

## Life CHANGERS

Alumni changing the world  
one life at a time  
#MACUAlumni



*Mercy Partners empowers native evangelists in conflict zones. Over 324 baptisms have resulted from working with them as co-laborers.*

PHOTO BY THOMAS KILIAN III

## MERCYPARTNERS®

*AS DISCIPLES we find ourselves on “ground zero” to address the need of mercy in lives around us. While the world shouts “You don’t make a difference,” the good news of Jesus proclaims, “You are changing the world, one life at a time!”*

— TOM '94 AND SANDIE EX'94 KILIAN ARE THE  
FOUNDERS OF MERCY PARTNERS®

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# #MACUAlumni



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT Katie Croft '06 made it official at graduation: #MACUAlumni is our hashtag. Please use this hashtag in all your social media. Let's connect.

Serving with President Croft are Rob Yancey '03, President-elect; Sissy Giffin '94, Secretary; and Helen Scott '07, Treasurer. I am excited about this impressive group of leaders. There are great things happening with our Alumni Association. We are thankful that MACU has a rich legacy of loyal, positive, and supportive alumni.

In May President Croft spoke with our Board of Trustees about the Alumni Life Cycle. There is a ripple effect that repeats itself when alumni influence others to join the Mid-Atlantic family. Hardly a month goes by without a graduate visiting campus with a prospective student or two in tow. Alumni often stop by my office and reminisce, sometimes smiling about a rule created because of something they did while a student. They chat with beloved professors that impacted their lives. Their experiences lead them to influence others to attend because they are grateful for being an alumnus of Mid-Atlantic. Go, Mustangs!

This Alumni Life Cycle starts with **Deciding**. For those planning to attend college there is a decisive moment when they must choose their college. Alumni are often an important part of that process. Prospective students read about the important roles our graduates play in the marketplace and the church as they influence the culture for Christ. Many get

to meet extraordinary Christian leaders that graduated from MACU in their communities or at an event on campus. Many offer their Alumni Scholarship<sup>1</sup> to a student to help make a Christ-centered education at MACU a reality. Some hear one of our graduates preach or speak at an event and are influenced to attend. All of these things contribute to a student's making a decision to attend MACU.

The second stage of the Alumni Life Cycle is **Student**. Students become part of a family. MACU becomes a place to call home. They discover that the family lives and serves in 48 states and 25 countries. They study. They play. They build lifelong friendships. Their lives are forever changed when the Bible is at the core of all academic programs and they earn a degree from a Christian world view. As students they discover that all are ministers, and they will discern whether God is calling them to minister in the church or in the marketplace.

Graduation is a significant event in the Alumni Life Cycle. Now they feel like **Alumni**. Friendships built as students follow them wherever they go. They stay connected with faculty and staff for feedback, prayer, and career or ministry advice. They return to campus for special events and serve as ambassadors for the university. Alumni begin to give \$1, \$3, or more a day. Now they understand that while college was expensive, it was through the generosity of others that they received scholarships, which lessened the expense and helped them.

With grateful hearts they give to help others. They encourage their children, grandchildren, and others to attend MACU. Many will start a scholarship fund in the Mid-Atlantic Foundation. And when their hair begins to turn gray, they remember MACU in their estate plans. Why? Because they love their alma mater.

Indeed some choose a different path or only observe and perhaps even complain. But the vast majority that participate and engage will find great joy and fulfillment, and this Alumni Life Cycle will be repeated over and over.

I was the son of a truck driver, the son of a share cropper. Child number six, I was the first in my family to go to college straight from high school. I love the faith-based college I graduated from. I am an engaged alumnus and raging fan of Point University. I am also a raging fan of Mid-Atlantic, where I have been privileged to serve for 10 years. I understand and live the healthy Alumni Life Cycle.

Please join me in using #MACUAlumni. Let's continue to perpetuate a positive Alumni Life Cycle. Go, Mustangs!



Serving those who serve,

*Clay*

D. Clay Perkins, Ph.D.  
President

<sup>1</sup> If you do not know about "Your Opinion Matters," please contact our Admissions Department. Every graduate can offer an Alumni Scholarship just upon their recommendation.



Mike Moulden receives his degree May 14.

## THINKING BIBLICALLY



### Because He First Loved Us



LEE M. FIELDS, PH.D.

BEFORE THE MONK Martin Luther, the great reformer, came to his biblical understanding of grace, he read

Romans 1:17, "For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed" (NIV, emphasis mine). He understood righteousness as God's standard of right and wrong and God as the judge of all who do wrong. As a result, he hated both righteousness and God! How could he love a God who continually condemned?

When he learned accurately the teaching of Paul in this verse, the expression became the source of grace. The "righteousness of God" is not what humans bring to God in some hopeless wish that it will be good enough to persuade a judgmental God to let us into heaven. It is a gift that God gives freely to all who come to him by faith in Jesus.

Every March MACU holds the Alumni Rally. One of the songs we sang in 2014 was "Nothing Is Holding Me Back" by Bryan Torwalt and Katie Torwalt. The song is a thanksgiving for the sacrifice of Christ and the benefits believers receive. It was the final verse, though, that really got my attention. Here are the lyrics:

*Thank You that we're living in Your Kingdom*

*Jesus, You're the King upon the throne  
Thank You for the way You always love me  
Now I get to love You in return  
Now I get to love You in return*

Many songs praise God and offer thanks for the sacrifice of Christ. But few bring out as clearly the cause-effect relationship between God's love and ours. Without Christ's sacrifice, we are enemies with God. We have nothing to expect but his invincible opposition. Luther was right; it is impossible to love a god who always condemns and always wants to destroy. But that it not the end of the story.

"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly" (ROMANS 5:6, NIV).

"We love because he first loved us" (1 JOHN 4:19, NIV).

It is in the sacrifice of Christ that God demonstrated his love for the world (JOHN 3:16). When we through faith are living in God's kingdom, when we live as subjects of Jesus as king on the throne, when we realize that God has acted towards us based not on his wrath but on his love, we now actually get to love God in return. It is the only reasonable response.

Now we get to love God in return!

## Dates & Events

Aug. 15-19	Fall Intensives
Aug. 19-21	New Student Orientation
Aug. 22	On-campus Classes Begin, 2 pm
Aug. 22-Oct. 16	Online Session A Courses
Aug. 23	Convocation Chapel, 9:30 am
Aug. 28	Sunday Night Live
Sept. 10	Motorcycle Rally & Charity Ride
Sept. 13	Grandparents Day
Oct. 10-14	Fall Break
Oct. 17-Dec. 11	Online Session B Courses
Oct. 20	Foundation Banquet
Oct. 20	Foundation Board Meeting
Oct. 20, 21	Trustees Meeting
Nov. 6	Sunday Night Live
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 12-16	Final Exams
<b>SEMESTER BREAK</b>	
Jan. 15	Sunday Night Live
Jan. 16	MLK Day of Service
Feb. 28	Mid-Atlantic Society Gala
Mar. 17, 18	MACU Rally
Mar. 26	Sunday Night Live

If you have good news and comments like these to share, please tag them #MACUAlumni:

**#MACUAlumni** I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you to you, the faculty, and staff at Mid-Atlantic Christian University. The professors are top rate, and the online facilitators are great as well. Beyond that, each of you cares personally for the students in their lives as well as for their future development as Christians and people. Continue doing God's work in transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders.  
– Mike Moulden '16

**#MACUAlumni** On May 1, 2016, MACU was notified by ToBecomeATeacher.org that we were ranked among the top schools that offer education degrees for students looking to become teachers in North Carolina.

**#MACUAlumni** Campus preaching club "Kerygma" met for fellowship, instruction, encouragement, and practice April 29, 30. Josh Childress of Kempsville Christian Church, Virginia Beach, VA, and Bane Angles of First Christian Church, Roanoke Rapids, NC, led sessions.

**#MACUAlumni** Biker Sunday @ Eastern Pines resulted with nearly 500 in attendance. We had a great worship service, a wonderful meal together, and the opportunity to see a young person be baptized into Christ!  
– D. J. Maxey '14 (from Facebook)

**#MACUAlumni** Know why I love my Alma Mater Mid-Atlantic Christian University? Because even 10 years after graduation, I know that they still care. I got the nicest note from President D. Clay Perkins today congratulating me on my acceptance to the M.Div. program at Abilene, and it truly made my day. Thank you, Dr. Perkins. Small colleges rock!  
– Kerri Smilie '06 (from Facebook)

RECOGNITION

# FIELDS NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2016

LEE FIELDS MOVED with his family to Elizabeth City in 1997 to begin his teaching ministry at Mid-Atlantic Christian University. He is a Professor of Bible and Theology and Chair of the Department of Biblical Studies. Since the 1980s, Lee has done supply preaching and has held several part-time ministries. He married Julie, his high school sweetheart, in 1979. They have two grown children and one grandchild. Read more about Dr. Fields at [macuniversity.edu](http://macuniversity.edu)<sup>1</sup>.

Especially telling is what his students and colleagues had to say about him:

- I believe Dr. Fields was given this honor because of his passion. He doesn't simply dictate material from a textbook or website, he demonstrates it. He demonstrates it with the elaborate props and sets that adorn his classroom; he demonstrates it by heavily involving the students in the subject; he demonstrates it with the passion that he has for teaching. There is no denying that Dr. Fields loves



what he teaches and the ones he teaches. (STUDENT BRYCE PILLIOD)

- The true test for how good a teacher really is, in my opinion, how they react when they are given an unexpected challenge. In my case, this happens when the teacher learns they will have a [legally] blind student in their class. . . . I am so grateful that Dr. Fields' kindness and hard work have allowed me to both participate in class and feel welcomed and respected. . . . I thank Dr. Fields for all his devotion and hard work. His outstanding characteristics and attitude exemplify superiority and are an enormous contribution to this university. (STUDENT GRACE MINTER)
- Dr. Fields works tirelessly to provide an authentic experience for his students who are studying Biblical languages. He has invested money, time, and effort into creating a learning environment that

takes you back in time. His enthusiasm for teaching is encouraging to students and faculty. (DR. CHERYL LUTON)

- Dr. Fields goes above and beyond for his students to understand what they are learning. He designed his own lab to allow students to not just hear a different language, but to touch, see, smell, and taste what they are learning. Dr. Fields makes learning an unforgettable experience. (CAMPUS MINISTER DREW BROMM)
- Dr. Lee has welcomed me in as a new professor offering encouragement and guidance. His passion for his classes and the students in creating an experience of the material instead of merely telling the material is inspiring. He truly is using his gifts to further God's kingdom in this ministry. (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ABBEY MIRAU)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.macuniversity.edu/news/macu-teacher-of-the-year> and <http://www.macuniversity.edu/academics/faculty-and-staff-directory/lee-m-fields>

# Barbara A. Williams Award for Excellence in Teacher Education

DR. CHERYL LUTON, DIRECTOR OF TEACHER EDUCATION

THE FIRST RECIPIENT of The Barbara A. Williams Award for Excellence in Teacher Education was 2016 graduate Amy Isler. This award is given in honor of Dr. Barbara A. Williams, who led MACU through the approval process with the NC Department of Public Instruction. In February of 2012, MACU received notification that the Elementary Education program was approved as a teacher licensure program. Dr. Williams worked to move MACU forward in teacher education, and she continues to teach and guide elementary education majors.

Each year this award will be presented to the graduating senior in teacher education with the highest GPA for all course work prior to student teaching and the

highest average for all components of The Teacher Work Sample, a product that provides evidence that the candidate has met the standards and mastered the content and methods necessary to be an effective teacher. Recipient Amy Isler, a native of New Jersey, did her student teaching at Hertford Grammar School in Perquimans County, NC, and hopes to find a teaching position in northeastern North Carolina.



Award winner Amy Isler (left) and Dr. Cheryl Luton, Director of Teacher Education

## KNOWN MACU ALUMNI RECEIVING TEACHING HONORS IN 2016:

<b>Sheila Hommema '84:</b> Teacher of the Year for Carroll County Public Schools, Hillsville, VA; teaches kindergarten	<b>Ginny Ambrose '94:</b> Teacher of the Year for Washington County, NC; teaches at Creswell Elementary	<b>Betty McLeod '95:</b> Selected as an Outstanding Educator in Currituck County Schools, NC; teaches math	<b>Wendy Orth Houser '96:</b> Teacher of the Year for James Wood Middle School, Winchester, VA; teaches math	<b>Katie Coverdale '01:</b> Teacher of the Year for Tabernacle Preschool New Bern NC; teaches pre-kindergarten	<b>Asheton Rivenbark Smith '11:</b> Teacher of the Year for D.F. Walker Elementary School, Edenton, NC
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## LIFE CHANGERS

# Changing Lives: In the World

## Partners in Mercy

Tom '94 and Sandie ex'94 Kilian

BY TOM KILIAN '94

"EPIDEMIC," "POVERTY," "TRIBALISM," "genocide" ... words that make the mind shut down. Every day we let world-changing opportunities slip away because we strive for internal consistency. When confronted with information that shouts "we don't make a difference," we tend to pass by rather than press in to see what we can do.

After college I began working at a local newspaper and preaching on weekends. Soon the world reared its ugly head and challenged my own internal consistency. I realized that ministry, in its truest form, could not be contained in a tidy box. Ministry is downright "out of the box" messy. To navigate a life of service, I looked to the grace demonstrated by my professors. They were accessible to students and the community. They pressed themselves into the mold of Jesus and were making a change in the world, one life at a time. I began to follow their pattern.



Time passed, and as I found myself crossing over other countries en route to Sudan, someone asked, "Why do you bring the good news to Sudan and not here?" **What a challenge! Should I compartmentalize or press in?** Before long, we expanded Mercy Partners to operate in Kenya then Ethiopia, Uganda, and recently the Netherlands. The mission field became the grass between our feet.

Every concept that the world conjures about ministry becomes a challenge. Are we really willing to press into the mold of Jesus to change the world one life at a time? As disciples we find ourselves on "ground zero" to address the need of mercy in lives around us. While the world shouts "You don't make a difference," **the good news of Jesus proclaims, "You are changing the world, one life at a time!"**

While we were moving at a brisk pace from the border of Darfur, a silhouette of a gutted church building captured my eye. Led by prayer, I requested that the driver stop. Upon entry, we found a boy stricken with cerebral malaria, surrounded by family and waiting to die. We loaded him in our truck and provided care. A few days later he rose from a clinic bed rather than being lowered in a grave. That day, Simon Deng's world had changed.

UGANDA: Ten-year-old Ezra's 47-pound body lay motionless. After reviewing vitals and current environmental conditions, we began to treat him for typhoid. A week later, Ezra stood and shared, **"I want to preach**



PHOTO BY MELVIN PRIDDY '96

**the Good News of Jesus Christ."** Ezra's world had changed.

Within the same month, Ezra's family prayed for the salvation of my mother; shortly after, my mother asked me to baptize her. Now my own world has changed!

There are countless other "divine appointments" that wait for you and me to show up and press in to change the world one life at a time. And it might even be your own world that changes!

**"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." – John 14:12**

Tom '94 and Sandie ex'94 Kilian are the founders of Mercy Partners®. They are the authors of a new book and workshop entitled "Bridging Cultures for Christ"™. Read more at [www.mercy-partners.org](http://www.mercy-partners.org).

# MERCY PARTNERS®

"The *mission field* became the *grass between our feet*."

# Changing Lives: In the Family

Increasing numbers of alumni are fostering and adopting, changing a child's life story and their own, as well. Below are excerpts from some of the stories they have sent. These alumni, and many more, are changing the world one child – and sometimes two – at a time.

IN RESPONSE TO the school's request for stories from alumni, Stacey Stanley Elmes '89, the Stokes County (NC) Social Services Director, said, "There is such a need for caring families to raise the children out there who don't deserve to be in the situations they are in. Cyndi Wulfeck Pratt ex'90 is an FSWII in Child Protective Services (CPS) Intake and Investigations/Family Assessments, in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. She said, "Each situation teaches me and makes me stronger. Many children remain in foster care or are placed for adoption. They want – and we want them to have – a 'forever home.' I know some of my former classmates have taken on that task. I know there are more out there that could and should consider fostering or adopting. When I have to remove a child, which is never easy, it helps me to know that there is another family waiting to care for them and they will be safe."

**Nick '08 and Kelli '11 Alexander:** WHEN I WAS eight years old, I learned what an orphan was, and before I even knew who God was, He broke my heart for these children.

Adoption was the first choice for our family. When Nick and I had been married for two years, we began the lengthy process of adopting through the foster care system. When we flew

out to Texas to meet the four-year-old boy that was to become our son, we were pulled aside and told that his birth mother had a very young baby that would most likely be in foster care soon. We had to make a decision then, before meeting our child, if we would take another as well. Christopher came to our family in 2008 and his sister, Abigail, followed 18 months later.

Adoption is not only taking in a child that needs a family, it is taking in every bit of that child's past also. Because of circumstances in their early years, both of our adopted children have intense special needs... Adoption is loving a child that may never fully believe they are worthy of love. It is that aspect of adoption that has helped me to understand better God's love for me. I wake up each day with the blessing of my children in my life and a love for them that could never end, and I'm reminded that even when I feel unworthy, God's love is never ending.

**Mitch '90 and Melody '91 Caton:** FIVE YEARS AGO Mitch and I decided that it was time to stop talking and make our words become action. We felt we were being led by God to open our home somehow to children. We had been exposed in a variety of ways – housing kids in our church, my work with an adoption agency recruiting families for foster children, and watching friends become foster parents. Every day I watched children desperate for permanent homes. Every day Mitch and I prayed that God would allow us to be part of something greater

than ourselves, that we would not just serve "in" our local church, that we would be the church, and that we would not choose comfortable, safe lives. We decided that we could impact our community by serving kids through our local department of social services. We knew the system was broken and could be challenging, but the greater good was serving children.

In five years we had seven placements. Two of these placements needed to stay and become permanent parts of our family. And so, after raising two biological children, we are beginning the parenting journey again. This journey is not an easy journey. It is probably some of the hardest work we have done. It is not comfortable or safe, but it is what God calls us to do and be. ... [These children] need consistent love, structure, and to be taught about God's unconditional love and plan for their lives.

**Daniel '06 and Rachel '06 Voris:** DANIEL AND I are the foster and soon-to-be adoptive parents of four children five years old and under. We have twin five-year-old girls, a four-year-daughter, and a two-year-old boy. Our eyes opened up to adoption through the foster care system through two friends [one a social worker, one a foster parent].

Rachel shares some of the challenges and ways to address them: Our [twin] girls came to us at two-and-a-half years old and were full of love and laughter. They transitioned into our home so easily... Looking back we have discovered some neurological delays and potential fetal alcohol exposure among other drug use suspected of their birth mom. This is why they bonded with us so fast. They suffer from disinhibited attachment disorder, among other issues, such as anxiety and ADHD. We started therapies (speech, occupational), and we also do counseling targeted to trauma. After the girls moved in we began making memories to establish ourselves as a family unit. We are weekend trip experts.

We went from a family of two people to six people in 1.5 years. Fostering has been a blessing to both of us. Our lives are complete now that there are four kids in it. These are kids

Voris Family, Fall 2015

who were rejected by their biological parents, but loved by their adoptive parents...The Bible tells us that God adopted us into His family... Just as we took in four children who had no home and were in need of love and a family, God took us into His family. He gave us a place in His family and showers us with unconditional love.

**Christian ex'98 and Melody '98 Smith:** FOR SIXTEEN YEARS Christian and Melody were unable to have children. Then they decided to adopt a child, but in the interview process decided to welcome two siblings instead of one. Then they had a baby. And then another one.

Our oldest son once asked me why we didn't have babies earlier. God gave me the words to answer him, and I believe this to be whole-heartedly true. God knew Oliver and Alexi needed Carlin and Mileena for a big brother and

big sister, so He was waiting for us to meet them before we could have babies. Thank you, Lord, for everything you did to bring our family together... James 1:27 (NLT) "Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress." There is no mention of "the right timing" in that verse. No, this was a command to do the right thing, and do it now.

There are 450,000 churches in the United States. If just one family from each church (with the support of other members – financially, physically, spiritually) adopted, there would be no children left in foster care. None. How amazing. God even has a plan for children without families or plans of their own.

Smith Children, Easter 2016



To read more of the remarkable stories these alumni tell, visit [www.macuniversity.edu/alumni](http://www.macuniversity.edu/alumni).

# Changing Lives: In the Community

BY PAM SMITH '03  
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ENRICHMENT, YMCA OF GREATER RICHMOND

PAM SMITH IS a minister's wife. She serves alongside her husband, Matt '05, who is currently Family Minister with New Venture Christian Church in Midlothian, VA. But Pam has another ministry, as well, which she describes in her own words:

In my role with the YMCA of Greater Richmond I help to oversee more than 40 afterschool sites that serve 2,500 students daily. Some of these schools are in the most impoverished and dangerous neighborhoods in Richmond, and the YMCA is a safe place where students can learn Christian values like caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. They are encouraged to solve problems with their words and not their fists and to see what possibilities lie outside of their limited experiences. I get to mentor and coach young directors and help them to see the weight of being a positive adult role model to students who may have no one to look up to.

I work at the Association Resource Center (corporate offices). The YMCA of Greater Richmond is a 42 million dollar operation, one of the largest non-profits in Richmond. We give out thousands and thousands of dollars to help families access programs like summer camp, afterschool, and swim lessons. As Senior Director of Youth Enrichment, I get to cast vision for these programs and work with school districts and community partners to give all our students the chance to succeed and fulfill their God-given potential.

I feel like it is where God has called me to be and my education at MACU has prepared me for the challenges and keeps me connected to God's call to be a light in the dark places. I know God has given me a voice to advocate for children in areas that are forgotten or where people have given up.



Matt '05 and Pam '03 Smith  
Serving in Greater Richmond, Virginia



# Shoaff Challenges Class of 2016: What Will It Take to Make You Quit?

JONITA SHOAFF, A member of Mid-Atlantic’s Board of Trustees, offered a compelling challenge to the Class of 2016 to continue their service in the Kingdom no matter the obstacles. Mrs. Shoaff, a Distinguished Toastmaster, is the Program Coordinator for Harford Community College at the W.A.G.E. Connection (Working to Achieve Growth and Employment). Graduates also heard

messages from **S. Paige Roberson**, valedictorian, and **Caitlin D. Goss**, salutatorian, at commencement on May 14. Honors and recognitions included service longevity awards: Athletic Director **Neal O. Alligood** and Trustee **Dave Milam**, 5 years; Adjunct Instructor **Teri Piner Woolard**, 10 semesters of teaching; Vice President for Student Services **Kendall S. Greene** and

Maintenance Technician **Richard J. Lindsley, Jr.**, 10 years. Juniors **Rita A. Maclin** and **Sarah L. Bueno** earned the rank of first marshal and second marshal, respectively. This year’s class of 34 graduates (including those completing their studies in August and December 2015, as well as May) brings the total number of graduates to 2,047 (1,290 legacy RBC/MACU and 757 legacy ECI/ECC).

▲ Jonita Shoaff encourages graduates by telling them she has been praying for them and will continue to do so, showing them the cards that hold their names and the plans they shared with her.

Class Of 2016

## SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:



**Elizabeth A. Bartlett**  
CUM LAUDE  
BS | Elementary Education & Biblical Studies



**Joseph W. Craft**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**Brandon J. Davis**  
BS | General Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Minor: Worship and Music Ministry



**Niles L. Forsythe**  
BS | Entrepreneurial Leadership & Biblical Studies



**Caitlin D. Goss**  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Morgan F. Nayadley**  
CUM LAUDE  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**Susan W. Outlaw**  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Caleb E. Reynolds**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**S. Paige Roberson**  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Desmond O. Straing**  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies

## SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:



**James R. Knight, Jr.**  
BS | Christian Ministry & Biblical Studies



**Michael S. Moulden**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS | Christian Ministry & Biblical Studies



**Steven M. Simmons**  
BS | Family Studies  
Minor: Biblical Studies



**Demetrius L. Stokley**  
BS | Family Studies  
Minor: Biblical Studies



**Donald J. Waltz**  
BS | Family Studies  
Minor: Biblical Studies

# 2016 Honors Chapel Awards

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE RECOGNITION

Susan Outlaw, Caitie Goss, Paige Roberson, Lizzie Bartlett

## DISCIPLESHIP GROUP CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

Matt Cooper, Kristyn Carter

## STUDENT OFFICERS FOR 2016-2017

Kristyn Carter, President; Kevin Williams, Vice President

## RESIDENCE HALL RECOGNITIONS

Fiona Allain, Brandon Cabacar

## STUDENT ATHLETE RECOGNITIONS

See story, page 11

## WHO’S WHO IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Caitie Goss, Brittany Harrison, Amy Isler, James Knight, Morgan Nayadley, Paige Roberson, Evan Tanner, Wendy Ward

## COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGY

Caitie Goss

## CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

James Knight

## BARBARA A. WILLIAMS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHER EDUCATION

Amy Isler

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Joey Craft

## MACU-ZONDERVAN THEOLOGY AWARD

Wendy Ward

## STONE-CAMPBELL JOURNAL PROMISING SCHOLAR AWARD (BIBLICAL STUDIES)

James Knight



**Harley N. Grice**  
CUM LAUDE  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Brittany D. Harrison**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Minor: Counseling  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**Matthew J. Hughes**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**Amy L. Isler**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS | Elementary Education & Biblical Studies



**Crystal A. Lamb**  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Dustin T. McCrea**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition



**W. Evan Tanner**  
BS | Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Minor: Worship and Music Ministry  
Certificate: Family Life Education



**Wendy E. Ward**  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**Lacresha S. Young**  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**James D. Matthews**  
HONORS  
AA | Biblical Studies



**Taylor R. Tanner**  
AA | Biblical Studies



**Jessica R. Troxell**  
AA | Biblical Studies

## 2016 GRADUATES WHOSE DEGREES WERE PRESENTED PREVIOUSLY OR IN ABSENTIA:

### School Of Professional Studies:

**Sharon S. Robie**  
BS | Organizational Leadership  
Minor: Biblical Studies

**Antonio D. Rook**  
BS | Christian Ministry & Biblical Studies

**Lauren E. Witherspoon** CUM LAUDE  
BS | Christian Ministry & Biblical Studies

### School Of Undergraduate Studies:

**Eric D. Poyner**  
BS | Entrepreneurial Leadership & Biblical Studies

**Wayne S. Thurber**  
BS | Entrepreneurial Leadership & Biblical Studies

**Rebecka K. Woodard** MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS | Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies

**Reed W. Smith**  
AA | Biblical Studies

Blanton, Griffin First Recipients of Lighthouse Award

TWO WOMEN WHO have given generously for decades to see that the Kingdom of God advances through the work and ministry of Mid-Atlantic Christian University became the first ones to receive the Lighthouse Award, presented at graduation on May 14.

**Gail N. Blanton** was named in recognition of her role as a “Generous Kingdom Builder and Friend of Mid-Atlantic Christian University.” She is a Christian businesswoman living in Greenville, NC, who has shared her blessings with Mid-Atlantic for nearly four decades. She and her family have had a significant impact on the fiscal well being of the university.

Mrs. Blanton demonstrated excellence in the classroom, graduating from Mid-Atlantic in 1980 as valedictorian. She then demonstrated excellence in the boardroom of Time Investment Corporation (TIC). The widow of Albert Blanton III, who founded Time Investment Corporation (Time Financing Service), Mrs. Blanton served the company as Vice President and President. She has been the CEO since 1992. During this time, the company has grown from 6 locations to 22 and from about 30 employees to 150. Her son, R.E. Everett, Jr., is President of TIC and a Trustee of Mid-Atlantic.

She has volunteered in congregations she has attended and served community and civic organizations. Mrs. Blanton has also served her alma mater as an Alumni Association officer and a member of the Mid-Atlantic Foundation Board of Directors (2011-2015).

**Patricia S. Griffin** was named for her role as “Library Director (1963-2004) and Kingdom Servant.” The life of Patricia (Trish) Swindell Griffin is the story of a country girl from Hyde County, NC, who married her childhood sweetheart and adjusted her professional plans so her career would supplement that of her husband. She earned a degree in home economics from East Carolina University (ECU) in 1962, married William A. Griffin, and moved to Tennessee, where they pursued graduate study in preparation for joining the staff at Mid-Atlantic.

Realizing MACU’s need for a professional librarian, she began work in library science at East Tennessee State University, completed her Certificate in Library Science from ECU in 1964, and earned a Master of Library Science in 1976. The story of the growth of the Mary E. Griffith,



▲ Patricia S. Griffin (left), Retired Library Director, and Gail N. Blanton, Philanthropist

now Watson-Griffith, Library is, to a large extent, the story of her life. Mrs. Griffin took charge of the library in 1963, and by 1965 the collection had grown to 9,100 volumes; by 1982, holdings doubled to over 20,000. As technology advanced, so did library resources and management. In 1998 the library moved to its current home in the Blanton Center and in 1999 received approval (“no recommendations”) by a regional accreditation team.

Her work included professional development and service with library associations, conducting seminars in church libraries and teacher training, service on technology and accreditation committees, and co-authoring or facilitating agreements with other colleges in regard to teacher education and library use. She was faculty advisor for early education programs MACU offered.

Her ministry in her home and in the churches rivaled her library work. Married to Mid-Atlantic’s second president, she was hostess to hundreds, led a student wives’ fellowship, traveled with him representing the school, and still found time to teach and serve in congregations.

In October 2015 the Board of Trustees of Mid-Atlantic determined that the University would recognize and honor the life and work of individuals whose lifetime work – whether vocational or voluntary – is of an exceptional

nature in any field. The **Lighthouse Award** is presented to individuals who have demonstrated superior performance in their chosen fields of endeavor and in their service to society. The award may be presented for reasons which can be summarized as follows: To recognize superior leadership or achievement in a chosen field of endeavor or in the face of extraordinary circumstances; to acknowledge a selfless spirit of service that has contributed significantly to improving the world, the Church, or the individual’s particular community; to express appreciation for exceptional generosity that has advanced the vision of Mid-Atlantic Christian University to be a national leader in Christian higher education; or to publicly identify and recognize worthy role models for students, faculty, alumni, and the community to emulate in their own lives.

The recipients of the Lighthouse Award should also exemplify Christ-like characteristics of leadership and service. They have been determined to be living role models, working tirelessly for the good of others. The Lighthouse Award is the second highest honor awarded by the University.

To read more about Mrs. Blanton, Mrs. Griffin, and the Lighthouse Award, visit [www.macuniversity.edu/alumni](http://www.macuniversity.edu/alumni).

Athletes Honored at Banquet

AMONG THE MANY honors and recognitions presented at the annual athletic banquet April 2 were the following:

**Violet Krawchuk**, Team Manager  
Women’s volleyball and basketball

**Jackson Cooper**, Team Manager  
Men’s basketball

**Cham Brice and Kamiah Gilbert**, Captains  
Women’s basketball

**Zach Camporese and Joe Hill**, Captains  
Men’s basketball



**Haley Giffin, Brittany Harrison, Alex Stanley (and Dominic Chasse, not pictured)** – The Christian Character award is given to those who displayed the most Christ-like characteristics.

**Destini Parker, Mustang Pride (left) and Paige “Nook” Roberson, Mustang on Mission** – The Mustang Pride Award is given to the student athlete that best represents MACU as a leader in the community and classroom and on campus and court. The Mustang On Mission Award is given to the student athlete that represented the servant spirit of MACU and best lives out the call from Jesus himself when He said in Matthew 20:28, “For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.”



**Paige Roberson, Matt Cooper, Alex Stanley** – Highest GPA winners, recognizing academic excellence among athletes.



Coach Kessler to Lead Volleyball

WELCOME, KELLIE KESSLER, the first female head coach in Mustang athletics history. She is taking the reins of the volleyball program founded by Coach Paul Pipkin, who stepped down at the end of last season.

"We are excited to welcome Coach Kessler to our campus and our athletic staff," said Athletic Director Neal Alligood. "She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the game as someone who has played and coached for many years. We look forward to her taking the foundation that Coach Pipkin had built with the start of this program and continue moving it forward to even higher levels. Coach Kessler also has a passion for using athletics to grow players spiritually, which fits directly with the DNA of MACU Mustangs athletics."

Kessler has been a successful coach on the high school level in the Tidewater Virginia area. She has mentored the Beach Breakers homeschool team since 2008, leading them to a second place finish in the Virginia state homeschool tournament this past season. But coaching on the college level, especially at a place like MACU, is a dream come true.

Kessler and her husband Barry are natives of Sydney, OH, but now call the Virginia Beach, VA, area home, where they have reared and homeschooled their six children.

THANKS TO COACH Paul Pipkin for eight years of service to the women’s volleyball program. He saw it through infancy and helped it grow to be one of the more successful teams at MACU. He and his wife, Lisa, now live in central North Carolina.



Who Are MACU Alumni?



BY KATIE CROFT, PRESIDENT  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

IF YOU GRADUATED or took courses from the school when it was called either Roanoke Bible College or Mid-Atlantic Christian University, you are MACU alumni. The same is true if you attended Eastern Christian Institute or Eastern Christian College. As indicated on MACU’s website, MACU alumni reside in 48 states, the District of Columbia, one territory, and 25 countries.

**But who are we?** We are preachers leading an established church or a team of ministers planting a new church. We are serving in Papua New Guinea as Bible translators and educators for the public school system and private schools. We are nurses, chiropractors, and medical professionals, as well as counselors, social workers, and other human service providers healing the broken. We are a car salesman working to provide a quality customer experience or nonprofit leaders impacting the Greater Richmond area or aiding abused women and children. We are graphic designers creating

concepts, brands and logos and homemakers serving full-time in our homes rearing and teaching our children. We are volunteer firemen and missionaries. We are taking care of our aging parents. We are unemployed and searching. We are worship ministers, administrators, government employees and so much more. And, in a moment of transparency and hard truth, some of us are ones who have stepped away from ministry and the church and the faith.

**We are connected by the Kingdom.** We could be seen as just another tribe of people connected by an experience – being at MACU. But beyond this experience, what sets our tribe apart from the other groups we belong to? Despite our various vocations, ministries, and circumstances, the Alumni Association has the potential to be a network connected through and by the kingdom of God. And it is only through acknowledgement of that connection that we may truly support one another as MACU alumni and spur one another on as extraordinary Christian leaders.

Our alumni association has existed for many years. Some of you may be supporting the school

by giving financially, guest speaking in the classroom, recruiting new students, and more. But some may be very disconnected. As a 2006 graduate, I have spent a decade transforming from a disengaged – and at times, grumbling – graduate into a caring and contributing alumna. Only in the past few years have I grown a genuine desire to understand what the Alumni Association is. And, as of this past year, I have begun to seriously ask myself and others, what is the potential of this community that is connected by the kingdom? I am grateful for those who have nurtured the Alumni Association in the past, and I look forward to what we may become in the future.

**This year as president of the MACU Alumni Association, I will focus on:** Coordinating the MACU Rally & Homecoming (mark your calendars for March 16-18, 2017), developing the MACU Alumni Association Vision & Strategic Plan, and building a strong bridge for MACU students to cross over as new alumni.

If you attended MACU as a student, I invite you to join me in continuing the development of the next chapter for the MACU Alumni Association.



Welcome, Drew Bromm, Campus Minister

DREW BROMM ‘11 was named Campus Minister this spring. He and his wife, Amanda ‘11, ministered with First Christian Church in Columbiana, OH, for five years before moving to Elizabeth City. Drew brings ministry experience and a great love for MACU to this position.



CALLING ALL ALUMNI AUTHORS

Alumni, please send Library Director Ken Gunselman (ken.gunselman@macuniversity.edu) the titles of any books you have had published. Include all publishing data, including, but not limited to, such information as date, publishing house, ISBN.

The Dean’s List is comprised of full-time students (12 or more credit hours) whose semester GPA is 3.500 or above. Students achieving a 4.000 are indicated with an asterisk (\*).

Elizabeth Ashley Bartlett	Haley Susan Giffin	Rita Agnes Maclin*	Joshua Paul Phillips
Emily Beamon	Micaiah H Gilkes	Victoria Rose Matta	Adam Travis Pinkham
Sierra Margaret Bonner	Caitlin Dawn Goss*	Rachel Lynn McCaffery	Samantha Paige Roberson*
Sarah Lunceford Bueno	Timothy Scott Gravgaard	Grace Gibson Minter*	Gary James Robinson II
Brandon Ryan Cabacar*	Emily Caroline Greene*	Abigail C. Morgret	Leah Rene’ Rudd
Taylor Kristyn Carter	Harley Nicole Grice	Michael Scott Moulden	Alexander L. Stanley
Christopher Neil Cephus	Jacqueline Alexis Hilts*	Morgan Fawn Nayadley*	Breanna Lacy Teetor
Dominic Joseph Chasse	Amy Lynn Isler*	Ashlyn Raye Neal	Britney Nicole Walther
Anissa Coles	James Richard Knight	Caitlin Elizabeth O’Connor	Tyanna Williams
Jackson Laine Cooper	Meghan R. Lee	Emily Nicole O’Connor*	Lacresha Shaniece Young
Matthew Todd Cooper*	Sarah Grace Litowski*	Jackson Eden Osebreh	
Whitley Rosa-Leigh Davis	Leah Nicole Maclin*	Michael Jahmal Parker	

MACU FORWARD



BY JOHN W. MAURICE,  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

WHY DO WE do what we do at MACU? Because we are compelled by the words of Jesus: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have taught you...and lo, I am with you even unto the end of the age” (Matt. 28:18-20). We exist to educate extraordinary Christian leaders who will impact the world for Jesus in the church and the marketplace.

MACU Forward is a \$600,000 initiative that will expand degree offerings in Church Planting, Biology (and Science Education), and Philanthropy. Ten percent of the proceeds of the campaign will go into the Mid-Atlantic Foundation to provide scholarships to attract and graduate quality students.

Mid-Atlantic is partnering with Waypoint Church Partners (formerly VEF) to offer an advanced certificate in Church Planting. The world population is now over 7 billion people, and less than one third of those are Christian. The second largest religious group in the world is Islam. But do you know the third largest religious group? Would you believe secularists (the non-religious, agnostics, atheists)?



AMERICA HAS BECOME one of the largest mission fields on earth. Recent studies state that there are now 195 million non-churched people in America, making America one of the top four largest “unchurched” nations in the world. Only three other nations – China, India, and Indonesia – have more lost people. One of the most strategic means of evangelism today is planting new churches. This program will be a practical program taught by subject matter experts skilled in planting churches rather than a theoretical program.



THE SECOND INITIATIVE will be to establish a biology (pre-professional degree) and science education program (leading to teacher licensure). One study by Christianity Today reported that 52% of high school students in church youth groups want to pursue a vocation that requires a bachelor’s degree in biology or science. Sadly, many of these Christians enroll in programs where science is taught from a naturalistic worldview which denies the very existence of God. Many students will forsake their faith as they are influenced by professors who discredit religious faith and who construct a worldview devoid of a Creator. MACU wants to be the institution of choice for young men and women who want to pursue careers in medicine, research, or bio-medical ethics. At MACU, they will receive a first-class science education from a Christian worldview and a solid biblical education that will prepare them for life.

A building program will be launched once we receive approval from SACSCOC to offer a degree in biology. The first phase will consist of a state-of-the-art laboratory, office, and lounge. It will be the first of a three-phase building program to accommodate science studies.



PHILANTHROPY IS THE practice of giving to make life better for others. MACU Forward will partner with Aspiran to offer an advanced certification for non-profit leaders, church planters, missionaries, and others who must raise funds to fulfill their God-given mission. The Certified Development Professional certificate will be taught on our campus and will be the only program like this in the Restoration Movement.



A PORTION of the MACU Forward Initiative will help provide scholarships for students. Since 1985, the Foundation has awarded more than \$900,000 to students. Monies for student scholarships are essential to recruiting and graduating students that will impact the world for Christ. Ninety-six percent of the students at MACU require student aid to attend college.

MACU Forward is a bold initiative. It is forward-looking. It is about faith and following Jesus. Get on board, and let’s move MACU Forward together.

For more information about the MACU Forward initiative visit [www.macuniversity.edu/support/macu-forward](http://www.macuniversity.edu/support/macu-forward)

*Tax Free IRA Charitable Rollover. If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may now instruct your IRA custodian to transfer any amount, up to \$100,000, directly to Mid-Atlantic Christian University to advance the Kingdom of God. This could fulfill any required minimum distribution requirements, would not be included in your taxable income, and create for you an income tax deduction. So this could be a win win. This gift must come directly from your IRA custodian to Mid-Atlantic Christian University. Gifts may be made at any time in 2016. Together we impact the world by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders serving in the church and the marketplace. Please consult your CPA or tax adviser. For more information please contact John Maurice, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at [john.maurice@macuniversity.edu](mailto:john.maurice@macuniversity.edu) or 252.334.2034.*

New Ministries, Service

**Creighton Beatty '79** is preaching for Draper Christian Church, Eden, NC.

**Steve Jackson '86** is serving Avalon Church of Christ in Virginia Beach, VA, as Director of Music and Worship.

**Debbie Murphy Hudgins ex'90** has been named Assistant Principal at Den-high High School, Newport News, VA.

**Mitch '90** and **Melody '91 Caton** are new house parents with the Florida Baptist Children's Home at the Miami, FL, campus.

**Jay Hardison '95** has been called to serve Plymouth Church of Christ, Plym-outh, NC, as Senior Minister.

**Chris McCarthy '98** is now Senior Minister with Avalon Church of Christ, Virginia Beach, VA.

**Kim Clarke Puterbaugh '12** is working with Wycliffe Associates as a Translation Specialist.

**Josh '10** and Sarah **Curry** are serving at Cookson Hills home in Kansas, OK, Josh as high school Bible teacher and Sarah in an administrative roll in the Storyteller group (formally known as donor development).

**Josh '11** and Viry **Nunez** are now serving at a Christian university that has recently re-opened its doors in the state of Querétaro in Mexico. There is a church plant on campus with about 20 people from the surrounding community. Josh's primary responsibility is to pastor the church plant; Viry's is to be a dorm parent for the ladies. The Christian University (Universi-dad Cristiana México) is supported by Workers for Mexico, an organization based in Grayson, KY, that supports 43 ministers in Mexico.

**Rachel Hayes '14** is a teaching assistant in a special needs classroom at Hardin Reyn-olds Memorial School, Patrick County, VA.

**Joey Craft '16** is Student Minister for Haw Branch Church of Christ in Chocowinity, NC.

**Brandon Davis '16** has been called as Creative Arts pastor with Fore-front Church in Virginia Beach, VA.

**Brittany Harrison '16** is serving as a mentor for teens at Shelterwood Academy, Independence, MO.

**Dustin McCrea '16** has been called to Langley Christian Church in Hamp- ton, VA, as Youth Minister.

**Reed Smith '16** is serving Northside Christian Church, Yorktown, VA, as Student Ministry Associate.

**Evan Tanner '16** is serving Grow- ing Oaks Community Church, Reids- ville, NC, as Associate Minister.

**Lacresha Young '16** has been ap- pointed Administrative Assistant to Athletic Director Neal Alligood.

**Senior Brittany Wann** is serving a summer internship with Fig Leaf Boutique in Fort Myers, FL. All profit from the shop bene- fits New Mission Systems International to help with mission trips and projects.

Births

**Jared ex'14** and **Kelli Macqueen '13 Wice:** Maranatha Joy, Jan. 13

**Cody ex'11** and **Ashley Baker ex'11 Brin- kley:** Lydia-Grace Nichole, Feb. 8

**Jason** and **Penny Spruill '98 Sle- ichter:** Lucy Reel, May 2

**Jonathan '92** and Rachel **Craft:** Lydia Lane, May 12

**Alan '02** and Anne **Presley:** Joan Elizabeth, May 20

**Franklin '09** and **Bethany '09 Wil- liams:** Rowan Elizabeth, May 23

**Bobby** and **Amy Collins '02 Crab- tree:** Chase Lee, June 17

Weddings

Ron Lueptow and **Susan Has- sell Watford '78**, Feb. 12

**Billy Dyer '07** and Chelsea Anne Sprau, Mar. 19  
Brian Carter and **Emily Rhodes Blanchard ex'02**, Mar. 26

Tyler Armstrong and **Stepha- nie Empson '15**, May 14

**Dustin McRea '16** and **Mor- gan Hassell ex'16**, June 4

Ordinations

**Caleb Reynolds '16**, Eastern Pines Church of Christ, Greenville, NC, May 15

**Dustin McRea '16**, Langley Christian Church, Hampton, VA, May 15

**Reed Smith '16**, Towne South Church of Christ, Elizabeth City, NC, May 18

**Mike Moulden '16**, Galilee Christian Church, Clear Brook, VA, June 5

Other News 'n' Notes

**Joshua Bondy '13** earned his MA in Practical Theology with a concentration in Church and Ministry from Regent University.

**Pam Smith '03** is Senior Director of Youth En- richment at the YMCA Greater Richmond, VA.

Congratulations to **Nathan Stuart**, Director of Information and Technology and Asso- ciate Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Compliance at MACU. He received his Masters of Business Administration, In- formation Technology Management from Southern New Hampshire University.

**Congratulations to Denis '77** and **Madia ex'77** Fritz, who have served at Public Fork Christian Church, Red Oak, VA, for 35 years.

Notes of Sympathy

Sympathy is expressed to families and friends of the following:

William O'Neal, Jr., Feb. 29, husband of Gracie O'Neal ex'60

Oliver Cartwright '62, March 3

Antonio Bostick, March 6, son of Art and Bev F. ex'73 Bostick

Doris Cartwright ex'62, March 26

Glenn Gibbs, April 19, husband of Sissie Gibbs ex'78

Bill Reed '65, April 25

John Ayscue, April 30, husband of Louise Ayscue '87

Brenda Stanley '74, June 3

Teresa Stanley, June 9, wife of Jim Stanley '74

Tommy Leopard '13, June 10

Former Basketball Coach Bill McCants, June 17. His wife, Wanda, died April 25.

**Clint '73** and **Jeanne '71 Andrews** were honored May 15 on the occasion of Clint's retirement from full-time ministry. He served the church in Gray, TN (first Hales Chap- el and then Crossroads), over 40 years.

**Franklin McAllister ex'78** was honored in May for 40 years of service with Newport News (VA) Shipbuilding as a Master Shipbuilder.

**Brandon Lewis '14** graduated from East Carolina University May 6 with an M.S. in Counselor Education.

**Ruth Ann Baker ex'00**, who is an Air Force Senior Master Sergeant, graduated from Colo- rado Christian University May 7 in Denver with a Bachelor of Science degree in Organiza- tional Management – Human Resources.

**Roger Burns '12** earned a Masters in Christian Ministry in May.

**Ray Alexander '82** received the Silver Beaver Award from the Heart of Virginia Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The award was presented Apr. 24 at a reception and gala in Richmond, VA. Recipients are adult volunteer leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council and also through service to youth outside of scouting. Ray has been involved in scouting since 2000; he has also coached Little League baseball and was one of eight recipients this year in the Heart of Virginia Council out of approximately 4,000 adult volunteers.

**Library Director Ken Gunselman** met with 33 other Christian College Librar- ians at Freed-Hardeman University in May. Plans are in the works for MACU to host the group in the summer of 2018.

GENERAL FUND

**Ben & Peggy Allen (Honor)**  
*by James Bales Financial, LLC*

**Lewis & Estelle Allen (Memory)**  
*by Hilda Jones*

**Phillip Alligood (Honor)**  
*by Mount Zion Christian Church*

**Bane & Crystal Angles (Honor)**  
*by Shirley Hasty*

**Al Ayers (Memory)**  
*by Joseph Ayers*

**Richard Gardner (Memory)**  
*by Pete & Nell Lacy*

**Brent Bowen, Cheryl Bowen, Holton Peebles Clary, Makayla Clary, Rachel Jones, Chris Page, James Page, (Honor); Tuckett and Ann Clary, Eddie D. Jones, Estelle Abernathy Murray, Colonel James Page (Memory)**  
*by Rebecca Jones*

**James Joyner, Sr. (Memory)**  
*by David M. Derraw*

**Gerald Dye (Memory)**  
*by Gladys Myers-Dye*

**Johnny & Helen Scott (Honor)**  
**Ray & Becky West (Honor)**  
*by Rosemary Church of Christ*

FOUNDATION

**Jimmy & Shelby Bennett (Honor)**  
*by Avalon Church of Christ, Brian & Lynda Daniels*

**Odis & Ruby Bennett (Memory)**  
**John West (Memory)**  
*by Bobby & Jean Higginbotham*

**Drew & Amanda Bromm, Jordan & Becky Clark, Joey Caft, Claudio & Alzira Divino, Mike & Nancy Duffer,**

**Niles Forsythe, Doloris Gibbs, Ascencion & Peggy Gomez, Bill & Trish Griffin, Allan Harris, Brittany Harrison, Matt Hughes, Amy Isler, Liz Kretzer, Crystal Lamb, Alex Mann, Marvina Mann, Dustin McCrea, John & Sherry Maurice, Tina Pharr, Terry & Debbie Regan, Caleb Reynolds, Paige Roberson, Sharon S. Robie, Joan Sawyer, Steve Simmons, Claudette Smith, Reed Smith, Demetrius Stokley, Virgia Sutton, Donald Waltz, Wendy Ward, Lacresha Young (Honor); Ron Dahmer, Denise Wood Duke, Charles Mahaffey, Lloyd Phillips (Memory)**  
*by Rich & Cheryl Lindsley*

**Larry G. Calhoon (Memory)**  
*by David Rhodes*

**David Cuthbertson (Honor)**  
*by Donna Leahey*

**Florence Fritz (Memory)**  
*by Denis & Madia Fritz, Martin Fritz*

**Homer & Ruby Hendricks (Memory)**  
*by Beth BonDurant*

**Robert L. Johnson (Honor)**  
*by Draper Christian Church, Draper Crusaders' Class*

**Christopher Knollenberg (Memory)**  
*by Jimmy & Dale Johnson, Nicholas & Vicki Simon*

**Timothy Lease (Memory)**  
*by Cindy Lease*

**Matthew Maurice (Memory)**  
*by Joyce Maurice*

**Frances Mills (Memory)**  
*by Jerelene Richards*

**Bedford Motley (Memory)**  
*by Glenda Motley & Lynda Wilson*

**Robert Moulden (Honor)**  
*by Bessie Modlin*

**Marshall & Viola Murphy (Memory)**  
*by Floyd & Gail Lane, Emmett & Dolores Murphy*

**Ray Murphy (Memory)**  
*by Floyd & Gail Lane*

**Henry Clay Owney (Memory)**  
*by Barbara Owney*

**Dr. Dennis Pruett (Memory)**  
*by Doug & Karen Kostowski, Dr. & Mrs. Clay Perkins, Journey Christian Church, HASTEN, INC, Mark & Peggy Stroud*

**Jennifer N. Russell (Honor)**  
*by Jerry & Joanne Norris*

**Jonathan B. Sawyer (Memory)**  
*by Judith Cahoon, Clyde Dalton, Alma Forbes, David Ollman, Aubrey & Anne Banks*

**Mildred Sechrest (Memory)**  
*by Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Roach*

**J.T. & Addie Segroves (Memory)**  
*by Jaranell Fritts, Jonita Shoaff*

**Harley "Tom" Wood (Memory)**  
*by Ruth Wood*

MATCHING GIFTS

**Abbott Laboratories**  
*for Jean W. Bennett*

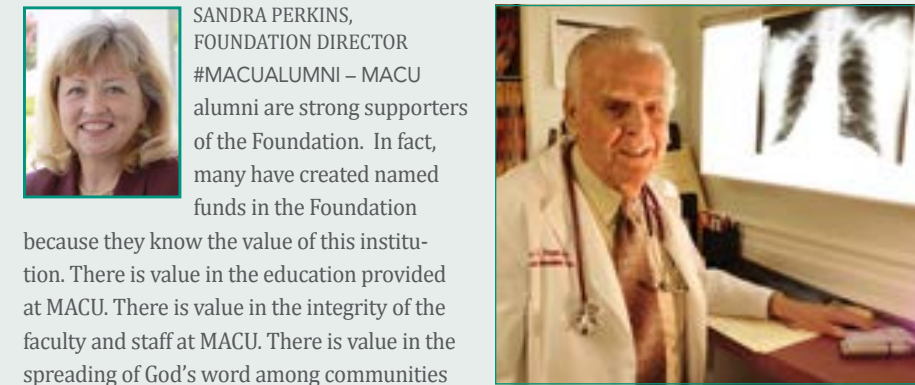
**Bank of America**  
*for Greg Marples, Alan Presley*

**Eaton Corporation**  
*for Charlene Richards*

**Dominion Foundation**  
*for Jerry Norris*

**Norfolk Southern Foundation**  
*for Donna D. Fisher*

Mid-Atlantic Foundation News



PRUETT FUND – We are honored to have a new fund in memory of Dr. Dennis Pruett started by his wife, Dr. Jean Pruett, and HASTEN, International. Denny was loved by many because of his pioneering, entrepreneurial, lifelong commitment to spreading the Gospel worldwide and his work as a physician of both body and soul. He established two mission organizations, Fellowship of Associates of Medical Evangelism (FAME) and Health and Salvation to Every Nation (HASTEN), that continue to impact the world for Christ. In 2010, Dr. Pruett received the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity from MACU. To help build this scholarship fund in memory of Denny simply note on your check “Dennis Pruett Fund.”

BIKE RALLY – The 2016 MACU Bike Rally and Charity Ride is set for September 10. You may register online at macuniversity.edu. The motorcycle rally raises funds for a student scholarship in the Foundation. Bikers love missions!

For more information about the Mid-Atlantic Foundation, please contact Director Sandra Perkins at 252-334-2003 or by email at sandra.perkins@macuniversity.edu. To contribute to the Foundation simply mark your gift “Foundation.”

It is a joy to be a part of a valuable institution. If you feel the special value of MACU and want to discuss a way to make a valuable contribution to help, please contact me. I am here for your assistance.



**MID-ATLANTIC**  
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

715 N. Poindexter St.  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Mid-Atlantic Christian University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and associate and baccalaureate degrees.  
Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Mid-Atlantic Christian University.

# It's Coming...

## The 69th Annual MACU Rally & Homecoming

### 3.16 - 18.2017

Mark Your Calendar.  
Save the Date.

*And*

Stay Tuned for Details!

### **Mid-Atlantic Society Gala** **February 28, 2017 | 6:30 p.m.** VADM William "Dean" Lee, Speaker



VADM LEE SERVES as Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area (LANTAREA) as the operational commander for all U.S. Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf. He serves

concurrently as Commander, Defense Force East and provides Coast Guard mission support to the Department of Defense and Combatant Commanders. VADM Lee will retire from the USCG in August 2016.

Through his stellar military career he has become known as a leader who listens and cares for the men and women he commands. VADM "Dean" Lee describes himself as "a sinner in a sailor suit...a man of deep and abiding faith." On the area of leadership, he notes, "There are many, many good leadership books and I have read a lot of them. I cannot dispute their validity, or the purpose they were intended. The best book of leadership is this Book right here: the Holy Bible."