





## Foundational Values

of Jesus with those around us, to build bridges of understanding and peace across the dividing lines of race, class, age, gender, religion and ethnicity, to demonstrate the love of God in service to others, to open our hearts to the poor and needy and to work for justice wherever injustice prevails.

## **Educational Objectives**

While we realize that learning and personal growth are lifelong endeavors, Messiah University expects its graduates to have made significant progress toward the fulfillment of the following objectives:

1. To develop those abilities essential to liberal education.

These abilities include:

- a. Thinking logically and creatively, analytically and synthetically, and abstractly and concretely;
- b. Reading, observing and listening carefully and critically;
- c. Writing and speaking clearly and coherently;

employment, voluntary service and/or graduate education in one's specialized area of study;

a. Articulating how the specialized area of study and to potential career options in that area of study.

5. To develop an understanding of one's identity and Christian vocation.

This includes:

a. Developing an awareness of and concern for the whole person, including physical,

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day He rose again,  
ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

We believe in the triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—who created and sustains the universe, and who desires to redeem us and all creation.

God creates each of us in the very image of God to live in loving relationships: free, responsible and accountable to God and each other for our decisions and our actions.

God speaks to us in many different ways, times, and places but is uniquely revealed to all the world in Jesus of Nazareth who was fully human and fully divine.

God forgives our sins, renews our hearts and minds, and calls us to join in the work of reconciliation by grace through faith in the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

God bestows on us the Holy Spirit who leads us

in the hope of achieving more together than we could separately. We agree to pursue the obligations and challenges of community membership with integrity, respecting our institutional heritage, and practicing biblical accountability.

## Benefits and Responsibilities

Our submission to the lordship of Christ has many implications. Some of the primary implications can be seen in terms of benefits and responsibilities based on our relationship to God, to His creation and to the group of people who constitute the Messiah University community.

### relationship with god

The benefits and responsibilities of living under the lordship of Christ focus first on our relationship to God. We affirm that there is but one true God and that His Word is our guide for faith and life. Because of the importance of knowing God and His Word, we affirm the importance of the spiritual disciplines in corporate and individual life. Prayer, Bible study, meditation, fellowship, and group worship should be regular activities in the believer's life. Because God is a faithful keeper of covenants, we affirm the importance of fidelity and covenant keeping in our relationship with God and in our relationships with each other.

Scripture guides us in knowing how to live out the impact of God's grace in our lives. We are to honor and revere Him in the way that we worship, serve and enjoy Him. As teachers and learners we see our activities as acts of service and honor to Him. Because of the love which He initiates by grace, we respond in love to Him and to those He has created. His love gives us a sense of meaning and intrinsic worth that goes beyond any earned value or identity.

### relationship to creation

The benefits and responsibilities of living under the lordship of Christ focus also on our relationship to God's creation. As people created in God's image we are to follow Christ's example in preaching the good news to the poor, binding the brokenhearted, proclaiming freedom to the captives and restoring sight to the blind. As those committed to living out the teachings of Scripture, we are to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly. We are to bring peace and unity where there is conflict and discrimination. We are to respect people and to value life above material

wealth. Because we see people as having intrinsic worth, we avoid gossip, manipulative behavior and sexist or racist attitudes or behaviors, stressing instead (f) 13 (i) 3.6 (v)-4.9 (e) b)-14.8 (e)-8.7 (h)-12 ed to livg (c

### te guidelines

munity we commit ourselves to balancing freedom with concern for the moral s of others. In addition, rules are designed te a campus atmosphere that is most e to personal well-being, corporate service, achievement of the University's distinctives, l educational objectives.

### ral guidelines

munity we believe scriptural teachings us as they have to all people in all cultures. are to be characterized by love, joy, tience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ss and self-control. We are to use our gi s in ch things as serving, teaching, encouraging, eading and showing mercy. In contrast, avoid sinful or unhealthy practices lated in the University's Student and e Codes of Conduct.

### ate Covenant

s understanding of our benefits and bilities as members of the Messiah y Community, we covenant together as a ty of believer-scholars to pursue the challenge out this document. We commit ourselves to the distinctives, goP ALang (et 27 394.0682 Tm[8 (g t0.-8.2 Tm[8.7 (e)-5.5 (s)-8.7 (s)-3.c)4.73P (r)-2ang (et54 Tm[p]-8.3 (u)-2



