



CandlerNEWS



JUNE 2026

Hats Off to Our First La Mesa Academy Graduates!

Candler's La Mesa Academy for Theological Studies celebrated the graduation of its inaugural cohort on May 9 in Cannon Chapel. The ceremony marked the culmination of two years of theological formation, leadership development, and shared learning across languages, cultures, and ministry contexts. Congratulations to this historic group of students for leading the way! [Check out a recap of the occasion and learn more about La Mesa.](#)

Candler Clubs Coming to a City Near You

It's June, which means that denominational conference season is officially underway and our intrepid Advancement & Alumni Engagement team is on the road. We hope to connect at a Candler Club near you in the coming weeks—and don't forget that all Candler alumni

and students are welcome at any event regardless of denominational affiliation! We look forward to seeing you soon. [See a list of dates and locations and register for a Candler Club near you.](#)

Erdozain's New Book Explores 'The Problem of Patriotism in America'

Research Fellow **Dominic Erdozain**'s latest book is out this week from Crown Publishing. Released a month before the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Erdozain's *To Love a Country: The Problem of Patriotism in America* examines the fraught relationship between patriotism and freedom that has contributed to the complex, often harmful myth of American exceptionalism. [Learn more about the book](#) and sign up to take a Candler Foundry online course with Erdozain below!

Take a Summer Course with The Candler Foundry

The Candler Foundry will offer two online short courses this summer taught by Candler faculty. Continuing Education Units are available for both courses. Click on the course title to learn more and register:

June 9-30, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: [Candler Foundry Online Course: "Let's Talk About Christian Nationalism"](#) with Research Fellow **Dominic Erdozain**. Course fee: \$50.

July 7-28, Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m.: [Candler Foundry Online Course: "Five Misconceptions of Paul"](#) with Candler Foundry Scholar-in-Residence **Elizabeth "Ebby" Arnold**. Course fee: \$50.

Leading the Change They're Called to Make

Have you been following our "Candler Changemaker" series on [the web](#) and [social media](#)? Be sure to check in regularly on those platforms as we continue to highlight Candler alumni and the range of fascinating ways they are fueling change as they fulfill their call.

Have an Update? Let Us Know!

Alumni: help us get the word out to the broader Candler community about your latest professional endeavors and milestone moments! You can [submit your news](#) to be shared in the latest edition of [Class Notes](#) (published with every monthly enews edition). And if you've published a book, [fill out this form](#) to be considered for inclusion on our [Alumni Books page](#). We're excited to share your news!

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are listed in Eastern Time. Click on the event title for more details and registration information. Please note that events are subject to change. [See a full listing of upcoming Candler events](#).

Ongoing in June: Candler Clubs

Candler Clubs provide an opportunity for alumni to gather during summer denominational conferences. Enjoy a meal together, connect with Candler faculty or staff members, and hear the latest news about the school. All Candler alumni and students are welcome at any event regardless of denominational affiliation. [See a list of Candler Clubs here](#) and be sure to check back for updates! You can also register at the links below:

June 5: [Florida](#)

June 8: [Alabama-West Florida](#)

June 8: [Tennessee-Western Kentucky](#)

June 8: [South Carolina](#)

June 18: [Western North Carolina](#)

June 19: [North Georgia](#)

June 9-30, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: [Candler Foundry Online Course: "Let's Talk About Christian Nationalism"](#) with Research Fellow [Dominic Erdozain](#). Course fee: \$50.

July 1: [Final application deadline for all Candler degree programs](#)

July 7-28, Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m.: [Candler Foundry Online Course: "Five Misconceptions of Paul"](#) with Candler Foundry Scholar-in-Residence [Elizabeth "Ebby" Arnold](#). Course fee: \$50.

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NOTES

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