CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS MAGAZINE WINTER 2009

Be STRONG COURAGEOUS

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On the Cover

This life-size, bronze statue, of Martin Luther was preserved from the original campus and stood in front of Founders Library and Woltman Activities Center. The sculpture was created by local artist, Eloiese Krabbenhoft, and now stands outside Building A on Concordia's new campus.



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Concordia University Texas is a private, co-educational institution of liberal arts and sciences offering undergraduate and graduate degrees. Concordia offers an Accelerated Degree Program for part-time students and adult returning students. Concordia University Texas is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. www.concordia.edu

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Dear Friends of Concordia

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

The theme of this academic year at Concordia University Texas is "Be Strong and Courageous." God spoke these powerful words to Joshua as he stepped into Moses' shoes to lead the people of Israel out of the desert and into the Promised Land. These same words guide Concordia today.

So what is next for Concordia a year after relocating an entire campus? Transformational change! With a focus on the Lord's guiding words, we are taking this University into the future. Students, faculty and staff are working together to review current practices and recommend improvements. At the end of this process we will have a transformational vision for Concordia University Texas.

I promise it will be interactive, innovative and challenging. The journey will be difficult, but with God's blessing we will find new ways to further our mission of developing Christian leaders.

That is not all! Over the past few months we started construction on a new baseball field, launched the first edition of an interactive version of the University magazine, completed a successful Service Learning Week, continued to grow in student enrollment, celebrated the first anniversary of the campus relocation and the list goes on and on.

As we make our way through this transitional year, staying connected to you, our larger Concordia family, is very important to us. We will continue to keep you informed through the Concordia Web site, the University Magazine and other means. We also personally invite you to visit us on campus.

We thank the Lord for all he has provided. He has been gracious and good to Concordia. This time of year we especially give thanks to God for sending His one and only son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. May you and your family be blessed this Christmas season and in the New Year.

Yours in Christ,



Thomas E. Cedel, Ph.D.





"So what is next for Concordia a year after relocating an entire campus? Transformational change! With a focus on the Lord's guiding words, we are taking this University into the future."

Concordia University Texas 2009 - 20-Begins

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

These words given to Joshua by the Lord are the same words that guide Concordia University Texas and serve as the

inspirational theme for this year's students, faculty and staff.

"It was amazing to see the excitement and anticipation on the faces of the students"

On Wednesday, August 26, 2009, Concordia began its eighty-fourth academic year, and its second year on the University's new campus, located in the Hill Country of Northwest Austin. During the prior week, over 300 new students participated in the Week of Welcome beginning on Saturday, August 22.

Students moved in to residence halls

with the help of local churches, members of the men's basketball team, freshman mentors, resident assistants, faculty, staff and many others.

"It was amazing to see the excitement and anticipation on the faces of the students,"

Kevin Kerr, Student Activities Officer, said.

During the second annual Induction Ceremony, a tradition started last year with the relocation of the campus, each student received a medallion with the

official seal and mission statement of the University. The ceremony served as an official induction of new students into the Concordia community.

Practice, model, teach and recognize these actions are at the root of the mission of Concordia to develop Christian leaders. This year, even before classes began, students were given the opportunity to be a Christian leader in their community. On

"Resident Assistants, faculty, staff and many others were there supporting students and their parents"





Local churches, members of the men's basketball team, Freshman Mentors, Resident Assistants, faculty, staff and many others were there supporting students and their parents.

Monday, August 24, all new students, Life and Leadership instructors, and mentors and representatives from the University's Service-Learning organization, participated in a community service project to clean up Emma Long Park, a park located near the University's campus.

Concordia volunteers and students gathered enough trash to fill five trucks; cleaned, sanded and painted over 100 picnic tables; posted signage, and built a 60-foot long by two-foot high rock berm to retain sediment using 24 tons of rocks, among other efforts. The clean up effort represented 500 hours of community service and a savings of approximately \$10,000 in labor to the City of Austin.

Kristy Rollins, a member of the Austin Parks Foundation, said "Together we can move mountains; you have all done something truly remarkable that will have a lasting effect on the park and environment."

With faith in God, Concordia students are able to be strong and courageous. Pastor Peter Mueller, of ACTS Church Lakeway, spoke on those very words during the opening service of this academic year. "But once you leave here and go out there...and if there is a moment when you feel scared...if there is a moment when you are aware of your sin, or your failures, or your reluctance to follow the command of God...in that moment, I pray you remember those words the Lord gave.... Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged."

By attending Concordia and becoming Christian leaders, students are able to strengthen their communities through servant leadership, problem solving, communications, field expertise and a strong understanding of Lutheran ethos.

Concordia's Week of Welcome was the start for Concordia students to realize the impact they can make on their community and the start of their journey to becoming the Christian leaders of tomorrow.



Here's what students had to say

"It was new and original and it showed me a preview of the next chapter of my life"

"Community service benefits not only the community but also each individual"

"I know if I ever have a problem or need help, there are a lot of people that can help"

Delivering a Processional Cross to China

Dr. Ken Schmidt: Dean, College of Liberal Arts

It's Wednesday evening, April 15, 2009. Six months earlier, I agreed to design and fabricate a processional cross for the tenth anniversary celebration of Concordia International School Shanghai, and now it was time to deliver it. It seemed impossible. How does something seven feet long fit into a duffle bag and travel from Austin, Texas to Shanghai, China? And then there's the question of Chinese customs. Do I really think I can take a processional cross into China? I've never been there before, and all my timeworn notions about China give way to apprehension as I pack the processional cross, pole and various metal parts to be assembled in China.

I flew from Austin to Chicago early on a Thursday morning, where I boarded my American Airlines flight to Shanghai Pudong airport. I lost a day, arriving in Shanghai in just under fourteen hours. Dr. James Koerschen, Head of School at Concordia International School, was at the Pudong airport to welcome me. My view from the van window as we drove



I could have been driving down the freeway in any western city, but this was the Pudong region of Shanghai, China.

to school was not what I expected. All the stereotype ideas I had of China were changing before my eyes - modern roads, lots of traffic (with plenty of new Buicks, BMWs and Audis), a new General Electric plant and a modern looking suburban landscape. I could have been driving down the freeway in any western city, but this was the Pudong region of Shanghai, China. This is a master planned area designed to accommodate western business, and the expatriates who work for the many multi national companies located here.

Concordia International School is located in Jingiao, at the heart of a residential section of the Pudong region of Shanghai. The modern campus is spacious and green, offering the children of expatriate families a Christian education from preschool through high school. Jingiao is also home to the Shanghai World Financial Center, numerous international corporations and many foreign nationals. Jinqiao means "golden bridge" in Chinese, a fitting way to think of this suburban, family oriented region, and it was indeed; my "bridge" to Chinese life and culture. The western flavor of this region paired with Chinese culture made an easy transition for my twelve-day adventure.

Granted, this is not representative of China as a whole. My experience is similar to going to New York or Los Angeles, and

then claiming to have experienced America. Just like any other nation, China is a large multifaceted and complex country. It has a written history that goes back 5,000 years. It has more registered Christians than registered communists. There are large modern cities with booming economies, and a rising middle class contrasted with an increasing number of urban poor. And in the western provinces, you will find villages without running water or proper sewer systems. As I travelled from city to city, and experienced a small part of rural life, I found the Chinese people friendly, industrious and very kind and helpful. They number about 1.3 billion (the U.S. is just over .3 billion).

The cities of Beijing and Shanghai showcase many historical sites. Beijing's Forbidden City is unforgettable, as is Tiananmen Square, a vast open space with Mao's Mausoleum, and ancient gates. Northwest



Concordia International School is located in Jinqiao, at the heart of a residential section of the Pudong region of Shanghai.

CTX News

I shall never forget climbing those time worn steps, and standing where Ming warriors once stood guard.



of Beijing, approximately one hour by car, you arrive at the Great Wall. It is spectacular – with impressive views, and an incredible history. I shall never forget climbing those time worn steps, and standing where Ming warriors once stood guard.

The modern skyscrapers of Shanghai are contrasted with the old style buildings of the Yu Gardens bazaar. The extravagant roof lines with ornate carvings, intricate patterns and abundant vibrant color is picturesque. The shops at Yu Gardens feature everything from pearls and silk clothing to tourist souvenirs and Chinese tea. It is at the center of Shanghai, and close to museums, galleries and parks. It's a bit of a "tourist trap," but nevertheless captivating as one wanders through the streets and haggles for prices at the many shops. I did have the opportunity to walk around some neighborhoods in Shanghai where the "common people" live and work. These areas were definitely more crowded, with high-rise apartments, small shops, many bicycles and much activity on the street. One of the highlights of my trip was a

terra-cotta warriors on the outskirts of the ancient Chinese capital of Xi'an. Qin Shi Huangdi (259 BC – 210 BC)

visit to the terra-cotta warriors on the outskirts of the ancient Chinese capital of Xi'an. Qin Shi Huangdi (259 BC – 210 BC), the first emperor of China, established Xi'an as his capital and began building his tomb. The life size terra-cotta warriors and horses in battle formation were created to serve the emperor in the after life. The warriors are remarkable in detail, with clear individual features. The excavations are enclosed in three buildings, with archeological excavation ongoing at the site.

The opportunity to design a processional cross for Concordia International School Shanghai has expanded my knowledge of China, and has provided a range of qualitative experiences in a variety of settings I shall never forget. It has deepened my understanding of the social and cultural conditions of China, and it has created a hunger for more knowledge of this complex nation. Ultimately, it was the model liberal arts experience. It was an opportunity to connect knowledge and experiences as I challenged my stereotypes. It was the cultivation of knowledge in context as I encountered Chinese people and culture. I hope to return to China soon.

Yu Garden and Bazaar, Shanghai

The Shanghai Processional Cross

The materials used in the construction of this cross are ancient and modern – a concept that is true to the spirit of China itself. The cross is made of bronze, an ancient metal, but it was cut using a computer aided water jet process, which followed my drawing precisely.

The design incorporates the logo of Concordia International School at the very center of the cross. These straight lines are contrasted with curvilinear lines and contours reminiscent of ancient/traditional Chinese architecture.

The cross itself consists of two bronze plates that mirror each other. Ideas of contrast are carried out in the design. Plain polished metal contrasts with green patina; light areas contrast with dark; and straight lines contrast with curved lines. The interior is dark suggesting that Christ has come and covers the darkness as He gives us new life (the blue/green patina) and the crown of life (polished satin bronze surfaces); in other words, from darkness and death to new life and eternity.

The wood staff is made of cherry, and again continues with curvilinear lines. The red hue of the cherry wood is reminiscent of Chinese terra-cotta clay, and is also symbolic of the blood of Christ.

The transitional element between the cross and wood staff contains ten pieces of jade inlay. The number ten could be symbolic of the Ten Commandments, but also serve as a reminder of the occasion of the commissioning of this work – the tenth anniversary of Concordia International School Shanghai.



An Amazing Ethiopian Journey

FOUT years ago when I started my college career at Concordia University Texas, there was no way I could have imagined where that journey would take me. At the beginning of my senior year, I was part of the Service-Learning group that undertook a project to raise funds for a water well in Ethiopia. We worked with an organization called Water to Thrive.

Throughout the year the Service-Learning leaders did various fund raising projects to reach our goal of \$3,500. Throughout the fund raising process we learned more and more about the community where our well would be going. Learning

more about this place was one thing, but actually getting to go and see this place was another.

On May 17, 2009, eight days after I walked across the stage for graduation, I boarded a plane



destined for Ethiopia. With me, was Whitney Flynt, another Concordia student and Service-Learning leader, Dick Moeller the founder of Water to Thrive, Becky Turner the Water to Thrive Program Director and Meredith Koch. We were all off to spend two weeks in Ethiopia visiting different communities that have received wells through Water to Thrive.

by: Kristen Seals

Ethiopia was nothing like I had expected it to be. I didn't go in with a lot of preconceived notions but the impressions that were left on me after being there for just two weeks will stay with me for the rest of my life. The long nights of preparing fundraisers for our well were nothing compared to what we were able to bring these people. As a college student \$3,500 is a lot of money to be raised for one single thing. However, I

I have never seen a more beautiful cement reinforced hole in the ground.

quickly learned

everything that came with that \$3,500 when I visited the Sudi School. In order to get to the Sudi School, the location of our well, we literally slid down a mud hill. We slid half way in the SUVs we had, and when they got stuck, we got out and walked the rest of the way. Where the well was located, there were no roads, so with some rain, it made for a very interesting car ride. Once we reached When I use the term school house that is a very relative term

the

school, followed by very interested locals, we were greeted with a construction site on our left and school houses on the right. When I use the term school house that is a



very relative term: there is no electricity, no bathrooms, the rooms are overcrowded, there is barely any light, the floors consist of dirt and there are very limited school supplies. I actually had the opportunity to sit in the very back of one of these overcrowded classrooms and I couldn't even see that there was writing on the blackboard in the front of the room; and I thought my classes in Kramer Hall were bad! After visiting the classrooms we went over to see our well. I have to say that I have never seen a more beautiful cement reinforced hole in the ground. To me this represented everything the Service-Learning leaders and Concordia had worked so hard for and prayed for, for so long. This well was the representation of Christians taking care of our neighbors, working to love them as we love ourselves, as Christ called us to.

However, I would like to share with you what this well means to this community. This well means that the girls and women in the family won't have to walk miles and miles for dirty, diseased water that will make them sick. This means that instead of spending hours every day fetching water, they can go to school and work to break that cycle of poverty. This also means that the girls don't have to go out at night to get water and risk being raped or beaten. When girls in Ethiopia have the opportunity to go to school that means they can put off getting married at a young age and wait longer to have children. This clean water also means that diseases that come from dirty water can be eliminated because

the water is protected from different types of runoff. This is all what clean water does for one community. Fortunately, that is not all. When the wells are built local labor is used so the money can go back into the community, part of the funds go to educating the community on how to take care and maintain the well, and since our well is at a school over 1,700 people can benefit from it.

Spending those two weeks in Ethiopia visiting the different places that received wells and seeing the joy in their faces is something that I always remember. I think the most amazing part to all of this is that this is something that anyone can do. You don't have to go to Ethiopia to make a difference in the lives of people. Keeping them in your prayers, donating money or volunteering time with Water to Thrive, or even passing along information will change the lives of the people in Ethiopia. Some great advice I was given while on the trip was: focus on what you can do, not on what you can't. I can't personally fund a well in Ethiopia for every community that needs one, but I can donate money, my time and share my story of an amazing journey I went on every chance I get.



Contact Information:

service.learning@concordia.edu 512-313-5990 Service-Learning Center in F-201.

Check out our Facebook group: CTX Service-Learning

What if Christians Focused Outward? What would it do for the image of Christ in the world? by: Keri Vasek

Richard Stearns, president of World Vision posed this bold question to all of us the first morning of the Mobilization to End Poverty.

In April, Dr. Ann Schwartz, Whitney Flynt (student), and I traveled to Washington D.C. for the Mobilization that gave us the opportunity to join together with over 1,000 others from the faith community to join in worship, service, advocacy and conversation as we addressed how it is that we as Christians are to respond to poverty.

We spent a day lobbying on Capitol Hill and heard from a variety of individuals from both the political and faith communities, including Rep. John Lewis, author Donald Miller, members of the White House staff and David Lane, president of ONE. Topics of discussion ranged from addressing national budget to living out your personal story. However, I found myself walking away impacted most by reflecting on the question of why we as Christians should move against poverty and injustice.

As Christians, we have come to know grace firsthand and we have the privilege to embody that grace and extend it in a very tangible way to those around us. In the words of one church leader at the Mobilization, we get to "make the reign of God visible now so that no one can miss it." We have the opportunity to tell of eternal redemption by showing physical redemption and to tell of love by living love. When we do this and truly care for and love others as a response to the incredible sacrifice and unconditional love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we will look different because He is different. If we reflected our Lord with that kind of love and compassion, can you imagine what people would think? Can you imagine what it would do for the image of Christ in the world?





Because I Have Been Given Much...A week in reviewby:Mark Giardinelli

The theme for this year's Service-Learning Week came out of Luke 12:48, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." Throughout this week, Concordia students, faculty and staff learned how they can give back to their community and world out of their plenty. They experienced this through various service events and were challenged by speakers who came during the week for chapel.

On Monday, students wrote letters to persecuted believers in other countries and also viewed a movie entitled, Pray the Devil Back to Hell. The movie gave a glimpse to students of what life was like in Liberia under the rule of President Charles Taylor; how he was overthrown by a peaceful nonviolent movement of women who received international attention by the UN.

On Wednesday, Tsehai Wodajo from Resources for the Enrichment of African Lives (REAL) came to campus to talk about

her program to promote education for girls in Ethiopia. In the morning after chapel, she discussed the work of REAL and their sponsorship program which is only \$30 per month. In the evening, she gave us a picture of what it is like for a young girl to live in an Ethiopian village through a small group discussion and a video. After the video was over, we got the opportunity to write letters to girls who are currently sponsored by the REAL program and attending school in Ethiopia.

On Thursday, a large group of students went to Summit Nursing Home, including the whole softball team. During this time, the students played games, such as Blackjack and Dominoes, with the residents.

On Friday, students danced the night away to The Stingrays, a local band. All proceeds from that event went to Water to Thrive and to Resources for the Enrichment of African Lives. Throughout this week, students learned that giving back to the community and the world doesn't always involve doing something huge, but sometimes it's something small, such as writing a letter or playing a game of Blackjack that means so much to others.

> Service-Learning Wes November 1-Novemb



In Isaiah 49, verses 15 and 16a, we read these words of comfort: "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion of the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palm of my hands." Although sadly, children in this world experience abuse, neglect and abandonment by parents and other caregivers, the love of their heavenly Father, who calls the church to a ministry of mercy, remains constant. The need for caring individuals to reach out to vulnerable children is great.

At its 2007 international convention, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League awarded an \$80,000 grant to Concordia University Texas for the Isaiah 49 Program, an initiative selected as only one of 18 grants. The focus of the program is to prepare students for service in the children welfare system. The program provides various opportunities for students in the Concordia University System to consider a vocation in this area.

As part of the Isaiah 49 Program, Concordia partners with Lutheran Social Services of the South to provide a Child Welfare Internship Program for a select group of Behavioral Sciences students. In 2008-2009, three students were selected to serve as interns, and a second group of students have recently begun serving with LSS at the start of the fall 2009 semester. Interns receive different specialized trainings, are exposed to various aspects of case management with foster families such as home visits and court proceedings, and work on special LSS projects such as foster parent recruitment and fundraising events.

The Isaiah 49 Summer Institutes are designed to raise future workers from across the

Concordia University System (CUS) who have an understanding of the operation and issues facing the child welfare system, as well as a greater concern for those children served by the system. This past summer, twentyone students representing five institutions of the CUS, gathered in Austin for four days. Institute participants reflected on the theme "Preparing for Service in Child Welfare" through presentations, discussions, Bible studies, service projects, field experiences and much more. The keynote speaker for the Institute was Dr. Ruth McRoy, an internationally-recognized scholar in the areas of foster care and adoption. Participants also had the opportunity to tour the New Life Center in Canyon Lake, Texas, an exemplary residential treatment facility operated by LSS. Reflecting on the Institute, current student intern Julian Anczewski remarks, "The Isaiah 49 Summer Institute was crucial for preparing me for my internship at Lutheran Social Services. The Institute covered a wide range of issues facing child welfare today, both here in the U.S. and abroad. Meeting and being able to have one-on-one conversations with social workers, counselors and child psychologists was a big plus."

Another important element of the Isaiah 49 Program is a strong service component. Each group of student interns are charged with organizing and leading four servicelearning projects during their internship year that involves the larger Concordia Texas community and benefits families and children served by LSS. These projects have included creating activity bags for children as well as Christmas parties for foster families. Grant funds have enabled CTX students and faculty to serve outside of the Austin area and to learn about differences in child welfare across societies. This past summer, students traveled to Costa Rica, Alaska and Ethiopia to work with children in different capacities.

A final part of this program is to provide educational opportunities for the campus community and others through student presentations at LWML events. Also, through a series of campus lectures about issues in child welfare given by researchers and practitioners.

The various experiences supported by the Isaiah 49 Program come together to prepare students for current and future service to children. For CTX senior Ashley Ramos, "The Isaiah 49 Program has opened my eyes to the world of the child welfare system beyond what I could have imagined, and has made dreams a reality for me."

For more information, contact Dr. Ann Schwartz (Ann. Schwartz@concordia.edu), Grant Coordinator, or access our page on Concordia's web site at www.concordia.edu.

2009-2010 Child Welfare Interns with the Isaiah 49 Program—(left to right) Ashley Ramos, Julian Anczewski, and Natalie Powell.



CTX BASEBALL FIELD GROUNDBREAKING

The Concordia Athletic Department has announced that work has begun on the construction of a \$2 million baseball field. The new field, which will be built overlooking Concordia Fieldhouse, is expected to be ready for the upcoming season opener on February 6, 2010. The facility will seat 1,052 Tornado fans under a covered grandstand with nearly 250 seatbacks and approximately 800 bleacher seats with back rests.

"Without the long term relationships that have been built with our donors, we certainly would not have been blessed with the opportunity to construct this facility," said Concordia Athletic Director Dan Huntley. The playing field will be covered entirely with a FieldTurf Classic surface, with the exception of a clay mound. The outfield fences will be padded and include a 20-foot wall in left field, which will taper down to an eight-foot wall beginning in left-center field. The outfield fence will be constructed 325 feet from home plate down each foul line, 370 feet in the alleys and 400 feet to center field.

Other amenities associated with the field include above ground dugouts, a pitching and batting facility, which will include bullpens and batting cages down the third base line, as well as visitor bullpens. A Daktronics scoreboard that includes a video board placed just outside of the left field fence will also be featured.

Spotlight on Concordia Men's Golf Team

The CTX men's golf team competed in three tournaments during the fall season. In each tournament the team posted personal bests and broke many school records. Under the direction of Greg Sigler, the Tornados finished third at the Schreiner Fall Classic on Oct. 20. Junior transfer Michael Goldwater (Lake Travis, Texas) stormed onto the links and placed fifth overall in the final tournament of the fall

Junior transfer Michael Goldwater (Lake Travis, Texas) stormed onto the links and placed fifth overall in the final tournament of the Fall season. season. Goldwater tied the school record for the lowest round in school history after carding a one-over 71 during the first round of the Schreiner tournament. Freshman Justin Muraida (Austin, Texas) shined in his collegiate debut by finishing 15th overall at the John Bohmann Memorial Invitational, after firing a 72 in each of the first two rounds of the tournament. The Tornados, who were ranked as high as 26th in the nation during the fall season, are looking ahead to a five-tournament slate, with hopes of advancing to the NCAA Division III Golf Championships in Pennsylvania.

Fall Student-Athletes Honored by ASC

Senior forward Armando Dimeo (Deer Park, Texas), who was named Third Team All-ASC.

Eleven Concordia

University Texas student-

athletes were honored by

the American Southwest

Conference following

The CTX men's soccer team

had five players earn various honors, headlined by senior

forward Armando Dimeo (Deer

Park, Texas), who was named

the conclusion of

the fall seasons.

Third Team

midfielder Brian

Friend (Bannockburn, Ill.) was named the ASC

of the Year for men's soccer.

to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District Team.

Junior midfielder Mathew

goalkeeper Eric Davis

(Austin, Texas) and

freshman midfielder

Waltz (Deerfield, Ill.), junior

Friend added another award to

his collection after being named

Sportsmanship Athlete

All-ASC. Senior

Sebastian Parra (Pflugerville, Texas) were all named all-conference honorable mention.

The Tornados' women's soccer team saw three players take home conference awards after setting the school record for wins in head coach Corey Holton's first season. Sophomore midfielder Kiera Ruck (Sugar Land, Texas) garnered Third Team All-ASC, while sophomore defender Lauren Browning (Georgetown, Texas) and freshman goalkeeper Teysha Sivage (Georgetown, Texas) each picked up all-conference honorable mention.

Senior outside hitter Carrie Fisk (Baytown, Texas) and sophomore middle blocker Kalynn White (Marion, Texas) were awarded by being placed on the All-ASC Second Team for volleyball.

Sophomore men's cross country runner Warren Sanders (Giddings, Texas) finished in 14th place overall at the ASC Championship meet and was awarded by being named to the All-ASC Second Team.

Left:

Senior outside hitter Carrie Fisk (Baytown, Texas) was awarded by being placed on the All-ASC Second Team for volleyball.





Upcoming Athletic Celebrations

The Concordia Athletic Department has announced two upcoming events which will celebrate both current and former student-athletes. The inaugural Concordia Athletics Hall of Fame class will be inducted on February 5, 2010. Three former student-athletes, one former coach and two championship teams make up the school's first induction class.

Current student-athletes will be honored in the annual Concordia Athletic Banquet on April 18, 2010. The athletic department will recognize the hard work of CTX student-athletes in their endeavors both on and off the field.



Coaches Corner

Meet Dan Darden, Men's Soccer Coach



Dan Darden entered his second season this year as head coach of the Concordia University Texas men's soccer team. Darden took over as head coach after serving one year as the assistant coach of the Tornados soccer program.

In his first year as the head coach, the Tornados finished 3-15-0 overall and 2-11-0 in the American Southwest Conference. Darden saw four of his players named to the ASC Academic AllConference team in his first season. Darden graduated from Concordia with a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology. During his time as an undergraduate student, he was a four-year letterman at goalkeeper for the Tornados soccer team. Darden once led all levels of NCAA men's soccer in saves.

"I am very proud of how the team has done," said Dan. "Our leadership has been amazing. The first year players are learning so much from the returners about how to be successful at the collegiate level. I know that if we stay focused, we will continue to be successful. Our team goal is to get into the conference tournament for the first time in the history of our men's soccer program. With this great group of players, that is a very achievable goal for us."

Darden currently holds a National Diploma as well as a National Goalkeeping Diploma from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He has also gained coaching experience from working with several youth soccer clubs.

Darden, who is currently working

towards his master's degree, spent six years working as a reactor plant operator in the U.S. Navy. He currently resides in Austin.



CTX Basketball Season Looks Promising



Both the Concordia men's and women's basketball teams have high expectations for the 2009-2010 season. Senior forward Brad Walker (Brenham, Texas) was voted by the league's coaches, sports information directors and selected media members as the ASC West Division preseason player of the year for men's basketball. Walker earned first team all-conference honors last season after averaging 16 points per game.

The CTX men's basketball team was picked to finish third overall in the ASC West Division in the preseason poll while the CTX women's basketball team earned a fifth place prediction. Steve Cochran is heading into his second season as the head coach of the CTX women's basketball team. In his first season, he was named the ASC West Division Co-Coach of the Year.

CTX Athletics

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Nov. 22	Webber International	СТХ	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 24	St. Edward's University	Austin, TX	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 28	University of the Ozarks*	Clarksville, AR	3:00 p.m.
Nov. 30	University of Texas-Dallas*	Richardson, TX	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	Letourneau University*	CTX	3:00 p.m.
Dec. 7	East Texas Baptist University*	CTX	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 10	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*	CTX	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 19	Southwestern University [#]	Georgetown, TX	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 20	Trinity University [#]	Georgetown, TX	2:00 p.m.
Jan. 3	University of Texas-Tyler*	Tyler, TX	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	Mississippi College*	ĊTX	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	Louisiana College*	CTX	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 11	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*	Belton, TX	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 14	Howard Payne University*	СТХ	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Sul Ross State University*	CTX	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	Schreiner University*	Kerrville, TX	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	Texas Lutheran University*	CTX	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 28	Hardin Simmons University*	Abilene, TX	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	McMurry University*	Abilene, TX	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Hardin-Simmons University*	СТХ	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	McMurry University*	CTX	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	Schreiner University*	СТХ	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	Texas Lutheran University*	Seguin, TX	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	Howard Payne University*	Brownwood, TX	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Sul Ross State University*	Alpine, TX	3:00 p.m.

WOMAN'S BASKETBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Nov. 24	Tarleton State University (Exhibition)	Stephenville, Texas	6:00 p.m.
Nov. 28	University of the Ozarks*	Clarksville, Ark.	5:00 p.m.
Nov. 30	University of Texas-Dallas*	Richardson, Texas	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	University of Dallas	Irving, Texas	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 5	LeTourneau University*	CTX	1:00 p.m.
Dec. 7	East Texas Baptist University*	СТХ	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 10	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	Concordia University-Chicago	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 30	William Smith College	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 3	University of Texas-Tyler*	Tyler, Texas	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 7	Mississippi College*	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	Louisiana College*	СТХ	1:00 p.m.
Jan. 14	Howard Payne University*	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Sul Ross State University*	CTX	1:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	Schreiner University*	Kerrville, Texas	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	Texas Lutheran University*	CTX	1:00 p.m.
Jan. 28	Hardin-Simmons University*	Abilene, Texas	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	McMurry University*	Abilene, Texas	1:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Hardin-Simmons University*	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	McMurry University*	CTX	1:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	Schreiner University*	CTX	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	Texas Lutheran University*	Seguin, Texas	1:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	Howard Payne University*	Brownwood, Texas	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Sul Ross State University*	Alpine, Texas	1:00 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	#
Feb. 27	University of the Incarnate Word Invitational	San Antonio, Texas	
Mar. 6	Trinity University Invitational	San Antonio, Texas	
Mar. 11	Tarleton State University Relays	Stephenville, Texas	
Mar. 26-27	Rice University Relays	Houston, Texas	
April 2	^ Trinity University Relays	San Antonio, Texas	Eon w
April 2	^ University of Texas Relays	Austin, Texas	For n
April 17	Michael Johnson Classic	Waco, Texas	oth
April 23-24	American Southwest Conference Meet	Abilene, Texas	schedu
May 1	University of Texas Twilight	Austin, Texas	
May 8	Trinity University Last Chance	San Antonio, Texas	www.a
May 29	NCAA Division III National Meet	Berea, Ohio	

Home Games are in bold * denotes a American Southwest conference contest # Southwestern Tournament ^ denotes individual team members will compete at one venue or the other.

For more information on all other CTX Athletics or for chedule changes please visit: www.athletics.concordia.edu

CTX Athletics

BAS	EBALL			
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	
Feb. 6	Southwestern University	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	Home Games are in bold
Feb. 7	Southwestern University (DH)	Georgetown, Texas	1:00/3:00 p.m.	Neutral Site Game are in italics
Feb. 13	University of Texas-Dallas	CTX	3:00 p.m.	* denotes a American
Feb. 16	Huston-Tillotson University	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	Southwest conference contest
Feb. 20	University of Houston-Victoria	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	Southwest conterence contest
Feb. 21	University of Houston-Victoria (DH)	СТХ	12:00/2:00 p.m.	(DH) denotes a Double Header
Feb. 26	Mississippi College	Clinton, Miss.	7:00 p.m.	
Feb. 27	Mississippi College (DH)	Clinton, Miss.	12:00/2:00 p.m.	For more information on all
Mar. 3	University of Texas at Brownsville(DH)	СТХ	3:00/5:00 p.m.	other CTX Athletics or for
Mar. 5	Houston Baptist University	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 6	Houston Baptist University (DH)	СТХ	1:00/3:00 p.m.	schedule changes please visit:
Mar. 12	Howard Payne University*	Brownwood, Texas	2:00 p.m.	www.athletics.concordia.edu
Mar. 13	Howard Payne University (DH)*	Brownwood, Texas	12:00/2:00 p.m.	W W Wathletics.concordia.cdu
Mar. 15	Nebraska Wesleyan University	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 16	Houston Baptist University	Houston, Texas	12:00 p.m.	
Mar. 19	Sul Ross State University*	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 20	Sul Ross State University (DH)*	СТХ	12:00/2:00 p.m.	
Mar. 26	Hardin-Simmons University*	Abilene, Texas	7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 27	Hardin-Simmons University (DH)*	Abilene, Texas	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Mar. 30	Huston-Tillotson University	Austin, Texas	4:00 p.m.	
Apr. 1	McMurry University*	СТХ	7:00 p.m.	
Apr. 2	McMurry University (DH)*	СТХ	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Apr. 9	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*	Belton, Texas	2:00 p.m.	
Apr. 10	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*	Belton, Texas	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Apr. 17	Schreiner University (DH)*	CTX	4:00/6:00 p.m.	
Apr. 18	Schreiner University*	CTX	12:00 p.m.	
Apr. 23	Texas Lutheran University*	CTX	7:00 p.m.	
Apr. 24	Texas Lutheran University (DH)*	СТХ	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
	TBALL			
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	
Feb. 13	Southwestern University (DH)	Old Settlers Park	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Feb. 20	University of Dallas (DH)	Old Settlers Park	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Feb. 25	University of Texas-Tyler (DH)*	Tyler, Texas	4:00/6:00 p.m.	
Feb. 26	LeTourneau University Tournament	Longview, Texas	TBA	
Feb. 27	LeTourneau University Tournament	Longview, Texas	TBA	
Mar. 5	University of the Ozarks	Farmers Branch, Texas		
Mar. 5	Mississippi College	Farmers Branch, Texas		
Mar. 6	LeTourneau University	Farmers Branch, Texas		
Mar. 6	East Texas Baptist University	Farmers Branch, Texas		
Mar. 12	Schreiner University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	5:00/7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 13	Schreiner University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Mar. 19	Sul Ross State University (DH)*	Alpine, Texas	TBA	
Mar. 20	Sul Ross State University (DH)*	Alpine, Texas	TBA	
Mar. 26	Texas Lutheran University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	5:00/7:00 p.m.	
Mar. 27	Texas Lutheran University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Apr. 1	Hardin-Simmons University (DH)*	Abilene, Texas	2:00/4:00 p.m.	
Apr. 2	Hardin-Simmons University (DH)*	Abilene, Texas	12:00/2:00 p.m.	
Apr. 10	University of Dallas (DH)	Irving, Texas	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Apr. 16	Howard Payne University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	5:00/7:00 p.m.	
Apr. 17	Howard Payne University (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	1:00/3:00 p.m.	
Apr. 22	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (DH)*	Old Settlers Park	5:00/7:00 p.m.	
Apr. 23	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (DH)*	Belton, Texas	1:00/3:00 p.m.	

GOLF

5	DATE	EVENT	COURSE	LOCATION
	Feb. 28-March 1	Schreiner Spring Shootout	The Club at Comanche Trace	Kerrville, Texas
21	March 14-March 16	The ConCan Intercollegiate Invitational	ConCan Country Club	ConCan, Texas
	March 28-March 30	UTD Spring Classic	Sherrill Park Golf Course	Richardson, Texas
	April 11-April 13	West Region Invitational	Teravista Golf Club	Round Rock, Texas
	April 18-April 20	ASC Golf Chapionships	Ram Rock Golf Course	Horseshoe Bay, Texas
	May 11-May 14	NCAA III Golf Championships	Hershey Country Club	Hershey, Pa.
<u>ب</u>	DATE	EVENT	COURSE	LOCATION
E	Feb. 21-Feb. 23	UMHB Lady Cru Spring Invitational	Mill Creek Country Club	Salado, Texas
	Feb. 28 – March 1	Schreiner Women's Spring Shootout	The Club at Comanche Trace	Kerrville, Texas
	March 28 – March 30	Southwestern Invitational	Berry Creek Country Club	Georgetown, Texas



Concordia University Texas 2009 Excellence in Leadership Gala



Senator Kirk Watson, Liz Watson, Elizabeth Christian and The Honorable Bruce Todd

Concordia University Texas celebrated its third annual Excellence in Leadership (EIL) Gala on August 28, 2009, at the Four Seasons Hotel Austin. Chaired by Elizabeth Christian, President of Elizabeth Christian & Associates Public Relations, the event honored Senator Kirk Watson, an outstanding Texas leader.

Watson is a successful attorney, who graduated near the top of his class at Baylor University. In naming Watson "Best Mayor in Texas for Business," Texas Monthly Biz Magazine described him as, "A man with a vision of what the community wants, and the moxie to carry it out." Now, as a Texas Senator, he has been recognized by numerous groups for his legislative work.

"Successful attorney, extraordinary Austin mayor, award-winning legislator and devoted family man: I believe that Senator Watson would say he wouldn't have done any of these jobs as well were it not for his abiding belief in Jesus Christ," Christian said.

The annual gala, which raises money for the University's annual scholarship fund, has received an overwhelming response, selling out each year since its inception in 2007. Past honorees have included Roger T. Staubach, Executive Chairman of The Staubach Company and former Dallas Cowboys quarterback, and Austin business and community leader Tom Stacy, President of T. Stacy & Associates.

"We are proud to lift up Senator Watson as a model of servant leadership as he has served this community in a myriad of positions," Dr. Tom Cedel said. After being recognized at the gala by both Christian and Dr. Cedel, Senator Watson shared his thoughts on receiving the 2009 Excellence in Leadership Award: "I am very honored to receive this award. Concordia University is a gem in our community. And it's continuing to add assets-whether it's the wonderful new campus or the new nursing program, there's much to be proud of. Thanks to all of you for supporting Concordia. Your role is that of a sower of seeds in our community. Happily, we know that your seed is falling on ground that will bear fruit." Notable guests in attendance to honor Senator Watson included, former Austin Mayor, The Honorable Bruce Todd; Concordia University Texas Board Member

Alan Werchan and his wife Alice; CEO of University Federal Credit Union Tony Budet and his wife Nancy; CEO of The Bommarito Group Marla Bommarito-Crouch; Executive Director of the Downtown Austin Alliance Charlie Betts and his wife Sylvia; Concordia University Texas Board Chairman Keith Weiser and his wife Darci; and President of the Texas District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Ken Hennings and his wife Val, among others.

2009

Guests dined at tables adorned with English-garden style arrangements of flowers in varying shades of yellow designed by David Kurio and gold boxes of hand-made chocolate truffles donated by Sweet Serendipity of Georgetown.

The gala concluded with guests dancing the night away on the dance floor to a range of musical tunes provided by Penguin Entertainment.



The gala concluded with guests dancing the night away.

Meet a CTX Student Leomar Vivas

Many students who grow up in a "college-town" can't wait to leave and experience their college career elsewhere. Austinites have a very different attitude towards Austin and many choose a college based on its location close to the hometown they love. Leomar Vivas, freshman at Concordia, first started looking at Concordia as a matter of convenience. The schools location is close to home, and close to one of the family's four restaurants.

In fact, Flores Mexican Restaurants serves several purposes for Leo. The restaurants serve as careers and a source of income for his family. The restaurant chain also gave Leo the rare gift of knowing what he wants to do with his life before starting college. Leo has always loved numbers and math, so he decided to combine this love of numbers and his family tradition of working in the family business. He is majoring in Business with a concentration in Accounting. Leo aspires to become the accountant for the family business.

When Leo started researching Concordia, he liked what he saw. Then he attended Future Accountants, Advertisers, Managers and Entrepreneurs (FAAME), a leadership workshop held every spring Semester. It is designed for prospective business students to learn more about the business program at Concordia. He really enjoyed the workshop and more importantly, Concordia really enjoyed him! The admissions team, along with the Dean of Business, Dr. Don Christian, who facilitated the workshop, were impressed with Leo. The Leadership scholarship for \$11,400.00, awarded to Leo clinched the deal and he was on his way to becoming a Tornado.



Now that Leo has just completed his first semester at Concordia, he has found it to be so much more than just a convenient location. He has found Concordia works hard to make commuters feel a part of the campus. Even though he lives at home, he doesn't feel like he misses out on anything. This first semester was spent taking basics, and he is looking forward to starting business classes next semester. His favorite class was Life and Leadership, which focuses on assisting students to a successful adjustment to college life and introducing them to our mission of developing Christian leaders. Leo felt this class was very beneficial to his adjustment to college life. He has also been really impressed with his religion classes. While he has not yet figured out how to transfer Christian Leadership into his daily career, he does feel it is making him a better person.

Several factors contributed to Leo choosing Concordia to obtain a college degree. First, Concordia's beautiful new location and convenience of still living at home but also the ability to embrace the student life culture. Secondly, Leo appreciated the workshops and events where students get to experience college firsthand, before actually attending, to make sure Concordia is the right fit for them. The third selling point for Leo was the merit scholarships.

As alumni and friends of the university, you can help with sharing these and many more highlights of CTX. If you know a student who has mentioned Concordia, encourage them to visit the campus. We have special events, campus visit days and individual tours throughout the year. These can all be found at concordia.edu/visit.

Message from the Dean...

Don Christian Dean of the College of Business

Trips... campus projects...leadership conferences...internships...lunches with guest speakers...interviews with successful alumni – all of these are ways in which the College of Business engages its traditional students with the "real world" experience beyond the classroom. The theories that are taught in the marketing, management, accounting and finance classes can be put into practice as students travel to the Texas/ Mexico Border...plan for and construct a student gathering place next to the library... attend the Catalyst Conference in Atlanta where they listen to speakers such as Malcolm Gladwell, Tony Dungy and Dave Ramsey...develop social media sites for Lutheran Social Services of the South... have lunch with Kathleen Hartnett White of the Texas Public Policy Foundation...and listen to alumnus Kevin Lange, president



Students receive scholarships through Thrivent Financial.



Students are engaged in "real world" experiences at the Texas / Mexico Border.

of Austin Financial Partners, share his thoughts on leadership and management. All of these experiences shape and develop students as Christian leaders that will serve in organizations locally and globally.

The adult student in the College of Business, Accelerated Degree Program, brings to the classroom day-to-day "real world experience," with an opportunity to put into practice immediately what they learn in the classroom. These classes are focused on building students' knowledge and competencies so that they can be successful RIGHT NOW in their places of work. Listening to Health Care Administration students describe their practicum experiences is a reminder that given the right opportunities, students can use the knowledge and skills they have learned to make improvements in their organizations. As the Accelerated Degree Program student gets to know his or her professors (who are also working professionals), they are not only gaining knowledge but also forming relationships that will serve them into the future.

As we look to the future, College of Business students will have more opportunities for travel...they will increase their interaction with local professionals... they will have greater opportunities for internships and practicums...they will have a greater choice of classes in their fields of study...and they will be challenged to make a difference in whatever vocation into which they have been called.



Students attend the Catalyst Conference in Atlanta.

CTX Class Updates

Kristin Jakobson ('71) has

been accepted for the Clinical Pastoral Education Basic Course internship at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta from May to July 2009. She will be one of the hospital student chaplains at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.



Nathan & Noah Arendse

Cherie Wied-Arendse ('93),

husband David and big brother Nathan welcome Noah David born May 9, 2009. The family is currently stationed in Geilenkirchen, Germany, where David is in the Air Force.

Aaron ('97) and Kristen Goeke ('97) welcomed Liesl Rebecca Goeke into the world on, 23 November 2009. Their beautiful baby girl weighed 7lbs 10oz.

John Campbell ('00) of the

Simon Law Firm was named Up & Coming Lawyer by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. The award is given to attorneys under the age of 40 who have dedicated themselves to the legal profession and merit recognition.

Campbell, 31, graduated summa cum laude from Concordia in 2000. In 2006 he earned his law degree from the Saint Louis University School of Law, graduating magna cum



John Campbell

laude. Campbell practices in the areas of consumer and class action law. He is licensed to practice in Missouri, Illinois and New York. **Kimberly Hill ('08)** was married to David Walker on August 1st, 2009.



Brian Weaver ('08) and Victoria Standifer ('08) were engaged November 14th. They are both Director of Christian Education graduates.

Justin Johnson ('02) shares the arrival of daughter, Nora Jane Johnson born July 9, 2009, 7.5 lbs, 21 inches long. "She's our little bundle of joy!"

Kristina (Kansas) Cupic

('04) was married to Shane Cupic on July 19, 2008.



Kristina & Shane Cupic

Get Involved.

Contact the Alumni Office today at 512.313.4111 or via email alumni@concordia.edu.



In Memorium



Rev. Elmer Klenk ('32) passed away on November 23, 2009. His funeral was held on Saturday, November 28 at Zion Lutheran Church in Tomball. Rev. Klenk graduated from Concordia high school in 1932 and was Concordia's oldest living alumni and contributed to the Crossing Jordan DVD. Rev. Klenk's daughter, Cynthia Klenk Woodlee ('62) survives him.



Dr. Bernie Gastler, former professor of music at CTX, passed away November 21, 2009. Oliver Bernard "Bernie" Gastler was born August 14, 1929, in Wellsville, Missouri, the second of four sons born to Leo and Thelma Gastler. In 1947, Bernie enrolled at Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebraska. After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree from Concordia in 1953, Bernie began his service as a Christian day school teacher, organist and choir director at Trinity Lutheran Church



CTX Dining Hall Named

On August 26, 2009, the first day of this academic year, Bill and Joyce Thomas were recognized for their generous donation to Concordia; a donation made in honor of their two daughters Deborah and Kathryn.

The Thomas' received naming recognition of Concordia's new dining hall area.

The Thomas' are owners of Joy Pipe Co., headquartered in Boerne, Texas, where they are members of Messiah Lutheran Church. in Port Arthur, Texas. His service continued there for the next 12 years.

Bernie began his graduate studies at the University of Texas in 1957. He was awarded the Master of Music degree in 1963. That same year he accepted the position of teacher and organist at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin. Here he served the people of God far beyond his original call for the rest of his life.

In the late 1970's Bernie began his studies for the Doctor of Music degree at the University of Texas. He wrote his dissertation about the use of sacred music in church preschools. It was dedicated "to all the little children and teachers who like to sing songs to God." During this time, he began part-time service at Concordia University, Austin. In 1982 he became a full time professor in Concordia's music department.

He received his doctoral degree from the University of Texas in 1983.

He is survived today by Ruth, his loving wife of 57 years; his daughter Connie (and husband John) of Lakewood, Washington; and his son Greg (and wife, Jenny) of St. Louis, Missouri. Four grandchildren also survive him — Jessica Schmidt of Puyallup, Washington; Rebekah Schmidt of Austin, Texas; and Katherine Gastler and Matthias Gastler of St. Louis, Missouri. Survivors also include his two brothers, Norman and William Gastler of Martinsburg, Missouri and many nieces and nephews.

Martin EIFERT, Concordia professor who taught from '51-'54, passed away August 28, 2009 in Austin. His brother Herbert (Hub), retired pastor, 1952 alumnus, survives him.

Jay Sevier, 2004 Secondary Education graduate and Tornado Baseball Player, passed away Saturday, September 19th, 2009. He had joined the Army Special Forces in August 2007 and passed away at his army base in Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.



October 24, 2009 was a beautiful day at Concordia University Texas as alumni were welcomed back home to celebrate Homecoming 2009. The blessed weather was the perfect background to enhance the experience and encourage the weekend's theme: *Reconnect. Renew. Remember.*

Alumni enjoyed snacks while remembering good times at Concordia.



The morning kicked off with the 19th annual Luth-A-Run 5K race around the CTX campus. Registration in the main building was busy from 8:00 a.m. to the end of the day.

At 10:00 a.m. the alumni gathered in the Auditorium for Reunion Rally. Phil Hohle ('77) hosted the meeting. He did a great job of facilitating as well as adding humor and personality along with Concordia trivia. The Alumni Board President, Donna Rupp ('87, M.Ed.'04) provided a year in review and Association progress. Honor Classes were recognized with purple or yellow mums and were acknowledged during the Rally. Classes celebrating 50 years post graduation were presented special medallions by President Tom Cedel. Dr. Cedel also provided the alumni with a State of the University address.

The 2009-2010 Alumni Board nominations were approved and the new Board was officially elected. Dr. Richard Dinda was honored as the first inductee of the Alumni Faculty Wall of Honor. His wife and daughter were present to see him receive this prestigious award.



Rev. Dr. Richard Dinda was honored as the first inductee of the Alumni Faculty Wall of Honor.

The Alumni College was a new addition to Homecoming this year and was a huge success. Dr. Susan Stayton, Dr. Richard Dinda, Dr. Milton Riemer and Dr. Donald Zielke each hosted classrooms, offering alumni the opportunity to ask them questions and provide updates on their lives. It was so well received that the Alumni College will become a new Homecoming tradition.



Both men and women alumni basketball palyers played for a great crowd.

The Alumni Basketball Game was back this year! Both men and women basketball alumni came together and played for a great crowd. The Alumni Association hosted a Mexican buffet after the games for the alumni and fans.

The weekend ended on a high note with a beautiful Sunday worship service led by Rev. Ray Martens ('49). The Concordia University Choir, directed by Joshua Chai, provided the music. Dr. Marten's sermon resonated the theme of Homecoming 2009: *Reconnect. Renew. Remember.*



Alumni reconnected with one another at Homecoming 2009.

The CTX Alumni Association President's Message

Norman Stoppenhagen

It is a great privilege to serve the alumni of CTX as your president. I graduated from Concordia Academy in 1959 and from Concordia Lutheran College in 1961. I attended Concordia Senior College of Fort Wayne, Indiana, to earn my Bachelor of Arts. After graduating from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis with a Master of Divinity, I served in the pastoral ministry for 39 years before retiring to Austin in 2006. My wife Cathy and I have enjoyed getting reacquainted with my Concordia roots and with our two children. We are excited about a new grandson who is expected to arrive in March of 2010. I served the Alumni Board as the Austin Alumni Chapter co-president for the 2008-2009 year. At the annual meeting in 2009, I was elected president of the Alumni Association.

We are making great strides forward in our desire to link Concordia graduates with each other and expect a challenging year ahead. We have a new chapter starting in Bryan and have chosen our first honoree for the Faculty Wall of Honor, the Reverend Doctor Richard J. Dinda.

We want to do so much more, but funds are very limited. The Alumni Association Board members are constantly mindful of the funds and explore new ways to replenish them. We are dependent on the generosity of our alumni to support our agenda. We greatly appreciate your



support. If you would consider making a gift of \$25 a year to the CTX Alumni Association, it will enable us to take even greater strides in serving your needs

If you have a comment or suggestion about how we can help you feel more a part of the association and of the university, we want to hear it. Thank you for allowing me to serve you and this great university that we love!



Norman Stoppenhagen with Rev. Dr. Richard Dinda and his wife Laura as Rev. Dr. Dinda is inducted inot the Faculty Wall of Honor.

Agenda items for the 2009-2010 year:

- Portraits, frames and lighting for the Faculty Wall of Honor
- Election of our next Wall of Honor honoree
- Two receptions to honor the winter and spring graduates
- Participation by the Alumni Association in graduation ceremonies
- Start new chapters and assist them until they can support themselves
- Build up our existing alumni chapter receptions after every major event on campus
- Greater attendance at Homecoming Weekend, October 22-24, 2010
- Keep alumni informed with current information on the alumni section of the university web site

50 Years for The Cardinals of '59





Dr. Gary Stansell Concordia High School, Class of '59

After Concordia Jr. College, Austin (1961), I proceeded to the Senior College and then to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Virginia (nee Creamer) and I were married in 1964. After vicarage in Santa Ana, CA (1965-66), I graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1967.

We moved to Heidelberg, Germany, where I pursued a Doktor der Theologie degree in Old Testament. Our daughter, Amanda, was born in Heidelberg in 1971. In late 1972 I was invited to join the faculty of both Concordia Seminary and St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN. I chose liberal arts teaching in the Religion Department, and we moved to Northfield, MN, in 1973.

My entire professional life of teaching and writing has been happily spent at St. Olaf College. My wife, Virginia, a church musician by calling and education, has served as Director of Music at a number of churches and denominations in the area, also serving as Adjunct Professor of Harpsichord at both St. Olaf College and Carleton College.

The key events at St. Olaf may be summarized as follows: 1973—Instructor in the Religion Department

1982-- given tenure at St. Olaf (promoted to Associate Professor)

1985-86—Chair of the Religion Department

1988-- elected to the rank of Full Professor

1995-98—Chair of the History, Philosophy, Religion Division of the Humanities

2009--appointed to the Kenneth O. Bjork Distinguished Professorship As a teacher I offered a wide variety of courses in Biblical Studies, particularly the prophetic and wisdom literature, religion and science, including occasion classes in Hebrew. I have also taught in the "Great Conversations" program, a set of honors courses in which the classics of the western world were studied.

As a researcher and writer, I published translations from the Hebrew as well as German biblical commentaries (Hosea and Micah). In addition to a book on the prophet Micah (Atlanta: Scholars Press 1988; reprinted in 1996), I have published scholarly articles in the area of the Old Testament prophets. More recently, my efforts have focused on how cultural anthropology enables the biblical interpreter to understand the ancient biblical world and the eastern Mediterranean, with published articles on such topics as honor and shame, family relations, gift-exchange, economics and wealth and friendship. The latest of my publications appeared in the fall of 2009 on metaphor in the book of Isaiah (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature).

CTX Alumni



Charles Dube Concordia High School, Class of '59

The eight years after high school were pretty much of a given – junior college at Austin, senior college at Ft. Wayne, seminary at St. Louis. However, during vicarage at Christ Lutheran in Washington, DC, the realization began to dawn that I was not a good fit for the parish ministry. My next option was to go back to where I was most comfortable – back in the MO Synod upper level school system. Vivian (Koym) and I were married just before I began vicarage, so after seminary she and I moved to Claremont, CA where I entered the Claremont Graduate School program for a master's in College Student Personnel. Unfortunately, the program was terrible, so I dropped out of it. After a year of knocking around grad school I finally decided to get a job and ended up as a social worker for LA County. In about a one minute phone call one day, I was advised that I would be dropped from the roster of candidates since I had no immediate plans for accepting a called position. My conclusion – there must be a God that kept me out of the ministry.

After four years as a social worker (including a year working with unmarried minor mothers - wow!) I spent over ten years as a parole agent for adult felons. From there I went to work for General Dynamics in the missile design/production facility in Pomona, CA. Management development training; employee assistance program; salaried-employee ombudsman; business plans and analysis; a position in Engineering to "do good things"; and finally working with engineers to build cross-functional engineering teams - it was all challenging, enlightening and rewarding. In mid-2002 I retired after having worked in Pomona, Tucson, Fullerton and San Diego. Vivian retired about the same time after 35 years as a teacher/administrator in public schools.

Along the way we raised two daughters. Charis Eirene (Greek for "grace and peace") is now a PhD (Leadership and Change), head of a Montessori school, and living in Seattle with our son-inlaw Rob and our grandson Rab. Anna Therese (named for my grandmother and Vivian's mother) is very eligible, a well paid engineer on the north slope of Alaska, and lives in a yuppie condo in The Pearl district of Portland, OR. We rehabbed an old Craftsman-style farmhouse, vintage 1910, raised (and unfortunately had to eventually put down) a passel of English bulldogs, and bounced in and out of a number of Lutheran congregations.

After retirement we moved to the 100 acre farm my father bought in 1942, built a great new house (Vivian's design). We have spent our not-so-free time working with the Texas Wendish Heritage Society and Museum, quilting, working with a couple of kids in foster homes, fixing things I break while doing projects on the farm, visiting my 94-year old mom in the nursing home, caring for Vivian's 93-year old mother here in our home, and wishing we were in Seattle visiting our grandson.



Norman Stoppenhagen Concordia Classes of '59 and '61

Since graduation from Concordia Lutheran College of Austin in 1961, I earned my Bachelor of Arts at Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne, Indiana. I continued my studies for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis, graduating in 1967 with my Master of Divinity. I was called to Trinity Lutheran Church of Taylor, Texas, where I served for six years. In 1974 I received a call from a mission congregation, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Agoura Hills, California, outside of Thousand Oaks where the Dallas Cowboys held their summer camp. After leading that mission to self-supporting status during my eight years there, I was called to Messiah Lutheran Church in Downey, California. During my pastorate there, we began a Spanish ministry side by side with the English ministry

to serve a changing community. I served the good people there for twenty-one years before retiring to Austin, Texas, in 2006 with my lovely wife, Cathy. We have five adult children and eleven grandchildren and another grandson on the way.

I have served on various committees of the Texas District and of the Pacific Southwest District. The last twelve years of my active ministry I also acted as Circuit Counselor to eleven congregations. Since returning to Austin, I am still preaching occasionally for congregations in the area and leading a small group and the prayer ministry at my home church. In 2008 I agreed to serve as co-president of the Austin Chapter of the Concordia Alumni Association. At the 2009 meeting I was elected to serve as President of the Alumni Association

I never lost my love for sports. Throughout my years of ministry I played tennis, handball, softball, volleyball and my present hobby, golf. I also enjoy vegetable gardening.



www.concordia.edu/alumni



Steve Kappler Concordia High School, Class of '59

Upon graduation from Concordia Academy, Austin in 1959, I pursued the traditional route of Jr. College (Austin), Sr. College (Ft. Wayne), and Seminary (St. Louis), graduating in 1967.

I met my wife Janelle (Buvinghausen) during a 1965 summer vicarage, "via a pan" LCMS Boy's Scouts program in the inner city of Houston. At the time Janelle (St. John's, Winfield KS '63 grad) was serving in San Diego, CA as the church's (Youth Director). We married in May of 1966, and are exceedingly blessed with the gift of three delightful children Greg (Troy, IL), Mindi Mohr (Fresno CA), and Amy (Austin), and are expecting our soon-to-arrive 6th grandchild (3 girls & 3 boys). We have really enjoyed spending time with our children and grandchildren since retirement.

Congregations we served include our assigned dual parish of Hay Springs/ Rushville, NE (1967-1972), Kerrville, TX (1972-1987), San Diego CA (1987-1999) and Sun City West, AZ (1999-2008). I formally retired in May of 2008.

Special interests over the years: Professionally, we became actively involved in Marriage Enrichment during ministry in Kerrville, TX, and continued that ministry for many years (Marriage Encounter, Encore, Acme, etc.), conducting retreats in our local parishes and throughout U.S. and Canada. Our last parish was located in a retirement resort community (Sun City West, AZ), where we enjoyed the privilege of developing and administrating a congregation wide network of Care Ministries (StephenCare, GriefCare, VideoCare, PrayerCare, SmallGroupCare, RespiteCare). On a personal level, Janelle and I enjoyed many years of collecting, restoring, and consigning antiques, including parlor reed organs and clocks. In Sun City West I pursued a hobby of working with stained glass.

In retirement we have joined SOWERS (Servants On Wheels Ever Ready), a nondenominational Christian RV'ers group who volunteer around the U.S. and Canada at Christian camps and retreat centers as support personnel in maintaining/ upgrading the camps. In 2009 we have served in Colorado, Montana, California, and in November, will be at Glen Haven Christian Retreat Center in Huntsville, TX. We have also committed to two summer months next year at a Christian camp in Soldatna, AK, where Janelle and I will serve as Group Leaders. We continue to maintain our home in Sun City West, AZ, and do our volunteer work via our motorhome.





Kenneth Brantley Concordia High School, Class of '59

After school I joined the Air Force in 1960. I was lucky enough to get into data processing school. I was stationed at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls, Texas. I joined the Air Force to see the world and I saw all of the world between Wichita Falls and Garland.

I married Judy "the love of my life" in May

of 1961. We have been blessed with two boys (aka Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn); what one did not think of the other one did.

After my four years in the Air Force we moved back to Garland where we still live today.

I worked at several companies in data processing before I started my own software and data processing business. I retired after fifteen years, so I thought.

We started dabbling in antiques in the early 1980's as a hobby. We started refinishing our own furniture. Word got around and others wanted us to refinish their furniture. Hobby gone bad! We closed the antique part of the business and we are still doing furniture to this day.

Along the way thru the past fifty years I've done what I call "the daddy thing." I started coaching baseball when our first born was only nine months old. I've coached baseball, basketball and soccer. The only thing I have not coached is football. But I was on the sidelines for every game. This lasted twelve years.

Then the boys grew up and had six kids of their own (3 boys & 3 girls). Next thing I know I am back in the coaching business again. Baseball, basketball, soccer and the sidelines.

We have been members of Peace Lutheran Church, Garland for all of these fifty years. We were married in this church, our children were baptized and confirmed here. Our grandchildren were baptized and some were confirmed here also.

As the saying goes "if you want to hear God laugh just tell him your plans for life." Even though we have gone from two skinny teenagers to our impression of the Pillsbury Dough Boy and the Michelin Man, I can't complain.

God Bless.



Richard Schroeder Concordia High School, Class of '59

Rick lives with his wife, Mary, 5 miles west of Willis on Lake Conroe. He is retired (2001), and is enjoying it tremendously. He is doing as little as possible, traveling and catching up on a lot of things that he was not able to do while working.



Bill Schkade Concordia High School, Class of '59

A 1999 retiree living on a acreage near Walburg, TX raising small livestock, catfish and produce. Two adult children and four grandchildren. Degrees: BS Sociology, Lamar University (1965) and Master of Liberal Arts, TCU (1975). Vietnam Era Army veteran, former adult guidance counselor, adult probation officer and director of a residential substance abuse treatment facility for male and female felony offenders. Twelve year cancer survivor.



Charles Wuensche Concordia High School, Class of '59

Chuck began taking piano and organ lessons at a very early age. He became full time organist at Trinity Lutheran Church in Taylor, TX at age eleven and shortly thereafter began taking organ lessons from Prof. Ivan Olsen at Concordia Austin, which led him to the teaching profession. He graduated from Concordia Austin High School in 1959 and Concordia Austin Jr. College in 1961. He received a B.S. in Education from Concordia River Forest in 1963 and was called to teach at Tomball Lutheran School in Texas and served as organist and choir director for Salem Lutheran Church. He also taught piano, organ and guitar lessons privately. In

1965 he accepted a position to teach Business Math at Klein High School where he also served as choral director and golf coach. In the summer of 1966 he won a National Sales Contest sponsored by Field Enterprises Educational Corp. and accepted a position with the company as District Manager for the Aldine School District. This catapulted him into a new career in sales and sales management. Because of his musical background, he accepted a sales position with Holcombe-Lindquist, Inc., a large piano and organ dealer in Houston, where he later became V.P./Sales Manager.

Chuck then expanded his career in the piano and organ business by working with companies in Texas and Florida in sales, sales management and training, as well as having his own marketing company. He has won numerous awards and is recognized nationally in his field. Chuck is now retired and lives with his wife in Lancaster, S.C. He has two children and two grandchildren living in Houston.

Mark Your Calendars for July 12th!

You are invited to join fellow alumni and friends for a private event hosted by Concordia University Texas during the 2010 LCMS Convention in Houston.

It promises to be an evening of Food, Fellowship and Fun at the unique Home Plate restaurant near the ballpark of the Houston Astros.

July 2010





I graduated from Concordia in 1946. Fifteen years later after spending 10 years in elementary education in Lutheran Schools in Texas I returned to Concordia in 1961 as Assistant Professor in Social Sciences. I remained at Concordia until my retirement in 1993. We were blessed with two children and four grandchildren. Of course we do attempt to play the role of grandparents. That is doting on the grandchildren as much as possible.

With your many years at Concordia, which one is the most memorable for you?

There are many amusing and interesting experiences that come to mind. But the paramount event in my era that comes to mind is a telephone call that came one Sunday evening in January 1972 informing me that Dr. Paul Elbrecht, President, in his 40s, had suddenly died as a result of a massive heart attack. Then the major job loomed for me. I took comfort in knowing that seasoned professors were there to catch me when faltered.

I'm sure Concordia looks very different now. Did you ever envision Concordia making such a major change as relocating its entire campus?

After spending 4 years on campus as a student and then 32 years as a member of the faculty one comes to think of the place as being situated without the possibility of moving. However, as much as we may miss the old campus, the possibility of growth and expansion there was severely limited. The last time I drove by the old campus only remnants of the former buildings remained. Such is progress.

Change is happening around us all the time. In order to succeed we must adapt. Do you have any words of advice, or hopes for the future of Concordia or to the Concordia community?

In the mid 1920s when the decision was made to establish Concordia in suburban Austin

the United States was experiencing economic growth unparalleled in U.S. history. However, just a few years after that decision, America faced the worst economic depression in its history. In the mid 2000s when the decision was made to relocate the entire campus to a new location in the nearby suburban Austin, we again were experiencing unheard of economic growth, and a few years later again an economic recession. History seemly repeating itself. This type of situation presents a challenge to Concordia. It is imperative that Concordia persist in serving students by challenging them to use their God given talents and abilities to THE UTMOST. Change is inevitable, but values and ideals remain constant.

As various people cross our paths in life, there are times when we look back and wonder what those individuals are going now. I'm sure your former students, faculty and staff of Concordia would be interested to know how you have been spending your retirement years. What have your projects and passion been since leaving Concordia?

In the initial years after my retirement my wife, Virginia, and I took our RV and traveled rather extensively throughout the states and national parks of the United States and intermittently served as volunteers, doing historical interpretation. Washington on the Brazos State Park, the site of Texas Declaration of Independence and LBJ State Park in Stonewall especially come to mind. Even though we travel rather expensively throughout Europe, Scandanavia, Mexico, Canada, Australia and New Zealand we found that nature provides us with scenery in the western U.S and Canada equal to that of other regions of the world. Finally, in 1997 we determined that it would be advisable to move from Austin since both of our children lived elsewhere. Our choices were Denver, where our son lives, or Houston, home to our daughter. Houston won out. Shortly after we became settled, the community college, Lone Star College, asked us to volunteer as Curriculum Directors for the

Academy of Life Long Learning (ALL). This is a program designed for individuals aged 50 and over. It was our responsibility to develop the curriculum that would be of interest to this age group and then to obtain presenters of the various topics. We were involved in this program from its inception for 4 years. We both found we learned so much during those 4 years and have kept us alert and learning.

In 2003 we were privileged to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary and we took that opportunity to take our son, Terrance, his wife, Kelly and their two children as well as our daughter, Holly, her husband Philip and their two children on a cruise.

I also became interested in genealogical research and was able to trace my family history back to the 18th century. I am currently working on Virginia's family. One word of caution, if you are tempted to do genealogical work, beware, it does become addictive.

Harris County has a unique program (only one in the United States) of providing free bus service to groups of senior citizens for travel in this area of Texas. We organize groups who are interested in attending the Houston Symphony and Theatre Under the Stars (musicals) as well as enjoying and leading nature and bird watching groups and various other groups.

We both have survived and thrived after some health issues. The Lord does provide.

How can former students contact you?

I would love to hear from former students. My e mail address: Chatt2006@SBCGlobal.net

Tornado Tune-In



With music to highlight the melody of memories that we all have about our time at Concordia, Philip Hohle ('77) launched the Alumni Hour on the Tornado Radio. This constant internet broadcast radio program is managed by Professor Hohle and his communication students. You can tune in anytime, anywhere. However, on the third Sunday of each month at 8:00 p.m., the CTX studio in Building D is taken over by blasts from the past.

The Alumni Hour debuted in August 2009 with Stephanie ('94) and Duane ('92) Bamsch on air with Dr. Bill Driskill. Why start with the '90s? To quote Jodi Pfleeger Leslie ('95), "The 90's Rule!". These alumni are an active and supportive group and experienced our transition to full university status in 1995. The show enjoyed several call-in



Philip Hohle '77 launched the Alumni Hour on Tornado Radio

participants and Facebook commentary afterward. Even with Dean Driskill in the room, our alumni had no trouble revealing antics from the American Inn. We can't wait to bring this decade back.

The Silver Dollar, Lumberyard and Century Square apartments were hot spots in the '80s, but not as hot as our own Texas Hall – and that dinnerware. Linda Nabors Pittsford ('85) was joined by Coach Tom Orton this past September to dribble down memory lane to the 1983 Stags basketball championship. After reviewing the roster, Professor Orton reminded us that at Concordia you could try – no matter what you wanted to try to do. Perhaps that vision helped grow our small school into its four-year college status in 1980.

Similarly to the 80's, the 1950s celebrated a championship basketball team, but they were the Cardinals back then. As October drew us closer to Homecoming Weekend, Norm Stoppenhagen (59, '61) and Bettie Horn Bendewald ('57) co-hosted with Philip Hohle and Linda Nabors Pittsford for our third consecutive Alumni Hour. The time flew by with memories of Les Bayer, Ivan Olson, Richard Dinda and George Beto. Did you know that Bettie babysat for the Betos? This was all part of the family that was growing as Concordia



Linda Nabors Pittsford '85 was joined by Coach Tom Orton this past September

added the two-year junior college in 1951 and admitted women for the first time in 1955. In October, the studio was also open during Homecoming Weekend for stop-in stories. These shows replay every Sunday on Tornado Radio so be sure to listen. You just might find yourself on the radio.

Tornado Radio is about communicating and learning. Concordia has transformed through the decades and continues to grow and change today. Besides, the radio is now on the internet!

Tune into Tornado Radio for Alumni Hour every third Sunday at 8:00 p.m. CST at

http://web.me.com/concordiatexas and call in at 512.234.3335.

Concordia University Texas Guild

By Liz Zoch

The Concordia Guild of Concordia University Texas met during Homecoming weekend to reset goals for 2009-2010. President Cedel installed new officers, Dr. M. Reimer as President and Dr. P. Muench as Vice President. Ideas for new memberships and new service projects were discussed and will be implemented. Guild members continue to bake alloccasion cakes for students, assemble Survival Kits, send birthday cards and provide a Food Bash study break during finals weeks. The Guild also sponsored a reception after the Music Department's Christmas concert in December.

The Guild continues to be a huge asset to the University. By selling Holiday Cakes and pecans, they provide scholarship funds to deserving students. New members are always welcome. Please contact the Concordia Guild by calling **512-313-3000**.



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Registration Details: http://www.eftours.com/bc tour # 986226

For additional information and updates call Dr. Larry Meissner at 512-313-5504



HOMECOMING 2010 OCTOBER 22th, 23th & 24th



Save the date and mark your calendars for a weekend of fellowship and fun with friends both old and new.

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CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS Family Weekend 2010 February 5th - 7th

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS