



MID-ATLANTIC
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Messenger

2020 SPRING

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BOLD
2020

ACTS 28:19

He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

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This is Us. We are BOLD.

BY JOHN MAURICE, PRESIDENT

THE THEME “THIS IS US” was chosen for the 2020 Alumni Rally in reflection of the focus we have kept on our roots and how we are boldly growing forward. It is an echo to the name of a popular television show that depicts one family’s journey through life’s daily chaos and life moments. “This is Us” is a chance for us to own the beauty and grit of our own adventure and celebrate what brings us together, which is the Gospel.

Anyone familiar with Mid-Atlantic is aware that when we were established there were issues of doctrine and church polity that were at work which helped shape who we are. There were theological concerns as to the inspiration and authority of scripture, a leaning towards German rationalism, rejection of miracles detailed in scripture, ordination, and other issues dividing the churches of Eastern North Carolina and America. George BonDurant was called to serve as the Evangelist for the Roanoke District of the Churches of Christ and determined to establish a loyal Bible college. The term “loyal” carried the connotation that the college would be loyal to the Word of God and loyal to the idea of restoring the New Testament Church. In 1948, Roanoke Bible College was established in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. (For additional historical information, please see President Griffin’s thesis “Roanoke Bible College: The First Twenty-five Years”)

In 1948 Roanoke Bible College’s Statement of Faith was published. Every employee and trustee was required to be in agreement and sign the Statement of Faith. The same adherence to the Statement of Faith adopted in 1948 remains unchanged. **This is Us!**

1. Jesus Christ is the uniquely divine and only begotten Son of God, conceived without human father.
2. The Holy Scriptures are the inspired

- Word of God, infallibly recorded by men who were supernaturally guided by the Holy Spirit, inerrant in the originals in all the facts they attest and in all communications concerning salvation.
3. Every miracle recorded in the Bible happened truly and literally by the power of Almighty God.
 4. There is salvation only in the blood of Jesus Christ, shed by grace upon the cross of Calvary, and applied to the heart of the sinner by his own faith in accordance with the terms of the Gospel.
 5. There is an imperative necessity to restore the church of Christ which is described in the New Testament in order to remove division and to attain the unity of all believers, for which Christ prayed as the means of winning the world to Him.

The final sentence in the Statement of Faith is a belief that we must be about the business of restoring the New Testament Church. We believe that the pattern for the church of Christ is revealed in Scripture and that we must continually seek to align ourselves with the scriptural precedent and seek the unity of the body of Christ based upon biblical authority. MACU welcomes students from a variety of Christian Churches, and we seek to instill a love of Christ and the Word into each student as they study the scriptures and seek the truth of God and the unity of Christians. We are proud of our affiliation with the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ and continue to create leaders who will serve the Church. **This is Us!**

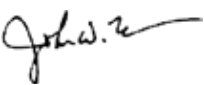
Education at RBC/MACU has always been Christ-centered and biblically focused. Only the Bible, God’s word, enables us to integrate all fields of knowledge into a meaningful unity. Hence, all courses at Mid-Atlantic

Christian University are taught from the perspective of the Christian worldview. God’s word alone answers the deep questions of the human mind and spirit. Mid-Atlantic Christian University provides a Christian education based on a three-fold program of undergraduate instruction: Biblical and theological, general studies, and professional studies. Mid-Atlantic Christian University believes that an educational program should cultivate development in all areas of a student’s life. Academics, student life, service-learning, and even athletics integrate practical experience and Christian service. **This is Us!**

The founders of MACU wanted to ensure that every student was prepared to stand for truth in a world that devalued truth. Our mission statement “Mid-Atlantic Christian University is an institution of Christian higher education whose mission is to impact the world by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders” can only be accomplished when we have confidence to believe that God’s word in action will be enough to change the world. It always has been. **This is Us!**

We have a rich legacy and, with God’s direction, a bright future. In 2020 we follow Acts 28:31 “to proclaim the kingdom of God and teach things concerning Jesus Christ, boldly and unhindered.” Join this amazing journey and help us prepare students that Experience Christ, Excel in Education, Encounter Community, and Engage Culture. **This is Us, and, we pray, ALL OF US!**

Building on our legacy,



John W. Maurice
President

Our challenge for 2020 is to be BOLD.

Our focus is on building the Kingdom one leader at a time.

We challenge you to boldly live out your faith with us this year.

BOLD

Leaders

BOLD

Communities

BOLD

Churches

BOLD

Futures


BOLD

Kingdom

BOLD

KINGDOM FOCUS 2020

ACTS 28:31



MID-ATLANTIC
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Sharing your mission with the world is the intent of the Gospel.

MACU has two new degree programs: Global Business Marketing and Public Administration. These programs will equip ministry and mission leaders to communicate and lead well.



On Asking God “Why?”

LEE M. FIELDS, PH.D. | CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BIBLICAL STUDIES | PROFESSOR OF BIBLE

LIFE IS HARD. WE SUFFER. We see people suffer. We want to know why.

We also see the biblical characters suffer and do not receive an explanation (Hebrews 11:36–38). In the case of Job, there is no record of his learning from God the reason for his suffering. The psalmist often asks the Lord, “How long?” or “Why?” How long will and why do the wicked prevail (Psalm 94:3; 74:11)? How long will does the Lord neglect his people’s suffering (Psalm 35:17)? Why does God not act for his people (Psalm 43:2; 44:23–24)?

Once in a while, though, we get a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes working of the Lord. In 1 Samuel 1:1–2:21 Hannah and her husband, Elkanah, were righteous and faithful, but Hannah was barren. Fertility was viewed as a sign of God’s blessing (Deuteronomy 7:13–14); barrenness was considered a sign of God’s displeasure (Exodus 23:25–26). Furthermore, Elkanah took a second wife, Peninnah, who did bear children and belittled Hannah (1 Sam 1:6).

Hannah could not understand why God would not answer her prayers for a child. At the temple, Hannah prayed again for a son and vowed to give him over to permanent service to the Lord. Eli, the priest says, “May the God of Israel grant your petition,” and Hannah departed no longer sad. Soon she bore Samuel and fulfilled her vow.

Hannah could not understand why she was barren. Readers, however, can see why: the delay of her fertility combined with her righteousness and faithfulness was used as a sign that the child she would bear was to be special. Samuel served as a priest and a prophet, and was the last of the judges (1 Samuel 2:35; 3:21; 4:1; 7:15). The Lord described Samuel as “a faithful priest” who will do the Lord’s will, as opposed to Eli’s wicked sons.

Here are some thoughts to consider:

1. Life brings suffering. We live in a fallen world. Everyone suffers. People hurt. Hurt people hurt people (the title of a book by Sandra Wilson on healing within and in relationships). But earthly life is not the highest good.

2. The Lord hears our prayers. In our suffering, we do not need to pretend we are not suffering, but we can bring our sorrows and complaints to the Lord in prayer.

3. We may not understand God’s plan behind suffering. God blessed Hannah with more children (1 Samuel 2:19). But neither all in Scripture nor all in our experience receive everything they request. Yet, we remain faithful to the Lord, because we know God’s goodness and wisdom (1 Corinthians 13:12).

4. When someone is in the throes of suffering give comfort, not theology. When you do not know what to say, it is well simply to be with the suffering, ready to listen to them when they are ready to talk.

5. Teach good theology before crisis. Teaching and learning good theology strengthens God’s people to endure trials, to strengthen the weak in crisis, and to proclaim Christ to a lost and searching world.



Students in Dr. Bob Smith’s Life and Teachings of Jesus class did a reenactment of Luke 5/Mark 2 to demonstrate that Luke knew what he was talking about. They built a roof and then removed “tiles” to lower a person through it.



Micah Seth, Admissions Counselor

I JOINED THE STAFF HERE at MACU because of the impact that this school has had on my life. I have a desire to share this same experience with students searching for the next step after high school. It has been a huge growing year for me, and Mid-Atlantic has been a huge part of that.



Chapell-Sharpe Leading Library

DR. BRENDA J. CHAPPELL-SHARPE HAS been named MACU’s Associate Librarian and Library Director. She follows Dr. Beth Strecker, who served as Library Director one year before becoming the university’s Director of Teacher Education. Dr. Chappell-Sharpe holds a Master of Library Science from the University of Arizona, a Ph.D. in Art Education from The Ohio State University, and an M.A.T. in Art Education from the University of Massachusetts. She has experience in both public high school and higher education libraries.

Student Athletic Awards



Professor Tina Pharr presents Jon Langley with his National All-Academic award.

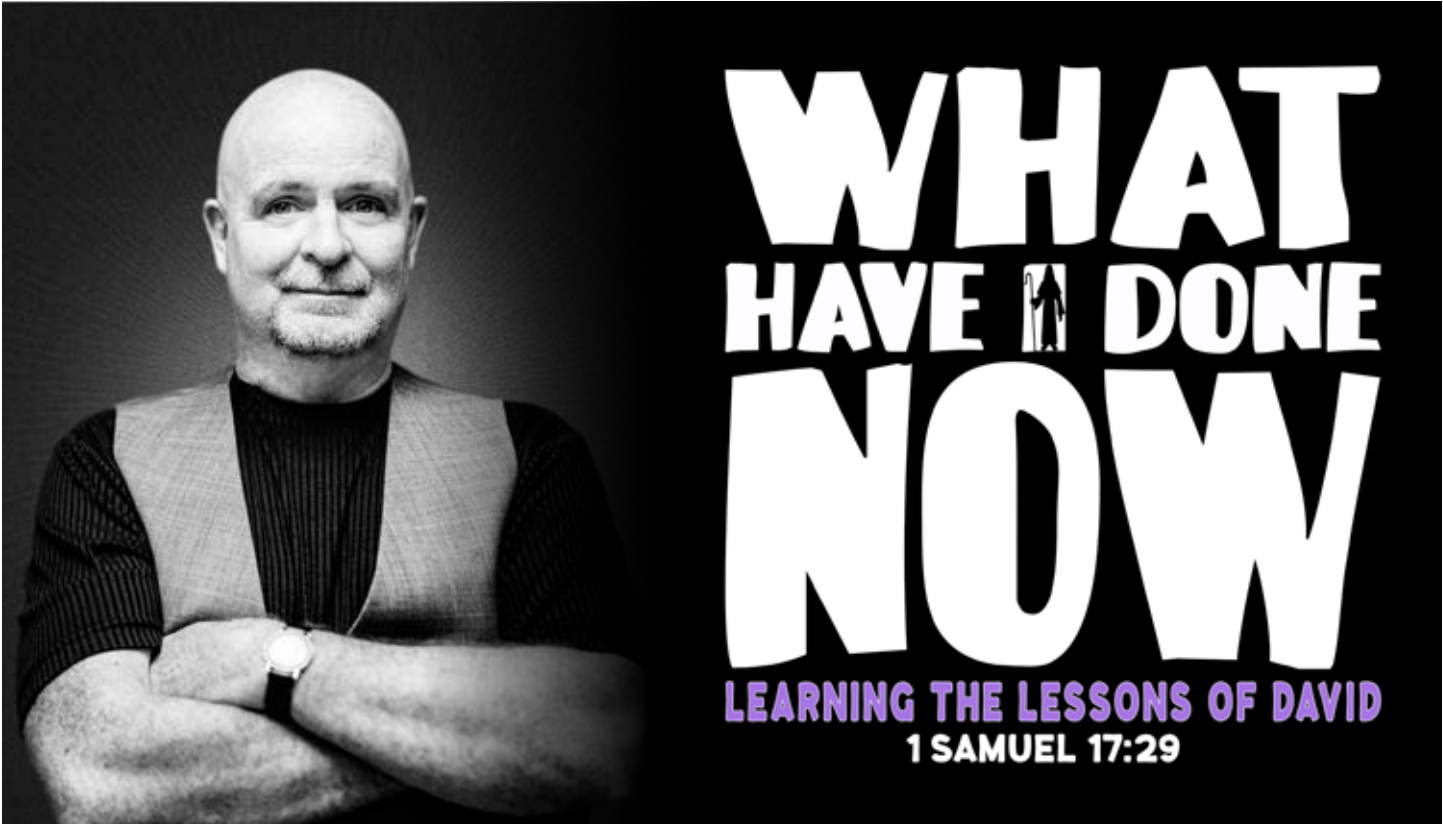


Brealle White receives recognition as a National All-Academic as well as Honorable Mention All-American award, presented by Dr. Ken Greene.



Dr. Ascencion Gomez presents Allison Hackett with her USCAA National All-Academic award.

Here is a glimpse at how MACU students, alumni, and friends



Biblical Worldview through Multimedia

MID-ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY PRESENTS “WHAT HAVE I Done Now,” a one-man, multi-media presentation by Jay Banks. Focusing on lessons from the life of David. Just as David chose five stones, we have five lessons we need to approach life to conquer our own “Goliath”. This high-energy family format brings music video, comedy, story-telling, Biblical relevance, and life application.

The story of David and Goliath has always been the ultimate example of the victorious underdog. How did he do it? David was ready to do what God wanted him to do because

he already knew important lessons that still empower you and me today.

ABOUT THE MAN (AND HIS WIFE)

Jay is Vice President for Student Life at MACU. As an educator, he has a Ph.D. in Education (Professional Studies in Education), a Masters in Education (Curriculum & Instructional Technology), and a Bachelor of Science (Christian Education). He has appeared on Nickelodeon, Hallmark Channel, Fox, NBC, CBS, ABC, PBS, and many local syndicates, and has written with Disney Productions. His music video "E-I-O My

Goodness" won a PROVA Gold Award for "Best Production." As an evangelist, he and his wife, Cheryl, minister together on weekends. She has a Masters degree in social work and is a clinical social worker and bereavement coordinator with hospice.

SCHEDULE THIS PROGRAM FOR YOUR GROUP

Contact Jay today via email with jay.banks@macuniversity.edu or call him directly at 252.334.2055. As one observer said about the program, “You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, but you won’t go home the same.”

are engaging culture with grace, truth and service.

LEADERSHIP COLLABORATION

PRESIDENT JOHN MAURICE LEADS THE way for community partnership through hosting a collaborative breakfast. The event invited the leadership cabinets from College of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City State University, and Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Public Schools to meet with the MACU leadership team to discuss intersections of our work and opportunities for collaboration in everything from sports partnerships to transportation and mental health. The event sparked an important conversation within the city that recognizes our collective strength as educators working together.



President John Maurice, MACU; Dr. Karrie Dixon, Chancellor, Elizabeth City State University; President Jack Bagwell, College of the Albemarle.



RWANDA UPDATE

MACU and Rwanda Challenge are continuing to work together to help bring an accredited ministry degree to Rwanda. This is necessary so that churches will be in compliance with newly enacted laws requiring preachers to have such degrees. You can pray for Rwanda Challenge as they have accepted the responsibility to fund the endeavor. You can pray for MACU as we put together the educational program and file the necessary paperwork with the Rwandan government for approval.



CROFT FAMILY AND APARTMENT LIFE

LES '05 AND KATIE '06 Croft serve with Apartment Life at a local apartment complex in Greensboro, NC. Apartment Life is a faith-based nonprofit established in 2000 that believes every individual is created for community and that Christians are called to love their neighbors. Building strong communities increases the life of residents and the business value for apartment owners. Find out more at www.apartmentlife.org. Les continues as the lead minister at Greensboro Christian Church, and Katie works with the City of Greensboro.

DATES AND EVENTS

For more information, visit macuniversity.edu

- Mar. 9-13 Spring Break
- Mar. 19, 20 MACU Rally
- Apr. 10-13 Easter Break
- Apr. 30.....President’s Gala
- May 7 Foundation Meeting
- May 8 Trustee Meeting
- May 8Graduate Supper
- May 9Commencement, 10 a.m.
- June 2.....Seniors by the Sea

ALUMNI NEWS

New Ministries, Service

Eddie Ewell '96 is co-ministering with Ethan Coltrain at Union Grove Church of Christ, Pantego, NC.

Dawn Brookins '02 has taken a new position as the Administrator at Autumnfield Rest Home & Assisted Living in Pinetown, NC.

Dan Dodson '08 is serving as Student Minister at Reidsville Christian Church, Reidsville, NC.

Amber Goodyear '20 is an Infant Teacher at Noah's Ark Child Care Center in Wilmington, NC, caring for infants between six weeks and one year old and teaching them about Jesus through songs, activities, and prayers.

Births

Josh '15 and **Sarah Lunceford '17**
Bueno: Norah Autumn, Sep. 24

Danny '05 and Brittany **Quidgeon:** Parker Monroe, Sep. 29

Zach '15 and **Taylor Holloman '16**
Tanner: Thomas Ralph, Oct. 5

Dave '13 and **Katie Cooper '13**
Broyles: Hattie Mae, Oct. 7

Kyle ex'08 and **Annie Askew '08**
McGinnis: Faith Everleigh, Oct. 23

Les '05 and **Katie Lean '06 Croft:** Fischer Murdock, Dec. 7

Nick and **Alex Cohoon-Kight '12**
Bogart: Timothy Alexander, Feb. 2

Weddings

Jacob Mullen and **Sarah Bowles '17**, May 25

Jon Clifton '19 and **Reilly Muse ex'19**, June 22

Nathan Robenalt and **Fiona Allain '18**, Nov. 14

Other News 'n' Notes



Hershel Stone '69 has retired from full-time preaching after 51 years of service. During his career he served six churches, with 25 years at North Danville Church of Christ in Danville, VA. He has evangelized many thousands through camps, revivals, funerals, and the congregations he has served.



L. Frank Dodson '78 has retired from Campus Christian Fellowship after 30 years of ministry to university students in North Carolina. He served as a campus minister at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for 22 years. During that time, he was instrumental in starting three additional campus ministries at East Carolina University, North Carolina State

Sympathy is expressed to families and friends of:

G. C. Richards '63,
December 3

Carl Davis ex'01
January 3

Dianne Anderson Turner,
wife of Harold "Buddy" Turner '66
January 5

Arlene Owney ex'78
January 8

Arlene "Chiki" Davis,
wife of former employee Paul Davis
January 26

University, and UNC-Wilmington. After working as Director of the Library at MACU for seven years, he returned to Campus Christian Fellowship as Ministry Director in 2011. In May 2019 he received the lifetime achievement award from the Association of College Ministries (ACM).

Franklin McAllister ex'78 has retired after 43.5 years with the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. He recently received the Cross and Flame Badge for service as Troop Chaplain with Troop 7 of Boy Scouts of America in Smithfield, VA, having served over 21 years with the troop.

Perennial Fund
by Robert Allen

Pressley Scholarship (Honor)
by Johnny & Jeanette Pressley

Raymond Scholarship
by Irene Raymond

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

Lamira Slagle Library Fund (Memory)
by Jimmie Slagle

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

Brenda T. Stanley (Memory)
by Bethlehem Christian Church

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

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Through December 15

GENERAL FUND

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

Maureen Gervais (Memory)
by Paul & Lisa Rutherford

Thomas & Dorothy Hoard, Robert & Zelma Snow (Memory)
by Timothy & Laurie Snow

Lynn Huffman (Memory)
by David Huffman

James (Jimmy) V. Johnson (Memory)
by G. Michael Capetankakis, Domino Club, Theodore & Kim Van Essendelft, James & Georgia Hayden, Jill Harry, Professional Welding Service, Jeff & Jo Starkey, Robert Wolf

L. Britten Jordan (Memory)
by Lois Jordan

James B. Joyner, Sr. (Memory)
by Catherine W. Joyner

Matthew Maurice (Memory)
by John & Sherry Maurice

Bryan Smith (Memory)
by Carl & Geraldine Smith

Brenda T. Stanley (Memory)
by Haw Pond Church of Christ

FOUNDATION

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

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

Frankie DeWald (Memory)
by Edna DeWald

Alva Douglas (Memory)
by Amy Alligood

Eastern Christian College Alumni Scholarship
by Maxine Guercio, Floyd & Gail Lane, Jonita Shoaff

Lee Fields (Honor)
by Charlotte Ourada

Florence Fritz (Memory)
by Denis & Madia Fritz

Frank Fuller, Sr. (Honor)
by Frank, Jr. & Lee Anne Fuller

Matthew Maurice (Memory)
by John & Sherry Maurice

Marshall and Viola Murphy (Memory)
by Emmett & Dolores Murphy

Bob Moulden (Honor)
by Bessie Modlin

ALUMNI NEWS



MACU Students Volunteer at Carolina Christian Youth Convention



THE CAROLINA CHRISTIAN YOUTH CONVENTION (CCYC) was a huge success and a testament to what the new generation of Christian Leaders can do. CCYC Executive



Corbin Kuhn



Lance Pippin

Director and MACU alumnus Corbin Kuhn, along with CCYC 2020 President and MACU alumnus Lance Pippin, led the movement to "Fix Your Eyes" in 2020. Over 40 students from MACU traveled to Winston-Salem to volunteer at the event and help approximately



2,000 teens from around the state deepen their faith. CCYC exists to connect students across the Carolinas to be the hands and feet of Jesus. CCYC is an engaging weekend conference held each winter with the purpose of equipping and encouraging middle and high school students.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF FAITH!

1. Pray for God to raise up young Christians in your congregation.

2. Challenge young Christians to consider their future and faith with the idea of ministry, missions, or vocation disciples. 3. Empower their path through your support, prayers, and resources.

To learn more about the incredible ministry through the Carolina Christian Youth Conference go to www.theccyc.com. To support these students as they train for ministry contact Beth Cross 252-334-2008 or beth.cross@macuniversity.edu.

Smile and Help MACU
FOLLOW US ONLINE!



/MACUniversity



/MACUniversity

BOLD MANIFESTO

We are part of a new wave of Christian leaders who are BOLD and passionate about creating a better world

We believe that experiencing God changes things.

We want to break stereotypes, challenge the status quo and spur our generation to know God more—and change the world while we're at it. We want to engage our generation in a deeper conversation about faith.

We believe leaders never stop learning.

An excellent education will equip us to boldly innovate and create new paths in ministry, business, missions, biology, education and mental health.

We want to live the way Jesus did: through relationship and love. Encountering community means inviting others in or stepping out to connect and form deep and lasting relationships that support our community and our work for the rest of our life

We boldly engage culture with truth and grace.

The world changes quickly. We believe the Gospel is where healing begins, always! We value humans and diversity because God does. Bold does not always mean loud but it does mean obedient. We are leaders who listen and engage in dialogue—about truth, about faith, about freedom in Christ and the restoration of all things through him

The Spirit inside of us makes us bold, it is the only hope for the cynicism, anger, addictions, depression, confusion and injustice in our world . We truly believe the word of God in action has the ability to change the world, it always has. We believe we are the generation to spark a revival as we love bold and live bold.

BOLD 2020

BOLD 2020

WE SEE THE NEXT WAVE of Christian leaders here at MACU, and they are BOLD and passionate about creating a better world! BOLD 2020 was born to support the work of those living out their faith as established or emerging leaders.

Young leaders (under 45 or young at heart) are the heartbeat of Mid-Atlantic Christian University. We want to connect the work that is happening right now by ministers, artists, business leaders, counselors, and educators with those just starting out in the fields. We want them to feel confident in their faith and future. We will be highlighting BOLD people of faith from MACU, from history, and from culture each month, and we encourage you to engage by sharing your stories, your work, and your experience with other young leaders.

The best part is, we are not alone. After we started talking about how we wanted to encourage BOLD FAITH, others agreed. We had some long-time MACU supporters say, "Let's do this," and offered a \$75,000 match toward the future of young leaders. They know this work matters, and we are pumped they showed up and are so committed to the future success of Christian leaders. Every single dollar is matched up to \$75,000 and will go toward scholarships, student investment, and mission work of young leaders.

We were BOLD before this match. Now we are bold and focused! We know the kingdom will last far beyond MACU, and we are honored to have such a small part to play in eternity. BOLD 2020 Leaders, here we go!

Sponsor the work of Mid-Atlantic Christian University and BOLD Christian Leaders with a gift that will be matched dollar for dollar!

- MACU BOLD 2020
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Elizabeth Cty, NC 27909
- Secure TEXT TO GIVE
252-888-2353
or www.macuniversity.edu



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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.



MID-ATLANTIC
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

715 N. Poindexter St.
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THIS IS US

Mid-Atlantic Christian University's
72nd Annual

Gospel Rally and Homecoming

MARCH 19, 20

LOVE GOD.
LOVE PEOPLE.
PEOPLE ARE MESSY.

MESSY

CHURCH & LEADERS

RALLY PRE-CONFERENCE FOR
MINISTRY LEADERS AND TEAMS
MARCH 19, 2020
9:30-3:00PM

Navigating culture, conflict & crisis together

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Johnny Pressley '75

First Church of Christ
Washington, North Carolina

ALUMNI SPEAKER



Aaron Cross '03

Christ's Fellowship
Portsmouth, Virginia

WORSHIP MUSIC LED BY

**Tony Krantz '83
and Friends**
Washington, NC

Cheerful Hearts Band
Jarvisburg Church of Christ
Jarvisburg, NC

**Alumni/Student Games •
Workshops • Coffee Connection**

**Reunions honoring the
classes of '50, '60, '70,
'80, '90, '00, '10**