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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 5, 2010

The university continues to mourn today following the Oct. 3 fatal wounding of one of our students – Jonathan Schipper of Havelock, NC – by another student. We fly our flags at half-staff. We thank the community for allowing us to grieve. There have been prayer services and special chapels to minister to the Mid-Atlantic family.

We appreciate the outpouring of love and support we are receiving from churches, Christians, sister schools, supporters, other institutions of higher education, the community of Elizabeth City, and friends and alumni around the world. While our response to your offers of support, love, and prayers may be slow, please know it is by your prayers we are facing each day.

We ask again that everyone remember the two families that are most deeply touched by this tragedy. Our hearts are broken for them. May God's mercy and peace be with both families.

Classes resumed today, Oct. 5, 2010. Our desire is to continue our role, which is Christian higher education.

Mid-Atlantic Christian University continues to cooperate with the Elizabeth City Police Department. We will not have details about the incident because this is an on-going criminal investigation. We do not want to interfere with the investigation. You may contact the Elizabeth City Police Department for details about the investigation.

While we understand the role of media, we ask that all requests for information be directed to the Office of the President at Mid-Atlantic Christian University.

Local ministers and counselors continue to be available to the university family during this difficult time. We are thankful for the many offers of support from churches, ministers, and counselors and now have a coordinated effort to serve the needs of our students, faculty, and staff.

The safety of Mid-Atlantic is of utmost concern. The Elizabeth City Police Department has been on campus steadily since Sunday and plans to continue a heightened presence during this time. We are confident that we are maintaining a safe environment on campus. There have been no other incidents.

We anticipate issuing another press release tomorrow.