MID-AMERICA Christian University

SATURDAY, MAY 6

2023



CEREMONY

OKLAHOMA CITY CONVENTION CENTER OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

THE ORDER OF CEREMONY

Presiding: Philip A. Greenwald

Processional* "Pomp and Circumstance" Elgar Welcome President Philip A. Greenwald Invocation* Rev. Todd Watson Opening Hymn* "Firm Foundation" Pastor Josh Edington Greetings from the Board of Trustees Dr. Randall Spence Special Presentation President Philip A. Greenwald, Dr. Randall Spence, and Chancellor Dr. John Fozard Special Music "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand" Pastor Josh Edington Introduction of Speaker President Philip A. Greenwald Commencement Address Peter Greer, President and CEO of HOPE International **Distinguished Recognitions** Dr. Sharon Lease, VPAA Conferring of Degrees Dr. Sharon Lease, VPAA Presentation of Graduates Dr. Sharon Lease, VPAA Closing Hymn* "The Commission" Pastor Josh Edington

Benediction*

Rev. Andrew Rehbein '05

A special thank you to Oklahoma City Convention Center for hosting the Commencement Ceremony of Mid-America Christian University.

*audience stands

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Rev. Dr. Richard Mansfield Senior Pastor, New Beginnings Church Rev. Brian Marlett '98 Senior Pastor, Fresh Start Community Church

Mr. David McCutcheon Senior Vice President, Business Integration, PGT

Rev. Eli Pagel '07 Asst. Chaplain & Director of Business Development, B&H Construction

Mras. Brenda Pierson 175 Pierson Automotive, Inc.

Rev. Thom Pratt Realtor, Fathom Realty and Pastor, Teays Valley Church of God

Rev. Andrew Rehbein '05 Lead Pastor, First Church of God, Pryor, OK

> Dr. Jessica Rimmer Senior Consultant, GiANT Worldwide

Mr. Jeff Russell President, Central Oklahoma Region, Prosperity Bank

Rev. Bill Search OKC Location Pastor, Crossings Community Church

Rev. Larry Speelman Corporate Chaplain, R & L Carriers

Dr. Randall W. Spence Organizational Coach, Randall Spence, LLC and Executive Pastor, Bayside Community Church

Mr. Scott Staton CEO, Staton Financial Group

Rev. Todd M. Watson Senior Pastor, Catherine Street First Church of God

> Mr. Ron Whitton, Jr. Retired, Dentsmart

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Mr. Deon Colp Retired, State Farm Insurance Agent

Mr. Steve Foskin Regional President, CrossFirst Bank Dr. Gary Kendall G'17 Catalyst, Love KC

Dr. Claude Robold '69 Pastor Emeritus of New Covenant Church, Franklin, OH Dr. John Steffens A. V. Provost Emeritus, University of Oklahoma and President, The Education and Training Institute

> Mr. Gary Thornhill McGowan

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

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Amanda Harris, MBA Executive Director of Strategic Initiative, Advisor to President

Ashley Gotcher, MBA Executive Director of Alumni Engagement and Communications

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Peter Greer

Peter Greer is the President and CEO of HOPE International, a global Christ-centered economic development organization serving throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe.

Prior to joining HOPE, Peter worked internationally as a microfinance adviser in Cambodia and Zimbabwe and as managing director for Urwego Bank in Rwanda. He received a B.S. in international business from Messiah University and an MPP in political and economic development from Harvard's Kennedy School.

Peter's favorite part of his job is spending time with the entrepreneurs HOPE serves—whether harvesting coffee with farmers in Rwanda, dancing alongside savings groups in Haiti, or visiting the greenhouses of entrepreneurs in Ukraine.



As an advocate for the Church's role in missions and alleviating extreme poverty, Peter has coauthored 15 books, including Mission Drift (selected as a 2015 Book Award Winner from Christianity Today), Rooting for Rivals (selected as a 2019 Leadership Resource of the Year in Outreach magazine), The Spiritual Danger of Doing Good (selected as one of the top 40 books on poverty by WORLD magazine), Created to Flourish (which his mom reviewed with five stars and a smiley face emoji), and the recently released The Gift of Disillusionment.

More important than his leadership at HOPE is his role as husband to Laurel and dad to Keith, Liliana, Myles, and London. While his sports loyalties remain in New England, Peter and his family live in Lancaster, PA.

DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITIONS

Students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree program and who meet the following guidelines qualify to receive commencement honors.

Academic Distinction *

CGPA of 4.0 and 60 MACU resident credit hours or more Graduates walking with Academic Distinction are distinguished by a medal.

Summa Cum Laude †

CGPA of 3.9-4.0 Graduates achieving the honor of Summa Cum Laude are distinguished by gold cords.

Magna Cum Laude ††

CGPA of 3.75-3.89 Graduates achieving the honor of Magna Cum Laude are distinguished by silver and gold cords.

Cum Laude +++

CGPA of 3.55-3.74 Graduates achieving the honor of Cum Laude are distinguished by red and gold cords.

Veterans ‡

Our veteran students will be distinguished by a red, white, and blue cord to represent their sacrifice for the United States of America.

FIRM FOUNDATION

Austin Davis/Chandler Moore/Cody Carnes

Christ is my firm foundation The Rock on which I stand When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad That I put my faith in Jesus He's never let me down He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now?

He won't

l've still got joy in chaos l've got peace that makes no sense So I won't be going under l'm not held by my own strength 'Cause I've built my life on Jesus He's never let me down He's faithful in every season So why would He fail now?

> He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

Christ is my firm foundation The Rock on which I stand When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad That I put my faith in Jesus He's never let me down He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now?

> He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

Rain came and wind blew But my house was built on You I'm safe with You I'm gonna make it through

Rain came and wind blew But my house was built on You I'm safe with You I'm gonna make it through

I'm gonna make it through I'm standing strong on You

I'm gonna make it through My house is built on You

Christ is my firm foundation The Rock on which I stand When everything around me is shaken I've never been more glad That I put my faith in Jesus He's never let me down He's faithful through generations So why would He fail now?

> He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

He won't He won't He won't fail He won't fail

No, He won't

ON CHRIST THE SOLID ROCK I STAND

Edward Mote

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand All other ground is sinking sand All other ground is sinking sand

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness veils His lovely face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand All other ground is sinking sand All other ground is sinking sand

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand All other ground is sinking sand All other ground is sinking sand

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Master of Arts in Leadership

Leadership

Ana Esquivel Salinas Kory Goodrich Esdras Hernandez Kyle Highfill Anna Kernes Julie Marquez ‡ Humberto Martuscelli James Miller ± Kevin Moreau ± Hanna Gray Letonya Peachlyn Iris Rojas Sydni Salvato Kristin Thomas Anna-Kate Weichel-Owens Ted Williams ‡ Sydney Wycoff Armando Zacateco Rivera Christine Zamora

Leadership, Business Management Emphasis

Veronica Garcia Stephanie Heller

Master of Business Administration

Master of Business Administration

Porscha Barron Juan Cediel Cervantes Alexandra Clark Tracy Crist **Royal Davis** Antonio Dorsey Jalessia Ganther Andres Gonzalez Danny Hamilton ‡ Joshua James ‡ DeTroy Jarrett ‡ Erica Jones Kelsey Kendall Krystal Killman-Rogers Charles Ross Ryan Smith **Rachel Tapps**

Gina Johnson Emily Lathrop Kyleigh Leverich Justin Werner

Leadership, Higher Education Emphasis

Heather Barrett Caleb Schirmer

Leadership, Ministry Leadership Emphasis

Stephen Hargrove Audrey Harmon Jeff Henson Coty Nguyen Annette Pullen Kimberlee Reed Lea Wright

Leadership, Public Administration Emphasis

Crystal Debrito Michelle Gather Jonathan Goforth Diana Hernandez Ouezada Whitney Outon

Aneli Thomsen Julia Thornton Amber Wadley Charlotte Wetselline Tyler Worsham **David Yarnell**

MBA, CPA Accounting Emphasis

Karrie Constable Ollie Duncan Larry Fancher Jessica Granados Morgan Hymel Maggie Johnston Melissa Madden Matthew Reeves Michael Womack

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Master of Business Administration, cont.

MBA, Healthcare Management Emphasis

Stephanie Blazer Tara Bodine Sherri Dirickson Stephany Lee

MBA, Human Resource Management Emphasis

Lori Boyd Koesha Brown **Taylor Hampton** Quanesha Johnson ‡ Ashten Kremer McVallery Robert Karen Thorne

MBA, International Business Emphasis Arcangel Soto

MBA, Management Accounting Emphasis Victoria McCall Maegan Plunk

Amanda Riley

Master of Education

Curriculum and Instruction

Christina Baker Chelo Boyd-Gerber Sarah Dry Lacey England Kristen Friend Rebeka Jeffcoats Amanda Martinez Carley Renbarger Melissa White

Educational Leadership and Administration Cinthea Comer David Duncan Uzziah Harris

Master of Science in Counseling

Addiction	and	Substance	Abuse	Counseling
				-

Emphasis

Eric Leckie Laurel Limke **Dorothy Reynolds** Kristina Wood

Applied Behavioral Science Counseling Emphasis

Anthony Bailey Rebecca Bandy Nataly Barillas **Christofer Caselton** Amel Christopher Rodney Collier ‡ Clayton Griffith Kathleen Hauck Paula Howard Maryjane Justice

LaDarius Lenard Jacob Newton Elizabeth Schuyler Linda Smith Evonne Todd Ruben Townsend ‡ Janet Triplitt

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Emphasis

Amy Adwalpalker Hannah Ailey Jennifer Asher Jeremy Barnes Madison Boyd Kelli Brown **Michelle Burnett** Misty Case Valerie Chaput Jacqueline Coates

Master of Science in Counseling, cont.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Emphasis, cont.

Omari Cole Ashley Colwell Michaela Current Demetrice De Lion Sanda Dowell Danielle Draper **Tiffany Dyer Racquel Fields** Del Ford ‡ Wesley Gilder Tia Goosby Eric Green ‡ Sarah Harper Ashley Hart Nealett Henderson Matthew Holata ± Jennifer Holleman Rita Jackson Jennifer Johnson Ashlyn Johnson Walker Allegra Kelling Joseph Kolo Tera Lester Caitlin Lohrenz Cassie Mahan Michelle Malagon Amy Marsh Aaron Matthews Janette Maxwell John McGuire Andrew Moaklev Tauna Moback Hannah Moeller Andrea Morgan Marla Murray

Bachelor of Arts

Early Childhood Education

Dixie Anderson ††† Meagan Aynes Michelle Bonewitz Kalyn Bray

Malorie Newell Crystal Normand LaQuitta Onyejiaka Sean Pitt ‡ Cassandra Portwood-Blurton **Deontre Price** Diana Randleman Rachel Reid **Emily Robinson Rachel Rose** Krystal Shephard-Marlow **Rachel Sinclair** Brandy Sockey Cammie Soriano Paula Souza **Rylee Stallings** Casey Szczublewski Sherri Tasker Vincent Tennyson Kennedy Terry Dawn Thern Staci Thurston Clifford Tucker Tina Turner Kalyn Wells Angela Wilbourn

Marital, Couples & Family Counseling/Therapy Emphasis

Mary Armitage Hadley Cabler Alicia Loud Laura Mann Jennifer Marler Coetta Peterson Kristalynn Traylor

Elementary Education Rylie Donnelly † Jayce Fallon ††† Adrienne Phillips Kandice Roberts

Bachelor of Arts, cont.

English: Literary and Cultural Studies

Meredith Davis † Sahara Hans

Bachelor of Business Administration

Accounting and Ethics

Alexis Alexander Okine Velia Borbonio +++ Erika Castro Megan Chavez † Christina Eagle Brenda Grimsley † Lacreitia Jemison Jenny Juvera Chelsea Kay ++ Brook McDonald Jahaira Medina Karolyn Mitchell Amanda Penney ++ Marshella Powell Wesley Preston ± Uviwe Qasha † Lacey Ritter Lisa Shortnacy Destinee Skaggs +++ Wanda Smelley Steven Stutzman Tricia Turner +++ Riley Walker ++ **Emily Welch**

Business Administration and Ethics

Joseph Balak Jaclyn Barnes Tammie Baxter Spencer Bowlware Jose Castillo Heather Davis Janet Davis Rickerd Joel De Godois Bronstrup † George De La Paz Alyssa Fields Fabian Forisch *† Mason Gonzalez Caleb Gore ††† Jacob Graham Spencer Grayson ††‡

Secondary Education

Kassi Martin † Grant Roberts

Marli Greaves † Amanda Greenwood ‡ Jeremy Griffin **Britt Hammons** James Jackson Hope Jones Anna Kash Jeffrev Krausse Isaiah Leon † Gloria Lopez Angela McLemore Tamara Merrick ++ Mikala Muskrat Alex Nye ‡ Abra Rafford Andrea Ramirez Brandon Reese Chase Rhodes ‡ Erica Russell Amie Sprinkle Rylee Thomas tt Tyson Thompson ++ Deborah Underwood Norah Washington Dewitt Zepu

Business Administration and Ethics, Communication Concentration

Jeremi Abonnel

Business Administration and Ethics, Data Analytics Concentration Mateus Domingues Pasquantonio

Zalek Sharp

Business Administration and Ethics, Digital Marketing Concentration

Brodric Ethridge ††† Vanessa Ribeiro Moreira ††† Bruno Sperandio de Queiroz † Sven van den Oever ††

Bachelor of Business Administration, cont.

Business Administration and Ethics, Healthcare Management Concentration **Cameron Phillips**

Business Administration and Ethics, Management Information Systems Concentration Brandon Ramirez ‡

Business Administration and Ethics, Sports Management Concentration

Andre Bogee Austin Cooper Caden Harris † Kelton Lachelt † LaDeria Lorne Dante Mendes Luz ++ Joan Nakirya Ryan Reed Zane Robeaux +++ German Sepulveda Castro Alex Tan

Bachelor of Science

Biology

Brookelyn Gilmore *† Gipsy Gonzalez ++ Rachel Humburg † Janessa Larman +++ Rebecca Lindley † David Onyinah † Sadie Pierce ++ Olivia Roberts † Lauren Waddell

Christian Ministries

Jayme Cox Christy Jackson Jacob Kelch Lindsey McGee Gina McKean † Brandon Milligan Alexis Sanchez Lucas Townsend +++ Clarence Tyler ‡ Caleb Wyatt Michael Young

Communication, Media, and Ethics

Lauren Clay † **Reese Cusiter** Brittany Johnson Cloie Mitchell ++ Dana Price Amber Stafford

Criminal Justice Administration and Ethics Pebbles Birney †

Criminal Justice Administration and Ethics, Psychology Concentration Erica Thomas ttt

Criminal Justice and Ethics

Dillon Caso † Bobbi Lampkin +++ Ashley Mijares Austin Mitchell + Cassandra Thrower Seth Williams

Cybersecurity

Kendra Robertson

Data Analytics Zach Carley +++

Digital Marketing

Edward Cabrera Giselle Ixchu ± Mikaela Kinder Isabella Lopez Dorado

Healthcare Management and Ethics

Stephanie Abbott +++ Kristina Alvarado Erica Alvarez-Stanton

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Bachelor of Science, cont.

Healthcare Management and Ethics, cont.

Christina Armstrong Kenneth Brown ± Christopher Byrum Amy Carpenter Christine Chapman +++ Miranda Clark Lateshia Darby ‡ Kristin Fenstermacher Danielle Girvin Janette Gonzalez +++ Kristi Hall Morgan Hays ttt Siera James ‡ **Deneice Johnson** Chandra Lawson Yajaira Long † Shera Miller **Conner Murphy** Alexandria Rodgers Priscella Seeds Lindsey Taylor Ashley Wansick

Interdisciplinary Studies

Darla Baltrush China Bandy +++ Crystal Correa-Hill ++ Ka'iulani Dacalio Ryan Durning ‡ Taryn Gunter Lindsay Hernandez Christie Hibbard Robert Jacobson Walker Karber † Charlene Moreau ‡ Brittany Pendergrass Stephanie Russell Ashley Simons Alyssa Smith **Blaire Snider**

Management and Ethics

Daniel Aguirre ‡ Anna Barlow Nerissa Berry Brittany Braden Charles Bruner ‡

Justice Burns Jeania Coleman Andrew Harper Erin Hemken † Angela Holland Liliana Perez Damon Roy Margaret Ryan Elisa Shea Alanna Smith

Management and Ethics, Management Information System Concentration Danny Stevens +++

Mathematics, Data Analytics Concentration Madeleine Callicoat +++

Mathematics/Business Administration Multidisciplinary Mikaylee Allen

Ministry Leadership

John Gutteridge Forrest VanDover

Psychology

Shayla Adkins Edward Alderson † Alexus Alexander +++ Ashley Alexander +++ John Benson tt Kalyn Cormier **Thomas Crane** Colton Crick † Serena Dougherty ++ Connisha Easton Leta Finch ++ **Christen Gerred Emily Giese** Eylan Goodwyn Joni Graham Amanda Green **Tiffany Griffin** Kylee Hale Staci Heidelburg ‡ Rebecca Hensley Rushell Herrera ++

Bachelor of Science, cont.

Psychology, cont.

Alexis Holden Kaylee Hurst Christina Jackson Lisa Jackson Whitney Jones **Cameron Martin** Katherine Mathews Karston McConnell ++ Kalli McSperitt ++ Amber Mihm Rose Miller **Chaffany Morales** Michele Mottern +‡ Jacqueline Nguyen +++ Dean Oliver tt Hannah Pike *† Kacee Place **Crystal Riddle**

Associate in Arts

General Studies

Joseph Bagby Cody Baker Julian Bolden Jennifer Carter Valerie Carter Amanda Cross Lakresha Culberson Kenzee Danielson Ashley Danner Naphlia Farquharson ‡ Whitney Fielder Hailey Fincher Paula Garlett **Bobbie Goettman** Daniel Grant Brady Gray ‡ Emily Harris ‡ Jessica Kreger Ethereal LaFleur Ashlee McDonald-Dow

Reagan Robertson Deb Rogers ttt Breanna Sebourn Brandi Shearer † Elizabeth Smith Kaitlyn Smith Marie Spiller-Cravens Kanasa Spybuck-Masquas Brook Stacy Stanley Sullivan Brenda Terrazas Laila Thompson Amber Valdez *† Robert Wallain Nichole West Desirae White ±

Psychology/Ministry Leadership Multidisciplinary

Brittney Hamilton Cailey Parsells ††

Kelly Pedroza Heather Raines Crystal Rowe Rebecca Saxon Peter Sosenko Taylor Stagner Makayla Stricker Bradley Watkins

General Studies, Pre-Nursing

Annie Cadabona Zac Cochran Jennifer Davich Jayme Davis Herbert Hardman ‡ Taqiya Melvin Cynthia Mize Laneesha Parker Brandi Richmond Lorena Soto Staci Thompson

Associate in Science

Network Management & Security

Travis O'Daniel ‡ Ian Randall

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THE COMMISSION

Blake Neesmith/Carter Frodge/Logan Cain/Madison Cain/Taylor Cain

See my hands and look at my feet It's okay if it's hard to believe I have faith that you will do greater things It's my time to go, but before I leave

Go tell the world about me I was dead but now I live I've gotta go now for a little while But goodbye is not the end

Don't forget the things that I taught you I've conquered death and I hold the keys Where I go you will go too someday But there's much to do here before you leave so

> Go tell the world about me I was dead but now I live I've gotta go now for a little while But goodbye is not the

> > End of the journey The end of the road My spirit is with you Wherever you go You have a purpose And I have a plan I'll make you this promise I'll come back again But until then

Go tell the world about me I was dead but now I live I've gotta go now for a little while But goodbye is not the end

MID-AMERICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



In September of 1953, in the city of Houston, Texas, Dr. Max Gaulke laid the foundation for what would become the school we proudly call Mid-America Christian University (MACU) today.

Originally established as South Texas Bible Institute, the name was changed to Gulf Coast Bible College in 1955 as the school sought accreditation. The University's second President, Dr. John Conley, oversaw the school's move from Houston to Oklahoma City to accommodate its growth. After making the move in 1985, the school was renamed Mid-America Bible College. MBC's leadership continued to lead the institute toward a brighter future under the guidance of its third President, Dr. Forrest Robinson. Under the leadership of Dr. John Fozard, the University's fourth President, enrollment growth and new degree programs triggered the final name change of our beloved alma mater to Mid-America Christian University in 2003.

From our humble beginnings to the continued legacy that is being led by our fifth President, Philip A. Greenwald, MACU is proudly celebrating 70 years of ministry and mission in Christian higher education. We have graduates around the world serving as pastors, business leaders, doctors, teachers, and more, continuing in our mission every day. Each one of you is an important part of MACU's past and its future. Know that as you graduate today, and become a part of the newest group of MACU Alumni, you are now a part of that legacy.

We hope you'll join us in celebrating our 70th Anniversary in the coming months. There will be many exciting events taking place, including Homecoming! This year's Homecoming activities will be held Nov. 2-4, and the theme is "There's No Place Like Home." MACU's Homecoming is presented by the MACU Alumni Association. For more information and ways to be involved, please visit our Homecoming website.



www.macu.edu/homecoming