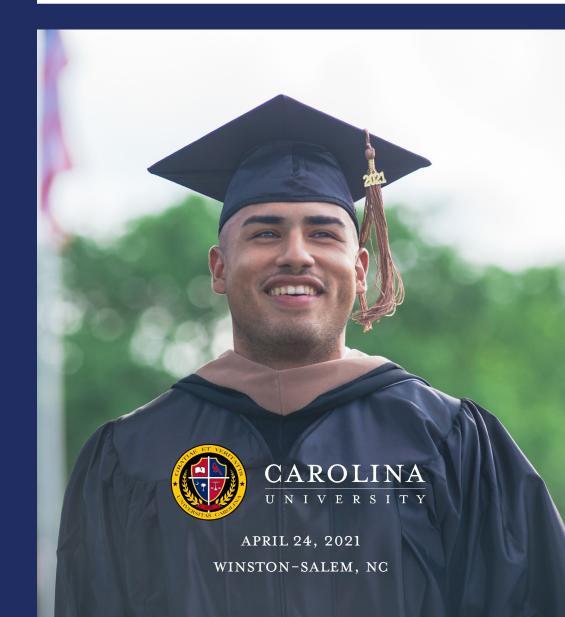
# COMMENCEMENT 2021





CAROLINAU.EDU

420 SOUTH BROAD STREET WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101

### From the President

Welcome to a unique and historic commencement that celebrates the last graduating class of Piedmont International University, the first graduating class of Carolina University, and the last degrees issued from John Wesley University.

Whether you are in the class of 2020 or the class of 2021, you will always be remembered as the COVID class noted for your resilience, flexibility, tenacity, and faith. You stayed focused when the world around you plunged into chaos. You persevered to complete your degree when millions of your peers were quitting. You loved one another as many caved to hate. You worked through adversity, overcame the odds, maintained positive attitudes, and refused to be paralyzed by fear. Now you will move to the next phase of life, not as fearful novices with no ideas about how to solve problems, overcome challenges, or finish what you started, but as seasoned veterans ready and eager to embrace challenges, take giant steps of faith, and accomplish great things that make a difference here and in eternity.

We are so proud to call you Carolina University alumni and cannot wait to see the results when you tackle life and career with the same energy, determination, and courage that you displayed during the pandemic.

Congratulations!

Dr. Charles W. Petitt

President

### 74th Commencement



Prelude	North Carolina Brass
Processional*	North Carolina Brass
Invocation*	Dr. Chris Ronk
Reading Scripture	Dr. Byron Edens
Welcome	Dr. Charles Petitt
Commencement Address	Dr. Stephen Condon Dr. Sandeep Gopalan Dr. Charles Petitt
Special Presentation	Dr. Stephen Condon
Conferring of Degrees	Dr. Charles Petitt
Presentation of Honorary Degrees	Dr. Stephen Condon Dr. Charles Petitt
Prayer of Dedication	Dr. Mark Gregory

\*Please stand

North Carolina Brass

Recessional\*

#### Processional

The academic processional is an official prelude to the commencement ceremony. The ceremonial mace or sword is carried at the head of the procession to signify the authority and academic importance of the event. The junior marshals lead the procession followed by the President, honored guests, and members of the administration. The program directors and deans along with faculty, members of the Board of Trustees, and the graduates arranged according to their degree or field of study follow.

### Regalia

The use of academic regalia dates to the 12th century at the formation of early universities in Europe. The standard gown is black. The master's gown is distinguished by tippet sleeves, and the doctor's gown by velvet panels which adorn the sleeves. The standard cap is a mortarboard. The doctor's cap may be a soft tam. The tassel indicates the field of study; however, the doctor's tassel is metallic gold. The color of the cowl and the outside velvet of the hood indicates the field of study and the degree respectively. The inside colors of the hood are the school colors.

### **Hood Colors**

The hood is a triangular fold of cloth worn over the back of the gown, and it is faced with colors which denote the field of study represented by the wearer's degree. The colors of the lining indicate the college or academic discipline in which the degree is granted. The various colleges and academic disciplines of CU are represented by these hood and tassel colors.

Scarlet - Religion
Dark Blue - Philosophy
Light Blue - Education

Drab - Business, Leadership White - American Sign Language

### Graduation with Honors

#### **BACCALAUREATE HONORS**

Summa Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.85 to 4.00 Magna Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.60 to 3.84 Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.30 to 3.59

#### MASTER HONORS

Summa Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.90 to 4.00 Magna Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.75 to 3.89 Cum Laude — quality point ratio of 3.60 to 3.74

#### **DOCTORAL HONORS**

With High Distinction — quality point ratio of 3.90 to 4.00 With Distinction — quality point ratio of 3.75 to 3.89

#### CORDS

Academic honors are designated with cords worn by the graduates. The various academic achievements of the students at Carolina University are represented by these cord colors. The red, white and blue cord is worn by US veterans and active military personnel.

Gold & White — Summa Cum Laude, With High Distinction Gold & Navy — Magna Cum Laude Gold — Cum Laude, With Distinction

### Junior Marshals

In order to be eligible for consideration as a Junior Marshal, the student must be among the top students in the junior class. This is based on rank and GPA.

> Luke Childress Enoch Gover Michael Schoch

Emmeline DeLoach Kubat Stephanie Errington Hannah Hendrick



### University Cabinet

President Charles Petitt, DD

Chancellor Stephen Condon, PhD

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Sandeep Gopalan, D.Phil.

Chief Financial Officer Chris Ronk, PhD

### University Board of Trustees

Dr. Shahn Wilburn Mr. Mark Steele

Chairperson of the Board Vice Chairperson of the Board

Dr. Tony Alford Dr. Mark Harris

Mr. Matt Argano Mr. Mark Jackson

Mrs. Dana Lu Bryson Dr. David Leavell

Mrs. Karolyn Chapman Mr. Michael Mitchener

Dr. Alan Cox Mrs. Mena Parrish

Mr. Carl Deaton Mr. Dale Traxler

Dr. Rob Decker Mrs. Christie Williams

Dr. Mike Hand Mr. George A. Williams

### Candidates for Associate Degrees

#### ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Aaron William Barth (Religious Studies), Summa Cum Laude Jennifer Kindle-Jackson (Bible) Lois Shore Lytle (Ministries), Summa Cum Laude Autumn Nicole Pratt-Duffy (Ministries), Magna Cum Laude

### Candidates for Baccalaureate Degrees

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — BIBLE

Quintin Ayers, Magna Cum Laude

Jared Alexander Bowman, Summa Cum Laude

Randall Scott Boyte, Magna Cum Laude

Russell Lee Catron

Jacob Allen Crum, Magna Cum Laude

Adam Charles Davis, Summa Cum Laude

Evan Luke Denton, Summa Cum Laude

Joshua Wayne Hatfield, Summa Cum Laude

Nickolas Blake Johnson, Cum Laude

Lois Shore Lytle, Summa Cum Laude

Daniel Ray Melton

Samuel David Stewart, Summa Cum Laude

Jeremy Michael Taylor, Summa Cum Laude

Caitlin Temple (Youth Ministry)

Daniel Town, Magna Cum Laude

Jeremy Owen Tyre, Magna Cum Laude

Mason Taylor West, Summa Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — BIBLICAL STUDIES

Daphne Michelle Adams

Preston Lord Agdamag

Zachary Allen Armstrong, Magna Cum Laude

Timothy Joel Brand

Luke Preston Branham

Aaron Lee Brenner, Magna Cum Laude

Fred Darrell Doyle, Cum Laude

Corey Brendan Felts

Randy Lee Field II, Cum Laude

Gregory John Fowler

Jonah Benjamin Hill, Cum Laude

Christina Htoo, Cum Laude

Karen Renee Lassiter

Hunter L. Lyerly

Misty Murray McCullough, Summa Cum Laude

Matthew Avery McNeill, Magna Cum Laude

Kansas D. Nesmith

Kendall Devon Oliver Sr.

Benjamin Daniel Powell, Summa Cum Laude

Justin Alexander Lee Swink, Summa Cum Laude

Nathan Timothy Williams, Cum Laude

Young Ju Yoon, Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Hannah Rose Arneth, Magna Cum Laude

Natalie Brooke Jones

Cierra Lenn Josey

Arian Chernelle Rumph, Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Betty Lucinda Neal, Cum Laude

Austin Nathaniel Pendell, Cum Laude

Loria Ann Stevenson, Magna Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Kenneth Leigh Clark II

Marilyn Boyce Henson, Summa Cum Laude



#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Jacob Jamaal Cook
Mary Catherine Davis, Cum Laude
John Jairo Giboyeaux Gonzalez
Le'Onzerrae Grubbs
Kimberly Gray Harrell, Magna Cum Laude
Andrew Jeffrey Martin
Matthew Paul Martin
Hunter Rhineberger
Carlos Rodríguez Pollock
Donte Justin Slade
Brittany Nikole Parks, Magna Cum Laude

## BACHELOR OF ARTS — MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS ETHICS

Brendan Carlis Carroll
Celina Yvette Cole
China Christian Jones, Cum Laude
Ashley LaNell Lane, Magna Cum Laude
Joshua Clark Williams
Kenneth Ray Williams Jr.
Joshua David Wright, Summa Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — MINISTRY

QuaNesha Vines Bennett
Alex Benjamin Caudle, Summa Cum Laude
Kayla Marie Cherney, Cum Laude
Steven Dillon, Cum Laude
Hannah Michelle Hazelwood, Magna Cum Laude
Emily Anne Hughes, Summa Cum Laude
Jacob Ian Knight
Montelle Lemon
Hunter Keith Smith
Olivia Shaye Washer

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS — MUSIC

Andrew Dean Ashby (Church Music) Logan Michael Barnett (Music)

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — DEAF STUDIES

Kim Arlene Adams-Long, Summa Cum Laude

Sarah Anne Alexander

Amelia Joy Bender, Cum Laude

Brianne Danae Berg

Pamela Ann Chapman, Summa Cum Laude

Jessicca Adeline Hayes, Magna Cum Laude

Glenna Sue Hendrickson, Cum Laude

Micalah Claire Mach, Cum Laude

Ericka Milena Schultz, Summa Cum Laude

Cynthia Danelle Scimemi

Heather Christine Shepard, Cum Laude

Abigail Grace Snyder, Cum Laude

Kelsey Lee Watson, Cum Laude

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — EDUCATION

Joy Kathleen Osceola Findley (Music Education), Magna Cum Laude

Kali Rhen Hazelwood (Elementary Education), Magna Cum Laude

Emily Anne Kurz (Secondary English Education), Magna Cum Laude

Ralee Morgan McGee (Health & Physical Education), Magna Cum Laude

### Candidates for Master Degrees

#### MASTER OF ARTS — BIBLICAL STUDIES

Tommy Lee Miller, Jr., Summa Cum Laude

#### MASTER OF ARTS — LEADERSHIP

Jerome C. Bell

Shannon Cathryn Gamble, Cum Laude

Brianna Evorn Parker

Lawrence JarMark Parker

Howard Junior Thompson, Cum Laude

S. Chris Ware, Summa Cum Laude

#### MASTER OF ARTS — MINISTRY

Aaron Lee Asselin, Cum Laude

Michael W. Baker, Summa Cum Laude

James Anchor Christensen

Jimmy Wayne Cobler Jr, Cum Laude

Michael Anthony Exline, Magna Cum Laude

Samuel Scott Furches, Summa Cum Laude

Roseanne Marie Green

Daniel Thomas Gregory, Magna Cum Laude

David Walter Grochowski, Cum Laude

Kevin P. Hackett, Magna Cum Laude

Christopher Todd Hairston, Magna Cum Laude

Sam Lewis Hall

James Nimrod Harris III

Darron Gene Henderson, Summa Cum Laude

Matthew Wayne Huntsman, Magna Cum Laude

Brian Franklin Ide

Jonathan Michael Johnson, Summa Cum Laude

Wenda Patton Johnson

Cosmas C. Kaimba, Magna Cum Laude

Jeffrey John Kudlo, Magna Cum Laude

Stephen Ray Massie, Summa Cum Laude

Gregory Dewayne McCosh, Summa Cum Laude

Matthew William McCue, Cum Laude

Jeremiah Micah McGruder

Robert Paul Medonis, Cum Laude

Gary Wayne Moats, Magna Cum Laude

Liwovo Mubanga

**Bridget Marie Newton** 

Thiago da Mata de Oliveira, Summa Cum Laude

Deante Jerome Partee

Darrel Paul Patterson, Summa Cum Laude

Marcio dos Santos Peralta, Summa Cum Laude

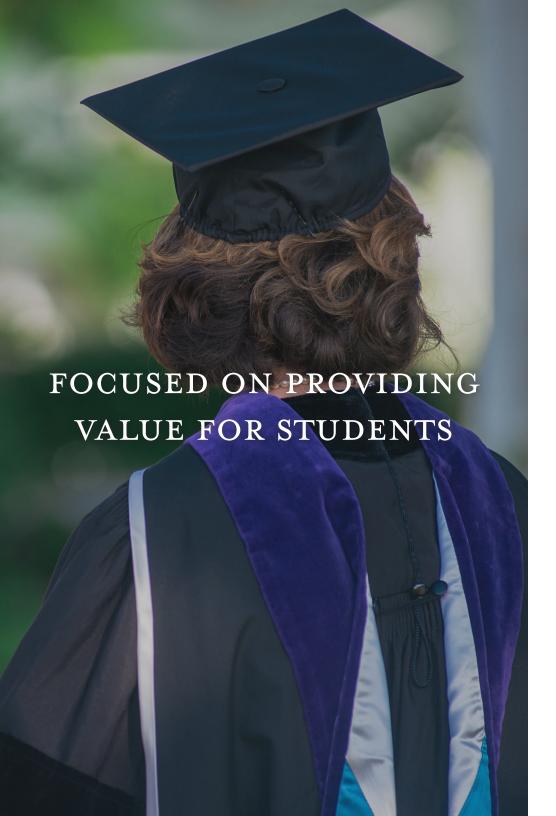
Rodney Perry, Magna Cum Laude

Kerry Ray Peters, Summa Cum Laude

Victor Phiri, Magna Cum Laude

**Gary Scott Robbins** 

Coleman Dylan West Sellers



Ryan L. Sims
Christopher Lee Smith, Summa Cum Laude
Aldemiro Yomango Sozinho, Cum Laude
Danny James Spry Jr., Cum Laude
Tayebwa Allan, Cum Laude
Timothy Neal Turley
Joseph Scott Wilder, Summa Cum Laude
Richard Noel Wright Jr., Magna Cum Laude

#### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Manda Michaela Johnson-Tena, Magna Cum Laude

#### MASTER OF DIVINITY

Quintin Ayers, Magna Cum Laude
Harold Lewis Benfield II, Cum Laude
Andrew David Bunnell
Adam Charles Davis, Magna Cum Laude
Rebekah Anne Gilberg, Cum Laude
Jacob Andrew Hall, Summa Cum Laude
Michael Thomas Sellers
Samuel David Stewart, Summa Cum Laude
Jeremy Michael Taylor, Magna Cum Laude
Samuel David VanSlyke
Mason Taylor West, Magna Cum Laude
Anthony Lewis Wilson, Magna Cum Laude

#### MASTER OF EDUCATION

Annisa Rebekah Albury, Summa Cum Laude William Bradley Bochette, Summa Cum Laude Sharon Rose Hattaway, Cum Laude Deborah Lynn King, Cum Laude Chance R. Sharp Susan Inge Vandergrift, Summa Cum Laude John Ernest Wenzel Williams, Cum Laude

### Candidates for Doctoral Degrees

#### DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Wayne Keast

Jae Eun Kim

Malcolm Alexander Rios

Jeremy Ryan Roeder, With High Distinction

David A. Tilma, With Distinction

Rebecca L. Tilma, With Distinction

Jacob Alexander White

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY — BIBLICAL STUDIES

#### Matthew Scott Epperson, With High Distinction

A Biblical and Theological Critique of the Latter-day Saints' Replacement Theology

#### Thomas J. Gentry II, With High Distinction

Where Unity, Love, and Authority Converge: Identifying and Principlizing Paul's Theology of Leadership in Philemon

#### Daniel Ndune Kautu

A Normal Hermeneutical Interpretation of the Bread Sign-Metaphor in John 6 in Light of the Person and Salvific Work of Christ

#### Cedric Covell Maddox

An Analysis of the Inerrancy Position of Norman L. Geisler and its Counterargument to Functional Inerrancy as Presented by Kevin J. Vanhoozer

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY — LEADERSHIP

#### Bryan Wayne Cook, With High Distinction

A Quantitative Study: Leadership Burnout and Emotional Intelligence in the Salvation Army

#### Elver Sherrell Crow, With High Distinction

Correlations between Servant Leadership and Organizational Commitment among the Department of Defense Research Scientists and Engineers

#### Michael Christopher Dunn, With High Distinction

Intrinsic Motivation and Leadership Effectiveness in Christian Higher Education

#### Byron Esley Edens

A Qualitative Study of the Transformational Leadership Characteristics of a Bible College in Southeast Asia

#### Mika Barbee Edwards, With High Distinction

Exploring the Personal Journeys of Women Leaders Serving in K - 12 Christian Schools

#### Bestos Amaboh Fongoh, With High Distinction

Possible Correlations between Faculty Leadership Styles and Students' Anxiety Levels

#### Pamela Corbett Griffin

Leadership in K12 Christian Education: Turnover Rate and Succession Planning

#### Michael Ricardo Holford, With High Distinction

An Examination of Emotional Intelligence Leadership Practice in Pastoral Leaders in the New Testament Church of God Barbados

#### Kingsley Obi Jon-Ubabuco

The Servant as Leader: A Phenomenological Exploration of Servant Leadership Attributes and Pastoral Ministry of Parish Rectors in a North American Diocese

#### Gene Edward Painter, With High Distinction

The Influence of Emotional Intelligence on Tenure of Southern Baptist Pastors in Mississippi

#### Kevin M. Peterson, With Distinction

A Qualitative Study of Leadership Behaviors in Pastoral Resiliency to Avoid Burnout

#### Robert Lewis Petty, With Distinction

Leadership's Inner Circle: A Collective Case Study of Dominant Coalitions and the Locus of Strategic Leadership

#### Roger Todd Stiles, With High Distinction

Pastoral Servant Leadership and Its Relationship to Congregational Retentions in SBC Churches in Iowa

#### Tiffiney C. Taylor, With Distinction

It's Revival Time: An Examination of Servant Leadership in the African American Church in Western New York

#### Chad Lee Whiteley, With High Distinction

Teachers as Leaders during Disaster Recovery: The Texas Gulf Coast after Harvey

#### Mildred Duggins-Williams, With High Distinction

From the Pastor's Desk: A Quantitative Analysis of African American Pastors' Leading with Congregants Experiencing Mental Health Issues

#### Adam Mastin Wingate, With High Distinction

Mergers and Acquisitions: Exploring How Leadership Approaches Change during Integration

### Honorary Degree - John & April Lindsey

#### DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Dr. John and April Lindsey served John Wesley University in multiple roles of leadership for over forty years. During that time the Lindseys led the 113 year old Bible institution to double in size, added several new dynamic degree programs, added four nationally competitive sports, built on campus housing and developed several new graduate degrees. John served as Vice President of Academic Affairs as well as Dean of the School of Ministry. April was the university librarian as well as in charge of institutional effectiveness. John designed and led the Doctor of Ministry degree program, and April served as president of the ABHE commission on accreditation. In 2016, the Association of Biblical Higher Education, an international accrediting agency with 212 member institutions, recognized John and April Lindsey as the "Administrators of the Year." The only couple to ever win such a high honor.

The Lindseys are extremely proud of their two adult children Renee and Jared. The Lindseys remain humble servants and give all the glory to God. Over the years, there have never been two more unselfish, faithful, loyal student advocates at the university than April and John. They assumed faculty and administrative roles with the students of John Wesley University during the merger in 2018 seeing each and every one of their "children" finish their education. It is fitting and profound that we would honor them today with what is the last of the John Wesley Degrees.

Receiving the Degree of Honorary Doctorate of Ministry Dr. John Lindsey and April Lindsey.

### Honorary Degree — Beth Ashburn

#### HONORIS CAUSA

To adequately record the significance of Dr. Beth Ashburn's impact on Carolina University, a book would need to be written. However, the motion unanimously approved by the CU Trustees that is now a part of the historic Board records is a good summary. "Whereas, Piedmont International University Provost, Dr. Beth Ashburn, served the Lord and Piedmont faithfully for decades, provided outstanding leadership in every position held; demonstrated Christlike attitudes, words and actions in all situations; imparted wise counsel to students, faculty, staff, administration and trustees; embraced every initiative and assignment with energy and excellence: and influenced countless students, ministries, churches, leaders and even nations, and Eternity, with the Gospel of Christ and the truth of the Bible. Be it therefore resolved that the Trustees of Carolina University do hereby express their profound and deepest appreciation to Dr. Beth Ashburn for her inspiring example by recording this resolution of gratefulness in the school's historic record."

Receiving an honorary degree in Honoris Causa Dr. Beth Ashburn.

### Honorary Degree — Emmanuel Konneh

#### BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

We honor Emmanuel Konneh with Carolina University's historic first degree, a Bachelors in Business Administration; posthumously. A tragic accident the first week of school took him from us, yet all who met him were left with a lasting impression of love and respect.

Emmanuel was a star goalkeeper for Concord High School. He and his family moved here from their native country of Liberia just three years ago. His beautiful smile, soft and gentle nature and humble spirit touched us all. A positive force on the field and off, Emmanuel left an indelible mark on the family at Carolina University.

We celebrate his life today with his father, mother, step-mother, younger brother, coaches and teammates by awarding him Carolina University's historic first degree. We have also commemorated the moment by providing the first Carolina University Soccer Jersey with his high school number, 40.

Receiving the Bachelor of Business Administration posthumously are his parents.