



Going DEEPER, Reaching HIGHER

Meet Senior Destiny Robinson, another student who has found that she can go deeper and reach higher in her faith at Mid-Atlantic Christian University.

"My journey at MACU has involved finding my calling and identity. I've found a way to empower other people through conversations and testimonies. I think I've grown in who I am, and I cannot wait to see where God leads me!"



Going Deeper, Reaching Higher

BY PRESIDENT JOHN MAURICE

THE THEME FOR Mid-Atlantic Christian University this academic year is Going Deeper/Reaching Higher. The challenge for our community is to Go Deeper in our Christian faith and walk and Reach Higher than we have ever reached before.

Jesus said that the wise person is one who builds on a firm foundation – the rock. He said the wise person is the one who hears His words and does them. He contrasted the wise man with a foolish man – the one who built his house on sand; when the storm came, it destroyed his house.

At MACU we are committed to educating students upon the solid foundation of the authoritative, inspired, inerrant Word of God. The Scriptures provide the solid foundation upon which to build lives of meaning and service.

The 2019-2020 academic catalog states our approach to higher education: “The educational philosophy of Mid-Atlantic Christian University rests upon the conviction that all truth comes from God. Only the Bible, God’s Word, enables us to integrate all fields of knowledge into a meaningful unity; it alone answers the deep questions of the human mind and spirit. Hence, all courses at Mid-Atlantic Christian University are taught from the perspective of the Christian worldview. Mid-Atlantic Christian University provides a Christian education based on a threefold program of undergraduate

instruction: Biblical and theological studies, general studies, and professional studies” (2019-2020 Academic Catalog, 7).

The foundation of the Twin Towers rested directly on the rock at a depth of more than 70 feet below the ground surface. The Empire State Building’s foundation is 55 feet below the ground surface. The Sears Tower in Chicago is built on a foundation more than 100 feet deep.

It is obvious: the taller the building, the deeper the foundation.

If we are going to build strong lives that will stand against the storms of life, the attacks of Satan, and the winds of secularism, then the foundation in Biblical studies must be dug deeply. Because of your partnership, there are 199 students (tied as the third largest enrollment in our 72-year history) going deeper in their faith.

Reaching Higher is essentially spiritual growth in Christ as detailed in 2 Peter 1:3-8: “His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-

control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Spiritual growth includes Going Deeper and Reaching Higher as we: (1) increase our knowledge and understanding of God’s Word, (2) decrease the frequency and severity of sin, (3) increase our practice of Christ-like qualities, and (4) increase our faith and trust in God. Perhaps the best summary of spiritual growth is becoming more like Jesus Christ. Or, in the words of our mission statement, “The mission of Mid-Atlantic Christian University is to transform ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders.”

Please pray that our students will be transformed as they pursue Christ. We want them to Experience Christ, Encounter Community, Excel in Education, and Engage Culture so that they can Impact the World for Christ. That’s a mission to get behind!



Growing and reaching,
John W. Maurice



Leadership Team



Front: President John Maurice, Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Larsen. **Back:** Vice President for Enrollment Services Marty Riley, Vice President for Student Life Jay Banks, Vice President for Finance Sara Shepherd, Director of Institutional Advancement Beth Cross.

Cross Added to Leadership Team



MACU WELCOMED BETH Cross in July as the Director of Institutional Advancement. She is a 2005 graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Bible and Theology and minor in Nonprofit Leadership and Administration. Director Cross comes to the university after ten years as Executive Director of Help and Emergency Response, Inc. H.E.R. is a shelter and resource center for domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. As Executive Director, she was responsible for a 1.8 million dollar budget (not including land assets) and a staff of 48. Grant income was approximately 1 million per year; fund-raising and community support supplied \$600,000-800,000 per year. H.E.R. provides shelter and services to over 500 women and children every year.

“I am impressed with what my alma mater is doing and where we are heading and am excited to bring a focus on community impact and justice to our work,” noted Cross. Beth is wife to Aaron Cross ’03, minister at Christ’s Fellowship Church in Portsmouth, VA. They have three sons. You can reach Beth at beth.cross@macuniversity.edu.

Planning for a Great Year

FACULTY AND STAFF met Aug. 2, 5, and 6 to plan for the school year. In addition to department updates, food, and fellowship, they received training from trustees Connie Jenks ’87, a licensed counselor who has her own practice, and Jonita Shoaff, a veteran teacher and trainer.



Back: Dr. Lee Fields, Dr. Bob Smith, Dr. Ken Greene, Chip Mabe, Dr. Kevin Larsen, Sara Shepherd, Abbey Mirau, Dr. David King, Dr. Gerry Woodworth, Pres. Maurice, Dr. Jay Banks, Andy Meneely. **Middle:** Kathy Smith, Rich Lindsley, Yolanda Teske, Marty Riley, Jenny Rowland, Bobby Adams, Lisa Williams, Tiffney White, Dr. Ascension Gomez, Dr. Claudio Divino, Garrett Lewis, Wendy Flores, Nicole Sershen, Dr. Ronnie Woolard. **Front:** Vicki Riley, Melissa Lewis, Patricia Daniels, Kaylin Shields, Brittany Meinsen, Jordan Eisenhardt, Dr. Beth Strecker, Cheryl Lindsey, Joan Sawyer, Beth Cross, Nancy Duffer, Emily Meneely.

Strecker Leads Education Program



DR. BETH STRECKER, who became the Library Director in 2018, accepted the offer to teach full-time. Her new faculty position is Assistant

Professor of Education and Director of Teacher Education. She will continue MACU's strong tradition of having quality people lead the teacher education programs.

Dr. Strecker follows Dr. Cheryl Luton, who is now serving as Director of Teacher Education at Elizabeth City State University. A search is underway to hire a new librarian (see macuniversity.edu/alumni, Career Opportunities at bottom of page). Until her replacement is found for the library, Dr. Strecker will continue to give oversight to the library as well.

Riley Directs Student Life



VICKI RILEY HAS been named Student Life Director. Along with diverse professional experiences, Vicki comes with a heart to serve and a love

for college-aged men and women. She received her degree from MACU in Counseling and Psychology/Biblical Studies in 2019. Previously she was a medical assistant in orthopedics for 12 years and before that worked in retail management.

She was born in Plymouth, NC, and grew up in the Plymouth Church of Christ. She has worked with children (nursery, Sunday school, children's church) and, along with her husband, has hosted small groups in her home. Vicki is married to Marty Riley, Vice President for Admissions. She follows Drew Bromm '11, who left in July to return to youth ministry in the local church.

Daniels Assists in Library

PATRICIA DANIELS BEGAN SERVING as Library Director's Assistant in August, following the retirement of Alice Andrews. Ms. Daniels retired from the public school system in June, where she was most recently the media specialist at Northside Elementary School in Elizabeth City. She holds a master of library science degree from East Carolina University.

Walker Fills IT Position

RITCHIE WALKER JOINS the staff part-time as Computer Support Technician. He has over 16 years of experience in information technology and currently works full-time for the local school system. His duties include managing employee/student Google accounts, updating and managing software and hardware on campus, and responding to work order tickets.

White Joins Finance Office

TIFFNEY WHITE IS now Administrative Assistant for Finance. Her main role is overseeing accounts payable. She is also the point of contact for purchasing, paying invoices, and submitting requisition forms, along with several other clerical duties.

Admissions Team Grows



TWO HAVE JOINED the admissions team full-time, with a special emphasis on reaching out to students in Christian schools and youth groups,

Chip Mabe '17 (Youth and Family Ministry degree) and Sophomore Dustin Mullins. Chip stated, "Working for MACU is like coming home. When I graduated in 2017, I wanted to return to Elizabeth City to pour into the community and the school. I love this school and everything that it has done for me. This is one of the ways that I can give back, by recruiting other students to come to MACU to be transformed into extraordinary Christian leaders."



Dustin noted, "I joined the staff here at MACU because of how much this school has impacted my life personally. MACU has played a huge

part in my growth. Because of this, I am passionate about showing future students what MACU has to offer."

Meinsen Promoted



BRITTANY MEINSEN '14 HAS been promoted to Enrollment Manager. She holds a master's degree in Business Administration and

has been instrumental to MACU's new student growth. She has a deep love for MACU, as well. She said, "The reason I love working at MACU is the students! The ministry that God has allowed me to do through these students has been incredible. Being able to have a small part in helping build kingdom workers is why I love working here!"



Can a Head Start Be Moral? LEE M. FIELDS, PH.D.

IMAGINE YOU ARE a runner at a track meet and as you are lining up, another runner is given a 10-yard head start. You might yell, "That's not fair!" In real life, rule-makers and referees go to great lengths to make sure that no competitor has any unfair advantage over another.

The New Testament describes a setting in which a head start is a good thing! Second Timothy is Paul's final words to one of his dearest disciples. We know few details of Timothy's life. His father was a Greek, and his mother was Jewish (Acts 16:1-2). We also know that when Paul met him, he was not circumcised, so his family was at least not strict in observance of Jewish practice. About Timothy, Paul writes in 2 Timothy 1:3-7:

³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this

reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

This passage teaches that Timothy had at least two things: a head start and a burning desire.

First, Timothy's head start was his upbringing in a godly family. He was raised by a mother and grandmother that loved the Lord and taught him the ways of Scripture. Some people may think Timothy had an unfair advantage: "Well, yeah, he has always been a Christian and of course he knows the Bible. But I was abused in my family and they never took me to church." Some may think Timothy was naïve, "Yes, he was a fine boy, but that's the Bible. I know how the real world works."

The correct lesson, however, is this: Timothy did have an advantage over those who grow up with no knowledge of God or the Bible. But it is not like starting a 100-meter race with a 10-meter head start. It is more like starting a 100-meter race from 10 meters behind, but you start sooner. When you reach the starting line

and the gun goes off, you are already moving full speed while the others are just getting started. You actually run farther!

Second, Timothy had a burning desire. Paul urged him "to fan into flame the gift of God." One of my favorite baseball movies is *The Natural*. Early in the movie, Roy Hobbs as a youngster is playing ball with his dad. He is a pitcher, and he shows a lot of skill and power even as a young boy. His dad says to him, "You've got a gift, Roy. But it's not enough. You've got to develop yourself. You rely too much on your own gift, and you'll fail."

Your abilities are gifts granted to you from God. "Fanning into flame" entails knowing your gifts, honing them to maximize your ability, and using them in God's service.

Let us work to give a head start to all by producing spiritually and emotionally healthy churches and families. And rather than squander our gifts by wasteful or non-use, let each of us commit to fanning into flame the gifts God has given to us. God does not fail, and we will not either.

Dig Israel This Summer

Shiloh - where Joshua set up the tabernacle after the Israelites entered the promise land (Joshua 18:1). Shiloh - where Samuel received his call to be a prophet/judge (1 Sam 3:21).

JOIN DR. KEVIN Larsen and others with the Associates for Biblical Research as they continue doing archaeological work at Shiloh in the summer of 2020. He will be there four weeks, but others may choose any week/s to be there.

- **Cost for hotel, meals, and dig fees:** 1 week, \$1,100; 2 weeks, \$2,000; 3 weeks, \$2,900; 4 weeks, \$3,600.

- **Additional costs:** airfare (about \$1000 - \$1500), medical coverage (about \$20/week), spending money (\$75-\$100/week suggested). Hotel accommodations are in Jerusalem, a 5- to 10-minute walk from the old city. Academic credit available. \$500 deposit due December 15, all money by March 15, 2020.
- **FMI:** kevin.larsen@macuniversity.edu

HOW IS MACU impacting the culture for Christ, both here and around the world? The following reports are a small glimpse at what students, alumni, administrators, and faculty are doing locally and globally as they teach and preach, work with various age groups, be the hands and feet of Jesus to the needy and broken, and prepare to shine their lights in the workplace with quality, reliable work. The infographic summarizes ways MACU impacts students, who then impact the world, as they Experience Christ, Excel in Education, Encourage Community, and Engage Culture.



Theophile Rugubira (left) is Frank Reynolds' (right) partner in Rwanda and will be one of the key leaders assisting Dr. Larsen as MACU pursues approval to offer Rwandan preachers an associate degree.

Training Preachers in Rwanda and Brazil

THE GOVERNMENT OF Rwanda recently passed a law requiring preachers in the country to have at a minimum an associate degree from a recognized institution of higher education. MACU graduate Frank Reynolds '76, founder and director of Rwanda Challenge, a missions organization involved in leadership development in Rwanda, asked MACU to consider offering an associate degree for preachers in the country.

Dr. Kevin Larsen, vice president for academic affairs, will be traveling to Rwanda in mid-October to meet with government officials and prospective students to see how MACU might be able to assist in meeting this Kingdom opportunity. Also in October, President Maurice, accompanied by Dr. Claudio Divino, will be in Brazil to teach a week-long intensive class, Ministry Formation.

Ministering in the Mission Field of Public Schools

From a social media post by Jennifer Hitch Kelsey '99

THIS IS YEAR 21 for me. It has been a while since I have written a "the public school is my mission field" post, but today I need to. Today a 13-year-old knew that I was his person. His safe person. His trusted person. His nonjudgmental person. Today his world cracked a little finding out that one of his gang friends was shot last night. Yes, you read that right. Gang friends. This is a kid I love regardless of his affiliation, and my heart broke for him today. He is struggling morally with his decision to join a gang. He won't tell you that because you are not his person, but I listen because I am. Do I want him in a gang? NO! Do I understand why he is? Yup. In his world, he is "manning up" to take care of his family. Today I understood why math class was not his priority. Today he needed to grieve and talk it out and to cry. Today he needed a Momma K hug. Today he needed to see a bit of Jesus. Tonight I will pray that his friend pulls through because I told him I would, and it is my honor to do so. I will also pray for my kiddo's safety.

Today was hard, the conversation draining, and the news devastating, but public school needs me. He needs me. Frankly, he needs US. If you have not been in a public school lately, volunteer. If you are in the trenches with me, I love you. If you pray, now is the time. These kiddos are so broken and need to know they matter. Public School is My Mission Field.

Victor '99 and Jennifer Kelsey live near Raleigh, NC, where he works in a special education class for children with behavioral issues. She teaches 7th grade math.



"Our program is multicultural . . . from different backgrounds, religions . . . The student experience was one of growth, learning. She grew a trust with them and within a short period of time a sense of belonging. She managed to fit in regardless of the cultural differences and made a difference in their lives."

Ms. Susanne McMannen
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Virginia | Norview Unit, Norfolk, VA

What People Are Saying

WHILE MINISTRY TAKES many forms and should be done in all aspects of life, there is a special heartbeat at MACU for those who are called to do ministry vocationally. As part of the educational process, students who are preparing for vocational ministry complete an internship. The internship program requires students to work with an individual on site to mentor them during their time of serving in a church, on a mission field, or with a parachurch organization. Pages 6-10 highlight just a few of the comments made by field mentors over the past three years about MACU students. **MACU is proud of all of our students who use their talents and skills as instruments used by God to further His kingdom.**

Giving and Serving in the Name of Jesus

From a social media post by Jason Bedell '01



"I'VE NEVER HAD new shoes! I really get to keep these? New Balances are awesome." While this young man was over the moon about shoes, the room was filled with similar stories all day long during aidnow's (aidnow.org) annual back-to-school event, Jump Start. Jump Start helps 500+ homeless and/or displaced families every year. All year long they work with social workers to provide aid and assistance to families in Virginia Beach schools.

One of the things that brings me so much joy from @aidnow is that it started so simply. After watching the news about a school district in northern Virginia that chose buying more buses over using the funds to help kids in need in their district, it made me do a little digging about our own city. A quick search revealed how many families were in need in our city. What could be done about it? I sent an email to some people in our church, met with seven people in the cafeteria of Ocean Lakes High School one Sunday morning and shared, "Our city has a need. Somehow we as a church need to come alongside the social

workers and educators to meet their needs. No kid should have to go without in our city." And from there @aidnow was born. They have run full speed with it ever since.

From its inception the board has worked tirelessly with schools, families, social workers, and local businesses to make sure that every child, no matter their situation, has the resources they need and knows they have value. They are lavished with love, and it's an honor to play such a small part in the greater impact #aidnow is doing. At the very least, this young man walked into his first day of school with his first pair of new shoes. He was proud to wear them, and it was an honor to serve him that day.

This all began from the inner convictions of following this Middle Eastern Jewish Carpenter turned Rabbi. He once shared, "I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

Jason Bedell is lead pastor with Forefront Church in Virginia Beach, VA.

"The student was placed in several ministry settings and took initiative and seemed comfortable in them all. He ministered to people ages 10-80 years old. I honestly have to remind myself that the student has not been to seminary yet. . . . In my experience MACU students have demonstrated a commitment to Scripture, ministry, missions, and the local church."

Pastor Craig Stephans
Church of the Redeemer, Camden, NC

To Kenya, with Love

SENIOR SYMPHONY MULLINS served a summer internship in Kenya under the auspices of Shalom Christian Missions. The mission oversees New Beginnings Children's Center in Magunga, Nyanza, Kenya, providing a place for orphans and vulnerable children to live and grow. The mission serves to provide them a place to become caring adults who know and have experienced the love of Jesus Christ.



Symphony and some of the Kenyan children send greetings



Providing Shelter and Hope

AFTER 26 YEARS in the Navy, Chris Cephus was discharged as a combat veteran. Later he enrolled in MACU, graduating in 2018 with a degree in Family Studies and Biblical Studies. Chris is now the Shelter Manager for the RESTORE Shelter in Portsmouth, VA.

The RESTORE Shelter is a 25-bed facility for homeless families. In 2018 the organization running the shelter could not financially support the operations, and the shelter was closed, displacing 25 families into street homelessness. Knowing these families would take desperate measures to ensure housing for their children, Chris and his colleagues at the HER Shelter, where he did an internship as a part of his MACU program, stepped in to reopen the space and took over operations in September 2018. The

shelter is located in the highest crime rated neighborhood in a city that ranks Number 1 on the FBI's list of most dangerous cities in Virginia. Chris was meticulous in finding key staff to inspire and care for clients and in building rapport with the surrounding community. "I believe God can restore any story. I love the parable of the Good Samaritan, and I know just simple acts of kindness can change lives," noted Chris.

Using his grit as a disciplined Navy vet and grace as a ministry leader, Chris has led an incredible movement to restore lives at the RESTORE shelter. If you would like to help or visit Chris at the Restore shelter you can find him at RESTORE, 119 Columbus Ave., Portsmouth, VA, or 757-392-2167.

"The student is very talented and willing to step up and perform. He has shown much improvement in preaching and in his preaching delivery. He preached once every month.

Pastor David K. Jones
Poplar Chapel Church of Christ, Jamesville, NC

Youth Ministry Internships



Ethan Coltrain '13 (left), senior minister, with Ray Tyre (right)

North Carolina

SENIOR RA'QWAUN (RAY) Tyre served as a summer intern in youth ministry with Union Grove Church of Christ in Pantego, NC. He also worked with campers (ages 5-18) at Roanoke Christian Camp in Washington, NC. He shared that his favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 41:13, "For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, 'Do not fear; I will help you.'"

Virginia

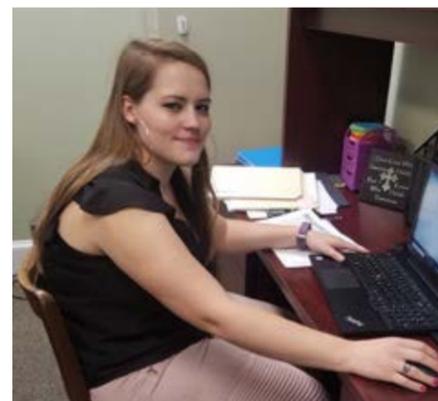
SENIOR RYAN KELLY, student ministry intern at Northside Christian Church in Yorktown, VA, did a lot of teaching throughout the summer, helped plan and coordinate events, and went on various trips with the youth group. He also had the opportunity to preach. One of the youth outings was to a CIY Move conference at Lee University in Cleveland, TN, with a side trip to Chattanooga and the Lookout Mountain Incline Railway. He served alongside Reed Smith '16, Student Minister at Northside.



Emily '18 and Reed '16 Smith; Becky Reichart, Student Ministry Administrative Assistant at Northside; and Ryan Kelley at the top of the incline

"The student was truly excellent in every respect. This student has brought a real blessing to our church's ministry to youth, as is indicated by the growth we have experienced. The student was really committed to responsibilities.

Pastor Steve Bryan
Columbia Christian Church, Columbia, NC



Business Better than Usual

LYDIA FRYE, A senior in the Business Administration program, is serving her 300-hour internship assisting in the university's finance office.

Taking the Gospel Asea

STUDENTS AND STAFF from Philippi Church of Christ in Creswell, NC, spent a week this summer learning the fine art of boat building. The craft they worked on will be launched as a missions platform targeted to serve the island peoples of the South Pacific. The boat is being built in Elizabeth City by the Patrick and Rachel Whipple and family. During their week of work, the Philippi students lived in Maritime Ministry boats at the MACU docks and worked with Maritime Ministry staff on multiple mission-boat projects. Benj '18 and Jacqui Hilts '19 Nichols led the youth; he is their youth minister, she, the media secretary for Philippi.



"The student has a servant's heart. He was flexible to help teammates in any capacity that he could. I know he had conversations with many different ethnic groups throughout Queens.

Pastor Noy Castillo
International Project, New York City



Dishing up Kindness

SENIOR AMBER GOODYEAR (foreground) has served many summers at Fort Caswell Youth Camp in Oak Island, NC, this year as cafeteria supervisor. Here she stepped in to help on the serving line during one of the meals.

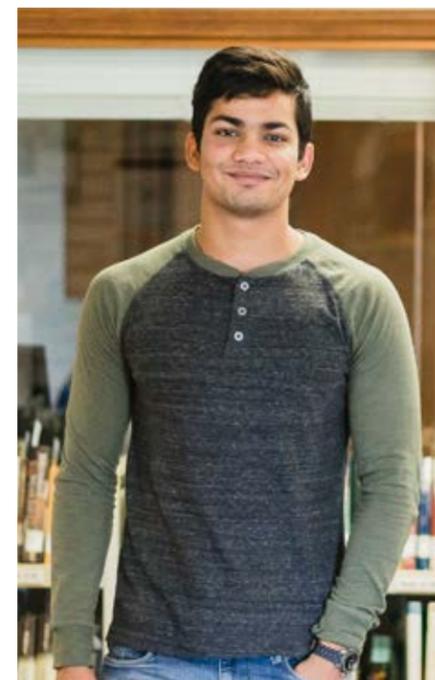
"The student was well prepared for assignments and exceeded duties in a prompt manner throughout the entirety of his internship. . . . Due to the abundance of passion and energy that the student demonstrated, we feel that the outcome was superior to anything anticipated.

Tom Kilian
Mercy Partners, Columbia, NC

Preaching Good News, Sharing Good News

SENIOR CHIRAG LAMBERT spent the summer traveling in three states preaching and representing the work of Central India Christian Mission (CICM). He stated that Bob Moulden '73 paved the way for him to have this fruitful summer. Bob has long been affiliated with the mission, serving at times as a board member or stateside representative, raising money, and visiting the mission to preach and teach. He reported on Chirag's summer: "I want to

thank the many people who prayed for Chirag this summer and encouraged him in his ministry. He worked in Christian camps, VBS programs, and Sunday services. . . . in North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. God blessed him with safe travel and effective ministry. His mission was to share the Gospel of Christ and to present the work of CICM. He did both very well." Chirag is available to continue this ministry during the school year.





MACU Mission Trip to Zimbabwe May 15-29, 2020

SERVE THE CHURCH abroad with a team led by Dr. Claudio Divino. The photo is from the school-sponsored trip he led in 2015. For more information about the trip – what to do to participate or to help send students – contact him at claudio.divino@macuniversity.edu.

IMPACT

Experience Christ **500+** CHURCH LEADERS
25 COUNTRIES WITH ACTIVE MINISTRY
 STUDENTS IN CHURCH RELATED MINISTRY AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE **68%** GRADUATES

Excel in Education

93% OF GRADUATES FELT PREPARED FOR FURTHER EDUCATION & CAREER GOALS

MACU shapes students into ministry and workplace leaders who advance their field. Our degree programs engage the heart, soul, mind and strength of each student for success in life and career.

Encounter Community

Known for our community culture, students form meaningful and lasting relationships that will support them for years to come. MACU also works to advance diverse opportunities in athletics and campus life. Sports. Music. Fun. Faith. Friends. Life.

53% OF STUDENTS ARE WOMEN
31% OF STUDENTS ARE MINORITY
92% REPORT A CULTURE OF COMMUNITY

Engage Culture

With 32 degree options and 15 disciplines in ministry, business, biology, bio psychology, education and counseling, students are equipped to engage and respond to issues and needs of culture and bring peace and truth to the world.

Mustangs on the Way Up

THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT has shown tremendous growth over the last two years. This year 89 athletes are filling over 100 roster spots. Excitement is growing as the soccer team captured its first win, defeating Penn State York 8-2. Soon after players celebrated their first home game win in program history, downing Patrick Henry 3-2. Soccer began as a club team in September 2015. These victories snapped a nearly four-year and 32-game losing streak for the Mustangs.

The inaugural baseball team has played several fall ball games, and the new sport is generating a lot of energy. And it's no wonder with the intensity of Head Coach Jason Goetz. From an interview found on the web site:

MACU Sports: After taking the field for the first time, what impressed you the most about this collection of players?

Coach Jason Goetz: Energy, Effort, Tempo, Sense of Belonging. These guys played

with zero fear. You would not have thought that 95% of our roster were freshmen by watching the way we played. Togetherness was also something that impressed me. These are all things we talk about on a daily basis, but to actually see it in a game setting was very rewarding as a coach.

MACU Sports: First year program, so everything is all new. What can the fans expect out of your team when they come out to see them play?

Coach: We will be a high energy group that plays at an up-tempo pace. Baseball is often times considered a boring game due to the length of the game and the slow pace. We will try to do everything with an aggressive mindset to keep the game fun and enjoyable. I believe that when you play with an up-tempo pace, you limit the amount of thinking that your kids have to do on the field. I want these guys to react to situations and not necessarily

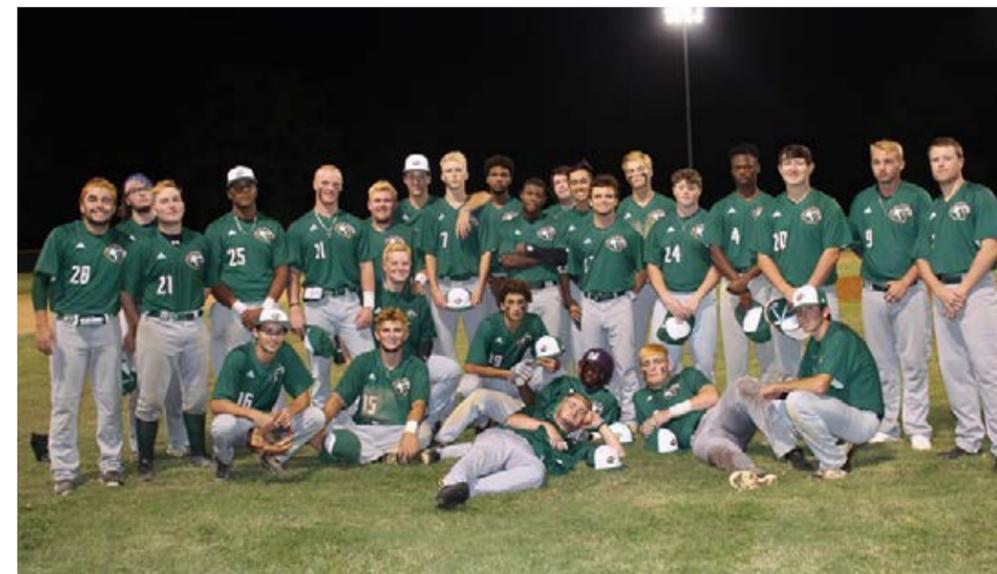
have to think about what they are to do.

MACU Sports: Any additional thoughts you want to share?

Coach: The fan support on Friday night was phenomenal. Hopefully everyone left knowing that we belonged on the field and that our guys were prepared for what they faced. Moving forward, I want to challenge the fan base to have the same mindset as our players. Let today's ceiling be tomorrow's floor. We need to keep increasing the level of support each and every night out, and bring a higher level of energy each time we play.

In all, Mustang teams will have over 60 home contests this year for students and fans to enjoy. To add to the student experience, there are also club teams for cross country, rowing, tennis, and eSports. Check out our website gomacumustangs.com and follow us on social media. Go, Mustangs!

Inaugural Baseball Team



Mustang Baseball. Kneeling: Gabriel Rivera, Will Warren, Andruw Cook (back), Marino Nunez, Christian Moody, Tim Heflin (front), Nick Boyle, Colby Spencer. **Standing:** Kaden Gonzales, Chandler Beard, Dakota Garcia, Chris Wilkins, Austin Hansmeyer, Kam Balance, Hunter Hall, Mac Jobe, Amiyun Summers, Jeren Harrison, Chris Stowe, Dennis Roebuck, Ryan Mitchell-Bagley, Caleb Whitley, Chase Miller, Ivan Dorbor, Tristan Stinson, Jakob Prebe, Parker Crews.



Those wanting to be a Mustang or wanting to support MACU athletics should visit gomacumustangs.com

Soccer Team



Mustang Soccer. Front row: Justin Jones, Brandon Belton, Allie Hackett, Amanda Lemons, Raquel Bowen, Will Hardin, Marco Cantera. **Back Row:** Dacoda Ange, Alex Stanley, Jon Langley, Norris Gardner, Evan Berk, Noah Jarman, Noah Bryant.

EMAC Player of the Week NOAH BRYANT

CONGRATULATIONS TO SOPHOMORE Noah Bryant, who was named one of the players of the week by the Eastern Metro Athletic Conference following the soccer team's historic home game win over Patrick Henry College.



Resident Assistants Student Government



Seated: Sarah Smith, Brealle White, D. J. Byers. **Standing:** Ryan Kelley, Talethia Alexander, Jonathan Langley, Ray Tyre, Mallery Brogden, Darrien DeFederico, Charquise Smith-Stultz, Marcus Simmons.



Left (going up): President Ryan Kelley, Brealle White, Gabby Howlett, Elizabeth Berkheimer. **Right:** Vice President Kendall Martin, Destiny Robinson, Allie Hackett, Linda Stanberry, Maddison Turner, Dristan Nobles

REACHING HIGHER

Mid-Atlantic Christian University has enrolled 199 students this fall, tying for the third largest enrollment in the institution's history. They come from 17 states and four foreign countries: Honduras, India, South Africa, and Ghana. Pictured are the news students present at the orientation dinner.



Front Row: (Vaughn Lira, visitor) Chandler Beard, Parker Crews, Hunter Russo, Ian Barrett, Patrick McCarthy, Alina Davis. **Second Row:** Jakob Prebe, Chase Miller, Kayla Wellbrock, Makayla Baggett, Ryan Blowe, C. J. McQueen, Katie Brickhouse, Jeren Harrison. **Third Row:** Jay Li Lowmack, Caleb Whitley, Gavin Bilbrey, Christian Moody, Gabriel Rivera, Marino Nunez, Trey West, Justin Jones, Will Hardin. **Back Row:** Mark White, Coleman Agbo, Ivan Dorbor, Dakota Garcia, Kam Ballance, Devian Warren, Ke'Shawn Taylor, Kevin Fletcher.

Tie for Third Highest Enrollment in School's History



Front Row: Nick Boyle, Tristan Stinson, Micah Seth, Tyeisha Williams, Matt Gordon, Misty Garza. **Second Row:** Dristan Nobles, Brandon Belton, Dacoda Ange, Emily Hardison, Michaela Modlin, Judea Edmonds, Anna Leidheiser, Hilda Soriano, Carrington Townes. **Third Row:** Christian LaRue, Aalyasia Dorsey, Aleah Riles, Sarita Smith, Clairese Smith, Kaden Gonzales, Damariae Smith, JaJour Lambert. **Back Row:** Hunter Hall, Will Warren, Colby Spencer, Malik Watson, Ryan Mitchell-Bagley, Dennis Roebuck, Amiyah Summers, Mac Jobe, Andruw Cook.

New Ministries, Service

Pat Farrar Waters '79 is teaching Spanish at John Paul II Catholic High School in Greenville, NC.

Gregg Breisch '94 is working at Mid-Atlantic Teen Challenge helping 13-17-year-old males who are struggling with addictions, family issues, anger management, and self-control.

Chris Thornton '96 is preaching at Dalton Hill Christian Church in Hillsville, VA.

Brandon Cordon '02 is a mental health case manager for Invictus in Aliso Viejo, CA.

Brian Harris '06 was sworn in as a Second Lieutenant and will be serving as an Air Force Chaplain in Lincoln, IL, after completing officer training in June 2020. In the meantime, Brian is preaching at First Christian Church in West Frankfort, IL.

Spenser Haskett '09 is serving as connections minister at LifePointe in Toano VA.

Drew Bromm '11 is the student minister at Wellspring Christian Church, Spring Hill, TN.

Kevin McNeil '13 and his wife, Maiah, have moved to Jacksonville, NC, for a one-year internship with Restore Church before launching a new work in Goldsboro, NC. This proposed church plant is under the auspices of Church Planters of Eastern North Carolina (formerly Eastern North Carolina Christian Men's Fellowship).

Olivia Wilgus '17 is teaching fourth grade at Long Hill Elementary School in Fayetteville, NC.

Leah Rudd Mabe '18 is teaching fifth grade math at Central Elementary School in Elizabeth City.

Leah Maclin '19 is teaching fourth grade at Northside Elementary School in Elizabeth City.

Sophomore Gene Ashton is preaching for Roanoke Acres Church of Christ in Manteo, NC.

Junior Amon McElrath is serving as youth minister with Friends in Fellowship Christian Church, Winterville, NC.

Sophomore Matt Eckert served a summer youth ministry internship with Edgewood Christian Church, Roanoke, VA.

Births

Scott '05 and **Samantha Eller ex'06 Montgomery**: Maybelle, Mar 23

Steven and **Kristen Marsh ex'03 Willmarth**: Saoirse Fern, June 7

Ross and **Hannah Zugg ex'19 Conley**: Addison Jane, July 30

Autrey ex'15 and Alexa **Jackson**: Elias Grant, Aug. 14

Phillip and **Britney Walther ex'17 Newsome**: Everly Dare, Aug. 30

Weddings

Vance Wood and **Simone Brown '98**, June 15

Jackson Cooper '19 and Bailey Burgess, July 5

Ian McCarty '09 and Heather Rabold, July 6

Levi Knupp and **Senior Lauren Elizabeth Drysdale**, Aug. 10

Ordinations

Chris Shoaff '96 was ordained Aug. 11 by the elders of Bethlehem Church of Christ, Hertford, NC, where he is serving as minister.

Other News 'n' Notes

Stoneybrook Church of Christ in Wilson, NC, recently honored their peacher, **Mark Woolard '90** and his wife, **Jackie '90**, for 30 years of ministry with them.

Sympathy is expressed to families and friends of:

- Michael McManus ex'78
June 16
- Travis Hunter '17
July 28
- Grace Sullivan Kendall '52
August 11
- Vivian Harris Schneider '79
August 15
- Debbie Presley, wife of David Presley '84
August 29
- Marilyn Faye Perry, sister of Thom Perry '62
September 12

DATES AND EVENTS

For more information, visit macuniversity.edu

- Nov. 7 Foundation Meeting
- Nov. 7, 8 Trustee Meeting
- Nov. 9 Open House
- Nov. 18 Crisis Intervention Training
- Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 9-13 Final Exams
- Christmas Break
- Jan. 6-10 Spring intensives
- Jan. 13 Classes begin, 2 pm
- Jan. 13, 14 New Student Orientation
- Jan. 26 @MACU
- Mar. 9-13 Spring Break
- Mar. 19, 20 MACU Rally
- Apr. 10-13 Easter Break
- Apr. 30 MACU Society Gala
- May 7 Foundation Meeting
- May 8 Trustee Meeting
- May 8 Graduate Supper
- May 9 Commencement, 10 a.m.
- June 2 Seniors by the Sea

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GENERAL FUND

Lewis & Estelle Allen (Memory)
by Hilda Jones

Dennis & Debbie Crehan (Honor)
by Dorlas L. Riley

James (Jimmy) V. Johnson (Memory)
by Domino Club (Avalon Church of Christ), Willard & Virginia Bauserman, Garrett & Melissa Lewis, John & Sherry Maurice, Fenner Woolard

Garrett & Melissa Lewis (Honor)
by Oak Grove Christian Church

Ken McCrickard (Memory)
by Jeff & Claudia Morris

Dale Morris (Memory)
by New Testament Christian Church

Preston Pitchford (Memory)
by Pete & Nell Lacy

Debbie Presley (Memory)
Thaddeus Tankard (Memory)
by John and Sherry Maurice

Bryan Smith (Memory)
by Carl & Geraldine Smith

FOUNDATION

Carolyn Allen (Memory)
by Robert Allen

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

Al Blanton (Memory)
by Time Investment Corp.

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

Al & Ann Clark (Memory)
by Richard & Joanne Clark, Carol C. Talbot

Robert Claus (Memory)
by Rich & Cheryl Lindsley, Towne South Church of Christ

Frankie DeWald (Memory)
by Edna DeWald

Alva Douglas (Memory)
by Amy Alligood, Arron & Nancy Douglas

Eastern Christian College Alumni (Honor)
by Maxine Guercio, Frank & Lois Harris, Carolyn Kustanbauer, Floyd & Gail Lane, Midge Segroves, Jonita Shoaff, William & Diane Ware

Lee Fields (Honor)
by Charlotte Ourada

Florence Fritz (Memory)
by Denis & Madia Fritz

Dot Langley (Memory)
by Truth Seekers Class of West Park Church of Christ

Larsen Linguistic Scholarship
by Christina Larsen

Masters Twelve (Honor)
by Dr. & Mrs. Jay Banks

Matthew Maurice (Memory)
by John & Sherry Maurice, Richard Kloss

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

Henry Clay Owney (Memory)
by Barbara Owney

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

Donna Scott (Memory)
by Christian Chapel Church of Christ

J.T. and Addie Segroves (Memory)
by Jaranell Fritts, Jonita Shoaf

Virginia L. Smith (Honor)
by Keith and Martha Anderson

Brenda, T. Stanley (Memory)
by Bethlehem Christian Church, Daniel & Stacey Elmes

Mildred Sechrest, Marshall & Thelma Stevens (Memory)
by Dr. & Mrs. Clay Perkins

Harley "Tom" Wood (Memory)
by Ruth Wood

MATCHING GIFTS

Abbott Laboratories for Jean W. Bennett

Dominion Foundation for Jerry Norris

Norfolk Southern Foundation for Donna D. Fisher

Giving by DOING



KENT GURGANUS EX'58 and the Eastern North Carolina DART team of IDES donated labor, hardware, and additional materials to build a wheelchair ramp in front of the Welcome Center, replacing a lift that was out of service. Lowe's Home Improvement of Elizabeth City provided the lumber at cost. We thank these friends for their generosity and stewardship of time and talent.

THE MESSENGER is published quarterly by Mid-Atlantic Christian University, 715 N. Poindexter St., Elizabeth City, NC 27909. Ph: 252-334-2000; Fax: 252-334-2071. E-mail: melissa.lewis@macuniversity.edu; Online: www.macuniversity.edu; Editors: John Maurice, Melissa Lewis (USPS 467-260)



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

MACUNITED

A music and drama traveling team representing the university directed by Jay Banks

MACUnion

A summer music and drama traveling team for youth from area churches.

Directed by Tony Krantz and Jay Banks



THIS IS US

72nd Annual Rally & Homecoming
MACU MARCH 19-20

ALUMNI/STUDENT
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WORKSHOPS
COFFEE
CONNECTION
REUNIONS
'50, '60, '70, '80, '90, '00, '10



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