



**July 2022**  
**Report to the 2022 Shenandoah Conference**

Dear Friends in the Shenandoah District,

I write to you at the conclusion of a year that for everyone in the greater Bridgewater College community included both the most heartbreaking and the most uplifting experiences one can imagine. You mourned with us when we experienced the tragic loss of Officers John Painter and Vashon "J.J." Jefferson on February 1, and you shared your love and support in the days and weeks that followed. No words can ever fully express our heartfelt gratitude for the many acts of kindness and messages of solidarity we received from so many.

Through it all, our community cared for one another and demonstrated resiliency in the face of great sorrow. The spring semester culminated in a joyful celebration of the Class of 2022 with both undergraduate and master's degrees being conferred at Commencement on May 7. Students, faculty and staff alike exhibited the values we hold dear—goodness, truth, beauty, and harmony—as we came together to remember and reflect on all we've been through.

The College remains committed to furthering those values we share, the most authentic way for us to live out our connections to the Church of the Brethren. These connections, this living relationship, has only been strengthened through the challenges of the past several years. We are reminded as never before of the importance and the significance of this relationship.

In 2021-2022, 74 congregations and church groups contributed \$33,600 to the College. The 50 Church of the Brethren students enrolled in 2021-2022 received \$103,000 in Church of the Brethren scholarships and more than \$1.5 million in College-funded financial aid. Twenty-three Shenandoah District congregations donated \$11,928, and 27 of our students came from the Shenandoah District, receiving College-funded aid of more than \$960,000.

Your support helps make up the backbone of this community. We continue to move forward, strengthening our academic programs, revitalizing the campus and celebrating our connections and accomplishments along the way.

Together, we are all #BCStrong.

With best regards,

David W. Bushman, Ph.D.