

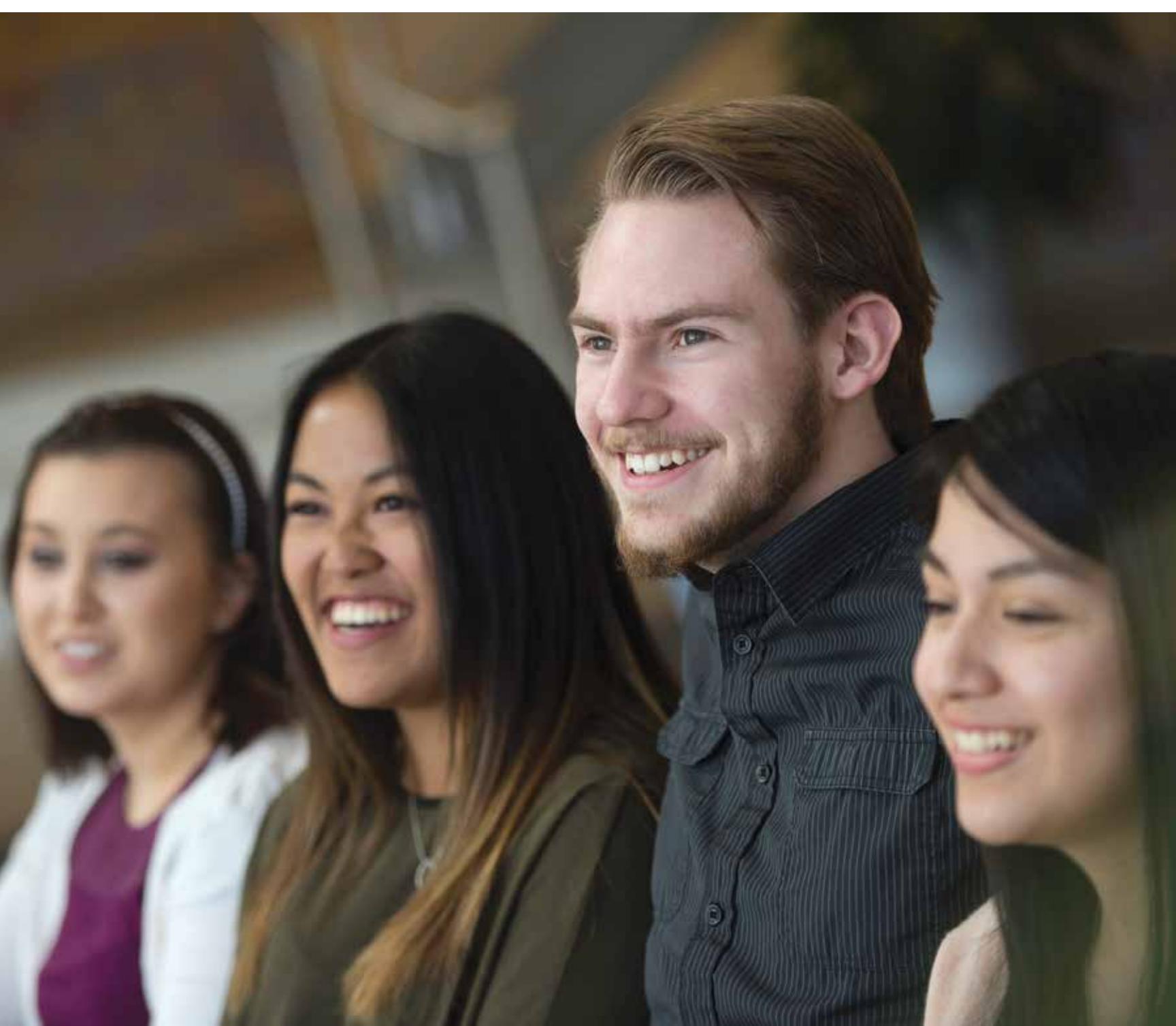
**FAITHFUL EXPERIENCE** CUW students share their journeys

**OUR LUTHERAN IDENTITY** In mind, body, and spirit for Christ

**INNOVATION** Preparing change-makers for the world

# Concordian

THE MAGAZINE OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN



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SPRING/SUMMER 2016

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Gospel-oriented,  
Lutheran University.



Cover photography by Patrick Flood

@ QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Email us: [Concordian@cuw.edu](mailto:Concordian@cuw.edu) or tweet us: @CUWisconsin



# You Belong Here

Do you ever wonder what you might be getting yourself into?

There are many times in our lives when we approach a crossroads. While we might imagine what lies before us, depending upon which path we take, knowing exactly how things will turn out is more elusive. The decision about where to attend college, for example, is one such turning point for many young people. Wondering about the implications of a choice is not unusual for incoming freshmen or for students transferring to Concordia University Wisconsin. Will I like it here? What sort of people will I meet? Is this the direction I want to go? What am I getting myself into?

If one size fits all, perhaps I could describe specifically what it means once a student elects to wear CUW's colors and become a part of the Falcon family. The reality, however, is that the CUW life varies from one student to the next. The Core Curriculum exposes students to some common learning experiences, but students pursue majors and academic programs tailored to their interests. Co-curricular involvement offers a wide range of participation options—athletics, music, drama, clubs, and organizations. There is something that will appeal to just about everybody.

Given the wide array of options and possibilities, it might seem a stretch to settle on a single word to help answer the question. Nevertheless, the word that serves as the theme for this edition of the *Concordian* approaches what I hope is the common experience of each Concordian who decides to enroll and attend this University: belonging.

The student who reaches that crossroad and follows the path to this campus arrives at a place where the message soon becomes clear. You belong here. Obviously, CUW is not for everybody. Students with no interest or desire to be part of a Lutheran university community that approaches life and learning from a distinctly Christian perspective may not find CUW to their liking. Of course, many Concordians come from different faith backgrounds and are certainly welcome.

The welcoming spirit flows from our recognition that, in Christ, God has redeemed the world, and all people are precious in His sight. The love of Christ compels us. So, what are you getting yourself into? At CUW, we are eager for students to find a place where they are warmly welcomed and a place where they discover that they truly belong.

**REV. PATRICK T. FERRY, PH.D.**  
*President*

# Campus News

## Heading Up the Arts and Sciences

**W**ith the start of the new year, Dr. Steve Montreal began his new role as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. Montreal has been with Concordia University Wisconsin for nearly 20 years, previously serving as dean of the School of Adult Education and, most recently, as registrar for the past eight years.



CUW's School of Arts and Sciences has the largest faculty of the University's six academic schools. Its 13 departments, 40 undergraduate degree programs, and four graduate degree programs also encompass the core of liberal arts studies at the University.

"Given the reality that today's graduates will likely have multiple careers, the arts and sciences program helps ensure our students are well-equipped to thrive in a rapidly changing economy, while also contributing to the success of their communities," Montreal said. "Graduates with liberal arts degrees are prepared to make significant contributions in all areas of their lives—communities, workplaces, and churches—meeting the challenges and the promises of the 21st century."

Montreal succeeds Dr. Gaylund Stone, who stepped down last year after 17 years in the position. Stone now serves as program director for the graduate art education program.

Watch for more about Dr. Montreal and the work of Concordia's School of Arts and Sciences in the next *Concordian*.

—Kali Thiel, University Affairs

## Upcoming Campus Events

For a full list of campus events please visit:  
[cuw.edu/events](http://cuw.edu/events)

April

14

Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.

24

Concordia Chorale, Selah, and Chapel Ringers,  
Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.  
Admission is \$8 for adults, free for children 17 and under.



## What Do You Wish You Had Known Before You Started College? – the Keys to Financial Literacy

**D**uring their course completion celebration lunch at Concordia University Wisconsin, recent graduates of the Foundations in Personal Finance class offered five financial tips for high school students considering college. Ten students participated in the five-week pilot course made possible

through generous support by Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Thrivent Financial.

What tips do these newly financially literate students suggest?

- Take the ACT early as practice. The score really does impact your scholarship opportunities.
- Start researching scholarship opportunities now.
- Take as many advanced placement and dual credit courses as possible.
- As soon as you're accepted into college, start researching campus job opportunities.
- Make and save as much money as you can now when you're living at home, and have your summers and evenings available.

The financial course was open to everyone but was particularly appealing to church work students who are anticipating advanced schooling in preparation for their callings. While personally rewarding, careers as pastors and teachers are generally less financially rewarding, so financial knowledge is key to success.

Foundations in Personal Finance was created by Dave Ramsey—personal money-management expert, national radio host,

and best-selling author—to provide college students with practical applications for a lifetime of financial freedom. With the help of Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Thrivent Financial, CUW was able to offer this class at a significantly reduced rate of \$30. Upon completion of the course, the students got their money back to reinvest in their futures using the strategies they had just learned.

When asked why they took the course, the students offered many reasons. Courtney Thumann, a junior majoring in social work, took the course to "step into adulthood" and take on the responsibility to support herself. Sophomore and pre-seminary student Hayden Witucki is motivated to someday provide for his family the way his parents have provided for him. Another sophomore and pre-seminary student Drake Peterson is humbled by the generosity of those around him, and wants to be financially free to give back in his community and church.

Whatever their reasons were for getting started in financial literacy, they're all glad they did.

—Lisa Liljegren, University Affairs

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

# A Daily Habit

**R**ev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D. likes to joke that he had to run to catch his future wife.

The Concordia University Wisconsin president and his spouse of 30 years, Tammy, were a few years out of college and working as admissions counselors for their alma mater, St. John's College in Winfield, Kan., when they began dating.

Tammy was a running enthusiast. Ferry was less emphatic about it.

"I've had an on-again, off-again thing about running," Ferry said. "I'm just sort of an average runner. I do it for fun mainly."

He's had ebbs and flows in his running repertoire since then—that is, until Dec. 20, 2012, when Ferry began day one of a daily running routine.

More than three years later, Ferry's persistence and dedication have earned him a spot among an elite group of runners who call themselves "streakers." To claim the title, a person has to log at least one mile every day for months or even years on end.

Ferry commemorated his 1,000th day of running on Sept. 16, 2015, with CUW's cross country team and other students, faculty, staff, and family at his side as they weaved through the Mequon campus grounds.

The streak started as a New Year's resolution



for Ferry. His initial goal was one year of daily running.

Despite sickness, inclement weather (he sometimes runs indoors on a treadmill), out-of-state travel restraints, and, in general, life's daily duties, Ferry fulfilled his resolution and continues to stay steadfast to his commitment.

Now, he says, it's become habitual for him, akin to brushing his teeth. And, like dental hygiene, he said he sees and appreciates the

physical health benefits of it, as well.

Perhaps most importantly though, Ferry said running—staying healthy and active—is a way to honor the Lord with his body.

"Concordia's mission statement encourages 'service to Christ in mind, body, and spirit,'" says Ferry. "This is just one way I can live out a piece of that mission every day."

—Kali Thiel, University Affairs

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

## 28-01

Hairspray, Todd Wehr Auditorium

April 28-April 30 at 7:30 p.m.,

April 30-May 1 at 1:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors and non-CUW students; \$5 for Veterans, Faculty/Staff, and CUW alumni; \$3 for CUW students; and free for children under 12.

# May

## 01

The Alleluia Ringers Spring Concert, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.

Admission is \$8 for adults, free for children 17 and under.

## 12

Concordia Servant Roundtable, Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.

## 13/14

Commencement Weekend

Graduate Students, Field House, May 13, 6 p.m.

Baccalaureate Graduation, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, May 14, 10 a.m.

Undergraduate Students, Field House, May 14, 1:30 p.m.



# Campus News

## Keep It Riehl

Rick Riehl 1948–2015

**T**hey came from everywhere on a cold Saturday to celebrate a man who had affected them so significantly. Surrounded by family and friends, Rick Riehl, longtime coach, teacher, and University administrator, was honored Nov. 7, 2015 with the dedication of the Concordia University Wisconsin press box prior to a football game in a ceremony led by Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D., CUW's president.

Riehl was in the final stages of a brutal battle with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, an extremely

rare and fatal brain disorder. His presence on the football field, one last time, ignited cheers, tears, and an ovation from fans on both sides.

As CUW's sports information director, Riehl had many contributions to Falcon athletics, including implementing a unique Falcon website and establishing a network for broadcasting home games. Prior to working at CUW, he was a beloved teacher and championship-winning basketball coach at West Bend East High School. He was also the founder of the WCSS (Wisconsin Coaching

Scouting Services), a summer camp for young basketball players at all levels.

Riehl had recently retired from CUW and looked forward to traveling more with his wife, Donna, and spending more time with his grandchildren. He was called home on Nov. 29, 2015, a few short weeks after the dedication ceremony. He is survived by his wife; three children; six grandchildren; and a loving family of siblings, nieces, and nephews.

Following the brief on-field press box presentation, loved ones released "Keep It Riehl" balloons into the bright, blue sky. Most of the balloons soared gracefully into the heavens with their long, white ribbon tails billowing in the breeze. But, not all. Still stuck together, a giant clump of balloons lingered above the field as if they weren't quite ready to leave the party. No one was.

—Lisa Liljegren, University Affairs



COMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

**24**

Graduate Visit Day

**May**

**05**

Team Concordia Ride for the Arts Bike Ride



**09**

Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



# Changing the World Through Business

**M**ore than 10 Concordia University Wisconsin students played the role of inventor this fall, producing creations that ranged from self-charging lamps to computer apps. The innovations were part of the University's inaugural CU Launch Program, where students interested in entrepreneurship had an opportunity to learn about business basics and then create their own idea to market.

"The goal is to give our students a chance to be entrepreneurs and team up to form businesses around their ideas," said Dr. Daniel Sem, dean of CUW's School of Business Administration and an organizer of the launch event.

After months of preparation, four finalist teams met on Nov. 6 and 7, 2015 to compete for a grand prize of \$5,000 in seed funds. The teams, each led by faculty mentors, worked to prepare their final business pitches, and then presented to potential investors and a panel of external judges.

Taking home the first place award was Colin Murdy, with his creation of ViaLamp. The product, a lamp with primary and secondary light purposes, is built with specialized fluorescents that glow with a short burst of light. According to Murdy, after two minutes of use, the lamp will have charged up the tube so that it glows bright enough to use for another 30 minutes.

"While it has a great market here in America, it can really make a difference to the developing world where many live in darkness," said Murdy.

For every lamp purchased in America, Murdy says he plans to donate one in the developing world.

CU Launch is back for a second season and is expanding to include adult student teams. Sem recently hosted kick-off events at four Accelerated Learning Centers, including Waukesha, Madison, Mequon, and Appleton.

Student Colin Murdy's ViaLamp is now in production. For more information, visit [www.kickstarter.com](http://www.kickstarter.com) and search "ViaLamp."

—Olivia Johnson, Class of 2016



PHOTOS BY GWENDOLYN GARRE

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

**July**

**13-18**  
Private College Week

**14**  
Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.

**30**  
Hall of Fame/Alumni Night  
at the Lakeshore Chinooks  
Game, 6:35 p.m.

**August**

**11**  
Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.

**29**  
First Day of Traditional Classes



**September**

**08**  
Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



## Campus News

# A Bit of Empathy Goes a Long Way

The far reach of caring nursing students

**V**ida Stanton had virtually no knowledge of Concordia University Wisconsin prior to 2012, but after interactions with three CUW alumni she decided it was a school worth supporting—in a significant way.

The interactions were relatively brief (with one, she didn't even have an opportunity to learn the alumna's name), but they were impactful nonetheless—so impactful, that she felt moved to set up an endowment, The Vida Stanton Endowment Scholarship Fund, to support more of the same quality students.

Following a 35-day stint in the hospital in 2012, Vida, now 85, required the help of physical therapists.

That's how she came to know Dayna (Astemborski) Hein and Jessica (Fohr) Grimm, both 2009 graduates. The two worked daily with Vida at Luther Manor in Wauwatosa, where she now resides, in the weeks after she was released.

"It was just their attitude, their encouragement, and their caring," said Vida. "You know, they were a little pushy sometimes, but they wouldn't let me stop pushing myself. They were always pleasant—just comfortable to be around."

Another interaction with a CUW alumna came when Vida returned to the hospital for a scheduled ultrasound.

While waiting, she commented about a chill in the room, and without much prompting, a hospital worker delivered her a blanket. As a former Milwaukee area professor, Vida says she's often curious about individuals' schooling, and, so, she was quick to ask it of the woman.

The response: Concordia.

"I thought, 'They really must emphasize empathy with their students,'" said Vida.

And so, some two years later, as she began to put her estate in order, it was CUW—not the university she taught at for decades—that was at the forefront of her mind.

As a lifelong Lutheran, Vida says it makes her happy to know that CUW is representing her denomination well.

"I'm pleased that Concordia has programs that really are worthy of being supported," she said. "I hope that it will encourage a good student to finish up their program."

—Kali Thiel, University Affairs



PHOTOS BY JEFFREY PHEIPS

COMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

# September

10

LSSES Krankin' for Kids Bike Ride/Walk



# Business With a Purpose



PHOTO BY JEFFREY PHELPS

**M**eet the dean of the School of Business Administration, Daniel Sem, Ph.D., MBA, J.D.

Sem is a scientist and social entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in drug discovery and development. He co-founded two companies and has 10 issued patents. In addition to his teaching and leadership responsibilities at Concordia University Wisconsin, Sem is president of Bridge to Cures, a pioneer company that helps startup companies develop health care innovations.

**Q:** What is your vision for the School of Business Administration?

**A:** Be recognized as the school that prepares the next generation of ethical business leaders to be change-makers for the world.

**Q:** How will you accomplish that vision?

**A:** Our rigorous curriculum, Christian values, high ethical standards, and culture of innovation prepare our students wholly for successful vocations. Combine that with a purposeful pursuit of corporate partners who are willing to support our programs and students, and we will get there.

**Q:** How will you actually prepare students to implement real, impactful, sustainable practices?

**A:** Sustainability is about the triple bottom line: People, planet, and profit. Successful companies are not just profitable, they also demonstrate compassion and concern for the people who create and consume their products, and are mindful of their impact on the

environment. Everybody defines sustainability differently. We are in constant dialogue with the business community to learn what they need to reach their sustainability goals, and then help prepare our students to anticipate and fulfill those needs. And, being the School of Business, we also focus on quantifiable approaches so that these best practices can be measured and managed.

**Q:** How has the sustainable movement changed the workplace?

**A:** Supply chain management comes to mind. There used to be a “cradle to the grave” mentality. If companies were involved in their source selection, mindful of their business practices, and concerned for the well-being of their customers, they were considered exemplary. Today, recognized sustainable companies go a step farther. They also pay attention to the disposal of their packaging, and invest in repurposing and recycling to limit their footprint—a “cradle to cradle” approach. At CUW, our business students work with pharmacy, environmental sciences, computer sciences, and other areas of study to be fully prepared to lead sustainable organizations.

**Q:** So, you’re a scientist. How did you come to lead the School of Business Administration?

**A:** My interest was science with a purpose. I wanted to solve problems through pharmaceuticals, and built a business model that could develop and fund new, sustainable models to help more people. When you boil everything down, businesses also exist to solve problems. Knowing how motivated our students are, I’m excited for the future.

—Lisa Liljegren, University Affairs

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

October

02

5th Annual Lakeshore Marathon  
University Challenge



07/08

Family Weekend

13

Concordia Servant Roundtable,  
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.

# Starting th

## Faith in the Process



By Lisa Liljegren and Kali Thiel, University Affairs  
Special Contributor Amanda Villani, Admissions  
*Photography by Jeffrey Phelps*

# The Journey



"No matter what transpired in the coming year, I grabbed hold of the promise that this experience would be good in a way that was in accordance with God's own definition."

*—Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D. on his feelings while dropping off his son Andrew for school his freshman year of college in "Faith in the Freshman"*

In his book, "Faith in the Freshman," Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D., University president, reflects upon the significance of the first day on campus.

As a University president, parent, and once-upon-a-time freshman, Ferry recognizes this rite of passage to be "all at once exhilarating and terrifying, joyful and painful" for students and parents alike.

Every year on that first day, Ferry is careful to set the tone. "My goal is to do whatever I can to assure students and their parents that the journey before them, wherever it leads, is almost always worth the next step," writes Ferry.

The joy and responsibility of supporting our students and providing each of them with a positive next step is shared University-wide.

The first day is far from the first connection with Concordia University Wisconsin. Choosing the right university is one of the most important and personal decisions a person may ever make.

Our admission crew understands that students and their families are facing this rite of passage, and provides careful consideration and individual attention to each applicant to help them make the right decision.

## A caring, Christ-centered approach

It's the "personal touch" that gets mentioned the most by students and their parents when asked why they chose CUW. From first campus visits to personal telephone calls to special meetings with professors, the admission counselors are an energetic, passionate, and informative team of individuals who are instrumental in these early consideration steps.

### Students

"The application process to CUW was extremely easy and went very smoothly. The way they have it set up makes it almost impossible to get confused, because they walk you through it step by step."—Tyler Hass

"I got to meet and talk with some of my fellow pre-seminary students on registration day. It was wonderful to spend time telling each other about our faith and the interest of becoming pastors. That really made my day special."—Su Reh

"When I visited other schools, I was just part of the group, but here, it was more one on one."—Jake Jurss

### Parents

"Being that Hannah is the first child in our family to go to college, we wanted to make sure we understood everything. Our admission counselor picks up the phone and answers everything, and it's been very helpful."

—Anne Elrod

### Admission Counselors

"It's important for students to know that they're not just a number here on campus. They are a special person created in His likeness whom we care deeply about."

—Joel Bahr

"I remember how 'cared for' I felt when visiting campus as a high school student, and I want to ensure that I do the same for every student and family that walks through our doors. There was such a lasting impression that I still remember it to this day, and I truly believe our families get that same experience."

—Sarah Kitterman ▶



Anthony Argueta,  
Schaumburg, Ill.,  
Exercise Physiology



Rachel Buetow,  
Hubertus, Wis.,  
Elementary Education



Hannah Elrod,  
Hartland, Wis.,  
Business Management,  
Marketing, and Entrepreneurship



Jake Jurss,  
Sheboygan, Wis.,  
Secondary Education



Savannah Kassin,  
West Bend, Wis.,  
Actuarial Science



Aubrey Netzel,  
Clintonville, Wis.,  
Actuarial Science, Transfer Student



Rachel Froehlich,  
Madison, SD,  
English and Secondary Education



Tyler Hass,  
Sheboygan Falls, Wis.,  
Nursing



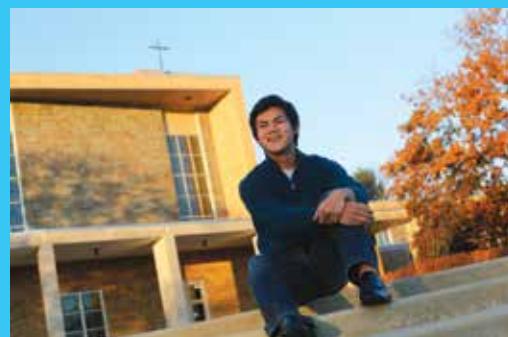
Mark Adkins, Admission Counselor



Joel Bahr, Admission Counselor



Solomona Rakotonirina,  
Antananarivo, Madagascar,  
Business Management and Theological Languages,  
Pre-seminary Program



Su Reh,  
Milwaukee, Wis.,  
Theology, Pre-seminary Program



Michaela Hanson, Admission Counselor



Sarah Kitterman, Admission Counselor

# An environment that inspires spiritual and academic growth

The beauty and location of campus are certainly positive reinforcements for those considering CUW, but for most students it was the innovation and rigor of the programs, and the time with professors that moved them from “interested” to “applicant.”

## Students

“The professors really care about us in that they want us to succeed. I’m always trying to become the best I can be, and the atmosphere at Concordia really helps me feel like I can accomplish that.” —Rachel Buetow

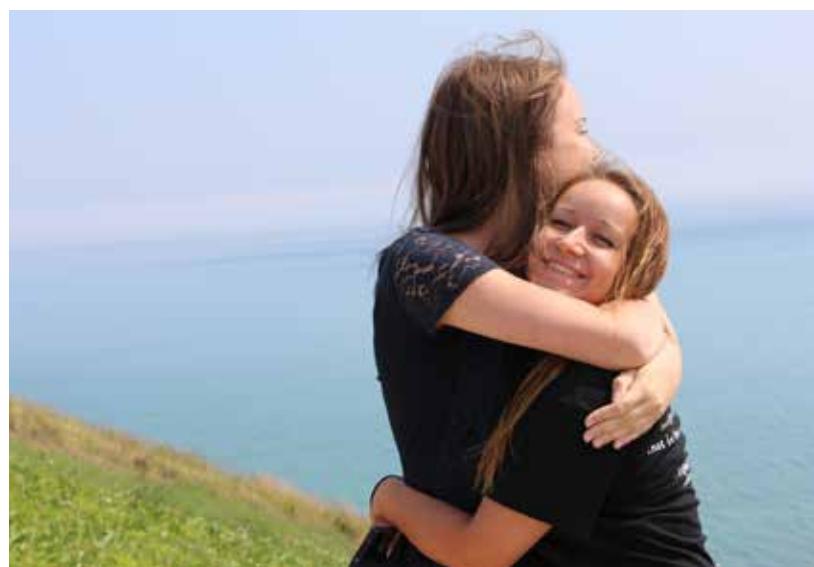
“I really liked that I got to meet the main professors. It made me more comfortable. They teach using real-world situations that students can relate to.” —Savannah Kassin

“I fell in love with the campus and the mission. It was really warm and inviting. It felt like a really nice home for the next four years.” —Rachel Froehlich

## Parents

“We looked into the program and it was accredited, but it’s more than just a program. They were kind, warm-hearted, and professional. We knew it wasn’t a mistake or a one-time experience. We knew the root cause of that kindness was Christ and Christianity.” —Dan Argueta

“The campus grounds are incredibly beautiful. I can see Rachel (Buetow) loving it because of the kind and caring people.” —Maryellen Buetow ▶





Every day we hear about the CUW people who made a visit particularly special. Below is just a sampling of the compliments:

"We all have a relationship with Ashley Peichl [admission counselor]. I've probably sent her over 50 emails with different questions, and she's been so helpful in answering them. Who knows if she's ever had a bad day? She's always smiling."  
—Wally Argueta (mom)

"Dr. [Jane] Bishop introduced herself to me. It was nice that she took the time to talk with students and make a relationship. It was nice to know that teachers wanted to know my name." —Hannah Elrod

"Coach [Shawn] Cassidy, my basketball coach, and Joel Bahr, my admission counselor, are great. I love these guys." —Jake Jurss

"Amanda Villani [admission counselor] is really great. She's checking on me all the time." —Aubrey Netzel

# An education that's accessible and worth it

A private school offers many advantages, like Christian education, small class sizes, personal attention from professors, and, most importantly, university-wide investment in the experience of each student. The financial advisors work hard to make a CUW experience a reality.

## Students

"Dr. David Birner [executive director of international education] introduced me to a grant from the LCMS that covers part of my school education. The main reason I'm here is because I received this grant. Dr. Birner and Amanda Reitz [international admission coordinator] also helped me get my Visa and the governmental documents, like F1 student Visas." —Solomona Rakotonirina

"Talking with the professors about the program, they talk about the students in the program, and students who have graduated from the program and what they're doing. They know the students by name."

—Aubrey Netzel

"Concordia helped us a lot with the financial aid aspect. They helped us get as much as we needed to get there." —Rachel Froehlich

"CUW makes it possible for students to achieve their degree in four years."

—Tyler Hass

## Admission counselors

"At CUW, 99 percent of our students receive financial aid, so we always want families to understand that while the sticker price may be intimidating, there are many ways to help bring the cost down. We take a personal approach to financial aid because each family is different, and there are many different circumstances that affect their finances." —Mark Adkins

"In working with families, I emphasize the value of the Concordia experience. They are not only paying for a great academic education, but also for the support of a community which helps ensure students' success. Additionally, Concordia strives to provide access to all who wish to attend CUW. We will do all we can to make Concordia affordable for students who wish to attend." —Michaela Hanson

## Parents

"Concordia is comprised of many different departments, and they all work very well together. Whether it was our admission counselor, academic advisor, or the office of financial aid, they are all interconnected so well. This is our first experience with someone going away to school, and it was very smooth." —Wally Argueta

"God really put Concordia right into Hannah's [Elrod] path. It's important to her to know how to be a businesswoman with a Christian worldview, and that's what she wants to portray when she gets into the business world." —Anne Elrod





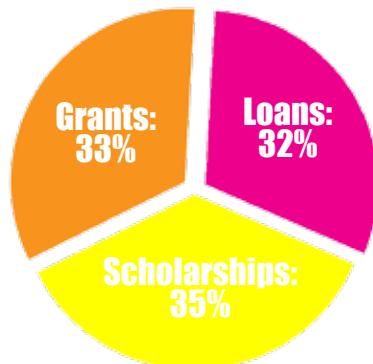
## BY THE NUMBERS

Undergraduate Majors	70
Graduate Programs	39
Doctorate Degrees	4
Student to Faculty Ratio	12:1
Student Organizations	70+

**99%**

of undergraduates receive financial aid

### TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID AWARDED



The average student is awarded \$23,022.  
68% of student aid awarded does not need to be repaid.

# Truth & Love: Living Life Together, the Concordia Way

By Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D.

Photography by Jeffrey Phelps

**O**ne of the things I love most about Concordia University Wisconsin is the opportunity to work alongside wonderful members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (faculty, staff, and students) who are dedicated to helping fulfill the Church's mission through Lutheran higher education.

CUW is unambiguously the Church's school. We wouldn't have it any other way.

Another thing I love most about CUW is the chance to work together with terrific people (faculty, staff, and students) who aren't members of the LCMS, but who embrace this University and the blessing that it is in their lives and in the lives of others. CUW is most certainly their school, too. Together, we wear our colors and together, we proudly proclaim, unabashedly, to the broader community around us, "We are Concordia!"

Our mission statement makes clear what CUW exists to do. We prepare students "for service to Christ in the Church and the world." Regrettably, there are too few places where the Church and the world connect or converse well.

By nature of the composition of our community, with Concordians from across the country and around the world learning and often even living together, the chance for such dialogue and discourse is readily presented.

Of course, there are moments on our campuses when cultures collide. Upon occasion, there are situations where lifelong Lutherans and folks who were previously unacquainted with Lutheran, or even Christian, perspectives aren't exactly on the same page. Some might perceive such situations as a threat to Lutheran identity.

At CUW, however, this surely represents an opportunity to communicate winsomely what it means to be a Christ-centered, Gospel-oriented, Lutheran University. Dialogue and discussion are integral to the learning process. Communication within a community where all members have a sense of belonging fosters the sort of environment that deepens the discourse and enriches the interaction. As the Apostle Paul admonishes, we seek "to speak the truth in love."

Given the great divide that we observe all around us—a setting where inclusion is framed by truth, spoken in love offers a refreshing change—it's no secret that 2016 is a political year. Our election cycle will bring Americans to the polls this fall to elect a new president. The campaign has already dragged on for months, and the often unsavory political process will only intensify over the final stretch leading to the first Tuesday in November. We may be left wondering if "United States" is remotely descriptive of our national reality, or merely an aspirational name.

Neither does "Concordia" summarize the political or social points of view of every Concordian. It's safe to say that not everyone at our University fully agrees on the answer to every controversial question before us.

However, if our University is successful in helping our students to be thoughtful and engaged citizens, attention to civility in the community discourse will behoove us all as we learn from one another.

It happens that this year also marks a national convention of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Fortunately, most of the excesses of the national political process are

generally avoided. Nevertheless, there are inevitably differences of opinion, even within a Confessional Church such as ours. Varying positions are even more pronounced between Christians of assorted denominational affiliations. This only means that there is no shortage of opportunity within Christ's Church to speak the truth in love, without compromise either to the truth or to love. If our University is successful in helping our students to be faithful and endearing witnesses, modeling how we handle our disagreements among ourselves and with others is also essential to the Concordia experience.

Yes, something that I truly love about CUW is that this Lutheran higher education community is a laboratory for life. The variables of all that we observe in the Church and the world are brought together for inquiry and investigation. We "help students develop in mind, body, and spirit" as they wrestle with differences of perspective. Quoting John Milton, I often say, "Let truth and falsehood grapple." Truth, of course, really has nothing to fear, and truth, spoken in love, will have great effect.

At CUW, the love of God in Christ Jesus—who is the Way, the Truth, and Life, and the Savior of the world—is the reason we exist. The mission to "serve Christ in the Church and the world" places us in the middle of the conversation about all of the big debates of our place and time. How we approach the issues, and each other, matters. Ours is the privilege of sharing the truth and reflecting the love of Christ with people at CUW—and beyond—each day. What's not to love about that? ■



# Prayer in Action

Bringing light and hope to Uganda

By Lisa Hartmann, Contributing Writer

*Photography courtesy of Jennifer Graham*



**B**ack in high school, while trying to figure out what to do with her life, Jennifer Graham, a BSN-completion student at Concordia University Wisconsin's Green Bay Center, prayed about what she could offer people along with the Gospel.

"I hoped to help people, not just with their physical self, but with their spiritual needs too."

Graham decided to become a nurse, and her recent mission work at Another Hope Children's Ministries, an orphanage in Uganda, brought those two service goals together.

Another Hope was founded by Nambowa Ruth Bulyaba-Kasozi, who, herself, prayed to God that if He helped her obtain her college degree, she would help 10 children have a better life than her own. To date, Ruth, her husband, Daniel, and the staff at Another Hope have helped over 120 children find a home and learn the skills they need to be self-sustaining when they grow up.

During Graham's two-month stay at Another Hope, she offered love and nursing care to 50 children and young adults ages 2-21. Some of the children had no parents or family. Others were found wandering the streets, or pulled out of abusive situations and brought to the orphanage by local police.

The children are often skeptical when they arrive, but within a few weeks of hearing the Gospel and being in a home that's safe, the children open up and begin learning together,

playing together, and loving each other. Each child is given a task that helps others, like sweeping the floor or milking the cows.

"Just like the body of Christ, each part has a specific function to help the rest of the body work," said Graham. "It's pretty amazing how their faces just change. They have light and hope, and they get to know about Jesus."

"Workers and volunteers are careful not to call Another Hope an orphanage, though; they call this refuge 'the home' instead, because that's what it truly is," said Graham. "The children feel like part of a family where they have tons of brothers and sisters."

Graham felt like part of that family, too. "I would forget that I was at an orphanage. They accepted me. I was Auntie Jennifer, the nurse."

Graham's goal from a nursing perspective was to perform health assessments on every child so they could track growth and progression year after year. Graham also saw the need for a Ugandan nurse to oversee the children's health, and she has helped raise the \$150 monthly salary needed by searching for 12 people who could contribute \$12.50 a month. To date, nine of 12 people have signed up to help, with three more contributors needed.

Graham hopes to return to Uganda at the end of 2016. "If I can offer a lot or little, it's about trying," she said. "When you're willing and say 'yes' to God, the possibilities are endless."







FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, MSG ADVISOR EUGENE PITCHFORD III, STUDENTS HANNAAN BILAL, WILL TURNER, AND DEAN OF STUDENTS DR. STEVEN GERNER DISCUSS UPCOMING MSG EVENTS AT THEIR FEBRUARY MEETING.

# Coming Together

Diverse student group focuses on building up God's Kingdom

By Lisa Hartmann, Contributing Writer  
Photography by Jeffrey Phelps

**C**hristian community, in all its diversity, matters deeply to Concordia's Multicultural Student Group. A diverse campus, where all people encounter ways to meaningfully participate in Concordia's Lutheran mission, is an important part of preparing students to lead lives of service to Christ throughout the world.

With that focus in mind, MSG members regularly meet to discuss deep issues, share their perspectives, and seek God's guidance for ways they can build up the Kingdom without compromising lessons revealed in His Word. That's often done by extending compassion to others and demonstrating a desire to understand their journeys, says Eugene Pitchford III, faculty advisor to the group.

"Everyone doesn't think and act alike, or produce and perform alike," says Pitchford. "I think it's acknowledging what you and others bring to the table."

The organization of approximately 25 students is focused on helping each other, the campus, and the community grow in this manner. Members welcomes any and all students who would like to join.

"With this group, we feel as if we belong at CUW," says James Mitchell, an educational studies major with a social studies minor. "Being part of this organization has given me the opportunity to connect with people from other areas, such as the Milwaukee Midtown Center, and find ways to make a better connection."

Belonging is an ongoing theme with the group. Last November, MSG brought Demond Means, a Concordia graduate and superintendent for the Mequon-Thiensville School District, to campus to speak about building a sense of belonging, an essential skill in both the classroom and the work

world. Pitchford said speakers like Means help students better understand the role diversity plays in a work setting.

"A lot of people don't feel connected to a greater good," Pitchford said. "We don't want anyone to feel alone. We're all in this together. A group of people maximizing their talents is better than just one person. This is what helps

**"Every presentation ends in prayer. We ask God to bless what we've learned and help us apply it. We want to make sure that the world is a better place under the framework that Christ redeems each of us."**

—Eugene Pitchford III  
MSG Faculty Advisor

us learn and prepare for the future."

Other efforts of the group include: volunteering at a local food pantry; hosting diversity seminars on campus; sponsoring a screening and discussion of "The First Rosa," a film about Rosa Young, a Lutheran African American who did mission work in Alabama in the early 1900s; and participating in a trip to St. Norbert to attend and present at a multicultural inclusion conference.

"Every presentation or meeting ends in prayer," Pitchford says. "We ask God to bless what we've learned and help us apply it. We want to make sure that the world is a better place under the framework that Christ redeems each of us."



## Alumni Profile



**Paul Bialas**  
*Hobbyist Photographer*  
MBA '00

**“Concordia—those were some of the best years of my life, really. It was such a small community feeling that you knew everybody, and, so, you just felt like you had a thousand friends.”**

PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL BIALAS POURING HOPS INTO THE BREW KETTLE AT MILLERCOORS' MILWAUKEE BREWERY IN 2015, WHILE WORKING ON "MILLER: INSIDE THE HIGH LIFE."

## Alumni Profile

# A Historic Brew

By Kali Thiel, University Affairs  
Photography by Paul Bialas



**I**t's no secret that Wisconsinites love their beer, but did you know that Martin Luther favored a good brew, as well?

It should come as no surprise then that a product of Concordia University Wisconsin has found notoriety capturing the essence of three iconic Wisconsin breweries. Paul Bialas, a 2000 CUW graduate and hobbyist photographer from Waukesha, has spent the past seven years photographing the Pabst, Schlitz, and Miller breweries, and then turning his images into self-published coffee table books that have gained him unanticipated success and media attention.

On the heels of his most recent effort and with a fourth book—featuring the Leinenkugel Brewing Company—in the works, Bialas shares how he came to obtain privileged access to the breweries and reflects on ways the process reminded him of his alma mater community.

### Q: How did this endeavor begin?

**A:** There wasn't actually a need to do a book at all. With every book I've done I've thought, "This will be just a one-time dream." The Pabst, just the buildings, I thought were really cool, and so I took a bunch of pictures outside, because I enjoy photography—just purely as a hobby.

### Q: How did you gain access inside the buildings?

**A:** After a lot of talking back and forth, the Pabst owners let me into these abandoned buildings, and they said, "Hey, we're going to be renovating this building. If you'll take pictures of the renovation for us, we'll let you have all the access you want." So, kind of on a handshake, I did just that. ... And then, Augie Pabst, great-grandson of Captain Pabst, got ahold of a couple of the photos and said, "Oh, I would like a couple of these books when you print them." And that was when I was like, "Oh, wow! I could actually print 1,000 of these."

### Q: Why breweries?

**A:** The buildings are so magical down there from the outside. I was like, "Wow, they've been abandoned for 20 years, 30 years in some cases. What's inside there?" It was like a big pot of gold inside, and I really wanted to see it.

### Q: How rare were these opportunities to enter the buildings?

**A:** Pabst really gave access to nobody. It was an abandoned building, which are all very dangerous, and, so, it was persistency on my part, really.

For Schlitz, they contacted me based on the first book, and I was one of the only photographers allowed in there. Other people have photos from in there, but they've had to break in to get them, and I've always done it with permission.

It definitely was very exclusive to be able to (photograph all of them), and the owners of the buildings were always very supportive. They just trusted a guy that lives in Waukesha who's done a couple books to come in there and do it. I really like that small-town, handshake-type feel to the things that I do.

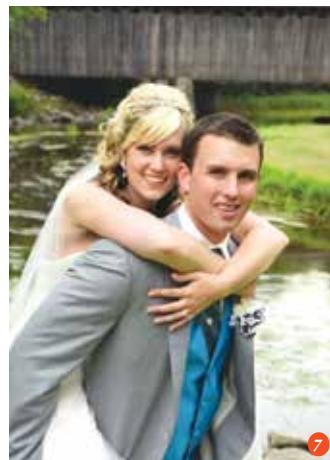
### Q: That tight-knit feel is a familiar one to you?

**A:** Concordia—those were some of the best years of my life, really. It was such a small community feeling that you knew everybody, and, so, you just felt like you had a thousand friends. I could walk through the halls, and I knew everybody's names.

At a time when I was maybe falling away from my faith, Concordia was there to help keep me grounded, and that faith has now opened me up to seeing God's creation and appreciating what he has done.

*Learn more about Paul Bialas' books, "Pabst: An Excavation of Art," "Schlitz: Brewing Art," and "Miller: Inside the High Life," at: [www.lakecountryphoto.com](http://www.lakecountryphoto.com).*

# AlumNotes



## 2000s

### Achievements

**Matthew J. Dork** ('15) is currently employed as a retail wireless consultant at U.S. Cellular in Green Bay, Wis. He resides in New Franken, Wis.

**Christina Jordan** ('15) is working as an A/R cash application specialist at CAPS Payroll located in Northbrook, Ill. CAPS Payroll is a payroll company for the entertainment industry. She resides in Gurnee, Ill.

**Benjamin Plass** ('15) is working as a staff pharmacist at Jernegan's Health Mart Pharmacy in New London, Wis.

**Ethan Spira** ('14) is currently the director of youth ministries at Mount Calvary Lutheran

Church in Fort Wayne, Ind., and he is also beginning his second year of seminary at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. He will be receiving his vicarage assignment in spring of 2016.

**Stephanie Arnot** ('12) was recently installed as the director of life and health ministry for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in St. Louis, Mo. Her first day on the job was Oct. 5, 2015.



**Lynn Pockat** ('12) moved back to Wisconsin from Florida and is pursuing her MBA online.

She currently works for LHI in La Crosse as a medical services coordinator.



**Erik Hollander** ('11) recently accepted a full-time Concordia faculty position with the School of Business Administration. Erik will be an assistant professor of business and director of strategic growth and business development.

**Deanna Rusch** ('08 & '15) recently started a new job as a family nurse practitioner with Aurora Advanced Healthcare in Neurology. She lives in Grafton, Wis.

**Robert Gutsch, Jr.** ('08) published a new book, "Media Control: News as an Institution of Power and Social Control," which examines the role of media in recent cases involving race and police shootings, as well

as government and corporate surveillance of citizens.

**Nichole L. Beaver-Perez** ('02) recently accepted the call to serve as principal at Central Lutheran School in Newhall, Iowa. She and her husband, Roy, reside in Atkins, Iowa.

**Chris Jossart** ('02) published his second book, "Growing People: How green landscapes and garden spaces can change lives." Chris has also been working for the past 14 years at Fox Valley Technical College.



**Ron Greisch** ('00) has recently joined Centare, the Midwest's leading provider of software development,



agile coaching & training, and technology consulting, as director of client solutions. Ron and his wife, Jennifer, are currently also busy raising their six children.

**Scott G. Eichstaedt ('00)** was featured in the June 8, 2015, issue of *Sports Illustrated* in the magazine's column titled, "Training with SI—Celebrating Everyday Athletes." Featured was a photo of him running while training for half-marathons, along with an inspiring quote written by him.

## Marriages

**1 Rachal (Hansen) Schlise ('15)** married Mitchell Schlise, a current member of the United States Air Force, on June 5, 2015.

**2 Sarah (Froschmayer) Kitterman ('12 & '15)** and **Tony**

**Kitterman ('12)** were married July 25, 2015 at the Legend at Brandybrook in Wales, Wisc. Members of the bridal party include CUW alumni: **Rachel Valentin (Riddle) ('11)**, **Erika McCaigue (Helman) ('12)**, **Aaron Lurvey ('11)**, **Ryan Folgate ('11)**, **Phil Dziatkiewicz ('11)**, and **Trevor Timm ('12)**. Sarah has a bachelor's in business communication and a masters in student personnel administration. She has been working in the Admission Office at CUW for three years. Tony is currently employed at West Bend Mutual Insurance.

**3 Michael Braden ('13)** and **Megan (Unbehaun) Braden ('13)** married on May 2, 2015 in Richland Center, Wis. Michael currently works in the Spinal Cord Injury Unit at Froedtert Hospital. Megan works with ProHealth Care in their Cancer Center.

**4 Justin Frisque ('13)** and **Brittany (Hundertmark) Frisque ('10 & '15)** married on Aug. 15, 2015. Brittany recently finished her masters degree in nurse practitioner in family practice. Justin is currently in his fifth year working at CUW in the CELT department.

**5 Micah Owens ('12)** married Brien McCormick on Dec. 21, 2014 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ind. Micah is currently in her fifth year teaching at White Creek Lutheran.

**6 Brittany Remiker ('11)** married Jaimie Perkins in Green Bay, Wis. at Heritage Hill. Brittany has been working for ThedaCare in Shawano, Wis., as a Physical Therapist since July 2011.

**7 Jessica (Stange) Fischer ('10)** and **James Fischer ('10)** married

on July 11, 2015 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Grafton, Wis. James works as a Lutheran School teacher at St. Paul. Jessica has her masters degree in clinical psychology and is working to obtain her doctorate in child clinical psychology. She is currently working as an in-home therapist for children with autism.

**8 Kristin Rowe ('07)** married Ryan Thimmig on June 20, 2015. Kristin works at Froedtert Hospital as an RN. The couple lives in Port Washington, Wis.

**9 Jennifer Frederickson ('04)** married Hugo Jim on June 18, 2014 in Maui, HI. They were joined by family and friends for a week of island fun in Hawaii. They now live in Portland, Ore., and Jennifer is working as a licensed MH counselor.

# AlumNotes

## 2000s

### Welcome

**10** **Joshua S. Vanderhyde** ('13) and **Virginia L. (Garrett)** ('13)

**Vanderhyde** announced the birth of their son, Simeon David, born on March 16, 2015. They will be moving to New Braunfels, Texas in August, where Josh will serve as a vicar at Cross Lutheran Church.

**11** **Ryne Valentin** ('12) and **Rachel (Riddle) Valentin** ('11) announced the birth of their first child, Harper Amelia Pemela Valentin, born on Nov. 23, 2015.

**12** **Morgan (Haverkampf) DeBlick** ('10) and **Jared DeBlick** ('10) announced the birth of their first child, Lillian Eleis, born on April 14, 2015.

**13** **Elliot Derricks** ('10) and his wife, Serena, announced the birth of their child, Lydia Mae Derricks. She was born March 12, 2015 in Seoul, South Korea.

**Matthew Hogfeldt** ('02) and his wife, Elizabeth, announced the birth of their fourth child, Eloise Alice. She was born July 7, 2015 and joins brother Jackson (9), and sisters Julianna (6) and Penelope (1).

**14** **Chris Matthis** ('02) and his wife, Lisa, welcomed their second son, Michael Lee Matthis, into their family on June 15, 2015. Michael joins older brother, Benjamin.

**15** **Dale Nellor** ('01) and his wife, Dianne, announced the birth of their second son, Thomas Donald

### Your opinion does matter

By now, you should have received an email asking you to complete an Alumni Attitude Survey. If you haven't, please feel free to contact us at: [alumni@cuw.edu](mailto:alumni@cuw.edu) and we'll send it promptly. It only takes 10 minutes, and we're asking for surveys to be completed by May 4. Your answers will help us improve alumni programs, develop new ways to serve you, and keep you connected to your alma mater. You could win prizes (including a \$300 Amazon gift card) by entering the drawing upon completion of the survey.

Nellor, born on Sept. 22, 2014. The family resides in Arlington, Va.

## 1990s

### Achievements



**Jamison Hardy** ('96) was elected to his first term as president of the non-geographical LCMS English

District at the district's 55th convention. Jamison has served as pastor of Peace Lutheran Church in McMurray, Pa. since 2008 and has been vice president for the district's Eastern Region since 2009.

**Paul R. Parchert** ('96) graduated in May 2015 from the University of Texas at Tyler with an M.A. in history.

### Welcome

**16** **Thad Phillips** ('99) and his wife, Tiffany, announced the birth of their first child, Trae Maximus Phillips, born on Sept. 3, 2015. The family resides in Blountville, Tenn.

## 1970s

### Achievements

**Julia Devaill** ('74) celebrated 10 years as a technical assistant with the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare. In November 2015, Julia will celebrate her 22nd wedding anniversary.

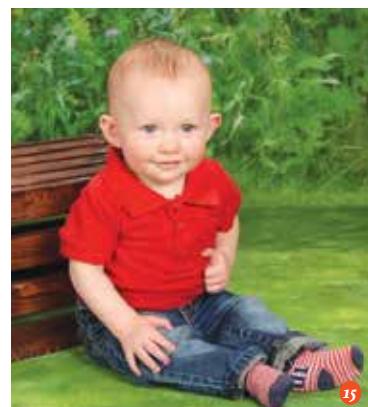
## 1960s

### Achievements

**King Schoenfeld** ('61) retired in St. Louis, Mo. He leads the call committee at Historic Trinity Walther's Church. He enjoys photography and spending time with his former classmates.



10



15

## 1940s

### Achievements



**Alfred G. Scholz** ('47) was recently honored at LINC Houston's 6th annual gala in recognition for his lifetime of faithful service to the Lord and his enthusiasm for the Great Commission. LINC is a mission organization that brings the Gospel to the inner city and diverse ethnic groups, and is supported by Houston-area congregations and the Texas District of the LCMS. Pastor Scholz, at age 88, currently serves as care pastor at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas.



16

### CUW wants to hear from you!

What are you up to? Did you marry recently or give birth? Did you receive a big promotion or travel the world? We want to know! Please email your update, with a high-resolution photo if possible, to [alumni@cuw.edu](mailto:alumni@cuw.edu), or via our Web link at [cuw.edu/alumni/stories](http://cuw.edu/alumni/stories). With your permission, your update may appear on the CUW Website, and in the print and online versions of the *Concordian*.

Go to [cuw.edu/alumni/events](http://cuw.edu/alumni/events) for alumni resources, programs and information on upcoming events, including:

- Fireside Theater—throughout the year
- Alumni Chinooks games—summer
- Concordia Servant Roundtable—second Thursday of each month

# Advance



At a special reception held on campus just before Christmas, our guests all received nametags when they arrived. This helps identify who belongs and allows us to welcome them by name.

In addition to the nametags, some had colored ribbon attached with the words, "Heritage Society." Since this was the first time they were used, several people asked about the significance and meaning of the phrase.

The Heritage Society is a designation for our alumni and friends who have established a named endowment or have included Concordia University Wisconsin in their end-of-life stewardship or estate plan. Belonging to the Heritage Society sends a message of support for our mission today and into the future. It allows our alumni and friends to give through CUW to help students receive the benefits of an education where Christ is the center.

Becoming part of the Heritage Society is much easier than most people imagine. For many, it can be as simple as including CUW in your will. The choices we make in creating our wills are often the most significant stewardship decisions that we ever make. We thank God for the many friends and alumni who include CUW in their plan.

Other options that are often used include designating all or a portion of a life insurance policy or a retirement account (naming CUW as a beneficiary). Doing any of these, regardless of the amount or percentage, qualifies someone to belong to the Heritage Society.

For those who wish to provide scholarship support that will endure for years to come for CUW students, an endowment is an ideal option. For more information about endowments, or to discuss the many options available for funding now or in the future, give me a call or send me an email. I'll be honored to share with you how you can belong to the Heritage Society, and bless our students now and forever.

**REV. DR. ROY PETERSON**  
*Vice President of Advancement*

# Longing to Belong

*"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." —Galatians 3:27 NIV*

T-shirts. Students love them. On any given day, a good percentage of students at Concordia University Wisconsin are wearing T-shirts. I would guess that in a given school year, the average undergraduate student may accumulate several, if not half a dozen or more, T-shirts related to the CUW groups and activities they've been a part of during that year.

There are the classic CUW T-shirts and ones related to Homecoming or Winterfest or other all-campus activities. Posters sometimes promise a free T-shirt to the first people at an event. Other T-shirts designate membership on a specific athletic team or a particular club.

Students often wear them with pride—sometimes gathering as an assemblage where everyone is wearing the same kind of T-shirt. Sometimes, it's the group, and other times, it's the color or design that factors into what T-shirt is worn on a given day. Or—dare I say—sometimes, the T-shirt choice is simply the one that's not in the laundry!

Perhaps, T-shirts are loved because they show you're part of a group; that you belong to a team or a club, or you went on a mission trip. We can show our true colors—literally—by what T-shirts we wear.

It's a great thing to have that bond with others—to join a club or play a sport together. And for those who are many years past college or high school, an old T-shirt can have great memories attached to it.

The verse from Galatians talks about clothing and Baptism and belonging to God's family. Some even wear a white garment at Baptism as a representation of this verse. Most of the time, we aren't wearing literal clothing that identifies us as Christians. But, Paul's illustration is to remind us that we belong to God's family. Our identity and security and meaning can all flow from the saving waters of Baptism, which puts us all in the same group. We *belong* to the body of Christ, God's Church, and that's something we can celebrate every day at CUW—something so great you can wear it on your sleeve!



REV. STEVE SMITH  
*Campus Pastor*

Then



&amp;



Now

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**Spring/Summer 2016**

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Communications Director  
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**Above**  
Then:  
Concordia College's 1910 Men's  
Basketball Team.  
*Photo courtesy of  
CUW archives.*

Now:  
Concordia University's 2015  
Men's Basketball Team.

# CUW

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Join us for  
**A Concordia Concert**

**The Alleluia Ringers Spring Concert – Sunday, May 1, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.**



LANE FORD PHOTOGRAPHY

Concert is being held in the Chapel of Christ Triumphant on the campus of Concordia University Wisconsin, 12800 North Lake Shore Drive, Mequon, WI. Admission is \$8 for adults, free for children 17 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the door. All seating is by general admission.

**Reserve your tickets today! Call: 262.243.4405**