



Plugging in to churches 'crucial' for college students

By Katie Wood
The Alabama Baptist

In an age of social media when information is available at lightning speed, one would think plugging in to a Baptist ministry in a college town would be a simple click away.

But finding a church requires more than just visiting Facebook or Twitter pages. Even though it can be scary and overwhelming, college students have to visit churches.

And do it soon, college ministers and students advise.

Courtney Strickland, a student at Auburn University, visited three churches before settling on Lakeview Baptist Church, Auburn. So why that one?

"The church has an adopt-a-college-student program that gets the student plugged in to a family during their time there away from their family," she said.

Strickland added while it may be hard, "don't choose a church just because your friends go there."

"Find somewhere you can serve and where you feel that God wants you," she said.

After all, service is the next step, according to Tim Simpson, college pastor of First Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa.

"I think when [students] start serving and getting to know adults (in the church) is when they begin to really feel like a part of the church," he said.

For Robert Sharpe, a University of Alabama (UA) student, it was the opportunity to serve and even lead at Hopewell Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, that appealed to him.

Maturing as a Christian

When he first started going there, the college and young adult ministry was "almost nonexistent." So Sharpe has spent the past three years building the ministry from the ground up. The experience has helped him "mature as a follower of Christ."

"As mature as I thought I was when I first began college, I quickly learned that God

had so many more blessings in store for me once I took my faith into my own hands and began to understand the eternal significance of our time here on earth," he said.

And having a strong faith is crucial while in college, said Laura Reeves Wilder, a student at the University of Montevallo.

Handling the challenges

"You are meeting new people with different beliefs and perspectives, and you are in classes where some professors will challenge your faith," she said. "Belonging to a body of believers who can encourage you on a regular basis is crucial to a strong relationship with Christ amidst daily interaction with nonbelievers."

One way for students to grow spiritually is to join a small group.

"There is no better and easier way to get involved," said Bret Waldrep, who found a freshman Bible study at Calvary Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, his first week on UA's campus.

"[Small] groups helped me to get involved in other areas and are a great way to meet people," he added.

An on-campus ministry is another way to "build relationships with your peers," Wilder said.

"It is also a great place to invite nonbelieving friends, whereas church may be intimidating," she added.

But Trace Hamiter, minister to college students at First Baptist Church, Opelika, cautions students not to replace church with a campus ministry.

"Students who left college only being plugged in to a campus ministry do not know how to get plugged in to a church when they get out in to the real world," he said.

Curtis Black, student minister at Lakeview Baptist, agreed that there is nothing like a church.

A church makes "a commitment" to the student and spends four years equipping him or her to live selflessly for Christ, he said.

For more suggestions, visit www.thealabamabaptist.org and *The Alabama Baptist* Facebook page.

How to reach college students

By Kristen Padilla
The Alabama Baptist

Have you heard the statistics?

More than two-thirds of young adults — ages 18 to 22 — who attended a Protestant church for at least a year in high school will stop regularly attending a church once they move to college or in to the workforce, according to a 2007 LifeWay Research study.

Not only is the church dropout rate among college students high but there is also a large unchurched, non-Christian population on college campuses.

Chad Cossiboom, university minister of Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Vestavia Hills, believes churches should see college students as an unreached people group and college campuses as missions fields.

"We need to ask ourselves: How do we reach college students with the gospel? How do we reach these campuses?" Cossiboom asked.

Kevin Johnson, associate pastor/college students of First Baptist Church, Florence, said churches in college towns must become visible on campus, make contact with students and use a variety of means to plug students in to their ministry.

"The biggest thing is trying to make that touch with them as soon as they get on campus, and [the sooner] you get in touch with them, the sooner you get in touch with their faith," said Johnson, whose church is located in the same town as the University of North Alabama. "Put forth the best effort you can and the best product you can so that they realize that Christianity is applicable to their lives."

"So many times, college students think they can take four years off from Christianity, and one of our jobs is to keep the flame burning while they are in college," he added.

Contact is the key to reversing the dropout trend, according to Brad Waggoner, vice president of LifeWay's B&H Publishing Group.

"Frequent and intentional contact can either prevent or counter-

(See 'Connecting,' page 11)



Baptist Campus Ministries events

On Alabama college and university campuses this fall, Baptist Campus Ministries (BCM) will welcome new and returning students with events designed to intentionally engage them in a life-changing ministry experience. BCM is a ministry of the State Board of Missions of the Alabama Baptist Convention and local Baptist associations and is made possible by gifts from Alabama Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program. For more information, visit www.thestudenthub.org.

Alabama A&M University

- ♦Aug. 14: Church festival on the campus quad, 5 p.m.

Auburn Montgomery

- ♦Aug. 16: Coke booth on the quad, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Bowling, Brunswick Lanes, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 17: Coke booth on the quad, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Capture the flag, Baptist Student Center, 9 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 18: Free cookout and cokes on the quad, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Broom hockey, Eastdale Mall, 9 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 19: Free pizza, Baptist Student Center, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. The Amazing Race (scavenger hunt), 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 23: RESONATE (worship), Baptist Student Center, 8 p.m.

Auburn University

- ♦Aug. 16: “The Big Supper Road Trip” (meet at the BCM at 5:30 p.m. to carpool)
- ♦Aug. 17: Coffeehouse and worship, 8 p.m., BCM
- ♦Aug. 18: 1st Wednesday Lunches, noon and 1 p.m., free lunch at the BCM. Weekly lunch devotion begins at school of veterinary medicine (noon)
- ♦Aug. 19: Freshmen Insight kick off, 7 p.m., BCM (freshmen Bible study and fellowship)
- ♦Aug. 19: Global Café, 7 p.m., BCM (International student ministry)
- ♦Aug. 20: Girls’ and guys’ night out (meet at BCM, 6 p.m.)
- ♦Aug. 21: Field Day Mania, Kiwanis Park, 2 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 22: Worship in local churches
- ♦Aug. 23: King’s Acres local outreach ministry (meet at BCM, 3 p.m.)
- ♦Aug. 24: 1st Tuesday discipleship life groups, 6 p.m., BCM, 1st fall BCM worship, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 27–28: BCM fall retreat (for sign-up details check out our Facebook group Auburn BCM or call 334-887-6521)
- ♦Aug. 29: Worship in local churches
- ♦Aug. 30–Sept. 2: Concourse outreach on AU campus

Bishop State Community College — Main Campus

- ♦Aug. 15: Campus prayer journey, 2 p.m., meet at the Baptist Student Center, 5904 Old Shell Road, pray on three local campuses
- ♦Aug. 16: Grillin’ and Chillin’, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m., free food, live music, Food for the Soul on the lawn beside the library
- ♦Aug. 23: Monday Midday, 11:30 a.m. and 12:20 p.m., Delchamps Student Center Cafeteria

Jacksonville State University

- ♦Aug. 23: Survival for freshmen and transfer students, 1–4 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 25: Free pancake breakfast — first day of classes, 8–11 a.m.
- ♦Aug. 26: Welcome party, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 27–28: Back to School Retreat, Friday and Saturday, cost: \$25 – Camp WorldSong
- ♦Aug. 31: Every Tuesday, 8 p.m., Celebration, weekly student worship, Baptist Student Center
- ♦Sept. 1: Agape Lunch every Wednesday from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Baptist Student Center

Samford University

- ♦Aug. 27: Freshmen move in
- ♦Aug. 28: Church Connections and upperclassmen move in
- ♦Aug. 29: Connections Worship
- ♦Aug. 30–Sept. 4: Welcome Back Week
- ♦Aug. 31: University convocation and Shiloh Worship
- ♦Sept. 2: Chapel service
- ♦Sept. 3–4: New student retreat

Shelton State Community College

- ♦Aug. 24: BCM Breakfast On the Run — grab free breakfast on your way to class, 8–10 a.m. in the Atrium (or until supplies last). Discovery begins — join us each week for contemporary worship and biblically relevant teaching, 7 p.m., BCM Student Center, 401 University Blvd
- ♦Aug. 31: Shelton Get on Board Days — learn more about BCM
- ♦Sept. 7: Tuesday lunch begins — stop by Room 2410 from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. each week for free lunch and Bible study

Southern Union Community College/Opelika

- ♦Aug. 12–13: Welcome to Southern Union-Opelika! Fellowship with new students, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 14: War Eagle Game Night/ Fellowship, 7 p.m., with Auburn BCM
- ♦Aug. 15: Worship in local churches
- ♦Aug. 16: BCM fellowship/ discipleship groups (10 a.m.–2 p.m.), SUCC campus
- ♦Aug. 16: “The Big Supper Road Trip” (meet at the Auburn BCM

- 5:30 p.m. to carpool)
- ♦Aug. 16–20: Campuswide outreach on Southern Union-Opelika Campus
- ♦Aug. 17: Coffeehouse and worship, 8 p.m. with the Auburn BCM
- ♦Aug. 18: Noon and 1 p.m., free lunch at the Auburn BCM
- ♦Aug. 19: BCM fellowship/ discipleship groups (10 a.m.–2 p.m.), SUCC campus
- ♦Aug. 19: Freshmen Insight 7 p.m. (freshmen Bible study and fellowship), Auburn BCM
- ♦Aug. 20: Girls’ and guys’ night out (meet at Auburn BCM, 6 p.m.)
- ♦Aug. 21: Field Day Mania, Kiwanis Park, 2 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 22: Worship in local churches
- ♦Aug. 23: King’s Acres local outreach ministry (meet at Auburn BCM, 3 p.m.)
- ♦Aug. 24: Discipleship life groups, 6 p.m., Auburn BCM collegiate worship
- ♦Aug. 27–28: BCM fall retreat
- ♦Aug. 29: Worship in local churches

Spring Hill College

- ♦Aug. 15: Campus prayer journey, meet at USA Baptist Student Center, 2 p.m.
- ♦Sept. 1: Small group Bible study, for information contact shughes@alsbom.org

Troy University

- ♦Aug. 9: Survival 2010 for freshmen and transfer students, 6 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 10: Concert and cookout in the amphitheater, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 11: Weekly lunch is served by local churches, free your first week, 11 a.m.–noon
- ♦Aug. 12: Broom hockey, Eastdale Mall, Montgomery, \$5 includes hockey and pizza, meet at Baptist Student Center, 7:45 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 13: All Nations Church meets at BCM for meal, worship and Bible study, 6 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 16: Discipleship/family groups, freshmen meet at the BCM, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 17: Alpha Omega, weekly praise and worship, Baptist Student Center, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 27–29: Beach retreat, Panama City Beach, \$50 includes lodging and four meals

University of Alabama

- ♦Aug. 15: UA Plaza Live — student organizations welcome students to the university, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 16: Survival — freshmen and transfer students join this party for help adjusting to life at Bama. \$5 covers everything (including a T-shirt), Baptist Student Center, 6:45 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 17: BCM house party, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 18: Steak lunch, Baptist Student Center, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 19: Ice cream and church, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 20–21: Back-to-School Retreat, weekend of fun, worship and Bible study, \$15
- ♦Aug. 23: Journey groups begin. Freshmen groups meet at the BCM at 7 p.m. on Mondays. Upperclassmen groups meet on campus, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 24: Discovery begins — contemporary worship and biblically relevant teaching, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 25: Wednesday lunch, Baptist Student Center, 11:30 a.m. Get on Board Day on the quad. Church road trip — visit five different area Baptist churches during this free progressive dinner, 5 p.m.

University of Alabama at Birmingham

- ♦Aug. 15: Move upperclassmen into dorms
- ♦Aug. 16: Welcome party at Baptist Student Center, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 17: Baptist Medical and Dental fellowship, Volker Hall, noon
- ♦Aug. 19: Weekly worship service, 8:30 p.m., Baptist Student Center
- ♦Aug. 20: Bible Study for Chinese students, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 20–21: Welcome retreat at Camp WorldSong
- ♦Aug. 24: First freshman Bible study, Baptist Student Center, 8:30 p.m.
- ♦Sept. 13: Conversational English classes for international students, Baptist Student Center, 9:30 a.m.–noon

University of Alabama at Huntsville

- ♦Aug. 14: Dorm move-in, 8 a.m., CCRH and NCRH
- ♦Aug. 16: Muffin and drink handout, 8 a.m.–until, outside the UC
- ♦Aug. 17: Celebration (weekly worship), 8:30 p.m., Baptist Student Center
- ♦Aug. 19: Free lunch, noon, Baptist Student Center
- ♦Aug. 20: Video/game night, 7 p.m., Baptist Student Center

University of Montevallo

- ♦Aug. 28: “The Start Off” church progressive dinner, 5 p.m., register by Aug. 20 and get a free gift
- ♦Aug. 29: The Welcome Back Bash, Baptist Student Center, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 30: Cookout and frisbee, Orr Park, 5–7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 31: “Resonate” (worship), Baptist Student Center, 8 p.m.
- ♦Sept. 1: Café Escape (lunch), Baptist Student Center, 11:15 a.m.–1 p.m., \$2
- ♦Sept. 2: Late night movie on the patio, Baptist Student Center, 10 p.m.
- ♦Sept. 3: “Man Trip,” meet at the Baptist Student Center, 5 p.m. B.F.C. “Ladies Night” meet at

- the Baptist Student Center, 5 p.m.
- ♦Sept. 6: O.F.F. “Operation Fresh Families”
- ♦Sept. 7: “Resonate” weekly worship, church fair ice cream social, 8 p.m.

University of North Alabama

- ♦Aug. 21: Dorm move-in day
- ♦Aug. 25: First noonday lunch, Baptist Student Center, 11 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 27: Cookout on campus, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 30: Progressive dinner with local churches, 5:30–8:30 p.m.

University of South Alabama

- ♦Aug. 15: Campus prayer journey, Baptist Student Center, 2 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 21: Freshmen move-in day, Epsilon dorms, 9 a.m., JagFest campus fair, 5 p.m., free giant pretzels
- ♦Aug. 22: Beat the Heat, USA Rec Fields, 2 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 23: BCM open house, Baptist Student Center, 5904 Old Shell Road, 8 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 24: MERGE Worship kickoff, Baptist Student Center, 7 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 25: The Café, \$5 home cooked meal, guest speaker and “Surviving & Thriving Spiritually in College,” Baptist Student Center, 12:15 p.m. and 1:15 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 26: Outdoor Living Room, USA Student Center, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., free brownies, free soft drinks and new friends
- ♦Aug. 27: Church road trip, meet at the Baptist Student Center, 6 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 30: FiSH freshman Bible study groups kick-off night, Baptist Student Center, 7 p.m.

University of West Alabama

- ♦Aug. 18: Welcome lunch and Bible study, SUB Tigers Den, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
- ♦Aug. 19: Get on Board Day, SUB, 2–4 p.m.

Huntingdon College

- ♦Aug. 20: Freshmen move-in day/ BCM water booth, Ligon Hall
- ♦Aug. 20–21: Big Red Weekend for all incoming freshmen

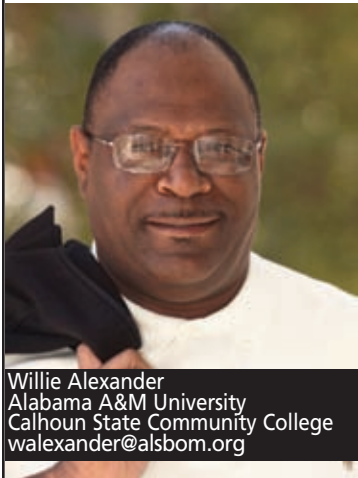
Jeff State Community College — Shelby Campus

- ♦Aug. 24: Campus ministry lunch, HSB room 154, 12:30 p.m.

Northeast Alabama Community College

- ♦Aug. 28: Day trip to Enfuego, Verbena, Ala.
- ♦Sept. 4–6: BCM BTS Weekend Encounter — intense Bible study and fellowship at a location close to home. Weekly NACC BCM meets Wednesdays, student center, for fellowship, lunch and Bible study, noon. College Bible study, Wednesdays, various locations, 8 p.m.

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Gary Brittain
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A special breed of state missionary serves on campuses across the state. If you or someone you know is enrolling in an Alabama college or university this fall, consider contacting one of these campus ministers.



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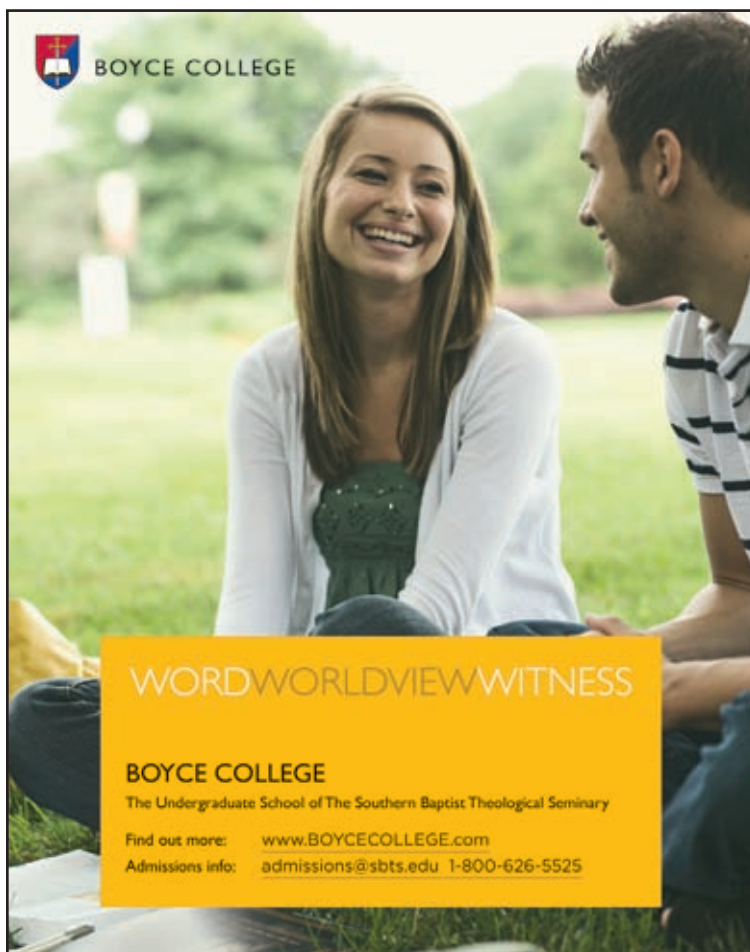


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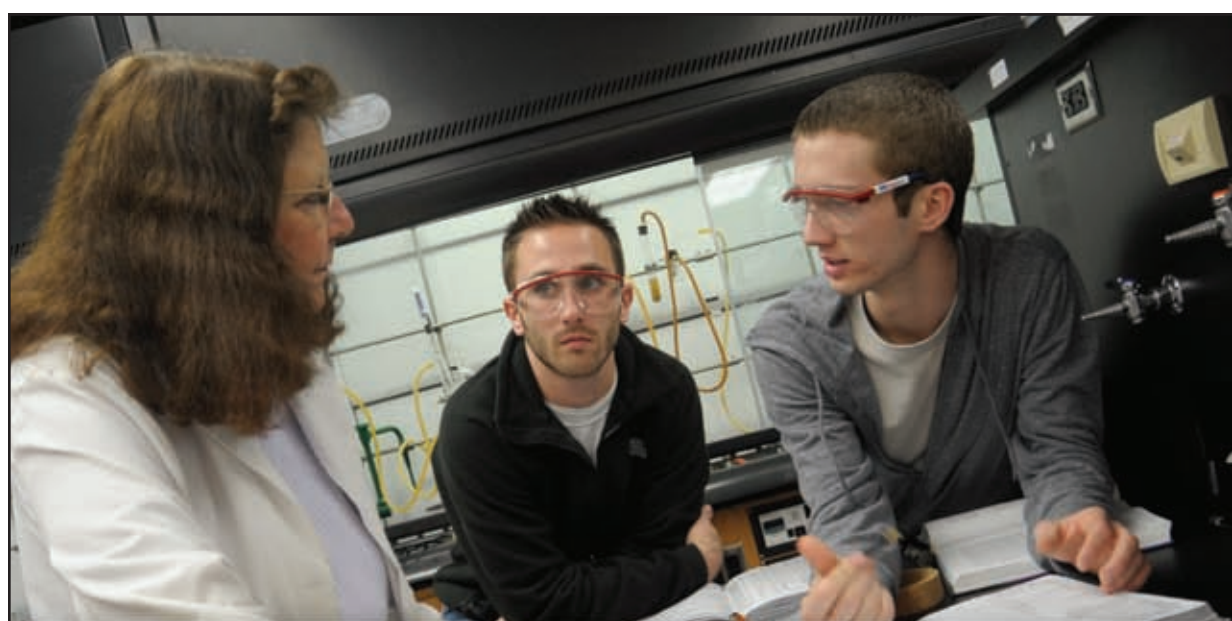
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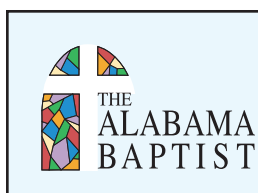
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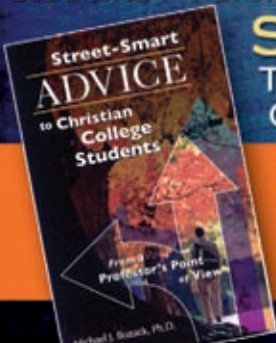
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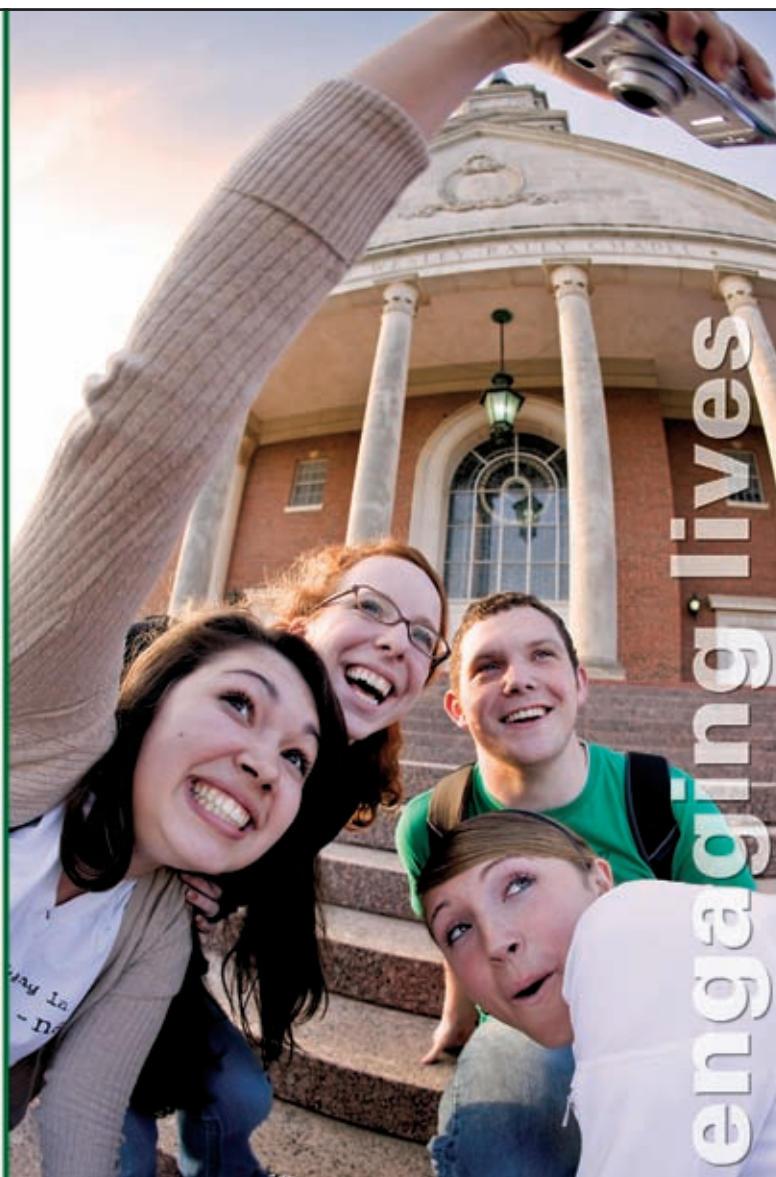
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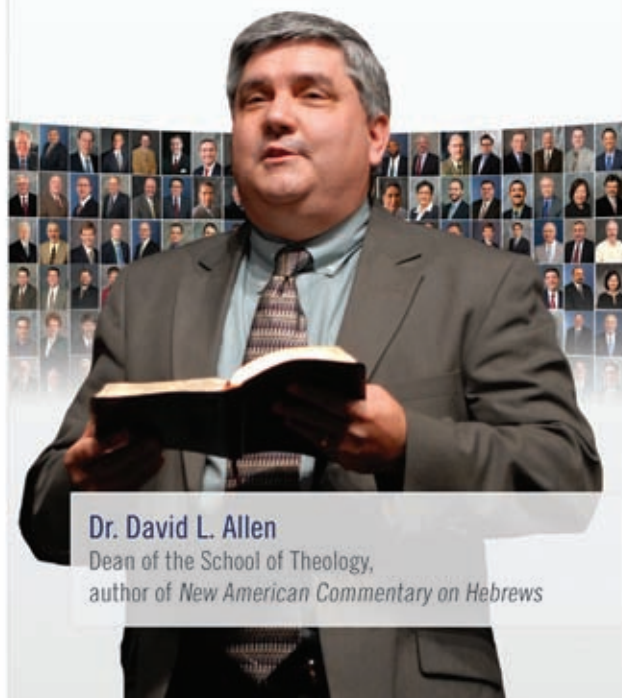
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The University of Mobile is an equal opportunity educational institution and, as such, does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in any of its programs, including admission of students and employment.

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SOUTHWESTERN
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Samford ranks high among most religious campuses report

Baptist-affiliated Samford University in Birmingham ranked No. 6 on the list of the most religious campuses in the Princeton Review's annual ranking of "The Best 373 Colleges in the United States."

Affiliated with the Alabama Baptist State Convention, Samford was the highest-ranking Baptist school among the top 20 campuses having the most religious students.

Baylor University, affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, ranked 10th followed by Furman University, a private liberal-arts school that severed formal ties with the South Carolina Baptist Convention in 1992, at No. 11. William Jewell College, which receives support from the Baptist

General Convention of Missouri, came in at No. 19.

All of the 20 most religious campuses are private schools except one. The United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., ranked 14th.

The religiosity ranking is one of 62 categories included in the annual report. Editors selected 373 institutions based on their high opinion of their academics and surveyed more than 122,000 students about their impressions of the schools.

Samford also ranked near the bottom in use of hard liquor and marijuana. Both Samford and Baylor were among the 20 least-friendly campuses toward gays and lesbians. (ABP)

Connecting with students

(continued from page 7)

act the tendency of some to drop out of church," Waggoner said.

So how can churches connect with college students?

► Help with freshmen move-in day. Many churches use this as a way to initiate contact with students and become visible on the college campus.

► Advertise. The college ministry of First Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, sends out a connect card that includes contact information and its schedule to all the incoming students who have indicated to the University of Alabama that they are Baptist.

► Adopt a group on campus. The college ministry at Bush Memorial Baptist Church, Troy, provides a dinner for international students who have moved to campus early. First, Florence, hosts a watermelon cutting for the soccer team after one of its practices every year. "Every year, we've had a soccer player or two be a part of our ministry (as a result)," Johnson said.

► Offer small groups. Once a student visits the church, plug him or her in to a small group. West Mobile Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Opelika, have found small groups to be the most vital part of their college ministries.

► Provide ministry opportunities. Churches like Bush Memorial Baptist and Shades Mountain Baptist provide opportunities for college students to serve in leadership roles in their children's and youth ministries.

► Adopt a college student. At Shades Mountain, the college ministry has a Mocher ministry.

A student can sign up to be "adopted" by a family in the church whom he or she can "mooch" off of while in college.

► Offer watch care membership. By allowing students the option to become a member under watch care, they can keep their membership back home while connecting with a church while in college.

These people do not go to our church, but we hope you will!

This is not our worship service, but we do have a band-driven college-friendly service with relevant teaching!

This guy does not cook our college lunch, but we do have a great time of fellowship over a FREE meal each week!

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Churches outside college towns can stay engaged

With approximately 270,000 college students in Alabama, “almost every Alabama Baptist church can be or should be a ‘college church,’” said Mike Nuss, director of the office of collegiate and student ministries at the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions.

For a church not located in a college town, the challenge may be more difficult but it is not impossible.

Chris Taylor, youth and media pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Grand Bay, said his church has been able to minister to college students because it has offered something for them — a Bible study on Wednesday nights.

“You can’t just expect them to come to church,” Taylor said. “College students have so much going on and so many opportunities that the world is presenting them that you have to have something for them.”

That something could be an activity during the winter or summer break or an ongoing ministry op-

portunity. Keep students connected with each other by taking them skiing or camping or hosting a game or movie night. Keep them connected to the church by opening up leadership roles in the children’s or youth ministries to them.

If there are not enough students in town to merit a Bible study or Sunday School class, then make sure there is “someone who lets them know they are not forgotten,” said Kent Dodson, pastor of Liberty Hill Baptist Church, Clanton.

There are a number of ways to do this. Mail, e-mail or even text a note of encouragement. Send a care package of goodies during a stressful time like finals week. Become a Facebook friend.

Have families or adult Sunday School classes “adopt” college students.

They could pray for the students, call them to check in, do their laundry or cook them a meal.

(TAB)

“College students have so much going on and so many opportunities ... that you have to have something for them.”

Chris Taylor
Friendship Baptist Church
Grand Bay

Using social media in ministry

“The freshmen that are walking on to campus this year have never known life without the Internet,” said Kevin Johnson, associate pastor/college students of First Baptist Church, Florence.

And since much of their life is shared through their Facebook pages and Twitter accounts, college ministries are having to find ways to tap in to these and other social media to stay connected to them.

If your church hasn’t ventured into the world of social media yet, then here are some ideas for how to get started:

► Create a Facebook (www.facebook.com) page or group for your college ministry as a way to share information, schedules, announcements and pictures.

► Create a Twitter (www.twitter.com) account for your college ministry in order to keep students up to date on news items and announcements.

► Create a blog for your college minister as a place to post his thoughts, devotionals, Christian book reviews and updates on what the college ministry is doing.

► Post a video of your weekly college service or Sunday sermon on YouTube (www.youtube.com). Also consider posting funny announcements or videos from events.

► Make a podcast of a sermon or Sunday School lesson available on the church’s website.

(TAB)

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Judson College

Math professors find Judson 'a good place to be'



BARTON

Chelsea Barton continues family tradition at Judson

Chelsea Barton graduated from Judson on June 26 with an English major and journalism minor.

Q: You're from Marion, and went to a state university for your freshman year. Why did you come back home?

A: I decided after high school to try something new, go to a larger school and meet new people. But I was always drawn to Judson. My grandmother, mother and several aunts went to Judson, so I had a heritage. At Judson I made new friends from all over the country.

Q: What is the major difference you discovered between the schools?

A: At the university I was in large classes and not all my teachers knew my name. At Judson we have a familiarity with students and teachers.

Q: What did you enjoy most about your Judson years?

A: I took the three-year option and graduated ahead of many of my friends who have a year left in college. I enjoyed traditions like Pageant and Step Sing and through these found a bond with Judson sisters from previous generations.

Q: What would you say to prospective Judson students?

A: At Judson you can serve in leadership positions as I did in the SGA and on the "Scrimshaw" staff. And it's a Christian school. You don't have to put your faith in a box. Chapel is a plus with different speakers every week who encourage us.

Q: You did an internship last summer at ABC 33/40 in Birmingham. How did that come about?

A: Judson alum Deborah Pugatch is news director at the station. I worked primarily with "The Talk of Alabama" morning show doing scheduling and guest hospitality and went out into the field with reporters and crew. It underscored for me that this is what I want to do.

Q: What's next?

A: I've been accepted for graduate study in communication at Alabama and Auburn. I'm still praying about what's best for me. (JC)

What do Judson College math professors Ray Price and Brett Stiefel think about the old adage, "Algebra has nothing to do with real life?"

"Algebra isn't the final destination; it's a step to greater things," Price explained.

"It's like a music student who takes piano lessons and later writes a symphony. Algebra teaches logic, which is a helpful foundation for other goals in life."

Stiefel agreed.

"A football player runs sprints and does bench-presses. These aren't what he does in the game, but they prepare him for the game," he said. "Math teaches one to think logically and solve problems. Even if they don't go into a math career, I want students to leave my classes with the ability to make decisions by attacking issues step-by-step."

Price grew up the son of an Episcopalian rector in North and South Carolina and knew early on that math appealed to him as a career. He attended Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., earning a graduate scholarship to Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.



STIEFEL

After completing his class work at Wake Forest, Price spent two years with the Peace Corps teaching math to teenagers at a boarding school in Ghana. "Third-world countries want math and science," he said, "so I was welcomed to the village and to the Anglican school."

Price returned to Wake Forest to complete his thesis and accepted a Judson teaching position in 1979.

He met and married his wife, Ann, a Judson alum who taught home economics at the college, and they moved to Virginia Tech in Blacksburg in 1981 for his Ph.D. study. The



Photo courtesy of Judson College

ALL IN THE FAMILY — Caroline Price, who graduated from Judson this summer, stands next to her father, Ray Price, a Judson math professor.

Prices returned to Judson in 1987. Price described Judson as "a good place to be."

"People treat one another well, and we worship together every week," he said.

"Our students' attitudes and goals are always at the highest level."

'A spiritual dimension'

Stiefel agreed that Judson's Christian atmosphere impacts his teaching.

"At Judson I can discuss ideas and use illustrations that have a spiritual dimension," he said.

"I've taught at state schools and I know your job can be in jeopardy if you talk about faith. But I often talk in my classes about our 'calling' as believers and use faith to motivate students to excel."

Stiefel, a Rainsville native, earned degrees from the University of Montevallo and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

He begins his seventh year at Judson in the fall. He attends First Lutheran Church in Birmingham and serves as a deacon and Bible teacher.

"I've taught the book of Isaiah and the gospel of John," he said. "John is my favorite book in the Bible."

Price is organist at the St. Wilfrid's Episcopal Church in Marion.

Ray and Ann Price celebrated their daughter Caroline's graduation from Judson this summer. Caroline begins pre-med studies this fall in the Rural Medical Scholars Program at the University of Alabama. (JC)

Judson College's 2010-11 chapel schedule

AUGUST 31

Roger Willmore
pastor, Deerfoot Baptist Church, Trussville

SEPTEMBER 7

Larry Teasley
pastor, Marion United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 14

Ed Hayes
pastor, First Baptist Church, Cullman

SEPTEMBER 21

Kacey L. Moore
Samaritan Counseling, Birmingham

SEPTEMBER 28

Patricia Barnes
founder, Sister Schubert's Homemade Rolls, Luverne

OCTOBER 5

Mary Kay Beard
Encourager Ministries, Birmingham

OCTOBER 12

Hymn-Sing, George and Leah Washburn
Judson College

OCTOBER 19

Matthew S. Kerlin
minister to the university, Samford University, Birmingham

OCTOBER 26

Ron Stone
pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Selma

NOVEMBER 9

Joe Godfrey
executive director, ALCAP, Birmingham

NOVEMBER 16

James Earl Massey
Beeson Divinity School

NOVEMBER 30

Jerome Kirk
pastor, Provewell Baptist Church, Sprott

JANUARY 11

Rick Lance and Keith Hibbs
Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, Montgomery

JANUARY 18-20

Christian Emphasis Week, Mark Gignilliat
Beeson Divinity School

JANUARY 25

Daven Watkins
pastor, First Baptist Church, Pleasant Grove

FEBRUARY 1

Stan Lewis
pastor, First Baptist Church, Birmingham

FEBRUARY 8

Beth Chapman
Alabama secretary of state

FEBRUARY 15

Michael Thurman
pastor, Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, Montgomery

FEBRUARY 22

Irene Latham
author, Birmingham

MARCH 1

Judson College Music Department concert

MARCH 8

John Killian
pastor, Maytown Baptist Church

MARCH 22

Bill Mathews
vice president and general counsel, Judson College

MARCH 29

Elizabeth Hostetter
associate minister of music and organist, First Baptist Church, Huntsville

APRIL 5

Campus Ministries Honor Chapel

Samford University

A 'special community' of learning, faith offering life-changing experiences

Samford University's founders dedicated themselves to forming an institution of "high character."

"That promise is renewed each year as seniors graduate and new students join their lives with ours to create a very special community of learning and faith," says Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, as he looks to welcome some 840 freshmen and undergraduate transfer students this fall, making for an expected total student body of about 4,700.

Even as enrollment from Alabama remains steady and strong, he notes, the school's national reputation for providing quality higher education is reflected in the number of students coming from across the country and throughout the world.

This fall, students from about 60 of Alabama's 67 counties will be joined by classmates from some 43 states and more than a dozen foreign nations. Included in the mix will be 10 students from mainland China and Taiwan who will study in Samford's master of science in environmental management program.

International diversity

While at Samford, the students will develop skills and knowledge to contribute to China's critical need for better environmental management and stewardship. In turn, their presence will expand the international diversity on campus.

The new link with the Asian nation underscores the strength of Samford's graduate and professional programs that are growing in na-

tional and international reputation.

The Alabama Baptists who founded Samford in 1841 would be pleased that the stated mission of today's leaders is to nurture persons in their development of intellect, creativity, faith and personhood. And furthermore, as a Christian university, Samford seeks to foster academic, career and ethical competency while encouraging social and civic responsibility and service to others.

Samford's attention to learning and professional development regularly garners recognition from the academic community. Recent accolades include:

► Selection as one of the nation's 50 "Best-Value" four-year private universities in the annual *USA Today* Princeton Review listing.

► For the third straight year, ranked in the top tier of na-

tional doctoral research universities, according to the annual college rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report*.

► Inclusion in the 2011 edition of *The Princeton Review's* popular guidebook, "The Best 371 Colleges" as one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education.

Samford's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing recently received grants and scholarship funding totaling almost \$500,000. The available monies will help the school recruit students underrepresented in nursing, including men and minorities, and graduate students pursuing an advanced degree so as to become a nursing educator.

Campuswide, dedicated faculty members cultivate a climate of



Photo courtesy of Samford University

WELCOMING STUDENTS — A colorful campus will welcome new and returning students to Samford University in Birmingham in late August for the beginning of the fall semester.

scholarship and creative activity that brings acclaim to them and the school, and results in special academic opportunities for their students. Programs to be unveiled during the new academic year include:

► A religion and science program that will help frame teaching and research in the sciences and mathematics by the "big questions" of meaning and value.

► A church music curriculum that will focus on worship leadership.

► A Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Institute that will allow enhanced faculty/student research us-

ing a mass spectrometry laboratory.

As a vibrant community of Christian faith and service, Samford regularly hosts gatherings that bring church leaders and lay persons to campus for workshops and programs on varied topics.

At the same time, Samford actively sends forth faculty, staff and students on missions endeavors and social ministry projects throughout the year.

Whether a visit to an Alabama Baptist pulpit by Dr. Westmoreland, a "hands-on" day of service in a struggling Birmingham neighborhood or a student missions trip to Malaysia, a commitment to living the faith is readily evident.

Samford promotes intercultural and international understanding in ways both academic — such as study abroad opportunities at its Daniel House in London and other foreign sites — and missional — such as recent cross-cultural immersions in which students collaborated with nationals ministering in China and India. Hundreds of Samford students annually engage in missions trips sponsored by the school or arranged on their own. The summer of 2010 found more than 100 students sharing the gospel in six

states and 30 countries, in locales ranging from an impoverished area of eastern Kentucky to an orphanage in Romania.

Eight students, led by university ministries staff members Brian and Renee Pitts, were in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where they introduced local college students to Connexion

Bandar Utama, an international student ministry in the city.

"We learned a great deal about the complexities of Malaysian culture, with its diversity of religious and ethnic groups mingling together in a country with a Muslim majority," said Renee Pitts.

While encouraged by the Christians they met and

their personal commitment to living out their faith, said Pitts, "We were also challenged by the task of relational evangelism in a context where it often takes many months or even years to decide to convert to Christian faith from another religious tradition."

Such experiences change the lives of Samford students and possibly the lives of students a world away, forever.

To learn more about Samford, check the website at www.samford.edu. (SU)

Samford's attention to learning and professional development regularly garners recognition from the academic community.

Hundreds of Samford students annually engage in missions trips sponsored by the school or arranged on their own.

Samford's fall 2010 calendar

Aug. 30

Fall semester classes begin

Sept. 3-4

University Ministries
Freshman Retreat

Sept. 20-23

Newsweek magazine
contributing editor Eleanor
Clift in residence as a Woodrow
Wilson Visiting Fellow

Sept. 24-26

Family Weekend

Sept. 25

Admission Preview Day

Sept. 26

Hymn Sing
Reid Chapel, 2 p.m.

Oct. 11-12

Fall Break

Oct. 16

Admission Preview Day

Oct. 26-28

Reformation Heritage Lectures
presented by Samford's Beeson
Divinity School

Nov. 5-7

Homecoming Weekend

Nov. 20

Admission Preview Day

Dec. 2

Hanging of the Green &
Lighting of the Way

Dec. 18

Fall Commencement

Samford hosts a variety of performing arts, informative lectures, sports events and other activities throughout the year. Many are free.

For more information, check the website at www.samford.edu.

Meet UMobile students



JEMISON

Rachael Jemison

*Junior, finance major
Cloverleaf Baptist Church,
Tillman's Corner*

Rachael grew up in a Christian home, where biblical values guided her path.

For college, she wanted a place where those values are honored and biblical ethics are integrated into academic learning — a place to keep her on track spiritually and academically. At the University of Mobile, Rachael is traveling the road to real success, with a future as a Christian leader in the banking industry.



FREEMAN

Jared Freeman

*Graduate student, 5-year
integrated MBA program
Camellia Baptist Church,
Prattville*

As soon as Jared drove on campus, he knew he belonged at the University of Mobile. Through two terms as Student Government Association president, meeting national leaders such as Mike Huckabee and Jeb Bush, and an internship with the CEO of a credit union which led to a management position in charge of lending and investments while he completes his master's degree, Jared knows one thing about UMobile. It has changed his life.

university of mobile

New programs, new look mark new year at UMobile

The University of Mobile (UMobile) is starting the new school year with an emphasis on "new" as Alabama's youngest Baptist college nears the half-century mark.

Students will move onto campus Friday, Aug. 20, and classes begin Monday, Aug. 23.

The first week of school includes Ram Rush new student orientation. A variety of events designed to help new students make friends and learn the ropes of college life include concerts by Christian artists Matt Wertz and Charlie Hall, pool-side movies, skate party, pep rally and soccer game, citywide service project, Dinner on the Run progressive dinner at area churches and a circus-themed carnival complete with fire breathers and live circus animals.

The first week also kicks off First Wednesday, a campuswide chapel led by UMobile President Mark Foley, and the weekly Bible study True Spin.

Freshman Seminar, a course which provides freshmen with practical tips for being successful in college, and the UM Expo which introduces new students to the many clubs and activities available, are included in the back-to-school whirlwind.

Here is quick look at just some of what is new at UMobile for 2010-11:

► **George W. Bush** — Former President Bush will be the keynote speaker at the 6th annual University of Mobile Leadership Banquet on Oct. 7. The event raises financial support for the university's annual academic scholarship fund. Tickets

Stay connected to UMobile

It's easy to be linked in to the University of Mobile (UMobile) news and events online.

► **www.umobile.edu** — official website includes a calendar of activities, admissions information, special visit days, faculty directory, academic catalogs and more.

► **UM NewsNet** — Sign up to receive UM NewsNet e-mail newsletter at www.umobile.edu/news.

► **Facebook** — UMobile is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/universityofmobile.

www.youtube.com/universityofmobile.

► **YouTube** — See UMobile videos at www.youtube.com/universityofmobile.

► **Follow UMobile President Mark Foley's blog** at <http://markfoleysupdate.blogspot.com>.

► **Twitter** — Keep up with Rams sports scores and news at www.twitter.com/mobile Rams.

► **Join the movement to transform America** through the Center for Leadership Development at www.twelve23.org.

are available by calling the UMobile Development Office at 251-442-2237. For more information, visit www.umobile.edu/banquet.

► **New Center for Leadership Development (CLD)** — This new center is part of 2020 Vision, the university's 10-year strategic plan to become a nationally recognized leader in the revitalization of Christian faith and character in a nation that has distanced itself from God. Information on the twelve23 Prayer Movement for America, a project of the CLD, is online at www.twelve23.org.

► **New entrance** — The entrance to UMobile gets a distinctive new look with a gatehouse, gates and decorative fencing. UMobile trustee Jim Daniel, CEO of the 103-year-old Daniel Metals Inc. in Birmingham, donated the gates and fence.

"I see this Christian college making an impact on a lot of young

people's lives, and that is something I have a passion for. This college is molding the lives of young people, and it's exciting to be a part of that," Daniel said.

► **New website and logo** — With direction from UMobile student focus groups, the university has a new logo. The new look is featured on the new website at www.umobile.edu.

► **New major** — The School of Christian Studies has a new major in Intercultural Studies, designed for students preparing for the missions field. The degree is useful for working in a multicultural setting in an American city or an international setting in a global business network, missionary agency or non-governmental organization.

► **New paving** — The entire campus is being repaved, including parking lots.

That's more than 20,000 tons of asphalt which will give a smooth ride and a fresh look to campus.

With more than 40 areas of study, UMobile students have a varied and strong academic program that integrates learning, faith and leadership. Courses are offered through the College of Arts and Sciences; the schools of business, Christian studies, education and nursing; the Center for Performing Arts; the Center for Adult Programs and the Graduate School.

For information on admission, call enrollment services at 800-WIN-RAMS or 251-442-2222, or e-mail umadminfo@umobile.edu. (UMobile)



Photo courtesy of the University of Mobile

GLOWSTICK CONDUCTING — Students in conducting class use glowsticks to spell out UMobile during spring semester. Al Miller, dean of the Center for Performing Arts (CPA), said conducting in the dark with glowsticks allowed students to actually see the patterns they were conducting. The CPA has a full schedule of performances for the 2010-11 year, including Christmas Spectacular Nov. 17, 18 and 19 at Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile. Also season tickets are on sale for Upper Room Theatre productions. For more information on concert schedules for the university's 21 performing ensembles, visit www.umobile.edu or call the CPA at 251-442-2420.



Photo courtesy of the University of Mobile

WELCOME TO UMOBILE — The entrance marker featuring the original Mobile College seal has been moved to the flag plaza at the foot of the entrance drive to the University of Mobile. This is part of the distinctive new entrance to the 880-acre campus just north of Mobile.