STUDENTS

It is a MVNU distinctive that for many years, various programs and employees have assisted students in achieving academic success. There are alumni who can attest to the difference these supports made to their MVNU experience. However, even good programs can become better. When Dr. Henry Spaulding II unveiled MVNU's strategic plan for the Decade of Excellence for 2013 to 2023, an invigorated commitment to student success emerged.

Three key initiatives have taken place since then:

- MVNU was awarded, and completed, a five-year Title III Strengthening Institutions grant.
- Center for Student Success opened because Dr. Spaulding and the administration believed in the necessity, vision, and mission fit of a center providing a cadre of academic services which support students' academic quality and vocational calling. Funding was made available by the Board of Trustees and a Title III grant.
- A Retention Council of university leaders was formed and meets regularly.

In addition to the above, commitment and focus by faculty and staff to support student success both systematically and in individual ways with students is creating a culture of academic growth and success. We are grateful that the results of these efforts has been increasing retention and graduation rates at MVNU at a time when many other universities are seeing decreases. MVNU plans to continue to pursue excellence in the area of student success.

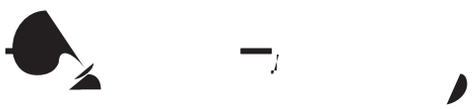
MVNU RETENTION

FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATES

52.4%

Lighthouse Award Winner

"It is a confirmation of what I see and appreciate every day at MVNU, which is the campus-wide commitment to holistic student care and service. It's been truly impressive how quickly, and fully, a very high number of faculty and staff partnered on initiatives, programs, and tools to support students' academic, personal, and spiritual growth, especially during the additional challenges from the pandemic. MVNU faculty and staff embrace that student success is everyone's job, and we



A team of senior Biology (Pre-med) majors is gaining hands-on laboratory experience to complement their classroom education

David Baker

Center for Innovative
Education Coordination

David Baker, Center for Innovative Education Coordinator, was named Staf Member of the Year, for his commitment to MVNU's mission through his years as an MVNU student, alumnus, and employee. As a lifelong learner, he has educated himself on what MVNU faculty need to survive teaching in a pandemic and was critical in the university's success to quickly transition from in-seat instruction to remote learning.

RANK	FEMALE		MALE	
Professor	5	23%	17	77%
Associate Professor	5	50%	5	50%
Assistant Professor	16	64%	9	36%
Instructor	1	50%	1	50%
TOTAL	**27**	**46%**	**32**	**54%**

Giving Day replenishes student emergency fund

Faithful friends, alumni, faculty, and staff gave from their hearts during MVNU's first ever Giving Day, Aug. 12. The 24-hour fundraiser was specifically geared to assist students financially impacted by COVID-19. The addition of a unique matching opportunity set the tone for the day to reach a donor milestone rather than a monetary target.

MVNU recognized the urgent need for a financial giving opportunity after the spring semester depleted the student emergency fund. We set a goal of 500 donors in one day, hoping to inspire and challenge the MVNU community.

You rose to the challenge. The generosity of 686 individual donors, including the matched gift, raised a total of $77,840 in a short period of time. Not only did you surpass the goal of 500 donors, you helped bring significant financial backing where it was much needed.

"We are humbled and inspired by the pride and belief that our alumni, current students and friends have in this really sacred space," said Justin Nowicki, MVNU's Assistant Vice President for Development.

"Giving Day has instantly become one of my favorite days of the year," said James Smith, MVNU's Vice President for University Relations, "It was encouraging and inspiring to see friends from across the generations join hands to meet this need."

TOP 5 CLASSES

BY AMOUNT GIVEN		
YEAR	**COUNT**	**AMOUNT**
1999	43	$15,715
2011	11	$3,185
1971	10	$2,050
1986	11	$1,775
1970	13	$1,400
BY DONOR COUNT		
1999	43	$15,715
2000	18	$1,025
1998	17	$455
1972	15	$1,125
2014	14	$535

GIVING BY DECADE

KEY	COUNT	TOTAL
1970s	67	$6,215
1980s	66	$5,555
1990s	118	$18,894
2000s	83	$3,775
2010s	99	$6,876
2020s	12	$225
Non-Alum	241	$11,300
Total	**686**	**$52,840**
% of Goal/ Average Gift	**137.20%**	**$77**

The number of donors and the amounts given to the emergency fund were broken down by alumni decades and non-alums, as follows:

The top three classes based on amounts given, from highest to lowest, were 1999 with $15,715, 2011 with $3,185, and 1971 with $2,050. The top three classes based on donor count, from highest to lowest, were 1999 with 43, 2000 with 18, and 1998 with 17. Over 240 friends of MVNU contributed $11,300.

Giving Day allowed us to replenish our student emergency fund that had been completely depleted during the spring surge of COVID-19. This emergency fund provided money for students' immediate needs such as [illegible]

TO DONATE TO THE UNIVERSITY FUND,

email Jill.Ballenger@mvnu.edu, Director of the University Fund and Community Relations or visit mvnu.edu/give.

THE SHIELD

FROM JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020

House to practice and host home meets. T e city's bridge replacement project on Mount Vernon Avenue included new

Cougars honored by NAIA

— Kaitlyn King, Lauren Klopfenstein

— Chloe Brenneman, Courtney Knepper, Karmen Huntsberger, Kayla Tschudy, Kristin Davidson, Samantha Collier, Sydni Altman

— Dani Ellerbrock, Elizabeth Fee, Jordan Campbell, Kayla Hovorka, Madison Near, Maggie Coblentz, Taylor Gregory

— Alyssa Gaines, Amy Kifer, Ashley Brown, Emerson Hamsher, Emily Cobb, Isabelle DiTullio, Katie Kearns, Kaylin Shackelford, Lindsey Goehring, Morgan Forney, Valerie Stitchert

— Kate Von Handorf, Peyton Broce

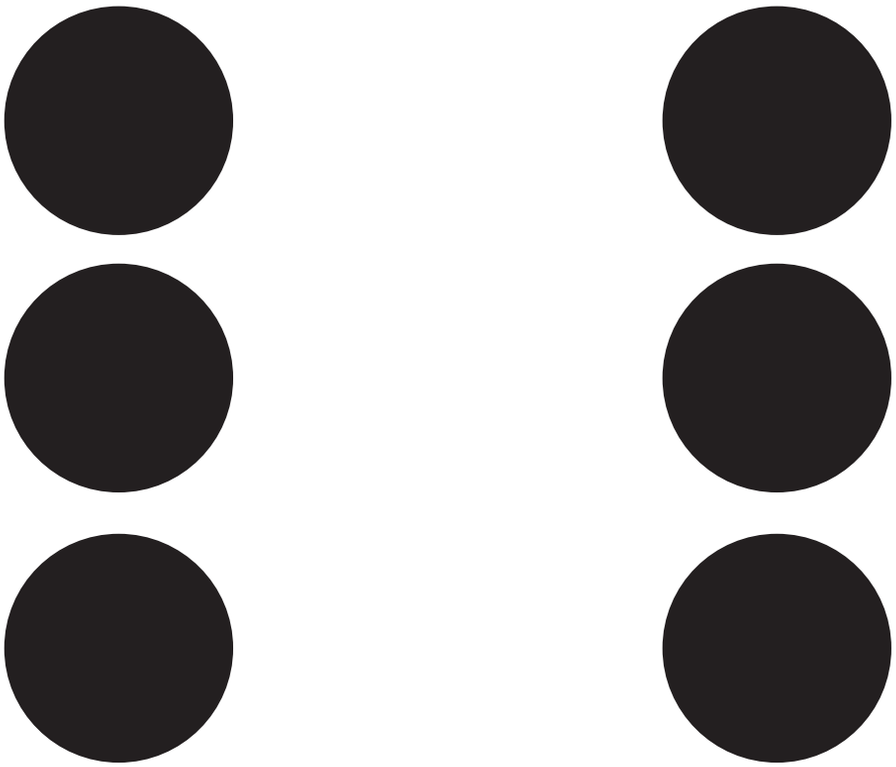
— Adison Preston, Amberly Knox, Brookelynn Semmelroth, Kaitlin Meade, Kayla Kalischuk, Madison Terrien, Melanie Critzer, Missy Emery

— Alyson Landis, Ashley Weber, Laurel Sidle, Sarah Higgins

— Amy Kifer, Ashley Brown, Cassady Trapp, Ellie Ruby, Emily Weber, Isabelle DiTullio, Kaitlin Meade, Kasey Keith, Katie Kearns, Kaylin Shackelford, Lindsey Goehring, Lorelai Breakey, Missy Emery, — AGaiay W480 (r)-10 (gh

e sun was bright, the sky was blue, and students were ready to unwind during their mid-semester break. An expanded OAKtoberfest provided the day of relaxation and entertainment they needed.

While still under the necessary COVID-19 precautions, students enjoyed a multi-day event that included over 25 di erent activities ranging from a pie eating contest to sports tournaments, puppy therapy, Worship Night, hayride, a haunted woods, all things pumpkin –



Mount Vernon Nazarene University
800 Martinsburg Road,
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050

740-392-6868
www.mvnu.edu