

# the Messenger

Winter 2010-2011

Vol. 63 No. 2



## Pressing On

**New Degree – Missions Aviation & Flight Education**

**New School of Professional Studies – Degree Completion**

**A Time for Healing**

**63rd Alumni Rally & Homecoming**

**Mid-Atlantic**  
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

*"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

*Philippians 3:13-14 NIV*



# Mid-Atlantic CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



## Families Press On

My family is large, as you can see in the picture below. While Mom and Dad are at home with the Lord, the eight brothers and sister still gather multiple times each year with our children and grandchildren to celebrate and enjoy the love found in a large family.

Having a large family is noisy. There is always something going on with so many people dealing with the ebb and flow of life's ups and downs. At the same moment in time, one family member may be celebrating a blessing, while another is dealing with a challenge or crisis. And there have been those moments when one family member faces a tragedy so large that the whole family suffers. As a family, we have learned that even while the whole family is in pain, life goes on. The Perkins family survives and learns to adapt, with God as the source of strength and comfort.

The Mid-Atlantic family is large. We have alumni serving in 45 states and 14 countries. Since 1948 we have had missionaries serving in many countries. Mid-Atlantic makes a lot of noise. We have so many people from every corner of the globe that have shared the heritage in Christ from their time spent in Elizabeth City, NC, or Bel Air, MD. We have our roots with names like Eastern, Roanoke, and now Mid-Atlantic. We do not always look alike, like the same things, or even think alike. But we are one in

## From the Office of the President

Christ. We all share a passion to educate men and women to be extraordinary Christian leaders. In Christ, we find unity in our diversity.

As a large spiritual family, Mid-Atlantic has enjoyed some good times. Together we have shared some hard times. But, on October 3, 2010, we faced one of the most difficult moments in our history. This was a tragedy so painful that the whole family suffered. This tragedy ended with the death of one student, Jonathan Schipper, and his early homelike going to heaven. Another student is currently incarcerated. We ask for prayers for all of those involved and all of those who have been touched by this tragedy. This pain will continue for a while. The truth is, on this side of heaven, we often serve God and each other while in pain. We continue to cooperate fully with the authorities and cannot discuss the details of the case. Together we have learned again that "weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5, AMP).

With this tragedy we have bonded together to support both families. There has been an outpouring of love unprecedented. Through the tears, we have found peace, the peace that passes understanding (Philippians 4:7).

Our students are back for spring semester. Life is normal. Life goes on. Thank you for your prayers. We are empowered by your prayers. Thank you for your giving. We are enabled by your giving. As you read this Messenger, you will see that we are pressing on. Mid-Atlantic remains strong. We are Christian. We have a global mission from God that tragedy cannot stop. Our purpose is through education to impact the world by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders.

Serving Those Who Serve,

*Clay*

D. Clay Perkins, Ph.D.  
President



**Above:** The Perkins family gathers to celebrate Christmas.

**Cover photo:** Students hold cards and banners expressing love, prayers, and sympathy in the wake of the tragedy that struck campus October 3, 2010. Their spirits were buoyed by the outpouring of kindness received from so many friends, Christians far and near, alumni, sister schools, townspeople, and even strangers.

## Pressing On Toward Ministry: Set Apart

Leaders in congregations around the world identify and set apart men for ministry, ordaining them to preach the Word and serve the Lord's church. We run an announcement of this significant event in the lives of our graduates and alumni as we learn of those who have been ordained. According to the school's mission statement, Mid-Atlantic is an "undergraduate institution of Christian higher education whose mission is to impact the world by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders." One way to powerfully impact the world is to prepare men to preach the Gospel. Recent ordinations in the Mid-Atlantic family include:

**Senior Joe Cartwright** was ordained at Christ's Church in Greenville, NC, on June 13, where he served a year-long internship in youth ministry.

**Senior Bobby Cohoon** was ordained Sunday, Nov. 14, as part of the Just One Challenge at United Christian Church, Richmond, VA.

**Junior Eric Allen** was ordained Nov. 28 at his home congregation, Union Grove Church of Christ in Pantego, NC.

## Preachers of the Month

### October - Phillip K. Sutton '95

Phil Sutton received his BA degree (Bible major, Preaching minor) from Mid-Atlantic in 1995, the same year he was ordained to the ministry by Zion's Chapel Church of Christ in Roper, NC. Since that time, he has preached for the Christian Church of Seaford, DE (six years); Valley Church of Christ, Harrisonburg, VA (four years); and Countryside Christian Church and School in Cambridge, MD (two years and continuing). He met Paula Elliott '98 at Mid-Atlantic; they married in 1998 and have four children. Phil's favorite scripture is 2 Cor. 3:18 (NASB): "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit." A favorite quote is: "If you can't be a Christian where you are, then you can't be a Christian anywhere." Phil says that he is a preacher "because people cannot hear the gospel without a preacher (Rom. 10:14). Woe to me if I do not preach (1 Cor. 9:16)!"



### November - Christopher D. Minton '03

Chris Minton enrolled in Mid-Atlantic as a second generation student, the child of Dale '74 and Faye '74 Minton. He graduated with a BS degree in 2003. While he was a junior, Chris began preaching for Gold Point Church of Christ in Robersonville, NC. There he was ordained into the ministry in 2006, and there he continues to preach and serve. He cites as a favorite text: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5, 6, KJV). For Chris, "preaching the Gospel is a joy because of the opportunity it gives us to introduce others to Jesus and inspire them to follow Him as King. It doesn't get any better than that!" He and his wife, the former Fran Gibson '01, have one daughter and another due at press time.



### December - Jonathan C. Langley '87

Jon Langley grew up in Greenville, NC, where he attended University Church of Christ. He graduated from Mid-Atlantic in 1987, having earned a BS degree in Christian ministry. He has preached for churches in North Carolina and Delaware (Union Grove Church of Christ; Philadelphia Christian Church; Church at Dover, DE; Reliance Evangelical Free Church; and Capitol City Church of Christ). Since 2005 he has served Wilkinson Church of Christ in Pantego, NC. Jon cites Isaiah 55:6-11 as his favorite scripture, which begins: "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near" (Isaiah 55:6, NIV). His favorite quotes include: "Some preachers pride themselves in telling you how it is. I'd rather tell you how it could be," and "Preaching needs some positive and some negative in order to have a charge!" Of preaching Jon says, "It is awesome to know that every Lord's Day I have the opportunity to share the life-giving word of God with each one in attendance..." He and the former Michelle Chatham married in 1989 and have three children.





# FAN THE FLAME

DAVE WILLIS E.L. JONES

## TIMOTHY RETREAT 2011

**March 4-5, 2011** On the MACU campus  
**Begins 7pm on Friday** Ends 12 noon on Saturday

**Cost \$20:** Housing provided, Meals on your own

**Contact Bobby Wallace for more info: 252-217-4591**  
**or Bobbyw@hawbranchchurch.com**

1501 Haw Branch Rd. Chocowinity NC 27817  
**After February 6, reg. goes to \$25**



# Mid-Atlantic

Announces Two New Schools

## School of Undergraduate Studies & School of Professional Studies

### Adult Degree Completion Now Available!

Have you dreamed of completing a four-year degree without losing all the college credits you have already earned? You can do so at Mid-Atlantic! The Vantage Point program within the School of Professional Studies is intended for the adult student who has some college level experience but never finished a four-year degree.

Degrees available in Mid-Atlantic's degree completion program are Bachelor of Science with a major in Organizational Leadership, a minor in Biblical Studies; and a Bachelor of Science with a major in Family Studies, minor in Biblical Studies. Students may also add a minor in Military Science [Army ROTC].

For more information, visit [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu) and navigate to [Academics/School of Professional Studies](#) or contact Dan Smith at [dan.smith@macuniversity.edu](mailto:dan.smith@macuniversity.edu), 252.334.2058.

The School of Undergraduate Studies is our regular curriculum, with 20 degrees across 12 disciplines. The undergraduate catalog is available by visiting [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu) and navigating to [Academics/Current Undergraduate Catalog](#).



### Character & Leadership Scholarship

Apply for a Mid-Atlantic Christian University Christian Character and Leadership Scholarship. This \$10,000 scholarship is awarded yearly to one senior in each high school and each home school group. The graduate must exhibit outstanding character and leadership. If you would like to be considered for this scholarship, please submit a registration form on the Admissions page of the MACU web site [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu). Recipients will be notified in May.

### Dr. Fields Presents Papers

Dr. Lee Fields delivered three papers at the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) and Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) conferences in Atlanta in November. At the ETS conference Dr. Fields and Hélène Dallaire of Denver Seminary co-presented two papers in the program unit on Hebrew Language and Exegesis. This year's theme for this unit was "Oral/Aural Communicative Approaches to Biblical Hebrew." Mid-Atlantic is one of the few universities in the United States to be using these innovative methods for the teaching of biblical languages.

The first ETS paper was "How Students & Teachers Are Responding," in which Dr. Fields focused on undergraduate students and Dr. Dallaire focused on graduate students. They presented survey results of their students' reactions to biblical languages taught using communicative methods in comparison to traditional methods, known as grammar translation. Fields' research showed, among other things, that these methods resulted in more students beginning the study of biblical languages (at MACU the number of students undertaking Greek and Hebrew has increased significantly over the last few years), and more students succeeding and continuing their study. The second paper explored ways to evaluate learning. Dr. Fields is also a member of the steering committee for the Applied Linguistics and Biblical Languages program unit of the ETS.

Dr. Fields presented a third paper in the Applied Linguistics and Biblical Languages group at the SBL conference, "Training for Hebrew Immersion Programs of Teachers without Prior Modern Hebrew." In this paper he showed that, though fluency in Modern Hebrew is valuable, teachers who do not have such fluency are able to overcome the challenges and to convert successfully to teaching using communicative approaches.

### Missions Aviation, Flight Education New Degree Programs

The university is pleased to announce a new major and minor. Students may major in Missions Aviation and Biblical Exposition. Students may also minor in Flight Education.

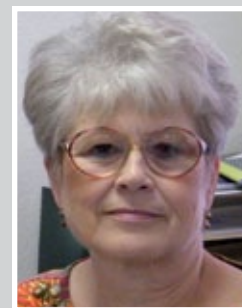
In cooperation with Elizabeth City State University, Mid-Atlantic is proud to offer these exciting possibilities for service. These degree programs are now available for students to declare as their program of study. Anyone interested in the Missions Aviation major should contact Dr. Robert Reese at [robert.reese@macuniversity.edu](mailto:robert.reese@macuniversity.edu) or 252.334.2049.

Students interested in the Flight Education minor should contact Dr. Kevin Larsen at [kevin.larsen@macuniversity.edu](mailto:kevin.larsen@macuniversity.edu) or 252.334.2009.

Both programs lead to being able to test for a commercial pilot's license with instrument rating.



### New Staff & Support Personnel



#### Judith McPherson Jones - Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Mrs. Jones retired from Bladen Community College in 2002, where she served as the Vice President of Educational Support Services. She has experience in Institutional Research and Effectiveness and in working with SACS. She has her Master of Library Science degree from East Carolina University. The university

thanks Charlotte Damron for her time of excellent service in this position.

**Nathan Stuart - IT support.** Nathan is a 2010 graduate of Johnson Bible College. He has a double major in Bible and TESOL with a bachelor's degree in intercultural studies. As a student, he worked in the IT department. He has done beta testing for software providers, has independently built and maintained computers, and is currently working on several certifications. Nathan will provide IT support for students, faculty, and staff.

The Enrollment Services Department is excited to announce the hire of several new positions. **Jonathan Thayer '08** joined the admissions team as an admissions counselor in October, coming from a youth ministry with Creeds Church of Christ in Virginia Beach, VA. As a student, he was a campus leader and Resident Assistant.

**Dan Smith, Enrollment Director.** Dan has been serving as Resident Hall Director and will continue in that role, but share the responsibilities for the dorm with his wife, Kathy. Dan and Kathy have made a dynamic ministry team in the dorm.

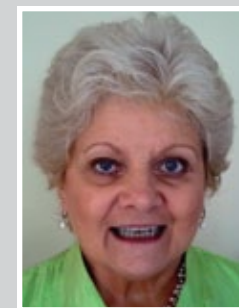
Dan's career has focused on human resources, marketing, and retail. He has served in upper management and consulting positions with various organizations. Dan's skills with students have been demonstrated continuously since his arrival on campus. In addition, he is a student, enrolled in the degree completion program, Leadership track.

**Senior Chris Stanley, Campus Minister.** Chris has been part-time Campus Minister for Men for the past year and is now full-time Campus Minister. He assumes a number of Student Life responsibilities in this new position.

**Andrea Strawderman, Interim Student Life Administrator.** Andrea served as Head Resident Assistant last year and is intimately aware of a number of the needs and ministries of the Student Life Department. She also has a desire to work with women in campus ministry roles.

Enrollment Services bids farewell and Godspeed to three who have entered other ministries. **Admissions Counselor Corey Jones '08** and his wife, **Student Life Administrator Nicole '07**, have moved to Georgia, where Corey is children's pastor at Southern Hills Christian Church, Carrollton, GA. **Admissions Counselor Jason Woolard '06** is now Associate Minister for Son Rise Church of Christ in Kill Devil Hills, NC.

### Williams to Lead Elementary Ed. Program



Dr. Barbara Williams has been hired as Associate Professor of Elementary Education. She has a B.A. from Milligan College, an M.Ed. in Reading Education from George Mason University, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership (Curriculum and Instruction) from East Carolina University. Most recently Dr. Williams has taught education courses at Longwood University in Virginia. Prior to college teaching, she was a school

teacher and a school administrator in the Elizabeth City school system and in Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, and Hawaii.

Dr. Williams' first task is to complete the program's approval process with North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction, making the program approved for teacher licensure. With the hire of Dr. Williams, the university is excited to announce a new major. Beginning this semester students may double major in Elementary Education and Biblical Studies.

### Dean's List - Fall 2010

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 (\*).

Josh Bondy  
Namugisha C. Byamungu  
Bobby Cohoon  
Jacqueline A. Cohoon-Kight  
Taylor Everette  
Doug Francis  
Stephanie Gray  
Deborah L. Green-Smith  
Krystal M. Harrower\*  
Craig Layfield  
Kyle Layfield  
Brandon Lewis  
Rob Lewis  
Alex McPherson  
Danika Morales  
Christian Mullis  
Mary Peale  
Ashley Ross  
David Scott  
Rod Sershen  
Jacob Smith  
Greg Webb  
Sarah White



# Mid-Atlantic Christian University

## 63<sup>rd</sup> Alumni Rally and Homecoming

Albert Blanton III Campus Life Center  
March 17 & 18, 2011

- **Preaching, singing, praying, fellowship!**

Sessions: Thursday, 7:20 p.m.  
Friday, 9:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Friday evening is the Mid-Atlantic Gala

- **Honoring the Classes of '51, '61, '71, '81, '91, & '01**

And recognizing those who began college with them

- **Sessions for Children**

Toddlers - Fifth graders  
Nursery area for mothers & babies

- **Alumni Meeting**

In the Davenport Chapel immediately following the Friday morning session  
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres in Chesson Gym afterward

- **Interpretation for the Deaf**

- **Estate Planning Seminar**

Friday, March 18

- **MACU Invitational Golf Benefit**

The Pines Country Club  
March 17, 8:00 a.m.  
Contact Keith Wood for more information  
252.334.2034 or [keith.wood@macuniversity.edu](mailto:keith.wood@macuniversity.edu)

- **Alumni-Mustangs Basketball Game**

Chesson Gymnasium  
March 17, 1:00 p.m.

- **Mid-Atlantic Society Gala**

March 18, 7:00 p.m.  
For members of the Mid-Atlantic Society  
Sean Algaier, Speaker  
Contestant on Season 8 of NBC's "The Biggest Loser"  
On ministry staff at First Christian Church, Owasso, OK  
Contact Jenny Rowland for more information  
252.334.2008 or [jenny.rowland@macuniversity.edu](mailto:jenny.rowland@macuniversity.edu)

### Rally Speakers

**Daryl Reed**, Lead Minister  
DC Regional Christian Church, Forestville, MD

**Mark A. Woolard, Jr. '90**, Senior Minister  
Stoneybrook Christian Church, Wilson, NC

**Steph Sauflay '01**, Missions Advocate  
Port Republic, VA

**Worship Team**  
LifePointe Christian Church, Toano, VA



## The Word to the World Conference Making an Impact

Over 350 million people do not have a Bible in their own language. Over 4,400 language groups have no complete Bible, and about half of those do not have a single verse of the Bible in a language they can read. Many of these do not even have a written language. In view of the plight of these people, Mid-Atlantic Christian University hosted The Word to the World Conference on Bible translation, Sept. 9-11.

The twofold purpose of the conference was to recruit Christian men and women with a heart for people with no Scripture to become translators and to inform churches about the many ways to support Bible translation efforts. Featured speakers were Dr. Michael Boutin of the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics (GIAL), Dr. Jim Pohlig of Wycliffe Bible Translators, and David Pryor and **Brian Paris '06** of Pioneer Bible Translators.

More than thirty students and preachers (plus various faculty) attended one or more sessions of the conference. Many commented about the value of the conference and the desire for another. One Mid-Atlantic student, **Ryan Puterbaugh**, whose wife is an Applied Linguistics major at MACU, wrote about his reaction to the conference:

*When we married, I knew that we were heading toward missions, but my heart was not in it. So*

## Pressing On: For "Just One" More

*I prayed, "God, please change my heart." He listened. I went to the conference [with my wife]. This was the best decision I could have made. Everyone who spoke at the conference spoke to my heart. God spoke to my heart. I started thinking about all those people without a chance of hearing the Word of God. I wanted them to hear. Now, because of God, because of the people He sent to my life, but especially because of the [conference], I can think of nothing I would rather do than to go to one of these peoples, one of these languages without Scripture and tell them about the One true Hope we have in Jesus Christ. This is what God did for me through The Word to the World Conference. Praise God!*

Attendees of the conference learned that in addition to translators, many kinds of support people are needed: church planting teams, missionaries, information technology people, pilots, business people, teachers for missionary families, literacy experts to teach people to read, and more. Mid-Atlantic's Applied Linguistics degree, in conjunction with hours at GIAL in Dallas, is a program that is challenging but effective, enabling translators to get to the field 12 to 18 months faster than traditional programs.

Tentative plans are being made for another conference in the fall of 2012. For more information about the conference or Mid-Atlantic's Applied Linguistics degree, visit [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu) or contact Dr. Lee Fields, program advisor, at 252.334.2080 or [lee.fields@macuniversity.edu](mailto:lee.fields@macuniversity.edu).

## National Missionary Convention 2010

Lexington, KY November 18-21

Since this year's National Missionary Convention was only a ten-hour drive from campus, students carpooled to get there. Ten vehicles carrying 52 students and alumni, plus faculty and administrators, caravanned through the Appalachian Mountains to Lexington's famed Rupp Arena, the home of Kentucky basketball. This is no ordinary basketball court, and it was no ordinary missionary convention.

David Linn, this year's NMC president, had visited Mid-Atlantic earlier this fall to raise awareness about the theme of this year's convention, "Harvest of Hope," as the kick-off for a decade of "Restoration Revolution." During this coming decade, the NMC and various other gatherings hope to raise up 10,000 new missionaries and 10,000 new ministers of the gospel in the USA. The NMC was exceptionally inspiring and challenging, guiding students and everyone else among the seven thousand who attended to get involved in God's mission to the entire world.

Linn personally invited Mid-Atlantic students to participate in praying in Rupp Arena for an hour before the start of Friday's programs. Despite having only arrived the evening before, many students were in the arena by 8:00 a.m. to pray for an hour for the convention. Mid-Atlantic students have a deep



hunger for God to be known among the nations and to join in God's movement themselves, and God opened up many contacts for students to pursue in missions. Please pray for our students, that God will lead them to the best ministry for their personal gifts to be used to glorify God.

With so many students attending, the school booth was a beehive of activity and inquiry. Hundreds of people got to know about Mid-Atlantic, our new programs, and how friendly our students are. God really blessed this time at the National Missionary Convention, and we are already looking forward to going to Atlanta next year.





Jonathan Schipper

Most readers of *The Messenger* know that the campus faced an unprecedented tragedy on October 3. On that Sunday afternoon, one of our students was fatally wounded by another student. Below are excerpts from an email that was sent to nearly 2,000 constituents, along with updated edits:

On Oct. 3, 2010, a bad thing happened in a very good place. The university family continues to mourn. We also wish to express our deepest appreciation for the love, support, and encouragement we have received from so many during these difficult times.

From the beginning of this crisis, we have asked for prayers for both families, prayers for Mid-Atlantic, and for peace instead of violence. While at this stage we do not know exactly what happened October 3 in a dorm room in Pearl A. Presley Hall, we do know the results. Jonathan Schipper, a sophomore studying youth and family ministry, died from a single gunshot wound. As Christians, we take comfort from the teaching in 2 Corinthians where Paul speaks of his comfort and confidence in being "away from the body and at home with the Lord" (2 Cor. 5:8, NIV). Please continue to pray for and minister to the Schipper family. Chris Amyx, a [former] sophomore studying leadership and administration, is incarcerated and charged with the crime. Surely this has been and will continue to be a difficult time for Chris, his family, and his friends. They need your prayers, too.

As a Christian University, we will allow the judicial system to determine justice, while we minister in the grace, love, and mercy of our Heavenly Father to both families and to each other. This will be a long process and could possibly go on for years. We will continue to publish updates on our website, under the heading "A University Mourns." We encourage you to visit the many items found on our website as we journey together.

You will be pleased to know that Elizabeth City, the Harbor of Hospitality, has served your school well during her time of crisis. Kindness and concern have come from the Mayor's Office, members of the City Council, City Manager, businesses, churches, and so many more. The Elizabeth City Police Department has been especially supportive, and their words and actions have been gracious, kind, and thoughtful. The local newspaper, *The Daily Advance*, has been gracious in its role of keeping the community informed. You will also be pleased to know that our sister schools in the Restoration Movement and our sister schools in higher education have reached out to us with love, prayers, and support. It is also good to know that your fellow graduates and alumni have showered the school with visits, services, and prayers. Words cannot express how much all of these actions have carried us during this trial. We hope you will all understand how impossible it has been to respond to everyone as you have served your school.

Safety on campus has always been a priority. Mid-Atlantic is a safe campus, but - as we all know - all the safety precautions in the world cannot stop tragedy. As a family, we were reminded of that fact on October 3, 2010. Nevertheless, we have taken additional steps since



the incident to further seek to maintain the security of our students, faculty, and staff.

The students are doing well, but knowing that at some stage some may have to testify is a heavy burden. Their hearts are broken, since most knew both Jonathan and Chris. They have displayed the love, grace, and forgiveness of God to both of their peers. The faculty and staff are wonderful; they have ministered to each other and to the students with the mercy and love of Jesus.

I wish to offer appreciation for all the counselors and ministers that came to our campus, especially our graduates. Please contact Professor McKinney to coordinate your services for the months to come. You will be glad to know that we continue to offer counseling services to students, staff, and faculty.

A grass-roots effort started almost immediately to start a memorial fund in the Foundation in memory of Jonathan Schipper. Those who wish to donate to "The Jonathan Schipper Scholarship" may write checks to the Mid-Atlantic Foundation with the notation "Schipper Fund" and mail to the Mid-Atlantic Foundation at the school address.

Also, the University has had significant unbudgeted expenses since Oct. 3. If you would like to help with these expenses, please mark a special gift accordingly.

Almost immediately after the event, services were held, services of prayer, praise, and seeking God during our crisis. We have prayed especially for both families and for Chris Amyx. The "Call to Prayer" service the Thursday following the incident (Oct. 7) was one of those God events. The candlelight march down Poindexter Street was a sight to see. You can listen to and view the service on our website.

Unfortunately, we are not the first Christian university to face tragedy of this nature. Mid-Atlantic will continue to mourn for some time, but God has great plans for us. Like other schools that have gone through this pain, Mid-Atlantic will survive. Mid-Atlantic will impact the world for Jesus by transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Christian leaders.

Please take the time to read the scriptures we have been using to minister to the Mid-Atlantic family: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5, 6). "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13). "Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5b).

We take this opportunity once again to thank the many who have prayed, visited campus, sent notes and cards, and ministered to the students and everyone on campus in many different ways. We are grateful for your constant love and support.

Good News from the IRS!

It is not often you hear those words, so I wanted to be sure and share this good news for those who want to bless the kingdom through their personal stewardship. The IRA Charitable Rollover and other critical giving incentives have been reinstated through 2011 as part of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (PL 111-312). The IRA Rollover was first enacted in 2006 as part of the Pension Protection Act. The provision allows individuals aged 70½ and older to donate up to \$100,000 from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and Roth IRAs to public charities without having to count the distributions as taxable income.

Since the provision was first enacted, Americans have made millions of dollars of new contributions to nonprofits such as Mid-Atlantic Christian University. This giving incentive is particularly beneficial to those individuals who do not itemize their tax deductions and would not otherwise have received any tax benefit for their charitable contributions. The IRA Charitable Rollover allows older donors to give to MACU in ways not allowed otherwise. Only contributions made now through December 31, 2011, are eligible for the enhanced tax benefit. For more information contact VP for Development Keith Wood, 252.334.2034 or [keith.wood@macuniversity.edu](mailto:keith.wood@macuniversity.edu).

Mid-Atlantic Foundation: 25 Years and Growing

For 25 years the Mid-Atlantic Foundation has collected and managed endowments to the university. As of June 30, 2010, there were over 120 named scholarship funds created by people and organizations that have a love for MACU. Over \$583,000 has been awarded to students in the 25-year period. Vision 2020 includes a goal to have \$10 million in Foundation assets by the year 2020. As the cost of higher education continues to rise, we invite you to continue to uphold this critical endeavor to help Mid-Atlantic Christian University succeed. Please contact Sandra Perkins for assistance in contributing to the Mid-Atlantic Foundation by phone at 252-334-2003 or by email, [sandra.perkins@macuniversity.edu](mailto:sandra.perkins@macuniversity.edu). New Foundation funds started in the 4th Quarter of 2010: Jonathan Schipper Memorial Scholarship, Loma and Ella Hassell Scholarship Fund.

Wallace-Eakes Scholarships

Congratulations to those receiving the Wallace-Eakes Scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year. **Front:** Drew Bromm, Josh Nunez, Taylor Everette. **Back:** Elizabeth Vahey, Aimee LaFever, Mrs. Doris Eakes, Mary Peale.



Dr. Reese Writes New Book: Roots & Remedies of the Dependency Syndrome in World Missions



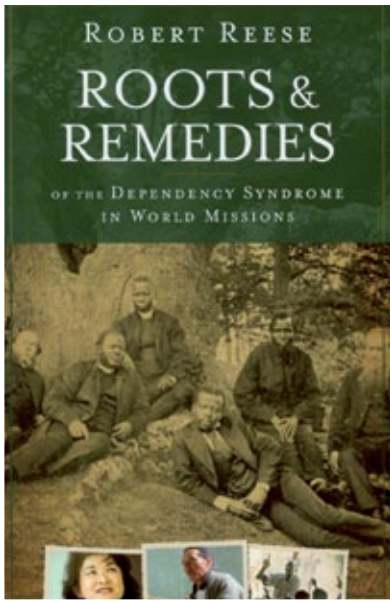
The Christian movement is entering a new postcolonial era with centers of the faith on all continents. American Christians have often felt uniquely qualified to lead this growing movement because of a long history of sending missionaries and funding mission projects. Yet something is hampering the relationship between Western and non-Western churches, preventing the dynamic synergism that Christians might expect. Robert Reese identifies this hindrance as the Dependency Syndrome, a relic of colonial mission methods. With three decades of experience in Zimbabwe, extending from his childhood days during colonialism to the current postcolonial period, Reese explains the roots of dependency and how this continues to cloud the vision of many well-meaning Western Christians. He

documents the tragic results of non-Western churches relying too much on foreign ideas, institutions, personnel, and funding. The ultimate problem is that churches that should be contributing to fulfilling the Great Commission are sidelined and ineffective.

What can be done? In his final three chapters, Reese addresses remedies for dependency, examining healthy mission models tried and tested since the days of the Apostle Paul. He discusses issues that uniquely arise from globalization during the postcolonial period and then concludes with a chapter on "Best Mission Practices for the Twenty-First Century." The goal the book aims to achieve is one that most Christians are seeking but find elusive: how all parts of the diverse Body of Christ around the world can cooperate productively to bring Christ to every part of the world where He is not now known without creating dependency.

2011 MACU Events

- Feb. 15 ..... Tuesday Tour
- Mar. 7-11 ..... Spring Break
- Mar. 13 ..... Sunday Night Live, 5-7 pm
- Mar. 15 ..... Tuesday Tour
- Mar. 17, 18 ..... Alumni Rally & Homecoming
- Mar. 18 ..... Alumni Association Meeting
- Apr. 1-3 ..... Oasis
- Apr. 13, 15 ..... Praise Team Program, 7 pm
- Apr. 19 ..... Tuesday Tour
- Apr. 25, 26 ..... Easter Break
- May 9 ..... River Day
- May 9-13 ..... Final Exams
- May 13 ..... Trustee Meeting
- May 13 ..... Baccalaureate, 7:30 pm
- May 14 ..... Commencement, 10 am  
George Powell '77, speaking  
Abundant Life Church, Oregon
- May 16, 17 ..... FREE Retreat
- June 5 ..... Sunday Night Live, 5-7 pm
- June 7 ..... Seniors by the Sea Retreat





Obituaries & Notes of Sympathy

**Thomas E. Bohrer ex'66** of Paw Paw, WV, passed away Aug. 12, 2010. He was a member of the Paw Paw Church of Christ. He was a veteran, having served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He also worked at Pittsburgh Plate & Glass and was a carpenter. Sympathy is expressed to his family, including son **Tom ex'77**, who also attended MACU.

Sympathy is expressed to **Patti Abraham Lindgren ECC '85** (Ridgway, PA) in the loss of her husband, Sheldon, Sept. 8.

**Sophomore Jonathan Schipper** died Oct. 3. He was born Jan. 28, 1985, in Knoxville, TN, to Steve and Becky Schipper. He was born into a heritage of faith and was a compassionate servant of the Lord. He graduated from Gramercy Christian School in 2004; earned an associate degree from Craven Community College, Havelock, NC, in May 2009; and entered MACU that August. He was studying Youth and Family Ministries and Cross Cultural Ministries. He planned to graduate in 2012. He is survived by his parents, brother Benjamin, two grandmothers, and other extended family.

Sympathy is expressed to **Vicki Johnson Knollenberg '86** and family in the death of her husband, Christopher, on Dec. 3. Christopher Todd Knollenberg, 53, went to be with the Lord after being a "walking miracle" battling brain cancer for 18 years. Christopher died peacefully at home with his family surrounding him. For the past four years he had been the Minister of Music at River Oak Church, Chesapeake, VA.

**Nelson Greene '79** passed away on December 10. He is survived by his mother, two sisters, a brother, two nieces, a nephew, a great niece, and a cousin. He lived in Mount Joy, PA, where dear friends helped him live with post-polio syndrome. Nelson enjoyed communicating with friends, sharing Bible lessons and reminiscences.

Sympathy is expressed to the family of **Albert B. Clark**, former Assistant Vice President for Finance at Mid-Atlantic. Albert B. Clark died Dec. 15 in a Norfolk hospital. He retired from the U. S. Navy reserve as a master chief petty officer with 31 years of service, from General Electric as an engineer with 21 years of service, and from Mid-Atlantic. He was a member of Geneva Park Church of Christ for 48 years and served as an elder. Among his survivors are his wife, **Ann Barnes Clark ex'54**; two daughters, **Carol Ann Clark Talbot ex'80** and **Rebecca Clark Cyphers '82**; two sons, **Gary Clark ex'80** and **Richard Clark '78**; and grandchildren including, **Jordan Clark '07**, **Joey Balsamo '09**, **Amy Walton '07** and step-grandchildren, including **Tim Cyphers '05**.

Sympathy is expressed to **Patricia S. Griffin**, the university's library director for 41 years, in the death of her mother, Janie Cutrell Swindell, Dec. 17.

Weddings

Harry Eugene Duke, Sr., and **Denise Wood ex'98**, Aug. 13  
Melvin Roach, Jr., and **Ashley Boone '09**, Sept. 11  
**Andrew Thomas ex'10** and **Lisa Davey '06**, Oct. 10  
Trent Wynne and **Kassie Harris '06**, Nov. 7  
Richard White and **Junior Chasity Hudgins**, Nov. 9  
TC Patrick and **Kay Wilson ex'12**, Nov. 20  
**Dan Dodson '08** and Meaghan Kidder, Dec. 11  
**Lee Bolinsky ex'13** and **Catherine Lamm ex'12**, Dec. 18

New Family Members

**Glenn '07** and **Jessica Joyner '07 Crocker**: Colin James, Sept. 7  
**Brian '97** and **Sara Smith '97 Bilodeau**: Hope Annette, Sept. 12  
**Will ex'09** and **Sasha Crocker**: Carter Floyd, Nov. 15  
**Chris '05** and **Sarah ex'08 Brandow**: Gabriella Ruth, Nov. 29  
**Brandon '04** and **Jenny Marsh**: Abigail Nicole, Dec. 16  
**Bobby** and **Amy Collins '02 Crabtree**: Cameron Lane, Dec. 30  
**Aaron '03** and **Beth Herbst '05 Cross**: Josiah John, Jan. 13

Ministries and Service

**Rick Robie '93** is now serving at Discovery Christian Church, Tampa, FL, as associate minister.  
**Avrial Athey '00** is in Wailuku, HI, working as a behavioral health specialist in the Lahainaluna High School. She serves teens whose emotional/behavioral problems are interfering with their academic success with the hope of stabilizing them enough to complete their education.  
**Brandon Beauchamp '02** is now youth minister (junior and senior high) for West Park Church of Christ, Portsmouth, VA.  
**Levi Cichorz '03** is ministering to youth at Liverpool Christian Church, Liverpool, NY.  
**Patrick Harrison '04** is preaching for Mt. Olive Church of Christ, Belhaven, NC.  
**Jason Woolard '06** is Associate Minister with Son Rise Church of Christ, Kill Devil Hills, NC.  
**Jena McDaniel Cumming ex'07** is serving at Seaford Church of Christ in Seaford, VA, as youth minister.  
**Thomas Hamilton ex'07** has been called to serve at Old Ford Church of Christ, Washington, NC, as associate minister, focusing on the contemporary worship hour and teen youth ministry.  
**Daniel Dodson '08** is serving at Reidsville Christian Church, Reidsville, NC, as youth and family minister.  
**Corey Jones '08** has been called to Southern Hills Christian Church, Carrollton, GA, as children's pastor.  
**Danielle Hortelano '08** is serving as director of youth and children at Saulston United Methodist Church in Goldsboro, NC.  
**Ismael Melendez '09** is working with a new church plant, Christian Life Center, in Elizabeth City.  
**Ashley Boone Roach '09** is employed by Bladen Community College as a Workforce Investment Act Program Coordinator in Fayetteville, NC, and also serves her church as youth and women's minister.  
**Josh Curry '10** recently began an internship in youth ministry at Christ's Church, Greenville, NC.

Other News & Notes

Dr. Michael Adams, president of the University of Georgia, has appointed **Dr. Barry McCarty '75** to serve as a member of the University's Board of Visitors.  
**Dr. Ken Greene** recently had an article published: "The Lord is Our God (Isaiah 41:8-10, 17-20; 42:1-4, 9)," *The Christian Standard* (December 12, 2010).  
**Becky Hill '08** is serving an internship with Christian Psychotherapy Services in Virginia Beach as a part of her program at Liberty University, where she is completing requirements for a degree in Professional Christian Counseling.  
**Janeé Conner '08** has finished her master's degree in counseling from Liberty University and is now in her residency with Christian Psychotherapy Services in Virginia Beach, VA.  
**Mark ECC'80** and **Mary ECC'79 Riley** are celebrating 30 years of ministry at Flemington Church of Christ, Flemington, PA.  
**Dr. Clay Perkins** and Dr. Dail Fields (Regent University) had an article, "Top Management Team Diversity and Performance of Christian Churches," published recently in Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly. The study investigates the relationship of top management team (TMT) diversity with performance of Christian churches. For example, one discovery (based on a sample of 82 Christian churches/churches of Christ) was that greater diversity in the spiritual maturity and relationships of TMT members with the senior pastor was positively related with growth in church attendance. To read the study and their findings, access the article at [nvs.sagepub.com](http://nvs.sagepub.com) and navigating to the July 31, 2009 issue.  
**Alumni** met for fellowship with Assistant to the President Bill Griffin and Mrs. Griffin during December and January in Orlando, Atlanta, and Charlotte.

Yearbooks from ECI & ECC

Do you have any yearbooks from Eastern Christian Institute or Eastern Christian College that you would be willing to donate to Mid-Atlantic? We wish to have on hand historical data for our Eastern alumni and any who would seek information about these schools. Please send any donations of yearbooks or similar archival material to Bill Griffin at the university address.

To the General Fund

**Steve Allen (Memory)**  
by M/M Frank Allen  
**Al Ayers (Memory)**  
by M/M Joseph Ayers  
**Jimmy and Shelby Bennett (Honor)**  
by M/M Daniel Fisher  
**George BonDurant (Honor)**  
by M/M Roger Tuning  
**Sarah P. BonDurant (Memory)**  
by Shirley Taylor Jenkins  
**Al Clark (Memory)**  
by Beth BonDurant, Central Christian Church, Christ's Church of Greenville, Mary Davis, M/M Ken Edwards, M/M Clarence Goodwin, M/M Roger Marvel, M/M Eugene Meyer, Melanie Pendarvis, M/M Billy Smithwick, M/M Keith Wood, M/M Taylor Wyant  
**Marian Lea Clary (Honor)**  
**David Alan Jones (Honor)**  
by M/M David Jones  
**Lee Fields (Honor)**  
by M/M Robert Ourada  
**Allen Herndon (Memory)**  
Corinne Herndon  
**Elma Jones (Memory)**  
by M/M Charles Bryant, Jr.; M/M Larry Cordon; M/M Dan Fisher; M/M Donald Jackson; M/M John Moore; M/M Billy Smithwick; M/M Sammy Woolard  
**Bud Larsen (Memory)**  
by Tina Larsen  
**Thomas Leggett (Memory)**  
by M/M Bruce Fraser  
**Don Manis (Memory)**  
by Ann Greer Manis  
**Roland Morrisette (Memory)**  
by M/M Arthur Holloway  
**Bob and Denise Moulden (Honor)**  
by Bessie Modlin  
M/M Abron Styons  
**Nina Pittman (Memory)**  
by Rufus Pittman  
M/M Charles Woolard  
**Jonathan Schipper (Memory)**  
by Peggy Tepper  
M/M Henry Wood  
M/M Keith Wood  
**Eleanor Sprague (Memory)**  
by Richard Sprague  
**Janie Swindell (Memory)**  
by Beth BonDurant  
M/M Keith Wood  
**Nancy Vossmeier (Memory)**  
by M/M Pernel Gallop  
**Allyson West (Memory)**  
**Ray and Becky West (Honor)**  
by Evelyn West  
**Willie White (Memory)**  
by M/M Dan Crust  
**Ronnie Woolard (Honor)**  
by Thomas Woodward

To the Mid-Atlantic Foundation

**Dr. Reed Adams, M/M Ben Allen, Jefferson Barbour, M/M Brandon Beauchamp, M/M Robert Claus, Nicole Clayton, M/M Les Croft, Jonathan Duffer, M/M Bobby Fletcher, Angela Ford, Sandra Geddie, Mike Harden, M/M Freddie Layden, Betty Lindsley, M/M Brian Lindsley, M/M Zach Lister, M/M Ray Luyk, Evonne Morris, Andrew Palermo, M/M Brandon Palermo, M/M Brett Palermo, M/M Ross Palermo, M/M Jason Parks, M/M Graham Phillips, M/M Robbie Phillips, Lance Pippin, M/M Danny Quidgeon, Kathy Saufley, M/M Brent Smith, M/M Nathan Stuart, M/M Kevin Sweet, M/M Daniel Voris, M/M David White, Xanda Williams (Honor) James Joyner, Sr. (Memory)**  
by M/M Rich Lindsley  
**Ben Allen, Jimmy Bennett, Ralph Bennett, Darrell Blackwell, George BonDurant, Wyatt Colclasure, Jim Herbst, Linden Keffer, Gene Langley, Kevin Larsen, Curt Nordhielm, Don McKinney, Emmett Murphy, Dennis Prueff, Joan Sawyer, Phil Strunk, Becky West (Honor)**  
**Henry Clay Owney, Harry Pritchett, David Rhodes, Redden Shavender, Kenneth Swain, Harold Turner, Guy Woolard (Memory)**  
by D/M Clay Perkins  
**Wade Bateman (Memory)**  
by West Road Church of Christ  
**George BonDurant (Honor)**  
by M/M Edwin Griffin  
**Joyce Burruss (Memory)**  
**Gladys Kirkland (Memory)**  
by M/M Bill Burruss  
**Al Clark (Memory)**  
by M/M Rich Lindsley  
D/M Clay Perkins  
**Deacons at First Christian Church Ministries (Kernersville and High Point)**  
by M/M Keith Jones  
**Alva Douglas (Memory)**  
by M/M Bruce Biggs, Douglas Biggs, M/M John Tulloss  
**Loma Hassell (Memory)**  
by M/M Steven Colclasure, M/M James Johnson, M/M Greg Marples, Grace Nash, South Mills Church of Christ, Belvidere-Ryland Church of Christ  
**Iris Henderson (Memory)**  
by James Henderson  
**Bob Johnson (Honor)**  
by Beth BonDurant  
**Frances Mills (Memory)**  
by M/M Max Hutchinson, M/M W.D. Ratliff, Jerelene Richards  
**Bob Moulden (Honor)**  
by Powells Point Christian Church  
**Elethia Moulden (Memory)**  
by M/M Jerry Beasley and Kevin, M/M Keith Davenport and Megan, M/M Rich Lindsley, Betty Mebane, Bessie Modlin, M/M Billy Nicholson, M/M Larry Owen, M/M Dwight Respass, M/M Ronnie Woolard, Plymouth Church of Christ, PCOC Berean Sunday School Class, PCOC Senior Saints

**Malissa Richards Moore (Honor)**  
**Steven Neal Richards and Carrie Markle Richards (Honor)**  
by Jerelene Richards  
**Jonathan Schipper (Memory)**  
by Martha Johnson, M/M Rich Lindsley, M/M Stephen Lobacz, M/M Emmett Murphy, Jerelene Richards, M/M Howie Stacy, M/M Charles Ward, West Side Christian Church  
**Russell Smith (Honor)**  
by M/M Robert Barber  
M/M Tommy Mariner  
**Janie Swindell (Memory)**  
by M/M Rich Lindsley, D/M Clay Perkins, M/M Ken Edwards  
**Jim Winslow (Memory)**  
by Beth BonDurant  
West Road Church of Christ  
**Polly Winslow (Memory)**  
by West Road Church of Christ

Matching Gifts

**Abbott Laboratories Fund**  
for Jean W. Bennett  
**MeadWestvaco**  
for Blenda Duckworth  
**Norfolk Southern**  
for Donna D. Fisher  
**Wells Fargo**  
for Richard W. Burbage

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Will you remember Mid-Atlantic in your estate plan? Find out how easy it is to leave a legacy.

Contact Assistant Vice President for Development Emmett Murphy at [emmett.murphy@macuniversity.edu](mailto:emmett.murphy@macuniversity.edu) or 757.872.7357

April Showers = Yearly Blessings!

Our annual April Showers campaign has generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in gift income over the years. Those gifts have been instrumental in helping us train the next generation of preachers, missionaries, youth ministers, and more. If you would like to participate in April Showers this year, or if you are not familiar with the program and need more information, please contact Development Secretary Jenny Rowland, 252.334.2008 or [jenny.rowland@macuniversity.edu](mailto:jenny.rowland@macuniversity.edu).

If you are coming to the Alumni Rally/Homecoming you can pick up your April Showers packet then.



# OASIS

APRIL 1-3, 2011  
THE FUTURE

Mid-Atlantic  
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

**Speaker -**  
**Bart Stone**



**- Music**  
**A Ransom Plea**

**High School students will not want to miss OASIS!**

**The cost of the event will be \$55.**

**For all posters, schedule, and registration info  
visit our website [www.MACUevents.com](http://www.MACUevents.com)**

**Call or write Jon Thayer with any questions**

**(252) 334-2025 – [jonathan.thayer@macuniversity.edu](mailto:jonathan.thayer@macuniversity.edu)**

## 4th Annual Seniors by the Sea, June 7

**With Tommy and John Thomas Oaks**

Tommy Oaks is the first person in the world to graduate with a Masters Degree in Storytelling. He and John Thomas Oaks will provide a variety of music and messages for the day. Tommy has preached for over 40 years with 25 of those years as a traveling evangelist. John Thomas Oaks is a composer/lyricist with numerous musicals and recordings. His film and television credits include the History Channel, and Dannon Yogurt and Pepsi commercials. **Registration: \$17.50 per person before May 25; \$20 after**

*Western dress encouraged for the "Happy Trails" theme, which revisits the story of Jacob and Esau.*

For more information contact Emmett Murphy at [emmett.murphy@macuniversity.edu](mailto:emmett.murphy@macuniversity.edu) or 757.872.7357.

## Free Retreat, May 16 & 17

A free retreat for youth ministers to come to campus to gain encouragement. Lodging, meals, intense teaching, time for networking and relaxation are provided in appreciation for all our youth ministers do for the local church. Visit the MACU Events page on the MACU website [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu) for more information.

## Tuesday Tours

**February 15, March 15, April 19**

Experience campus life, attend a class, learn more about financial aid and academic programs, interact with faculty, and meet current students. Free, but please register one week in advance. Students receive a \$500 scholarship just for coming to the tour. Sit in on classes, meet professors, tour the campus, stay in the dorm, meet with professors, and eat lunch in our café with our president. Visit the MACU Events page on the MACU website [www.macuniversity.edu](http://www.macuniversity.edu) for more information.

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