

OCEA Christian Ministries Conference

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OHIO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



Dr. Frederick Finks

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Featured Speaker

Dr. Frederick Finks began his term as the 28th president of Ashland University on June 1, 2006. Prior to this, Dr. Finks served as president of Ashland Theological Seminary since 1982.

Described as a leader and organizer with strong interpersonal skills, Dr. Finks has been very involved in the community of Ashland, serving the Chamber of Commerce in a number of capacities, and co-chairing the Hospice Capital Campaign.

He was one of 17 people selected by the Ashland Times-Gazette as "People Who Changed Our Community." He has received national recognition as one of the top 20 seminary leaders in the country and served as president of the Fellowship of Evangelical Presidents, an organization of 80 seminaries with a combined enrollment of 50,000.

Since coming to the University, Dr. Finks has led the initiative to develop a campus wide strategic plan, build a marketing team to brand the University, developed a new fiscal policy aimed at reducing debt, established an office of retention, re-organized the graduate programs, led a campaign to build a new greenhouse, led a successful campaign to build a \$23 million athletic complex and is currently leading a campaign to build a new academic facility for the newly acquired Schar College of Nursing.

Dr. Finks is an ordained minister of the Brethren Church and served as pastor of the Winding Waters Brethren Church in Elkhart, Ind., from 1972 to 1982 prior to coming to the Seminary.

He received a doctor of ministry degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., in June of 1980 and a master of divinity from Ashland Theological Seminary in June of 1972. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Ashland University in 1969. Dr. Finks holds a tenured professor of leadership.

Dr. Finks and his wife, Holly, who is also an Ashland alumnus, are the parents of two adult children and grandparents of four.