



### **Stay up to date with what's happening at Eden!**

Grace and peace with be you all. Following the tragic Texas school shooting on May 24th, Eden's Distinguished Visiting Professor of New Testament and Womanist Hermeneutics, Rev. Dr. Raquel S. Lettsome reflects on Ezra 4 and posts the following:

*"I have nothing new. I can only add my sorrow, outrage, and incredulity. I went back to a text I was introduced to while a PhD student. Here the author wrestles with understanding why the heart is evil. And sometimes I have to sit with him, pondering verse 12 until I can move past all my "why's" and hope in my "Who" as I figure out my "what and "how.""*

The Eden community joins Dr. Lettsome in her reflection and prayer as it leads to more action.

It is a busy season at Eden with graduation and new summer courses and programs. Don't miss a special offer for Eden Newsletter readers and congregations to attend a Storytelling performance and workshop. More below...

Congratulations to the graduates of Eden's class of 2022! Last week the seminary's 172nd Commencement ceremony took place on campus. Friends and family joined Eden graduates, faculty and staff in the Wehrli Chapel for an energetic and inspiring ceremony. Keynote speaker, Congresswoman Cori Bush, challenged all to follow their call, wherever it

takes them. An outdoor reception followed in the "Weiss Quadrangle."  
[Watch the entire service or click on highlights here.](#)

Eden is glad to welcome Dana McNamara, as the Interim Director of Admissions. As the Interim Director, Dana will engage students who are feeling God's call on their life to expand their theological training, leadership, and knowledge of the Progressive Christian Movement. Contact Dana at [admissions@eden.edu](mailto:admissions@eden.edu) to refer a student or explore educational opportunities for yourself!  
[Read more about Dana's journey here.](#)

Nationally known storyteller, Valerie Tutson and songwriter, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan at Eden – June 4<sup>th</sup>. *Special offer for Eden newsletter readers and congregations seeking liturgical, music, education and personal resources for addressing grief, loss and joy in the midst of pandemic and tragedies. "Story Matters: Turning from Trials Toward Joy."* [Register for a free performance](#) on June 4th and a [discounted full day workshop](#), also on June 4th. If you are a Minister, Lay Leader, Deacon, Christian Education Director or Spiritual Seeker, this day of workshop and performance is for you. [Visit Eden's Upcoming Events page to learn more.](#)

*Eden Theological Seminary and the Gamaliel Race and Power Institute have entered a partnership named the "Gamaliel Race and Power Institute at Eden Theological Seminary."* The relationship is rooted in a shared vision for and commitment to a future in which people of color are full participants in this nation, sitting at tables of power and actively engaged in democratic practice. [Click here to find out how you can participate in a one day workshop on May 31st.](#)

Please join us for the next "Coffee with the President," on June 9th at 9:00 am CT. All are welcome to this informal conversation. Grab a cup of coffee and join this virtual gathering to re-connect with classmates, the Eden community of alumni, and friends across geography and generations. [Click here for details and registration.](#)

Interested in the rich history of Eden? "*This Week in Eden History*," presented by the [Archives at Eden](#), spotlights influential people, events and stories from the past. Otto Dibelius was born on May 15, 1880, in Berlin. Dibelius was one of the few German Church leaders with long-term

connections to the Evangelical Synod. [Click here to read more of this fascinating story!](#)

Leaving a meaningful legacy for you and your family while securing the future of Eden's mission does not require great wealth-just great vision! [Visit our website to find out about Heritage Society Member opportunities](#) or contact us at [advancement@eden.edu](mailto:advancement@eden.edu) for more information.

---



---

*Copyright © 2022 Eden Theological Seminary, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

