JUNE 2020-DECEMBER 2022

### EQUIPPING THE BODY TO LIVE AS FAMILY



IMPACT REPORT

**PREPARED BY** 

MONIQUE DUSON



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

When we first started the Center for Biblical Unity (CFBU), I was told that running an organization is a lot like raising a child. In the beginning years, there would be a lot to learn, sleep would be scarce, and anytime I was awake I'd be thinking about or doing something for my baby. That was certainly the case with CFBU!

The Center for Biblical Unity is no longer a baby organization. In a few months, we'll be three years old, and we're thriving through our toddler years. We're growing, accomplishing new milestones, and continually strengthening the way we deliver the truth of Scripture: there is truly one human race, believers are called to be one new people, and we serve one Savior.

For any parent who's endured the joyous pandemonium of raising a toddler, you know that toddlers are fun and busy, and that you'd better keep your eye on them. That is exactly where we are as a ministry. Our second year has been – fun and busy ... yet it has required me to keep a diligent eye on matters I wouldn't have thought about when we first began.

2022 has been a big year for The Center for Biblical Unity. From traveling to speaking, writing, and creating podcast content, CFBU has been able to impact lives all over the world. and everywhere we went, we declared the Scriptural reality: WE ARE FAMILY!

Family, the Center for Biblical Unity continues to grow because of your faithful giving. This ministry isn't Krista and my ministry alone. The Center for Biblical Unity belongs to God and to the family. Your giving makes this ministry possible. Thank you!

I hope you enjoy reading about CFBU's accomplishments. Thank you for sowing into The Center for Biblical Unity.

#### Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing

### MISSION

ONE RACE "From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth." (Acts 17:26)

**ONE PEOPLE** "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." (Eph. 2:14)

ONE SAVIOR "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

### **VALUES**

IMAGO DEI All humans are created in the image of God. This is the foundation for the dignity, value, and worth of all humans. We believe that God's justice standards require equal treatment to members of all races.



### **VISION**

#### The Center for Biblical Unity was established to:

- be a refuge for those people who have been injured by Critical Race Theory
- equip Christians to think biblically about race, unity, and justice
- speak out against secular frameworks that lead to a false hope for unity in the Body of Christ
- pursue unity that is founded on our identity in Christ
- celebrate those aspects of all cultures that are in harmony with Scripture
- teach Christians to exegete their community and to identify needs, sinful human structures, and solutions according to God's standards of justice
- advocate for out-of-the-box ideas that will build a foundation for lasting change and lift people out of poverty and transform communities according to God's standards of justice.

We will not exchange partiality against one racial group for partiality against another one. **SCRIPTURE** Scripture has everything needed for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). If we want to know how God wants us to live justly, then we need to look at God's Word first, even when we are discussing racial unity and biblical justice.

**UNITY** The foundation for racial unity comes through God's initiative in redemption history. God has made a provision so that all humans can enter into unity with the Triune God and with their fellow image bearers through the blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**REPENTANCE**, **FORGIVENESS AND GRACE** A distinctly Christian path to racial unity must include God's tools for coping with living in a fallen world. We believe that there must be a willingness for all participants to engage in the work of repentance, forgiveness, and grace.



2020-2021

## BUILDING ON A FAST START

2020 was a big year. The culture endured COVID, the on-camera deaths of George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery, the mainstreaming of BLM and Social Justice Warriors, and chronic riots.

And God launched the Center for Biblical Unity. In April of 2020, we had 39 followers on Facebook. By June, we had over 8000. It was an exciting, exhausting, and overwhelming season.

Because of the support of people sharing our content, volunteering their time, and donating their money, we have been able to become a lasting voice for a biblical vision of race, justice and unity. Thanks be to God!

We may have come about in a flash, but we are in it for the long haul. This is why we have spent the last 2 years building critical infrastructure. Here are some highlights of what we accomplished:

#### 2020

- Recruited 3 founding Board members
- Received 501c3 status
- Launched a monthly partner donor program
- Spoke out against CRT and BLM on over 30 podcasts

#### 2021

- Monique & Krista came on board full-time!
- Launched the Academic Advisory Council
- Released the "Reconciled" curriculum
- Developed the "Theology of Race and Ethnicity" class

# LAYING THE FOUNDATION



## 2022 Year in Review INCOME

Our main source of income is donations (recurring and one-time gifts). One third of Monique and Krista's speaking fees are invested back into the ministry. Book club fees are donated directly to our discussion leaders and their ministries.

Giving Tuesday 2021 was an especially big day for us. We raised \$30,000+ in one day! This enabled us to fund one year of our office lease, hire a part-time administrative assistant, and bring the Reconciled curriculum to print.





## RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

One of the major milestones early in the ministry was the recruitment of Linda Cicino, an HR specialist, who helped us begin to build a professional process to recruit what has become a small army of volunteers. This included building an application, interviewing, and on-boarding process.

As of October 2022, we have recruited 50+ volunteers! That's a LOT of applications to review, interviews to conduct, and people to manage!

Here are just a sample of some of the workers the Lord has sent:

- Media Producer
- Administrative Assistants
- Virtual Book Group Coordinator + leaders
- Facebook Group moderators
- Podcast Production Assistant + chat moderators
- Graphic designers
- Bookkeeper
- Accountant
- Social Media Coordinator
- Website Assistant
- Editors

We could not do this ministry without these brothers and sisters! God has sent us some amazingly talented partners in ministry.

#### 2022 Year in Review

### REACHING THE FAMILY

Monique's perspective on race and justice continues to be in high demand for speaking and media appearances. The addition of an administrative assistant for the second half of the year has made this process much smoother.



- Spoke at 16 in-person conferences and/or trainings for over 18,000 people, including Wilberforce Weekend through the Colson Center, Reality Conference through Stand to Reason, and Summit Ministries Student Conference
- Appeared on more than 25 podcasts, reaching almost 100,000 people
- Launched a new podcast ("Off Code") where we discuss key issues in the African American community





## BUILDING FOR THE FAMILY

#### 2022 was a year marked by expansion.

To ensure that we expand responsibly, we took a few modest steps this year to build out our infrastructure. This will help us make sure we can accommodate the growth the Lord has waiting for us in 2023:

- Leased a small office space
- Hired a part-time administrative assistant
- Hired a part-time social media manager
- Added 3 new members to our Academic Advisory Council

# EQUIPPING THE FAMILY

A big part of our ministry time is spent developing new resources. We see education as a cornerstone of transforming the narrative about race and justice over the long haul.

This year CFBU has equipped our others by:

- Released the "Reconciled" curriculum into a printed format. (Now available on <u>Amazon!</u>)
- Generated 20 new **blog** posts
- Conducted 10 book groups on race and justice.
- Developed 3 new online courses to train future Christian leaders in biblical worldview thinking.
- Launched a Facebook support group for "unwoke" homeschooling parents
- Wrote and field tested a new training that addresses the issue of Queer Theory



# CHANGED LIVES FAMILY STORIES

As 2020 was a difficult time for many, CFBU provided a steadying, biblically faithful presence through the social unrest and riots. We have started to document those stories on video. Visit our YouTube channel and look for the playlist entitled, Family Stories. We hope you find them encouraging!

Take a moment to watch Kathy and Novella's story <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/here">here</a>:





Would you like to share your story? Let us know! Email us at info@centerforbiblicalunity.com.