



Thursday, September 14th, 2017

To the students of our Messiah College community,

We as student leaders of our campus acknowledge and stand in solidarity with those who may be feeling hurt by or fearful for the uncertainties following the recent announcement to “wind down” Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

We understand that our perspectives on immigration policy may be different. Let this not keep us from the greater matter of honoring the image of God within each person. May this reminder guide our hearts, thoughts, and words to love, forsaking all else.

As such, we do not condone any sentiments of unbelonging that were explicitly or implicitly expressed to the 800,000 individuals whose home we share. Rather, we cling to our commitment—as an institution that bears the name of God—to follow the life of love He charged us to live, giving His own life as an example. We rebuke the assumptions of violence, crime, and threat placed onto people based on their beliefs, culture, or country of origin, heeding to the Words of God that speak, “The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself...” (Leviticus 19:33).

Our prayer for you and with you is that as we all move with love, we all will do so boldly. We can love boldly by reaching out with words and actions of compassion to Dreamers whose lives may be drastically changed in the next 6 months. We can love boldly by writing letters to our members of Congress advocating for compassionate actions toward our neighbors, friends, and family.

We believe that as a Christian academic community, we must be at the forefront of this demand for shalom. This is our responsibility. We commit to upholding this charge—to love as we love ourselves—through both our words and our deeds, welcoming both critique and restoration in instances that we fail.

With love and urgency,
Student Body President’s Cabinet 2017-2018

Jamie-Claire Chau
Student Body President

Megan Eaton
Student Body Vice President

Kelly Hopkins
VP of Diversity Affairs

Bryton Baum
*Chair of the
Student Review Board*

Nathan Thorne
VP of Communications

Katie Voorhies
VP of Finance

Brian Gilroy
VP of Organizations

Let's be together in these upcoming events to move as one in Christ-like love:

Town Hall hosted by Human Rights Awareness—*Monday, Sept. 18th, 5-6pm, Parmer Cinema*

Write to your Congressperson hosted by Multicultural Council—*Tuesday, Sept. 19th, 5-8pm, Boyer 336*