



Sixty-sixth Commencement

Mount Vernon
Nazarene University

Spring 2026



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University Mission

Mount Vernon Nazarene University exists to shape lives through educating the whole person and cultivating Christ-likeness for lifelong learning and service.

University Mission Context

Mount Vernon Nazarene University, established by the Church of the Nazarene, opened its doors in 1968 and serves the denomination's East Central Region. The University offers liberal arts, professional, and graduate programs at its main campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio, downtown Mount Vernon, and online.

MVNU's educational philosophy and purpose are shaped by its Wesleyan-Holiness theological roots, informed by the Bible, focused on Christ-likeness in every aspect of life, and defined by an emphasis on loving God with all of one's heart, mind, soul, and strength, as well as one's neighbor as one's self. Students are nurtured and empowered through caring relationships with faculty, staff, and administrators; challenged to be devoted disciples of Christ; drawn toward discovery of wisdom and truth in every discipline of study; prepared for leadership in various professions; equipped to be lifelong learners; and sent into the world to live out their faith by offering their hearts and lives in service to God and others.

The University is characterized by an engaging environment where diversity is celebrated and differences in ethnicity, denomination, gender, economic level, and stage of spiritual development are embraced. A spirit of worship unifies the academic, social, and spiritual life of the student body; and the community is shaped through shared commitments, values, and experiences that provide the context for transformation in Christ, individually and collectively. Excellence in vocational pursuits and in character development are viewed as an expression of faithful stewardship, and a lifestyle of compassion is demonstrated as the most effective witness to others of God's love. As students become graduates, the character of Mount Vernon Nazarene University continues to identify them as devoted disciples, servant leaders, learning professionals, and loyal alumni.

University Motto

To Seek to Learn is to Seek to Serve

University Vision

To Change the World with the Love of Christ



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Randall E. Davey, D.D.

Wealth Educator and Financial Coach
Guide Advisors

Dr. Randall Davey graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene College in 1970, Eastern Nazarene University in 1972, Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1975, and ABD in 2023 from Lutheran Seminary of Philadelphia. Dr. Davey and his wife Bonnie (MVNC '70) are parents to three children and five grandchildren. They served congregations in Ohio, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Washington for 28 years before starting a financial services practice in 2003.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Saturday, May 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
R. R. Hodges Chapel/Auditorium
President Carson Castleman, Ph.D., Presiding

PRELUDE

Rebecca L. Abbott, D.W.S.
Organist

Brass Choir
John E. Packard, D.A.
Professor of Music, Director

*PROCESSIONAL

Brass Choir

Trumpet Voluntary, John Stanley
Trumpet Voluntary, Jeremiah Clarke

*ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Academic Marshals:

Carrie D. Beal, Ph.D.; Timothy G. Chesnut, MBA, CPA;
James D. Dalton, Ed.D.; Geoffrey Fuller, Ph.D.;
Chris A. Ingersol; Mark A. Shoaf, Ph.D.

University Marshals:

Nathaniel Anthony Jamel Coker, *Student Government Association
Director of Community Life, 2025-2026*
Emma Charlotte Falgner, *Student Government Association
Director of Academic Life, 2025-2026*

*WELCOME

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

*INVOCATION

Eric W. Stetler, DBA
Vice President for Academic Affairs

*CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of Music

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Chisholm, arr. Runyan

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside. [Refrain]

*Audience stands

***UNIVERSITY SCRIPTURE**
II Corinthians 5:14-21 NRSV

Alivia Elise Schmink
Senior Class Ministries Director
Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Spring 2026

PRESIDENTIAL OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE

Keith Duane Veale
Head Baseball Coach, MVNU

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Randall E. Davey, D.D.
Wealth Educator and Financial Coach
Guide Advisors

‡PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Eric W. Stetler, DBA

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Colleen R. Derr, Ed.D.
Executive Vice President
and Chief Academic Officer

‡CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

The Class of 2026
Associate of Arts
Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Bachelor of Social Work

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Colleen R. Derr, Ed.D.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

***ALMA MATER**

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.

ALUMNI RELATIONS WELCOME

Rev. Brad Kochis
Chief Development Officer

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Brad Kochis

***RECESSIONAL**

Brass Choir

Fanfare from Orfeo, Claudio Monteverdi
Trumpet Tune and Air, Henry Purcell

RINGING OF THE SHAW BELL

**Audience stands*

‡Graduate Presenter: Joseph D. Rinehart, M.A., Assistant Professor of Communication, Director of Broadcasting

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES- SPRING 2026

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

ISAIAH BENJAMIN RASHAD CLARK
General Studies

JURNIE SARAH-LOUISE GLEASON
General Studies

JAMES M. HAGOPIAN
General Studies

CARTER JAMES KING
General Studies

BACHELOR OF ARTS

DYLAN PAUL ABNEY
Business Administration

EVAN MICHAEL ALM
Sports Management

ABBY LORÝN ALMODOVAR
Communication and Media & English
Magna Cum Laude †

KADEN JACKSON ARNOLD
History & Secondary Education
Magna Cum Laude

DIOGO STEUERNAGEL ASSIS
Sports Management

ALEXA JUDITH AVALOS MENDEZ
Psychology

AUBREE MAE BAILEY
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Magna Cum Laude

ALLISON NICOLE BEEKMAN
Criminal Justice

GRACE ELIZABETH BEESON
Middle Childhood Education

LILA ANNE BERRY
Business Administration
Cum Laude

BRYCE CHRISTIAN BOSWORTH
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

DELANEY SUE BRINKMAN
Psychology & Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude †**

FAITH ELIZABETH BURNS
Middle Childhood Education

LOREN ELIZABETH BURTON
Integrated Social Studies Education
Magna Cum Laude

SHANE MICHEAL BUSCH
Computer Science

JACKSON DAVID BUSH
Communication and Media
Magna Cum Laude

LINDSAY LEIA BYRD
Psychology
Summa Cum Laude

TEYRON MITCHELL CANTEY
Integrated Social Studies Education
Magna Cum Laude

EMMA RENE CARPENTER
Integrated Language Arts Education ◊

MEGHAN LOUISE CASEY
Criminal Justice

GRAESIN JERIN CASS
Business Administration

CAILA RAE PAIGE CHARLES
Christian Ministry

ADISON MARIE CHOREY
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude **

COOPER WILSON CLAGETT
Mathematics
Magna Cum Laude

NASIR MIC'HEAL COUSIN
Christian Ministry

CARTER RYAN COX
Sports Management

LILLIAN JOYE CROFT
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

KELSEY NICOLE CYR
Middle Childhood Education
Cum Laude

CONNER WILLIAM DAPPERT
Christian Ministry

CALEB BRIAN DARRELL
Physical Education/Health Education

JAIMIE ELIZABETH DAVIS
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5

NINA RENEE DAVIS
Worship Arts
Summa Cum Laude

GABRIEL SETH DEAN
Christian Ministry

ALEXANDRE JOSE DEJESUS
Business Administration

CALEB ANTHONY D'IMPERIO
Integrated Language Arts Education ◊

OLIVIA EILEEN DUDGEON
Business Administration
Cum Laude

ALLESSIA BROOKE DUGAN
Communication and Media
Cum Laude

ISABELLA CHRISTINE FONTAINE
Graphic Design

RYAN ESTEBAN FORBES
Education & Social Policy Studies

BRADEN ANDERSON FORBES
Graphic Design

CASSIDY NICOLE FOUTY
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

GRACELYN CANDACE FRAME
Integrated Social Studies Education
Magna Cum Laude

DESTINY HOPE FULLERTON
Graphic Design
Summa Cum Laude †

CASSIDY LYNN GAMBLE
Art & Graphic Design
Cum Laude

REID SHANNON GATES
Christian Ministry

CHANDLER BRYCE GIAUQUE
Business Administration
& Sports Management

MORGAN ELISE GIBSON
Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

ASHLEY ELISE GOEHRING
History
Summa Cum Laude **

LACEY MARIE GRESZLER
Psychology
Cum Laude

SHALEN ANN GUILLIAMS
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Cum Laude

JOSIE NOEL HAGY
Art
Magna Cum Laude

CHLOE MARIE HALL
Psychology
Summa Cum Laude **

† Honors Scholar

** Alpha Chi

◊ Nease Scholar

Δ Military

DALTON DAVID HALL
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

ABIGAIL LYNN LARKIN
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

HAYDEN CARLTON CARTER MOORE
Psychology
Cum Laude

ABIDAN ISALIAH HAMILTON
Worship Arts & Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

HANNAH MARIE LOGAN
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Magna Cum Laude

MEGHAN RILEY MOSER
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

RYLEE FAITH HARVILLE
Emergency Management
& Homeland Security
Magna Cum Laude

ALAYNA LYNN MACK
Psychology

SANDRA BELLAH MWIZA
Business Administration

ASHLYN DAVETTE HENDERSON
Emergency Management
& Homeland Security
& Criminal Justice
*Summa Cum Laude***

TYLER ALAN MADDUX
Worship Arts

ZOE ABIGAIL NTIA
Psychology
Cum Laude

MASON EDWIN-WAYNE HENDRICKSON
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

TREVOR DANIEL MARTIN
Criminal Justice & Emergency
Management & Homeland Security
Magna Cum Laude

NAOMI LEORA PAINTER
English
Summa Cum Laude

MELISSA LEANDRA HERRERA
Criminal Justice

KAI ELLIOT MAYS
Communication and Media

HALAPCHONYA ANN PAOLUCCI
History & Secondary Education ◊

ABIGAIL ROSE HERSHBERGER
Worship Arts †

BENJAMIN CONNOR MAYSE
Middle Childhood Education
Magna Cum Laude

MEGAN ASHLEY PECK
Psychology
*Summa Cum Laude***

PAIGE LEANNE HICKS
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5

BETHANY MARIE McCLAIN
Psychology
Magna Cum Laude

KELBY CHEREE PERRY
Psychology
*Summa Cum Laude***

ZHARI NIKOL HILL
Psychology

HANNA JEAN McCLENATHAN
Education & Social Policy Studies

MICAH REMCO POST
Sports Management
Magna Cum Laude

NOAH BENJAMIN HILL
Physical Education/
Health Education
Cum Laude

SETH CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM McCLOSKEY
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Cum Laude

SETH GERALD RICHARDSON
Business Administration

BROOKELYN ALAINE HOLTZ
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

HANNAH MARIE McCOY
Criminal Justice
Cum Laude

BRIANNA MARIE RIDER
Business Administration
*Summa Cum Laude †***

EMMA GRACE HOSTETLER
Art
Cum Laude

ALEXIS LEIGH McKENZIE
Criminal Justice

MASON MATTHEW RINEHART
Business Administration

JARED WALKER HURLBURT
Integrated Studies
Magna Cum Laude

ZANE DOUGLAS MENZIE
Communication and Media

BRYCE WILLIAM RINEHART
Middle Childhood Education
Cum Laude

KARA JOELLE JENKINS
Art
Magna Cum Laude

WILL ROBERT MEYERS
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

TYLER DAWN ROSS
Religion & English
Cum Laude

JULIA MARIE KANAGY
Mathematics

SYDNEY CHRISTINE HOOVER
English
Magna Cum Laude

LIAM MICHAEL SACHS
History & Secondary Education
Summa Cum Laude

DOMINIK XAVIER CHASE KIMBALL
Business Administration

AVERY REESE MILLER
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

NOAH KARL SCHEICH
Graphic Design

NAOMI ANN KINNE
Graphic Design
Magna Cum Laude

BAYLEI SUSAN MILLS
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5 ◊

NATHAN G. SHARPES
Communication and Media

KATELYN NICOLE KNOBLOCK
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

RIDER EUGENE MINNICK
Integrated Studies

LILLIAN JOYCE SHEPHERD
Business Administration
Summa Cum Laude

KATERINA YVONNE LONDON
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

BRADY JACOB MISENCIK
Christian Ministry Δ

REBECCA CORINNE SHISSLER
Graphic Design

THIA JACQUELINE MOHR
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5

SAMUEL SIT
Sports Management

AMBER LOREN SMITH
Psychology

† Honors Scholar

** Alpha Chi

◊ Nease Scholar

Δ Military

MOLLY CATHERINE SNYDER
Integrated Social
Studies Education

SARAH MARIE SOLANO JOHNSON
Criminal Justice & Psychology
Magna Cum Laude

DUSTIN MARLIN SPRINGER
Middle Childhood Education
Magna Cum Laude

KAITLYN NOELLE STEWART
Psychology
Magna Cum Laude

CAMIE KAY STROUP
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

NICHOLAS JAMES TEGLOVIC
Physical Education/
Health Education

EDWARD JOSEPH TEMPLE
Communication and Media

MEGAN ELIZABETH THOMPSON
Art

LAUREN CLAIRE TODD
Business Administration

KAYLEIGH NICHOLE UFFERMAN
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Magna Cum Laude

LEANDRA MARIA VISIONI
Communication and Media ◊

CHYANN R. WELCH
Criminal Justice ◊

SAWYER PATRICK WHITE
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

CHELSEY ANN WILES
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
*Summa Cum Laude***

MITCHELL ROBERT WILLIAMS
Criminal Justice
Summa Cum Laude

NICHOLAS REESE WILLOUGHBY
Sports Management

NOAH MICHAEL WINEBERG
Business Administration

ELLIE MYKAELA WOLFE
Elementary Education/
Elementary Intervention P-5
Summa Cum Laude

ALEX TY WOLFE
Emergency Management
& Homeland Security ◊

CALEB ZHONGLA WOODWORTH
Psychology & Intercultural Studies

MATTIA ZUIN CORDERO
Business Administration

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ASSOL ABASOVA
Engineering

EVAN MICHAEL AMORE
Biology

TARSIS INES ARAUJO
Finance
Cum Laude

AIKEN ERMI BARAHIRA
Computer Science

RAELYN BROOKE BARRETT
Engineering
Cum Laude

ERICA MICHELLE BEACHY
Marketing
Magna Cum Laude

GABRIEL THOMAS BEADLE
Engineering Δ

TYLER ALAN BEATY
Accounting & Finance
Summa Cum Laude †

NOLAN WILLAM ALAN BELCHER
Integrated Math Education
Cum Laude

TREVOR GARRETT BELLMAN
Management
Cum Laude

SYDNEY NICOLE BIGGS
Exercise Science
Summa Cum Laude

BRYCE CHRISTIAN BOSWORTH
Biology
Magna Cum Laude

LUIS FELIPE BREIDENBACH KLEIN
Finance

CAILEY ALYSSA BUBIS
Biology
*Summa Cum Laude***

JACOB ROBERT ALEXANDER BURRE
Finance
Cum Laude

ASHLYN MARIE CARTER
Exercise Science Δ

LENA MARIE CHRISTENSEN
Exercise Science

ELIZABETH ALEXIS CLINE
Exercise Science

KALLY RUTH CRUSET
Exercise Science
Cum Laude

ANDREW MICHAEL DAY
Management

HEYES CHRISTIAN DEAN
Biology
Magna Cum Laude

TIAGO RONALDO DAVIS DEJESUS
Finance

CODY BENJAMIN DEXTER
Biology

KYLIE RAEGAN DIEHL
Speech-Language Pathology
Magna Cum Laude

ANGELO MICHAEL ELIA
Exercise Science

AVERY LAYNE ERS LAN
Biology
Magna Cum Laude

ALEXANDRA LYNN FARNSWORTH
Biology

CAEDMON ROBERT FOUTS
Exercise Science

MAX WILLIAM-DAVID GEORGE
Engineering

MACOY MERON GREEN
Biology

JULIANA ELIZABETH GUNVALSEN
Accounting
*Summa Cum Laude***

BROOKLYN PAIGE HAMBRICK
Management
Summa Cum Laude

JED RONALD HANZIE
Exercise Science

LUCAS NATHANIEL HARBAUGH
Engineering
Summa Cum Laude

ELIZABETH GRACE HARDWICK
Biology
Summa Cum Laude

CHANDLER JAMES HARTMAN
Exercise Science

ALEXANDER JAMES HAYDEN
Biology
Summa Cum Laude

SARAH MARIE HEININGER
Engineering
Magna Cum Laude

EVAN RYAN HOBBS
Mathematics & Finance
Magna Cum Laude

ALEXIS MICHELLE HOFFMAN
Marketing
Summa Cum Laude

BROOKELYN ALAINE HOLTZ
Exercise Science
Magna Cum Laude

† Honors Scholar

** Alpha Chi

◊ Nease Scholar

Δ Military

EMILY FAITH HOWIE
Chemistry
Summa Cum Laude †**

SOPHIA BETH-ANN HUDSON
Speech-Language Pathology
Cum Laude

LILY ELIZABETH HUFFSTUTLER
Accounting
Summa Cum Laude

HANNA ELIZABETH HUMPHREY
Biology
Summa Cum Laude

JADYN NICOLE INDICIANI
Biology
Cum Laude

STEFAN JAMES BELL ISRAEL
Biology Δ

CANNON GERALD JACKSON
Accounting

ROSALYN KENNEDY JOHNSON
Speech-Language Pathology
Summa Cum Laude

JULIA MARIE KANAGY
Engineering

BLAIR KARAMAGA
Computer Science

KATE NOEL KAUFMAN
Marketing
Cum Laude

LAURA ELAINE KEITH
Accounting
Summa Cum Laude

JAELE EILEEN KELLER
Marketing
Summa Cum Laude

ALEXANDER ADAM KICHLINE
Finance ◇

MAYA M. KIDD
Speech-Language Pathology

ERIN LINDSEY KING
Biology
Magna Cum Laude †

AUSTIN MICHAEL KOHLER
Accounting
*Summa Cum Laude***

SOFIE LYNN KRAMPITZ
Biology
Cum Laude

BROOKLYN EILEEN KRUM
Management
Cum Laude

ANNIKA KATHRYN LABAKI
Speech-Language Pathology
Summa Cum Laude

CARTER ANTHONY LAPATA
Finance

MASON MICHAEL LEWIS
Biology
Cum Laude

RACHEL LYNN MATTHEWS
Health Sciences

AVERY REESE MILLER
Health Sciences
Magna Cum Laude

REBECCA MARIE MOON
Marketing
Summa Cum Laude

EMMA GLORIA MORE
Finance
Summa Cum Laude †

SHYANNE MARIE MOSER
Engineering Δ

BRITTYN ANNETTE NEWKIRK
Exercise Science
Cum Laude

ZAYANNA ELIZABETH FINNICUM
Biology
Cum Laude

REAGAN BRIANNE NUSS
Health Sciences
Magna Cum Laude

RAEGAN SHAELENE PARSELL
Management
Magna Cum Laude

BOSTON LYNN PAUL
Health Sciences

CHRISTIAN WAYNE PHILLIPS
Finance & Accounting

MICAH REMCO POST
Finance
Magna Cum Laude

ELIZABETH MARIE POTTS
Marketing

GRACE EMILY PRATT
Marketing

BRIANNA MARIE RIDER
Speech-Language Pathology
Summa Cum Laude †**

ELISABETH MAE ROLLISON
Management
Summa Cum Laude

ANGELA R ROSHAK
Exercise Science
Magna Cum Laude

KELLY RWEMA
Finance

SKYLER JEAN SALSBERY
Management

BRYER REESE SHIPLEY
Secondary Education
Cum Laude †

TYLER ISAAC SHIPLEY
Computer Systems
and Network Engineering
Cum Laude Δ

SAMUEL RICHARD STEVENS
Chemistry & Biology
Cum Laude †

ABBIGAYLE KHRISTINA BURNS TAGLE
Exercise Science

EVAN MATTHEW TRITT
Marketing
Summa Cum Laude

REID BRAXTON VANCE
Accounting & Finance
Cum Laude

CHYANN R. WELCH
Chemistry ◇

JAMES RYAN WILLOUGHBY
Finance
Cum Laude

KATRINA DEBRA WILSON
Biology

ALYSSA JORDYN ZOLMAN
Health Sciences
Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

ETHAN DAVID BYROM
Nursing

MADALYN FAITH CAMPBELL
Nursing

CAROLINE MARGARET COUCH
Nursing

LAUREN OLIVIA ECHELBERGER
Nursing

NATALIE FAITH HOBBS
Nursing

JOSIAH NEIL HOLLOWAY
Nursing
Cum Laude Δ

KRISTA ANNABELL JENKINS
Nursing

KASSIDY FAITH MALONEY
Nursing

ASHLEY MARIE MERRICK
Nursing
Magna Cum Laude

LILY BETH SCARBERRY
Nursing

† Honors Scholar

** Alpha Chi

◇ Nease Scholar

Δ Military

ISABELLE KATHERINE SCHLAEGEL
Nursing
Cum Laude

ALIVIA ELISE SCHMINK
Nursing
Magna Cum Laude

ZANE HAYDEN STRICKER
Nursing

JAELYN KIANA TANG
Nursing
Summa Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

RACHEL FAITH ARGO
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude

VICTORIA MADISON COOK
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude †

HANNAH GRACE EBERSOLE
Social Work
Cum Laude

BETHANY MARIE McCLAIN
Social Work
Magna Cum Laude

HANNAH MARIE MILLER
Social Work
Magna Cum Laude

HAYDEN CARLTON CARTER MOORE
Social Work
Cum Laude

SARAH ANN SININGER
Social Work

NEVAEH NICOLE WILLIAMS
Social Work
Cum Laude

IGNITE

1ST YEAR PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE

ERIC JOSEPH ALLERTON

JORDYN MARIE HUBERT

MALACHI T. OVERMYER

CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED STUDIES

JACOB CHARLES BARNO

ALISSA ANN COOK

GABRIELLE DIANE WYSOCKI

† Honors Scholar

** Alpha Chi

◇ Nease Scholar

Δ Military

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Saturday, May 9, 2026, 2:30 p.m.
R. R. Hodges Chapel/Auditorium
President Carson Castleman, Ph.D., Presiding

PRELUDE

Rebecca L. Abbott, D.W.S.
Organist

Brass Choir
John E. Packard, D.A.
Professor of Music, Director

*PROCESSIONAL

Brass Choir

Trumpet Voluntary, John Stanley
Trumpet Voluntary, Jeremiah Clarke

*ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Academic Marshals: Carrie D. Beal, Ph.D.; Timothy G. Chesnut, MBA, CPA;
James D. Dalton, Ed.D.; Geoffrey Fuller, Ph.D.;
Chris A. Ingersol; Mark A. Shoaf, Ph.D.
University Marshals: Nathaniel Anthony Jamel Coker; Emma Charlotte Falgner

*WELCOME

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

*INVOCATION

Eric W. Stetler, DBA
Vice President for Academic Affairs

*CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of Music

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Chisholm, arr. Runyan

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:
Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside. [Refrain]

***UNIVERSITY SCRIPTURE**
II Corinthians 5:14-21 NRSV

Brookstyn T. Black
Master of Social Work
Spring 2026

PRESIDENTIAL OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREES

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

Rev. Douglas Scott Wyatt
District Superintendent, Eastern Kentucky

Rev. David B. Lutz
District Superintendent, East Ohio

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Randall E. Davey, D.D.
Wealth Educator and Financial Coach
Guide Advisors

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Colleen R. Derr, Ed.D.
Executive Vice President
and Chief Academic Officer

‡CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.

The Class of 2026

Associate of Arts

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Business Administration

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Social Work

Master of Arts in Education

Master of Business Administration

Master of Business Administration/Master of Ministry (Dual Degree)

Master of Ministry

Master of Science in Management

Master of Social Work

***ALMA MATER**

Robert D. Tocheff, Ph.D.

ALUMNI RELATIONS WELCOME

Rev. Brad Kochis
Chief Development Officer

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Brad Kochis

***RECESSIONAL**

Brass Choir

Fanfare from Orfeo, Claudio Monteverdi

Trumpet Tune and Air, Henry Purcell

RINGING OF THE SHAW BELL

**Audience stands*

‡Graduate Presenters: Gina A. Blanchard, Director of the Campus Store, Printing Services & Post Office
Jose Oommen Kochalummootil, Ph.D., Professor of Engineering, Engineering Department Chair

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES ~ SPRING 2026

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

KATHRYN ANN ADAMS
General Studies
Magna cum Laude

CURTIS LEE BRADLEY
General Studies
Magna Cum Laude Δ

BROCK A. DAUGHERTY
General Studies
Summa Cum Laude

KEVIN RICHARD FOSS
General Studies Δ

EMILIE M. MILLER
General Studies
Summa Cum Laude

ANTHONY DONNELL PHINIEZY
General Studies Δ

YVONNE D. SHEPHERD
General Studies

KAITLYN MARIE STEPHENS
General Studies

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BENJAMIN MICHAEL ATKINS
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude Δ

MARCUS J. BUSH
Christian Ministry
*Summa Cum Laude***

CHARLOTTE A. CALLOWAY
Public Administration

JESSICA NICOLE CARR
Leadership
Summa Cum Laude

SHANNEN NICOLE CARUSO
Christian Ministry
Magna Cum Laude

LAUREL ANNE CHALFANT
Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

JESSICA A. DAVINO
Public Administration
Magna Cum Laude

KATIE LYNN FARRELL
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

LEANN MARIE GALLAGHER
Elementary Education (P-5)
Magna Cum Laude

ANDREW JOHN GRENIER
Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

GENNIFER M. HIGH
Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

ASHLEY NICOLE JOHANSEN
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

VICTORIA ANN JOHNSON
Christian Ministry

TAMARA JO LUBLIN
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

BRIANNA GRACE RANDOLPH
Christian Ministry

BROOKE L. ROOSE
Leadership
*Summa Cum Laude***

ELIZABETH NOEL SCHEFFLER
Bachelor of Arts in
Elementary Education (P-5)

BEN LAWRENCE SCHOETTEL
Christian Ministry
*Summa Cum Laude***

SARAH ELIZABETH SINIFT
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

KAYLIE N. UMFLEET
Elementary Education (P-5)
Cum Laude

TJ ALLEN VONDERCHEK
Christian Ministry
Summa Cum Laude

MARK I. WASHKA
Public Administration
Summa Cum Laude

CHARLES ABRAHAM WILLIAMS
Leadership

MAGGIE G. WILLIS
Elementary Education (P-5)
Cum Laude

HEATHER J. WILSON
Integrated Studies
Summa Cum Laude

JESSICA LYNN WOLFE
Elementary Education (P-5)
Summa Cum Laude

BRITTANY MARIAH YEARGAN
Leadership
Summa Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

JENNIFER FERNANDES ANDRADE
Business Administration

MATTHEW JAY BARR
Business Administration
Magna cum Laude

DAYLEA MORGAN BLANCHARD
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

GRACIE BLAIR CASTO
Management
Cum Laude

ANGELA S. COWDRICK
Business Administration

MICHELE R. DENNISON
Business Administration
*Summa Cum Laude ***

JESSICA M. ERFURT
Business Administration
Magna Cum Laude

SAMUEL THOMAS FAIVRE
Marketing
Cum Laude

KARLA DENISSE FELIZ
Finance
Magna Cum Laude

JENNIFER SUZANNE FRANKS
Business Administration

KERRY M. FRANKS
Business Administration

KRISBELLE GRACIELLA FREEMAN
Business Administration
Summa Cum Laude

MELISSA ANN GREENWALT
Management
Magna Cum Laude

LEAH NICHOLE GRIGONIS
Finance
Magna Cum Laude

MS. ERICA J. HAWKINS
Business Administration

DAVID RAND HILL
Business Administration
Cum Laude

CALEB JEREMIAH HURLEY
Management
Cum Laude

AMANDA N. JONES
Marketing

RHODYNE LAMARRE
Management
Cum Laude

SMITH GUILLAUME HILTON LAMOTHE
Business Administration

NATHANAEL P. LYDY
Business Administration Δ

TYLER ALEXANDER McDULIN
Finance
Magna Cum Laude

JASMINE MONTIJO
Human Resource Management
Magna Cum Laude

MARISSA D. MOWERY
Finance
Summa Cum Laude

TEKELA M. PARKER
Finance
Cum Laude

KIRSTEN LEANN SANTOS
Marketing

AMANDA CLAIRE SIMMONS
Business Administration
Magna cum Laude

KIMBERLY D. VANCE
Business Administration
Cum Laude

RICHARD CYRUS WHEELER
Management
Cum Laude Δ

HANNAH CASSIDY WOODS
Business Administration
Summa Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ISHAQ MOHAMMED
Management Information
Systems (Cybersecurity)
Summa Cum Laude

MATHEW SEKANJAKO
Management Information
Systems (Cybersecurity)

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

MELISSA D. CAMPBELL
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude

KASEY RENEE FALLER
Social Work
Cum Laude

JORDAN LACY
Social Work
*Magna Cum Laude***

LISA RENAE MADIGAN
Social Work
Magna Cum Laude

KRISTINA MARIE MOORE
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude

BAILEY M. MORAINÉ
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude

ABBEY MICHELLE NIEDERMIER
Social Work

CHANDLER DARBY PAUK
Social Work

ESPERANZA F. RODRIGUEZ
Social Work
*Summa Cum Laude***

HANNAH MICHELLE SCHAFFNIT
Social Work
Summa Cum Laude

LAUREN MELODY SHORT
Social Work
Cum Laude

TAYLOR R. TAYLOR
Social Work

KAITLYN MICHELLE WILKINSON
Social Work

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

SARAH A BARKLEY
Professional Educator Licensure

LUANN DENISE BRYANT
Intervention Specialist

NATHANIEL WILSON CUMBERWORTH
Professional Educator Licensure

ALEYCE MAKEL CUNNINGHAM
Professional Educator Licensure

KYLER WAYNE DICKEY
Intervention Specialist

JACQUELINE RENEE DOWNS
Professional Educator Licensure

CAROLINE E. DUTY
Professional Educator Licensure

KEELEY ALISABETH GOLDBERG
Professional Educator Licensure

JENNIFER RENEE' GRASSBAUGH-DENUIT
Professional Educator Licensure

SARAH RENE HANES
Intervention Specialist

MELANIE ANN JASON
Intervention Specialist

DAVID C. JONES
Professional Educator Licensure

BRANDON M. MARSHALL
Professional Educator Licensure

BRENDAN JAMES MOODY
Intervention Specialist

KAYDE M. MOSS
Intervention Specialist

JESSICA LOUISE OLIVER
Intervention Specialist

ZACHARY JAMES RIPPEL
Professional Educator Licensure

AMY NICHOLE SCOTT
Intervention Specialist

BRIDGET BRADLEY WATTS
Professional Educator Licensure

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

EMILY NICOLE ALLISON
Business Administration

JAMIE MARIE BANKS
Business Administration

XAVIER LUKE BARGESSER
Business Administration

MICHELLE LEIGH BARNETT
Business Administration

JORDAN E. BECKNER
Business Administration

DELIAH J. BELMER
Business Administration

ELIZABETH MARIE BRANDT
Business Administration

BETH A. BRUNNER
Business Administration

MARSHA MAE H. CLARK
Business Administration

LONDON SHANE EWERS
Business Administration

NICOLE NYASHA FANDIKA
Business Administration

AMANDA RENAE FISHER
Business Administration

MILTON J. GAGE
Business Administration

CHAYLSE R. GAYHEART
Health Care Administration

LINDSEY R. GOEHRING
Business Administration

MACKENZIE ANNE HANCOCK
Business Administration

SARAH M. HANSFORD
Health Care Administration

THADDEUS D. HICKS
Business Administration

EVAN JAMES HODKINSON
Business Administration

BRANDY A. HOWARD
Business Administration

** Alpha Chi

Δ Military

DREW ALLEN JACKSON
Business Administration

TRACY J. JONES
Business Administration

KENNETH CHARLES KECK
Health Care Administration

TRENTON MICHAEL KONING
Business Administration

EMMA K. KOONS
Business Administration

AUSTIN A. LILLO
Business Administration

ERIK SPENCER MONTGOMERY
Business Administration Δ

CARSON DEREK BRIAN O'NEIL
Business Administration

CHRISTOPHER LEE PAGE
Health Care Administration

HOPE JOY MARIE STRAIGHT
Business Administration Δ

SIMON MICHAEL TAYLOR
Business Administration

EMILY M. VAN GILDER
Business Administration

RYAN DANIEL WALTERS
Business Administration

MATTHEW HARRISON WHITAKER
Business Administration

SAMANTHA GRACE WULFF
Business Administration

MACEY RENEE ZINSER
Business Administration

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/MASTER OF MINISTRY (DUAL DEGREE)

BENJAMIN D. STANHOPE
Business Administration/
Practical Theology Δ

MASTER OF MINISTRY

CODY PREWITT FEISEL
Practical Theology

MATTHEW J. McCLOSKEY
Practical Theology

JASON TODD MILLIGAN
Practical Theology

SAMANTHA L. RULONG
Practical Theology

GARRET THOMAS RUSSELL
Practical Theology

BRETT WESLEY WARKENTINE
Practical Theology

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT

AFROZ BIN ABBU
Management (Computer Science)

MOHAMMED AQUIB AHMED
Management (Computer Science)

FNU MOHD SAMAD AHMED
Management (Information Technology)

MOHAMMED MUNAWAR AHMED
Management (Data Analytics)

NISAR SHAIK AHMED
Management (Engineering)

ZOHAIB AHMED
Management (Computer Science)

ATHER AMEEN
Management (Computer Science)

UMMAMA AMIR
Management (Data Analytics)

SANDEEP RAO ARRABELLI
Management (Data Analytics)

MUHAMMAD ASIM
Management (Data Analytics)

AKSHAYA AVULA
Management (Data Analytics)

VARUN RAJ BANDARI
Management (Logistics)

RACHANA BATHINI
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

BHARGAVI BOBBA
Management (Information Technology)

SAI VAMSHI BODDU
Management (Data Analytics)

NIKHIL CHOWDARY BONTU
Management (Computer Science)

HAFIZ ASAD BURGEES
Management (Information Technology)

KRISTY CASIAS
Management

MOUNIKASAI SREE CHALAPATHI
Management (Information Technology)

ADITYA MAHENDRA CHANDIRAMANI
Management (Engineering)

KISHOREBABU CHATTI
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

SAI ABISHEK CHIKKUDU
Management (Data Analytics)

ABHINAV REDDY CHIMMULA
Management (Computer Science)

BHARGAVI CHITNENI
Management (Information Technology)

HARIKA DANDUGULA
Management (Computer Science)

RAHUL DONTHA
Management (Logistics)

SYED FARAZ
Management (Information Technology)

TAHZEEBA FATIMA
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

MOHAMMED ABDUL SATTAR FNU
Management (Information Technology)

MOHAMMED TAUFEEQ FNU
Management (Information Technology)

KEERTHI GADDAPATI
Management (Information Technology)

RAVI TEJA GANIPALLI
Management (Computer Science)

SANDEEP REDDY GINNAREDDY
Management (Data Analytics)

HANNAH E GOODWIN
Management

AHMEDUDDIN GULAM
Management (Computer Science)

TARUN TEJA GUNJI
Management (Computer Science)

VENKATESH GUTTA
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

OWAIS ABDUL HADI
Management (Data Analytics)

NIDA HAJIRA
Management (Data Analytics)

MATTHEW HOLT
Management Δ

SYED HUSSAIN
Management (Data Analytics)

JASWANTH INAMPUDI
Management (Computer Science)

AHMAD IQBAL
Management (Data Analytics)

INZAMAM IRSHAD
Management (Engineering)

ABDUR RAHMAN ABDUL JAMEEL
Management (Computer Science)

MUSKAAN SANJEEV KAMADOD
Management (Data Analytics)

LAKSHMI PRASANNA KANTIPUDI
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

VARUNEEKRISHNA KAPA
Management (Healthcare Informatics)

MOHAMMED ABDUL KAREEM
Management (Information Technology)

KAVYA SRI KASARLA
Management (Computer Science)

SWAPNA KATAGANI
Management (Information Technology)

SHAHEENA KESHWANI Management (Computer Science)	SALAH UDDIN MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	FNU SYED SADIQ Management (Information Technology)
FNU ADNAN BIN KHALID Management (Engineering)	SAMIR MOHAMMED Management (Engineering)	BHUVAN CHANDRA SARAKAM Management (Data Analytics)
ABDUL MANNAN KHAN Management (Information Technology)	TOUSEEF UDDIN HABEEB MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	SADIA SARWAR Management (Data Analytics)
ABDUL RAHEEM KHAN Management (Data Analytics)	TAHERULLAH MOHD Management (Computer Science)	SAI SUMANTH VENKATA REDDY SATTI Management (Computer Science)
MUHAMMAD AMIR RAZA KHAN Management (Data Analytics)	JOHN P. MOHNASKY Management	MANSOORHASAN MATLOOB SAYYED Management (Computer Science)
MOHD AFTAB KHAN LNU Management (Information Technology)	ABDULLAH MOHAMMED MOIZ Management (Computer Science)	MOHAMMED SAAD SHAFEEQ Management (Information Technology)
ALEKHYA KODAM Management (Computer Science)	AJAY NAIDU MOTURI Management (Computer Science)	SYED MUSTAFA SHAH Management (Information Technology)
SRINATH KOTA Management (Computer Science)	SINDHU MUDAVATH Management (Healthcare Informatics)	MOHAMMED KHALEEL AHMED SIDDIQUE Management (Computer Science)
YOUSEF AHMAD YOUSEF OSHROK LABAN Management (Engineering)	TARUN DEEPU MURUKUTLA Management (Data Analytics)	MARATHA MANOJ KUMAR SINDHE Management (Data Analytics)
HASHMATH MISBAH SIDDIQUI LNU Management (Information Technology)	SUDHARSHAN NADIGATLA Management (Information Technology)	NAGA BHADRA SRIHARSHA SHARMA SIVADEVUNI Management (Engineering)
MAJEED BIN MAHSAN IBIS LNU Management (Engineering)	PRITHI XAVIER NAIKAR Management (Computer Science)	BENJAMIN AARON SLATER Management
OSAMA BIN NASIR LNU Management (Data Analytics)	RACHANA RAJ NANDIMANDALAM Management (Healthcare Informatics)	JENNA NICOLE SQUIRES Management
SYED REHAN MOHAMMED LNU Management (Information Technology)	VIJAYA SARADHI REDDY NARALA Management (Data Analytics)	CHRISTOPHER ADAM STEPHENS Management Δ
SUBRAHMANYA REVANTH SAI MADAM Management (Computer Science)	SAI KUMAR REDDY NERSUPALLI Management (Engineering)	SYED HAMZA Management (Engineering)
SYED MUNAF MEHDI Management (Engineering)	LAVANYA PADALA Management (Healthcare Informatics)	KHAJA QUTUBUDDIN SYED Management (Engineering)
ABDUL BASITH MOHAMMED Management (Data Analytics)	DURGA PAGIDIMARRI Management (Engineering)	KHUNDMEER SHAMROOZ SYED Management (Engineering)
ABDUL QAVI JEELANI MOHAMMED, SR. Management (Engineering)	AMY N PARSELL Management	AZHARUDDIN SYED Management (Healthcare Informatics)
ALTAF MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	VARUN SOMA SEKHAR PERUMALLA Management (Information Technology)	MUSTAFA ALI SYED Management (Information Technology)
FAISAL MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	SIVA PARVATHI PULAKHANDAM Management (Information Technology)	RASHAD BABA SYED Management (Information Technology)
HADI MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	SHAIK OMER QUADRI Management (Information Technology)	SAFDER SYED Management (Information Technology)
HUZEFA KHAN MOHAMMED Management (Engineering)	SYED ABDUL QUDDOOS Management (Computer Science)	SHOAIB UDDIN SYED Management (Computer Science)
IMAMUDDIN MINHAJ MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	MOHAMMED AAJAZ QURESHI Management (Data Analytics)	SUJATH ALI SYED Management (Information Technology)
IRFAN MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	VENKAT RATNAM RACHAPUDI Management (Engineering)	BHARADWAJ TADEPALLI Management (Data Analytics)
KHAJA VIQAR UDDIN MOHAMMED Management (Data Analytics)	AREEJ RASHEED Management (Information Technology)	THIMMAPURAM MAMATHA Management (Computer Science)
RAFIUDDIN MOHAMMED Management (Computer Science)	ZAHID MOHAMMED ABDUL RASHID Management (Data Analytics)	SUDARSHAN KUMAR THOTA Management (Computer Science)
SAHAIL KHAN MOHAMMED Management (Information Technology)	MOHAMMED ABDUL RAZAK Management (Computer Science)	SHERMIKA D. TURNER Management

LAKSHMI VENKATA
 MALLIKARJUNA UMMADISETTY
 Management (Information Technology)

VARUN VADDADI
 Management (Logistics)

ARUN VALLABU
 Management (Information Technology)

SARVESHWAR RAO VALLEM
 Management (Computer Science)

CAREY LYNN WOLF
 Management

SAMANTHA GRACE WULFF
 Management

HEMANTH KUMAR YADAVALLI
 Management (Engineering)

MUHAMMAD ZAIN
 Management (Data Analytics)

FNU OSMAN ZUBAEDI OSMAN ZUBAEDI
 Management (Information Technology)

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

MELISSA KAYE ADAIR
 Social Work

DAWN M. ANDERSON
 Social Work

HANNAH CATHERINE BIDLACK
 Social Work

BROOKSTYN TAYLOR BLACK
 Social Work

SUSAN E. CHESNUT
 Social Work

EVA MAE CLENDENEN
 Social Work

MALLORY J. CONRAD
 Social Work

BILLIE JO COURTWRIGHT
 Social Work

TAYLOR NICOLE DOTSON
 Social Work

BRITTANY RYANN FUNCHES
 Social Work

CRYSTAL L. FURMAN
 Social Work

STEPHANIE SUE HALBAKKEN
 Social Work

ROBYN L. HARRIMAN
 Social Work

BROOKE ADEAN HOOK
 Social Work

HALEY ELIZABETH ISAACS
 Social Work

RYLEIGH K. KIMBLE
 Social Work

ANGELA DAWN LEIGHTEY
 Social Work

RACHEL LYNN LINDOW
 Social Work

MORGAN PATRICIA MAFFETT
 Social Work

ALLYSON KATHLEEN MCGEORGE
 Social Work

TAYLOR ANNA McVAY
 Social Work

ABIGAIL LYNN MORRIS
 Social Work

BOBBIE KAY NEFF
 Social Work

CHELSEA REINA PORTER
 Social Work

VIRGINIA ANN REX
 Social Work

CHELSEA J. SMALS
 Social Work

SYDNEY ELIZABETH TUGGLE
 Social Work

ABIGAIL ELIZABETH WILKERSON
 Social Work

DREW N. ZWIESLER
 Social Work

UNIVERSITY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

INTRODUCTION

The Mount Vernon Nazarene University community extends around the globe into classrooms, pulpits, hospitals, places of business, and human service organizations. Wherever the influence of MVNU extends, our vision persists - *To Change the World with the Love of Christ*. This is possible because we draw from the deep wells of Israel and Jesus Christ as expressed in the mission of the Church. When the University gathers to celebrate, mourn, and dream, we do so in the power of the Holy Spirit to offer a doxology of invitation and praise. While MVNU is a young institution, its roots go to the very creation of the world. The Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the President's Cabinet intends to call attention to the deep wells of the Christian tradition by designating a University Scripture passage. This passage will frame Baccalaureate, Commencement, and other University events. The Scripture passage offers testimony to the faith which runs from the heart of God to our calling to Holiness Higher Education.

UNIVERSITY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

The Scripture passage of II Corinthians 5:14-21 comes from the ministry of Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God. While Paul clearly addresses the "church of God which is at Corinth", he also addresses the Church of our time. According to Paul, "the love of Christ controls us because we are convinced that one has died for all . . . (v14a). The power of the resurrection makes it possible to live for something bigger than our own agenda. This passage reminds us that the MVNU community is a new creation. We do not wander amid the ashes of civilization; rather we look to the newness of the resurrection. Because of this, MVNU lives toward reconciliation, and just for this reason, we are ambassadors for Christ to a broken world. While sin, death, and evil surround this campus, during dark days and good days Christ calls us to a ministry of reconciliation. In fact, MVNU believes God makes his appeal through us. The appeal of the everlastingly triune God, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is reconciliation borne of righteousness. The promise of the passage is lived out through the vision to change the world through the love of Christ. John Wesley writes, "This is the word of reconciliation which we preach. This is the foundation which never can be moved. By faith we are built upon this foundation; and this faith also is the gift of God" [*Wesley's Works*, 1: 119].

The University Scripture Passage calls attention to the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition of MVNU. The Church of the Nazarene believes with Paul that righteousness comes through Christ in order to enable us to be ambassadors of heart holiness. Therefore, the ever-flowing love of God embraces the struggles with sin and in the power of the Spirit replaces fear and failure with the peace which passes all understanding. As for Paul, so with us, we reach toward a life characterized by reconciling holiness.

Memory and Mission define the sentiments of the University Scripture passage. The purpose is to frame the good work of MVNU to engage the mind and heart in the grand purpose of education in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition.

Adopted March 4, 2011
Board of Trustees



PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL TO THE GRADUATES

As your time at Mount Vernon Nazarene University ends, I wanted to take a moment to congratulate you on this incredible milestone in your life. Graduating from college is a significant achievement, and I want you to know how proud we all are of your hard work, dedication, and perseverance.

But beyond the academic accomplishments, there is something even more remarkable about your journey at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. We trust that through the classroom and extracurricular activities, you have witnessed our commitment to your spiritual growth and desire to see you succeed at every level in your college experience.

In a world that often challenges and questions faith, we encourage you to stand firm in your beliefs. Our prayer is that you have deepened your understanding of God's word, cultivated a personal relationship with Him, and seek to live out your faith in practical ways.

As you step into the next chapter of your life, remember the importance of your faith. Your time at Mount Vernon Nazarene University has equipped you with knowledge, skills, and experiences, but it is your faith that will sustain you through the ups and downs that lie ahead. Embrace the challenges, celebrate the victories, and trust in God's guidance every step of the way.

As you enter the professional world or pursue further education, let your faith shine brightly. Be a light in the darkness, a beacon of hope, and a source of encouragement to those you encounter. Let your actions reflect your faith, and your words be filled with grace and love.

Know that you are not alone on this journey. The Mount Vernon Nazarene University community is here to support you, to pray for you, and to cheer you on from afar. Stay connected with your alma mater, for you will always be a cherished part of the MVNU family.

Congratulations once again, dear graduates. May God's blessings be upon you as you confidently step into the future, knowing that your faith will guide you every step of the way. May you lean into Colossians 3:23-24, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carson D. Castleman".

Carson Castleman, Ph.D.
President

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

What an exciting day for you and your family. Earning your degree from MVNU is a testament to your perseverance, dedication, and importance. Congratulations!

You are entering a new chapter in your life, equipped with the knowledge, passion, and purpose you have gained. While you may be leaving the university, the experiences and memories from MVNU will always stay with you. Go forth in peace, live with purpose, and engage the world with the love of Christ. Doing so, may you remember and embrace our motto: "To Seek to Learn is to Seek to Serve."

We also want to extend a warm welcome to you as a member of the MVNU Alumni family! We are eager to stay connected with you in the years to come. Through the MVNU Alumni Association, you can connect with fellow alumni and keep up with exciting events happening at the university. We encourage you to get involved with our Association as soon as possible by attending local and regional events, sharing your updates, and participating in the life of this special community. We look forward to seeing you at Homecoming again soon.

May God bless you abundantly,



Rev. Brad Kochis
Chief Development and Operations Officer

DIGITAL PROGRAMS AND MORE INFORMATION

Please scan the QR code below to link to a special webpage that includes supplemental commencement information.

A digital version of our Baccalaureate and Commencement programs are also available on this page.



mvnu.edu/commencement

Mount Vernon Nazarene University ALMA MATER

Words by Arthur Seamans, 1971
Revised by Bruce and Peggy Oldham, 2002

Music by Virginia Cameron, 1971
Revised by Virginia Cameron and B. David Liles, 2002

1. From hills of green and skies of blue, Com - mit - ted, called in all we do to
2. To seek to learn and serve that we may then de - vo - ted ser - vants be. We're

5
hon - or Christ, be strong and true, We pledge our faith, M - V - N - U. Fond
shaped to lead as Christ would do, We pledge our best, M - V - N - U. Our

9
mem - or - ies of work and play, The fa - cul - ty who showed the way, With
Chris - tian U - ni - ver - si - ty has formed us in - to fam - i - ly. To

13
friend - ships made our lives re - newed, We pledge our love M - V - N - U.
Christ our Lord, be - cause of you, We pledge our lives, M - V - N - U.

MOUNT  VERNON
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

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Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050

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