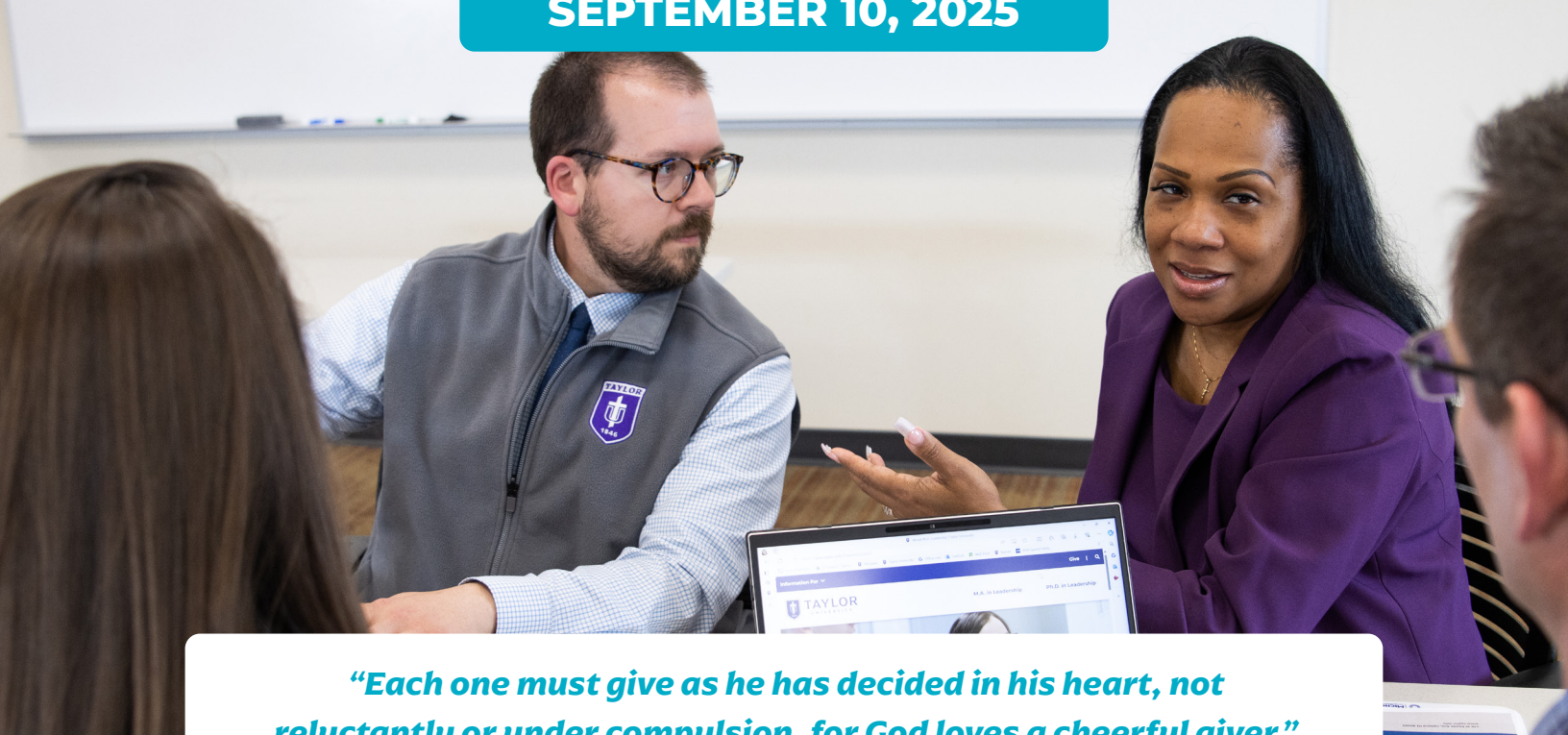


NEXT

CREATING A CULTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL INVESTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025



“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

Through God's providence, the generosity of the faithful has created, sustained, and grown Christian education over the centuries. From the palace school at Aachen to world-class universities like Oxford and Harvard, committed Christians have made significant investments in Christian education that have produced significant movements of God. How, then, can we create the contexts in which God does that again in our midst? How do we build campus ecosystems that attract and engage people who have the capacity to make transformational investments for godly good? The NEXT Summit endeavors to provide proven and practical guidance for leading Christian school administrators who desire to catalyze significant investments for the work God is calling their communities toward in the days ahead.



TAYLOR
UNIVERSITY

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY HAS EXPERIENCED UNPRECEDENTED GENEROSITY IN RECENT YEARS AND WANTS TO SHARE WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED IN HOPE IT MIGHT BENEFIT YOUR CAMPUS.

In this day-long seminar on the Taylor campus, Christian school administrators will learn from the team that is leading the most successful fundraising campaign in the history of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. *Life to the Full: The Campaign for Taylor* is an ambitious, half-billion-dollar venture to fund the University's strategic plan, *Taylor Thrives*. Through spiritual discernment exercises and developing a portfolio of initiatives, and thanks to God's providence and the generosity of so many, Taylor's campaign is already the largest and most successful of any Christ-centered university. Moreover, the campaign has produced meteoric results in a host of areas.

JOIN US ON
SEPTEMBER 10
FOR

**NEXT: CREATING A CULTURE FOR
TRANSFORMATIONAL INVESTMENTS**

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES THAT HAVE ACCOMPANIED THE LIFE TO THE FULL CAMPAIGN:

- Record enrollment and the fastest growth rate of any private university in Indiana
- Increased/strong retention rates
- Rising academic profiles of each incoming class with the average incoming student GPA of 3.9
- A refreshed brand, updated communication strategies that are widely read by a growing number of constituents, and record levels of satisfaction among students and parents
- Growing national and global recognition through earned media and record rankings
- Highest levels of alumni and parent engagement through four modes—volunteer, experiential, communications, and giving
- Significant investments in the people of Taylor with record levels of compensation increases, performance bonuses for all employees, and multiple new programs to develop our people
- Industry-leading increases in employee engagement as measured by Best Christian Workplaces
- Significant institutional achievements in athletics, the arts, servant-leadership development of our student body, and spiritual expression on campus
- Largest investment in the surrounding communities of Upland and Grant County, with a commitment of \$100 million over the next five years (and nearly \$75 million already secured)
- Talented and stable leadership team with the President's Cabinet having an average tenure of 19.25 years in higher education and a cumulative total of 183.75 years in service at Taylor
- New and renovated facilities across campus with over 40% of the University's square footage built or updated within the last three years
- Grants to support and expand academic offerings (Engineering, PREACH Initiative, Science of Reading)

HOSTED BY TAYLOR'S PRESIDENT MICHAEL LINDSAY, THE 2025 NEXT SUMMIT PROMISES TO BENEFIT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS WHO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP OR WORK IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Alumni & Parent Relations
Communications
Community Relations

Development
Fundraising
Marketing

Planned Giving
Strategy
Volunteer Engagement

PARTICIPANTS WILL EXPLORE THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Developing a theology of advancement
- Designing a campaign strategy for institutional thriving
- Engaging volunteer leaders for fundraising success
- Engaging the institution's stakeholders through events and input
- Building a toolkit for transformational generosity
- Mastering difficult conversations around fundraising
- Representing and responding to stakeholders for Christ-honoring results
- Pursuing a portfolio of initiatives for advancement success

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

Participants will hear directly from several major donors and volunteers in Taylor's *Life to the Full* campaign, which is already the most successful fundraising campaign in history undertaken by any member of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. Guest faculty include the following:



MICHAEL FALDER

Mike Falder, Ed.D., serves as Vice President for University Advancement at Taylor University. Prior to this role, he led the Major and Planned Gifts team, including the Regional Directors of Development and Planned Giving. He came to Taylor in 2007 after serving 10 years as Executive Director of Central Michigan Youth for Christ. He holds an M.A. in Philanthropic Studies from Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership from Regent University. His dissertation addressed Advancement's Role in Enhancing Financial Viability of Christian Colleges.



WILL HAGEN

Will Hagen currently serves at Moderna as Director, Leadership and Culture Business Partner. Will previously worked for Taylor University as Vice President for Strategy and Chief of Staff, where he helped lead the University's strategic planning and implementation work, staff the Board of Trustees, facilitate the work of the President's Office and Cabinet, provide strategic leadership for People Operations and Institutional Research, and lead a wide variety of initiatives on behalf of the President. He holds a B.A. in English Language and Literature and an M.S. in Financial Analysis, both from Gordon College, and he is pursuing his doctorate from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College.



MICHAEL LINDSAY

Michael Lindsay, Ph.D., serves as the President of Taylor University. Since he assumed the presidency, the University has experienced significant momentum in admissions, advancement, athletics, community collaboration, employee and constituent engagement, and faith expression on campus. Lindsay credits these good results to a talented leadership team and Board of Trustees, and the servant-leadership of faculty and staff across the Taylor campus. Lindsay holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University, graduate theological degrees from Oxford and Princeton Theological Seminary, and is a *summa cum laude* Baylor University graduate. He also enjoys serving on the boards of Mercy Ships and the National Association of Evangelicals.



CHUCK SURACK

Chuck Surack serves on the Board of Visitors and is the co-chair of the *Life to the Full* campaign. Chuck founded Sweetwater Sound in 1979 as a four-track recording studio; since then, Sweetwater has grown to be the world's #1 online music equipment retailer. Chuck serves as the vice chairman for Canterbury School and is on the board of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Northeast Indiana, the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo (past Chair), Love Fort Wayne (past Chair), and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra (past Chair). Chuck and his wife Lisa have two sons, a daughter, and two granddaughters.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



DR. LARRY TAYLOR

Dr. Larry Taylor serves as the President and CEO of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Prior to assuming leadership at ACSI, Dr. Taylor served for 20 years as the Head of School at Prestonwood Christian Academy (PCA) in Plano, Texas. Dr. Taylor previously served as President of the Texas Private Schools Association (TPSA) Board of Directors. Dr. Taylor also served for 12 years at The First Academy in Orlando, Florida as a high school principal and assistant headmaster. He also has held teaching positions within the public-school system. Dr. Taylor co-launched a national training institute for schools, “Becoming a Kingdom School Institute” and founded the Student Leadership Institute (SLI) program. He developed a training program for parents called, “Becoming a Kingdom Family.” Dr. Taylor published the book titled *Running With the Horses*, which helps parents raise children to be servant-leaders for Christ and helps to build a family plan. Dr. Taylor has been married to Delinda Rose Taylor for 35 years and has five sons: Bryce, Luke, Zeke, Chas, and DeMarcus.



DAPHNA TOBEY

Daphna Tobey has served on Taylor University’s Board of Visitors since 2014. Daphna is President of the Newberry Group of Indianapolis, which owns and manages long-term care facilities in the Indianapolis area. She is actively involved in her local Great Banquet community serving as its Spiritual Director and trainer. Daphna has supported hundreds of missionaries and missions organizations through financial gifts and prayer for over 50 years, and she believes in the transformational whole-person education that Taylor provides through her commitment to its mission of developing servant-leaders who can serve and grow the Kingdom of God.



ALICE TSANG

Alice Tsang serves as a Professor of Finance at Taylor and is a faculty representative on the *Life to the Full* Campaign Council. Alice is from Hong Kong and holds an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business and a BA in English and Translation from the University of Hong Kong. She is a CFA charterholder and an active volunteer for the CFA Institute. She has worked in public, corporate, and structured finance for much of her career, including senior analyst roles at Fidelity. She has published numerous research reports on major financing widely distributed among institutional investors, used by MBIA for bond insurance underwriting purposes and by Fidelity for mutual fund investments.



HOLLY WHITBY

Holly Whitby serves as Taylor’s Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing, where she is committed to expanding Taylor’s brand and enrollment footprint nationally and globally. Holly brings extensive experience in higher education and the private business sector in the areas of sales, marketing, and communications. Over the last decade, she held successively larger areas of responsibility at her *alma mater*, Trevecca Nazarene University (Nashville, TN), including director of admissions, associate provost and dean of enrollment, and vice president of enrollment, marketing, and athletics. Prior to joining higher education, Holly spent nearly two decades in sales and marketing, including a dozen years selling and marketing Microsoft Business Solutions where she won multiple awards. She also started her own consulting firm and has experience as an entrepreneur.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

Taylor benefits from the wisdom and counsel from the following strategic advisors who serve on the University’s Christian Education Leadership Advisory Council. We are also grateful for a strong partnership with Dr. Larry Taylor, President and CEO of ACSI, and several core and guest faculty in this program’s offerings.

Julie Ambler

The Woodlands Christian Academy

Steve Bult

Wheaton Academy

Donna Harris, Ed.D.

Minnehaha Academy

Scott Harsh, Ed.D.

Greater Atlanta Christian School

Matthew Kerlin, Ph.D.

Mt. Paran Christian School

Dean Nicholas, Ph.D.

Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy

Bryan Ritz

Valor Christian High School

Justin Smith, Ed.D.

Little Rock Christian Academy



“ We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give. ”

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AGENDA

8:00-8:30 a.m. | Welcome and Registration

8:30-9:45 a.m. | Opening Plenary: Cultivating the Gift of Generosity

10:00-11:00 a.m. | Chapel
Rediger Chapel, Boren Student Center

11:00-11:15 a.m. | Transfer Time

11:15 a.m. – Noon | Working Session: Building a Culture of Philanthropy

12:00-12:45 p.m. | Lunchtime Conversation featuring Major Donors
Habecker Event Center, Hodson Dining Commons

12:45-1:00 p.m. | Transfer Time

1:00-2:00 p.m. | Plenary: Developing a Vision, Engaging Stakeholders

2:00-2:15 p.m. | Afternoon Break

2:15-3:00 p.m. | Afternoon Discussion: Sharing Advancement Best Practices

3:00-3:15 p.m. | Stretch Break

3:15-4:30 p.m. | Closing Plenary: Transformational Generosity Toolkit

EARLY BIRD
\$150
per person
if you register by
April 30, 2025

REGULAR RATE
\$200
per person
register by
August 15, 2025

REGISTER TODAY

Space is limited and spots will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

REGISTER AT [TAYLOR.EDU/NEXT2025](https://taylor.edu/next2025)