

Thankful for you

Dear <NAME>,

As we enter this season of gratitude, I find myself reflecting on what it means to be part of a community that believes in the power of education to transform lives. Amid unprecedented challenges facing higher education – from shifting demographics to financial pressures and public questioning of the value of a college degree – Cedar Crest College continues to remain steadfast in its mission and purpose. And that is because of you.

Since our founding in 1867, Cedar Crest has existed for one simple yet radical reason: to open doors that had been closed. At a time when women were denied the opportunity to earn a degree, this College was created to make the bold declaration that education should not be limited by gender, circumstance, or expectation. More than 150 years later, we are still living that promise.

Today, we serve first-generation students, adult learners, women in STEM, and students from diverse backgrounds who continue to defy barriers, challenge inequity, and rewrite the future for themselves, their families, and their communities. Whether in the classroom, in the lab, on the field, overseas through the Sophomore Expedition, or in hands-on learning environments like the new Joni Berner, Esq. '75 Expert Witness Training Center, Cedar Crest students are not just earning degrees – they are discovering who they are capable of becoming.

None of this happens without you.

Your generosity ensures that a Cedar Crest education remains personal, powerful, and accessible. You help create the scholarships that open the door, the spaces where learning unfolds, and the opportunities that give our students the confidence to step into the world prepared not only to succeed, but to lead.

As we give thanks this season, please know how deeply grateful we are for your partnership. You are part of every achievement, every milestone, every student who crosses the Commencement stage and steps forward with purpose.

With sincere appreciation,

Elizabeth M. Meade

Dr. Elizabeth M. Meade
President, Cedar Crest College