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It is hard to believe the Spring semester is already in full swing! The Eden community welcomed 9 new seminarians at a virtual "Blessing of the Students" last week. New and enhanced non-degree programs open to all people of faith continue to be created and enhanced. For over 170 years Eden leaders have moved in public spaces to bear the truth of the gospel, advocate for the most vulnerable and hold those in power accountable. We welcome you to the Eden community and are grateful for your engagement with us and for your support. See you soon at an upcoming event!

There is still time to register for this year's Bracke Public Lecture on Ministry, to be held tomorrow, Friday, February 5, from 10:15-11:30 CT. The lecture, themed "*Leader as Midwife-Guiding What is New into Being*," highlights Rev. Deon Johnson, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri. Worship begins at 10:15 CT, immediately followed by lecture and Q&A with Bishop Johnson. [Click here for details and registration](#) and receive a link for this highly anticipated virtual lecture!

Don't forget to register for Eden's next *Alumni Virtual Gathering*, following the Bracke lecture, tomorrow, February 5 from 11:30-1:00 CT! Join us as we share reflections of Bishop Johnson's challenge. The gathering is open to the Eden community. [Register here to join the conversation](#) as we kick off Black History Month with this special event.

If you are discerning what it means to be part of the Progressive Christian Movement, discerning a call to ministry or just want to explore theological

education, don't miss the "Come and See Virtual Eden" event on Friday, February 12, 12:00-1:45 CT. Join the Admissions and Financial Aid Team, Professors, Degree Program Chairs and others as we present an overview of Degree Programs, Admissions process, Financial Aid and Eden's Community! [Click here to register now.](#)

Eden's Walker Leadership Institute's "Insights For Leadership in Challenging Times," introduces Shane Claiborne, Founder of The Simple Way & Co-Founder of Red Letter Christians, in a "Conversation on Jesus and Justice."

Director of *The Walker Leadership Institute*, Rev. Steve Lawler and Shane discuss topics including *Black Lives Matter, Race, Proximity* and "*a better ethic of life.*" [Click here to listen now.](#)

****New** We are happy to announce Eden archives' presentation of "This Week in Eden History!"** The [archives at Eden Theological Seminary](#) collects, preserves and makes available the historical records and manuscripts related to Eden Theological Seminary and the Evangelical Synod of North America, a predecessor denomination of the [United Church of Christ](#). This week, the spotlight is on Jacob Gass, born February 6, 1866. Gass, founder of the Evangelical Synod of North America's Theological Seminary in Raipur, India, and manager of the mission's Raipur Leper Hospital and Asylum from 1893-1920, was honored by the British government and by Eden with a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1921. [Click here to read the story.](#)

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