Dr. Jastram Brings Dead Sea Scrolls to Life

CUW Theology Chair Dr. Nathan Jastram, Dead Sea Scrolls Scholar
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My field of academic study is history. The first six years of my career at Concordia were spent teaching history. Looking back and analyzing and interpreting the past has always stimulated and interested me. There is much to learn from history that provides encouragement for our faith and insight for our lives.

Perhaps it is my training that leads me to conclude that looking back is a whole lot easier than looking ahead. Yet, “Looking Ahead” is the theme for this issue of the Concordian! My experience in the past is that my plans for the future have rarely turned out as I envisioned. Historians may debate about the details or significance of past events, but the future is much more challenging to assess. “Looking ahead,” it is precarious (to say the least) to predict what to expect.

Yet, looking back gives me more confidence going forward. Concordia’s rich history has been one filled with examples of God’s guidance and grace. No doubt there have been moments when members of the Concordia community had questions about how to proceed, or what to do next. In my tenure at Concordia I recall a few of those “Where do we go from here” moments. With the full benefit of retrospect, I can see more clearly how the Lord has been near to bless each step of the way. It is the same Lord who takes our hand and leads us forward.

In this edition of the Concordian, we’ll take a glimpse or two into the future. The precise contours of what lies ahead might be refined here and there, but, we’ve planned and prepared, we’ve prayed, and God has provided. Looking back, I’d say God has given us plenty to look forward to. Read about some of our vision in the pages that follow. Then, join us as we take the next step in faith in “Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.”

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D.
President
August, 1965. That’s when I joined the Concordia faculty as a high school English instructor. The “new” classroom building had just been completed, and that’s where my office was, overlooking State Street and across the street from Pritzlaff Dorm. It was right next to the softball field where the new library was supposed to be built. There were about 200 students on campus, divided between the high school and the junior college. It was the first year of coeducation in the college, and thus there were five women on campus in a very hostile environment (after 84 years as an all male school – people do resist change). The Lay Ministry program was still a young institute. Dreams of becoming a four year institution were still ten years away.

I taught Senior English (some incredible students!), and a course called Freshman Reading Techniques (talk about “walking into Hell for a heavenly cause.”), was advisor to the high school newspaper, and coached track and cross country. I was excited about that because the year before Concordia’s teams won everything in conference. No one told me they were all seniors; so I now had all freshmen on my teams. It was still three years before I took over the theatre program.

Within four years we won everything in conference and I had given up coaching cross country for coaching the line in football. In theatre, in the high school, we did THE CAINE MUTINY COURT MARTIAL (all male cast, of course). In 1972 we did our first musical – BYE, BYE, BIRDIE, and the following year MY FAIR LADY – in the ROUND, with eleven dimmers, and my wife made all the costumes and hats. Boy, had I only known then . . . but it all came off beautifully.

Now here we are, only 45 years later, a university of 7000 plus students, including over a thousand graduate students, overlooking Lake Michigan in Mequon, with, some 21 varsity sports, several doctoral programs, and satellite campuses all over the state and in several different states. But we’re not looking back, we’re looking ahead.

Where will we be forty-five years from now? (Let’s see, I’ll be 116 years old and still directing theatre.) That’s what this issue is all about: Looking ahead. Where are we headed? We’re starting a School of Pharmacy. The graduate programs are growing rapidly. There are big plans for athletic fields to meet the growing needs of the athletic program. There is growing concern for our country, our environment, and our culture. As a Christian school we look at the growing number of non-believers in our country, and wonder what we can do to help continue the development of God’s Kingdom here on earth. Our work has not ended, but it has changed and is changing. We’re looking ahead; come along and join the view.

Musings from the Editor
Dr. David W. Eggebrecht

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Toward a Greener Campus
Anita R. Clark, Vice President of Marketing

The Creation Stewardship Council, as described in Dr. Bessert’s accompanying article on pg.10, was formed to pull together the many “green” initiatives being developed throughout our campus community and to prioritize new opportunities to increase our effectiveness. The council, comprised of faculty, students and staff, provides structure to a variety of projects making a positive difference on the campus and an impetus to push through new ways of doing business with a focus on environmental sustainability.

The creation of this new council began in fall of 2008 under the guidance and coordination of Dr. Larry Sohn.

“As Christians, we have a responsibility to leave the world in a better environmental condition than we received it,” Sohn stated. “We are guests in this place we call home. It is a gift that needs to be forwarded on and treasured by future generations. While this is not the first step we have taken in environmental stewardship and sustainability, it is an important step,” he said.

The purpose of the council is to cultivate, in our campus community, wise stewardship of God’s creation.

In order to more efficiently move initiatives forward, three subcommittees were formed: Energy, Water & Land Use; Food, Purchasing & Waste, and Learning, Awareness & Publicity.

While there is a degree of overlap between these committees, it is an initial division to focus on a variety of opportunities.

Reaching For the STARS

Under the direction of Dr. Sohn, Concordia has been evaluating tools to ensure accountability and measurement of our efforts. With our membership in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), we have identified a potential tool to provide structure to our evaluation.

STARS, which stands for Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System, is a voluntary, self-reporting framework for gauging relative progress toward sustainability for colleges and universities, designed to provide a guide for advancing sustainability in all sectors of higher education. The program enables meaningful comparisons across institutions by establishing a common standard of measurement, creating incentives for continual improvement, facilitating information-sharing and performance, and providing an opportunity to build a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community.

“We are informally working with the STARS criteria to determine if this framework is the best fit for Concordia,” Sohn said.

The Right Thing to Do

In 1999, The Administrative Council of Concordia University Wisconsin knew there was a significant problem with severe coastal erosion along the east border of the campus, fronting Lake Michigan. At one point, the university was losing an average of one foot of bluff line per year, almost an acre of land. In addition to this concern, there was no safe access to the shoreline for study and recreation to take advantage of the unique campus environment.

Hiring the civil engineering firm of J J R of Madison, Wisconsin, the university wanted to bring stability and improve usability of the 130 foot high bluff.

There is now a beach with ADA approved access, a bike/walking path, an amphitheatre, restoration of native plant species on the bluff slope, perched wetlands fed by ground water, coastal wetlands fed by the lake water, and improved water quality resulting from greatly reduced erosion.

Phase II of this project is the Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship which is scheduled to be completed in spring or summer of 2010. The center will serve as a focus for education and research on the Great Lakes environment, using the newly restored coastal bluff environment as the primary study site.

“With these monumental efforts as the foundation of our commitment to doing things the right way, the green way, we are well on our way to making a positive difference in our community,” Sohn concluded. “CUW seeks to demonstrate how the Christian faith supports and strengthens efforts to be good stewards of God’s creation.”
Health Care Looks Ahead
Nursing Student Jennifer Muth
Programs in the School of Human Services are seeing very positive growth in student numbers as well as in a number of service activities. All programs remain accredited by their specialty accrediting agencies.

Facility members from Nursing, Occupational (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT), and Social Work (SW) collaborated for the second year to offer an interdisciplinary learning experience for students in all four programs. Patient care scenarios have been developed that reflect patient care needs related to all four disciplines. Students work in patient care teams to interact to promote positive patient outcomes and share discipline-related knowledge and skills with their colleagues.

Research adding to evidence-based practice in Nursing, OT and PT is an increasingly important focus in the School of Human Services. Poster sessions and presentations held by doctoral students in PT and Nursing and masters' students in OT provide opportunities to demonstrate and discuss their final projects with faculty, staff and clinicians. These sessions are reflective of the strong commitment students and faculty members have to improving the outcomes of care for their patients. A number of these projects have been selected for presentations at Nursing, OT and PT conferences at local, state and national conferences.

A number of international service learning opportunities are happening in the School. During Winterim 2010, four Physical Therapy students and their instructor (Dr. Cheryl Peterson) went to Nicaragua on a pediatric clinical experience. The Occupational Therapy students with instructor Dr. Linda Samuel went to Curacao to the Dolphin Therapy and Research Center. Graduate Nursing Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator students go on medical mission trips during Spring break to underserved areas in Mexico. Undergraduate Nursing student trips to Belize provide opportunities to serve individuals with unmet medical needs through nursing care and health education as well as spreading the Lord's Word. These global trips provide special opportunities in our programs that address an increasing need in health care professions to be attentive to the needs of the international community.

The Nursing Department graduated the first Doctor of Nursing Practice students in the state of Wisconsin in December, 2009. Sixteen Nurse Practitioners completed this program and are using the advanced knowledge and skills gained in the 18 month long, full-time, post-master's degree program to improve the outcomes of care they provide to their clients. An accreditation site visit by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is scheduled for late March 2010. The second cohort of 15 students began in August 2009 and will graduate in December 2010.

The Master's of Science in Nursing program is experiencing a record enrollment with over 400 students. The Nurse Practitioner and the Nurse Educator tracks continue to see increasing enrollment as the shortage of nursing faculty continues and as Nurse Practitioners continue to be integral partners providing primary care for many individuals. Students in both programs successfully pass the certification examinations.

Both undergraduate Nursing programs have expanded enrollment to meet the need for more nurses in practice. The traditional program has increased enrollment at the sophomore entry into clinical course to 80 students. The Baccalaureate Completion program has doubled in size and is offering courses at three off-campus sites: Waukesha (in partnership with the Pro Health system), Sheboygan and Kenosha as well as on the Mequon campus and by E-learning. Renovation of the campus nursing facilities is in process with the planning for a new Nursing Resource Center, Simulation Laboratory and office space to accommodate the increased enrollment.

The Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Science (BSRS) and Transitional Occupational Therapy Assistant (TOTA) programs continue to have strong enrollment as opportunities are provided for Occupational Assistants to gain additional education and earn degrees in Rehabilitation Science and then move into the Master of Occupational Therapy degree (M OT). The Master of Science in Rehabilitation Science (MSRS) program continues to attract international students as well as baccalaureate-prepared OT and PT practitioners wishing to earn additional credentials in the field.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program had a record number of qualified applicants this Spring. Students from around the country are seeking admission into the program. Clinical shortages in this field continue to be a concern as the health care needs of our country grow. The program has appointed a new Program Director, D. Robert Barnhart, who will be relocating to Milwaukee in June to start his position on July 1, 2010. Professor Louise Mollinger, who has led the program for the past three years, will return to a faculty position.

The Social Work program continues to grow as students and faculty provide opportunities for others to see their work. The Student Social Work Organization (SSWO) showcased the field work experiences for people on campus during Social Work Month. This group is also linking with Master's degree programs to provide opportunities for our graduates to move on to Graduate School in Wisconsin. Dr. Janice Staral, Program Director, is working with university staff exploring the feasibility of offering Social Work classes to non-traditional students at other CUW Centers.

The Social Workers Make a Difference!
The disciple Thomas had a hard time believing the reality of the gospel. Jesus had explained it to Martha earlier: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25–26). But after Jesus died and was buried, Thomas had a hard time believing the other disciples when they said that Jesus had risen from the dead and was alive: "So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it'" (John 20:25).

Because he demanded hard evidence that Jesus had risen from the dead, Thomas came to be known as “Doubting Thomas.” Since those days, believers have taken comfort in Jesus’ later words to Thomas: “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29). Yet how many people today have the same desire that Thomas had, the same need to see the “nail marks” and to touch the “side,” to convince them that what they believe in is real, and not made up?

For me, working with the Dead Sea Scrolls provided something close to Thomas’s seeing the nail marks and touching the side. When I first took the fragments out of a file-cabinet drawer at the Rockefeller Museum in the summer of 1989 and laid them on the desk to examine each fragment in detail, it struck me that Jesus could have held the same scroll in his hands when it was still a relatively young scroll, about sixty years old. It would become a life-long passion of mine to continue searching out the secrets of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Now the Scrolls are on exhibit in the Milwaukee Public Museum along with other ancient manuscripts and artifacts from institutions in Israel, Jordan, England, France, Switzerland, and the United States. The ancient fragments represent the oldest evidence we have of the biblical text, including portions of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Daniel, Ecclesiastes, Matthew, Luke, and Romans, covering a range in time of two hundred years before and after Jesus. Two other important manuscripts are also on display, the early (AD 330) Greek translation of the Bible found at the monastery at Mt. Sinai, and the oldest (AD 930) Hebrew manuscript of the Pentateuch in book (not scroll) form, from the British Museum.
Walking through the exhibit gives the impression of traveling back to the time when the objects were first used. Coins from ancient Israel are on display, some including images of kings or gods, others omitting the images in deference to the command not to make graven images. A model of ancient Jerusalem shows what the city would have looked like during the days of Jesus, when the city walls did not yet encompass the hill of Golgotha. A human touch is added by a plain leather sandal and a fine-toothed wooden hair comb used to remove lice. Several ossuaries, the stone boxes used to store the bones of the deceased, not only illustrate ancient burial practices but also provide a window to the individuals who were buried in them. Of particular interest is the inscription on one ossuary that identifies the bones as those of Alexander, the son of Simon. These are probably the same people referenced in the Bible: “A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross” (Mark 15:21).

Seeing ancient artifacts like these takes one out of the realm of speculation into the realm of physical evidence about the how people lived and died, and about the shape of the biblical text during the time of Jesus. Going back to the hard evidence is a major goal of scholarship, but it can also be risky. What if one finds that the evidence does not match cherished beliefs? Having to choose between fact and belief can be very stressful. Those who believe that every letter of the Hebrew Bible has been transmitted without any change at all since the time the original documents were written will have their belief challenged by the textual variations found in some of the ancient biblical manuscripts. We now know for a fact that the spellings of words have changed as the Hebrew language developed over the centuries, and that some scribes inserted or omitted some words as they copied the texts. This is why any method of finding hidden messages in the Hebrew text by arranging each letter in a grid and stringing together letters vertically, horizontally, or diagonally like a puzzle (see Michael Drosnin's best-seller, The Bible Code) has no chance of being an authentic way of interpreting God's Word.

On the other hand, we now know that the earliest texts are remarkably similar to the well-known texts from a thousand years later. The texts are so similar, in fact, that we can often find the precise location of very small fragments based on just the few letters they contain, since those few letters often match perfectly the arrangement in the later texts.

One question that has proved to be troublesome for many scholars is the question of canon. Does the new evidence from the Dead Sea Scrolls reinforce or demolish the biblical teaching that the canon of Scripture developed incrementally during the prophetic age, according to the following process: 1) God inspires the prophet (2 Pet 1:21); 2) the prophet or his scribe writes the inspired words on a scroll (Deut 31:22–26); 3) the words work faith in the hearts of those who hear them (Deut 31:12–13; Rom 10:14); 4) believers acknowledge that the words are God's words, with canonical authority (Dan 9:2)?

It has become popular in scholarly circles to reject the biblical teaching about the canon of Scripture in favor of a hypothesis that elevates the role of man over that of God. According to this hypothesis, the process is as follows: 1) “prophets” speak memorable words which are passed on more or less accurately by their hearers through oral transmission; 2) later authors or editors combine previous “prophetic” words with their own words and write them in scrolls; 3) believers select some scrolls and reject others to create their own canon, hundreds of years later.

The Dead Sea Scrolls have been used to support both of these contrary views about the canon. Those who think that the Scrolls support the second view, that believers create their own canon, say that the canon at the time of the Scrolls must have included more books than it includes now, because some books of the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha were found among the Scrolls. Those who think the Scrolls support the first view, that the canon creates believers, note that every book of the Hebrew Bible (counting books according to the Hebrew system) is preserved among the fragments, with the exception of Esther, and that Esther may be missing by chance, since it is a small book and all its copies may have disintegrated before the Scrolls were discovered.

Without a clear statement in the Scrolls, it is impossible to be certain what the people of the Scrolls believed about the canon. In any case, their belief about the canon would not establish the truth of how the canon came to be. I am persuaded from the evidence, however, that their belief was consistent with the biblical teaching about the canon. They made multiple copies of biblical scrolls, they quoted biblical passages as authoritative in their own writings, they created commentaries on the meanings of biblical texts, and they organized their lives around biblical themes. In their list of disagreements with other Jews, they never mentioned that the other Jews accepted different books as canonical— they were upset that the other Jews had different interpretations of the same scrolls that they all agreed were biblical. In short, they probably acknowledged the standard books of the Old Testament as the canon. We should not be surprised that they also read and wrote non-biblical scrolls— it is common for libraries to collect a range of texts, both biblical and non-biblical.

Thomas was allowed to see the nail marks and touch the side of Jesus. We are allowed to see ancient manuscripts of the Bible, along with the coins, sandals, combs, pots, and ossuaries from the time of Jesus. What a thrill it is to come that close to the real people, events, and artifacts that we read about in church, and that are so closely linked to our faith!
Environmental Beacon on the Great Lakes
Bruce H. Bessert, Director, CCES

If you start with the dedication, support, and resources of a leading Lutheran university, fold in a highly qualified and committed faculty, staff, and student body, mix in a spectacular and award-winning restored bluff environment, top with a state-of-the-art LEED Platinum certified “green” building, cutting-edge renewable energy systems, strong faith-based academic and community environmental education programs, and sprinkle liberally with creative and timely research opportunities, what else do you need?

Just...add... water!
This is the recipe for Concordia's ongoing efforts in environmental stewardship, beginning with the restoration and enhancement of our spectacular Lake Michigan bluff and coastline, continued with the creation of environmental undergraduate and graduate programs, and construction of the new Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship. Because of our location on the Great Lakes, fresh water issues are fast becoming a particular emphasis of our programs. Water has great significance, both in terms of sustaining our physical world and its symbolism in our Christian faith, so it is a natural fit for CCES and CUW.

A “Lean and Green” New Facility
The new Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship, or CCES, provides a logical focal point for many activities dealing with sustainability and conservation on our campus and in the community, from a distinctively Christian viewpoint. The facility includes classrooms, laboratories, prep rooms, and a large exhibit/conference hall, positioned 135' above our spectacular re-engineered and restored Lake Michigan shoreline. Water is the theme on which our building and our programming is based, from the curved lines of the architecture, to the inclusion of several large display aquaria, to the sweeping views of Lake Michigan from our 2nd floor exhibit hall and balcony.

The CCES building has also been designed to serve as a teaching tool for sustainability and renewable energy. Numerous energy and water conservation measures have been incorporated to the building design, in our pursuit of LEED Platinum certification as a model for sustainable construction. A few notable examples of our efforts include:

- A geothermal system for energy conservation uses the temperature of the earth (55-60°F) to save heating and cooling costs. There are over three dozen 300' deep wells and a total of over 4 miles of piping for heat exchange.
- Last fall, Concordia installed a 24 kilowatt solar electric array on top of Coburg Hall (if you look carefully at the roof of Coburg as you come onto campus, you will get a peek at the panels.) The energy produced is applied against the energy budget of CCES, reducing energy costs for the center.
- Low flow bathroom fixtures save CCES between 50 and 80% of the water normally used in daily operations.
- By careful demolition and sorting, Concordia has been able to recycle and reuse over 87% of the Peace Center it replaces, much of it directly used in and under the new building!
- Exploration continues for the development of wind power at Concordia, with our naturally windy location on the Lake Michigan bluff.

Fostering Christian Environmental Stewardship
Institutions and facilities are only as valuable as the programs they maintain, so Concordia has worked diligently on modeling and reinforcing the important role of Christian stewardship, particularly from an environmental standpoint. To train students in environmental stewardship and sustainability as part of their classroom instruction, CUW offers an undergraduate major in education with a minor in environmental education, as well as a major in environmental studies. At the graduate level, Concordia currently offers an M.S in Environmental Education and an M.B.A with an emphasis in Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability. Elements of sustainable practices are finding their way into other parts of the Concordia curriculum, as well.

Outreach programs are also a strong focus of CUW, particularly in CCES, which will offer school programs in various water and renewable energy topics. Visiting elementary, high school classes and home school groups will have the opportunity to do lake water sampling, engage in lab studies on the nature of water, design wind turbines
and solar panels, and experience a variety of other hands-on activities. Working with the CUW School of Education, CCES will bring together pre-service teachers and students from around the area in environmental education “incubators,” in which teachers and students will try out and fine tune various environmental activities and lessons.

Outreach also includes communities, whether campus, local area, or scientific community. Concordia currently sponsors a number of community environmental activities, such as hosting the Milwaukee Audubon Societies’ Natural Landscapes Conference each February, International Joint Commission Great Lakes public hearings, annual fall Concordia Energy Symposium, and area nature group meetings. The new center will serve an expanded role as a focus site for these types of activities.

“Beacon on the Bluff”...
Concordia is perfectly positioned to serve a leading role in Christian environmental stewardship and education in the Great Lakes region, The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, and beyond. Excitement is building in the Concordia community at the prospect of new environmental facilities and additional service opportunities. We take this leadership role very seriously and are excited about the work ahead!

Bluff Reconstruction Project Receives Worldwide Recognition
Concordia University Wisconsin is in some elite company, being chosen as one of the five finalists in the 2010 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) competition. Planning for the bluff reconstruction project, known as the Lakeshore Environmental Enhancement Education Project, began in 1999. The actual work on the project began in June, 2005 and was completed in 2007. The bluff is now home to 20 different species of native plants and serves as an environmental beacon along the shores of Lake Michigan.

“We are extremely proud of this project and the tremendous difference it has made on our campus,” said CUW President, Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry.

One of the finalists is a bridge project from Jiangsu Providence, China, while the other projects are from the states of California, Washington, and Utah. The winner will be announced during a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. in early spring.

CUW Graduate Assistant Sees CCES as a Great Learning Opportunity
Craig McCarthy, Media Specialist

When asked why she’d decided to come to Concordia University Wisconsin to do her graduate studies, Natalie Dorrrler’s answer was simple, “The Center for Environmental Stewardship,” she declared. Dorrrler is Graduate Assistant in the CCES and works closely with Professor Bruce Bessert to develop, schedule, and teach most of the programs that will be offered in the new Center.

“I’m really excited to be a part of this from the ground up,” said Dorrrler. “It is going to provide me with a great opportunity and the skills I will be able to use after I complete my degree,” she added.

Dorrrler grew up outside of Stevens Point, WI and got her BS in Biology, with minors in Water Resources and Resource Management from UW-Stevens Point in December 2008. Shortly after her graduation she took a position as an Environmental Education Instructor at the Lake County Forest Preserve District in Northeastern Illinois. She taught and developed environmental education programs before deciding to go back to school to pursue her Master of Science degree in Environmental Education at Concordia University Wisconsin.

Right now Dorrrler is focused on making the most of the next two years here at Concordia, but admits it’s hard not to think about her future. “Once I graduate from Concordia, I hope to be able to use my experiences to contribute to another nature center or natural history museum in the Midwest,” said Dorrrler.

With the anticipated opening of the Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship now only months away, Dorrrler is getting excited as things are beginning to come together. She’s only been on campus a short time and already feels at home. She says her program offers a good variety and balance of both science and education, two fields she knows she’ll learn a lot more about while here at Concordia.
A Dose of Optimism

Dean Arneson, Academic Dean, School of Pharmacy

On January 22, 2010, the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education voted to grant Concordia University Wisconsin’s School of Pharmacy “pre-candidate status.” This is a critical and significant accomplishment for the school in the development of the Doctor of Pharmacy program. ACPE either awards or denies pre-candidate status to an individual school approximately seven months before the first class is scheduled to start. Put simply, with this status a school can admit Doctor of Pharmacy students (which Concordia will in August). Without this status, a school cannot admit students. When considering whether or not to award this status, ACPE considers the plans and development of thirty various standards. The next significant step from an accreditation standpoint will be a site visit in early 2011, once our students have progressed through the first semester of the program, including their first Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences.

The school has received over 740 applications for the 65 seats available in the inaugural class which will matriculate in August of 2010. Prospective students have applied from 36 U.S. states and Canada, including other Lutheran institutions of higher education. The applications are reviewed and candidates believed to be best able to complete the pharmacy program, based on grades, a standardized test score, letters of reference and personal essay, are invited to interview for the seats. The quality of the applicants has been outstanding. An estimated 200 applicants will be interviewed to find well-rounded, intelligent students who desire a faith-based program to fulfill their professional goal of becoming a caring, ethical pharmacist.

Three new faculty members joined the school in January. Armin Gerhardt, R.Ph., Ph.D. joins the Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Science as an Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences after nearly 20 years working for Abbott Laboratories in product development. Dr. Gerhardt earned a pharmacy degree and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy. He is licensed to practice pharmacy in Wisconsin and practices periodically at Burlington Memorial Hospital. Dr. Gerhardt will be teaching courses in drug dosage forms and delivery.
J. Joseph M. McGraw, Pharm.D., M.P.H., Ph.D. has also joined the Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Science as an Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Dr. M. McGraw has earned a B.S. in Chemistry from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his Doctor of Pharmacy, Masters in Public Health and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. M. McGraw is licensed to practice pharmacy in Illinois and came to Concordia from Palos Community Hospital where he was a clinical coordinator. Dr. M. McGraw will be teaching pharmacology and toxicology.

Also joining the School of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor of the Pharmacy Practice Department is Elizabeth (Beth) Musil, Pharm.D. Dr. Musil has both a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from the University of Wisconsin Madison School of Pharmacy. She has also completed a Fellowship in Medical Education and been an Assistant Clinical Professor for the Department of Family and Community Medicine with the Medical College of Wisconsin. She also maintains a clinical appointment with the Racine Family Medicine Clinic in Racine, Wisconsin. She will be teaching in the areas of Pharmacotherapeutics and Applied Patient Care.

Other faculty member hires who will be joining the School of Pharmacy later this year include: Joseph Rinka, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice; Andrew Traynor, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice; Laura Traynor, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice; and Ernest Stremski, M.D., M.B.A. Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Sciences.

Plans are being finalized on the new School of Pharmacy building. Fundraising for the new school continues during this difficult economic climate. To date $8 million has been raised or pledged toward what is now a $13 million total project budget. Support for this project is being sought from family foundations, corporations and individuals.

The Galen Society, our student scholarship fund, has been developed for those who want to contribute financial support to Concordia pharmacy students.

Information about donating to the new Concordia University Wisconsin School of Pharmacy or The Galen Society scholarship fund can be obtained from Executive Dean Curt Gielow (262-243-2751).

**News Flash!!**

The groundbreaking for the new School of Pharmacy will take place on Friday, May 14, 2010 at 1:30 P.M. All are invited!

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On February 14, 1929 Alexander Fleming discovered the antibiotic, penicillin. Perhaps by clumsy accident, he saved hundreds of thousands of lives. Fleming, as a highly rehearsed and observant bacteriologist, was able to identify the bacterial and chemical reaction of a nearby mess in his laboratory. To be this proficient took years of practice and study. Today, a patient may think nothing of picking up a prescription from a pharmacist; orders are placed every week. To receive the right drug with proper dosage instructions, well, someone has got to know how the chemistry works.

Two weeks before Valentine’s Day this year, Jason Barnes was accepted into Concordia’s new School of Pharmacy. “After spending two years in the pre-pharmacy program at Concordia, and rising to meet the high expectations of my professors, I now understand what it takes to get this degree, and my level of respect for those who have a Doctor of Pharmacy degree has increased,” said Barnes.

Being dedicated and determined is something that’s always come naturally for Barnes. In high school he played football, wrestling, and soccer, between three occasions of dislocating his shoulder, and two surgeries to repair the tissue. His sophomore year at Kingsford High in Iron Mountain, MI he began studying biology, chemistry, and by the time he was a senior, AP Calculus.

He came to Concordia specifically for pre-pharmacy and met his goal of becoming one of the 65 students accepted this year into the University’s new School of Pharmacy. He believes he can get studying done here, as compared to a rowdy or more distracting public university. Barnes admits the workload in pre-pharmacy is a challenge and leaves little time for leisure or recreation. But when he does get a break, he vacations up north with his family and hits the slopes on a snowboard or skis.

Currently, Barnes is a chemistry tutor for Concordia’s Learning Resource Center. “Being a tutor has helped me practice breaking down technical information that can be difficult to understand into simpler terms,” said Barnes. “Practicing this communication technique is beneficial because, as a pharmacist, the importance of my ability to communicate effectively will increase greatly. As a tutor, I have had to practice time-management, juggling the responsibilities of completing my own schoolwork while helping others at the same time,” he added.

One of Barnes’ goals is to work at a hospital. After job shadowing pharmacist Dr. Funke at St. Luke’s Medical Center in Milwaukee recently, he realized the opportunity to work with doctors and consult patients during urgent stages of life was intriguing. Hospitals demand immediate attention from experts, Jason wants to be the man called to duty. Organic chemistry and biology helped Alexander Fleming save lives because he recognized the positive bacterial reactions in his laboratory. In just years, Jason Barnes will be saving lives using that same acute concentration and his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Concordia University Wisconsin’s School of Pharmacy.
Map Key

- The New Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship (anticipated completion date, June 2010)
- Future Home of Concordia's School of Pharmacy Building (ground-breaking date, May 14, 2010)
- Proposed Home for New Baseball Stadium
Looking Ahead…

Looking ahead usually includes planning concerning financial issues, family, or business budgetary planning. As I reflect on Concordia’s future, I see my alma mater serving students with between 70 or 75 possible majors. Currently, Concordia has 60 different majors. Looking ahead can also mean serving in more locations. Today the University has 13 campuses in four states and one international location. Looking ahead might mean serving the Church and the world in ways that are only known by our God.

Looking ahead can also relate to the events that are in Concordia’s immediate future. The annual Grand Reunion will take place at the end of June; the host class of 1960 has selected June 25-27, 2010 as the date for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of their graduation. The reunion committee is comprised of Joel Prange, class president, Roger Brauer, Ken Gundlach, John Graff, Melvin Koss, and George Locke; these alum have been planning for months, communicating via email notes and telephone calls. As part of their celebration, the reunion committee has decided to support their alma mater with reunion gifts designated to the Rupprecht Endowment, which will provide Concordia church work scholarships in the area of language arts.

In July, Concordia is looking ahead to receptions in Houston, Texas, while participating in the Church’s National Convention; the details of these events are being finalized. August will mark the beginning of the 130th academic school year for Concordia. With this, the Fall events will include the dedication of the Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship. This new facility will house labs, classrooms, and reception area designed especially for the purpose of Environmental Sciences programs. Homecoming is scheduled for October 29th and 30th with athletic games and alum gatherings again being a part of Homecoming. Additionally, there will be the Roasts of Dr. Brad Condie and Dr. David Eggebrecht; the proceeds from the Roast of Dr. Condie will support the William Grenville Ellis Business Scholars Scholarship Fund, the Roast of Dr. Eggebrecht will benefit an endowment being established to support students studying the arts.

Looking ahead to electronic communication with alumni, parents, and friends, we will reduce our dependence on the U.S. Postal Service. For a few years Concordia has been sending E-newsletters designed specifically for alumni, parents, friends, and the University’s neighbors and business partners. If you would like to receive any or all of these E-newsletters, please send an e-mail message to alumni@cuw.edu or call 262-243-4589 or toll free 888-700-8336, press zero and ask for Diane Zirger.

Another electronic communication option is joining Concordia’s Facebook fan page. The Facebook communications include weekly updates on events, athletic scores, press releases, trivia contests and so much more. Instantaneous information to the Concordia community is an effective use of Concordia’s resources. Search for the Concordia University Wisconsin Alumni page or go to www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=2240081937 to join the Concordia’s Facebook fan page.

Only God knows the future plans for Concordia. While we don’t know what the future holds, we do know Who holds Concordia’s future. The popular song by Chris Tomlin, “God of This City,” inspired my thoughts for this article. The words “There is no one like our God. For greater things have yet to come. And greater things are still to be done in this city.” I challenge you to come to Concordia’s campus, learn of the programs offered at Concordia, and experience firsthand the blessings of our God on the campus of Concordia University Wisconsin.
Leanne M. Denissen (09) is working as a Clinical Quality Project Coordinator at BayCare Health Systems in Green Bay, WI.

Kristen Weber (08; M OT 09) on her graduation day, emulating a photo of her Great-Great Aunt Eve, taken outside Katherine Hall in 1960. Aunt Eve (Sister Manuella Wagner) was a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who occupied our campus prior to CUW purchasing it in 1983. Both of these photos were taken outside Katherine Hall.

Melissa (Jacobs) Collier (07) married her college sweetheart, Jon Collier (07), in August of 2008. In April, 2009, they were blessed with a baby boy named Xander. She is a Surgical Technologist at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee, WI. The family resides in West Bend, WI.

Jenifer Schafer (07) married Carl Schumacher on June 13, 2009 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, MI. Alumni Katie (Erickson) Schafer (05) and Sarah Lemke (08) were bridesmaids. Jenifer currently teaches 5th grade at Zion Lutheran School in New Palestine, IN and Carl teaches at the Lutheran High School of Indianapolis.

Julie (Lichon) Schumacher (07) and her husband Andrew announce the birth of their son, Jaiden Fox, born on Christmas Day, 2009, at 3:00 a.m. He was 9 lbs. and 19 3/4 inches long.

Krista J. Whittenburg (07) is a Ph.D. student in Biblical Studies focusing on NT Textual Criticism at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. She is also a Grant Officer for Advanced Studies and the Assistant Director of the M.A. program and teaches English as a Second Language for Christians of New Americans.

Jennifer E. Hart (06) married Paul Woodrow from Fremont, California on August 1, 2009. She is a science instructor at Prince of Peace School in Fremont, CA.

Nicole M. Nowitzke (02) married James H. Martins on October 10, 2009 at Brookfield Lutheran Church in Brookfield, WI. They are living in West Allis, WI.

Heather (Locke) Oechsner (02) welcomed a third son into the world on August 22, 2009. Jonah Paul weighed 9 lbs., 2 oz. and joins Cole, 4 and Denny, 2. Heather taught middle school at Immanuel, M acomb, MI, but now stays home with the boys. Her husband, Bryan, is the assistant principal at Lutheran High North, M acomb, M I.

Rebekah J. (Stauffer) Woehrer (04) was recently hired by Sigma Aldrich Chemical Company in Milwaukee after working there as a temp for 9 months. She is married to Joshua D. Woehrer and their daughter just turned one on October 21, 2009.

Patrick (03) and Lauran (Buddish) Delancy (03) announce the birth of George Patrick Delancy on November 23, 2009. He weighed 9 lbs., 8.6 oz. and was 21 inches. He joins big sister Cora Anne and was baptized into the family of God on November 29, 2009.

James Matthew Moe (03) currently lives in Sioux Falls, SD with his family and works for POET as the Chief Operating Officer.

Ryan (03) and Kristy (Zeman) Peterson (02) announce the birth of their second son, Kyle Ray Peterson, who was born on September 4, 2009. The Rev. Dr. Roy Peterson, who serves as the Assistant Vice President of Advancement at CUW, is the proud Grandpa. Ryan, Kristy, Andrew (two years old), and Kyle currently live in Wildwood, MO where Ryan is an associate pastor at St. John in Ellisville and Kristy is a stay-at-home mom and works part-time as a hospice nurse.

Jill L. Spiegel (03) and Mark Ortiz were married at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Milwaukee on July 18, 2009 and reside in M enomee Falls, WI. Jill teaches first grade in West Bend, and Mark works as an Analyst at Kohl's Corporate in Menomee Falls. Heather Hojnacki (09) was part of the wedding party and Gena Ceroni (09) was the photographer.

Jenafer Schafer, Jenifer Schafer, and Jenifer Schafer
Jonathan (01) and Stephanie (Kessler) Gurgel (00) announce the birth of a son, Jakob Stephen Gurgel, born on July 7, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Rev. Joel R. Howard (01) and wife Delinah (Wening) announce the birth of Hannah Abigail J’oelle, born on January 4, 2010 in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. She was 7 pounds, 6.2 ounces and 19 inches long. Hannah was baptized into the Family of God on January 10, 2010 at Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church by Joel. Hannah joins sisters Megan (6), Melissa (4 1/2), Jessica (3), and Rebekah (1 1/2).

Dale L. Nellor (01) married Dianne Preece on April 11, 2009 in Arlington, VA. Dale currently is the Vice President of Legislative Affairs for the American Meat Institute in Washington, DC, and Dianne is a professional staff member for the United States Senate Committee on Appropriations in Washington, DC. The couple resides in Arlington, VA.

Ryan Wilkinson (01) and his wife Kate announce the birth of Michaella Jane, born on September 18, 2009. Michaella weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz. and was 20 in.

Kenneth Harris Jr. (00; M B A 02) was selected to serve as the student speaker and to represent fellow graduates at the Marian University Commencement Ceremony for Graduate and Doctoral degree candidates on Saturday, December 19, 2009. Ken will be receiving his Ph.D. in Leadership Studies from the Marian University School of Education.

Chuck Ferry (97) and his wife Cheryl announce the birth of Caithlin Ann on August 23, 2009. She was welcomed home by big brother Caleb (born Sept. 2005). After graduating from Concordia Seminary St. Louis in May 2008, Chuck is beginning his second year of ministry as pastor at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in West Bloomfield, MI. Cheryl is enjoying being a stay-at-home mom and serving as music director at church.

Michael J. Patch (97; M S 09) recently completed his Masters of Science in Information Technology (M S I T) at CUW.

1980’s
Andrew Locke (89) was recently presented with a quilt from close friends Jim Henning (65) and his wife Sherrie. The personalized quilt, handmade by Sherrie using shirts provided by Andy’s wife, Jennifer (Meyer) (92), features Andy’s favorite sports teams, including CUW, on one side and has scripture verses on the other. This gift came as a big surprise to Andy and rendered him temporarily speechless!

Amy (Eickmann) Klein (88) married Clayton Klein on June 26, 2009, at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Amy currently teaches business education at Lutheran High School of St. Charles County. Amy and Clayton were introduced by Clayton’s niece, who was one of Amy’s students!

Victoria L. (Skelton) Roder (87) announces that her first novel, a paranormal ghost story entitled, The Dream House Visions and Nightmares, has just been released by Asylett Press. Her second action thriller novel Bolt Action will be released in April, 2010. She can be contacted through her website, www.victoriaroder.com.

Joe A. Konrad (76) received a Master of Science Degree in Organizational Management from Chadron State College, NE with the December 2009 graduating class. After leaving Concordia he worked for many years in food service management and sales, but decided to return to school in 2000 and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Columbia College of Missouri (03). Joe now works as the Church Business Administrator at First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo, MI.

Rev. Mark Edwin Hoelter (65, Junior College) is married to Karen Key and they reside near the National Zoo in Washington D.C. along with their cat, Google. His community ministry with the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington as Director of Interfaith Dialogues now has ended and he currently is a Personal Coach, specializing in coaching men-in-transition (job loss, job change, separation/divorce/remarriage, encore years, life quandaries). Daughter Rebecca is an attorney and wife of a state legislator in Racine, and daughter Jennifer is a massage therapist and entrepreneur in Madison.

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SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 17-19, 2011
“Unity in Purpose – Diversity in Service”

The Lutheran Lay Ministry Association, in conjunction with Concordia University, will observe fifty years of service to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod with an on-campus 50th Anniversary Celebration, J une 17, 18 & 19, 2011 - Watch for Registration Information
Craig Hirschmann (03) Plays Recital at Harvard
James Freese, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Church Music Program

Many aspiring organists grew up listening to CBS broadcasts or LPs of E. Power Biggs playing the famous Flentrop organ in Busch Hall at Harvard University. Craig Hirschmann (MCM 03) was no exception. One could only dream of being given the opportunity to play the organ that Biggs touched. Dreams do come true!

This past spring, Craig was indeed asked to play that organ for Harvard’s Lunchtime Recital Series. A former organ student of his, James Goldschmidt, president of the Harvard Organ Society, extended the invitation, which Craig eagerly accepted. Biggs played music best suited to that organ: baroque music with an emphasis on Bach. Goldschmidt suggested that Bach and other baroque music should be avoided because “Everybody plays Bach!” A thematic program that included romantic and modern music would be preferable. Playing such music on that instrument is difficult because of the stop list, suited to baroque music, and all mechanical stop action (no preset buttons for prepared registration changes so necessary in romantic music). Hirschmann persevered and came up with a program entitled “Inspired by Bach.” It featured Mendelssohn’s Sonata No. 2, three chorale preludes by Brahms, and the massive Toccata and Fugue in F by Bach. (After all, Mendelssohn and Brahms were inspired by Bach!) All of those pieces were learned during his time of study with Dr. John Behnke during Craig’s years as a student in the Master of Church Music Program. The recital was well received by the 70-80 people who attended.

Craig, teacher and minister of music at St. John Lutheran Church and School in Milwaukee, continues to be connected to Concordia’s MCM program. He currently teaches the course Organ Literature when it occurs in the rotation of courses, succeeding Dr. Marilyn Stulken, who taught it for many years before her retirement, and at whose feet he sat. Concordia is proud of his accomplishment and thankful that he is sharing his knowledge and masterful teaching with our current students.
Mary Eberhardt joined the Concordia staff in 1985, making her next on our coverage of faculty and staff longevity. Coming to Concordia from St Paul's Lutheran School, Grafton, where Mary was the fifth grade teacher and girls' coach, she joined the Concordia undergraduate admission staff, one of the hires of Admission Director Bill Ebel. While at first a bit leery about her new position, Mary soon learned to love it, and before long, about 1992, added Director of Transfer Admission to her responsibilities. In fall of 1999 she became Director of Graduate Admission.

The most important change related to her job, she reported, was the growth of the number of graduate students from about 700 when she assumed her position, to the 3,100+ that are now enrolled. Much of this growth, she said, was possible because of improved technology, without which it would now be impossible to operate an Admission Office efficiently. The one disadvantage of technology, she says, is the loss of the personal touch with students. While it still exists, it does not happen as much as it used to, because student contact is usually electronic rather than in person. She feels this loss, as one of the real joys of her position has always been getting to know the students she personally recruited.

When asked about changes to the Concordia campus since she joined the staff, Mary laughed and said, “It still looked like a convent when I came aboard.” What most impresses her about Concordia is that the school's mission has never changed. When she joined the staff the desire was to help students develop in body, mind, and spirit in service to the Church and the world, and it is still the same today. That is Concordia’s reason for being. “I came here,” she said, “because of my love for Christian education in the Lutheran tradition.” Mary began her own education in a two room school in Suring, WI. Lutheran education was so important to her family, that when her father wanted to buy a bigger farm, he bought one where it was possible for Mary to attend a Lutheran school. Mary graduated from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest (now Concordia University Chicago) in 1970, and began her teaching career in Kansas. She then moved to Grafton when called to St. Paul's, where she taught for eleven years. When a member of the Concordia staff told her about the opening in the Admission Office, Mary, looking for something new in her life, applied and was hired. She thought she would try it for a year or two and then see what she wanted to do. But, she immediately fell in love with the job and is still working with Admission today. Her job is easy, she says, because of the mission, which links so well with Lutheran high schools and elementary schools. She chuckled as she recalled that when she recently read a paper she wrote in eighth grade about what she wanted to do, it pretty much described her job at Concordia.

There are a lot of memorable people who come to mind when Mary recalls her time at Concordia: co-workers, a number of students, and especially Bill Ebel. President R. J. John Buuck, she said, was most memorable. “He often came to our office and was really on top of things regarding Admission. He was always supportive and encouraging.”

Events Mary remembers fondly include a number of staff/faculty get togethers at interesting places such as The Domes, the Milwaukee Zoo, a cruise on the Edelweiss, and the 125th anniversary celebration at the Calatrava Art Center. She also recalls a lot of house parties both in her own home and those of other faculty and staff members. Another shining memory was the trip she got to take with Dr. Ken Kosche and the Kammerchor when they traveled to Taiwan for their annual tour.

Conferences for Lutheran Admission Counselors have always been special for her, and the very first one was held on the Concordia campus on her first day of work at the school. Misunderstanding the time, she was late on her first day. She also enjoys attending Admission Fairs and the Synodical Youth Gatherings. Where people gather, Mary Eberhardt is delighted to be in their midst, spreading the word of Concordia’s educational programs.

Under her leadership, the National Association of Graduate Admission Professionals (NAGAP) has recognized Concordia’s Graduate Admission Office twice, including as a prize trips to Boston and Puerto Rico to their annual conference.

“Concordia is a place I can represent with my heart because I’m confident we live our mission for students at all levels, and it’s clear they appreciate our efforts.” This statement sums up very well the work of Mary Eberhardt, our featured staff member of this issue.
A Nursing Mentor
Dr. David W. Eggebrecht

Carol Lueders Bolwerk joined the Concordia faculty as a nursing instructor in 1987. Before that, she was the Clinical Nurse Director at Community Memorial Hospital and worked in Trauma at County General Hospital. She saw the ad for additional nursing faculty at Concordia in her church bulletin, applied, and was hired, so late in the summer that she went to the annual faculty retreat before receiving a contract.

“I was one of only eight or nine females on the entire faculty at the time,” she said, “so it was quite interesting.” Originally, Carol taught the clinical course at Sinai Samaritan Hospital as well as Cross Cultural Nursing, a course she introduced. She also developed and taught the courses in Critical Care and EKG. She loved teaching from the start.

In 1990, Dr. Lueders Bolwerk was appointed Chair of the Nursing Department, a post she held for five years, as she balanced raising her young children with her professional life. In 1995 she became Director of the BSN completion program, a program that became very important to Concordia in the health care area.

Today, Dr. Lueders Bolwerk is recognized nationally as an authority on Parish Nursing. She first became interested in PN when she went with Nursing Chair Marj Viehl to a 1988 Parish Nursing Symposium in Chicago. When Julie Zersen, who had started the PN program, left Concordia, Carol took over as the program’s director. She reported, happily, that through that program Concordia has now taught over 3,000 parish nurses. This June, the 18th annual Parish Nurse Conference will be held on campus. The Parish Nursing course has been offered in twenty-one states as well as internationally. As now developed, in addition to the annual conference, there are also pre- and post- conference sessions. The School of Nursing (established in 1989 when Concordia became a University), also offers Christian Care Giving in collaboration with the Theology Department. Dr. Lueders Bolwerk continues to travel around the country offering one-to-four day conferences that serve as an introduction to Parish Nursing.

When asked about people she remembers most through her career at Concordia, Carol mentioned Dr. Eggebrecht, Vice President of Academics when she was hired, as her first male boss. Marj Viehl served as an excellent mentor for her as she adjusted to academic life and favorite people include Marion Metzow, Grace Peterson, and Ruth Gresley. The late Ron Berg and Michael Stelmachowicz also had a positive influence on her development. She also remembers many nursing faculty members and students, a lot of whom stay in touch with her. “I still get a lot of Christmas cards and invitations to weddings,” she said. One of her biggest joys is watching students grow, get their master’s and doctoral degrees, and mature professionally. “It’s been a thrill,” she said, “seeing the program grow from a department with about 40 students to a school with 700. Adding the graduate degrees for our students has also been exciting.”

Favorite memories for Dr. Lueders Bolwerk include seeing the Concordia mission statement carried out, seeing students off to Belize and Costa Rica on nursing ministry trips, and developing the nursing laboratory spaces. It was thrilling for her to see Concordia move from a college to a university, watching the R. John Buuck Field House and other buildings go up on campus, and seeing transitions in all areas of campus life. Perhaps her biggest thrill was going to New York City with Dr. Marion Metzow to defend the report to the NLN for accreditation, and then receiving the word that Concordia’s nursing program was accredited. That occurred in 1992, and the accreditation was renewed in 1993. Accreditation of the program by the CCNE was another huge milestone.

Personally, the earning of her Ph. D., which took nine years, was very exciting, as was her administrative experience. Carol has served on all of the faculty committees at one time or another, and has also served on several LCMS task forces. The visit of Pres. George W. Bush as Concordia’s graduation speaker was a special thrill. One other highlight she mentioned was getting a baseball autographed by Henry Aaron when he was graduation speaker, donating it to the fund raising auction for the nursing program, and then buying it back for $500.

The Concordia Nursing program has been truly blessed to have Dr. Carol Lueders Bolwerk as part of its ongoing development, and Concordia has been blessed to have her as part of the faculty. She has been a true pioneer.
Phil Arnholt (Natural Science) is currently serving on the ecological planning committee for the Mequon Nature Preserve and the Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, a committee of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The committee is responsible for maintaining and acquiring critical habitat for rare species in southeastern Wisconsin.

John Behnke (Music) played the Dedication Organ Recital at Trinity Lutheran Church in Columbia, MO on Oct. 16th. He served as organist for the Bel Canto Chorus Christmas Concerts, Dec. 12 and 13 at the Basilica of St. Joseph in Milwaukee where the ensemble he directs, The Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble, joined in the program. On Feb. 5th he played a Dedication Organ Recital at First Presbyterian Church in Escanaba, MI. He continues to publish music for handbell choirs. The Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble (MHE), which Dr. Behnke directs, was featured on TV during December playing the TV58 jingle.

David Borst (Business) has been elected President-elect of the Ozaukee Economic Development Corporation. He is also on the Board of Directors of ITA- Institute of Technology Academy, a choice school in the central city of Milwaukee.

Bernard Bull (Education) gave the keynote presentation on “Faith, Life, and Learning in a Digital Age” in Las Vegas at the Principal of Large Lutheran Schools Conference.

David Eggebrecht (English & Theater) has received the KCACTF (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival) Region III Faculty Service Award for 2010, for continued and exemplary service to KCACTF at the state, regional and/or national levels.

Don W. Korte, Jr. (Natural Sciences) was elected for a three-year term as Councilor to the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology.

Gary Locklair (Computer Science), along with the rest of the Concordia trap-shooting team consisting of Phil Arnholt (Natural Science), J. on Baum (Business & Mathematics), Don Korte (Natural Science) and Tom Weber (Mathematics) took second place in the “A” division for Fall 2009 at the Ozaukee County Fish and Game Club.

Sarah Lovern (Physiology) presented her research entitled “Wait till your father gets home: The consequences of ‘bad’ zooplankton behavior when exposed to toxicants” at the SETAC (Society of Toxicology and Chemistry) National Meeting in New Orleans on November 23, 2009.

Carol A. Lueders Bolwerk (Nursing) was awarded a 5,000 dollar grant to investigate church worker stress. Working with Dr. Louis Jander and The South Wisconsin District, a survey is planned for clergy and teachers. A conference is planned in August to present study findings. Dr. Lueders Bolwerk also was chairperson of The South Wisconsin District’s 10th anniversary of the parish nurse networking group.

Timothy Maschke (Theology) has been giving 5-minute devotions most Friday afternoons on KFUO (live on-air) in St. Louis. Also, he presented “Liturgical Prayer in LSB” for the Concordia Pastor’s Conference, on November 23, 2009, and “Denmark” to the Fellowship Club of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Grafton WI, on November 29, 2009. He recorded five more video presentations for the website questionsaboutchristianity.com and spoke at a day-and-a-half bi-circuit pastor’s conference in Alexandria, LA, February 1-2, 2010, under the theme, “Dynamic Dimensions of Lutheran Worship”.

He has also spoken at several circuit conferences in the South Wisconsin District.

Louis Menchaca (Music) served as clinic guest conductor for the Kansas State University Concert Band Festival in Manhattan, KS on Januay 22-24, 2010. He also led his Big Band Jazz Express in concert at the Cedarburg Cultural Center concert series.

Christy Moser (Occupational Therapy) was recently awarded the WOTA Award of Distinction for sustained professional involvement at the Wisconsin Occupational Therapy State Conference. At the same conference, Meghan Watry, MOT, OTR (a CUW grad) and Dr. Christy Moser presented on the results of a research study they completed in the fall of 2008: “Comparing A Sensory Based Approach to Handwriting versus Rote Practice.”

Cheryl Peterson (Physical Therapy) recently traveled with 4 students from the physical therapy program (Stephanie Krigues, Bridget Kratz, Lee Coleman and Nate Sorum), along with a recent graduate of the program (Jodi Anderson) to Nicaragua to work with children in the rural area near Chinendaga, Nicaragua. They provided direct physical therapy sessions. Walkers were made by Nate Sorum or adapted by the group for two children, parallel bars and tire swings were made by Chris Renzoni with assistance by the group for many of the children, and the families and health care workers were trained in the functional activities suggested to improve the physical functioning of the children. The students have indicated the experiences were positive and life changing for them.

Concordia University Wisconsin was recently recognized as an employer of excellence in employing people with disabilities by the Waukesha Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. This recognition means that Concordia, through its extra efforts, has provided opportunities for individuals with disabilities to use their abilities and to succeed in the workplace. Representatives of Concordia, along with DVR Consumer Alex Kirst who is employed in the business office at Concordia, were honored at the Second Annual Employer Recognition Breakfast on October 30 at the Country Springs Hotel in Pewaukee, where an honorary plaque was presented.
Ann Rice (Business) participated in the January 2010 “Model Theological Conference on Worship” held at Concordia Lutheran Church in Kirkwood, Missouri. The conference provided a setting for study and dialogue around the theme “Toward a Theology of Worship.” The purpose was to build a greater understanding of worship and foster discussion of practices that are consistent with our Lutheran heritage.

Janice Staral (Social Work) gave a presentation at the National Association of Social Workers - WI Annual State Conference on Oct. 19th, in Madison. The topic was, “Religion, Spirituality, & Faith-based Community Organizing: Contributions during Tough Economic Times.”

Gaylund Stone (Art) recently returned from a W-Interim trip to Paris accompanied by undergrad, graduate students and some parents. Late last fall he visited Northland College in Ashland, WI, and Bucknell College in Lewisburg, PA, to see how they are making their art facilities more environmentally sustainable. He is also currently serving as President of the CIVA Art Education Caucus.

Kim Whitmore (Nursing) received acceptance of a poster abstract for the National Society of Pediatric Conference in April. She will be presenting on the Service Learning Respite Program that she coordinates each semester at CUW.


Bryan Woodhouse (Adult Education) and his brother have developed a new suturing kit (S.E.W.S.) born out of his recent experience in medical school. They spent over a year tinkering with the design and have partnered with a manufacturer and hope to sell their kit to med schools, veterinary schools, military etc. Bryan entered their business plan into the Wisconsin Governor’s Business Plan Contest sponsored by the Wisconsin Technology Council and out of 284 total entries made the top 52 semi-finalist list. The winner will receive $50k in start-up capital. A press release detailing the contest can be viewed at http://wisconsinintechcouncil.com/newsroom/?ID=926 or check out The S.E.W.S. Kit online at their company website: www.w3inspirations.com.

The Concordia Bioethics Institute held an important event on Thursday, November 12, 2009. A panel of experts discussed health care reform bills still under consideration in Washington. The distinguished panelists included: Rev. Dr. Richard Eve, Director Emeritus, Concordia Bioethics Institute; Prof. Louise Mollinger-Riemann, Director of the CUW Physical Therapy Program; Dr. Teri Kaul, Director of the CUW Graduate Nursing Program; Dr. James Burkee, CUW Associate Professor of History and Economics; Dean Curt Gielow, Executive Dean, CUW School of Pharmacy; Mr. Paul Wiestrick, Vice President of Mission Integration and Advocacy, Columbia St. Mary’s Hospital System; Dr. Mark Zarnke, M.D., Surgical Associates of Rockford, IL; and Rev. Dr. Kevin Voss, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Director, Concordia Bioethics Institute. Prof. Sarah Holtan of the CUW Communication Department moderated the event. Over 120 people attended. You may go to this link to see the forum, which was recorded in its entirety: www.cuw.edu/videoserver/fullplayer.cfm?movieid=1369.

Mardy M. Marquardt (nee Krueger) was called to her heavenly home on October 23, 2009. Mardy joined Concordia on August 1st, 1987 and served as a member of the library staff for just over 21 years before retiring on January 31st, 2008. In her capacity as the Coordinator of Library Acquisitions, Mardy never tired of furthering our mission through her implementation of forward thinking improvements geared toward greater efficiency and enhanced service. Her attention to detail and professional expertise garnered a high degree of respect from her colleagues both here and within our SWITCH Library Consortium. Her interests included photography, painting/drawing, musicals and travel, to name but a few. Mardy was, likewise, a blessing to her husband Thomas C., their two children, Timothy (Jennifer) Marquardt and Leslie (Brian) Zienty, grandchildren and other close relatives.

Visititation and Christian funeral took place at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Milwaukee (October 27th, 2009) where she will be remembered into the ages.

The School of Business and Legal Studies lost the second Dean to serve in that capacity when Dr. Rueben Tschaekofske passed away in the latter part of the year. This loss came on the heels of the recent passing of Dr. William Ellis, who served as the third Dean of the school. Rueben served from 1994 until his retirement in 1997. He is remembered fondly for his sharp wit and his sense of humor. While he has been gone from Concordia for many years, his loss deeply impacts those who remember him. His years of service to the university, the School of Business and Legal Studies, and most importantly, his students, will be remembered into the ages.
Art Instructor Jeff Shawhan Places 3rd in National Snow Sculpting Championships

Jeff Shawhan, CUW Art Instructor, took 3rd place at the 15th Annual U.S. Nationals Snow Sculpting Competition held the first week of February at Riviera Park in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Shawhan was one of three members of Team Wisconsin and spent days crafting a giant pair of dinosaurs munching on the leaves of a prehistoric tree.

The competition pitted fifteen teams from 9 states and attracted thousands of spectators from around the Midwest to view the finished products. Shawhan’s piece was called “Parenthood” and was quite elaborate.

“We started carving on Wednesday, February 3rd. The snow blocks start out as cylinders 8’ wide by 9’ tall and weigh in excess of 5,000 pounds,” said Shawhan. “We built up an extra four feet on the top to create the neck of the larger dinosaur,” he added.

Shawhan is a master snow and ice sculpture who resides in Racine, Wisconsin and has won numerous awards and competitions over the years, including 2008 Wisconsin and Chicago snow sculpting champion.

Undergrad Admissions is Looking Ahead

Jeff Frosch, Director of Admission

The heart of Concordia University Wisconsin’s mission has to do with helping our students develop in mind, body, and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the world. That message has resonated with a growing number of high school students and their parents. More families than ever before are considering Concordia as a place to send their sons and daughters.

The Admission Office at Concordia remains busy! As another calendar year dawns, the office is awash in applications for fall, academic transcripts, standardized test scores, and visit requests. Financial Aid applications, Residence applications, and requests for class registration/orientation are soon to follow. In the proverbial blink of an eye, August will be here and the new and returning students that August always brings.

Concordia has been blessed. The Fall 2009 academic term saw a record 623 new traditional undergraduate enrollees and a total enrollment of nearly 7,200 students. Looking ahead, the goals are even higher, with academic and building programs on the horizon in Environmental Science and Pharmacy. Presently, applications and visit requests are up from last year and the Concordia community is working to convert those visitors into applicants and applicants to students. It’s a true collaboration, as various departments combine their efforts in helping students to determine if Concordia is a right fit for them.

Be encouraged to consider Concordia! To schedule a campus visit, go to www.experienceconcordia.com and click ‘Schedule a Visit’ or call 262.243.4560. We look forward to seeing you on campus.
When asked about her retirement activities, she laughed and replied, “Everyone expects a lot of volunteer work in retirement, but I did a great deal while I was working – especially in Education. So, my volunteering now is mainly in the arts, and it is combined with multiple other activities.”

Because of her long interest in the arts, Marion now takes time to focus on Art History classes at UWM and also volunteers at the Milwaukee Art Museum as a docent, making sure she doesn’t miss anything going on there. She has also gone on magnificent art trips to Spain, Italy, Amsterdam, and Belgium. Also, because she now has time to do some weaving, she has also gone to Turkey, twice, to meet with weavers in remote areas and to explore women’s coops. Furthermore, weaving meant the taking of more classes, and it evolved into volunteering at a weaving studio.

“I did not forget education, however,” she said, “and for three years volunteered at Emmaus Lutheran School and traveled twice to Belize with the Nursing students involved there in field clinics. I was in an elementary school and also helped in the Senior Center.”

In her spare time, Marion takes care of her home in Wauwatosa and her lake home in Wild Rose, Wisconsin, near Camp LuWisSoMo. She goes Up North all year long and spends a lot of time planting native wild plant gardens and is active in environmental groups. In addition, she thoroughly enjoys environment trips to places like Costa Rica and Peru, including hiking Machu Picchu and lodging in the Amazon.

“With another laugh Marion said, “Around, over, between all of this I read a lot, visit the Opera in Chicago, and have been on a safari in Africa, a theatre trip to London, hiked part of the Pilgrim Cage Road in Northern Spain, and traveled with an Episcopal pastor and group on a river boat in Russia which included visiting Orthodox churches that were just beginning to emerge. We studied icons, and it was great fun eating in all the small villages between Moscow and St. Petersburg.”

“What can I say,” she concluded, “at times I love it, but it’s almost like being back at work. But I have the freedom, sort of, to explore things and places before the old age home takes me. My energy level never slows down; maybe resulting from water classes and many hours of yard work.”

Because she’s always on-the-go, it’s difficult to pin Marion down; but it’s worth it to be regaled with tales of her busy life after “retirement.”
Athletic Facility Plan:
A Three Phase Project
Dr. Rob Barnhill – Director of Athletics

On behalf of our student athletes, coaches, and support staff, we bid greetings to friends and family from the Falcon’s lair. The members of the athletic department are proud to serve as ambassadors for the mission of Concordia University and relish the competitive opportunities that we have in our Falcon uniforms. We currently field 23 varsity sports teams and many junior varsity teams which are comprised of nearly 500 student athletes. The central administrative team has been very supportive of our efforts as we look to grow new programs while strengthening the overall quality of our sports offerings. Athletic success at CUW has been defined as being among the top 3 intercollegiate athletic programs in our conferences with regard to student athlete experience, win/loss record, human/financial resources, and facilities.

The focus of this article is on the continued progress towards completing the 3 phases of our athletic facility renovation project. The first phase was to install Pro Grass synthetic turf on the football field, constructing a new softball field with a synthetic turf outfield, and constructing a soccer stadium with a Pro Grass playing surface. The first phase is 85% complete with only permanent scoreboards in the soccer and softball facilities and a press box that will serve both venues remaining to be added. Upon completion of phase one, CUW will boast some of the finest facilities in the conference in the sports of soccer and softball.

Phases two and three are labeled numerically but will be realized independently in conjunction with the acquisition of funding. Phase two calls for the construction of a lighted baseball stadium that would include permanent spectator seating, press box, storage areas, restrooms, concession areas, batting cages, bullpens, and possibly a synthetic turf playing surface. Also being considered during this phase is the relocation and construction of a new, 6 court tennis facility.

Phase three would include the demolition of the current track and football stadium. The track and field complex would be eight lanes, include a steeple chase pit, an area for the high jump, runways and landing pits for the triple jump, long jump, and pole vault. The football stadium could be lighted and include permanent stadium seating for 1,500 spectators, a two level press box, locker rooms, restrooms, concession areas, ticket office, and new scoreboard.

Other facility discussions are in preliminary stages and could possibly address the needs for a new arena, field house, weight room, locker rooms, athletic department offices, and a temporary dome structure to cover the football field. There is an arms race in intercollegiate athletics that extends from Division I into Division III that has created an expectation of ever-improving athletic facilities. The demand to provide student athletes state-of-the-art facilities to showcase their talents has increased as intercollegiate athletic programs seek to recruit, retain, and develop the best student athletes. The Concordia University Wisconsin administrative team recognizes this and has been proactive and fiscally responsible in addressing these issues. GO FALCONS.
Concordia University Wisconsin presents
Land of Lincoln & St. Louis
October 15-18, 2010
$542 – Double Occupancy

Day 1, Friday, October 15 (L, D)
Begins with an early morning departure from CUW to Springfield, IL, and the Land of Lincoln. En route there will be a stop for an included lunch. Mid afternoon will include spending a couple of hours exploring Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site, where Abraham Lincoln lived from 1831-37. The only original building standing is the Onstot Cooper Shop, where Lincoln studied at night. A carding mill, gristmill, the Rutledge Tavern, shops, a school, a saw mill, and timber houses have been reconstructed to look as they did in the 1830s. The visitor center offers exhibits and an orientation film. Late afternoon will be check-in at the Springfield Drury Inn. The evening will include a welcome dinner. Night in Springfield.

Day 2, Saturday, October 16 (B, D)
This morning includes a stop for photos at Lincoln’s Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery and then outside his home, the only house he ever owned. Later the tour will go to the Old Capitol and Lincoln’s Law Office. Late morning leads to the amazing Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, where the galleries, exhibits, and multimedia presentations can be enjoyed, along with lunch in the café. Mid afternoon, the tour heads for St. Louis and a late afternoon check-in at the downtown Drury Inn. (For those interested in the optional visit to the Gateway Arch, the tour director will assist you at this time.) This evening will include a dinner cruise on the Mississippi River. Night in St. Louis.

Day 3, Sunday, October 17 (B, L)
Today you are invited to join us for an early church service at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church. The group will be joined by a step-on guide who will show us the highlights of St. Louis and share some of the history. After an included lunch, the tour goes to Grants Farm, now operated by Anheuser-Busch, Inc. and featuring a Clydesdale stable, miniature zoo, and wild life park. Rounding out the day, we’ll tour Anheuser-Busch Brewery, including the brewhouse, packaging plant and hospitality area. Friends of CUW will host a reception in the hotel this evening. Night in St. Louis.

Day 4, Monday, October 18 (B, L)
This morning there will be a tour of Concordia Seminary which will include the morning chapel service. Then begins the trek home, with a stop in Springfield for an included lunch at Bob Evans and then a stop at Russell Stover Candy Outlet in Lincoln, IL, with an afternoon ride back to Mequon.

Included meals: (B)=Breakfast, (L)=Lunch, (D)=Dinner

*Luther Tower, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

*Price per person: $542 double (2); $491 triple (3); $452 quad (4); $702 single occupancy

Reserve your place now by sending a deposit of $100 per person.
Final Payment Due: August 30, 2010

Reservations are on a first-come-first-served basis and handled by Tom’s Christian Tours, Fond Du Lac, WI

For more information, call Tom & Janie Niedfeldt at 1-800-656-7745 or Sandy Vick, Advancement Office, at 262-243-4333 or 1-800-811-1716.
A Bowl for the Hungry
Tirzah Cook, Student Editor

Hot chili and fresh bread are not summer meals. Northern residents know chili as a home-remedy to unclog sinuses or melt the winter ice off windshields. More commonly, when chili is consumed with warm, fresh bread, hunger will be cured for hours. This menu was served at a recent charity fundraising event called The Empty Bowls Project, organized by student Sarah Schempf and CUW Art Professor Jeff Shawhan on Concordia’s campus last November as part of Milwaukee’s Hunger Task Force. Empty Bowls is popular all over the United States and started in Milwaukee in 1999 to raise money for those-in-need.

For the second year in a row, Sarah Schempf recruited artists to create a collection of masterpiece ceramics and give them away. “These [bowls] come from local artists, CUW staff, art students, and any other students willing to participate,” she explained. Sarah and Jeff ladled chili provided by Sodexo Food Service, Concordia’s caterer, into handmade ceramic bowls. Sodexo also provided fresh bread selections. Mmmm. For only a $5 contribution, members of the community and Concordia students, faculty and staff attended the event and raised $600. Sarah explained the memento, “When participants are finished [eating], they keep the ‘empty bowl’ to remind them of so many that go hungry every day, even in our local communities.”

Sarah also runs a Milwaukee inner-city Grad school art program. She’s an artist, an equestrian, sings in The Kammerchor, and recently, founded an ice-skating club at Concordia to give students an opportunity for a free group lesson every Friday at the Ozaukee Ice Rink. Sarah is about to complete her bachelor’s degree in just three years and plans to pursue a Master in Fine Arts or Art Education. After her wedding in May, her spare time will be embraced by Western Europe while she and her husband explore the history and countryside for three months. In the course of her future studies, Sarah plans to return to Italy to polish her education.

Signed, Sealed, Delivered

Proud of his adopted Wisconsin home, Liberian immigrant and current CUW student Mansfield Neblett recently wore a cheese head hat to a speech on education reform given by President Obama at his daughter’s school, Wright Middle School in Madison. Secret Service agents originally told him the hat was a security risk, to which he responded that if that was the case, he wouldn’t attend. Thankfully, the agents relented and minutes before the speech, someone representing Obama approached him and offered to get the hat signed by the President so Neblett gladly turned it over. The speech wrapped up, Obama left the building, but Neblett didn’t have his hat back. He stood waiting in the school hallway searching in vain for someone to hunt it down. Happily, the yellow wedge eventually made its way back to him, bearing the President’s signature.
Students Pay It Forward in Charitable Challenge

Five Concordia University student teams took part in this year’s Kapco Charitable Challenge which began on January 27, 2010 at the Bradley Center in downtown Milwaukee. Each team was given $1,000 and had 20 days to do as much good as possible in the community. Team VISTA, from CUW’s Admission Department, won the first round of the competition and advanced to the next round to take on the winners from Marquette University and Wisconsin Lutheran.

Concordia University Wisconsin Wins Charitable Challenge:
Team Vista Takes Top Prize

Jeff Bandurski, Director of University Relations

Six weeks of hard work and determination for a group of college students has paid off. Concordia University Wisconsin’s Team VISTA has won this year’s Kapco Charitable Challenge; beating out teams from Marquette University and Wisconsin Lutheran College.

Team VISTA, from CUW’s Admission Department, supported the Leavitt family from West Bend. Both parents, Tom and Lisa, died within a few months of each other, leaving behind six daughters. Three of the daughters are under the age of 10, so Team VISTA focused on these children.

The team of 10 students was also assigned to help a “Make-A-Wish” child and family. The nine year-old has leukemia and the students helped by spending time with the child and helping out the family where needed.

“The presentations from the young people on each of the teams, Wisconsin Lutheran, Marquette University, as well as Concordia, were outstanding,” noted Concordia President Dr. Patrick T. Ferry.

“In a single month, participants in the Kapco Challenge touched thousands and thousands of lives.”

“Of course, we are proud that our Concordia kids were chosen as champions. However, this is truly one of those experiences where everybody involved walks away a winner,” said Ferry.

“I’m really proud of the effort that was put forth from the students to help these families,” said Amy Tavidian, staff advisor for Team VISTA. “These future leaders are setting an example that the entire University and community should be proud of,” Tavidian added.

The top honor was handed down Thursday night at Discovery World in downtown Milwaukee following a special presentation in which each of the teams described their efforts and the impact they have created. A celebrity panel of five judges picked the grand champion. Team VISTA has already raised over $100,000 for the community through its initiative, as well as touching the lives of thousands of individuals. Several students indicated they’re already excited about getting involved again next year. All told, the 30 students from the three finalists raised in excess of $250,000.

The Kapco Charitable Challenge was inaugurated in March, 2008, when Kapco Metal Stampings President Jim Kacmarcik gave six Concordia University Wisconsin student groups $1,000 with the idea to help others less fortunate. This year’s challenge was expanded to include five teams from each of the three schools. Kapco is headquartered in Grafton, Wisconsin.
Caring for a child with a special healthcare need can be exhausting. Many parents are overwhelmed by the day-to-day demands of caring for their child’s unique needs. Studies show that parents with children with special needs are 80% more likely to divorce, and there is a 30% increased chance of out of home placement for these children. Not only are the pressures of the child’s challenges huge, but often there are overwhelming medical bills and other issues that go with it. Often income plummets because parents need to dedicate themselves to caring for their child’s needs and are unable to work.
Most importantly, all volunteers develop an appreciation for the physical and emotional energy required to care for children with special healthcare needs. It truly is an amazing multi-disciplinary service learning project that Concordia should be proud of as a community.

A third Respite Event took place in the Fieldhouse on the Mequon Campus on February 28, 2010. The goal is to host an event each semester to allow students this unique opportunity, and also provide a great service to those families with children with special healthcare needs.
Professional Actress and Student

Ericka Wade, in her second year of the CUW Masters degree program in Student Personnel Administration, is also a professional actress working in Milwaukee. “I’ve come to work with First Stage Children’s Theater and The Skylight Opera Theatre by nothing other than a blessing,” she said. From childhood on she had seen numerous shows at both venues and always dreamed of performing for them. Now that dream has come true.

Ericka has been acting in the Milwaukee area for several years, and this past year she was invited to audition for both First Stage and Skylight, and was offered roles for both companies. “I fully believe I’m in a dream world right now,” she said. “In February I start rehearsals for THE WIZ at First Stage, playing Eviliene, the Wicked Witch of the West.” This was the first musical Ericka saw as a child, and she thought it the most amazing thing ever. In April she begins rehearsals for the Skylight Opera Company’s production of RENT. “I am so happy and honored to be working with the Skylight in this production, I have no words – only chills and sometimes tears when I think about it.” Ericka loves the Milwaukee theatre community and hopes to be a part of it for many, many years to come.

Ericka heard about Concordia and the SPA program through another actor who was an SPA graduate, Beth Monhollen, whom she met while rehearsing a show together at the Boulevard Theatre. At the time she had just started a position in higher education, and the two had much in common. “Beth raved about the program and told me how valuable she found the degree to be. I looked into Concordia and a couple of other schools, and chose Concordia because the faculty and staff I met at an information session made a very positive and lasting impression on me, and the curriculum was exactly what I was looking for. It’s also very affordable.” Ericka says she is very happy with her choice and, “Beth was right! The education we’re getting from this program is amazing, and my classmates are bright and engaging. I’m very pleased.” And we’re pleased to have Ericka as one of our satisfied students.

CUW SSWO Students Raise Money for Local and International Hunger Agencies

Students from Concordia’s Student Social Work Organization (SSWO) participated in CROP Walk on October 11, 2009 on Milwaukee’s downtown lakefront. CROP Walk is a hunger walk to raise money and collect food, sponsored by Church World Service, and raises funds for both local and international hunger agencies. Back row left to right is Professor Wendy Stolt (SW faculty), Lindsey Zimmermann, Cary Caudill, Olivia Fink, Kelsey Saege, Dr. Janice Staral (Social Work Program Director), and Heather Hennning. Front row left to right is Olivia Fink, SSWO President, (holding the sign), Katlyn Stalnaker, and Emily Lasee.
The day of the earthquake struck was just as any other day with the group waking up at 4:30 a.m. to a church service consisting of a capella Creole singing. “Their voices were amazing and it was the best way to wake up everyday,” said Schuelke. At 5:30 pm, she was sitting under the school roof watching the boys play soccer when the ground began to shake violently. Schuelke had no idea what was going on. “One of the boys grabbed my hand and as we stepped down from the school building it collapsed. If he would not have grabbed my hand, I don’t know if I would be here today.” They began to run from the building, but it was nearly impossible from being thrown around by the shaking. Everyone gathered in the courtyard as the girls wailed and the children clung to them. One of the older boys began singing. All the Haitian people continued to sing and pray all night and day while the ground continued to shake every ten to fifteen minutes. All the children at the orphanage were accounted for, and the hospitality they showed their visitors was astounding. Some of the boys retrieved sheets, mattresses, and mattress pads from the orphanage, which they insisted Schuelke’s group use. As people from the town started coming out to the orphanage to scavenge, the boys surrounded Schuelke’s group as a way to protect them. “It was really cool, and they made sure we were safe,” stated a thankful Schuelke.

The mission team remained in Haiti for three nights following the earthquake. The aftershocks continued as they operated on little sleep, and the only privacy in using the makeshift bathroom was someone holding up a sheet. They were able to eat two meals a day and had a supply of water that they were able to drink. They joined the Haitians in singing and praying. Schuelke saw an unshakeable faith by these Haitians who live in overwhelming poverty, “They truly have to rely on God to provide their basic needs because they do not have opportunities like we do in the United States,” she said. Even before the earthquake they showed joy and happiness even though they had so little. When Schuelke asked one of the older boys if he was afraid, he quoted Psalm 46:1-2, “God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble. Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth trembles and mountains topple into the depths of the seas.”

Schuelke discovered that these Haitians may not have many “things,” but they have faith and happiness that is really important. “God really opened my eyes to what true faith is. As Americans we have a flexibility to doubt. We know that if we are in times of trouble there is always some kind of help, via our families, friends, and government. The Haitians don’t have that and they have to fully rely on God to provide for them, and they are so thankful for the little that they do have. We have all of these things, but they are really just distractions from what truly matters. They have next to nothing, but I think they are so much happier than the average American.” Schuelke was able to see the positive attitudes that came out of such a devastating event and learned a lot about life, “This trip helped me realize that this life here on earth is so short, and it really does not matter what we have. What matters is, first, our relationship with God, and, second, our relationship with other people.”

For many people, the photos of Haiti seen on their televisions following the devasting earthquake were daunting. For CUW student Becky Schuelke, it was reality. Schuelke, along with 11 others from Wisconsin, were in Haiti on a mission trip to Servants of All Ministry (SOAM) in Grand Goave. They worked at an orphanage and school where they were helping build a bathhouse and just spending time with the children.
In a sense, there is no such thing as failing to plan. If you choose not to create your own plan, you will, by default, give the government the responsibility to execute their plan for you. So even if you do not have a will, you still have a plan, the government's plan for how the bureaucracy thinks all of the gifts that God gave to you should be distributed. And guess what? The government's plan does not include God or His Work or any of the ministries that He may have placed on your heart during your lifetime.

Is that the legacy that you hope to leave? Or would you rather leave a legacy of faith? A legacy that speaks to your love for Jesus Christ and the mission of His Church? A legacy that provides for your loved ones but also reflects a steward's heart?

The single most significant stewardship decision that most people will ever make is how they will steward the gifts of God at the end of this life. But yet these can be very difficult and complex decisions. To assist you in planning your legacy, a legacy of faith, Concordia University Wisconsin has included in its website a series of online tools that can help you consider your planning options. At our “Gift and Estate Planning” website you will find a host of resources that will help your end of life plan reflect your values and priorities. These tools will provide educational resources that will better equip you when it comes time to meet with your attorney to document your estate plans.

What will your legacy be? How will you be remembered?

These are questions that are often uncomfortable for people to consider. We all know that the day will come when our earthly life will end, but many people would rather not think about it. We are encouraged to make plans for the end of life, but most do not. Some surveys indicate that 70% of Americans do not even have a will.

To access this free Concordia resource go to cuw.giftlegacy.com and browse through the site. If you have any questions about using any of the tools or need more personalized attention to help you achieve your ministry intentions, please contact our office at 262-243-4533.
“Rainy Day Faith”

As the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:10-11)

Most people in the Midwest recognize Spring as a time of wild swings in weather—one day can be 60 degrees and sunny and days later it can turn cold to rain and even snow. You can almost predict the unpredictability of snow storms into March and April in places like Wisconsin.

But what if we could control the weather? Perhaps it would be like the song from the old musical, Camelot. That great old story of King Arthur and Guinevere and the Knights of the Round Table harks to an ideal—where virtue and happiness reigned—where everything was good and wonderful. The song “Camelot” even suggests that the weather was something that could be controlled by King Arthur and his laws: “The crown has made it clear that the climate must be perfect all year...July and August cannot be too hot...there’s a legal limit to the snow here in Camelot...The winter is forbidden ‘till December and exits March the 2nd on the dot. By order summer lingers to September in Camelot.”

If you controlled the weather, how many perfect, 75-degree-sunny-days-with-a-light-breeze in a row would you order? Would you allow any winter, any rain or snow? Or would every day be warm and lovely, like one on a postcard...“the weather is beautiful, wish you were here”?

As Isaiah wrote about God’s Word coming to us, God inspired him to use the analogy of rain and snow: that rain and snow—water—come to the earth and allow for plants and food to grow and for life to continue. Just as water is essential for life and growth, so God’s Word is essential for spiritual life and growth. That’s a pretty straightforward point.

But more profound is the predictability or unpredictability of how God’s Word comes to us in light of the comparison to rain and snow. If we controlled how God’s Word came to us—like we might want to control the rain and snow—would we make sure that it was always convenient? Would we schedule blizzards and rainy days when we didn’t have any outdoor plans? Or would we ever schedule a rainy day?

Do we always hope that the way God’s Word comes to us will be “convenient”? God’s Word is always timely and relevant but maybe not for us or not right now, we might think. We expect and hope for God’s Word when we go to church or when we look to God in prayer or when we decide it is time for a devotion.

But when God’s Word of Law comes to us, is it like a snowstorm or does it rain on our parade? That verse about gossip or greed or selfishness comes to us right as we were going to make that phone call to share the latest scoop or throw out the appeal for sending money to a missionary or ignore the neighbor who could use our help. Would we ever choose to hear the word that is most directly aimed at our sinful comfort?

So maybe Spring is a good time to consider how God sends His Word as much as the fact that He does send it. Perhaps when we least think we need God’s Word is when we need it the most.

At the end of the musical Camelot, there is a reprise of the song “Camelot.” After tragedy and the realization that he can’t control everything that occurs, King Arthur sings the same song but in a very doleful, wistful way. He expresses deep irony that Camelot is not perfect and doesn’t last forever.

God’s Word rains down on us in a world that is far from perfect. The Gospel part is that God’s Word does continue to come to us—that it is life-giving and refreshing whether we are planning on a rainy day or not.

Our faith lets us sing of a place that is perfect forever. It is where God’s Word reigns even as it rains down on us now. Maybe a March snowstorm here and an April rainstorm there are just what we need to remind us.
April
9 - Undergraduate Visitation Day
15-18 - “You Can’t Take It With You,” Spring Play, 7:30 pm Thursday-Saturday, 1:30 pm Sunday, Todd Wehr Auditorium
18 - Faculty Recital, 3:30 pm, Marie Sander and Michael Thiele, Chapel of Christ Triumphant
25 - Symphonic Wind Ensemble Spring Concert, 3:30 pm, Chapel of Christ Triumphant

May
2 - Alleluia Ringers Spring Concert, 3:30 pm, Chapel of Christ Triumphant
14 - Pharmacy School Groundbreaking, 1:30 pm
15 - Spring Commencement, 1:30 pm, R. John Buuck Field House
17 - Summer School Session Begins
25 - Graduate Information Session