

CGGC eNews—One of our best kept secrets: The University of Findlay

September 30, 2016

I am convinced that the University of Findlay (www.findlay.edu) is one of the best kept secrets in the Churches of God. The University of Findlay was founded in 1882 in a joint partnership between the Churches of God, General Conference and the city of Findlay, Ohio. It now serves over 4,000 students from over 40 countries. The mission of the University of Findlay is to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.



I know that there are many from across the church body who are proud alumni of the University of Findlay. There are many from across the CGGC who not only received their formal education at the University of Findlay, but met their spouses there and formed life-long friendships that grew out of their university years. The University of Findlay has been recognized for 11 consecutive years in [U.S. News & World Report](#)'s annual survey of "America's Best Colleges" and is listed in the top tier of regional universities in the Midwest.

I've lived in Findlay for nearly twenty-five years and what excites me most about the UF is the growth and development in spiritual life opportunities on campus. The office of Campus Ministry (<https://www.findlay.edu/offices/student/campusministry/>) has seen tremendous growth in recent years under the capable leadership of Director Matt Ginter and Associate Director Will Miller.



Matt Ginter (left) and Will Miller (right)

There are multiple avenues for students to engage in Christian discipleship through student-led worship, service opportunities and other small group activities and bible studies. Christian leaders are being developed through the TLB Foundation Christian Service Scholarship and the Christian Ministry staff. The University just announced a generous gift from the TLB Foundation that will increase the capacity to invest in young Christian leaders on campus (<http://newsroom.findlay.edu/tlb-foundation-makes-million-dollar-gift-to-the-university-of-findlay/>). The University also received a grant from the Lily Foundation to implement a summer theology camp for high school students: The Well (<https://www.findlay.edu/academics/well/>). The first experience of The Well was launched in 2016 and plans are already underway for the 2017 experience.

I encourage you to follow some of the links and learn about the exciting things that are happening on campus to encourage and advance the Christian faith. I'd also encourage you to consider several other ways in which you can encourage the work of the University of Findlay:

1) Pray for the University of Findlay

Pray for Dr. Fell and the faculty and staff of the University of Findlay as they continue to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers. Higher education is an ever-changing landscape and I know that your prayers would be greatly appreciated. Pray that God would continue to bless the office of Campus Ministry and Pastor Matt Ginter and Pastor Will Miller as they serve to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for the College First Church of God and Winebrenner Theological Seminary as they serve as neighbors and partners to the University campus. Pray for the students at the University of Findlay, that they would come to embrace the life-transforming reality of the Good News of Jesus Christ and see their faith deepened as a result of their student experience.



2) Encourage your students to consider the University of Findlay

Each of us know young men and women who are in the process of selecting a university or who will be in the near future. Encourage them to investigate the University of Findlay in their course of options. We have a University that we can be proud of and we can all do a better job of encouraging our young people to consider the University in their own discernment process. I know three young people in my house who will all explore the possibility of becoming an Oiler someday.

3) Encourage a high school student to attend The Well in July 2017!

<https://www.findlay.edu/academics/well/>

We have a great opportunity to invest in the young people in our lives and their faith journey and their exploration of vocation. It's also a great chance to introduce those young people in our lives and churches to what the University of Findlay has to offer.



If you're unfamiliar with The University of Findlay, I'd encourage you to spend some time getting to know the UF and all that it offers to our students.

Tonight I'm looking forward to attending The DeBow and Catherine Moore Freed Contemporary Christian Series hosted by the University of Findlay. My favorite Old Testament Professor, Dr. Louis Stulman, will be delivering a lecture entitled "My Father was a Syrian Refugee" based on Deuteronomy 26:5 which will explore the biblical call to hospitality and openness to others. It promises to be a great evening that I'm sure will challenge and deepen my understanding of following Jesus. It's just another example of the good work being done at the University of Findlay.

Christ's Peace,

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