**JUDSON COLLEGE 2020**

Each year when Alabama Baptist Associations gather for their Annual Meetings, Judson has a wonderful opportunity. We get to say thank you for the support from the Alabama Baptist Convention that is made possible by your sacrificial giving to the Cooperative Program. Without the support of churches from across the state, Christ-centered private education would be so very expensive that many students would be unable to attend institutions like Judson College, Samford University, and the University of Mobile. Accordingly, it is with deep gratitude and appreciation that Judson would like to say “Thank you!”

As Alabama Baptists, you can be proud of Judson College, the only woman’s college in Alabama, the only Southern Baptist woman’s college, and arguable the only Christian woman’s college in America. Through an education that is rigorously academic and resolutely Christian, we help our students understand that their careers are a calling to serve God. By proceeding from the conviction that “the earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof” (Psalms 24:1) every subject matter is brought under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. We at Judson take seriously Peter’s admonition “to add to your faith, virtue, and to virtue, knowledge” (2 Peter 1:5). The primacy of faith must not be ignored. When our understanding of God is foundational to all intellectual pursuits, the education is superlative. Anything less is simply less education.

In the fall of 2020, Judson will enroll students from across America with most arriving in Marion from the southern states. Alabama Baptists and Southern Baptists from other states constitute the largest percentage of our students’ denominational affiliation. Approximately 24% of Judson’s students and 23.8% of Judson’s fulltime faculty are persons of color, percentages that resemble the 30% non-Caucasian population of Alabama and 25% non-Caucasian population of all fulltime faculty in America.

As an Alabama Baptist entity, Judson remains dedicated to the spiritual identity of the students God entrusts to our care above everything else. Far from diminishing our educational responsibility, we believe when we educate a student’s spirit primarily we can educate her mind exceptionally. In this context, two verses of scripture become very important and bracket our students’ educational experience at Judson. Believing that every student is gifted uniquely by God, we instruct them as they arrive on campus to “fan to a flame the gift of God in you” (2 Tim 1:6). Upon graduation, as they enter the world to live out their faith, we charge our students to “guard the good endowments entrusted to them” (2 Tim 1:14). With Judson’s commitment to do everything from a biblically informed Christian worldview, we are confident that God will bless our efforts, making our students “complete, ready for every good work” (2 Tim 3:17). By God’s leadership and the work of dedicated faculty and personnel, we believe Judson will position our graduates to enter a world where they can live out their Christian testimony by means of their God-given talents and interests and their Judson-refined knowledge and skills.