



## Traditions

## Transitions



MID-ATLANTIC  
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



**To everything there is a season...**

*As transitions usher in the next chapter  
of Mid-Atlantic Christian University,  
traditions maintain continuity.*

**INSIDE:**

- 2,3** Change in Leadership
- 4** Teacher of the Year
- 8,9** Class of 2017, Honors





MACU's first three presidents, taken at the close of Bill Griffin's presidency in May 2006: Dr. D. Clay Perkins, third president; George W. BonDurant, founder and first president; William A. Griffin, second president

# TRADITIONS,

## Thankful for Our Past, Embracing Our Future

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ADAPTED FROM PRESS RELEASES PUBLISHED THIS SPRING

THE TRUSTEES OF Mid-Atlantic Christian University are thankful for the leadership of Mid-Atlantic's third president, Dr. Clay Perkins, whose exemplary spiritual leadership since 2006 has been marked by many accomplishments.

While we are sad to see Dr. Perkins leave, we have anticipated this transition for some time. Since the average presidential tenure is 8.5 years, we are thankful that this transition is occurring during Perkins' twelfth year. Remarkably, Mid-Atlantic has had only three presidents in her 69-year history. There has always been a very positive relationship with President Perkins, and that positive relationship remains. We anticipate, as Dr. Perkins states, he will not be a stranger and he will be a raving fan of MACU. He will likely serve as an adjunct professor and in other roles for years to come.

Dr. Perkins will begin working with Financial Planning Ministry (FPM). In that role he will continue as a chief fund raiser for MACU. FPM has had a strategic partnership with MACU since July 2004. We wish him all the

best in his new role in the Kingdom.

Mid-Atlantic is a strong school of superior biblical higher education. We are confident God will guide us in the selection of our next President. We ask for your prayers during this transition. We are excited about the future of MACU.

We anticipate the inauguration of our fourth President during our 70th anniversary celebration, likely during the MACU Rally, March 22-23, 2018.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement John W. Maurice, Jr., has been appointed Interim President. His duties began July 1. Maurice, a retired Navy commander and chaplain, is from Roanoke Rapids, NC. After graduating from MACU in 1978, he preached for congregations in North Carolina, Indiana, and New York. He earned a Master of Divinity from Cincinnati Christian University in 1986 and joined the USN Chaplain Corps in 1989.

During his 24-year career in the U.S. Navy, he served afloat as Command Chaplain onboard the USS Savannah, USS Saipan, and USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. His shore

tours included Marine Corps Base Quantico, CREDO Director Okinawa, and Naval Station Norfolk, the largest Navy base in the world. He has also served on the staff of the Chief of Chaplains as an action officer and as Deputy Director for Pastoral Care in the Navy's second largest major medical facility in Portsmouth, Virginia. He retired from active duty on December 31, 2013.

Maurice served briefly on the university's Board of Trustees before he became a vice president. During his tenure, he has overseen two capital campaigns, has completed the Association of Fundraising Professionals Fundamentals of Fundraising Course, and has earned the Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving. He is also trained to present estate planning seminars. He will serve as Interim President until the fourth president is named.

Maurice is married to the former Sherry Johnson, also a Mid-Atlantic alum. They have two adult children and two grandchildren.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

# Transitioning with Gratitude and Anticipation

GOD DOES NOT call us from something. God calls us to something. During times of transition, one looks back with gratitude and forward with anticipation.

I am deeply grateful for the high honor and privilege of serving those who serve at Mid-Atlantic Christian University (Mid-Atlantic). Serving here has been one of my most joyful experiences in ministry. It has been a blessing to work for a university where Christ is woven into the fabric of her culture. Every degree awarded since 1948 has been from a Christian worldview. The ripple effect of each graduating class, both before and during my tenure, has been to influence the culture for Christ in the marketplace and in the church in ways that are beyond measure. I cannot help but smile when I think about the good being done daily by alumni in 48 states and 26 countries as they serve in pulpits, youth settings, counseling centers, public and private school classrooms, non-profits, hospitals, orphanages, domestic violence shelters, overseas mission fields,

new church plants, businesses, and parachurch organizations ministering to all kinds of needs. I cannot imagine the void in the Kingdom of God and in society in general if biblical higher education did not exist. I am the product of a college education based on the Word of God. Mid-Atlantic will always have a piece of heart and my wallet until I see Jesus.

I am anticipating a wonderful ministry with Financial Planning Ministry (FPM), fpm.org, that will allow me to play a role in strengthening the financial base of Mid-Atlantic. FPM has a heritage of trust and stewardship as she serves those wishing to leave a legacy of Christian values through their churches and ministries they love. FPM has served the Kingdom for 35 years with a dimension in Christian stewardship that is unmatched. There is over \$1,000,000,000 (yes, that is one billion) in gifts designated for Christian ministries from 23,000 families like yours and mine so that our values of faith in Christ can be passed on to the generations

to come. Since 2004, Mid-Atlantic has been one of the sponsors enabling you and me to be better stewards. Designated, or planned giving, is for all believers, those with significant means and those with modest means. It is exciting to know that I will be a part of ministry focused on Jesus' favorite topic: stewardship.

Thank you again for the wonderful privilege to serve at Mid-Atlantic. I love each of you. Thank you for your prayers and your giving to a place that impacts the world by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders. We are empowered by your prayers. We are enabled by your giving. Peace.



Serving those who serve,

*Clay*

D. Clay Perkins, Ph.D.  
President

# TRANSITIONS

## Embracing Transitions



BY JOHN W. MAURICE  
INTERIM PRESIDENT

THE WRITER OF Ecclesiastes reminds us that to everything there is a season. Those who serve in pastoral ministry may preach a funeral, conduct a wedding, and make a hospital visit with a family that has just given birth all in the same day. Farmers plant crops during one season and harvest them in another. We experience four seasons each year. In each season, God is at work. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says "Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end" (New Living Translation).

I find great comfort knowing that God is at work when we transition from one

season to the next. One of the reasons people resist change is that they get comfortable with things the way they are. When we are comfortable, we don't stretch ourselves. We close our minds to new possibilities. Times of transition present us with new opportunities to establish new goals and dreams, be innovative, overcome obstacles, and accept new challenges. In short, if we embrace transitions, we just might experience an incredible time of growth.

As President Perkins transitions to a new ministry, God is at work in his life. I look forward to hearing how God is going to use him to benefit the Kingdom in this next season of his life. His opportunities are endless as he follows God into a new season. At the same time, I am confident that God is at work preparing Mid-Atlantic Christian University for a new season. George Couros, an education consultant, says "Change is



an opportunity to do something amazing." God will make everything beautiful in its own time. The key to embracing transitions well is to remember that God is at work, and we must walk in faith because we "cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end."

Join this faith walk with me. Together, let us trust God to do an amazing work at MACU to transform ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders. I do not know what this new season will bring, but I am expecting God to do something amazing as we follow.

**TAKE THE SURVEY!** Help select MACU's fourth president by visiting [macuniversity.edu](http://macuniversity.edu) and taking a survey. The last day to participate in this survey is August 15. If you are reading *The Messenger* on line, click [HERE](#) to complete the survey.





## Giving from a Pure Heart

LEE M. FIELDS, PH.D.

NICHOLAS, A BREWERS fan probably about seven years old, attended a Diamondbacks-Brewers ballgame in Arizona, a home game for the Diamondbacks. On his way back to the dugout, one of the Brewers players tossed a baseball into the stands to young Nicholas. Unfortunately Nicholas dropped it, and it fell to the next deck. The people below passed it back up to a boy probably about 12 or 13, a Diamondbacks fan, named Ian. Ian naturally starts celebrating his souvenir. Nicholas, crushed that he missed the ball, leans on his mom. Within a few seconds, Ian notices the sad Nicholas, walks down, and gives him the ball. Ian then goes back up a few rows to sit with his friends, thinking nothing else about it.

In Isaiah 58, the Lord is chiding the Israelites for their fasting. They fast and they say, "Why do we fast and you don't see it? Why do we humble ourselves and you don't acknowledge it?" The Lord responds, "You fast for striving and contention and to strike with a guilty fist...." Then after a little he says, "Will such fasting get you a hearing in heaven?" In other words, they fasted so they might obligate God to forgive them for their sins, which they had no intention of discontinuing. But God is not fooled; he knew their hearts, and he would not be manipulated.

Isaiah 58:6-7 (NIV) reads,

*"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"*

The Lord is saying that all Israel's going through the motions of spiritual disciplines was not genuine, because it did not make a difference in how they treated people. The Lord wanted Israel to care for those who hurt emotionally and physically.

If we today go through the motions of going to church, daily Bible study, prayer, meetings, all kinds of church work, that is nice. But how do we treat others? Do we fight against our brothers, either verbally even physically? Do we presume that it doesn't matter how we treat others, because we go to church? Our disciplines should change us and how we relate to others.

Our giving to the church is one way to help take care of the needy. But our giving must never be in order to obligate God. Rather it must be in order to serve God by caring for others both emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

At the ballgame, Ian explained that he gave

the baseball back because "it was the right thing to do." He saw a hurting person and sought to heal the hurt. He did not expect any reward; he simply did a kind deed motivated by a pure heart.

The announcers were stunned by this gracious act and rewarded Ian by bringing him to the broadcast booth, giving him a baseball bat autographed by one of his favorite players, and other things. Ian's friends and even Nicholas, the beneficiary of Ian's kindness, got to go and received gifts.

In Isaiah 58:8-9 (NIV) the Lord tells Israel what will happen if their service to him is genuine:

*"Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I."*

Let's give with a pure heart. Let's give generously. Let's take joy not in what we might one day receive, but in knowing that we can bring pleasure to God's heart. Our light will shine, men will see our good deeds, God will be glorified, and God will relate to us closely. It's the right thing to do.



Abigail Mirau, Associate Professor

## Mirau Named Teacher of the Year 2017

MID-ATLANTIC WAS BLESSED two years ago with a young woman who was willing to leave the cool of Minnesota to begin her teaching career in the heat of North Carolina. In two short

years, Miss Abigail Mirau has endeared herself to students and colleagues alike. She was hired in 2015 to teach English Composition, but she has done much more.

She earned her undergraduate degree in 2010 and her Master's in English and Creative Writing in 2013, all the while using her writing, editing, and organizational skills in the workforce.

In addition to pouring herself into her classroom presentations, she has poured herself into her students as a mentor and friend. She has given them creative outlets with evenings of poetry presentations and other spoken word opportunities and has accompanied them to various presentations and events off campus.

Some of her students had this to say about her: "I look to her as a role model both in Christ and as a teacher" (Lauren Elizabeth Drysdale). "She performs her job professionally and is available when you need to see her" (Cody Marks). Excerpts from her colleagues include: She brings enthusiasm to the classroom and is raising the level of writing proficiency that helps students succeed in upper division classes. Her youthful energy and enthusiasm have undeniably raised student morale overall even for those not currently taking her classes. She is creative in presentation and diligent and conscientious in grading and

responding to students. Her poetry group has helped fill a need for some. She is supportive and kind to her colleagues. She interacts with students constantly and goes beyond the call of duty when it comes to participation in events outside her own classroom.

Congratulations, Miss Mirau!

*The Department of Arts and Sciences recognizes Elizabeth Reid as a gifted instructor and its Adjunct Instructor of the Year. In the 2016-2017 academic year Ms. Reid developed and taught the new course MA 161 Math for the Liberal Arts. One Education student said, "This course helped me pass the Praxis exam and continue in my planned teaching career." Elizabeth Reid takes seriously the admonition to do everything she does for the Lord. She invests her life in MACU students and works to make it possible for students to overcome obstacles.*

## Larsen Returns from Third Dig in Israel

DR. KEVIN LARSEN, Vice President for Academic Affairs, recently returned from a three-week trip to Israel (May 26 - June 17, 2017). There he joined the Associates for Biblical Research in their first season of doing archaeological work at ancient Shiloh in Israel. This trip marks Dr. Larsen's third trip to Israel to engage in archaeological research. Prior dig experiences include working at Khirbet el-Maqatir and Ashkelon.

Work that Dr. Larsen participated in during the dig season focused on excavating the Middle Bronze Age (c. 1700 BC) wall on the northwest side of the site. Previous excavations in the 1930s and 1980s revealed the defensive Canaanite wall on the north and west side of the tell. One of the objectives was to connect the two extremes. A long standing objective of the excavation, which will cover several years, is to identify more incontrovertible evidence for Israelite occupation of the site during the time of the Old Testament prophets. The Bible indicates Israelite occupation. Modern scholars deny the accuracy of the biblical account.



## DEAN'S LIST – SPRING 2017

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 (\*).

Fiona Stammers Allain  
Kelly Ann Anders  
Alyssa Shay Anderson  
Tara Dawn Bird\*  
Cheyenne Brothers  
Sarah Lunceford Bueno  
Sandra Home Carter

Taylor Kristyn Carter  
Jackson Laine Cooper  
Matthew Todd Cooper\*  
Joy Corbett\*  
Whitley Rosa-Leigh Davis  
Lydia Frye  
Christopher P. Gibbs

Emily Caroline Greene  
Jacqueline Alexis Hilts  
Gabrielle Howlett  
Ryan Kelley  
Thomas Kilian III  
Sarah Grace Litowski  
Leah Nicole Maclin

Cody Robert Marks  
Kendall Brooke Martin  
Abigail C Morgret  
Jessica Lynne Munding  
Caitlin Elizabeth O'Connor\*  
Emily Nicole O'Connor\*  
Joshua Paul Phillips\*

Olivia Caroline Maxey Reynolds\*  
Alexander L Stanley  
Breanna Lacy Teetor  
Jessica R. Troxell  
Brealle Kay-Ann White\*  
Olivia Catherine Wilgus\*

Three additional students achieved Dean's List but requested non-disclosure.



**Murphy Addresses Class of 2017**

EMMETT P. MURPHY, Senior Minister with Journey Christian Church in Elizabeth City, spoke for commencement May 13. During the service he himself was awarded a degree, Master of Ministry, *honoris causa* (see accompanying article). Graduates also heard messages from **Rita A. Maclin**, valedictorian, and **Danika J. Cooper**, salutatorian.

Honors and recognitions included service longevity awards: Director of Learning Enhancement Services **Katherine R. Smith**, Registrar **Yolanda K. Teske**, and Resident Hall Director **Salisa "Lisa" B. Williams**, 5 years; Adjunct Instructors **Shelly R. Greene**, **David S. King**, and **Stuart S. Paul**, 10 semesters of teaching; Financial Aid Administrator **Jenny E. Rowland**, 15 years; Chair of Department of Biblical Studies and Professor of Bible and Theology **Dr. Lee M. Fields**, 20 years; Receptionist **Cheryl D. Lindsley**, 30 years; Admissions Counselor **Garrett D. Lewis** and President's Secretary **Melissa I. Lewis**, 45 years. **Emily N. O'Connor** and **Emily C. Greene** earned the rank of first marshal and second marshal, respectively.

This year's class of 25 graduates (including those completing their studies in August and December 2016, as well as May) brings the total number of graduates to 2,072 (1,315 legacy RBC/MACU and 757 legacy ECI/ECC).



Emmett Murphy, Master of Ministry, honoris causa

**FIVE REPRESENT 155 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MACU:**



Garrett Lewis, Dr. Lee Fields, Melissa Lewis, Jenny Rowland, and Cheryl Lindsley.

**Bennett Receives Lighthouse Award, Murphy Awarded Honorary Master of Ministry Degree**

TWO MEN RECEIVED lifetime achievement awards at graduation May 13. **James A. Bennett** was presented the Lighthouse Award in recognition of his exemplary role as a faithful minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Kingdom servant. He is a retired Christian minister living in Virginia Beach, Virginia. During his time as a student at Roanoke Bible College (now Mid-Atlantic Christian University), Jimmy embarked on over 50 years of faithful ministry. He served at First Christian Church, Chase City, Virginia, and Lakeview Park Church of Christ in Virginia Beach while a student at RBC. After graduating in 1966, Jimmy moved to Salisbury, Maryland, to serve as Senior Minister at Quantico Road Church of Christ (1966-1969). He then helped establish Liberty Church of Christ in Salisbury (1969-1972).

In 1972, Jimmy moved his family to Virginia Beach to become the Senior Minister of Avalon Church of Christ. He remained there until he retired 43 years later. He led Avalon through much growth and several building programs. He also inspired Avalon to unprecedented generosity through teaching biblical stewardship principles that led the church to financially support kingdom ministry around the world. The impact of his ministry at Avalon can be seen through the transformed lives, missionaries sent out, and countless youth who went on to full-time ministry. Through consistent engagement, extravagant generosity, and faithful action, Jimmy's influence and impact have been felt across the United States and internationally as he served on the boards of various ministries.

Jimmy Bennett has been married to Shelly '66 for 50 years. They have one son, Jeff. Jeff and his wife, Lisa, have given Jimmy and Shelly two granddaughters, Madison (15) and Macy (13).

**Emmett P. Murphy** was awarded the Master of Ministry Degree, *honoris causa*. Emmett was one of seven children on a small farm in Virginia in a home where there was no money for higher education. However, J. T. Segroves spoke at Emmett's home church, and in the fall of 1962 he found himself at Eastern Christian College (ECC), hired to



James A. "Jimmy" Bennett '66 and Emmett P. Murphy

be the college cook, but cooking was just a means of paying for his education. For two years he cooked at ECC, took classes, sang in a trio, played basketball, and traveled almost every weekend with President Segroves. In his third year he was hired to preach for Big Run Church of Christ and for nine months drove 256 miles one way to preach morning and evening, returning late Sunday night and heading to class at 7:15 Monday morning.

At ECC he met the love of his life, Dolores Radov. They married during Christmas of 1965. Soon after Emmett began serving the Church of Christ in Sweet Valley, Pennsylvania; attendance increased 20 percent. From 1971 to 1986 he and Dolores served Central Islip Church of Christ in New York and saw 296 new members added and three men ordained into ministry. For the next seven years, Emmett served South Shore Church of Christ in West Islip, New York, where attendance grew five-fold.

Perhaps nowhere was growth more evident than during Emmett's ministry with Olivet Christian Church in Newport News, Virginia. From 1993 to 2005 attendance grew from 55 to an average of 375, a second worship service was added in 1996, a \$1.7 million worship facility was completed in 2001, two men were ordained to the ministry, and three staff members added.

His service has extended to the Kingdom at large. He is a founding organizer of the Eastern Christian Conference and a former trustee of New York Christian Institute, "Go Ye" Chapel Mission (and then The Orchard Group), and Mid-Atlantic prior to becoming MACU's Assistant Vice President for Development (2005-14).

Emmett and Dolores have three children, all active in the Lord's work. His lifetime of Kingdom work serves as a model of faith and endurance to all who would do the work of an evangelist and teach those who would also teach others.

To read more about Jimmy Bennett and Emmett Murphy, visit [www.macuniversity.edu/alumni](http://www.macuniversity.edu/alumni).

SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:



**SARAH A. BOWLES**  
BS: Youth & Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
**CHAMPAGNE S. BRICE**  
BS: Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies  
Minor: Family Studies  
**SARAH L. BUENO**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS: Youth & Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Minor: Cross-Cultural Ministry  
Cert.: Family Life Education  
**BRYAN E. COOPER**  
BA: Biblical Exposition  
**DANIKA J. COOPER**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BA: Biblical Exposition  
Minor: Cross-Cultural Ministry  
**COURTNEY A. LEAZER**  
BS: Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies



**CHARLES D. MABE, JR.**  
BS: Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
Cert.: Family Life Education  
**RITA A. MACLIN**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS: Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
**PAIGE A. MORSE**  
CUM LAUDE  
BS: Elementary Education & Biblical Studies  
**OLIVIA M. REYNOLDS**  
BS: Elementary Education & Biblical Studies  
**LEAH K. VAUGHAN**  
BS: Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
**OLIVIA C. WILGUS**  
BS: Elementary Education & Biblical Studies



**KEVIN S. WILLIAMS**  
BS: Youth and Family Ministry & Biblical Exposition  
**THOMAS A. KILIAN III**  
HONORS  
AA: Biblical Studies  
**LOUISE M. SPRY**  
AA: Biblical Studies  
**BRITNEY W. NEWSOME**  
AA: Biblical Studies

SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:

DEGREES PRESENTED PREVIOUSLY OR IN ABSENTIA:

**BRIAN M. RIDDICK, SR.**

BS: Entrepreneurial Leadership & Biblical Studies

**CATRINA B. WEBSTER**

BS: Counseling and Psychology & Biblical Studies

**HAROLD E. SCHRIER**

AA: Biblical Studies

**WYATT V. STANTON**

AA: Biblical Studies



SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:

DEGREES PRESENTED PREVIOUSLY OR IN ABSENTIA:

**AMY E. BONNER**

BS: Organizational Leadership  
Minor: Biblical Studies

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:



**TRAVIS HUNTER**  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE  
BS: Organizational Leadership  
Minor: Biblical Studies  
**VICTORIA L. PETRI**  
CUM LAUDE  
BS: Organizational Leadership  
Minor: Biblical Studies  
**SALISA B. WILLIAMS**  
BS: Organizational Leadership  
Minor: Biblical Studies  
**MICHAELA H. TAYLOR**  
AA: Biblical Studies



## AWARDS

# 2017 Honors Chapel Awards

### CHRISTIAN SERVICE RECOGNITION

Payton Cavallo, Zac Davis, Leah Maclin, Rita Maclin

### DISCIPLESHIP GROUP CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

Matt Cooper, Chip Mabe, Lisa Williams

### STUDENT BODY OFFICERS FOR 2017-18

Dom Chasse, President; Emily O'Connor, Vice President

### CHRISTIAN CHARACTER IN THE DORM

Alyssa Anderson, Marcus Simpson

### STUDENT ATHLETE RECOGNITIONS

See story, Page 9

### WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

Sarah Bowles, Sarah Bueno, Rita Maclin

### MACU DEDICATED STUDENT AWARD

Ben Hughes

### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Marcus Simpson

### CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY

David Dirks

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

Paige Morse

### NC-ACTE STUDENT TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Olivia Reynolds

### YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Rita Maclin

### MACU-ZONDERVAN THEOLOGY AWARD

Danika Cooper

### MACU-ZONDERVAN BIBLICAL GREEK AWARD

Abby Morgret

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

Sarah Bueno

### THETA ALPHA KAPPA HONOR CORDS

Sarah Bowles, Sarah Bueno, Courtney Leazer, Rita Maclin, Victoria Petri

## STUDENT LIFE

### Dates & Events

#### AUGUST

14-18 Fall Intensives  
18-20 New Student Orientation  
21 On-campus classes begin, 2 pm  
21-Oct. 15 Online Session A Courses  
22 Convocation Chapel, 9:30 am  
27 @MACU

#### SEPTEMBER

9 Motorcycle Rally & Charity Ride  
12 Grandparents Day

#### OCTOBER

16-20 Fall Break  
23-Dec. 17 Online Session B Courses  
26 Foundation Banquet  
26 Foundation Board Meeting  
26, 27 Trustees Meeting

#### NOVEMBER

10, 11 Eastern Christin Conference  
Hershey, PA  
16-19 ICOM, Peoria, IL  
22-24 Thanksgiving Break

#### DECEMBER

11-15 Final Exams  
Semester Break

#### JANUARY

8-12 Spring Intensives  
13, 14 New Student Orientation  
15-Mar. 11 Online Session C Courses  
17 @MACU

#### MARCH

22-24 MACU Rally

#### APRIL

Apr. 12 MACU Society Gala

### A Fond Farewell for Strawderman



Andrea Strawderman

ANDREA STRAWDERMAN FINISHED HER duties as Student Life Administrator in May. She has returned home to Wilson, NC, to seek a degree in nursing. She is a 2011 MACU graduate and has served students in her position for seven years.

Andrea was known for selflessly giving of herself to students. She spent endless evenings and weekends assisting students, going far beyond what the institution required. She knew how to make things happen, viewed every day as a ministry opportunity, and always put others first.

Andrea will be missed greatly

Drew Bromm '11, who became Campus Minister in 2016, has transitioned to Student Life Director, a position which will now include the role of Campus Minister.

### Meserveys Leave Vacancy

WITH THE CLOSE of the school year, Liz and Aaron Meservey have stepped down as Resident Hall directors (RHD) for Presley Hall. They have done a fantastic job of loving and serving our students as dorm parents for the last two years, setting a spiritual example while maintaining the Christian values that MACU holds for our community.

Liz and Aaron will continue in their ministry in a local church. Please join us in prayers of gratitude for their time with us and for prayers of guidance as we search for a new Director for Presley Hall.



The youth groups of West Belhaven Church of Christ (Belhaven, NC), Haw Branch Church of Christ (Chocowinity, NC), and Eastern Pines Church of Christ (Greenville, NC) joined together for a Timothy Retreat led by their respective youth ministers Senior Brian Warren, Joey Craft '16, and Caleb Reynolds '16. The retreat was held on campus June 30-July 1. Pictured from left: William Warren, Josh Barker, Jalen Kirkman, Adam Crisp, Carson Roeser, Caleb Reynolds, Braeden Cooper, Joey Craft, Brian Warren, and Matthew Marslender.

## MUSTANG ATHLETICS

# Athletes Honored at Spring Banquet

THE HIGHEST AWARDS given to athletes at their annual banquet April 2 were not related to athletic prowess but rather to Christian character, service to others, pride in the program, and high grades (see photos). In addition, athletes with outstanding game statistics were honored, along with team managers and captains. Team Managers – Violet Krawchuk, women's volleyball and basketball teams; Jackson Cooper, men's basketball team. Women's Basketball Captains – Cham Brice, Kamiah Gilbert. Men's Basketball Captains – Zach Camporese, Joe Hill.



Chip Mabe, Mallory Brogden, Jenilyn Stanton, Alex Stanley – The Christian Character award is given to those who displayed the most Christ-like characteristics.



Matt Cooper (left) and Mallory Brogden, Mustang Pride; Alex Stanley (center), 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 represents 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."



Leah Maclin, Matt Cooper, Alex Stanley, Zac Davis, Eryka Vincent – Highest GPA winners, recognizing academic excellence among athletes in each sport.

### Meneely Replaces Allgood as Athletic Director



Neal Allgood

AFTER SIX YEARS with MACU as Men's Basketball Coach and then Athletic Director, Neal Allgood has resigned in order to pursue full-time ministry in the church rather than in the university setting. Under Allgood's leadership, the university has expanded her athletic programs, now fielding teams in men's soccer, men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, and men's golf. He also led the university to membership in the USCAA (United States Collegiate Athletic Association), which provides quality athletic competition both regionally and nationally for smaller institutions of higher learning. Additionally, the percentage of student athletes who remain academically eligible each year for

the next season has increased. He has also engaged them in service to the community.



Andy Meneely

Andrew Meneely became the new Athletic Director on May 1. He holds a BA in Mass Communications from Taylor University and a MS in Kinesiology from the University of Texas. He has served as Assistant Coach for men's and women's basketball and has coaching experience at Taylor University, Pensacola State College, College of Wooster, and Lincoln Christian University. He has additional experience as a Sports Information Director at Indiana University Southeast.

As Athletic Director Meneely will be responsible for recruiting players and

coaches, scouting, strategy-planning, and player development. While coaching at Taylor University his women's basketball team enjoyed their first 20-win season in four years and won the NAIA Champions of Character award.

Allgood expressed his excitement by stating that he anticipates a "bright future for MACU Mustang athletics with all the experience that Andy brings to the table. My hope is that he will propel the program to the next level as he ensures that the student athletes are growing spiritually, academically, and athletically."

We bid Andy and his wife, Emily, a warm welcome. At the same time, we express gratitude for Neal's ministry with our student athletes and pray for him and his wife, Laura, as they begin a new ministry.



**New Ministries, Service**

**Dr. Johnny Pressley '75** has been called as Senior Minister by First Church of Christ, Washington, NC.

**Tony Pressley '78** is teaching the Blind, the Legally Blind, and the Visually Impaired for the summer and fall at The Lighthouse for the Blind of Sarasota and Bradenton, FL.

**Keith Wood '93** is now with Christian Financial Resources (CFR) as Regional Vice President for Indiana and Kentucky.

**Greg "Scooter" Breisch '94** is now on staff with College Ministries of Virginia. He will be the lead campus minister at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA, and starting the Christian Student Fellowship at CNU in the fall.

**Lisa Cross '99** is with Progressus Therapy and working in the public schools in Portsmouth, VA.

**Marty Anderson '03** has been called as the teaching pastor for The Point - Fuquay-Varina, NC.

**Joey Schools '12** is serving as the administrator of Countryside Christian School in Cambridge, MD.

**Josh Bondy '13** is working with Samaritan's Purse as a Donor Ministries Representative.

**Aaron Warwick ex'17** has been called as youth minister by Plymouth Church of Christ, Plymouth, NC.

**Kevin Williams '17** is youth minister for Gold Point Church of Christ in Robersonville, NC.

**Senior Abby Crouse** is a summer intern with Christ Fellowship Church in Bel Air, MD. She is working in the children's ministry during Sunday school, leading a Bible study for middle school and high school girls, and performing administrative duties.

**Senior David Dirks** is in Japan in a summer internship with OMF (Overseas Missions Fellowship) and under the mentorship of Martin and Ruth Ghent.

**Senior Kristyn Carter** is in an internship this summer with Catalyst Church in High Point, NC.

**Senior Jameson Lowery** is in a summer internship with Christ Episcopal Church in Elizabeth City.

**Senior David Rimarski** is serving Athens Chapel Church of Christ in Bath, NC, as youth minister.

**Senior Emily O'Connor** is serving mission points in Mexico and Tanzania this summer.

**Senior Cruz Rueda** is with New Life Christian Church, Chantilly VA, as Worship Director Intern.

**Senior Eli Russo** is serving Reclaim Christian Church in Ansonia, CT, as the youth and family summer intern. He is developing a youth program that others will continue after he returns to college for his final year.

**Senior Brian Warren** is ministering to the youth at West Belhaven Church of Christ, Belhaven, NC.

**Senior T.J. Martin** is in a ministry internship at Jamesville Christian Church, Jamesville, NC.

**Senior Sarah Litowsky** is serving a summer internship in Sofia, Bulgaria with MTW (Mission to the World) teaching English and building relationships with Bulgarian college students.

**Junior Amber Goodyear** is senior kitchen staff for the summer at Fort Caswell, a Christian retreat owned and operated by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in Oak Island, NC.

**Junior Symphony Mullins** is serving a summer internship with Open Arms Christian Ministries in Switz City, IN, where she ministers to girls in a group home.

**Sophomore James Ellis** has a summer youth ministry internship at West Side Community Church in Traverse City, MI.

**Births**

**Ethan '13** and Casey **Coltrain:** Adalyn Jo, Feb. 17

**Marty '03** and **Exie Beyers '03 Anderson:** Grace Lily, Mar. 3

**Brian '06** and **Jael Long '07 Harris:** Berea Athens, Mar. 6

*Notes of Sympathy*

Sympathy is expressed to families and friends of the following:

Dot Langley, wife of Trustee Gene Langley, Nov. 26

Dale Morris '79, Apr. 16

Eddie Hardison '68, May 11

Carol Byers '97, July 2

Alzira Divino, wife of Dr. Claudio Divino, July 6

Jim Franklin '79, July 6

Robert and **Lisa Andrews Denton ex'02:** Isabel Kala, Mar. 25

**Ben '04** and Gwen **Starkey:** Laura, Apr. 1

**Jared ex'14** and **Kelli Macqueen '13 Wice:** Haven Grace, Apr. 23

Eric and **Spring Guill '13 Roland:** Zaine Philip, Apr. 27

**Stephen '12** and Annalie **Brooks:** Juliet Faye, May 3

**Donald '16** and **Bethany Whitten ex'15 Waltz:** Barrett Joseph, May 14

**Weddings**

Preston Rouland and **Morgan Nayadley '16,** Apr. 22

**Reed Smith '16** and **Senior Emily Greene,** May 19

**Jared Hedges '13** and Megan Montgomery, May 20

**Senior Brian Warren** and **Whitney Rowe ex'18,** June 10

**Other News 'n' Notes**

Congratulations to **Denise Moulden ex'75** on her recent retirement from 25 years of service to the State of North

Carolina and the citizens of Washington County, NC, in her role as Clerk of Court.

**Frank Dodson '78** was honored with the inaugural "Frank Dodson Legacy Award" at the 2017 CCYC (Carolina Christian Youth Convention) Feb. 19. The award was created as a tribute to Frank's more than three decades of service and leadership to CCYC. CCYC's Executive Director, **Chris Woolard '04,** presented Frank with a trophy that reads, "Thank you for over three decades of service to CCYC. You have left a legacy around the corner, around the world, and into eternity."

**Seniors by the Sea** in June set three records: highest attendance, 280; money raised in the silent auction for the MACU Foundation, \$2,000; and an offering for the university's general fund offering, \$3,143. Thank you, **Emmett Murphy,** for your leadership in this area. Thank you, **Sherry Maurice ex'80** for your new role as leader of the Seniors by the Sea event.

**TRIBUTE GIFTS**

**GENERAL FUND**

Frances E. Albernathy, Tyler Baird, Gloria Brabble, Marian Clary, John Maurice (Honor); Frances Shell Jones, Estelle A. Murray, Yvonne Brabble Stephens (Memory) by Rebecca C. Jones

Steven H. Allen (Memory) by Frank & Mary Allen

Lewis & Estelle Allen (Memory) by Hilda Jones

Roy "Bill" Carter (Memory) by Cherry Avenue Christian Church, Scott Carter, Ron & Debra Hoopes, Sam & Joan May, William & Frances Lovett, Rutland Church of Christ, Helen Trippett, Harold & Billie Veasey, Ralph & Doris Veasey

Dennis & Debbie Crehan (Honor) by Dorlas Riley

Ryan Dent (Honor) by Shirley Hasty

Lee & Julie Fields (Honor) by Robert & Charlotte Ourada

Denis & Madia Fritz (Honor) by Joseph & Juanita Crute

Ken & Shelley Greene (Honor) by Steve & Renee Allen

Raymond Hall (Memory) by Ken & Cindi Gunselman

Landry Hayden (Honor) by Kyle & Kendal Hayden

Billy Jones (Memory) by Rosemary Church of Christ

**Mid-Atlantic Foundation News**

BY SANDRA PERKINS, FOUNDATION DIRECTOR



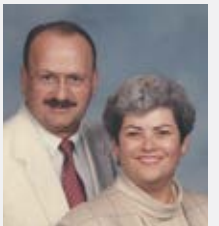
TWO OF THE newest endowment funds honor individuals who have exhibited significant Christian service and will be awarded to students at MACU in the near future.

Journey Christian Church in Elizabeth City has honored Dr. Larry Cooper, DVM, and his wife, Patsy Sawyer Cooper '70, by starting the Dr. Larry Cooper, DVM Scholarship. Larry has served as an elder and teacher for many years at Journey. Both the church and community have benefited from Larry's 40-year career as a veterinarian. His wife, Patsy, has faithfully served the church, her husband, and MACU. This is an endowment to be used for scholarships to MACU students in the biology program. Congratulations to Larry and Patsy.



Dr. Cooper with two of his clients  
Larry and Patsy Cooper

James F. Stanley, Jr., created the Brenda T. Stanley Memorial Scholarship after her passing on June 3, 2016. While students here, Brenda '74 and Jim '76 encouraged parents to send their children to one year of study at MACU. Brenda wrote an article for one of the college publications outlining how their lives had been changed by studying and preparing for ministry at MACU. Jim said, "We both believe strongly in Christian education, especially as it applies to ministry. Our desire is that this scholarship be used to well equip a student for eternally enduring service for Jesus Christ."



Jim and Brenda Stanley

To contribute to the Foundation, simply mark your gift "Foundation," or select online from the drop down tab. For more information about the Mid-Atlantic Foundation, contact Executive Director Sandra Perkins at 252-334-2003 or by email at sandra.perkins@macuniversity.edu.

James Joyner, Sr. (Memory) by Catherine Joyner

Dorothy Langley (Memory) by John & Sherry Maurice

Don Manis (Memory) by Anne Manis

Wayne Murphy (Memory) by Patrick Howard, Diana Murphy

Dr. & Mrs. Perkins (Honor) by Ken & Shelley Greene, Emmett & Dolores Murphy

Brenda T. Stanley (Memory) by Barry Britton, Larry & Kay Redding, James & Peggy Tedder

James F. Stanley (Honor) by Larry & Kay Redding

Wayne Trueblood (Memory) by Betty Trueblood

Ronnie J. Woolard (Honor) by Thomas Woodward, Jr.

**FOUNDATION**

Roy & Marie Allen (Memory) by Robert Allen

Jimmy & Shelby Bennett (Honor) by Avalon Church of Christ

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

Albert Blanton (Memory) by Time Investment Corporation

Keith & Nancy Boyer (Honor) by Floyd & Gail Lane

Charles L. Braswell (Honor) by Dr. & Mrs. K. W. Morris

Beth BonDurant, George BonDurant, Jonathan Boyd, Stephen & Annalie Brooks, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Claus,

Brandon & Nicole Craig, Glenn & Jessica Crocker, Tara H. Eaton, Eddie & Lisa Ewell, Ben & Heidi Fredericksen, Bill & Trish Griffin, Ken & Cindi Gunselman, Jay & Libby Hardison, Spenser & Allie Haskett, Kyle & Kendal Hayden, Bruce King, Tim Krugman, Corbin & Joanna Kuhn, Phillip & Karen Murdock, Kasey & Beth Nosay, Andrew Palermo, Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Palermo, Mr. & Mrs. Brett Palermo, Mr. & Mrs. Ross Palermo, Morris & Shannon M. Price, Malcolm & Debbie Puckett, Eric & Bree Pruitt, Matt & Pam Smith, Chris & Stephanie Stanley, Aaron Stokes, Andrea Strawderman, Betty Trueblood, Daniel & Rachel Voris, Bobby & Shari Wallace, Mickey & Joyce Witcher, (Honor). Bobby Claus, Grandpa & Grandma Cicco, Grandpa & Grandma Claus, Wedo & Sadie Dulio, Betty Lindsley, Grandpa & Grandma Sowder (Memory) by Rich & Cheryl Lindsley

Larry Cooper (Honor) by Patrick Cooper, Journey Christian Church, Emmett & Dolores Murphy

Lola Hensley Cooper (Memory) by Emmett & Dolores Murphy

Vickie Cox (Memory) by Alton & Dorothy Andrews

David Cuthbertson (Honor) by Horsepasture Christian Church

Frankie DeWald (Memory) by Edna DeWald

Willard & Florence Fritz (Memory) by Denis & Madia Fritz, Ken & Sue F. Hecht

Jake Griffin, John & Lucille Griffin, John & Janie Swindell (Memory) by William and Patricia Griffin

Steve & Debbie Hudgins (Honor) by Floyd & Gail Lane

Robert & Margery Johnson (Honor) by Draper Christian Church, Mary Steagall

Christopher Knollenberg (Memory) by Asturian Group, Inc., Nicholas & Vicki Simon

Dorothy Langley (Memory) by Gene & Alice Andrews, W. P. Barley, Timothy Best, George BonDurant, General & Mrs. Brady, Frank & Eleanor Carr, William Cross, Wyatt & Virginia Colclasure, Fred & Wanda Collins, Larry & Patsy Cooper, Kay Dezern, Royce & Bonnie Everette, Gregg & Tammy Hand, Henry Gilbert, Bill & Trish Griffin, Ken & Cindy Gunselman, Arthur & Debbie Holloway, Nettie Keeter, Rich & Cheryl Lindsley, Stephen & Kathy Lobacz, Bill & Danette McCracken, Dr. & Mrs. Clay Perkins, Patrick & Peggy Richardson, Barbara Smith, Harvey & Betty Spencer, Sunbeam Hunt Club Inc., Keith Tankard, Truth Seekers Class/West Park Church of Christ, Steve & Roberta Wiley, Eugene Worley, Ronnie & Trish Woolard

Michael Lease (Memory) by Dan & Renee Lease

Edwin Lipscombe (Memory) by Keith & Martha Anderson, Bill & Jan Lipscombe, Virginia L. Smith

Matthew Maurice (Memory) by Joyce Maurice, Michael Maurice, Katelyn Palko

Frances Mills (Memory) by Jerelene Richards

Robert Moulden (Honor) by Bessie Modlin, Rosemary Church of Christ, Eric & Kim Wagner

Glenn & Donna Murphy (Honor) by Floyd & Gail Lane

Marshall & Viola Murphy (Memory) by Diana Murphy, Emmett & Dolores Murphy

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

Jonathan B. Sawyer (Memory) by David & Daphne Ollman

J.T. & Addie Segroves (Memory) by Jaranell Fritts

Louise Cuthbertson Sharder (Memory) by David & Linda Cuthbertson

Lamira Slagle (Memory) by Jimmy Slagle

Robert W. Smith (Honor) by Rachel Smith, Riley & Amber Smith

Brenda T. Stanley (Memory) by James F. Stanley

Gerald & Joan Wilgus (Honor) by David & Colleen Wilgus

Harley "Tom" Wood (Memory) by Ruth Wood

Guy & Dot Woolard (Memory) by Ronnie & Trish Woolard

**MATCHING GIFTS**

Bank of America for Alan Presley

Dominion Foundation for Jerry Norris

Norfolk Southern Foundation for Donna D. Fisher



**MID-ATLANTIC**  
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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Elizabeth City, NC 27909

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Mid-Atlantic Christian University is accredited by The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates, associate, baccalaureate, and masters 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.



**BROCK GILL**  
ILLUSIONIST

**@MACU**  
August 27, 5-7 pm

## @MACU

August 27 Brock Gill @MACU 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
January 17 Melvin Adams @MACU 5:00 - 7:00 PM

### Travel with MACU to the Dominican Republic MARCH 9 - 18 CASAS POR CRISTO

A MACU on Mission trip

Some Tuesday Tour days will feature guest chapel speakers whose faith impacts their businesses, medical practices, approach to teaching and more. For details, check the web site or contact [admissions@macuniversity.edu](mailto:admissions@macuniversity.edu).

### 2017 MACU BIKE RALLY & CHARITY RIDE SEPTEMBER 9

To raise funds for a student scholarship in the Foundation

Register online at [macuniversity.edu](http://macuniversity.edu)

