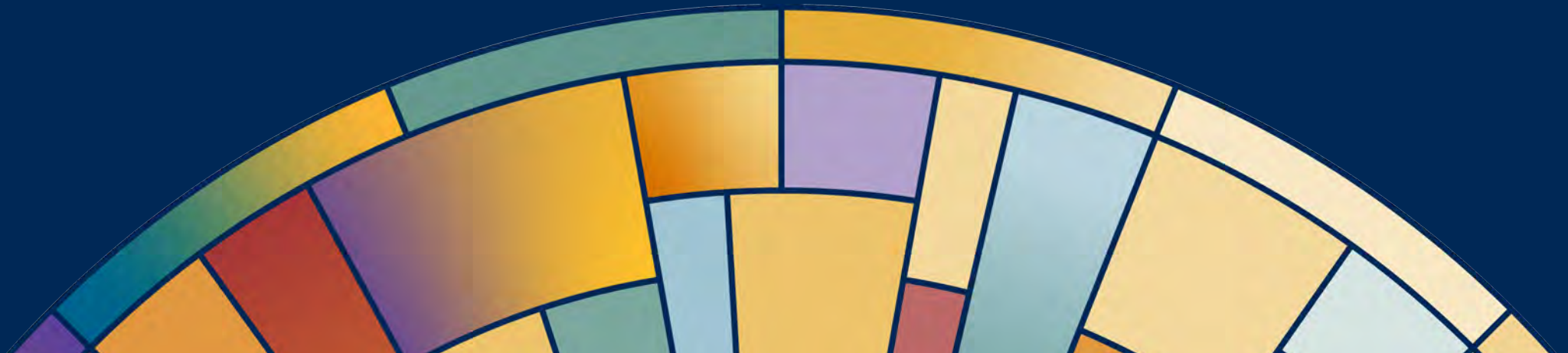


We must be *truth-tellers*

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Ultimately *forgiveness* must be  
extended and accepted for complete  
*restoration* of broken relationships.











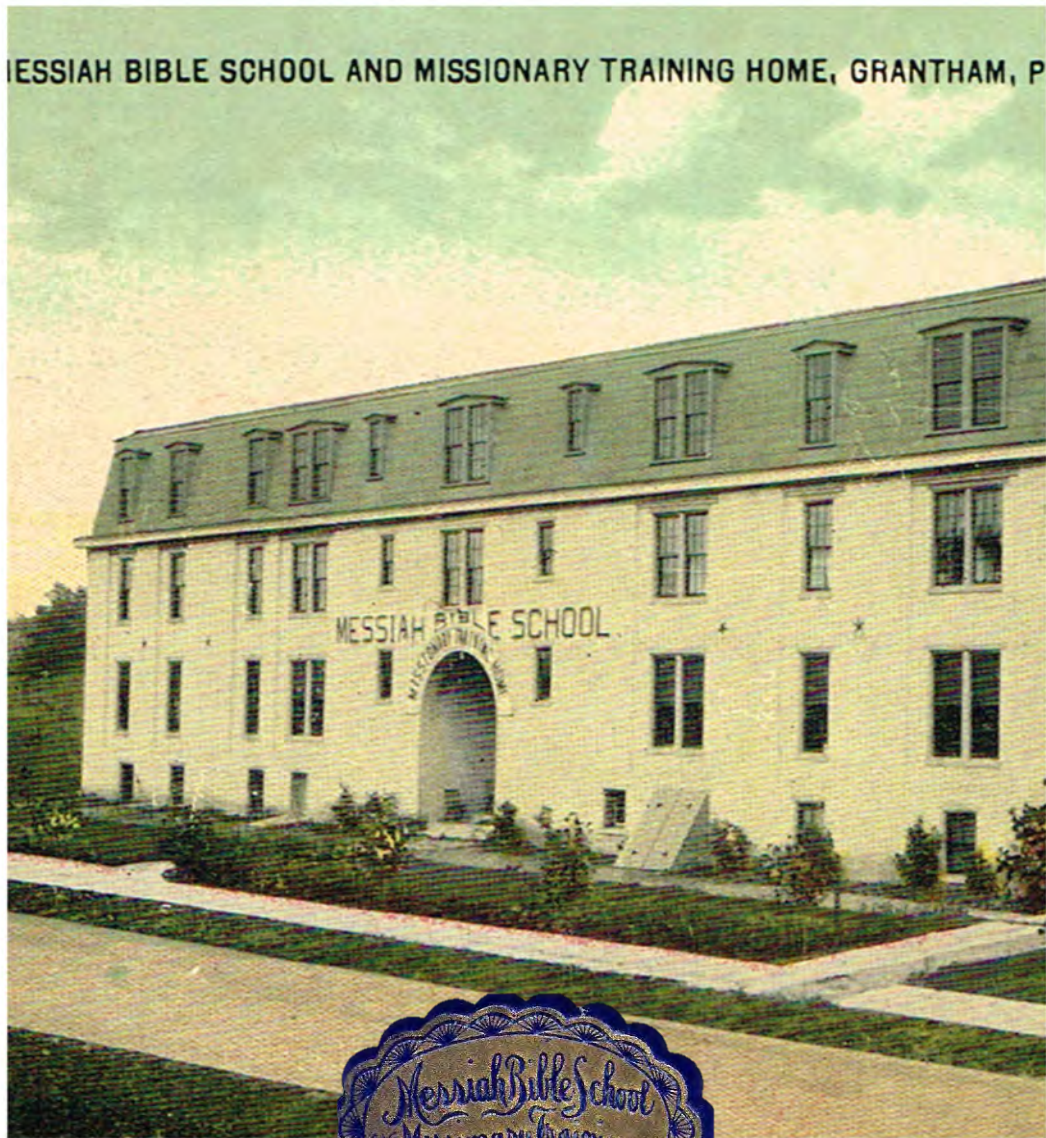
The journey requires *perseverance*



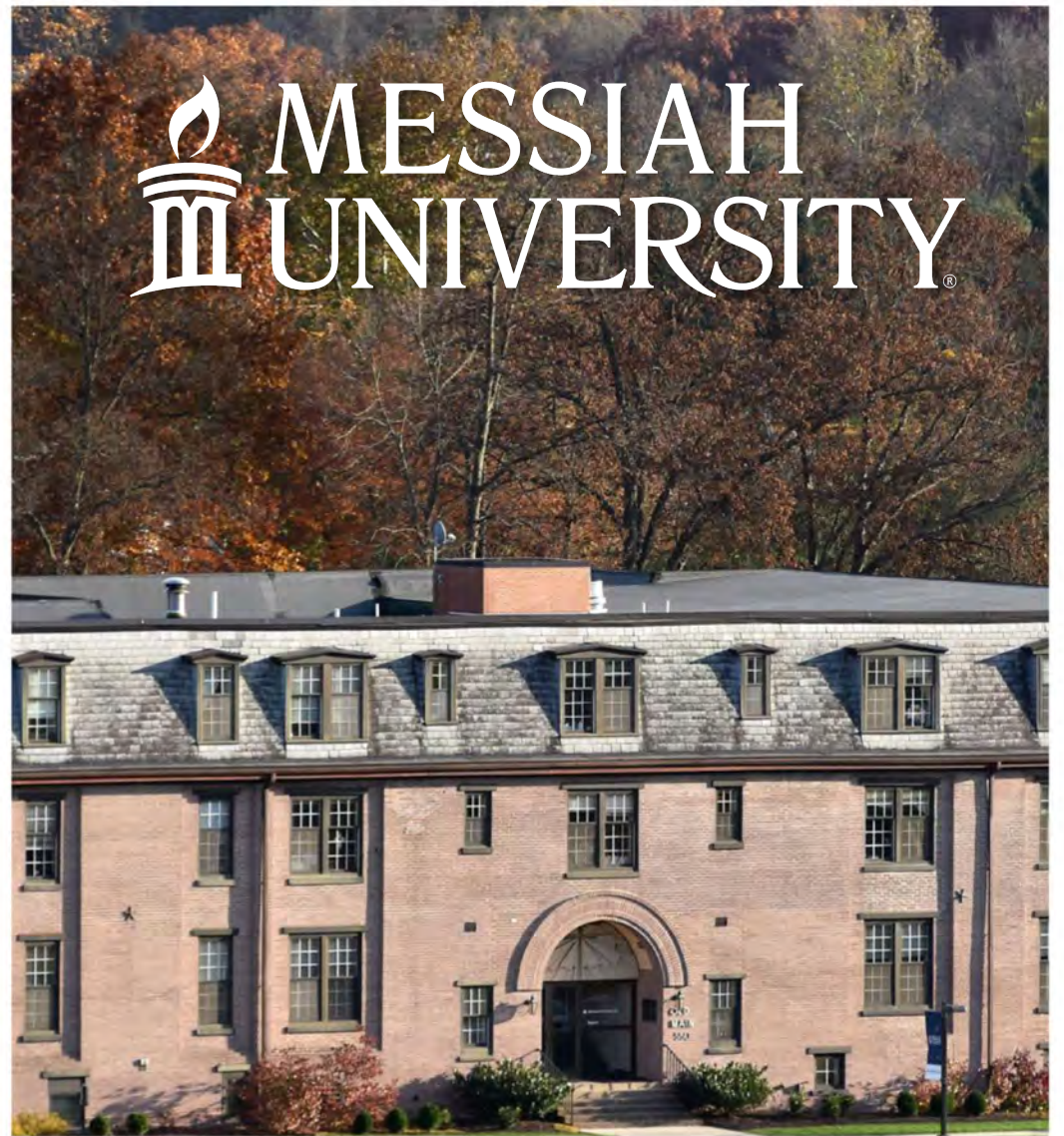




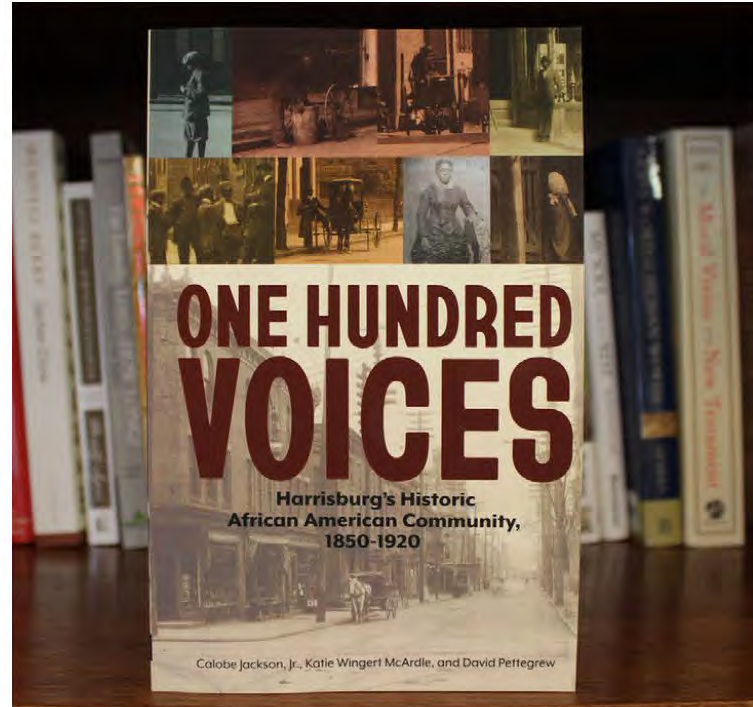
MESSIAH BIBLE SCHOOL AND MISSIONARY TRAINING HOME, GRANTHAM, P



 MESSIAH  
UNIVERSITY®











**Dr. Drew Hart**



CONGREGATIONS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE





Previously Featured Book:  
“In The Image of Imana”  
Gloria Igihozo ‘19

**HUMAN  
LIBRARY  
PROJECT**

Where humans become open books,  
sharing their personal stories with readers



**Unjudge someone.**





*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*

# RECONCILIATION

GOD'S LANGUAGE TO HEAL A BROKEN WORLD





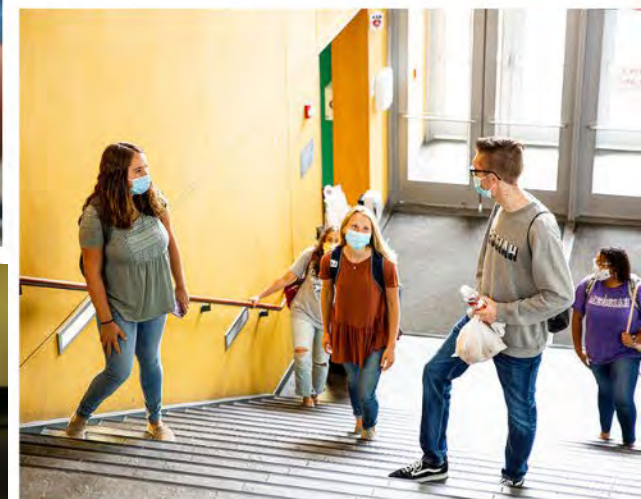


“We are called to be faithful, not successful. From this perspective we will not so easily give into the disappointment of failure but will, instead, lean further into the forgiveness, truth-telling and lament that reconciliation requires of us.”

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**TODD ALLEN**









EXIT

CHAMPIONS









We plant in *hope*, not certainty.





*2 Corinthians 5:17-18*

# RECONCILIATION

GOD'S LANGUAGE TO HEAL A BROKEN WORLD

[www.messiah.edu/reconciliation](http://www.messiah.edu/reconciliation)



*Special thanks to*

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**KARIN BISBEE '98**

**DERICK ESCH '14**

**BETH LOROW**

**LOUISA MFUM-MENSAH '12**

**MAGGIE SHIVE '20**

**KAITLYN UNGER '16**

*For their assistance with today's presentation*

