

The Lutheran College/ University Difference . . .

“Quality education in a Christian atmosphere . . . daily faith-life conversation and experience”

You do not have to be a trained theologian to understand how theology interacts with education and informs the way professors teach and students learn. But the effective application of theology in the learning process distinguishes one educational experience from another. That is important in the maturing life of college/university students. They will live what they learn!

Our Concordia colleges/universities (10 across the country) are not Lutheran by accident but by choice. Before our forefathers built churches, they built schoolhouses to provide for the ongoing education of their family members, who would be the “pastors, teachers, bakers, butchers, judges, council members and leaders of their communities.” They left us with a legacy that was built on the theology of the cross, which starts at the foot of the cross where Christ died for the sins of mankind; where Law and Gospel is appropriately applied; where the forgiveness of sins comes through the Word and Sacraments; where all Christians are “called” by God to a profession or vocation; and where faith and life intersect in our daily walk as disciples of our Savior.

The mission of the colleges/universities of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is marked by transformation of people and communities. It is built on the foundation of the biblical message of salvation and footnoted by the highest levels of ethical conduct and a deep sense of building a better world. At our Concordias, faculty and students are engaged in a daily faith-life

conversation and experience. Concordia students develop a strong set of values, leadership skills, Christian faith, commitment to community service and a sense of purpose in life. Their daily experiences in a Lutheran college/university shapes and imprints their perspective on teaching the faith and impacting lives in their communities.

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 activity 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 Lutheran



environment connect individuals to a life of faithful commitment to proclaim Jesus Christ as the Lord of Life!

A supporter of Lutheran higher education shared an insight of the value of a Christian, Lutheran institution: “The Concordia University System is one of the most powerful and far-reaching tools the Lord of the Church has given the LCMS to take the Good News of life in Jesus Christ to a world desperately in need of hearing and believing in Him, through professional church workers and those trained for other services in our communities.”

A teaching church is a church in mission!

“Going to college” is a big decision . . .
“choosing the right college/university” will make a difference for a lifetime!



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Statement of Mission and Purpose— Concordia University System

Concordia University System builds national identity, enables cooperative endeavors, and enhances the strength of the colleges and universities of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as they engage students of diverse ages and cultures in quality, Christ-centered, value-oriented Lutheran higher education for lives of service to church and community.

Goals

- To transmit Lutheran values more effectively
- To provide enhanced quality education to college students
- To attain efficiencies in operation of the campuses
- To capitalize the schools and system

General Facts/Information

- Enrollment: 29,597
(church vocations: 1,654)
- Faculty: 1,545
- Majors: 160 undergraduate; 60 graduate
- Financial Aid: \$100 million (\$19 million church vocations)
- Consolidated Budgets: \$365 million



Your support in prayers and gifts to a Concordia college or university will make a difference! For more information on how you can participate in this special ministry, call 1-800-248-1930, ext. 1252, or address Concordia University System via e-mail at CUS.INFO@lcms.org.



For more information, contact:



Concordia University System

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
1333 S. Kirkwood Road • St. Louis, MO 63122-7295
800-248-1930, ext. 1252
www.lcms.org/universities • email: cus.info@lcms.org