



# MORAVIAN COLLEGE

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The conditions of poverty seem to have been a part of life since the earliest recordings of the human story. In recent years, however, these ongoing conditions has been exacerbated by the dynamics of wealth being concentrated in the hands of a very few people and nations to the direct disadvantage of the very many who are poor. As a president of a college and a seminary rooted in the great traditions of Christianity, critical analysis, and preparation for lives of service, I believe that it is essential for me and the school I serve to be aligned with and committed to those agencies which address the crushing reality of poverty and inequality. The President's Pledge is such an agency. The sacred Scriptures of Judaism and Christianity call upon us to act with justice and compassion. The prayers of the Church call upon us to remember the poor. The analytical traditions of Western thought call upon to discover the causes of poverty and inequality and to recommend reasonable and just responses. The mission of the college community of which I am a part calls for the preparation of men and women for "leadership and service for the common good." Poverty and inequality are realities of life. Never the less, we are called, I believe, to respond to this reality with reason, with compassion, with justice and to do so in community with others.



Christopher M. Thomforde  
President

