

# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CHRONICLE

An Educational Mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ■ February 2013

## Concordia University Newsbriefs

- ✚ **Concordia University, Irvine**, hosted an Around-the-World Semester® for three faculty and 27 students — visiting Mongolia, India, Hungary and Peru with mission and service projects.
- ✚ **Concordia University Wisconsin** is delivering an interactive health and wellness education curriculum in the underserved Milwaukee area through the use of a recreational vehicle (RV).
- ✚ Volleyball, softball and basketball teams at **Concordia University Texas** are volunteering in their community to raise funds for cancer research.
- ✚ **Concordia University, Portland**, which will host athletic events for the university and local community organizations, recently dedicated the Hilken Community Stadium.
- ✚ **Concordia University, Nebraska's** University Symphonic Band performed at the 2012 Nebraska Music Educators Association conference in November.
- ✚ **Concordia University, St. Paul's** department of athletics earned recognition for its "Day of Heroes" event to honor those in the military, police force and fire fighters.
- ✚ **Concordia College Alabama** refurbished two women's dormitories following the early fall storms that brought flash floodwaters into the dorms.
- ✚ A new accelerated learning center was recently established in Frankenmuth, Mich., by **Concordia University, Ann Arbor**.
- ✚ Dr. John Johnson, president of **Concordia University Chicago**, hosted an annual "Business Leaders Networking" event for more than 120 attendees.
- ✚ **Concordia College-New York** announced that Dr. Viji George has agreed to continue as president and that the board of regents has terminated its search for a new president.
- ✚ The Portland Public School district is partnering with **Concordia University, Portland**, to rebuild Faubion Elementary School (next door to the university campus) to create a new "education community — 3 to Ph.D."

## Concordia Sunday: April 21

**C**oncordia Sunday — suggested for April 21 this year — offers congregations an opportunity to celebrate Christian, Lutheran higher education in the LCMS.

Recognition of Christian, Lutheran higher education in a congregational setting reminds worshipers of the importance of a faith-life experience for students as they prepare themselves for service to the church and society.

Concordia colleges and universities make a difference in the lives of students. In a recent study comparing Lutheran higher education with public institutions, graduates of our Concordias reported they had developed a strong set of values, leadership skills, Christian faith, commitment to community service and sense of purpose in life. The study found that daily faith-life conversations and experiences with faculty and other students in a Christian community shaped the perspective and character of Concordia students.

The Concordia University System institutions receive high marks for their excellence in teaching, with more than 1,500 experienced and credentialed faculty and more than 160 undergraduate and 60 graduate programs. In addition to the church-work programs designed to prepare future pastors, teachers, directors of Christian education, family life, parish music, deaconesses and lay ministers, Concordia colleges and universities offer new and exciting options in areas of health-care

administration, nursing, pharmacy, law, special education, criminal justice, coaching and forensic and exercise science.

Lutheran theology emphasizes three important aspects of Christian beliefs. They are summarized from the Reformation as *sola fide*, *sola gratia* and *sola Scriptura*. Lutherans believe, teach and confess that we are saved by faith in God's gift of salvation and not by good works or activities on our part; that we receive salvation as a free gift from a loving and gracious God and not because of any merit in us; and that the Scriptures are the sole rule and norm for Christian theology. Education within this framework builds moral and spiritual qualities in the character of students who will serve in our churches and communities.

Faith-life experiences within a Christian, Lutheran environment connect individuals to a life of faithful commitment to proclaim Jesus Christ as the Lord of life!

Although April 21 is the suggested date for Concordia Sunday, congregations may choose to celebrate it at any time throughout the year. The Concordia University System office offers free specially prepared materials to assist congregations in their celebration of Concordia Sunday (brochures, bulletin inserts and announcements, liturgies, hymn selections, talking points, prayers, etc.).

To download materials, go to [www.lcms.org/concordiasunday](http://www.lcms.org/concordiasunday). To order larger quantities, call 800-248-1930, ext. 1252, or request them via email at [cus.info@lcms.org](mailto:cus.info@lcms.org).

**Concordia Sunday resources are now available. See the order form on page 4.**

**For free materials, contact:**

Concordia University System  
1333 S. Kirkwood Road  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Innovations in education

**H**igher education news is buzzing with discussions about intriguing innovations such as massively open online courses.

Sophisticated technologies allow tens of thousands of students to participate in an online course sponsored by a big-name university.

For some reason, it seems that what gets into the headlines is typically the course size or the electronic-delivery systems. Some critics like to ask questions about instructional quality and outcomes, while other critics ask who will profit if and when these educational products go mainstream.

Yet, I suggest that none of this holds a candle to the educational revolution caused by the printing

press. Medieval higher education was based on memorizing and discussing passages that an instructor dictated in class — it was, in a sense, creating the textbook. The printing press freed students from the burden of getting information onto paper and made higher levels of scholarship possible.

Today the personal computer has again revolutionized our educational processes. When I started teaching at the university level, I typed and mimeographed outlines and notes so that the students could put their effort into reflective exercises rather than capturing my lectures. Now that is all online at the beginning of the semester.

Papyrus and pen were just as much a "technology" as the PC. The tools of learning are very important, but what happens inside the student's head is what truly matters.

I am excited by what online courses can do, but I am much more excited by what is happening in the intellectual, social, and moral development of our students.

*Dr. Alan Borcharding is interim president of the Concordia University System.*



Borcharding



# Concordia University, Irvine:

## Undefeated women’s volleyball team garners first NAIA national championship

Concordia Irvine’s women’s volleyball team was perfect in 2012, setting a new school record with 38 straight wins and winning the school’s first national championship in its fourth try. Every player returned from the runner-up squad in 2011, and now they are all national champions. This marks the fifth national championship in Concordia’s history (2000 women’s cross country, 2003 men’s basketball, 2011 baseball, 2012 men’s basketball.)

“Nothing came easy, but this is one tough group,” head coach Dan Fisher said. “They found a way every time we were in tight positions this year. I couldn’t be prouder. We came in every day and worked, and always believed. They deserved it and I am really proud.”

Dan Fisher was once again selected as the NAIA Coach of the Year, his second such award in his two seasons at the school. Madison Ekis, Jessica Israel and Fei Gao were all selected for the 2012 Tachikara All-Tournament Team. Ekis also was selected All-Tournament last season.

Concordia finished the season as the only undefeated team in the country and captured the title in their eighth trip to the national tournament this November.



# Golden Bears capture sixth-

## straight NCAA Championship

St. Paul, MN - The dynasty continues — Concordia University, St. Paul (33-4) claimed its NCAA record-tying sixth consecutive Division II volleyball championship defeating number 7 University of Tampa (31-5) in an epic five-set thriller (27-29, 17-25, 25-23, 25-23, 16-14) on the campus of the University of West Florida.

The win improves Concordia’s NCAA Tournament win streak to 36 consecutive matches, as its all-time NCAA tournament record improves to 44-4 in 10 appearances. Concordia is now 6-1 in seven trips to the national championship, all under the direction of head coach Brady Starkey. Concordia has played in seven championship matches under Starkey in his 10 years at the helm of the program.

“We don’t look in terms of wins and losses; we look at the type of kids they are and how hard they work every day.”

“We have great kids who give you everything they’ve got,” Starkey said after the match. “It’s a privilege to be a part of something so amazing. We don’t look in terms of wins and losses; we look at the type of kids they are and how hard they work every day.”

Concordia has defeated Tampa twice in the NCAA championship match in the last three years, also doing so in 2010 in four sets in Louisville, Ky. It’s the third-straight year that Concordia has eliminated Tampa at the national tournament, winning in three sets last year in the national semifinals in San Bernardino, Calif.

Concordia ties the NCAA record (all divisions) in the sport of volleyball for consecutive national championships, joining Washington University, St. Louis (1991-96), at the Division III level. Concordia’s six total titles stand alone at the Division II level.

# Notable athletic achievements

- **Concordia College Alabama:** Don Lee, head football coach, was named the United States Collegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year. Players Stephan McCord, Javonne Roman, Demarcus Heath, Shawn Sweet and Demarcus Savage were selected to play in the USA Football Holiday Bowl in Virginia Beach.
- **Concordia University, Portland:** Skyler Kamaka, women’s volleyball team alum, was named Miss Hawaii to compete for the Miss America crown in 2013.
- **Concordia University, Nebraska:** The Bulldogs trotted into the season as the number-1-ranked team in the NAIA Division II (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) women’s basketball and have been undefeated in their first 11 games.
- **Concordia College—New York:** In each of the past three years, Concordia’s men and women’s tennis teams have won their conference championships and qualified for NCAA Division II national championships. Both teams are currently ranked nationally.
- **Concordia University, Irvine:** The men’s basketball team was crowned NAIA national champions this past March at Kansas City.
- **Concordia University, Nebraska:** Men’s cross country squad won the Great Plains Athletic Conference championship for the second time in the past four years.
- **Concordia University Wisconsin:** Tom Saleska has over 400 career victories coaching high school and college soccer. He currently has 257 wins at Concordia University Wisconsin and is fortieth in the NCAA Division III record books.



# Concordia, Austin, featured on popular ABC show

It seems like a long time since Concordia University, Texas volunteered on the “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” project in Smithville, Texas. In fact, it was a year ago this month. But on Monday, December 3, that episode finally aired on national television to an estimated audience of more than four million viewers.

The show featured the Zdroj family of Smithville who received a new home courtesy of the ABC reality show after losing theirs in the September 2011 wildfires. During the show, Concordia University Texas president Dr. Tom Cedel presented three full college scholarships to the children of the Zdroj family.

Whitney Neimann, the eldest of the Zdroj children, has decided to put her full Concordia

scholarship to use and began classes through Concordia’s Accelerated Degree Program (ADP) in January. The university’s Accelerated Degree

Program offers a flexible schedule with classes meeting one night a week.

In addition to the children receiving scholarships, more than 120 Concordia volunteers served 750-plus hours working on the around-the-clock home building project during the week of filming in December 2011.

“Our mission is based on servant leadership,” said Cedel. “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” gave this deserving family a home, and we were proud to have our students, faculty and staff take part in the effort. We are also thrilled to welcome Whitney Neimann into our Concordia family as she begins classes in January.”

**More than 120 Concordia volunteers served 750-plus hours working on the around-the-clock home building project.**



Jesse Guntow

The Zdroj family of Smithville, Texas, received a new home courtesy of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” the ABC reality TV show, after losing their home in a wildfire. During the episode that aired on December 3, 2012, the family was presented with three full college scholarships to Concordia University Texas for the Zdroj children.

Not including the hours spent volunteering on the “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” project, since September 2011, Concordia volunteers have served more than 1,400 hours cleaning home sites in Bastrop County, distributing clothing at shelter locations and collecting funds to aid families in wildfire recovery efforts.

## Concordia Choice: A new partnership

*Dreams do come true! Just ask Mary Flett.*

Flett, a Concordia University Chicago alumna and veteran educator in Lutheran secondary schools, voiced a dream to her administrator, Lucas Fitzgerald, Pacific Lutheran High School, Torrance, Calif. She wished for a means through which graduates of Lutheran high schools could continue their education in a Lutheran higher education setting.

“We know that Christian education is so important for these formative years,” Flett said. “They (students) get so much secular indoctrination elsewhere. Concordias are a safe place to develop ideas and mature.”

Mr. Fitzgerald contacted staff in the Concordia University System office and, as they say, the rest is history! Flett’s dream is now known as “Concordia Choice.” In this program so far, nine Concordia campuses have joined in a partnership agreement with 22 (currently) LCMS high schools. The agreement guarantees admission

to the participating Concordias and a renewable \$1,000 scholarship for graduates of the Lutheran high schools that fulfill specific criteria.

In the highly competitive world of higher education, qualified students (and their parents) can be assured of a place at an institution where they will receive an excellent education from a distinctively Lutheran perspective and know that financial aid is available for them. The Concordias offer over 150 widely diverse undergraduate programs and more than \$85 million financial aid assistance. (See [www.lcms.org/cus](http://www.lcms.org/cus) for more information on programming options.)

“Some of our best teachers and leaders graduated from the Concordia’s participating in the program,” stated Chris Hahn, headmaster at Prince of Peace Christian School (P-12) in Carrollton, Texas. “We have and will continue to introduce and encourage Concordia to our students for consideration.”

## CUS can help with estate planning

Planning your estate? Adding a codicil to your will? Why not include For the Sake of the Church, the Concordia University System endowment Fund in that planning?

You may want to establish a named scholarship fund for Lutheran students preparing to serve the church in local communities as pastors, teachers, directors of Christian education, family life ministry, deaconesses, etc.

For assistance, consult your estate planner or attorney or call the Concordia University System office at 800-248-1930, ext 1252.

# CUEnet

Online Theology Programs for Teachers and Church Workers

deepening faith, strengthening service

1.800.238.3037

[www.cuenet.edu](http://www.cuenet.edu) [info@cuenet.edu](mailto:info@cuenet.edu)



“I hope others will see the benefits of the online Colloquy Program,” writes Michelle Stehle, a middle school teacher from Illinois. She continues, “I have grown in my faith and look forward to sharing the Word of God with all the children I teach in the years to come.”

Michelle worked with CUEnet and Concordia University Chicago to complete the education necessary to receive a call from her congregation.

To date, more than 1700 teachers, directors of Christian education, parish musicians and other workers in Lutheran congregations and schools have engaged in such training through the online programs of CUEnet.

The online Colloquy Program is offered by CUEnet (Concordia University Education Network) on behalf of the Concordia University System to teachers and church workers who have not

had previous opportunity to study Lutheran doctrine at a collegiate level. It is the intent of the program to enrich their professional and personal lives, leading them to infuse sound Lutheran doctrine in every aspect of their daily work and ministry.

The program is delivered via innovative technologies, including live and recorded streaming video and an extensive digital library.

For those eligible, the program leads to rostered status as a called and commissioned minister in the Synod. Other servants in the church for whom a call is not a possibility may choose to participate in a different program of theological training called the Seminar Program.

Information about these programs and more (including a confirmation program called “Images of Faith”) is available at [www.CUEnet.edu](http://www.CUEnet.edu) or by calling CUEnet at 800-238-3037.



# Concordia Sunday resources 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 material available, there are several ways to place your order:

Website: [www.lcms.org/concordiasunday](http://www.lcms.org/concordiasunday)  
Email: [kathy.ledbetter@lcms.org](mailto:kathy.ledbetter@lcms.org)  
Phone: 800-248-1930, ext. 1252  
Mail: Concordia University System  
1333 S. Kirkwood Road  
St. Louis, MO 63122

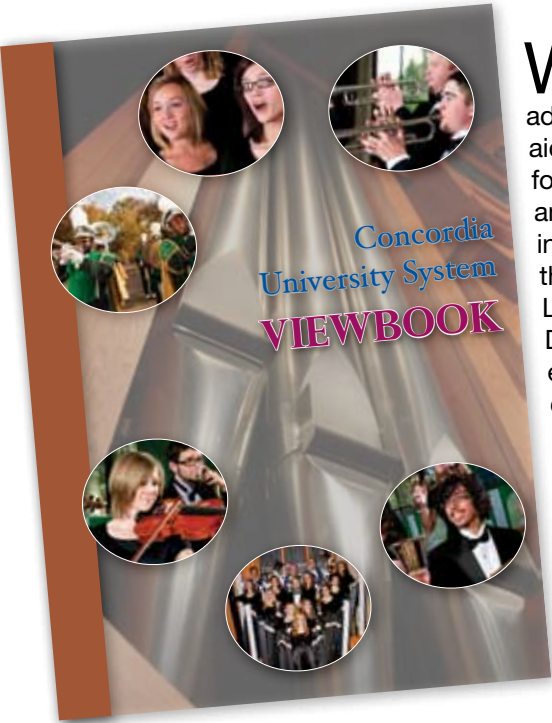
Ship resources to:

We are celebrating Concordia Sunday on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Please send us the following resources:

Amount	Item
_____	<b>CONCORDIA SUNDAY RESOURCES</b> <b>Celebrate Concordia packet</b> ( <i>all are included</i> ): Litany of Thanksgiving, prayers for Concordia Sunday, suggested hymns, brief announcements for worship folders and newsletters, talking points for sermon and children’s sermon.
_____	<b>Bulletin inserts: “Teach Us Your Ways, O Lord”</b> Information about CUS and For the Sake of the Church endowment campaign—includes gift envelope.
_____	<b>CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM RESOURCES</b> <b>Viewbook</b> A book providing an overview of the programs, sports, extracurricular activities at each of the 10 colleges and universities of the Concordia University System.
_____	<b>Map of the Concordia University System</b>
_____	<b>Concordia Chronicle</b> A newspaper of the CUS.
_____	<b>LUTHERAN EDUCATION RESOURCES</b> <b>The Lutheran College/University ADVANTAGE</b> A brochure outlining the advantages of a Lutheran higher-education experience, based on professional research.
_____	<b>The Lutheran College/University DIFFERENCE</b> A brochure on integration of faith in the learning process.
_____	<b>CALLED WORKER VOCATIONAL RESOURCES</b> <b>Prepare for a Church Work Vocation</b> Description of LCMS ministry vocations.
_____	<b>A Noble Work</b> Ideas for establishing a recruitment committee.
_____	<b>Recruitment for Church Work Careers</b> Ideas for churches to recruit and promote future workers.
_____	<b>CUEnet Colloquy Brochure</b> Online teacher colloquy program to become LCMS roster certified.
_____	<b>ENDOWMENT AND GIFTING OPPORTUNITIES</b> <b>What Is For the Sake of the Church?</b> A brochure providing information on the FTSOTC
_____	<b>For the Sake of the Church gift envelopes</b> Can be used as bulletin inserts.

# CUS Viewbook available cost-free



Would you like to have an overview of the programs, admission requirements, financial aid, tuition costs and institutional focus of the Concordia colleges and universities? Can you use an information piece to help share the importance of a Christian, Lutheran college education? Do you need a handout to encourage a young person to consider studying at a Concordia?

If so, please contact the Concordia University System office for copies of the 2012-12 Concordia University System *Viewbook*. Either e-mail [cus.info@lcms.org](mailto:cus.info@lcms.org) or call 800-248-1930, ext. 1252

Share a copy with friends and future college students!



<b>Concordia University</b> 4090 Geddes Road <b>Ann Arbor, MI 48105</b> (877) 995-7520 <a href="http://www.cuaa.edu">www.cuaa.edu</a>	<b>Concordia University</b> 2811 N.E. Holman St. <b>Portland, OR 97211</b> (800) 321-9371 <a href="http://www.cu-portland.edu">www.cu-portland.edu</a>
<b>Concordia University Texas</b> 11400 Concordia University Drive <b>Austin, TX 78726</b> (800) 865-4282 <a href="http://www.concordia.edu">www.concordia.edu</a>	<b>Concordia University Chicago</b> 7400 Augusta St. <b>River Forest, IL 60305</b> (877) 282-4422 <a href="http://www.cuchicago.edu">www.cuchicago.edu</a>
<b>Concordia College—New York</b> 171 White Plains Road <b>Bronxville, NY 10708</b> (800) 937-2655 <a href="http://www.concordia-ny.edu">www.concordia-ny.edu</a>	<b>Concordia University, St. Paul</b> 275 N. Syndicate St. <b>St. Paul, MN 55104</b> (800) 333-4705 <a href="http://www.csp.edu">www.csp.edu</a>
<b>Concordia University</b> 1530 Concordia W. <b>Irvine, CA 92612</b> (800) 229-1200 <a href="http://www.cui.edu">www.cui.edu</a>	<b>Concordia College Alabama</b> 1712 Broad St. <b>Selma, AL 36702</b> (334) 874-5700 <a href="http://www.ccal.edu">www.ccal.edu</a>
<b>Concordia University Wisconsin</b> 12800 N. Lake Shore Drive <b>Mequon, WI 53097</b> (888) 628-9472 <a href="http://www.cuw.edu">www.cuw.edu</a>	<b>Concordia University, Nebraska</b> 800 N. Columbia Ave. <b>Seward, NE 68434</b> (800) 535-5494 <a href="http://www.cune.edu">www.cune.edu</a>

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[www.cuenet.edu](http://www.cuenet.edu)

## Upcoming Lutheran college fairs

Attending a Lutheran College Fair is a great way for college-bound youth and their parents to learn more about Lutheran colleges and universities.

In addition to the opportunity for prospective students to meet with representatives from Lutheran colleges to learn more about academic programs and campus life, there is an excellent seminar on financial aid for parents.

For more information on locations and times of upcoming Lutheran college fairs, go to [www.lutherancolleges.org](http://www.lutherancolleges.org) and click on “college fairs.”