

Hearts Together

A CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN & ANN ARBOR

SPECIAL MAGAZINE EDITION



Thank you

A celebration of an uncommon legacy

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

Hearts Together contents

SPRING/SUMMER 2021



ON THE COVERS

FRONT On June 30, 2021, President Ferry will retire as president of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor. This issue celebrates his uncommon legacy of service, with 24 years as head of the CUW campus and eight over CUA.

BACK The day before he learned he would become CUW's eighth president, Ferry began a journaling habit that has endured for 24 years. His musings on life, family, and Concordia have filled more than 20 leather-bound volumes within that time. The back cover shows an actual excerpt from Day 2 of his journaling routine.

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Hearts Together

HEARTS TOGETHER is a joint publication of the Mequon and Ann Arbor campuses of Concordia University. In 2013, the two formerly independent universities merged into one institution, overseen by one president and one governing board. This publication shares the stories of the exciting advancements on each of the campuses; the notable accomplishments of faculty, staff, students, and alumni; and the life-changing service Concordians—hearts together—undertake for Christ in the Church and the world.

The Strategic Communications department is responsible for the production of *Hearts Together*. The magazine's editorial team welcomes your feedback. Please send comments or queries to Kali.Thiel@cuw.edu.

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Go green! If you would like to subscribe to our email edition instead of receiving a copy in the mail, please email news@cuw.edu or news@cuaa.edu.

It is not about me. Forewarned about the direction of this edition, I can understand how one might come to a different conclusion. While I am truly grateful for kind words and tributes, I appreciate the chance to clarify. It is not about me.

It never has been about Pat Ferry. Ultimately, Concordia has always been and will always be about the students. Concordia is about helping to bring meaning and purpose to their lives by connecting them to Jesus. Others like me, including all of us on the faculty and staff, are blessed to be part of the process. For 30 years, nearly half of my life, this ministry has been an extraordinary privilege. Even though it was never about me, I have surely received more than I have given, and I am grateful. Words cannot express.

For a moment, I suppose, it is okay to look back and reminisce. I am a historian, after all, and when I first showed up on campus in 1991 my specific job was to teach history—but it was my singular joy to help connect students to Jesus. Over the years, including the past 24 as president, I have accumulated enough wonderful memories to reflect upon for as long as I live. Some of those are captured in these pages, and I thank our staff for their efforts to pull this together.

The memories always involve people. “Thank you” hardly seems adequate, but I am thankful for all who have shared with me in this noble work for three decades—students, alumni, colleagues, Board members, donors, friends. A special thanks to my family—my wife, Tammy (who works harder for Concordia than anybody I know), and our daughters and sons, who have been supportive all along the way. Above all, I am grateful to the Lord Jesus, whose faithfulness endures forever.

So we look back but only for a moment! So much more remains to be done. While it is time for me to go, it is also time for Concordia to go forward! The same mission that has always driven us inspires us now. Concordia is well positioned to have a far-reaching impact—in the lives of students and through them to others. The love of God in Christ Jesus compels us and is Concordia’s reason for being. That is what this is all about.



REV. PATRICK T. FERRY, PHD
President

“Ultimately, Concordia has always been and will always be about the students.”








social scene

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LIFE AT CUAA Just a few snapshots of day in the life at #CUAA. 📸 Each day we remain centered around this truth, our academic year theme: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

A restful reminder

The words of Isaiah 44:3 have returned to the welcome center! 🙏



HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

An Easter sunrise, CUW style. See the full time-lapse video at CUW's Facebook page.



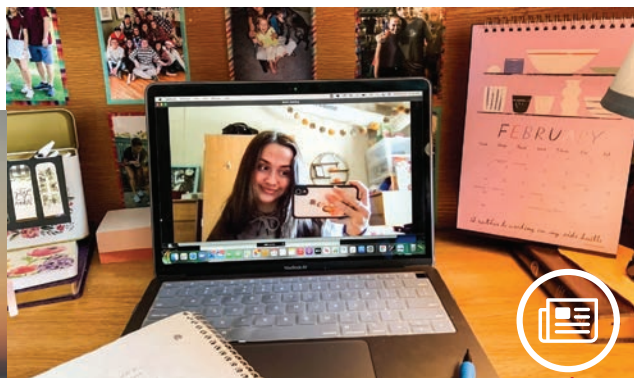
CAMPUS CROSS The campus Christmas tree is hewn into a cross every year in preparation for Ash Wednesday and Lent. It is a vivid reminder that Jesus was born to die for you and me, and that we are so loved. <3
@revranman

• **DREAM JOB**

One-of-a-kind student opportunities in sport and hospitality business led Anne Gierach ('19) to her dream job at Lambeau Field. Read the story at cuw.edu/concordia-alumna-finds-perfect-fit-at-lambeau-field.



• **IT'S TRICKY** A year without CIT? Tricky, indeed! So to lift the mood, CUAA, CUW, CUC, and CUNE joined in a social media dance challenge to "It's Tricky" by Run DMC. Head over to CUW and CUAA Insta to see your fave Concordians bust a move!



Off or on?

What should you do with your camera during class online? One of our CUAA student writers offers five reasons to keep it on! blog.cuaa.edu/5-reasons-camera-on

ACCEPTED!

Congratulations to the newest Cardinals and Falcons! We can't wait to see you on campus!



@lilly_alaspa #CUAA
Women's Basketball bound!



@_alex8 Future Falcon 🦅 #CUW



Jeffrey Smith Thy Will Be Done!



@alexisharmony_ Guess who's going to be a Future RN 🩺🍌



@thran_a_thon I'm very excited to announce my commitment to CUW!! I will be attending Concordia starting in the fall of 2021 determined to become a sports massage therapist! :) #futurefalcon #cuw #thisishome

praises lifted

An essential service continued at CUW amidst the pandemic, albeit a bit altered. Daily Chapel's in-person attendance was limited, making the livestream more frequented than ever. Students like Luke Symmark ('21) (pictured) played a role in keeping the services accessible to all by managing the technology booth.



take five



Get to know one of our *uncommon* Concordians, nursing major **Honey Rose Macatuno ('21)**.

By **Kali Thiel**, *Strategic Communications*

Honey Rose Macatuno had just one year to go before graduation when word came that her school, Concordia University, Portland, would be unexpectedly closing.

The panic on campus was palpable, Macatuno recalls, as everyone rushed to find an alternative. While representatives from over 200 schools paid visits to the Portland campus to offer enticing transfer packages, Macatuno and her fellow nursing majors were barely courted due to the rigorous nursing certification standards each state carries and the extra measures that would be required to accommodate a nursing transfer so late in the game.

Fortunately for Macatuno, Concordia University Wisconsin went the extra mile to open its doors. And Macatuno, an Alaska native, literally went the extra mile in kind to finish her program. She and six other Portland nursing transfers will cross the CUW commencement stage in May.

1 **Alaska to Mequon is quite a journey ...**

I've grown up and lived in Alaska my whole life, so this is my first time in the Midwest! My friend and I made the drive from Portland to Mequon. It took us 10 days, but we also took advantage of the trip by doing a bunch of hikes and making stops like that.

2 **What made you decide on CUW?**

Even though I had limited options, I did a lot of research on Wisconsin's program before I said yes. I looked up the professors. Do they have PhDs? How long has the nursing program been around? What are their NCLEX pass rates? CUW passed everything with flying colors.

3 **And now that you're here?**

I can't say enough about CUW's nursing faculty. Aside from the fact that they moved mountains to allow me to be here, they just go above and beyond in general. They really want to see you succeed.

4 **Why nursing?**

I've always wanted to care for people. My dad passed away when I was really young, and that really impacted my view of the role that a caregiver can play. You can change and impact someone's life so significantly.

5 **What are your Wisconsin "musts" before you leave?**

I have a growing to-do list, and I'm always taking suggestions! So far I've learned that Fridays are for fish fries. I don't know what that is yet, but I'll definitely try it before I leave.

Learn more about Concordia's School of Nursing at cuw.edu/nursing.



SPRING IN THEIR STEP

Seasons may change, but Falcons athletes persevere. The pandemic pushed several CUW athletic programs from fall to spring conference play this year and disrupted a number of the winter programs, as well, resulting in the busiest sports season in university history.

In spring 2021, 31 of CUW's 32 athletic programs competed within the traditional spring time frame, with 17 of those competing for conference titles. In a typical year, only 11 programs compete during the spring season.

Here's a snapshot of the Falcons' jam-packed spring 2021 athletics season.

Keep in step with CUW athletics at cuwfalcons.com.



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SCHOOL OF PHARMACY RECOGNIZED

A decade in, and Concordia's School of Pharmacy (CUW SOP) has a new dean and fresh accolades to its name.

In January, Erik Jorvig, PhD, took the helm of Concordia's youngest academic school, bringing a strong background in accreditation processes and a firm grasp on the oversight of academics. Jorvig had served at Roseman University of Health Sciences since 2004, most recently as dean of the school's Utah campus.



Shortly after Jorvig's arrival, CUW SOP received word that the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) had extended Concordia's accreditation for the maximum eight-year term and named it one of only five "Noteworthy Examples" of exceptional achievement nationwide.

While CUW SOP received high marks on a majority of the accreditation team's 25 standards, the 'Noteworthy Example' distinction came for its work in interprofessional education (IPE).

"It is an honor that the accreditors have recognized us as an example for other schools to emulate," said Jorvig. "Interprofessional practices have been shown to improve patient care, lower costs, and reduce medical errors. Once health care professionals begin to work together, patient care improves, and I think it's significant that our School of Pharmacy has been identified as teaching this high level of patient care with excellence."

Upon graduation, each Concordia pharmacy student will have completed an IPE "pathway" consisting of structured learning activities in classrooms and in practice settings that develop the interprofessional education collaborative (IPEC) competencies. A student who completes the required 30 hours of IPE competencies—whether through requisite, elective, or cocurricular opportunities—receives recognition on their transcript. Students also have the option to extend the pathway through an IPE graduate certificate.

Learn more about Concordia's School of Pharmacy at cuw.edu/pharmacy.

WIDE OPEN POSSIBILITIES

When the global pandemic hit last year, and the world seemed to shut down all around him, CUW freshman Sam Campbell wasn't quite sure what to do next.

"I had a plan," he recalled, "but when COVID came it kind of got shot down. I had to start over."

A senior at Milwaukee's Messmer High School at the time, Sam had always had an interest in business. He also loved playing football. And when he discovered an affordable way to pursue both—while getting extra help when he needed it with school work—the next steps became clear.

The CUW Emerging Scholars program allows Sam to take affordable classes at the university's Midtown Center in Milwaukee while also playing wide receiver for the Falcons. If that's not enough, he also works part-time at a popular clothing store in Milwaukee—a way to indulge his passion for fashion while getting some serious on-the-job business training.

"I definitely want to work for myself someday," Sam said, "and this program will really help with that."

By next spring, Sam should be finishing up his associate degree in business management. From there, he can either go straight into the work force or continue on toward a four-year degree. In other words, his future is wide open—just like any good wide receiver should want it to be.

For more information about Emerging Scholars, visit cuw.edu/EmergingScholars.



In the interim

THE BOARD OF REGENTS SELECTED PROVOST AND CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER WILLIAM CARIO, PHD, AS THE INTERIM PRESIDENT FOR CUW AND CUAA. Cario will begin the role July 1, 2021, following President Ferry's retirement. Cario has been with Concordia since 1990 and has served as head of the university's academic operations since 2007.

CUWAA presidential search

- 1. PLAN** Search committee solicits input.
- 2. IDENTIFY** Candidates are nominated.
- 3. DISCERN & SELECT** Prior-approved nominees are interviewed, winnowed, and advanced.

See updates on the search process at

cuw.edu/president-search and cuaa.edu/president-search.



Chris Kornowski preps the first on-campus COVID-19 vaccine with assistance from PA Director Pollyanna Kabara, EdD.

A HOMEGROWN RESOURCE

For six and a half years, Chris Kornowski ('18, '20) was in the learner's seat at Concordia University Wisconsin, eagerly soaking up all that his professors had to offer.

On Jan. 14, 2021, however, less than six months after graduating with his Master of Science in physician assistant (PA) studies, Kornowski flipped the script when he administered the first COVID-19 vaccine on campus to his former teacher Dr. Ernest Stremski, medical director of CUW's PA program.

That day marked a historic moment for the university. After nearly a full year of disruption from the coronavirus pandemic, Concordia's Mequon campus received its first allotment of the vaccine, symbolically marking the start of a slow-but-sure return to normal. Following the inaugural vaccine clinic, the university's Student Health Center continues to oversee the administration of vaccines according to state guidelines.

Kornowski joined the CUW Student Health Center team as a part-time COVID-19 response coordinator for the 2020-21 academic year. He was one of nine on the CUW Student Health Center team who spearheaded unprecedented efforts to keep students healthy and the university safely open throughout the fall 2020 semester and beyond.

His position at Concordia will be a temporary one. Initially Kornowski pursued job opportunities outside of the university, only to find God continually leading him back to his alma mater.

"At first when I graduated, I thought that was the end of my Concordia journey," said Kornowski. "As I look back today, I realize God put me right where I needed to be. It's been the perfect way to bridge the gap between me graduating and finding a position as a full-time health care provider."

It has also been the continuation of an overwhelmingly positive Concordia experience for Kornowski.

"From my days as an undergrad through to my graduate school experience, Concordia has always given me such a phenomenal experience," he said. "For years, this place has poured out its resources and its love on me. What an awesome opportunity that I now get to give back to a university that gave so much to me."

Learn more about CUW's PA program at cuw.edu/pa.

SPEEDY DEGREES

Looking for a degree on a tight time line? CUW has been offering fast-tracked programs for several years but recently launched a few new options. Learn more about these and other accelerated programs at blog.cuw.edu/speedy-degrees.



3 years

for a BA in elementary education



3 years

for a BA in human resource and strategic leadership



4 years

for a bachelor's and master's in computer science



4 years

(or fewer with transfer credits)

for a bachelor's and MBA for post-traditional learners

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Brian Curry, AVP of international affairs, has stepped into the leadership role for the Concordia International Center (CIC). He succeeds Rev. Dr. David Birner, who served as a prolific missionary for The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod for 35 years before being tapped by Concordia in 2013. Birner retired from Concordia in December 2020.

While new to the post, Curry has been unknowingly training for this position since he arrived at CUW in 2018 as the MBA program director.

"David has been sharing stories, forging relationships, and imparting lessons with me for two and a half years," said Curry. "Concordia's impressive international program is a testament to his passion for sharing the Gospel abroad and securing remarkable, sustaining partnerships."

Prior to Concordia, Curry was an entrepreneur with deep international ties. He intends to infuse his solid business acumen with Birner's people-first approach to fulfill Concordia's mission for more global citizens who know and love Jesus, and are well prepared to serve the Church and world.





RAISING THE BAHR

Lutheran education champion Joel Bahr ('10) is in the spotlight. The assistant principal at Milwaukee Lutheran High School (MLHS) describes himself as a cheerleader for CUW's mission—a mission he easily recites by heart and extends to the students with whom he interacts.

Bahr's enthusiasm for Concordia is a family tradition. His grandfather started a trilogy of Bahrs, Concordia, and Lutheran education that extends through three generations and includes a menagerie of aunts, uncles, cousins, and in-laws who attended a Concordia and teach in Lutheran schools. Bahr and his wife, Jade ('10), a math teacher at MLHS, look forward to the day when their own future Concordians carry on the legacy to follow his work.



Thank you

PRESIDENT
FERRY

On June 30, 2021, Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, PhD, will conclude 30 years of distinguished service to Concordia University, with 24 of them as president. **A multitude of thanks are due ...**



...FOR YOUR FIRMLY ROOTED VALUES

There are many Bible passages that bear repeating but in Ferry's opinion none more so than Romans 8. The chapter so beautifully encapsulates the crux of Scripture that one academic year Ferry challenged Concordians to memorize its entirety.

Ferry had already memorized the chapter, but that year he proceeded to re-retain it—this time in Spanish.

Memorizing Scripture is just one way that Ferry keeps God's Word at the forefront—both in his personal life and on behalf of Concordia.

Ferry winsomely invites others to join him in this commitment, as well. He famously maintains an open-door policy and seeks out opportunities for meaningful, firsthand interactions with students. He regularly extends invitations to student groups to join him and his wife, Tammy, in their home for dinner and conversation.

It was at one of these dinners that Elizabeth Brown ('20) formed her first impression of Ferry some 20 years ago. Brown began her Concordia experience directly out of high school in 1998. Though she delayed the completion of her bachelor's degree for several years, that first interaction with Ferry made a lasting impression.

"The best part of the experience was your warmth and the genuine, generous encouragement that was offered—not only academically but spiritually," Brown wrote in a letter she sent to Ferry last year, a week before graduating from CUW.

And when Ferry can't reach students in person, he considers them in prayer—often during his daily devotional time and always at the culmination of each student's Concordia experience.



Left: In 2016, CUAA dedicated its North Building, which serves as the home for its School of Nursing and other health care-related programs.

Below: The Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Building officially opened on Aug. 1, 2019. Ferry and Ted Batterman, namesake of Concordia's Batterman School of Business, did the honors of cutting the ceremonial ribbon.



...FOR DREAMING BIG

Five years ago Ferry led a special outdoor chapel service on the grassy practice field where the Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center would soon stand tall. His powerful prayer was for alignment between what Concordia wanted to accomplish and what God had already planned.

Guided by Psalm 127 Ferry prayed, “Help us to build up—not just buildings but people—people built for others to help others.”

People. It has always been about the people. Every new building, every bold project, every innovative solution built up the Concordia family to serve the Lord, to serve the world, and to serve each other.

Under Ferry’s prolific leadership, the Wisconsin campus added three residence halls, three academic buildings, numerous athletics facilities, transformational campus beautification and stabilization efforts, accelerated learning centers, and countless additions and improvements throughout the 200-acre footprint.

With Ferry at the helm, CUAA flourished with the purchase of the North Building that would soon house two new academic schools, multiple programs, and a state-of-the-art simulation and innovation center. On the main campus, noticeable uplifts and improvements included new and improved athletics facilities, dramatic updates to existing academic buildings and student spaces, and a revitalized art center.

While the “Ferry years” will be indelibly noted in Concordia’s history for the tremendous physical growth on both campuses, the legacy of President Ferry will be in the people who came through the halls, played on the fields, worshipped in the chapels, learned in the classrooms, succeeded in the workplace, and helped each other grow their faith, their knowledge, and their skills. For their lives of

purpose and service, and the lives that they help along the way are what Ferry has been building all along.

“The changes to our campuses in Mequon and Ann Arbor—new buildings, renovations, enhancements—are lovely, but they are only symbolic of the transformative work that goes on inside those walls,” said Ferry. “Many lives have been formed and shaped by Concordia’s uncommon experience.”

FORWARD WITH FERRY

The university has experienced tremendous growth under Ferry’s leadership:

23



major renovation and building projects undertaken

59%

total enrollment growth on the CUW campus

75%

total undergraduate enrollment growth at CUAA

5



doctorate, and well over 100 online, on-the-ground, or hybrid undergraduate and graduate programs added

31,370



graduates in the mission field (1,074 for CUAA 2014-20; 30,296 for CUW 1997-20)



A peak moment of Ferry's Concordia career:
While George W. Bush was still in office as
U.S. President, CUW welcomed him as the
2004 commencement speaker.



...FOR GOING THE DISTANCE

It's a marathon not a sprint. The analogy is often used by Ferry to describe his approach to the presidency. With nearly 24 years as lead of the university, CUW's eighth president and CUAA's sixth has more than proven he's had the staying power required for the long haul. Ferry far outpaces the average tenure of college presidents nationwide. No small feat considering many would suggest that the past decade has been one of the most challenging periods in the history of higher education.

His personal health routine provides plenty of inspiration for his metaphorical

run. On December 20, 2012, Ferry began Day 1 of a daily running streak. Outside of an eight-day hiatus in 2019 due to illness, he has continued his stride. His average is 4.5 miles per day, but he has also taken on several marathons, including the Boston and New York marathons.

As with long-distance runs, mile markers have been vital to prolonging Ferry's stamina for the demands of the Office of the President. Each year has brought new opportunities for strategic growth, and Ferry, with Godly wisdom sought, shrewdly put the pieces and people in place to seize them.

All the while, Ferry has kept students,

Concordia's mission, and a dedication to the doctrine of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod at the forefront. His default is to go the extra mile, especially in generosity toward others, described Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Al Prochnow who has been a part of Ferry's administrative team since nearly the start.

“While President Ferry led Concordia during a period of unprecedented growth, it is his consistency of character and his ability to find the good in people that have impacted our campus community the most,” Prochnow said. “He set an example for all of us to follow.”



...FOR ALWAYS CHEERING ON THE TEAM

As a former college athlete, avid runner, and all-around sports enthusiast, it is no surprise that Ferry has remained a strong advocate of Concordia athletics from the start. Sports programs have blossomed within his tenure: 11 added on the CUW campus since 1997 and eight on the CUAA campus within the past eight years. Without a doubt, Ferry's favorite fan scene has been the annual Concordia Invitational Tournament. In the past 23 years, not a CIT tournament has gone by without Ferry and Tammy faithfully in the stands.



...FOR BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Concordia has always been in good hands. By the hand of God and through the many hands of leaders, staff, alumni, students, and community, the university has flourished in mission and in action since 1881. Eight university presidents (and one director and a temporary president) have served at the helm, and each of them contributed significantly to the solid foundation that is Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor.

Today Concordia University has over 8,000 students who are learning online and in person at campuses in Wisconsin and Michigan, and in Europe and Asia. There are six academic schools in Wisconsin and five in Ann Arbor. Students are preparing to serve in the Church and in schools, businesses, clinics, hospitals, and organizations across the country and around the world. They are earning their doctorates in business, education, pharmacy, and health care and earning their MBAs at record levels. Concordia's MBA program has been the largest in Wisconsin since 2013.

As one of the longest-serving Concordia presidents, Ferry's legacy is the breadth and depth of the mission field that he sowed so boldly for 24 years. Alumni are pastors, teachers, doctors, leaders, innovators, and caregivers who are serving God and serving each other. Their fulfillment is a promise that Ferry made when he accepted the role of president.

While we do not know whom the next university president will be, we know that God's hand will design the plan. And the hands of the leaders, staff, students, alumni, and community who served alongside President Ferry will labor to see it through.

On July 1, 1997, the day before Ferry learned he would become president, he wrote in his journal, "My confidence rests in God's will being done, and that He knows Concordia's needs better than I do."

Learn more about the presidential search process and view updates. Visit cuw.edu/PresidentialSearch or cuaa.edu/PresidentialSearch.

A FERRY FAREWELL

After three decades at CUW and eight at CUAA, Ferry has left an indelible mark on Concordia, impacting thousands of students, alumni, and stakeholders and furthering God's Kingdom. If you would like to pay tribute to Concordia's latest leader, check out the options below.

SHARE A MEMORY

Show your thanks and appreciation for Ferry by sharing a memory, well wish, or picture of your time with him.

Tributes may be submitted through June 15, 2021 at cuw.edu/FerryTribute or cuaa.edu/FerryTribute. Please note: All submissions will be posted publicly on the university webpage.

TUNE IN FOR FERRY FEST

During the week of April 26, the CUW and CUAA campuses will celebrate Ferry with fanfare. The week will include opportunities for alumni and friends to tune in via live stream or social media.

Learn more at blog.cuw.edu/FerryFest or blog.cuaa.edu/FerryFest.

GIVE IN HIS HONOR

In Ferry's own words: "Ultimately, Concordia is about helping to bring meaning and purpose to students' lives by connecting them to Jesus." If you feel inspired to support future Concordians in

Ferry's honor, visit cuw.edu/give or cuaa.edu/give. Choose the designation of your choice while noting "President Ferry" in the comment box.



take five

Get to know one of our *uncommon* Concordians, accounting major and starting Cardinals quarterback **Peter Morrison ('21)**.

By **Rachel Thoms**, *Strategic Communications*



Playing quarterback for the Concordia Cardinals is a significant part of Peter Morrison's identity, but there's much more to Morrison than his athletic abilities.

To Morrison, being a quarterback isn't just a position, it's a lifestyle. Morrison leads teammates in weekly Bible studies and has stood next to teammates as they've been baptized. He leads peers through workplace-readiness tactics. And he has led teammates through the stay-at-home order—calling to check in and coordinating outdoor workouts.

Learn more about how Morrison connects with people around him, both on and off the field.

1 What do you want people to know about you besides being a quarterback?

I'm always open to talk! I try to be approachable and like getting to know people. I also want others to know that I believe in God, that I believe He has a purpose for me, and that my faith is very important to me.

2 Where else are you involved on campus?

I've worked in the career engagement studio since my sophomore year. I help students with their resumes, and I help plan events that expose them to different careers and prepare them for life after college. This semester we planned a virtual career fair so that students could still have opportunities to meet employers for jobs and internships.

I'm also an Athletes in Action leader and help with the student athlete leader team. There are always ways to get to know people if you're not afraid to say hello, open the door

for them, or sit with them at lunch. That's my favorite thing to do.

3 How has being a quarterback shaped your experience at Concordia? What life lessons does it teach?

I believe that being a quarterback is a lifestyle. I want to be a leader in the classroom and among the students, not just on the field. Connecting with people outside of football and helping other people on campus has been important to me.

Quarterbacks have to have relationships with a lot of different people—offensive line, receivers, running backs—and we can't speak to everyone the same way. I have to understand whom I'm with and find a way for everyone to jell. This is true in all kinds of scenarios, and that has been a great lesson for me.

4 What are your plans after graduation?

I really love football. I've been a part of it for so long, and I'm not ready to step away. My passion lies in coaching, and I want to pursue that. If things take a turn, I'll evaluate from there. Right now I'm trying to trust God's plan for me, listen to Him, and allow Him to guide my next steps.

5 What advice do you have for Concordia students?

Don't miss class. If you're on Zoom, show your face. Engage with your professors because they're people, too. Make connections with your professors, and you'll do fine.

Learn more about Concordia's Haab School of Business at cuaa.edu/business.



college living

A good roommate makes the college experience even more meaningful, especially in the midst of a pandemic. Freshmen McKenzie Maciejewski (left) and Elle Fritchka spend time together in their space in Esther Hall. For a full residence hall room tour and 360-degree views throughout campus, check out cuaa.edu/visit.

UNRIVALED YEAR FOR CARDINAL ATHLETICS

The pandemic produced an athletics season unlike any other this year for Cardinal athletes.

With limited fall schedules and all post-season play moved to spring, all 25 of CUAAs athletic programs overlapped at one point or another during the spring 2021 semester.




Teams stayed safely suited up for competition through the implementation of extra safety measures: practicing in pods, continuous symptom tracking, physical distancing, and wearing masks.

A partnership with CUW professors Bob Burlage, PharmD, and Justin Speck, PhD, gave CUAAs athletics a source for regular, proactive PCR screening (i.e., the “gold standard” for asymptomatic testing). For many weeks, Ann Arbor overnighted tests to the CUW experts, allowing for quicker results and the green light needed to compete within the state of Michigan.

Follow along with CUAAs athletics at concordiacardinals.com.



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SCHOOL OF NURSING GETS A NEW NAME

Concordia University Ann Arbor announced this year an updated name for its School of Nursing, more endowments for students, and a new center for innovative learning, and it's all thanks to the generous hearts of a Michigan couple.

The Ann Arbor campus' nursing school is now called the Ronald and Marvel Jones School of Nursing in honor of the Jones' latest gift to the university.

Ronald and Marvel Jones are no strangers to CUAA. In 2018, the two made their first transformational gift to the university after touring the nursing school and meeting with Assistant Vice President of Academics Cindy Fenske, DNP. At the time, they created two endowments to support deserving students in need. Their latest gift added new endowments and aided in the creation of the Center for Simulation & Innovation.

AR can take them far

CUAA's newly launched Center for Simulation & Innovation will delve into the use of augmented reality (AR) and its implications for the nursing practice. AR can be used to show physical changes, such as facial drooping or sweating. AR can be applied to CUAA's high-tech simulation manikins to create lifelike scenarios for students to respond to during patient care simulations.

"Our current simulation center already sets our nursing program apart," said Fenske. "Ron and Marvel's generous gift will help us expand our experiential learning offerings and create opportunities for more interprofessional collaborations to take place."



From the academic schools



ARTS & SCIENCES

CUAA will launch an MA in digital humanities in fall 2021. Digital humanities is a rapidly growing field of study that blends liberal arts with the 21st-century technological skills required for the global job market.



BUSINESS

In January, CUAA welcomed Amber Gray, CPA, as assistant professor of accounting and the dual-campus chair of quantitative business.



EDUCATION

CUAA's 2017-20 teacher certification pass rates surpassed the statewide average by 4 points and set a record high for the campus.



HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The inaugural cohort of physician assistant (PA) candidates—32 total—started in January. PA is one of the most competitive and in-demand career fields in the nation.

RUNNING TOGETHER

A few years ago President Ferry and I ran the Sprouts Mesa Half Marathon. It was February in Arizona but it was unusually cool, and the race started at 6:00 a.m. While I was eager to run, part of me was wondering who thought this was a good idea.

Looking back I can now say that running that race was not only a good idea it was a great idea.

Since President Ferry meticulously tracks each race he runs, he could describe with greater detail and precision our pace, our splits, and how that race compared to many others he had run. But I remember this: We ran together for over 11 miles of it. He paced me at a speed I had not run before in a race. In the end, I finished with a personal record. His own time was his best in 20 years.

We have all been running a race—personally, professionally, relationally, societally—this past year. Many are tired of the extra demands, protocols, and restrictions due to COVID-19. Some would rather step out of the race. Within our Concordia University community, we face the unknown future of a leadership transition. How should we continue to run? Let us run like Concordians: Hearts together, with eyes fixed on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2).

We are people of hope. Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. He is the Unchanging One (Hebrews 13:8), whose eyes have been fixed on us in love. Therefore, we run each unknown day with a sure and certain confidence because the victory has already been won in Jesus Christ.

REV. DR. RYAN PETERSON

*Vice President of Administration
Chief Liaison to the Office of the President*





RESTORING THE RANKS

Nothing stirs the soul quite like the sound of Concordia’s pipe organ as it fills the Chapel of the Holy Trinity.

Dedicated in 1967, the 53-rank Schlicker is a hallmark of CUAA’s worship space. Its central location and significant footprint make it impossible to miss. Beyond its physical presence, the organ holds a substantial spot in the hearts of thousands of Concordians due to the soundtrack it served up during some of the most monumental moments of students’ and Concordia’s tenure.

“The Schlicker’s richness in tone not only provides an authentic performance experience for musicians, it contributes to a worshipful music service for all,” said University Organist Dr. John Boonenberg. “We are stewards of a great Lutheran church music tradition at CUAA, and our organ is a key part of that.”

After decades of play, however, the organ is in need of a significant tune-up. In fall 2020, Concordia’s Office of Advancement launched a campaign to raise the \$100,000 needed for restoration. Within months, the campaign exceeded its goal thanks to an overwhelming show of support from generous donors. In particular, longtime supporters Dr. and Mrs. Karl Kreft provided a generous \$50,000 leadership gift.

In summer 2021, work will begin to retool and resurrect the instrument. Concordia has contracted a nationally acclaimed organ builder, Jerroll Adams, for the job. Adams will completely disassemble the organ, remove it from the chapel, and then reassemble it in its full glory. In the process, the builder will provide a thorough cleaning, repair all broken parts, reassign functions for more optimal use, and add three new stops.

Jacob Ferns (’24), a church music major, is one of a handful of student-organists at CUAA who eagerly anticipates the project’s completion.

“The fact that I’m going to be able to utilize a practically brand-new instrument is such a gift,” Ferns said. “There’s just so much possibility with the organ. I strive to play at my greatest ability to give glory to God in all circumstances, and having a fully functioning instrument is crucial to that.”

Donations are still needed for the ongoing general maintenance needs of CUAA’s Schlicker pipe organ. To contribute, visit cuaa.edu/give and designate “CUAA organ renovation,” or contact Director of Donor and Alumni Relations Linda Sproul at Linda.Sproul@cuaa.edu or 734-995-7491 for additional ways to give.



Ready, cert, teach!

READY TO BE A TEACHER IN MICHIGAN? Earn your certification through CUAA’s teacher certification program. Ideal for working adults, the 30-credit program is offered completely online, providing a fast and flexible way to earn your master’s in curriculum and instruction with a secondary education teacher certification. Learn more at blog.cuaa.edu/teacher-cert.

FOR THE CHURCH

Through the honorable vocation of church work, generations of CUAA graduates have brought others into God’s family through the preaching and teaching of the Gospel.

The good work of preparing the future leaders of the Church continues at CUAA. Whether you want to be a church musician, family life director in youth and/or family ministry, a Lutheran school teacher, a deaconess, or a pastor, CUAA is a great place to grow in service to God and His Church. Learn more at blog.cuaa.edu/be-a-church-worker.



\$19,435

average aid awarded to church work candidates



4

church work-specific scholarships available



50

church work-exclusive endowments to be awarded in 2021–22



10:1

student-to-faculty ratio



MIND ON SERVICE

Shalena (Blocker) Griffith ('18) is a member of the Alpha Class, the first-ever cohort to graduate from the Ronald and Marvel Jones School of Nursing. She is also the inaugural recipient of nursing's Service Award, foretelling what has already become a hallmark of her approach to her vocation.

Following her graduation from CUAA, Griffith chose to devote three months to a mission trip in Southeast Asia, where she performed wellness education and check-ups at a children's home and shared the good news of the Gospel. She now works as a rehab RN and is pursuing her master's in acute care pediatrics. Read more about Griffith's early career experiences, including being on the front lines of a pandemic, at blog.cuaa.edu/shalena-griffith.

Advancing the mission



In the preceding pages, we reflect on Rev. Patrick T. Ferry's past 30 years of service at Concordia. It is an amazing story of how God blesses those He calls to accomplish His purposes and plans. During his decades of service, President Ferry has never lost sight of the fact that he is the Lord's servant. His love for Concordia has inspired and drawn us closer together. His legacy of faith and faithfulness will never be forgotten.

While it is important to look back and reflect during times of transition, we must not remain in the past. We must look to the future and the work that is yet to be done. We live in a time when the Gospel is being dismissed by cultural forces like never before. It will take strong, Christ-centered leadership, along with God's blessings, to withstand these challenges in the decades to come.

But therein lies our hope. We trust that God's faithfulness will help us through challenging times. Though we face changing demographics and difficult economic realities, we see daily how God is working in and through His people to continue the mission of Concordia to help our students develop in mind, body, and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the world.

Over the past few decades, families have been asked to carry a higher percentage of the educational costs at Concordia (see graphic at right). To bring relief to this problem, we must grow our endowment so that additional financial aid can be provided while still keeping Concordia on a plane of excellence in education. For those not familiar with endowments, these are funds invested for the long term with a portion of their gains used for current scholarships or program support.

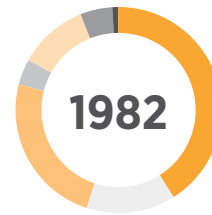
If you have supported any of our endowments at Concordia in the past, you are an important part of securing our future and helping to prepare the next generation who will serve Christ in the Church and the world. Please accept our thanks.

To learn more about endowments and how you can help, read on. Through the blessing of endowments, God continues His work among us, and for that we are grateful.

REV. DR. ROY PETERSON, CFRE
President, Concordia University Foundation

TIME TO

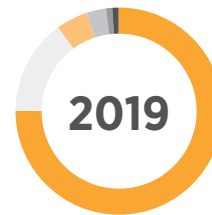
Reverse the Trend



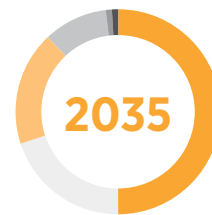
1982 / As Concordia moved into its second century of preparing students for service to Christ, alumni and friends, especially members of the "Century Club," generously supported our mission. Additional support from the LCMS allowed Concordia to make the transition from downtown Milwaukee to its current location.



2000 / Entering the millennium, rising costs pushed up tuition along with room and board. While the percentage of support from the endowment doubled from 1982, gift income and support from the LCMS were in decline.



2019 / The challenges of providing Christ-centered education have continued to rise, and have outpaced endowment and gift income. It's time to prepare the way for the future, where every student seeking a Christian education can afford it.



2035 / Our hope is to bring the student's and family's share of tuition down to 50% in the next 15 years. That is truly an ambitious goal, but one that we believe is worth our best efforts and prayers for God's blessings. With renewed support from alumni, friends, and congregations, we can prepare the way for tomorrow's leaders.

- Net tuition and fees
- Room and board
- Gifts
- Endowment
- LCMS support
- Other
- Federal and state

Alumni survey



Alumni, your input is needed. The Alumni Attitude Survey is open through April 23, 2021. Your valuable feedback will help us better serve you and future graduates. If you did not receive the survey in your email, please contact alumni@cuw.edu or alumni@cuaa.edu to participate.

DOUBLE YOUR *Endowment Gift Impact*

From now until June 30, 2021, endowment gifts of \$2,500 or more are being matched, thereby doubling your impact! You choose how you would like your endowment gift to be designated to provide scholarship support or to benefit one of our many programs.



Church Work

THE HOUSE THAT BUILT THEM

The Christian foundation that Robert and Alice Appold built decades ago lives on through their four children's generosity to CUAA. Patrice, Rob, Beth, Paul—all CUAA alumni—sold their childhood home and used the money to start an endowment to benefit church work students.



Health Care

PHARM AND FAITH

In honor of his late father, who worked as a pharmacist in rural Wisconsin, Rev. David Young and his wife, Mary Ann, established an endowment to support students looking to pursue a faith-inspired career in pharmacy through CUW.



Programs

A HEART FOR SERVICE

Private Howard J. Bogenschild, a decorated serviceman, was killed in action while fighting in North Korea. His brother, David, now looks to support Concordia's student-veterans in his honor.

Learn more about endowments by visiting cuw.edu/give or cuaa.edu/give, and select "Endowment" from the left-hand column. Or call us at 877-289-2246 (877-CUWAA-GO).



Freshman Kaela Branch is pursuing her Lutheran Teaching Diploma at CUW.

DR. ROSA J. YOUNG

Opportunity Endowment

While many Americans are familiar with the name of the civil rights champion Rosa Parks, far fewer know about another Rosa who changed the shape of Christian education in the Deep South for generations. Dr. Rosa J. Young, the "first Rosa" as she is known in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, was a pioneer Lutheran educator and missionary who, alongside the Rev. Nils J. Bakke, planted dozens of historically black Lutheran schools and chapels.

To honor the legacy of Dr. Young and provide opportunity for African Americans seeking to enter church work vocations in the LCMS, Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor has established the Dr. Rosa J. Young Opportunity Endowment. This endowment will help provide scholarship support to students while providing the LCMS with future pastors, teachers, and other church workers.

Your gift to the Dr. Rosa J. Young Opportunity Endowment will help make a Concordia education possible for more students now and for generations to come. You can make a gift at cuw.edu/give or cuaa.edu/give.



LEAVING A *Legacy of Faith*

Did you know that Concordia provides educational assistance to help you think through your stewardship plans into the future and at the time that the Lord calls you home? At no cost to you, one of our directors will walk with you through the process, and help

prepare you to work efficiently with your attorney or other advisors to execute your plan.

If you would like to learn more about this free educational service, please contact Greg Fictum at 877-289-2246 (877-CUWAA-GO).



March MATCHness scores!

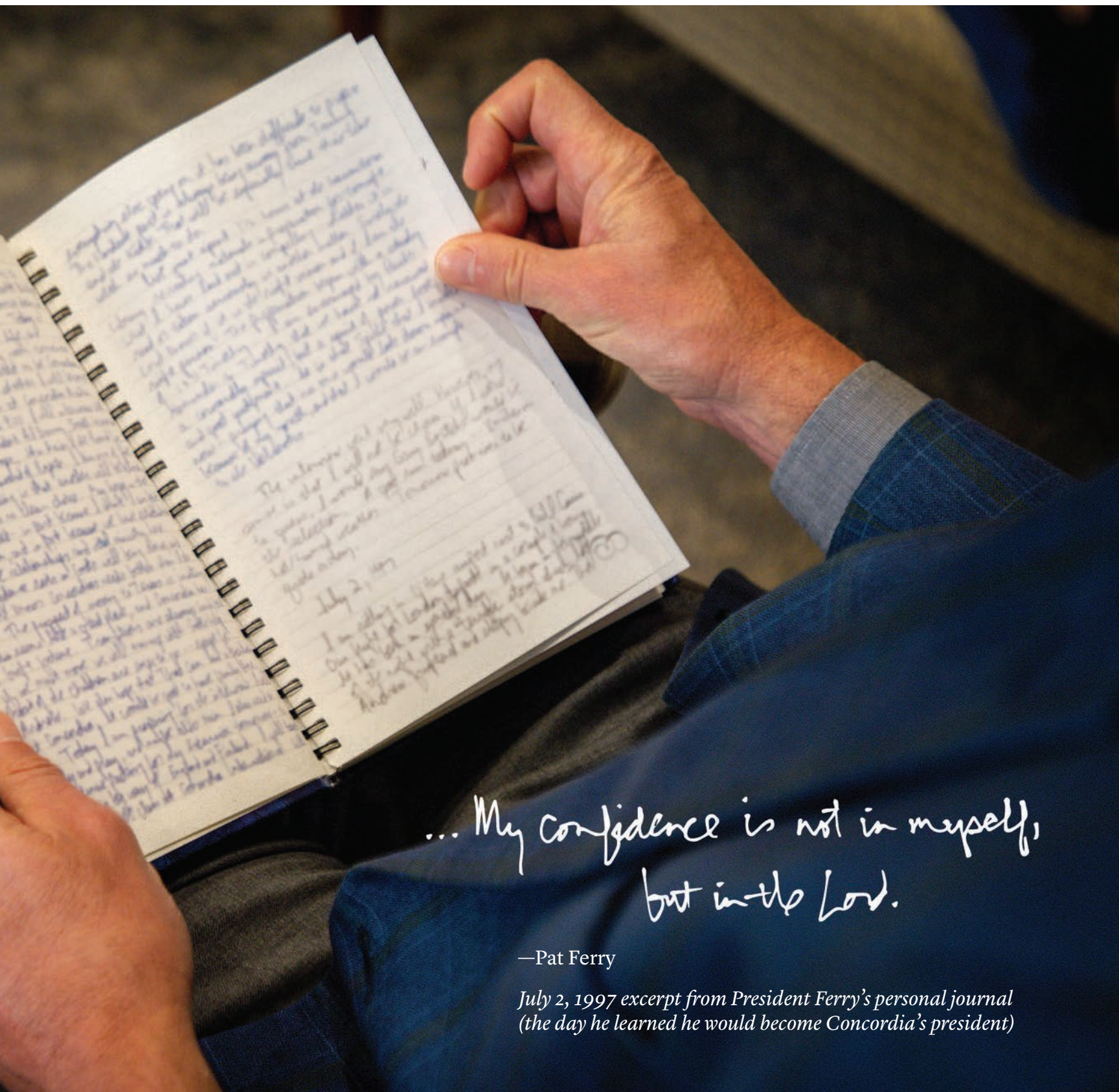
A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR INAUGURAL DAY OF GIVING, MARCH MATCHNESS, ON MARCH 1. Through your generous gifts, we raised over \$75,000 to advance the Concordia mission, and make a huge impact in the lives of CUW and CUAA students.

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... My confidence is not in myself,
but in the Lord.

—Pat Ferry

*July 2, 1997 excerpt from President Ferry's personal journal
(the day he learned he would become Concordia's president)*