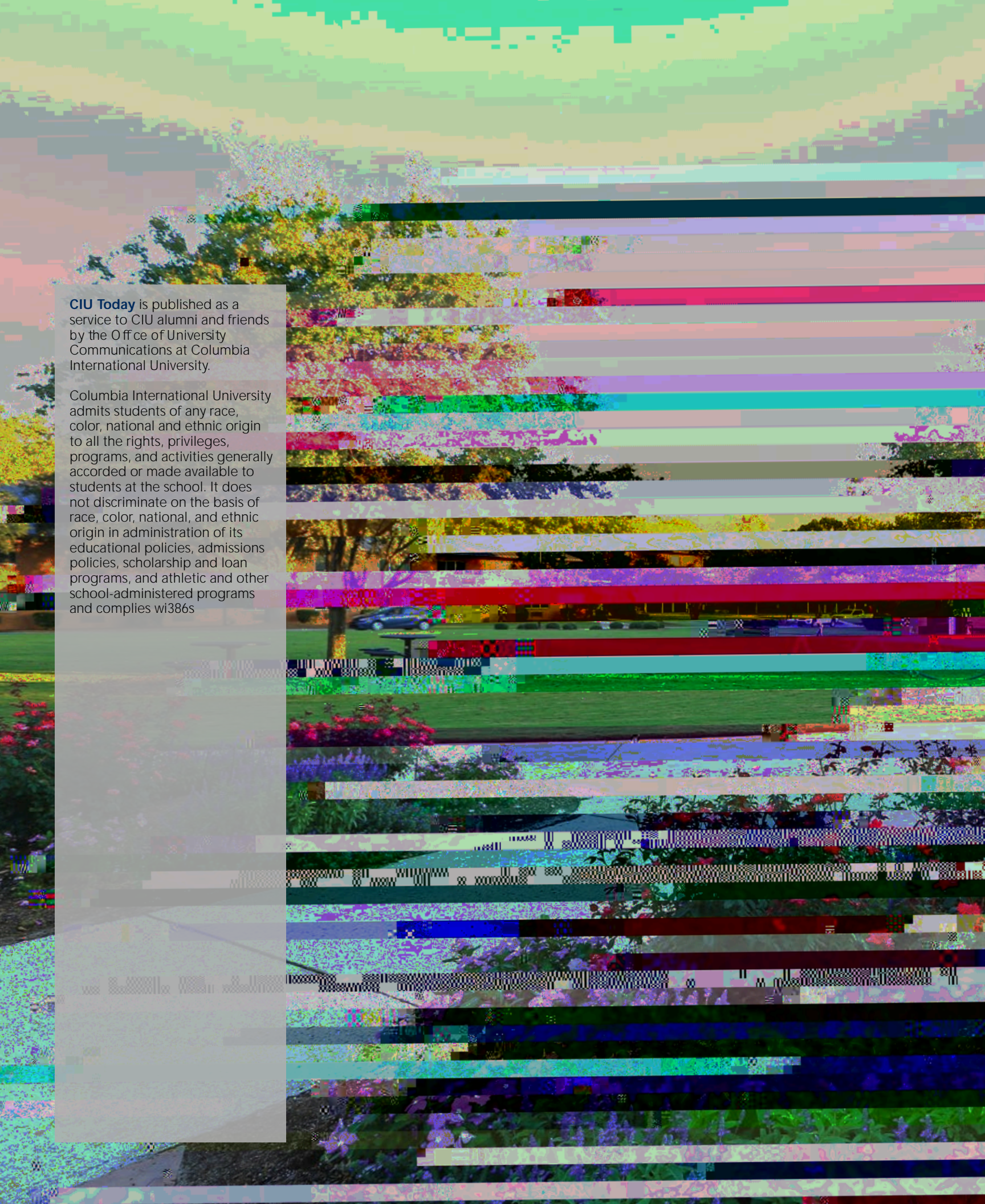




CITU

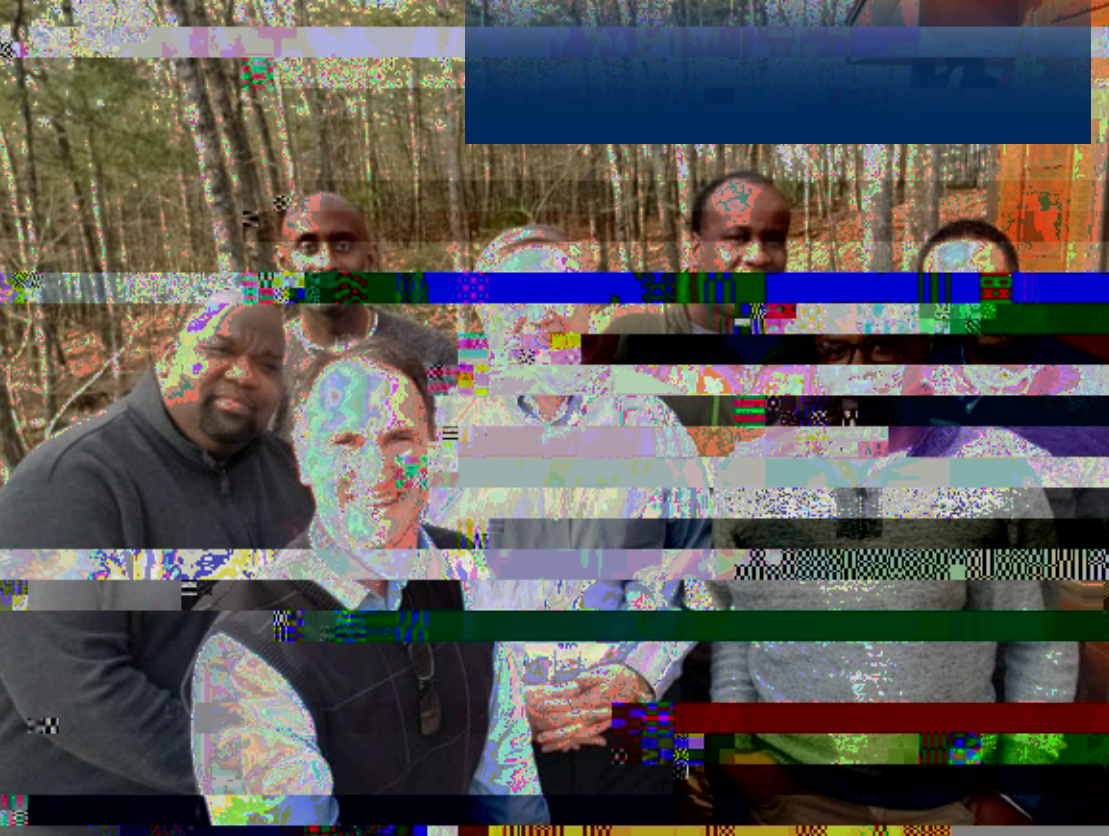
TODAY



CIU Today is published as a service to CIU alumni and friends by the Office of University Communications at Columbia International University.

Columbia International University admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs and complies with 3866.





Responses to Justice: OT and NT Perspectives

For Old Testament Professor Dr. John Crutchfeld and New Testament Professor Dr. Michael Naylor, finding the material to present the Bible's viewpoint of justice was difficult. Not difficult in the sense that there wasn't enough information but quite the opposite.

"We had an embarrassment of riches," Crutchfeld said. "Which of the 20 awesome passages do we pick?"

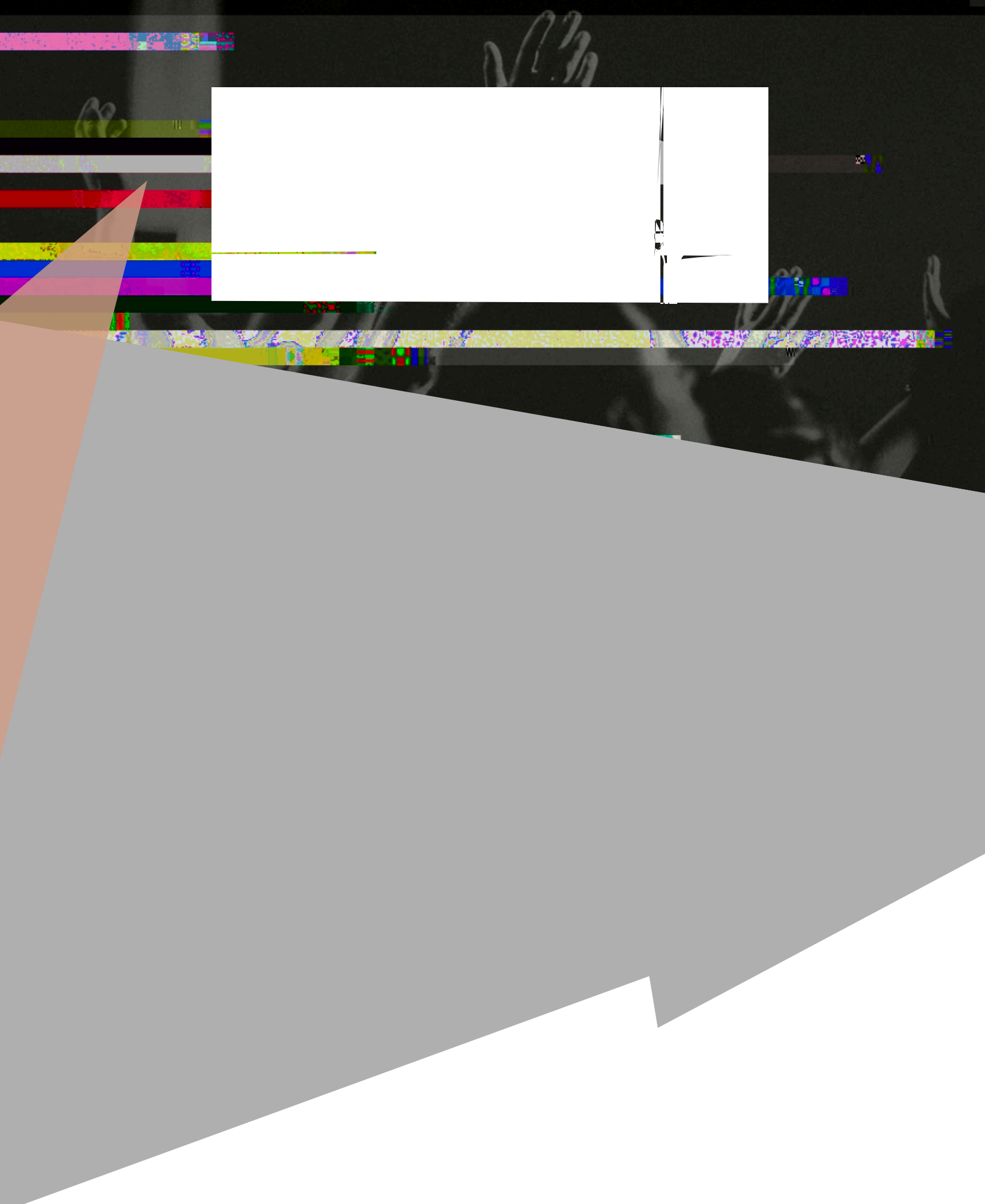
In their part of a series of seminars devoted to justice, Crutchfeld and Naylor looked at what the Old and New Testaments had to say about the topic in order to better live in today's society.

▲
*Ken Blackwell speaks to
students in Chapel.*

CIU: One of the Best Values in the South

The U.S. News & World Report list of Best Colleges for 2020-2021 ranks Columbia International University in the top 10 for Best Value among Regional Universities in the South.

The calculation used by the magazine takes into account CIU's academic quality, as indicated by its 2021 U.S. News Best Colleges ranking (#42 in the South), and the 2019-2020 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid.





Local Sheriff

MONTICELLO

By Bob Holmes
Photos by Kierston Smith

CIU Chaplaincy Professor Dr. Mike Langston knows from sitting in the passenger seat of a squad car what law enforcement officers are going through these days

“Every time they come to work, they’re putting their life on the line, and that is an underlying sense of anxiety for them,” Langston said. “Because at any moment, in any situation where they’re involved with a person, it could go really bad.”

At the request of Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott, Langston is volunteering his time to train the sheriff’s department chaplains and is himself riding with a deputy at least once each week.

“He has taken us to a different level,” Lott says of Langston, a former U.S. Navy chaplain who has been ministering for over three decades. “What Mike brings is advanced training because of his experience as a



Langston prays with Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott at the dedication of the Monticello Road Sheriff’s Department Substation.

chaplain in the military. He's our training guru."

Langston rides with the deputies who patrol the Monticello Road area just outside the CIU campus. They're headquartered at a substation built by CIU as part of its Monticello Road revitalization project. Among the deputies is Chaise Porter who has been patrolling the region for two years. Porter is a Christian who appreciates having Langston and other chaplains available when things get tough.

"There are situations I come into such as when someone has been beaten within an inch of their life ... where your brain can't comprehend what in the world is happening and how another human can do this — having someone on your side who can come with a listening ear or advice and encouragement is invaluable," Porter said.

Langston often describes a chaplain as "the bearer of the presence of God" at the office — in this case, the deputy's squad car.

"When I sit in their car, that becomes a safe place for them because God has shown up," Langston explains. "Then it becomes a sacred place. When they start talking about God, then it becomes a holy place because they are encountering the Living God. I think that's what chaplaincy brings to the workplace. I can speak truth to those officers as they are performing their jobs."

Langston adds that he is setting up an internship for CIU chaplaincy students at the sheriff's department.

Langston Honored

Dr. Mike Langston was honored with The G. William Dando Volunteer Service Award by the Military Chaplains Association (MCA) at their national meeting held on the CIU campus in October. The honor goes to a military chaplain who demonstrates exemplary volunteer service. He was recognized by the MCA for his volunteer training of South Carolina State Guard chaplains, and his leadership as the Guard's deputy commander, holding the rank of brigadier general.

Langston (left) with Deputy Ryan Moore.



highlight of a Ben Lippen student's high school career is the yearly opportunity he or she has to participate in the school's Winterim program.

Students have served God by building houses in Costa Rica, leading a Bible school in Nicaragua, assisting in disaster



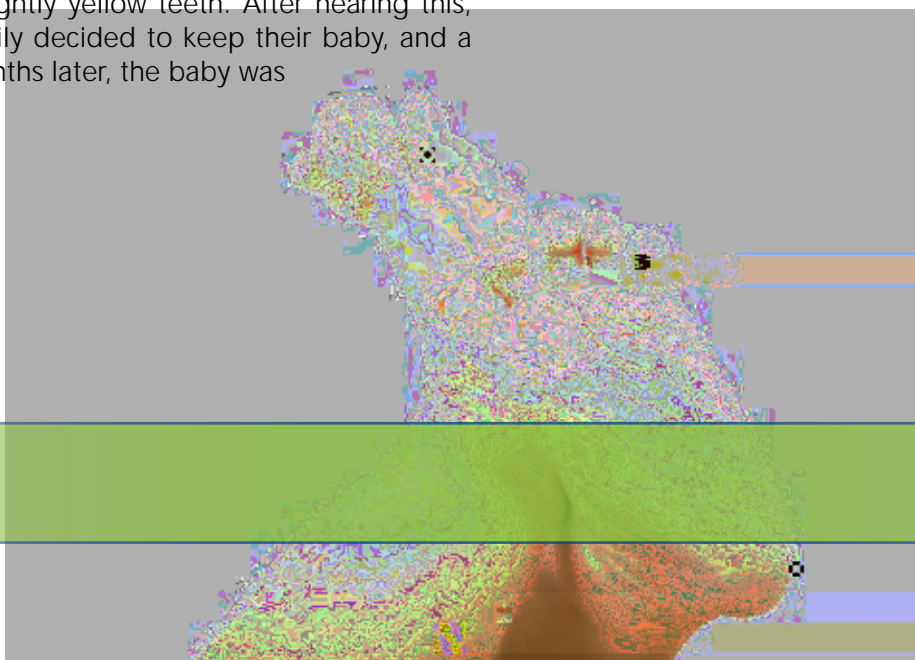
I have a job that stands between life and death.

I meet women who are about to make a decision that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

I offer an alternative to abortion through a Columbia ministry called A Moment of Hope.

I'm a CIU freshman who became acquainted with the ministry during my youth. My father was the pastor of a Spanish-speaking church for four years, and would occasionally help at A Moment of Hope as a Spanish translator.

Through this, I saw and heard about a family who had been lied to about their child being born with deformities. However, after receiving help from A Moment of Hope and connecting this family with other doctors, the family discovered that their child at worst may have slightly yellow teeth. After hearing this, the family decided to keep their baby, and a few months later, the baby was





It's common sound at every important CIU event. You can count on it. It's the sound of the shofar blown by longhorn.

But with the help of Beyer, Columbia resident

campus to 40 Columbia locations in 40 days during Lent.

As a historian, Smith understands

Known as the Lord's horn, it's perhaps the oldest wind instrument in the world.



By Bob Holmes

" God has always developed me and called me to be

T

For the last 16 years, the 57-year-old ministry on North Main Street has been under the direction of two CIU alumni. Ken Ritchie, a former CIU staff member who graduated from the Seminary in 1990, served as Providence Home executive director from 2004 until his retirement in 2013. Rob Settle was then appointed to take his place. Settle earned a bachelor's degree in 1982 and Seminary degree in 2000. He would later serve as an administrator at Ben Lippen School before coming to Providence Home.

Ritchie, the outgoing executive director, told him he was “perfect for the job” because he understood both criminal justice and Christianity.

“So for me to come in here and minister to guys who have been in prison, minister to guys who have been in trouble with the law, to have a shepherd’s heart and a law enforcement background is a comfort for the guys,” Settle said. “I love these men, no matter what background they’ve come from. But I still believe in justice and mercy, but if I err, I err on the side of mercy.”

From Homeless to Board Member

A longtime CIU influence at Providence Home is a man who used to be on the receiving end of the ministry. CIU Postmaster J.W. Hayes is on the Providence Home Board of Directors. But his introduction to Providence Home was a need to stave off hunger in the days when the ministry offered daily meals to the homeless. Hayes had addictions that led him to live on the streets until New Year’s Eve 1989 when he came to repentance through Christ in a jail cell. Now, he often speaks to the Providence Home residents from personal experience.

“I was right where they are. And because of where I am now, I know what God can do.”

Hayes has had a steady job in CIU’s post office for 28 years, offering a living example of God’s grace to the Providence Home residents.

“I’ve come full circle. I’m a tax paying, law-abiding citizen. I’m real proud of that,” Hayes says. “I don’t take that lightly. The Lord just changed my whole insight.”

A Female Perspective

A newer Providence Home Board member is CIU Assistant Athletics Director Kim Abbott who says in a

YouTube video on the Providence Home website that she is “all in” at the ministry. Abbott joined the board in 2019 soon after the death of her father, John Erickson, who had a big influence on her life.

Manuel Espina has served as an ambassador — in more ways than one.

For over two years Espina served



Missions Scholar Brings Decades of Experience to the Classroom

A Columbia International University alumnus with 30 years of missionary experience in Nigeria, will return to his alma mater as international missions scholar in residence in the 2021-22 school year.

Dr. Danny McCain, the 2020 Alumnus of the Year from the Class of 1974, founded the world renowned International Institute for Christian Studies (now Global Scholars), initiating Christian studies projects, and recruiting and equipping Christian academics in public universities internationally. He is also a professor of Biblical Theology at the University of Jos Nigeria.

McCain will teach two CIU courses each semester in Theology or Bible. His theology course is patterned after the model taught by the late professor Buck Hatch who served CIU as teacher, counselor and administrator for almost 40 years. *(See page 31.)* McCain will also mentor Bible, theology and missions students, and connect CIU to Africa by recruiting international students. McCain holds a master's degree in Bible from

James is NAIA National Champion for Second Consecutive Year

CIU sophomore John Hunter James took first place in the men's pole vault at the NAIA Indoor Track & Field National Championships for the second consecutive year. He cleared 5.20 meters at Nationals in 2020, and then moved to even higher heights as he vaulted 5.25 meters in 2021. The mark is the highest cleared by anyone at the NAIA Indoor National Track & Field Championships since 2010.

"I am nothing but thankful to have the chance to honor God," said James.

With his top finish, James notches NAIA All-American status for the second time in his CIU career. He is the only athlete from any sport in CIU history to be named an NAIA All-American. ■

Well-Known Football Coach Named to Lead Ben Lippen Program



A name familiar to football fans in South Carolina is the new head football coach at Ben Lippen High School.

Stephen Cagle brings with him a wealth of football knowledge and experience, along with a passion for connecting with student athletes and helping them grow as both football players as well as young men. He will also serve as football program director.

He is the son of Coach Mark Cagle, who is known in the Columbia area for his success at three Columbia area high schools. The younger Cagle was breaking down game film at the age of 13 with his father. Learning the intricacies of football with his dad helped prepare him for his own impressive football career.

Stephen Cagle played college football for five years for the Charleston Southern Buccaneers as a quarterback before moving to tight end. The Bucs were 40-16 during Cagle's time there. While attending Charleston Southern, he earned his bachelor's degree in physical education, and a master's degree in education.

Cagle comes to the Falcons from White Knoll High School in Lexington County where he was an assistant coach for four years.

Cagle says he and his family are excited to join the Ben Lippen family adding that he wants to establish "a consistent championship culture that honors Jesus Christ."

Ben Lippen Athletic Director Shannon Glenn calls Cagle "the brightest young football coach in the state."

"His knowledge of the game, passion for kids, love for Christ and commitment to excellence make him the perfect addition to our Athletic Department," Glenn added.

Cagle replaces James Reynolds, who spent three seasons with the Falcons. ■

Ben Lippen Wins First Wrestling State Title in a Thriller

It all came down to the final match of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) 3A wrestling championship in February. Ben Lippen senior J.C. Green entered the mat needing a pin in the heavyweight division with his team trailing cross-town rival Hammond.

Green delivered as he pinned Hammond's Henry Cole with 46.2 seconds left in the final period to give Falcons a 41-38 win over the Skyhawks for the school's first wrestling state championship.

The State newspaper in Columbia reported Ben Lippen coach Burt Medlin was in tears following the match as his players lifted him and Green up on their shoulders in celebration. ■

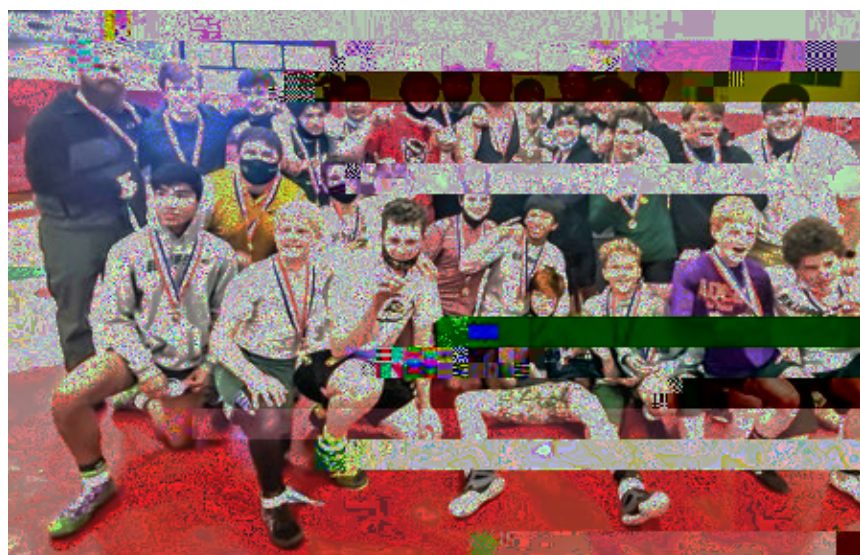
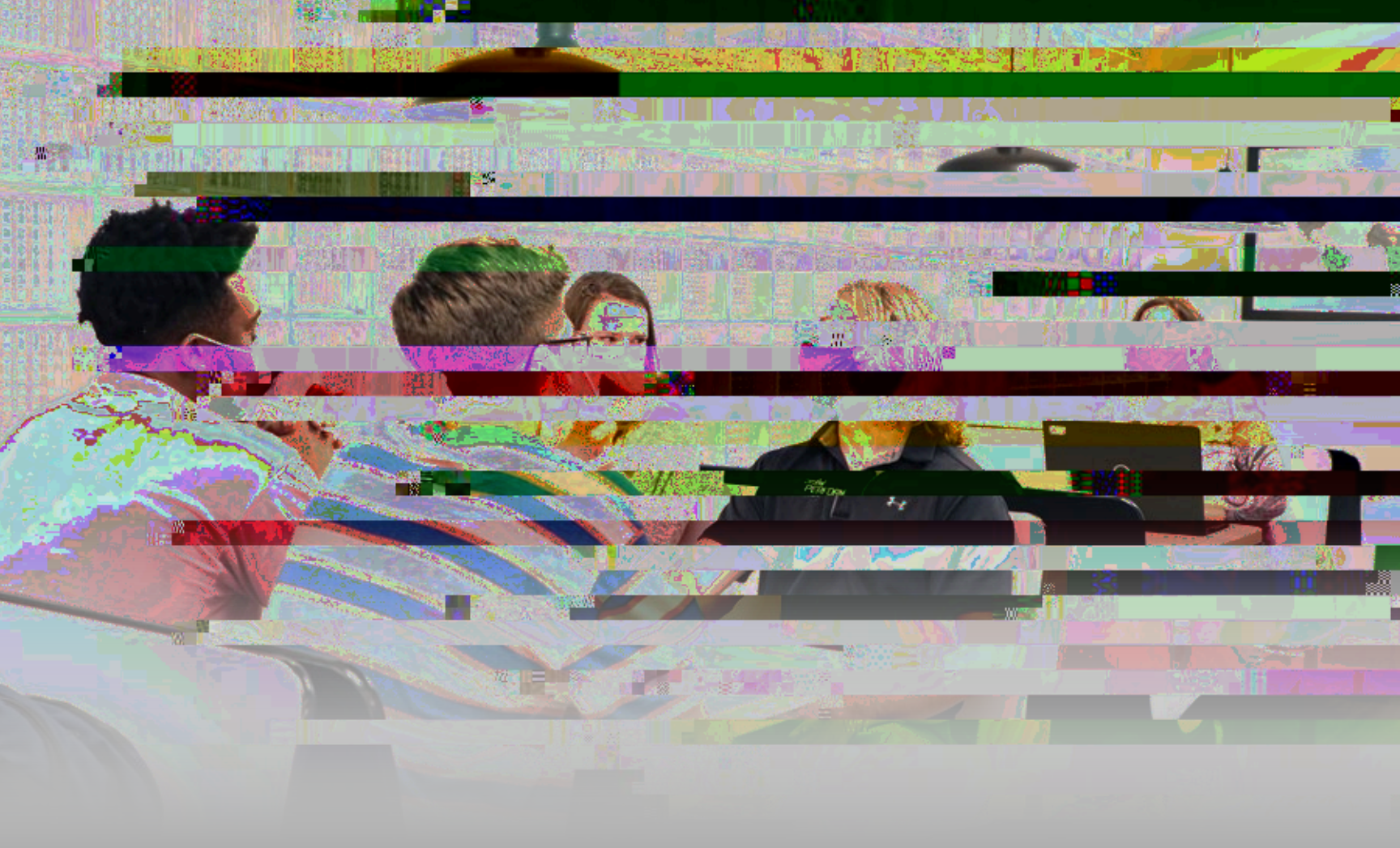


Photo by Ashley Medlin



'aYáUzq'ö tæO'qO – – O'Q q'OqUO- Ê

The dilemma was triggered by dramatic changes in graduate-level higher education in America in the last few decades. While earning a master's degree in the past often meant moving to a campus for full-time study, today's students are more likely to be juggling jobs and families while shoehorning part-time graduate education into busy schedules. Seminaries and graduate schools adapted by offering once-a-week, intensive, and online courses, and even totally online degrees. The net result

How “The Merry Room” Got Its Name

The Schuster building was built to accommodate the growth of Columbia Biblical Seminary and the College of Education.



“That Little Bible College in the South”

Jerry S. and Marvin S. are two of the Columbus, Georgia business leaders behind the creation and continued funding of the Bertha Smith Memorial Scholarship, which has blessed Columbia International University students for a decade with much needed scholarship support.

Jerry and Marvin first met Miss Bertha at their home church many years ago. She was a dynamo, a soul-winner, and an amazing woman of God right up until her death in 1988 at nearly 100.

Several years ago, they created the scholarship in her honor to help teach others about her legacy. They chose to create this scholarship at CIU because Miss Bertha was passionate about the “little Bible college in the south that was sending preachers all over the world.” In fact, they shared, “She talked about CIU all the time.”

Who is Bertha Smith?

She is the unknown successor of the more famous, early missionary to China, Lottie Moon. Moon served in China from 1873 – 1912. When she returned from China after 40 years, Smith was sent there by the Foreign Mission Board

(now IMB) and served in China and Taiwan for 42 years (1917 – 1958).

Miss Bertha was a simple and straightforward woman, born and raised near Cowpens, South Carolina. She felt a call to missions in college and a call to be single in this pursuit. She shares her struggles in making this decision in her biography, “Miss Bertha, Woman of Revival” by Lewis Drummond. After weeping and struggling for hours in prayer over the tension of leaving home, possibly for years, it came to her that Christ left the glories of heaven for 33 years and died a shameful death for her. “x m1iues, Lord, if that is what you want,” she answered. She shares that at that moment, “A joy filled my heart which has never left me.”

Miss Bertha lived out the victorious Christian life. When she felt a pain or a need, she surrendered it to Christ in faith that He would care for it. When she felt the loneliness of her singleness and missed having children of her own,

she asked God to give her spiritual children in their place. God mightily answered this request. She was a soul-winning machine. Through her work thousands came to know Christ.

In fact, God put her at the center of the Shantung revival of 1927 which started in the port city of Chefoo, China. That revival planted the seeds for the explosion of the Chinese Christian church which is still growing and moving across that country.

Jerry believes that knowing about people like Bertha Smith makes us all stronger. He added that “knowing her as I did for 15 years, hearing her speak and talk to me has made my life better.” Through their scholarship, Jerry and Marvin seek not only to honor her legacy, but also to assist others who desire CIU’s unique education and equipping to impact the world for Christ.





Ellie's Generosity Overflowed

Ellie was a learner, a servant, a pioneer, and a steward. She first came to Columbia International University in 1954 for her master's degree but stayed on to serve as administrative assistant to CIU's second president G. Allen Fleece.

God had a calling on her life, and Ellie left CIU to pioneer as a single missionary to Laos for 18 years. When she returned home, she became a prayer warrior, missions committee member, and treasurer in her home church in New York and worked as a medical assistant to "give more generously to God's work."

Ellie cared for her family and CIU in her estate plan. Through a lead trust, she provided a steady income for her brother after her death. When he died, the remainder of Ellie's estate was gifted to CIU.

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus says, "Give and it will be given to you, pressed down and overflowing," (6:38). Ellie's generosity overflowed! She is remembered with love by all who knew her. Praise God for this faithful steward! ■

You can make a difference.



PRAY:

ciu.edu/prayer

GIVE:

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

"It was the best time of my life"

Columbia International University is a self-confessed "lifelong learner and discipler," she earned her Master of Divinity in Educational Ministry from Columbia Biblical

Margo Wright Williams
Author of the penetrating and

When asked why she came to CIU, Williams said that the Holy Spirit nudged her as she commuted past the campus each morning, telling her to pay attention to the sign because someday she would be in school there.

When the time came for her to pursue a master's degree in response to God's call on her life, and to transition from a business career to ministry, Williams enrolled at CIU.

She recalls that driving up and down International Boulevard each day "was the best time of my life," and credits her degree with equipping her for her current work/ministry of

teaching business to seventh and eighth graders at Dutch Fork Middle School in Irmo, South Carolina.

Even though she grew up in a small church in rural South Carolina, Williams dreamed of going to foreign lands. This dream came back into focus at CIU where she worked with one of her favorite instructors, Intercultural Studies Professor Dr. David Cashin. Eventually, she formed her own mission team and took a group to Uganda in 2019. She has also made trips to the Dalit people in India and to South Sudan.

Williams has taught a weekly Bible study class to female inmates in

the South Carolina Department of Corrections. In fact, it was her work with the prison inmates that sparked her recently published book, "Petty Pain: Understanding the Assignment of Offense," a timely exploration of the destructive impact of anger in one's life and the power of forgiveness.

Williams is working on another writing project — a doctoral dissertation. Upon completion, she is hoping to expand her ministry and discipling roles as she follows God's call on her life. ■

*By Peggy Lee Manoogian
Director of Alumni Relations*

ALUMNI



ALICIA YODER (11)



CIU ALUMNI

CIU's Homecoming/Family & Friends Weekend 2020 was a huge success! At a time when most schools cancelled Homecoming, CIU had over 600 alumni, students and friends participate in on-campus and virtual celebrations. In fact, alumni joined the virtual celebrations from over 25 countries and 31 states.

While adhering to safety procedures and social distancing, hundreds of people attended the Alumni of the Year Chapel on Friday morning in person and via livestream. Dr. Danny McCain, founder of Global Scholars, was honored. He encouraged students and alumni to follow their ideas, dreams and passions and not to be afraid of failure.

Friday night, CIU's Music Showcase was a big hit – with students and alumni listening in person and online. CIU's amazing Ambassador Choir gave a wonderful performance, followed by pie and fireworks on The Quad.

Over 200 alumni and students connected at the 2nd Annual Global Networking Event on Saturday morning, a worldwide experience with faculty and staff hosting 30 separate Zoom meetings. One participant said, *"It ended up being just a super encouraging time of hearing how others were serving in various ministry capacities and of praying for one another!"*

Save the Date!

CIU HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND 2021

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, November 4-6



2021 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
Chaplain (Col.) Larry Dabeck ('89, '98)

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION





ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

Jonathan Slater ('10) lives in Aiken, South Carolina with his wife and children and works remotely as a business coach for EMyth Worldwide.

✉ jonathan.david.slater@gmail.com

13 Blake ('16) and Kathy McDaniel live in Texas where Blake serves with the Navigators as Eurasia mobilization director and church mobilization director.

✉ blakemcdaniel@austin.rr.com

Clarke McGriff ('19) retired in 2011 as an army chaplain after serving for 30 years. He is now the pastor of Green Hill Baptist Church in Lugoff, South Carolina.

✉ clarkemcgriff@gmail.com

14 Andreas ('18) and Anna Bickert Andreas serves with the German Mission Organization "SRS e.V." In his

ministry, he is involved with three Christian sports clubs, 100 churches, and 1,300 athletes.

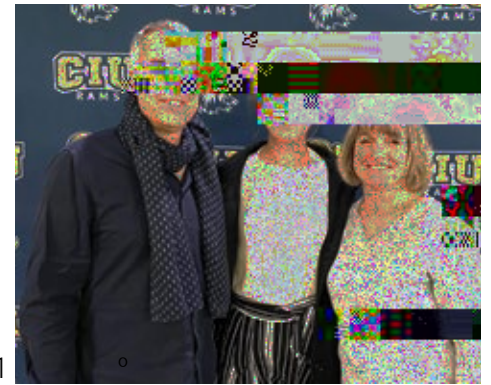
✉ abickert@srsonline.de

Jordan Dill ('19) is a hospice chaplain at Encompass Health in Augusta, Georgia. He has been recently ordained and endorsed for chaplaincy by the Full Gospel Churches, one step closer to active duty Navy chaplain. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two boys.

✉ jwdill28@gmail.com

The Cross Family – a legacy of CIU alumni – Walter ('38), William ('40), Howard ('46), David ('64), B 6

A



In Memoriam

Mildred Johnson ('41)
Esther Wimmer Brouwer ('47)
Doris Lawson Kraus ('50)
Helen Nuckles Hunt ('52)
Eleanor Michel Iwan ('52)
Anne McQuilkin Priest ('52)
Robert 'Bob' Gray ('53)
Barbara Rumsey ('53)
Kathleen Crockett Ward ('53)
Grace Thorpe ('54)
Joan Marshall Dinkins ('55)
Rebecca Lennon Mahler Parent ('55)

Lois Rathbun Taylor ('55)
Joy Berends ('56)
Curtis Dean ('56)
Bobby Phillips ('57)
Hazel B. Chapin ('58)
Brenty Nicely ('59)
Scott Nyborg ('59)
Victor Wilkinson ('59)
Joseph Essington ('60)
Kenneth Mick ('60)
Carol Trent ('60)
Lois Hummon ('61)

Be Ready: Our Hope is in Jesus

Erected at Ground Zero of the 9-11 terrorist attack, is a memorial to a moment in time few of us will ever forget. It depicts three firemen raising the U.S. flag hours after the attack.

In New Jersey, an eight-foot Firemen's Monument features a fireman holding in his left arm, a small girl in her nightdress, and a lantern in his right arm.

In an earlier era, Currier and Ives honored firefighters with a lithograph.

Dr. Mark A. Smith

