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Education Student Scholarship

Education

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2-2022

## Education on Boyer 4th Newsletter - February 2022

Tina Keller

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Sharpening Intellect | Deepening Christian Faith | Inspiring Action

Messiah University is a Christian university of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. 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. This content is freely provided to promote scholarship for personal study and not-for-profit educational use.

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One University Ave. | Mechanicsburg PA 17055

# EDUCATION ON Boyer 4th

The campus newsletter of the Messiah University Education Department

Issue 15 | February 2022

## NUMBER TALKS

Trends in the Math Classroom

## NEEDS AND GAINS OF PRE- SERVICE TEACHERS

for Cultural Responsiveness  
in Special Education

## IMAGINING MEMORY

Memory is still a big mystery  
in science

*In Every Issue*

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, STUDENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT,  
TECHNOLOGY CORNER, PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD, PROFESSOR  
SPOTLIGHT, ALUMNI ADVICE, DEVOTIONAL, UPCOMING EVENTS



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

## You Want Me

DR. TINA KELLER

February 2022

I fondly remember celebrating Valentines Day as an elementary school student. In the midst of the cold grey winter, we would cover our classrooms with red, pink and purple construction paper hearts, lace doilies and shiny cardstock. It was like a little taste of spring in the what often felt like an eternal deep freeze. I especially loved decorating shoeboxes turned into desktop Valentine mailboxes. After spending the days leading up to Valentines Day decorating our boxes we were ready for the mail delivery. At the given time, typically the end of the day class party, students would circulate around the room sliding a card into the shoebox. Then we shared the anticipation of opening our valentines from our classmates. In early elementary school this was a stress-free enjoyable day.

As I got into 3rd or 4th grade, I recall an added angst to this tradition! There were big decisions to make in addressing each card. Should I give Jake, my elementary crush, the BEE-Mine card with the bumble bee or the You're DINO-mite card with the dinosaur. Would one best express my love for him, or was it too subtle, or too forward? Then there were the students in the class that maybe I did not like, would one message give them the wrong idea? What if I didn't get any cards in my mailbox? What if all of my cards were along the lines of You're Ok! What if no one thought that I was DINO-mite. This once fun, seemingly carefree event took on new risks and insecurities.

We all have the human need to be wanted, not only by other humans, but also by God. I was reminded of this truth when listening to the lyrics of Control by Tenth Avenue North. They sing;

*God You don't need me  
But somehow You want me  
Oh how You love me  
Somehow that frees me  
To open my hands up  
And give You control...  
Oh You want me  
Somehow You want me  
The King of Heaven wants me  
So this world has lost its grip on me*

So my Education Department; know this, The King of Heaven wants you. His daily Valentine to you is that he chooses you! You are his beloved. You are wanted and loved.

All the best,

*Dr. Keller*

## On the Cover:

Senior Hope Flack in her student teaching classroom.





LEARN MORE

# Education Department Honors Projects

## Translanguaging In the Classroom

As the world becomes more and more connected, teachers find themselves at the intersection of many different languages. Translanguaging would allow students to keep learning English while also having the freedom and flexibility to use their home language when they choose. This means that things like classroom signs, songs, and materials should include translations in students' home languages. Approaching this even for one day can be extremely intimidating for teachers, especially monolingual ones. To make this methodology more accessible, I am researching translanguaging and creating signs, instructional plans, videos, and print-outs that teachers can access for free on my website and directly implement in their classroom. The goal is to give teachers resources to make translanguaging less intimidating, so they can consistently incorporate students' languages and wealths of knowledge into the curriculum and classroom culture.

SARAH DAVIS

CURRENT YEAR: SENIOR

EARLY CHILDHOOD (PRE K-4) AND  
SPECIAL EDUCATION (PRE K-12)

FRENCH AND MATH MINORS

### Why did you choose this topic?

I chose this topic because most of my friends growing up spoke other languages but did not totally feel validated in them at school. I am also a firm believer that hearing and learning other languages is beneficial for everyone academically and socially, and this methodology would help me do that. While I want to work other languages into my classroom, I was intimidated by the idea, so I wanted to research this topic to help myself and other teachers with the same thoughts.

### What resources are you using for your project?

Ofelia Garcia is one of the main researchers for this topic, so I have been reading lots of her articles as well as other books about learning second languages. I am also purchasing children's books to write translations for and create other translanguaging activities around.

### What are you learning so far?

I am learning that translanguaging is not letting students speak their home language whenever they want; it is letting them use both languages freely. There is still structure to ensure that both languages are used to prevent one from becoming a crutch. Often, the home language is used in the process while the school language is used for the final product to aid the teacher in grading. This makes translanguaging much more feasible and still helps validate the students' culture and home lives, building the student-teacher relationships.

### When will you finish your project?

I will finish my project in April this year. Come out to my joint presentation with Mikayla Frederick on April 8th 5-6:30 pm to hear about topics related to the English language learners in your classroom.



# Scholarships

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE 12:00 NOON ON THE LAST THURSDAY IN FEBRUARY

## Ethel Brandt Bigham Endowed Education Award

All PK-4 and Grades 4-8 juniors with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.60 and a desire to teach in an urban or rural setting are encouraged to apply for this approximately \$1200 award.

## Ernest L. Boyer, Sr. Teacher Scholarship

All current Teacher Education Program students (all certification programs) in their junior year with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.60 and an outstanding record of community service and leadership are invited to apply for this \$3000 award.

## Suzanne Joy Johnson Endowed Scholarship Award

All current Teacher Education Program students (preference given to PK-4 and Grades 4-8 majors) in their junior year with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.60 and demonstrated dynamic interpersonal skills are invited to apply for this award (approximately \$1300).

## Terry L. Stoudnour Endowed Education Award

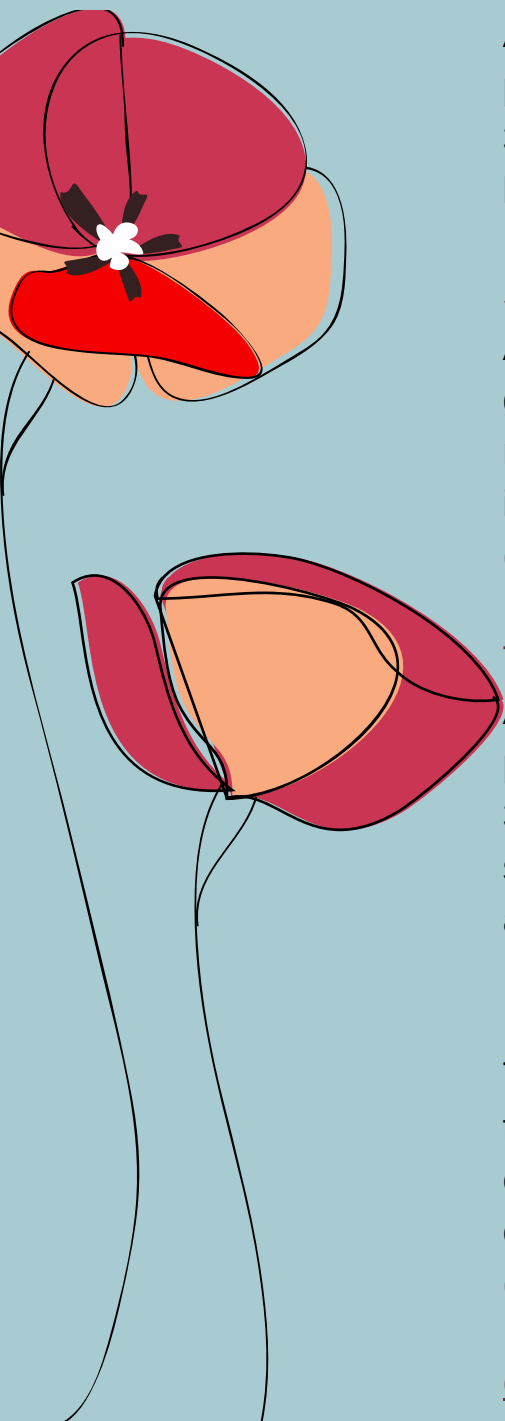
All current Teacher Education Program students (all certification programs) in their junior year with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.60, an exemplary record of leadership, service, ethical standards, and academic achievement are invited to apply for this approximately \$1400 award.

## Murk-Hayes Endowed Education Award

The award is open to candidates of any Messiah University teacher certification program and seeks to recognize a teacher certification candidate who has a demonstrated interest and capacity for serving K-12 educators in urban contexts (approximately \$1000).

[Click Here for the applications](#)

All of these awards are add-on awards. They will be added to, not substituted for, any financial aid the recipient already receives. Award amounts may vary slightly, based on market performance.



# Department Students Connect with Local Grassroots Library in Alison Hill Harrisburg



Erin Haines, Kelsey Sharpe, Maria Cushing-Daniels

Stone Soup Library is a donation-based community resource center in Harrisburg. Students sent them a message asking what kinds of literacy materials they needed, and they ended up purchasing children's books written in Spanish, cursive workbooks, and parenting books.

If you would like to read more about this library, check out this article. The Stone Soup Library in Allison Hill ([servprohersheyswatara.com](http://servprohersheyswatara.com))



"I think it is so important that students feel represented in the media they are engaging with because it helps them feel valued for who they are, and it encourages them to be proud of their culture. It can be really disheartening for students when there are no book or TV characters who look like them, so this makes them feel seen."-Kelsey Sharpe

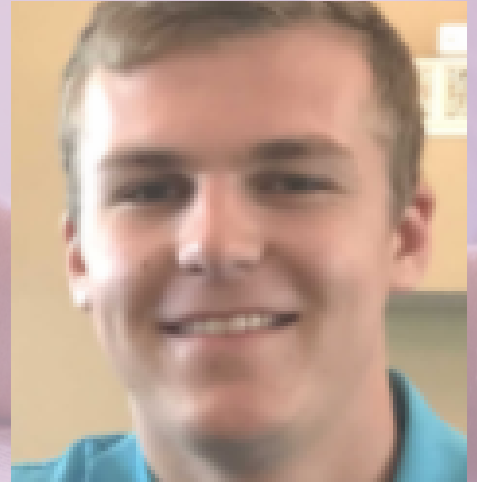
These students received funding from the Anita Voelker Literacy Award to purchase books for the StoneSoup Library located in Harrisburg





# DEVOTIONAL

A MONTHLY DEVOTION WRITTEN BY MESSIAH  
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION SENIORS



## Lord, Be My Captain

Written by Sam Cable

A Word from Our Captain:

Live full lives, full in the fullness of God. God can do anything, you know – far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Ephesians 3:19-20

For me, relating sports to things helps to make it meaningful to my life. Team sports connect perfectly with our Christian faith. When reading Dr. Dennis Swanberg's *Man Does Not Live by Sports Alone*, I began to realize how crucial it is to make sure God is the captain of our team. This can be something hard to do, as things like school, family, friends, and sports take up so much of our time. Offering God time after fitting all these other things into your schedule is not good enough, and can be summed up by John Ruskin when said, "He who offers to God a second place offers Him no place." Intentionally carving out time to spend with God helps to grow your relationship with him. Making sure that you have your priorities in check will allow our team to win, God's team.

Lord,  
Change me like only you can  
Direct my mind to focus on you  
And use me to further your kingdom  
So that all may experience your greatness.  
Amen



Dr. Anita Voelker  
Professor Emerita of Education

ANITA VOELKER

# Literacy Research Award

**OPEN TO ALL EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT STUDENTS**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PRESENTING  
AT A CONFERENCE, COMPLETING  
HONORS RESEARCH, OR CONDUCTING  
A SERVICE ORIENTED LITERACY  
PROJECT?

**Funding is Available**

Applications can be  
found here

**Or Talk with Dr. Keller**





# **Trends in the Math Classroom – Number Talks**

**By: Dr. Carol Buckley and Madison Meeks**

Now and then, a small change in instructional strategies can bring about a huge change in student learning. Number talks seems to be one of those subtle yet powerful changes. A relatively recent phenomenon, number talks are a valuable classroom routine that promotes mathematical reasoning. Number talks involve students solving problems using mental math, making sense of numbers and math, and developing/inventing efficient computation strategies. It helps students to understand relationships between numbers and operations through composing/decomposing numbers, compensating and expanding, applying properties of operations, using friendly and benchmark numbers, and more.

Number talks help to build computational fluency and concept development. They are engaging for learners, and empowering as students create their own unique approach to problem solving. Participation in a number talk requires students to articulate their own problem solving strategies and explain their approach to a problem. During this communication, other students have an opportunity to understand various students' perspectives in solving the same problem. Number talks are an effective strategy for the classroom and could be used on a daily basis for about 5-10 minutes. They should not replace core whole-group instruction.

Prior to a number talk, teachers explain that when doing these number talks, the main goal is using mental math to come up with a variety of answers. It is important that the teacher develops a signal for their students to use when they have an answer. This can be any number of things, such as a thumbs up under their chin, hands on their head, or one finger on their nose. The importance of these signals is that they are quiet and non-distracting, so as to allow all students the time they need to think of their own answer. Students will quickly fall into the routine of using this signal and explaining this signal to students ahead of time helps to eliminate these distractions for others. The other signal that the teacher should teach their students is when they have the same answer as the student sharing. This can be the "me too" sign in sign language or holding up two fingers. This allows the teacher to quickly see who else had that answer with the same method.





When engaging in the number talk, the teacher typically writes the problem on the board where all students are able to see and refer back when needed. The students will begin solving the problem, using solely mental math to find a solution. Once they have their answer, they give their “I’m ready” sign to the teacher. It is important that as the teacher, you are giving ample time to all students for solving and encouraging the quiet use of signals. Another crucial step of doing a number talk, is having the students solve the problem using different strategies when they finish early. If we see a student finish early, remind them to come up with a different way to solve the problem and to keep brainstorming ways to do so. After students have their signal up, the teacher will call on a student to share their answer AND, the important part, how they came up with the answer. You can prompt students to talk you through their thinking by using phrases such as “How did you know that?”, “What did you do next?”, or “Tell me what you were thinking”. This allows the student to articulate their reasoning in depth and helps the teacher to gain further insight into how they solve problems. During this talk, the teacher should be writing down the students' thought process on the board so all of the students can follow along with the sharers' thinking. The last step is to implore other students' thought processes and answers and have them share in the same manner. The importance of doing this allows for the students and the teacher to see how others are solving the problem and gain different perspectives of ways to solve one in the future.

Number talks are an effective and efficient strategy for promoting mathematical reasoning in the classroom. It allows the teacher to gain a deeper understanding of a student's cognitive ability. It is also important to encourage students to share their answers, even if they are not always sure it is the “right” answer. As long as they are sharing their reasoning, their answers are valid and they are the future mathematicians we need in the classroom.



# Special Education Choices

at Messiah University

*Serving the Least of These Matthew 25:40*

*There are THREE ways to pursue Special Education at Messiah University! For full details please see the webpages for each option.*



To earn teaching certification in BOTH Special Education and Early Childhood Education, choose the major in

## **Education with Dual Certification in PreK-4<sup>th</sup> and Special Education PreK-12<sup>th</sup>**

Field placements across grade ranges, regular, and special education

Student teach in Special Education, Special Education Internship

<https://www.messiah.edu/education-major-with-dual-teaching-certification-in-grades-prek-4-and-special-education-prek-8-pennsylvania>

Good option for flexible choices in teaching career, preparing to serve children with disabilities in regular or special education settings.



To earn teaching certification in ONLY Special Education choose the major in

## **Special Education N-12 with Teaching Certification PreK-12<sup>th</sup>**

Field placements across grade ranges, regular, and special education

Student teach in Special Education, Special Education Internship

<https://www.messiah.edu/special-education-grades-n-12-with-teaching-certification-in-grades-prek-12>

Good option for teaching specializing in high school special education, or more severe disabilities, or for careers in agencies or hospital early intervention, etc.



If interested in serving individuals with disabilities without teaching certification in special education, you might enjoy the

## **Minor in Special Education**

Develop expertise from 18-21 credits of study, with no field placement requirements

<https://www.messiah.edu/special-education-minor-pennsylvania>

Good option for preparing to teach regular education with expertise in serving children with disabilities, or for disability-related work through agencies or government.

Messiah University also offers a minor in **Speech and Language Pathology**.



Messiah University also offers a minor in **Disability and Family Wellness**.



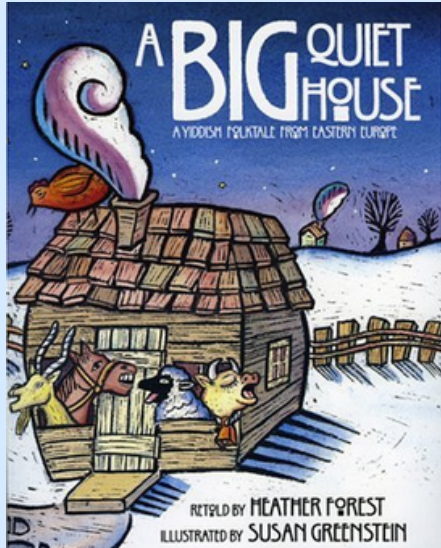
**Declaring a major or minor** at Messiah University is easy! Complete an on-line form at:

[https://www.messiah.edu/info/23421/forms\\_f\\_or\\_current\\_students/4140/update\\_major/min\\_orconccert](https://www.messiah.edu/info/23421/forms_f_or_current_students/4140/update_major/min_orconccert)

### **Who can help me decide?**

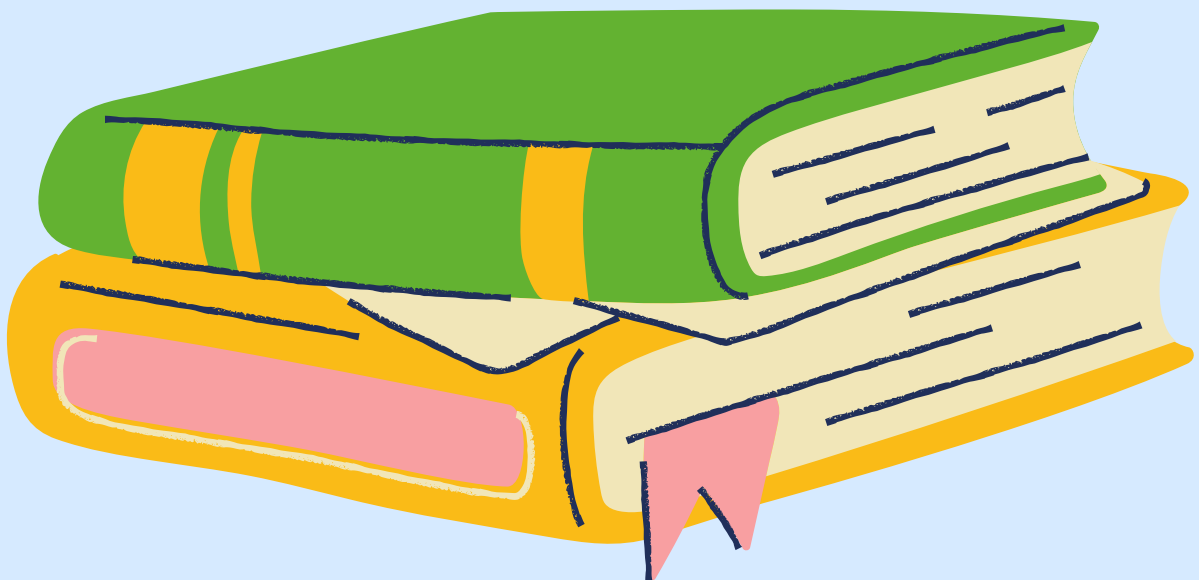
See Dr. Melinda Burchard, Coordinator of Special Education, [mburchard@messiah.edu](mailto:mburchard@messiah.edu), your academic advisor, or anyone in the Career and Professional Development Center.

# Check Out This Children's Book!



Reviewed By: Lainey Flanagan

This book is based on a Yiddish folktale. It is a popular tale told within Jewish communities for centuries. I chose this book because it has a unique font title that seemed intriguing. The cover has many animals that are squeezed tightly in a house, which give some insight to the story. This tale is retold by Heather Forest and illustrated by Susan Greenstein. Heather has recorded eight albums of storytelling and has been outspoken about how important storytelling is for the community. A review on Amazon says, "This is one of my favorite folktales, and Forest's adaptation, with Greenstein's witty illustrations, adds to the amusement and truth behind this classic story." I agree with this review, even though this is my first time hearing this tale. The illustrations and rhymes tell a brilliant story with a valuable lesson. If humorous tales that end with good life lessons make you happy, read this book!





# EXPERIENCE EDUCATION @Messiah

Join the Department of Education for an  
exclusive overnight visit experience

April 21-22, 2022



MESSIAH  
UNIVERSITY

You're invited to experience campus life  
through this **exclusive overnight visit just  
for accepted education students!**

While on campus, you'll have the opportunity to:

- **Chat** with education faculty
- **Attend Powerhouse**, Messiah's popular student-led weekly worship
- **Connect** with fellow admitted students and current students
- **Visit** classes and tour campus
- **Spend the night** in a residence hall with an education student

Please RSVP by **April 14, 2022.**

\*All overnight hosts are up to date on their COVID-19 vaccination. Overnight guests are expected to adhere to Messiah University's community guidelines and must provide proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test prior to their arrival on campus.

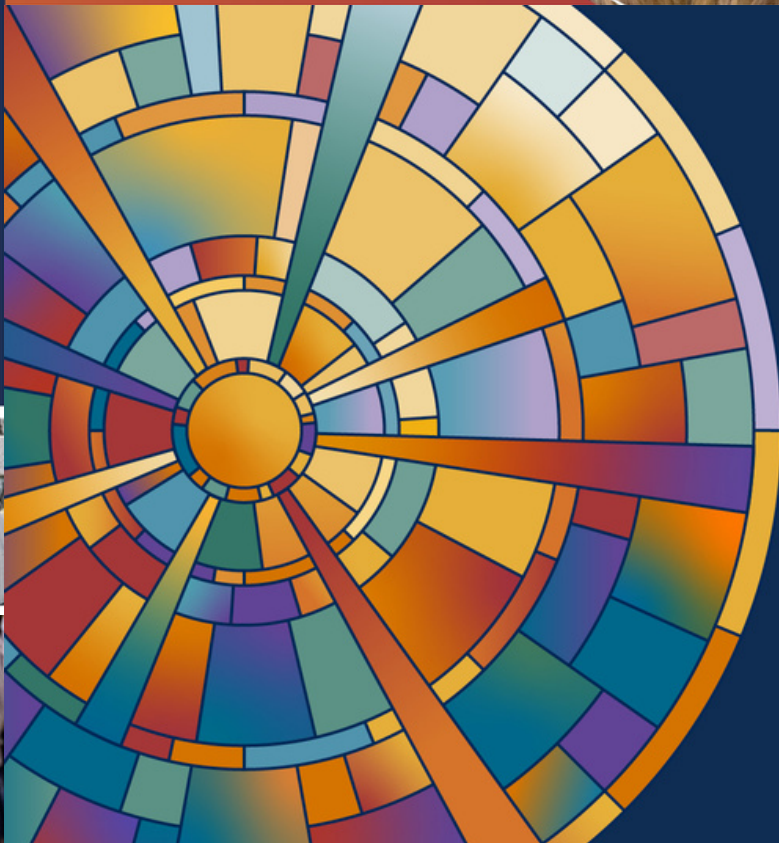
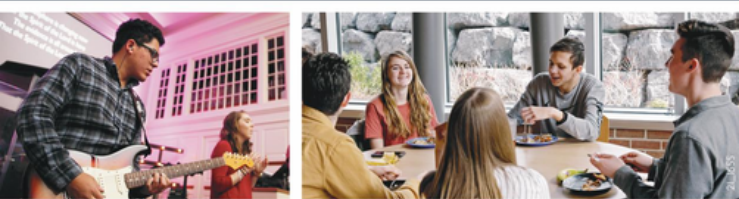


To learn more and register, go to  
[messiah.edu/educationovernight](https://messiah.edu/educationovernight).



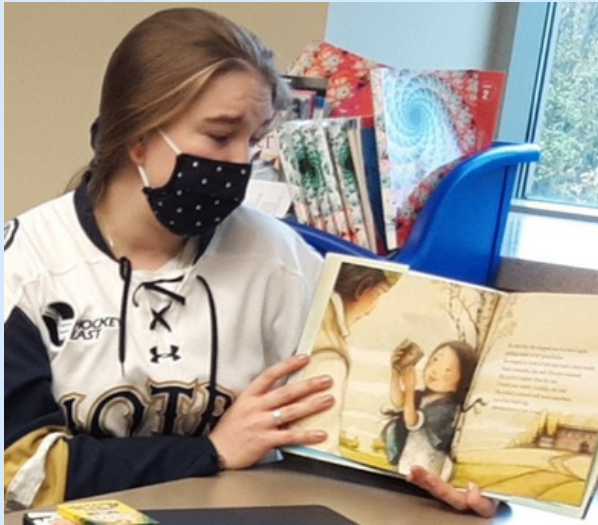
At my overnight visit, I felt like I had known my host and her friend group for years. **Messiah's community is really special, and you can tell pretty quickly.**

— Sarah Davis '22, education with dual teaching certification in grades preK-4 and special education preK-12

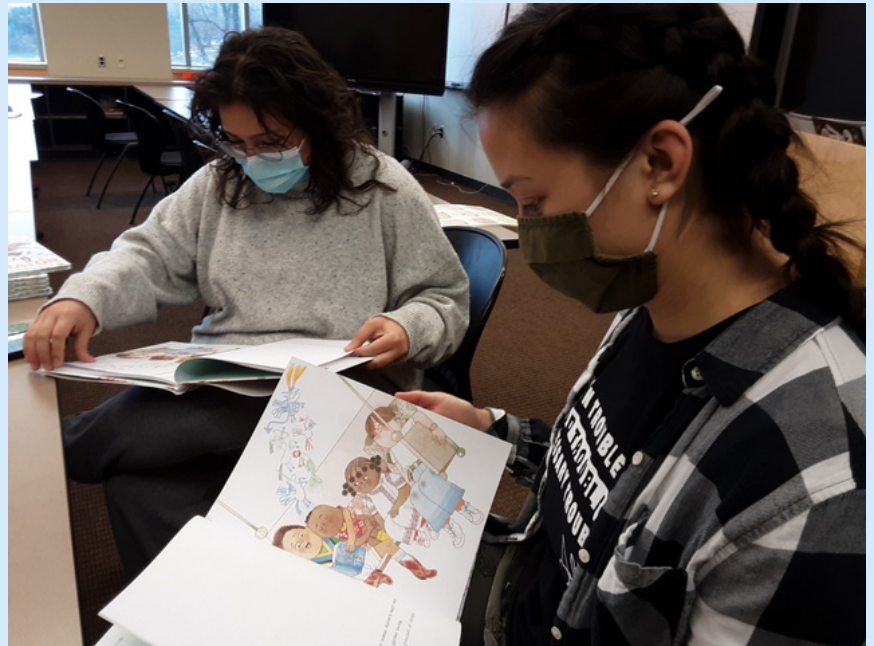




# Needs and Gains of Pre-Service Teachers for Cultural Responsiveness in Special Education



Reading Stolen Words on Indigenous Peoples' Day (above).  
Critiquing Aaron Slater Illustrator (right).



Children with disabilities do not have just one identity. Many will also be students who live in poverty, or who speak other languages, or who are also of an underrepresented race or ethnicity, etc. Teachers need awareness and practices that work to teach with cultural responsiveness. Dr. Burchard launched a multi-year project and study about needs of Messiah students in special education courses, and their gains over time in cultural responsiveness. Students observed days such as Indigenous Peoples' Day, read and discussed articles, and critiqued children's books that work for special education practices for elements of cultural responsiveness. Dr. Burchard reported on first study findings at the international convention of the Council for Exceptional Children, CEC. She learned that a student's experiences with cultural responsiveness in special education explains nearly half of their confidence to teach with cultural responsiveness. Participants in the study made statistically significant gains in both experiences and confidence over one semester, but there is much room for growth and continued program improvements.

**You are invited to learn more**

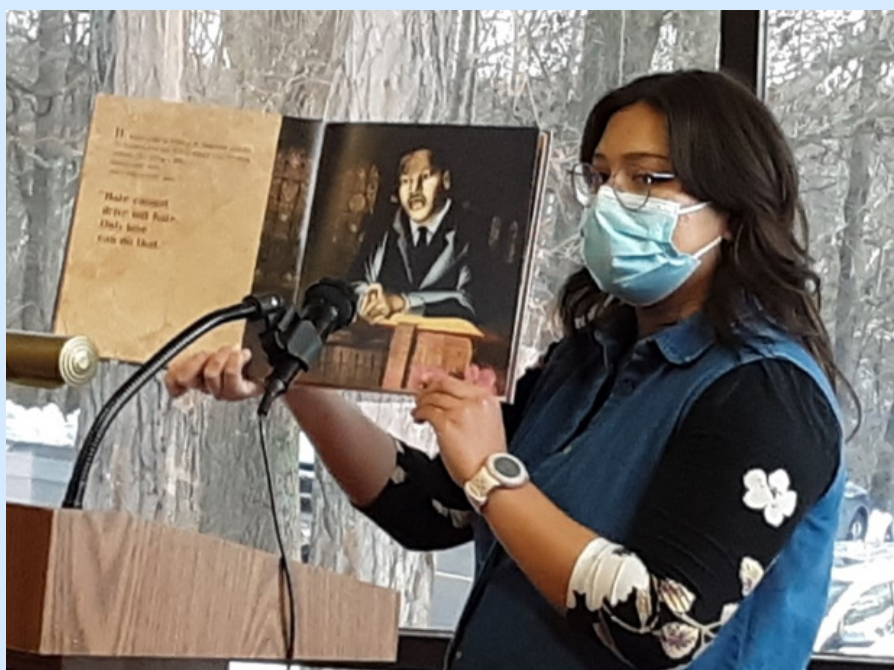
and to try two of our activities.

**Promoting Reconciliation Work of Cultural Responsiveness in Special Education**, a presentation of the Humanities Symposium

by Melinda Burchard, Lexi Cass, and Julianna Chen.

February 23, 2022, 3:30 pm, Boyer 131





In January, Messiah dedicated a new theme room of Murray Library, the **Bridge to Freedom Children's Collection**. The inspiration for this space and collection was a generous gift of children's books from Dr. Todd, Lonette, and Bryce Allen grounded in African American history with an emphasis on the Civil Rights Movement. The purpose of the collection is to provide educational resources for young children illustrating diverse historical experiences in the ongoing struggle for equality, freedom, and reconciliation.

At the dedication event in January, five Education students participated as readers, selected for their campus involvement in multi-cultural community or leadership. From left to right, Eden Araya is a Psychology Major with a minor in Education. Julianna Chen, Lexi Cass and Amber Poitan, are pursuing dual certifications in grades PreK-4th and special education grades PreK - 12th. Micah Wagner is pursuing certification in Middle School Math and Science.





**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

*We can't wait to see you there!*

# ACCEPTED STUDENT PREVIEW DAYS



Welcome

**MARCH 18**

**MARCH 25**

**APRIL 8**

[Click here for more information and to register](#)





# Do you want to be a teacher?

Then you need to take educational psychology!

Messiah University is offering a dual enrollment educational psychology course next year in both the fall and spring semesters. If you want to be a teacher, you should take it.

If you want to be a teacher, one of the required courses you will need to take is Educational Psychology. A standard introductory or general psychology course may not count towards degree or licensure requirements. Educational Psychology is a required course at the following colleges and universities: **Messiah University**, Penn State, Grove City, IUPA, Wilkes, Pitt, Temple, Kutztown, Gettysburg, Susquehanna, University of Scranton, Bucknell, LVC, Dickinson, Villanova, Geneva, Eastern, Lafayette, Swarthmore, Drexel and many more. Instruction will be delivered online, providing an opportunity for you to learn alongside Messiah undergraduate students. **Get a head start today on your journey towards becoming a teacher!**

- Fall and spring 2021-22
- Earn credits towards your teaching degree
- Learn alongside on-campus students
- Asynchronous delivery with on-campus learning opportunities

## Questions?

**Contact:** Matt Reitnour

*Associate Director of Admissions/Coordinator of Dual Enrollment*

**Email:** mreitnour@messiah.edu | **Call:** 717-691-6000



## Benefits of being dual enrolled at Messiah University

- Create a more flexible schedule as a college student
- Strengthen your potential to graduate from college in less than 4 years
- Experience college life by taking classes taught by Messiah University professors
- Take college courses that may satisfy both high school and college credit requirements

2L\_III4



# HEARD IN THE CLASSROOM

*What are we talking  
about this month?*



**GRACE RHINEHART**  
FIRST YEAR, PRE K-4 AND SPECIAL ED

"Last semester I was enrolled in Educational Psychology. This class offered insight into the field of education, but more specifically into the relationship we as future teachers are called to have with our students and coworkers. As a steward of the Lord, this course emphasized the importance of knowing and understanding your material, students, and own capabilities. This was a super beneficial course to me because it offered advice on how to integrate your own faith goals into the career in which I feel the Lord is calling me to serve."



**HANNAH OLSON**  
JUNIOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD AND TESOL

"Right now in my classes I am learning about the reading process and how to teach kids literacy in a way that can be fun, interactive, and interesting! I am also learning more on how to engage students in lessons. For example, when teaching subjects such as social studies, something that you can use to introduce your lesson can be something such as bringing replicas or pictures. Allowing the students to come look and touch the objects can help them connect with what you will be teaching. This helps draw them into the lesson!! My field placement starts tomorrow and I'll be in a 4th grade classroom!"



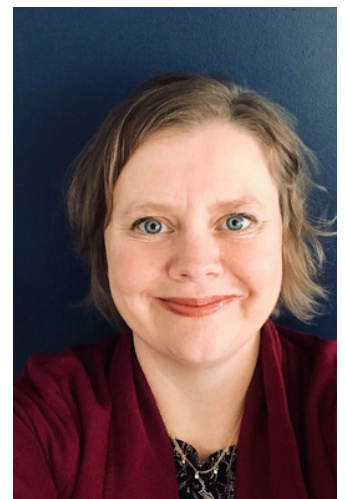
**SOFIA WAUGHEN**  
FIRST YEAR, SPECIAL EDUCATION

"In my Principles and Structures of Mathematics class we are refreshing ourselves on addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and then learning different teaching methods we can use that will help our students to grasp the content better. You might think that going over the math that you learned in elementary school is easy, but it's honestly pretty difficult to relearn the basics! It's also funny to see things in our lessons that we used in kindergarten, like counting blocks and number lines. Although the class is asynchronous, Dr. Buckley has been great with engaging us in math activities and breakout rooms."

## TRENDS IN THE FIELD

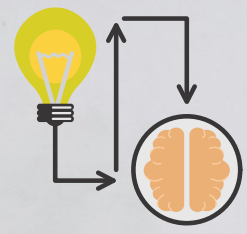
Central Pennsylvania is currently in the process of welcoming Afghan refugees to our communities. Read more about this recent humanitarian crisis in this [article](#). Messiah Education Department students are becoming involved by working with English learners in a number of local organizations. For classroom teachers working with recent arrivals, you can find a wealth of resources on this [US Department of Education Webpage](#).

Here are three local organizations serving this population;  
[Church World Service Lancaster](#)  
[Catholic Charities](#)  
[Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service](#)



# Imagining Memory

Dr. David Hazen



Memory is still a big mystery in science. No scientist exactly knows how the brain physically sorts and stores all the information (and types of data) encoded into memories. Cognitive psychologists hope that asking what we remember will teach them how we remember. Memory is one word that stands for many different things our brains can do. You might use working memory for holding a few digits in your head while you go to unlock a keypad; episodic memory to recall a school trip to the state fair from when you were 10; sensory memory to conjure up the smells of the funnel cakes there. You can remember historical facts like when the state fair was founded; you can remember the directions for getting to the fairgrounds. Exactly how all these memory sources work together, and exactly how they are different and the same, is a source of endless scholarship in psychology.

For example, we can recognize tens of thousands of images we've seen before. Some images stick vividly in our minds, while others may fade away even when we actively try to remember them. Are some images inherently more likely to be remembered than others? The answer is YES! Researchers have found that some images leave a much more lasting impression. The findings hold across different categories of images: Some faces are more memorable than others, some scenes are more memorable than others, and some random noises are more memorable than others. Memorability research considers whether there's something predetermined about what makes it into our memories. How much of what you remember is not about you but about what you were trying to remember? If the street corner is inherently more memorable than the mountain vista, then maybe personal preferences and interests don't matter that much.

It is much easier to remember words that you can imagine versus abstract things. The 'Liberty Bell' is easier to remember than 'liberty.'" Memorability might indicate how our brain prioritizes information, almost like a sorting algorithm that you might imagine Google uses to search. In other words, as our eyes scan an image, specific shapes, textures, objects, and attributes are prioritized to be stored in our memories, while others are deprioritized. This seems to happen instantaneously, and it's something we're not consciously aware of.

Even though scientists don't fully understand why some things are easier to remember, we can remember, and store massive amounts of visual imagery leads to some fascinating questions. Can we use what we know to manipulate memorability? Can we make educational slides from a lecture more likely to stick in a student's brain? Can we redesign maps and streets to help people remember their way? Can we use algorithms to create the most memorable logos and ads? This research won't stop at images. Could we create a similar model that might predict the memorability of a voice or even a selection of music? If memorability can be engineered in this way, could it help people with memory loss and reduce confusion in the world?

Our ability to recognize images seems to be connected to the brain's inner workings. By studying what we remember, scientists may be able to assemble more of the puzzle pieces that make up the memory machinery in our minds. While the scientists figure out how it all sorts out, I feel a sense of wonder about my memory. Our brains can still surprise us. And that makes me smile.





# PROFESSOR ELIZABETH SMITH

## PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT

Office: Boyer 420

Email: [esmith@messiah.edu](mailto:esmith@messiah.edu)

### FAVORITE SCRIPTURE VERSE AND WHY

There are so many that I love, the majority of them stemming from praise, worship and thanksgiving. But Micah 6:8 is one that I often quote to myself. One version puts it this way, "He has told you, human one, what is good and what the LORD requires from you: to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God." I like this version because the word "mercy" in this context is based off the word faithfulness. What does God require of me in my relationship with Him and others? It is echoed again in the NT. That we should love God and love others.

### WHAT I DO ON THE WEEKENDS

You can find me outside as long as it is possible! We love to hike, run, bike, swim and travel. I like last minute adventures, so if time allows, we will find our way to something new we haven't explored before. If it's rainy, you can find me curled up with a good fiction book; my favorite genre is historical fiction.

### WHAT I LOVE MOST ABOUT MESSIAH

I love the sense of community and intentional building of it. Every aspect of Messiah is centered around the idea of a group; that our actions and interactions are integral to not only our own lives, but effect those around us. I think it is such a counter-cultural idea, "others first," that makes Messiah stand out.

### IF I WASN'T A PROFESSOR I WOULD BE...

a pediatric physical therapist. I actually started my journey at Messiah in pre-PT. It made sense to me; I played field hockey and ran track at MC, so it was a natural career choice entering college. I love movement, understanding how the body works, and improving functionality. I still dream of one day somehow being an educational liaison for children that are in long-term stays at hospitals – being the educator that helps them stay current with their schoolwork while recovering. For many hospitals, it would be a new position that I would have to convince someone to create.

### FAMILY:

My husband and I have been married for 21 years and we have 3 children; Hudson, Anna and Hadleigh. As a family, we love to travel, go to the beach, play games and watch movies. Music also brings us together – we love to make up silly songs and have our own "repertoire" of Smith Family music.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

M. Ed. Cross-Categorical SPED (ECE),  
Northern Arizona University

B.S. ELED, HPE Concentration,  
Messiah College

### CLASSES I TEACH

EDU 414 – Curriculum and  
Instruction for ECE

EDME 551 - Effective Practices  
for Every Learner

### SERVICE

I serve at my home church with the Worship Arts team as well as hosting a growth group at our home with neighbors and other young families. I'd consider my main service and ministry as my children and supporting my husband in his role as a Worship Pastor.

### FAVORITES:

Summer, the beach, the smell of a warm day, gentle breezes, traveling to new places, bare feet, hugs, a good smoothie, authentic Baja fish tacos and salsa





## JANUARY NEWS:

In January, EAMU hosted an info night with Missy Funk about Act 86.

This provides students with an opportunity to substitute in local schools. Email [eamu@messiah.edu](mailto:eamu@messiah.edu) if you would like to know more!



EAMU's Winning T-Shirt!  
Designed by Abby Lawrence



## UPCOMING CONFERENCE:

*SPSEA Southern Region presents*

# BETTER TOGETHER

*A conference dedicated to unifying classroom communities through celebrations of diversity.*

**FEBRUARY 26, 2022**  
**MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY**  
**9AM-3PM**

REGISTER HERE OR BY QR →



EAMU has plenty of great events in the works as we continue this spring semester!

Events:  
February 14th- "Fall in love with EAMU"  
TBD- First Teacher Panel

# THEORIES OF BELONGING AS DEPICTED IN RECENTLY PUBLISHED CHILDREN'S BOOKS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PROFESSOR TINA KELLER PRESENTS  
AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

In this research, seventeen picture books that focused on belonging, published after 2016, were reviewed. Text and illustrations were examined through content analysis and critical literacy and were subsequently coded for themes. Findings indicate that authors and illustrators actively used these texts as opportunities to resist narratives of exclusion. This was achieved by using four metaphors to theorize belonging and the potential to live in a pluralistic world. These findings are of interest to researchers, authors, librarians and classroom teachers seeking to assist students in their own conceptualization of belonging.



**Figure 1.**  
Books Used  
in Study



**Figure 2.**  
Teacher's  
Resources for  
Books

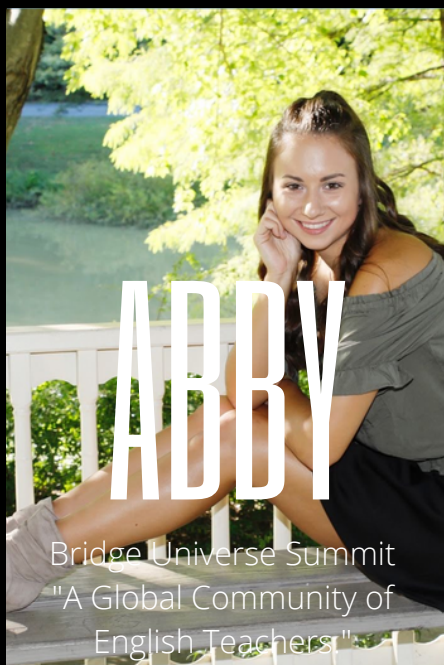






# CASSIE

Annual Peace Symposium  
"Coming to Pennsylvania:  
Stories of Courage,  
Perseverance, and Hope."



# ABBY

Bridge Universe Summit  
"A Global Community of  
English Teachers"



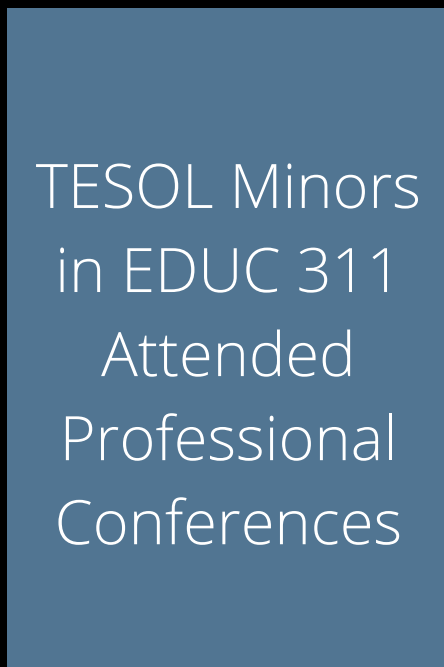
# BEGGA

PSMLA Fall Conference  
"Addressing the Moment:  
Bridging  
Differences with Languages".



# KATIE

Maryland TESOL Association  
"Breaking Through, Pushing  
Forward Together".



TESOL Minors  
in EDUC 311  
Attended  
Professional  
Conferences



# OLINDA

MCC UN Office Global  
Student Seminar, "Climate  
Change, Conflict, and  
Peacebuilding"



# HANNAH

Annual Peace Symposium  
"Coming to Pennsylvania:  
Stories of Courage,  
Perseverance, and Hope."



# IRENE

PSMLA Fall Conference  
"Addressing the Moment:  
Bridging  
Differences with Languages"



# GRACE

Annual Peace Symposium  
"Coming to Pennsylvania:  
Stories of Courage,  
Perseverance, and Hope."



# TECHNOLOGY CORNER

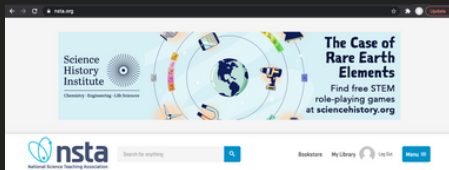
*Our Favorite Online Resources and Tools*

SCIENCE EDUCATION

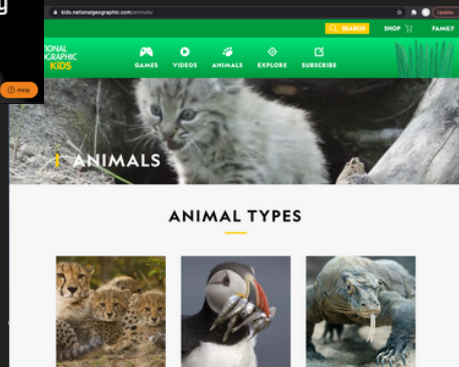
*Professor Ariela Vader*



So many resources...so many possibilities for science teaching and learning!

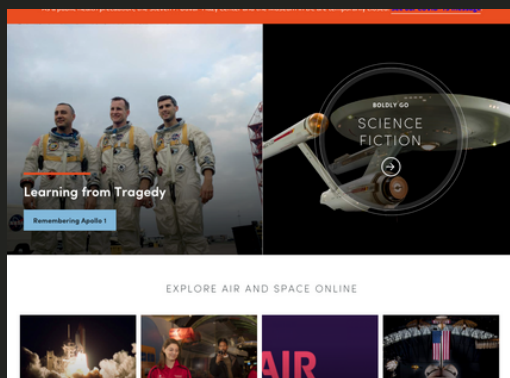


[nsta.org](http://nsta.org) - National Science Teaching Association  
Find links to articles, lessons, and great science books. All NSTA journals may be accessed through Murray Library.

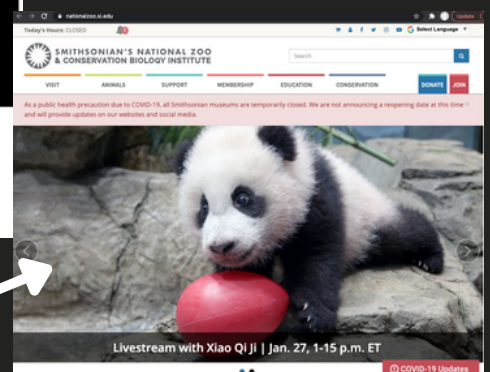


[kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)  
Want to look into a particular animal? How about play a game to learn about recycling or the popular "gross out" game? You can also find information on different world countries and even each state in the US.

[airandspace.si.edu](http://airandspace.si.edu) & [nationalzoo.si.edu](http://nationalzoo.si.edu)  
My favorite museums have educational websites! Many museums are rolling out helpful, interactive sites during this time of limited contact. Here are a couple to check out.



*new baby panda!!*







# WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

DOROTHY GISH

The Dorothy J. Gish Women in Leadership Award is named in honor of Dr. Dorothy Gish, Academic Dean Emeritus and former Professor of Early Childhood and Family Education at Messiah University. This award is used to support worthy leadership opportunities for full-time, undergraduate women students at Messiah University. This award opportunity is offered both fall and spring semesters.

**For spring 2022  
consideration, complete the  
online application by NOON  
February 28th.**

**[Application Link](#)**



# ALUMNI ADVICE

LESSONS FROM MESSIAH ALUMNI



## ALUMNI PROFILE

*Lauren  
Phillipsy  
Kincer*

CLASS OF 2013

Carlisle School District

5th Grade Teacher

## Advice for Future Teachers

"I would say that one of my strengths as a teacher is building relationships with my students. I personally think that this is the biggest keys to having success in the classroom. I absolutely love getting to know my kids, and it makes my job so meaningful and exciting. What I enjoy the most about teaching is when I can make lessons relevant to my students, or when I can see the 'light bulb' moment happen for my kiddos.

I loved the relationships that I was able to build while at Messiah. I appreciated that the classes were small enough to know that your professors actually know who you are, and gave so many opportunities to meet new people. It was also great that there were a variety of options for classes/class times, and I also loved the variety of chapel options. Messiah is a beautiful campus with so many great places to hang out with friends or get together to work on projects or study."



# Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## FEBRUARY

Career and Certification Meeting for Seniors February 8

Mentor Teacher Appreciation Dinner February 10

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to... Dr. David Hazen February 13

Open house February 21

Promoting Reconciliation Work of Cultural Responsiveness in Special Education, a presentation of the Humanities Symposium by Melinda Burchard, Lexi Cass, and Julianna Chen February 23, 2022, 3:30 pm, Boyer 131

Scholarship Applications Due February 24th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to... Dr. Melinda Burchard February 27

Dorothy Gish Women in Leadership Award Application Due February 28th

Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education (PAMLE) State Convention February 26-28



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