ALFRED STREET BAPTIST CHURCH FOUNDATION Proposed scholarships for lynching victims in Alexandria

(excerpted from 2/9/2023 email from Dr. Alton Wallace)

Thank you for inviting us to Goodwin House in January. We are always open to coming over again!

We briefly discussed a plan to create a scholarship program to honor two lynching victims from the late 1880s that the City of Alexandria recently acknowledged. This is an update.

During the past month, we have worked to publicize and generate interest in these scholarships. We met with a group at Old Presbyterian Meeting House along with multiple individuals from the historical and archeological communities in Old Town. We will meet with Christ Church soon. Most groups have been receptive to the idea. Interestingly, our very first donation has come from a resident of Goodwin House, following our visit.

We plan to continue meeting with and briefing people/groups on the idea and our plans, and then begin actual public solicitations of funds online, via our website, FACEBOOK, and small receptions in late March. A second round of appeals would also be made in April. Our actual awards would be made in June based on the total amount we have raised by 1 May.

If there are people you know who might be interested, please identify them to us, and we will meet with them individually or collectively. Our fear is that the tremendous outpouring of goodwill created by the Mayor's Proclamation and the trip to Alabama may be forgotten, if we don't keep the names of the victims in the forefront. We feel that college scholarships are something that can be both "Local and Lasting"!

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