

# Beyond Brokenness - Building Beloved Community

## 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 5 are nothing short of revolutionary. He invites us to see the world no longer "from a human point of view," but through the lens of God's new creation. In Christ, the old order—built on rivalry, suspicion, and estrangement—has been decisively overturned. This is not a private, inward experience alone; it is the launching of a new social reality in which divisions are healed and relationships restored. God's reconciling work is about transforming the way we live together here and now. To belong to Christ is to belong to this ministry—a vocation in which our every word, every action, is shaped by the message that God has already made peace with the world through Jesus.*

*And because God has entrusted to us this ministry of reconciliation, the Church becomes the main organization of God's new creation in a fragmented world. We are living signs that a different way is possible, and indeed, is already underway. In a culture built on lines and labels, we step beyond boundaries to form alliances built on the teachings of Jesus Christ. Our special offering today is not just a donation—it is a declaration that we stand with God's reconciling mission, confident that the same love that raised Jesus from the dead can raise up a new creation among us.*

*The Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering is received each year in congregations on the last Sunday in September and the first Sunday in October (in solidarity with World Communion Sunday). Half of each gift remains in the region from which it is sent.*

*Funds generated by this special emphasis are used throughout the year to provide education, programming, and service through grants to:*

- 1. to General Ministries working across the whole church to move beyond brokenness.*
- 2. to congregations, camps, and conferences that receive a grant from their region that are actively developing and implementing programs that dismantle racism and build beloved community.*

*This year, you're invited to make a gift to the 2025 Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering and to also consider making a gift to the **April Johnson** named fund in tribute to her recently culminated 17 years of faithful service as Executive Director of Reconciliation Ministry. With your vital support, leaders and congregations are being equipped to witness to God's reconciling love in this time and this season.*

**Thank you for being an ambassador of reconciliation through your generosity.**



[www.reconciliationministry.org](http://www.reconciliationministry.org)

