

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CHRONICLE

An Educational Mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ■ March 2010

Concordia University System Newsbriefs

- ✚ Concordia, Ann Arbor, added football as its 14th sponsored athletic program. The Cardinals will compete in the Mid-States Football Association.
- ✚ The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) designated Concordia, Chicago's doctoral program in education leadership as a "National Program of Excellence."
- ✚ Concordia University-Portland recently announced an initial agreement to purchase property in downtown Boise, Idaho, for the new Concordia University School of Law.
- ✚ Concordia University Wisconsin received pre-candidate status for its new School of Pharmacy, now eligible to accept students.
- ✚ Concordia University, St. Paul, is the first private school in Minnesota to be accepted as a Yellow Ribbon institution offering GI Bill benefits to military veterans.
- ✚ Concordia University Nebraska is expanding its offerings in gerontology and aging studies to include a Master of Arts degree.
- ✚ Concordia, Irvine's original comedy production, *The Foolish Proposal*, written and directed by Prof. Lori Siekmann, was one of 10 college plays from the southwest United States selected for the Kennedy Center/American College Theater Regional Festival in February.
- ✚ Concordia University Texas hosted the Second Annual International Christian Communication Arts Festival in February for Christian communicators from around the world.
- ✚ Concordia, Selma, installed Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo in January as the college's seventh president.
- ✚ Concordia College-New York and Valparaiso University launched a Center for Global and Professional Studies to develop synergistic opportunities for program enrichment.
- ✚ Two Concordia, Irvine, professors will lead 24 students in an 18-week "Around the World" study tour in the fall of 2010.
- ✚ Concordia, St. Paul's women's volleyball team won its third consecutive NCAA Division II National Championship in December.
- ✚ Concordia University Wisconsin is constructing a Center for Environment Stewardship just 75 feet from Lake Michigan's bluff.

Concordia Sunday: April 18

April 18 has been designated "Concordia Sunday," a special opportunity to celebrate our LCMS colleges and universities. Located across the United States, the 10 Concordias represent the LCMS regionally by offering a Christian education in a Lutheran context.

Concordia Sunday offers congregations and its members the opportunity to pray for the continuance of Lutheran higher education, host a special event to encourage youth of the congregation to consider preparing themselves at a Concordia college/university for leadership in

the future, and support one or more of the 10 Concordias in the Concordia University System.

There are significant reasons to celebrate Concordia Sunday in a worship service. The Concordias are a gift from our forefathers that has continued for more than 150 years. The Concordias have provided the church and our communities with pastors, teachers, and lay leaders. The Concordias prepare students within an environment that proclaims Jesus Christ as the Lord of Life to live a life of service to their church and communities. Students have a Concordia experience of value-based learning from professors of faith as they develop Christian leadership skills.

The Concordias offer a wide range of programs, from accounting to theology, to premed, to music, to pharmacy. There are more than 150 undergraduate and over 50 graduate programs in the Concordia University System. More than 25,000 students are enrolled on the 10 campuses and are served by over 1,500 professors.

Many congregations in past years celebrated Concordia Sunday to highlight the importance of Christian education within a Lutheran context and to encourage the youth of the congregation to consider preparing

for service in positions that benefit the LCMS and the general public as pastors; teachers; lay ministers; deaconesses; directors of Christian education, outreach, family life, and parish music.

Congregations may choose to celebrate Concordia Sunday whenever it best fits their schedule. The Office of University Education offers materials (brochures, bulletin inserts, liturgies, hymn selections, prayers, etc.), many of which can be downloaded from www.lcms.org/concordiasunday.

ORDER FORM ON PAGE 4.

For free materials, contact:

LCMS Board for
University Education
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122

314-996-1252
1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252
314-996-1120 Fax

www.lcms.org/concordiasunday

E-mail: bue.info@lcms.org

FTSOTC Endowment

A few years ago, the Concordia University System designated **For the Sake of the Church** as a special aspect of its ministry to the LCMS for the development of endowment funds to financially assist Lutheran students attending a Concordia. At the end of December 2009, **For the Sake of the Church** endowment effort had received \$195 million in pledges and cash gifts. The present goal is to celebrate at the synodical convention receipts of \$200 million.

Enrollment at the Concordia colleges and universities continues to increase at a 5 to 6 percent annual rate. More than 25,000 students are living and studying in a Christian environment on our Concordia campuses. Educational costs increase annually. Endowment funds generate earnings income that can be distributed to students, as needed, to reduce the cost of their education as they prepare for full-time church work or lay leaders in our churches and communities.

As members of the LCMS and supporters of students preparing to make a difference in the future of the church and society, we have an opportunity to make a significant impact in Lutheran higher education with a generous gift to **For the Sake of the Church** endowment effort of the Concordia University System. A pledge or cash gift to the **For the Sake of the Church** is a personal stewardship expression of support for Lutheran higher education ministry. Direct gifts are immediately invested to produce income for distribution to financially assist students while deferred gifts support this ministry as they mature.

Donors can make a gift directly to a Concordia campus (designated **For the Sake of the Church**) or send a gift to the Concordia University System in St. Louis. For additional assistance, call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What's so special about the fine arts?

This issue of the *Chronicle* recognizes the creative work and artistic performances of Concordia University System faculty and students. We celebrate those gifted people on our campuses who develop and share their God-given talent through the creation of art and through their participation in artistic performance.

You will find in this issue a list of the wide variety of fine arts offerings throughout the Concordia University System in music, theater, dance, poetry, fiction, visual art, and more.

Like all institutions of higher education in the United States, our Concordias strive to increase the knowledge and professional skills of students through many courses, majors and programs. This is an important function of a college or university. However, as with other liberal arts institutions, our Concordias also provide opportunities for students to create art of various kinds, to see, hear

and read works of art, and to perform works of art as members of university ensembles.

Why offer fine arts opportunities to our students? What's so special about the fine arts? In a sentence, the fine arts blend what is true with what is beautiful. The fine arts fuse content with form, and, when the content is intellectually honest and the form artistically appealing, the result is a true and beautiful "text" or performance. Or to put it another way, the fine arts teach us truths of life in an aesthetically pleasing way.

We are thankful to our Concordias for providing such a wide array of fine arts programs which impact the education of students in a special way and for providing public performances which enrich the lives of thousands of people across the country every year.



Kurt Krueger

CONCORDIA PERFORMING AND FINE ARTS

As an artist and art educator, I have always taken delight in the Genesis account of creation, particularly the fact that God created us in His image, and part of being in the *imago dei* is that we too are allowed to create and participate in the creative imagination. Indeed, we might even say it is our obligation to experience and know about these things called the fine arts. When compared to God’s creation, our work is imperfect, but it is still something the artist in us must do. And the very act of doing is an act of praise.

Different people receive different gifts, and some may receive more than others. Our response and obligation is to develop and use these gifts through education, learning experiences, and performances as we explore the fine arts.

In his explanation to the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed, Martin Luther says: “I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.” These are only some of the things listed by Luther, but they have particular meaning for the fine arts, because it is in the arts we have the opportunity to cultivate our senses as we see, listen, create, respond, move, and ultimately offer up praise to a loving God who gave us our senses that we might be in awe of Him; that we might praise Him for the human experience, and ultimately in our own way participate in creative imagining.

God gives gifts to His people so that they might know Him and give Him praise. Musicians, visual artists, theater artists, and literary artists formally study, practice, and perform as they seek to understand the gift of art, and their relationship to God and creation.

Any one of our Concordia universities is an excellent place to develop these gifts, where professors are committed to a Christian understanding of the arts, and seek to nurture and develop the gift of art in their students. And that doesn’t mean everything has to be church art. On the contrary, when a Christian uses his/her gift of art as a child of God, the very act of using the gift in a God pleasing manner, and to the glory of God is an act of praise.

There is a wealth of experiences, learning, and joy waiting for all who become involved in the arts on the campuses of the Concordia University System. Music, drama, visual, and literary arts are an important part of campus life, but they are also important to individual growth as all who participate in the arts share a testament of praise to the all loving and creative God, who not only gave us the gift of fine arts, but the ultimate gift of love in Jesus Christ.

■ Dr. Ken Schmidt, Concordia University, Austin, Texas

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Music Education
Visual Arts Education
Graphic Design
Printmaking
Wind Ensemble
Choir
Brass Quintet
Jazz Ensemble
Contemporary Worship
Handbells

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Music Ministry
Worship and Arts
Performance Theory
University Choir
Praise Band
Brass, Strings, Woodwind Ensembles
Jazz
Handbells

BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK

Festival Choir
Tour Choir
Chapel Choir
Handbells
Contemporary Worship Music
Drama Group
Poetry Society
Chamber/Jazz Ensembles
Organist Guild

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA

Concert Choir
Chapel Choir
Men/Women’s Quartet
Handbells
Wind Orchestra
Brass, String, Woodwind Ensemble
Worship Band
Theatre



MEQUON, WISCONSIN

Kammerchor
Alleluia, Chapel Ringers
Symphonic Wind Ensemble
String, Jazz Ensemble
Concordia Choral
Theater (plays)

PORTLAND, OREGON

Concert Choir
Vocal Ensemble
String, Brass, Wind Ensemble
Concert Handbell Ensemble
Art Education

RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS

Art Education
Music Theory
Visual Art administration
Theatre
Media Arts
Parish Music
Master of Church Music
Chamber Orchestra
Jazz Band
Kapelle
Wind Symphony
Improv Comedy
Schola Cantorum



ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Art Education
Art Design
Church Music
Music Education
Music Theory
Music History, Performance
Theatre
Brass, String, Flute, Guitar Ensembles
Handbell Ensemble
Concert Band
Jubilate Chorus
Woodwind Ensemble

SELMA, ALABAMA

Music Ensemble
Marching Band
Band
Choir

SEWARD, NEBRASKA

Studio Art
Art Administration
Ecclesiastical Arts
Graphic Design
Theatre
Parish Music
Symphonic Band
Drama
Vocal, Instrumental Music
Contemporary Church Music
Handbells
A Cappella Choir
Jazz Ensemble



Scholarship Endowment

Scholarship endowment is a familiar phrase in institutional appeals for gifts to help students with their educational costs. “Scholarship” indicates a student is receiving financial assistance for participating in programs that lead to graduation. “Endowments” may have more than one meaningful application, depending on the point of reference.

Specific appeals made to donors to contribute to “scholarship endowment funds” are of two types: 1) general endowment fund; and 2) named endowment fund.

The general endowment fund is a reserve fund that receives donors’ gifts simply designated for scholarships. The fund will receive gifts in any amount from any and all donors.

These gifts are permanently restricted for scholarship assistance and invested.

The earned income is used to fund financial assistance to students. Any gift amount is accepted with gratitude.

The named endowment fund takes on a slightly different character. A donor’s gift is identified as requested by the donor (person’s name or program). The named endowment will receive additional gifts only from the individual who set up the endowment. The fund is permanently restricted and invested. The earned income is restricted for use to provide financial assistance to students in designated/identified programs. Named endowments are generally considered a major gift and are initiated with gifts in the range of \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Educational institutions distribute scholarship dollars to students based on need. With the increasing annual cost of education, need based dollars also must increase annually.

The Concordia University System initiated a special program to



receive gifts for scholarship, whether to a general endowment or named endowment fund. This program is called **For the Sake of the Church**. The earnings from these endowment funds are distributed to the Concordia colleges/universities of the system to help fulfill the scholarship/financial needs of students as they prepare to serve as full-time church workers or lay leaders in their local congregations or communities.

Scholarship endowment gifts will continue to provide earnings year after year to assist students financially with their education. Donor gifts will make a difference in the lives of those who will be tomorrow’s leaders. Be a blessing to others even as the Lord of Life has blessed you!

Please call 1-800-248-1930 and ask for the Office of University Education (Dr. William F. Meyer) for assistance or additional information re: The **For the Sake of the Church** endowment effort.

**Be a blessing
to others
even as the
Lord of Life
has blessed you!**

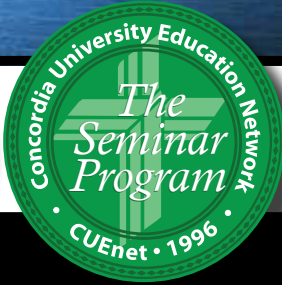
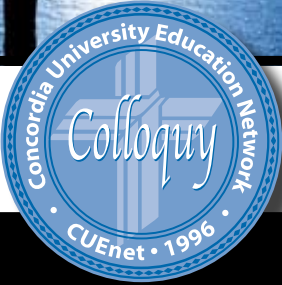
Thrivent Choice

The Thrivent matching program called GivingPlus was discontinued as of 30 December 2009. Thrivent announced it will initiate a new program called Thrivent Choice. Details of the program will be forthcoming. We look forward to your participation in Thrivent Choice!



CUEnet online theology programs for teachers and church workers

deepening faith, strengthening service



CUEnet 1.800.238.3037
www.cuenet.edu colloquy@cuenet.edu
Call or email for scholarship information!

Spring Lutheran College Fair Events

Lutheran College Fair events this spring will be held in:

- Minneapolis, MN April 25
- Mahtomedi, MN April 26
- Maple Grove, MN April 27
- Rochester, MN April 28
- Apple Valley, MN April 29
- Sioux Falls, SD May 2



Admission representatives from many Lutheran colleges/universities will be present to share information about their respective institutions. Please check the Web site www.lutherancolleges.org for times and locations of events.

**Concordia Sunday:
April 18, 2010**

A note about the online colloquy program

The online colloquy program is offered by the Concordia University System through CUEnet (Concordia University Education Network). The program serves non-rostered church workers and teachers who have not had the opportunity to study Lutheran doctrine at a collegiate level. The courses prepare such students to be certified as Lutheran professional church workers eligible for a call from their local congregation. Using innovative educational techniques, including video streaming of outstanding lectures, CUEnet provides eight courses in Lutheran faith and practice. More than 1,100 people from 45 states and five countries have participated in the program in the last eight years. Easily accessible over the Internet, the program is available to anyone, anywhere, at any time.

More than 95 percent of the teachers and church workers who participate in the program express the conviction that the classes are a blessing to their personal faith as well as their ministry in their local church and congregation.

CUEnet hopes to help more teachers and church workers experience the blessing of colloquy study. Interested teachers, church workers, pastors, and administrators may contact the program director, Dr. Heather Stueve, at CUEnet by calling 1-800-238-3037 or by visiting www.cuenet.edu.

Concordia Sunday Order Form

Thank you for your order! We pray that it will be a blessing to you. If you need more material or would like to see some of the other materials available, you may order directly from our Web page: www.lcms.org/concordiasunday
Please send us these items:

We are celebrating Concordia Sunday on _____

Amount Item

CONCORDIA SUNDAY RESOURCES

- **Celebrate Concordia packet**
Litany of Thanksgiving, prayer for Concordia Sunday, suggested hymns, suggested activities and displays, suggestions for presentations, brief announcements for worship folders and newsletters
- **Bulletin inserts**
“Help to Prepare Them...” Information about CUS and *For The Sake of the Church* endowment campaign—includes gift envelope (sets of 50)

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM RESOURCES

- **“Viewbook”**
A book providing an overview of the programs, sports, extracurricular activities at each of the 10 colleges and universities of the Concordia University System.
- **Majors and Programs of the CUS**
A chart of all study programs in the Concordia University System.
- **Map of the Concordia University System**
- **List of possible speakers for Concordia Sunday**
From Concordia colleges and universities.
- **Concordia Chronicle**
A newspaper publication of the CUS.
- **We Need Your Help!**
A flier asking for nominations of candidates for faculty positions within the CUS.
- **How About You?**
A flier asking consideration of a teaching career in CUS.
- **Concordia Difference DVD**
“Begin the Journey.” A three-minute video highlighting Concordia student experiences.
“How About You.” A five-minute video and three one-minute videos highlighting the positive impact of serving as Concordia faculty.

LUTHERAN EDUCATION RESOURCES

- **The Lutheran College/University ADVANTAGE**
A brochure outlining the research-based advantages of a Lutheran higher education experience.

CALLED WORKER VOCATIONAL RESOURCES

- **Planning for My Future**
For youth considering a career in church ministry.
- **Prepare for a Church Work Vocation brochure**
Description of LCMS ministry vocations.
- **A Noble Work**
Ideas for establishing a recruitment committee.
- **Recruitment Suggestions**
Ideas for churches to recruit and promote future workers.
- **CUENet Colloquy Brochure**
Online Teacher Colloquy Program to be LCMS-certified.

ENDOWMENT AND GIFTING OPPORTUNITIES

- **What is “For the Sake of the Church?”**
A brochure providing information on the *FTSOTC* endowment fund.
- **For the Sake of the Church gift envelopes**
Can be used as bulletin inserts.

These items can be ordered from other sources:

- **“Martin Luther Speaks on Christian Education”**
A video outlining the importance of Christian education at a cost of \$25 (includes shipping) from Genesis Educational Resources Inc., 1035 Hummingbird Way, Bartlett, IL 60103; 630-855-8558 (office); 630-855-8488 (fax); or e-mail davidabarth@comcast.net.
- **“What a Way” Resources**
Order these resources at www.whataway.org:
* Called Minister Recruitment Booklet (“What a Way” Sunday: litany, bulletin announcements, congregation recruitment schedule, and Bible studies)
* DVD for youth.



Concordia University 4090 Geddes Road Ann Arbor, MI 48105 (888) 282-2338 www.cuaa.edu	Concordia University 12800 N. Lake Shore Drive Mequon, WI 53097 (888) 628-9472 www.cuw.edu	Concordia College 1804 Green St. Selma, AL 36701 (334) 874-5700 www.concordiaselma.edu
Concordia University 11400 Concordia University Dr. Austin, TX 78726 (800) 865-4282 www.concordia.edu	Concordia University 2811 N.E. Holman St. Portland, OR 97211 (800) 321-9371 www.cu-portland.edu	Concordia University 800 N. Columbia Ave. Seward, NE 68434 (800) 535-5494 www.cune.edu
Concordia College 171 White Plains Road Bronxville, NY 10708 (800) 937-2655 www.concordia-ny.edu	Concordia University 7400 Augusta St. River Forest, IL 60305 (877) 282-4422 www.cuchicago.edu	CUENet Concordia University Education Network (800) 238-3037 www.cuenet.edu
Concordia University 1530 Concordia W. Irvine, CA 92612 (800) 229-1200 www.cui.edu	Concordia University 275 N. Syndicate St. St. Paul, MN 55104 (800) 333-4705 www.csp.edu	

Concordia University System
1333 S. Kirkwood Road • St. Louis, MO 63122
bue.info@lcms.org • <http://www.lcms.org/universities>
800-248-1930, ext. 1252

Power of Commitment: For the Sake of the Church

Commitment is one of life's true barometers of a person's character. Each one of us has experienced the many times someone has said “yes” or given their word but later reneged. Not only do we feel abandoned, but it raises a serious question of the trustworthiness of an individual. Commitment and follow-through says much regarding a person's heart and mind.

It has been said that you are what you eat, or what you wear, or what you say, or what you do. What all these have in common is they describe activity . . . **and action speaks louder than words!** Scripture says “You will know them by their fruits” (Matt. 7:16).

There is an obvious difference between a silent thought and its corresponding action. “To intend” is vastly different than “doing.” Good intentions are a dime a dozen but without translation into activity . . . “the doing” . . . they are comparable to a puff of wind.

Commitment is the opposite of intention. To commit or make a commitment requires follow-through or corresponding action. It is similar to a vow (marriage) or a handshake (agree to buy/sell) or an unwritten contract (promise to deliver). It motivates or obligates one to fulfill what is or was promised. Children

know this better than adults; and children will remind parents of their commitments . . . “But you promised!”

Fulfillment of a commitment makes for a “good life.” Not only does it feel good to fulfill ones commitment(s) but it establishes personal norms or standards for living. The premise for “Little Deeds of Kindness” is precisely that . . . “practice makes perfect.” The Book of Proverbs says it best: “. . . a desire fulfilled is a tree of life” (13:12).

From many perspectives, commitment is related to stewardship. Commitments are the “managers” of life. They set parameters for a lifestyle; boundaries or fences which describe the playing area or arena of life's activities. Inside the boundaries or fences is the good life; outside is . . . ?

The Concordia University System colleges/universities are worthy entities of your commitment to pray, recruit, and donate. Put one or more of them in your arena of life's activities. They are about the educational mission/ministry of the LCMS, preparing leaders to serve in our churches and society.

You can “fulfill a commitment” by contacting the Development Office at one of the Concordias (names and telephone numbers are listed above) or call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252, for assistance.