

Arbor Light

The Magazine of Concordia University Ann Arbor



JUST GETTING STARTED

A vibrant campus life begins
at the end of the day

Arbor Light

The Magazine of Concordia University Ann Arbor

Fall/Winter
2017

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SHAPED BY OUR HERITAGE

The Reformation is certainly getting much attention, especially in Lutheran circles, as we approach the 500th anniversary of the posting of Martin Luther's storied 95 Theses. As a historian of the Reformation era, it thrills me to see such engaging activity surrounding these events. For us as a Lutheran university, it strikes me as particularly fitting for Concordia to take this opportunity to examine the historical impact of the Reformation. The Reformation started as a university movement, after all, before the broader interest in church and society soon followed. Our collective reflection upon the history of the Reformation will enhance our appreciation of Concordia's notable Lutheran heritage.

As much as I appreciate commemoration of the world-changing events and recognition of the influential characters who steered them 500 years ago, of even greater interest to me is a consideration of ways in which our Reformation roots and Lutheran lineage shape and guide Concordia University today. Standing above the rest are those theological themes—grace alone, faith alone, Scripture alone—which direct us to Christ alone. At Concordia, we earnestly seek to help our students grow in faith in Christ Jesus.

The same Lord who calls us to faith in Him also calls us to service to others. Luther's doctrine of Vocation amounts to a "Reformation of everyday life." He and his colleagues were certainly innovative, and they used the state-of-the-art-means at their disposal to share their message. At the same time, no aspect of our lives in community with others was considered too ordinary to matter. In the pages of this issue of *Arbor Light*, you will catch glimpses of ways in which Concordians are creatively preparing for everyday lives of meaningful service. Their many gifts, cultivated inside and outside of the classroom, are already being used to bless our campus community. Inspired to make a difference, Concordia students will carry on the Reformation motif of "faith active in love." Our notable past is mere prelude to God's continued work among and through us in the future.

REV. PATRICK T. FERRY, PH.D.

President

SPAHE GRADUATES GO HIGHER

New master's program equips individuals for careers in higher education

By **Kali Thiel**, *University Affairs*
 Photography by *Kelly Cieslak*

Concordia University Ann Arbor celebrated its first class of student personnel administration in higher education (SPAHE) graduates when the 15 students who made up the inaugural cohort graduated with their master's degrees on May 14, 2017.

Grounded in student affairs theory and created for people interested in working in higher education, the SPAHE program prepares school administrators to bring a faith-based approach to their positions in such areas as residence life, student activities, career services, coaching, admissions, and others.

Candidates can opt for two different tracks: student affairs administration or athletic administration. Each course meets for eight weeks, one night a week, and the program can be completed in two years.

Graduate Beth Bodiya chose the student affairs administration track and has been hired to a full-time position at the University of Michigan. She serves as program specialist for first-year experience, helping incoming students to navigate their new lives at the university.

"It's been the perfect fit," Bodiya says. "I feel so blessed to have been part of a



program that has already helped me and my classmates advance in our careers."

Hear additional student testimonies and

learn more about the SPAHE program at www.cuaa.edu/spahe.

CUAA ADDS ICE HOCKEY TEAMS

Newest athletic programs will play first games in 2018

By **Rachel Ferry**, *University Affairs*

With skates laced, sticks in hand, and proudly bearing the name "Concordia" across jerseys red and black, men's and women's ice hockey will enter the rink in the 2018-19 academic year.

With the new addition, the Concordia University Ann Arbor Cardinals' varsity athletic program offerings now total 24: 11 men's programs, 12 women's programs, and one coed program.

"When we expand our athletic opportunities, we broaden our appeal to more students, which then increases our ability to have a greater impact in our communities and throughout

the world," said Athletic Director Lonnie Pries.

Over the summer, the athletic department announced that Ben Kenyon and Maria Barlow were hired as the men's head coach and women's head coach, respectively. The two will play key roles in leading and building the new programs.



Follow @CUAACardinals on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest news and announcements on all of CUAA's athletic programs.



CARDINAL REGIMENT TAKES THE FIELD

CUAA launches the first-ever marching band in the Concordia University System

By **Rachel Ferry**, *University Affairs*
 Photography by *Kelly Cieslak*

Concordia University Ann Arbor has struck up a band that has its musicians marching to the beat of a new drum.

Concordia's inaugural marching band, named the Cardinal Regiment, performs during halftime at Concordia Cardinals football home games, in tandem with the musical entertainment already provided by CUAA's pep band throughout the game.

"We have an excellent staff in place to work with the drumline and color guard, as well as lead the marching, maneuvering, and music," said Dr. Bill Perrine, assistant professor of music and director of instrumental activities. "I'm looking forward to seeing this program grow and become an incredibly visible, exciting opportunity for students."

Marching and pep band scholarships are available through an audition, in addition to the many other musical ensembles offered to students.

Visit www.ConcordiaCardinals.com for a complete listing of Cardinals football home games to enjoy the Cardinal Regiment performances.



COMPASSIONATE CARETAKERS

CUAA offers social work program

By **Rachel Ferry**, *University Affairs*
 Photography by *Kelly Cieslak*



Building on its commitment to develop students of all disciplines for service to Christ in the Church and the world, Concordia University Ann Arbor now offers a Bachelor of Social Work degree for the future leaders of community care.

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the program provides a professional foundation for students through a Christ-centered core curriculum and competency-based coursework.

"Social workers are catalysts for change and growth," said Joanne Bernard, program coordinator. "I'm thrilled that the BSW students will not only be receiving a rigorous

curriculum that is recognized at the national and international levels, but they'll be prepared in body, mind, and spirit because of their Concordia education."

Bernard joins Concordia's faculty with 39 years of experience in the field, a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Detroit.

Students interested in studying social work—one of the fastest-growing careers in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Labor—can visit www.cuaa.edu/socialwork.

EVEN BETTER TOGETHER

Interprofessional education simulation merges nursing and business disciplines

By Rachel Ferry, University Affairs
Photography by Rachel Ferry

When the beeping of a nearby medical machine triggers a veteran's post-traumatic stress disorder, the scene can turn volatile.

It's a situation that Concordia University Ann Arbor graduates may well encounter in their careers. That's why the university is taking steps to ready its students to better work with fellow professionals to find solutions in high-intensity situations.

CUAA School of Nursing faculty have placed an emphasis on increasing its students' opportunities for interprofessional education (IPE) with other students in different programs. A growing trend among health care circles across the nation, IPE occurs when two or more professions learn with, about, and from each

other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes.


Simulation offers the most realistic, hands-on way for students to practice their skills, says Anita Simmons, director of simulation. While IPE simulation is most commonly practiced in health care fields, CUAA nursing is including programs such as Concordia's criminal justice and public policy program (JPP), which is housed in the Haab School of Business, to create enhanced IPE opportunities.

"We don't have to say 'pretend like this is happening' or 'make-believe this is going on,'" said Simmons. "We actually make it happen."

In the past year, for example, CUAA nursing and JPP students have taken on scenarios involving a nurse who completes a home visit

in an alleged domestic abuse environment with the help of a police escort to ensure safety. They've also simulated a flood of emotion in the emergency room while needing to maintain care for the patient after parents learn of their teenaged child's involvement in a post-prom drunk driving accident.

"Our students will come to learn that their day-to-day work lives may often involve emotionally charged scenes," Simmons says. "Our goal is to help them mentally prepare for the emotional aspects of their future careers, as well."

 Have you seen CUAA's simulation center? Visit our YouTube channel for a complete tour of the North Building at www.youtube.com/CUAnnArbor.



Nursing students keep their cool during an IPE simulation that involved "a teenager" who was in a post-prom drunk driving incident.

GOALS THAT STICK

Solid support for struggling students

By Lisa Liljegren, University Affairs
Photography by Kelly Cieslak



Earl Schumake, III has set a goal to help more students who start at Concordia University Ann Arbor also finish at CUAA.

As the director of Student Success and Retention, the assistant director of the Academic Resource Center, and an assistant Cardinals football coach, he's a natural mentor who focuses much of his efforts on helping students who are placed on academic probation gain the skills, confidence, and motivation they need to achieve academic success.

According to Schumake, students are most vulnerable at the start of their freshman year. As he explains, "The transition from high school to college is tough for many students. They often struggle most with their soft skills, like writing and communicating professionally, and effective time management."

That transition is even more challenging for first-generation college students. At Concordia, 19 percent of the student population is the first in their family to attend college. Schumake and the Academic Resource Center work hard to anticipate the needs of all incoming students, and prepare for early intervention whenever possible.

Students are placed on academic probation if they fall below a 2.0 GPA. Since each student has different challenges and skills, Schumake begins his process by getting to know these students personally. How he describes this early phase is, "I need to find what makes them tick."

Schumake starts by helping students identify their academic and future goals, as well as their "anchor points," a term he uses for extra-curricular activities that will further connect students to a positive college experience. He then assigns them to a peer academic coach, a fellow student who's doing well academically, has similar interests, and models positive choices.

Together and separately, he and the peer academic coach meet regularly with the struggling student, and always revisit the goals. This process is showing success. A year ago, 42 percent of students who were placed on academic probation left the university before graduation. Schumake is working to lower that number to 30 percent this year; which would mean that 70 percent of the identified struggling students would stick around and complete their education.

For a goal-setting man like Schumake, that would be a success.

“I AM BLESSED”

Family life professor leaves a legacy

By Rachel Ferguson, University Affairs
Photography by Kelly Cieslak



Professor Karna Doyle, who has dedicated her career to working with families and training students to do the same, plans to spend her retirement enjoying and serving her family—as a blessed mother and wife.

Professor Karna Doyle is known for three things: handing out chocolate Hershey’s Kisses to students, responding with “I am blessed,” and impacting the lives of uncounted individuals.

After a notable 18 years teaching in the family life education program at Concordia University Ann Arbor, in August this spirited professor stepped into the next season of life: retirement.

“I am so blessed to have shared in the lives of these young people,” Doyle commented. “My work is all about them; we have the most wonderful, servant-hearted students on Concordia’s campus.”

Doyle, who spent much of her career working in international adoption and foster care, created the curriculum and served as

coordinator for the family life education program’s child life specialist, community services, and adult care service minors.

The program, which includes coursework in areas such as family dynamics, child and adolescent development, and sociology, prepares students to build up families through a variety of professions that include youth program directors, foster or adoption care workers, and marriage and family counselors.

In recognition of Doyle’s service, CUAA held an early surprise retirement party for her on May 3, 2017. The party was a scene of merriment as reunited Concordians from across the country, and even the world, filled the Earhart Manor to share their congratulations and reminisce over their days under Doyle’s tutelage.

When asked about the legacy she wants to leave, Doyle responded, “I want people to see that if you show up the Holy Spirit can work through you.”

Jennifer Fieten succeeded Doyle on July 31, 2017. She brings 21 years of experience with children and families working in the roles of child development specialist, child life specialist, and professor.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Concordia’s events calendar is already in full swing. We invite you to join us on campus often. For more events and full event information, visit www.cuaa.edu/events.

OCTOBER

- 11 — “Faces of Depression” Gallery Exhibit Reception
- 12-15 — Production of “Anne of Green Gables”
- 19-20 — Fall Break
- 27 — “Luther’s Legacy of 1517 in Germany, England and the New World” Gallery Reception
- 28 — Admissions Visit Day
- 31 — CUAA Reformation Service

NOVEMBER

- 02 — Reformation 500 Wind Ensemble Concert
- 03 — Admissions Visit Day
- 03-05 — Tool Time Weekend
- 10 — 10th Annual Veterans Day Celebration
- 12 — “Cantus: Discovery of Sight” Vocal Ensemble Performance
- 13 — Vocal Recital
- 14 — Reformation Relived: After 500 Years
- 16 — Marching Band Year in Review Concert
- 30 — CULaunch! Entrepreneurial Student Pitch Competition
- 30 — Instrumental Recital

DECEMBER

- 01-03 — 40th Annual Boar’s Head Festival and A Manor Christmas
- 02 — Admissions Visit Day
- 07 — The Concordia Wind Ensemble Concert
- 11-15 — Final Exams
- 12 — The Concordia Vocal Studio Recital

JANUARY

- 08 — Winterim Begins
- 26-27 — Concordia Invitational Tournament at Concordia University Wisconsin
- 29 — Spring Semester Begins

COMMITTED TO OUR LUTHERAN IDENTITY



Gielow greets the new superintendent of Michigan District Lutheran schools, Travis Grulke ('01), during a July 12 reception on campus. Photography by Kelly Cieslak

As we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation this October, I am reminded of our continuing commitment to our Lutheran identity here at Concordia University Ann Arbor. Last year we introduced the Luther Promise, an institutionally funded financial guarantee that provides access to the highest-value Lutheran education possible. This guarantee of up to \$20,000 is extended to all students who are members of a Lutheran church or who graduated from a Lutheran high school, as well as to the children of our CUAA alumni or any LCMS church workers. Check out the details on our website at www.cuaa.edu/luther-promise.

In addition, my colleagues and I have spent considerable time engaging the many diverse communities in Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio to spread the word about CUAA. Our community awareness efforts include radio shows, event sponsorships, and community events. We have regularly attended Lutheran high school events, as well as LCMS district meetings. This past summer we added an admission counselor dedicated to Lutheran high school recruitment. This active engagement has brought even more opportunities for involvement, and has significantly raised the level of awareness of CUAA in the community and throughout our state.

Our robust athletic programming growth, new facilities, and, perhaps more specifically, our new School of Nursing, have people talking about CUAA more than ever. All of this combined with our strong commitment to our Lutheran identity and focus on an accessible quality education has fueled our 40 percent enrollment growth over the past four years.

To God be the glory!

CURT GIELOW
Campus Chief Executive

f In May, Concordians nationwide tuned in to watch Doyle’s retirement party streamed on Facebook Live. Here are a few of the comments from viewers:

“Professor Doyle! You are a blessing to everyone you meet. Thank you for working tirelessly to build others and prepare them for lives of service in all areas. Your generous heart and work made Concordia special. Congratulations!!” —Zac Meyer ('05)

“What a special lady. Congratulations, Professor Doyle! Thanks for blessing the socks off of everyone at CUAA!” —Carolyn Milz ('13)

“You set an example of servant leadership that has stuck with me throughout my service in the church. Thanks for your faith legacy shared with so many students that continues to impact many today. God’s blessings in your next transition, retirement. If you come visit Florida, let me know, I have a room with your name on it!” —Abby Moss ('06)

“Thank you Professor Doyle for working with a “non-traditional” student, helping a new father bring his newborn son on campus and finding suitable childcare while I was in class. This was the first of many ways that you showed support to me and my family. You treated me with the utmost respect, and I am blessed to have learned so much under your care. Thank you for all that you’ve done and know that you have blessed the lives of countless souls. May God continue to bless you.” —Daniel Longden ('07)

AFTER HOURS: A Night in the Life of CUAA

By Rachel Ferry, University Affairs
Photography by Kelly Cieslak



Students sneak away from their bustling residence halls and homework to-do lists to enjoy the serenity of the Huron River, and spend time in worship on the CUAA docks.

After the office doors close, employees drive home for the evening, and the sun begins to sink into the horizon, the day is still far from over for students at Concordia University Ann Arbor.

You might even say the fun is just beginning.

Concordia's photographer, Kelly Cieslak, and I spent an evening on campus to shine a light on the night: What is it actually like to live on campus? How do students spend their free time? What do Concordia students do for fun?

We invite you to take a peek into the after hours of student life and see how CUAA students like to "spike" off steam, delight in a doughnut run, or hang by the Huron River at the end of a schedule-packed day.

If you like what you see on these pages, we invite you to find out how you or someone you know can become a part of campus life at CUAA. Apply to Concordia at www.cuaa.edu/apply or request more information at admissions@cuaa.edu.



4:15 p.m.
Above: Classes are done for the day, but it's still not quite time for dinner. Nate and Brandon decide to pass the time with a game (or three) of ping-pong.



4:25 p.m.

Below: Your deal or mine? Michiganders might be known for playing euchre, but on this night these Cardinals' card game of choice is cribbage.

Right: Now when Brandon's mom asks he can tell her: "Yes, I'm doing my laundry." He even has picture proof!



6:25 p.m.



6:49 p.m.



7:07 p.m.

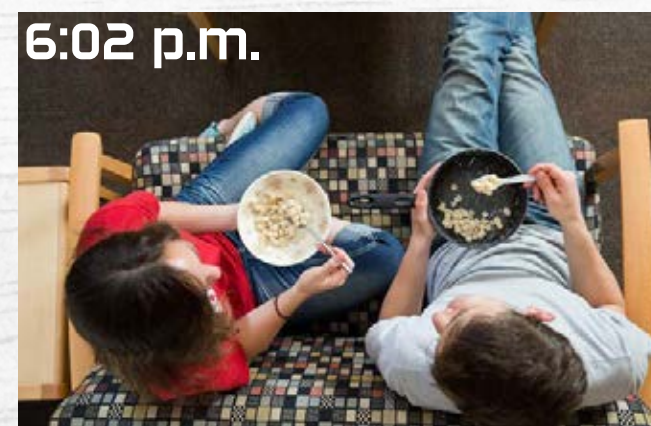


5:37 p.m.

Top: Hanging out in the Nest means you're for sure going to run into friends. Don't say we didn't warn you.

Left: When she shoots, she scores! Kari is getting in some extra shots before practice.

Bottom: When the four-minute walk to the Cardinal Café just seems too far away, it might be easier (and more fun) to whip up some mac and cheese in Silas Hall.



6:02 p.m.

Center Right: This community group pairs its weekly Bible study with a side of Buffalo Wild Wings. Where do I sign up?

Bottom Right: One of the best things about spike ball is that you can play it wherever you want. I'd say Jonah and Travis chose a pretty great spot.

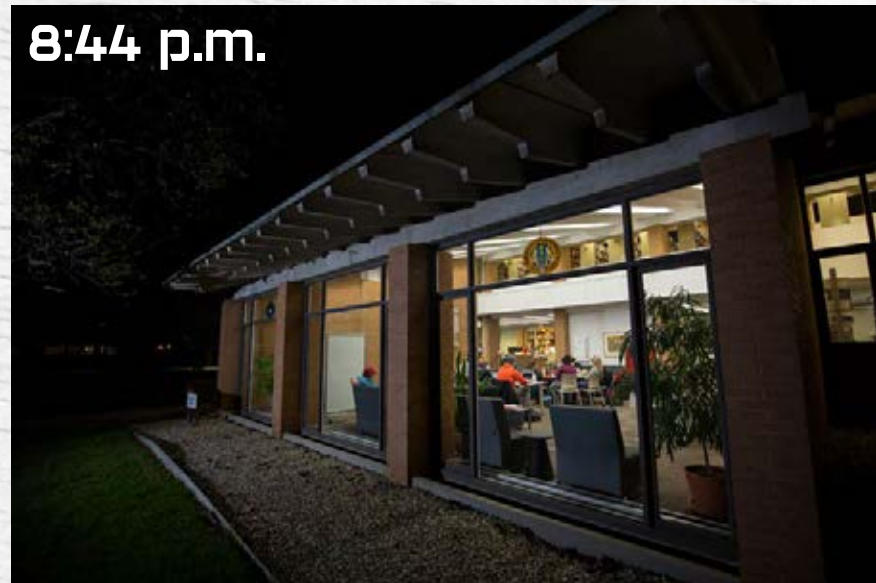


7:21 p.m.

Below and Right: So you're telling me that this fishing spot is only a few steps away from their residence hall? Campus life is like a camping trip! Not including the classes, presentations, and exams.



8:08 p.m.



8:44 p.m.

Left: Speaking of exams, we'll just take a photo from here so we don't interrupt the studying taking place in Zimmerman Library.

Bottom: Before they do any s'more studying, these ladies take a break for a sweet treat, roasting marshmallows above our very own CUAU firepit.



9:05 p.m.



9:42 p.m.



9:43 p.m.

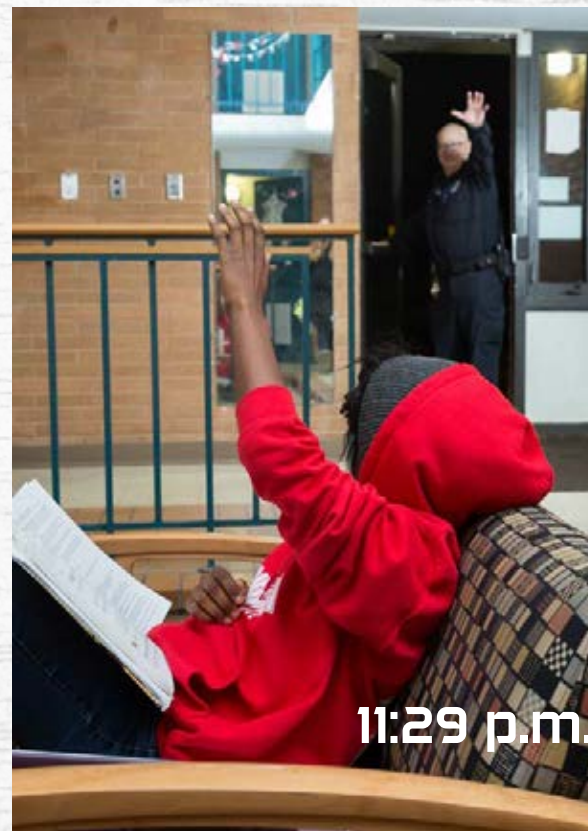
Far Left: This is what we call a case of the giggles—and the greatest of friends.

Left: Meanwhile, in Luke Hall, there seems to be some friendly competition. Let's hope by the end of the game they're all *still* friends.



10:15 p.m.

One of the most beloved traditions on campus is student-led worship on Tuesday nights in the Kreft Recital Hall. "Holy Spirit, you are welcome here!" *Photo by Rachel Ferguson*



11:29 p.m.



12:12 a.m.

Left: A campus safety officer makes rounds to say hello. Jess lets the officer know that, yep, she's still studying.

Above: The night isn't done right without a late night doughnut run to Dom's. Time your visit with the stroke of midnight, and you get to clap for the first customer of the day! †

Solas APPLIED

MARTIN LUTHER'S
LEGENDARY RESPONSE TO
LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS

SOLA SCRIPTURA

By Rev. Randy Duncan



Randy Duncan ('88) is director of campus ministry and adjunct professor of theology at Concordia University Ann Arbor. Photo by Kelly Cieslak

A university has a universe to explore. Everything is fair game in the study of God's world and God's work. The Reformation, however, has taught Concordia to focus on what's uniquely alone: the *solas* of Scripture alone, grace alone, and faith alone. Like three dimensions of a box, they give shape to the message of the great *Solus*—"Christ alone," the only Savior. Without a full, rich confession of the *solas*, our understanding of Christ is cut short or lost altogether. Without them, a Concordia education will fall short of its goal that "Christ be first in everything."

This article highlights the significance of the *solas*. Of course, this focus comes during this year of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, but it is truly our enduring foundation and constant guide. Everything comes into focus when Christ is at its center; everything reaches its proper goal when we understand Christ to be its true end.

Solus Christus!

Rev. Charles Schulz
Assistant Professor of Theology
Pre-seminary Director

works, and penance. A spiritually distraught and weary Luther finally found answers and solace in the authority of the Scriptures alone (*sola scriptura*).

I came to faith just prior to attending CUAA. The Scriptures came alive for me on this campus and here I surely began to know my Jesus, for He is the subject of the Scriptures! Christ died for my salvation so that I—and everyone else—might attain eternal life simply by faith in Him. My desire is to instill the same assurance within the students at Concordia by daily exposing them to the truth of God's Word.

The Scriptures are God's perfect Word; therefore, we don't approach Scriptures with a highlighter in one hand and a Sharpie in the other. Although the Scriptures are historical books, we teach them for more than information; we teach God's Word for transformation, for the Holy Spirit works through Scriptures! Luther said, "The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." Therefore, *sola scriptura* means not only that Moses made it through the Red Sea but also that we can make it through Monday, and truly all of the way to heaven through Christ!

SOLA FIDE

By Rachel Bomberger



Rachel Bomberger ('02) is the new editor of The Lutheran Witness, the official magazine of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Photo courtesy of the LCMS

Five hundred years ago, Western Christians faced daunting spiritual prospects. Death was a mundane reality in plague-wracked Europe, and life after death was a culture-wide obsession. Religion was everywhere, preaching that righteousness with God could only be obtained by *doing* all of the right things. Fast. Pray. Give. Abstain. Observe. Obey.

Within this context, the Reformation teaching on *sola fide*—"faith alone"—must have been like water in a parched land. Just believe in Christ's death and resurrection? Trust in God's promises? That's all it takes to be saved? What an indescribable gift!

Today's undergraduates can surely relate to the experience of late Medieval Christians. The stakes are high, and the pressure is enormous. Start a Google search with "college students and ..." and the autofill suggestions are revealing: "college students and stress," "college students and depression," "college students and mental health." Anxiety, despair, substance abuse, and even suicide are all too commonplace on campuses these days.

For this reason, I'm especially grateful for the way in which *sola fide* pervaded my time at Concordia. Academic excellence was expected, but that expectation was always framed within a larger story. Every chapel service, every dorm devotion reinforced this truth: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works ..." (Ephesians 2:8-9).

I had to earn my grades at Concordia. But salvation? I knew that could never be earned. It was mine by faith. Faith alone. *Sola fide*.

SOLA GRATIA

By Rev. Eric Ekong



Eric Ekong ('09) is pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Jackson, Michigan, and serves on the LCMS Board of Directors. Photo by Kelly Cieslak

Sola gratia—two words that sum up the majestic and mystical salvation we are granted. "Grace alone" was the focus of disagreement between the Reformers and the Roman Catholic Church because of their blending of grace and merit-based works

leading to salvation. While Martin Luther was never against works, he did not agree that they were some sort of reconciliation with God:

"Grace is freely given to the most undeserving and unworthy and is not obtained by any strenuous efforts, endeavors, or works ... not even by the efforts of the best and most honorable men ..." (*What Luther Says*, 1840).

Luther proclaimed, much like the Apostle Paul, that our works were a result of the gift of grace from God. This gift continues to display itself in the daily living out of our faith.

Each day in the parish and in life I am reminded that if this life were based on a journey to perfection before God we would fail miserably. Our good works or goodness to others that we often desire to present to God are filthy rags. It is at our most broken moments that we are reminded and comforted knowing that it is by "grace alone" that we are saved. This magnificent grace found in God's Word and His blessed Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper provides us a lavish flow of restoration, forgiveness, renewal, salvation, life, and victory. *Sola gratia*, the wonderful gift from God that transformed Luther and sparked the Reformation, continues to do the same for us today. +

Waking Up the Community

A campus pastor's contribution to a spirited student life

By Rachel Ferry and Lisa Liljegren, *University Affairs*
Photography by Kelly Cieslak

Morning comes early on the campus of Concordia University Ann Arbor. Students with both a little experience and a lot of “been there, done that” might have figured out how to schedule their classes to begin later in the day, but everyone within the Concordia community has the same start: a wake-up message filled with hope in Christ through Today’s Prayers.

“Good morning, Concordia Cardinals,” hits the inbox of every Concordian each weekday morning under the subject Today’s Prayers from the home office of Campus Pastor Rev. Ryan Peterson.

Started in 2013, Today’s Prayers is a daily dose of supplications, thanksgivings, announcements, and encouragement that students and faculty anticipate at the start of each weekday.

While this written email is an important part of the palpably vibrant and faithfully energized campus vibe, the man behind the prayers, Peterson, brings the Gospel to life every day as a present, energetic, and compassionate leader and role model. His words and his actions inspire students, and help to make CUAA a unique and special place.

Often spotted on campus with a messenger bag slung over his shoulder and a Starbucks cup

in hand, Peterson makes it his personal mission to engage with students, and “do life” with them in their highs and their lows.

“I want to creatively communicate the Gospel in ways that both inspire and encourage students in their faith,” said Peterson. “To do that, I try to meet them where they are: in the classroom, in Chapel, on the field, in the Cardinal Café, or in their email inbox.”

Judging by a typical day in the life of the campus pastor, there are no limits to the ways that Peterson extends the truth of God’s grace to students.

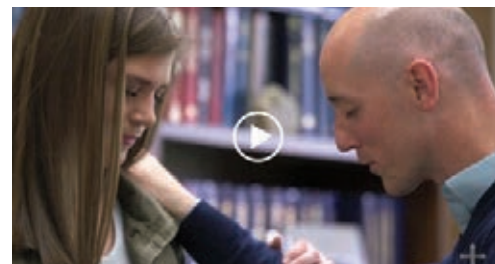
“Students deserve our best; they deserve our best time and our best energy,” said Peterson. “College is a very formative time, and it’s a gift that we can give to students to be present with them in it.”

Peterson’s connectedness is evident through the revolving door of his office—students stopping by for counsel, advice, or just to say hello. It’s seen in how he greets students and employees by name as he strolls through campus, and in how he always has a sidewalk companion on jaunts to and from class. Students crave his involvement in their table tennis tournaments, eagerly join him for lunch, and request his encouragement in the locker room for a pre-game prayer.

“It’s important for me to be accessible for support and visibly present on their turf,” said Peterson. “Jesus cared deeply about people in all walks of life, and I believe that is our same mission.”

After students graduate, they are sent in fulfillment of the university mission to be servants of Christ in the Church and the world, “doing life” outside of Concordia. While many of them leave with a personal connection to their campus pastor, that is not the relationship Peterson cares about most.

“Jesus tells us in John 16 that in this world we will have trouble. We also have the One who said ‘I have overcome the world,’” said Peterson. “We want students to leave Concordia knowing that the One who has overcome the world for them is the One who walks with them every single day.” ✝



Watch a day in the life of Campus Pastor Ryan Peterson at www.YouTube.com/CUAnnArbor.



FAITHFUL ACTION IN INNER CITIES

A summer spent in 1967 Detroit shapes an alumna's faith and future vocations

By **Kali Thiel**, *University Affairs*
 Photography courtesy of *Ascension Lutheran Church*

Fifty years ago, during the summer of 1967, the City of Detroit erupted into one of the deadliest and most destructive civil uprisings in U.S. history. By the time the bloodshed, burning, and looting ended after five days, 43 people were dead, 342 were injured, nearly 1,400 buildings had been burned, and some 7,000 National Guard and U.S. Army troops had been called into service to quell the violence.

Like most who lived through the riots, one 1968 Concordia Ann Arbor graduate found herself forever changed by her summer spent just a few miles from the heart of the scene.



In this July 17, 1977 photo of 12th Street in Detroit is pictured under a cloud of smoke during the rioting in 1967. Errant flames of the 1967 riot swept into residential sections destroying solid homes of longtime residents. © Tony Spinal/Detroit Free Press via ZUMA Wire

Alice (Flicker) Hedt ('68) still remembers the moment she was first endeared to urban ministry.

She was 12 years old and sitting in the living room of her Longmont, Colorado, home watching television when she saw Martin Luther King Jr. come onto the screen. Even through the fuzzy black and white picture on the 16-inch box, MLK came alive; his words “pierced” her, Alice recalls.

A product of a strong Lutheran upbringing, Alice grew up secure in the knowledge of a foundational principle of Scripture: Salvation is a free gift; it cannot be earned through good works. As assuring as that concept was, Alice admits she struggled with how to express the gift through her actions.

“I never quite understood until watching Martin Luther King Jr. that being a Christian and the words of Jesus had a context beyond

our small town, and carried with it some responsibilities to the broader community and world,” Alice says.

So when an opportunity came six years later—the summer after her first year of attending Concordia Ann Arbor—for her to live and work within inner-city Detroit, Alice was drawn to it. Little did she know that opportunity would place her amidst one of the most violent urban uprisings in American history and

provide her with practical training for a life of service to Christ in urban settings, alongside her future husband.

It was 50 years ago, the summer of 1967. Alice had landed a job at a regional newspaper in Detroit and was in need of lodging. A Concordia staff member, Deaconess Jacqueline Haug, connected Alice with Burton and Norma Everist, who lived on 30th Street in downtown Detroit, near the LCMS church where Burton served as pastor at the time.

Soon after her job began, the 1967 Detroit Riot erupted. Alice says she never felt fearful or unsafe while living with the Everists, but the summer afforded her many opportunities to soak up Norma and Burton’s example in the midst of the turmoil.

“Burton and Norma were a part of the community,” Alice said. “Their friendships were in the community. They engaged with the neighbors. They raised their family there. I don’t think I ever consciously thought about it, but it was clear: This is how you do urban ministry.”

Others at Concordia also became involved in the aftermath of the Detroit Riot. Haug initiated an effort to transport Concordia

students to Detroit on a regular basis to participate in ministry and service.

For about three years after the riot, two teams of Concordia students traveled weekly to the inner city for weekend stays with the Everists. The teams helped at The Green Tree Coffee House, an urban coffee house started by a group of Lutherans and Baptists that provided the setting for provocative discussions with people in the neighborhood; they offered their services for clean-up efforts, tearing down fire-prone garages; and they provided tutoring for inner-city youth, and helped with the church’s neighborhood outreach program. Alice’s husband, and Detroit native, Fred Hedt ('68), helped with the latter for a summer.

Since then, Alice and Fred have continued their service to urban and underserved populations. For the past 21 years, Fred has served as pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church, located just outside of Washington, D.C. The church is brimming with diversity in every sense of the word—age, race, and economic class.

Alice and Fred are quick to express their love of their diverse church. They’re also quick to advocate for more ministries of this sort

throughout the nation and world.

“I see the Church at large struggling with the riots in Baltimore; in Ferguson,” Alice says. “We need to remind ourselves that it takes ongoing local parish involvement in the community to effectively address the larger-scale issues.”

In addition to fulfilling her vocation as a pastor’s wife, Alice has devoted herself to addressing justice issues in long-term care, and advocating for the rights of residents—including the 72 percent of nursing home residents who are on Medicaid—and the disparities in care experienced by people of color. She has worked on the national level directing the National Ombudsman Center and as executive director of the National Citizens’ Coalition for Nursing Home Reform.

She credits her time with the Everists for helping prepare her for her future callings.

“Being with Burton and Norma taught me to embrace and enjoy diversity, and to better understand issues of poverty and racism,” Alice says. “When I was with them, I finally understood that faith and action coinciding is not only consistent with Scripture, it’s a necessary way of life for me as a Christian.” ✦



Left: Sharing in her husband’s parish ministry has been a huge part of Alice Hedt’s life. She calls the church members her family. Here she is holding one of her “family members” after he was baptized.



Top Right: Ascension Lutheran Church’s middle school youth group, Sonrays, recently participated in a walk to raise money for world hunger. The church, located just outside of Washington, D.C., has a vibrant community of diversity. **Bottom Right:** Rev. Frederick Hedt III, pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Maryland, helps welcome a young parishioner into the Lord’s family. He has served as a pastor at urban parishes for 43 years, his entire ministry.



alumprofile



A TURN OF EVENTS

A high school visit to Concordia changed everything

By Lisa Liljegren, University Affairs

Photography by James Saleska

Since kindergarten, Jill Topham ('13) knew she wanted to be a teacher. As the daughter, granddaughter, and cousin of multiple public school educators, her career path was seemingly set to follow in her family members' footsteps in the public school district of her hometown, Grand Blanc, Michigan. However, a visit to Concordia University Ann Arbor as a high school student changed everything.

While attending Tool Time, a weekend youth retreat presented by student volunteers at CUAA, Topham learned that she could combine her passion for teaching children with her love for Jesus by becoming a Lutheran teacher; a path she had not yet considered.

Nearly 10 years into teaching kindergarten at St. Lorenz Lutheran School in Frankenmuth, Michigan, Topham reflects on her students, her faith, and her time at CUAA.

Q: Why did you want to become a Lutheran kindergarten teacher?

A: Every teacher will tell you that teaching is not a job; it is a calling. My niche is kindergarten. I wanted to work with young children because they are excited about school and their faith. I think and pray about my students constantly.

Q: How did CUAA prepare you for your teaching?

A: My professors did an amazing job getting me ready. They emphasized real-world experience, and exposed me to a variety of hands-on opportunities and class settings, even during my first semester. So I was quite sure that teaching was for me right off the bat.

Q: Describe your CUAA experience.

A: The small campus was so warm and welcoming. I came from a big high school, so the size and the tight-knit feel appealed to me as soon as I stepped foot on campus. I was super involved at Concordia, and had many opportunities to try new things with people who shared my values and beliefs.

My fondest memory was volunteering with Tool Time, the very organization that helped me find Concordia. I enjoyed working with high school students on their walk with Jesus and helping to build them up. It was especially fulfilling when they chose to come to Concordia like I did.

Q: What inspires you?

A: I find my inspiration in the way that Jesus lived His life. I think about how He walked and talked with everybody, even the little children. How He accepted and loved children; "Theirs is the Kingdom of God." I aspire to emulate that as a teacher and in my everyday life.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

CUAA's School of Education is designed to prepare students to become thoughtful, skilled, and caring teachers who are committed to the success of every student. Concordia's undergraduate programs include early childhood, elementary, and secondary teaching, where students build a foundation in teaching practices and gain in-depth knowledge in subject areas of their choice.

Did you know?

- Last year's School of Education graduates had a 100 percent job placement rate.
- The School of Education offers master's degrees and endorsement programs beyond the baccalaureate level in ESL, special education learning disabilities, curriculum and instruction, the Michigan School Administrator Certificate, and more.

For more information about undergraduate programs, contact Carrie.Richardson@cuaa.edu.

For information about graduate degrees and endorsement programs, contact Julie.Edler@cuaa.edu.

FUTURE alumposts

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@fleurrms Orientation 8/24-27 Finally I've started my new life here, at CUAA!



@hannnn_25 Happy move in day with my fav (our room still wasn't done yet but oh well)



@kaleb_pohlman20 Last First Day of School



@lex_dubs First day as college sophomores

alumnnotes

2000s

RACHEL (WESCHE) BOMBERGER ('02) was named the new editor of *The Lutheran Witness*, the official magazine of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Rachel and her husband, REV. KEN BOMBERGER ('03), have four children and reside in Arnold, Missouri.

DANIELLE (GUSS) COOK ('12) and AUSTIN COOK ('12) welcomed their son, Isaiah Michael Cook, on March 18, 2017. The Cook family resides in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



KELLY (WURZELL) CHARPIE ('09) and Chad Charpie welcomed a son, Wells, on Mother's Day, May 14, 2017. Wells joins big brother Quinn and dog Remi.



Share your milestones with us! To submit an Alumni Note, email alumni@cuaa.edu with a high-resolution photo, if possible.

1990s



SUSAN OPEL ('91) accepted the position of editor-in-chief at *Scrapbook and Cards Today* magazine and as the social engagement coordinator for Simon Says Stamp. Susan has been a part of the craft industry for 10 years.

1980s

SANDRA ZEMPEL ('84) accepted a position as the director of Aspen Adult Day Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is also a mental health practitioner/new hire mentor and trainer for Live Better, Minnesota in Minneapolis.



JOHN KERN ('89) is the senior server infrastructure engineer at St. Luke's Hospital. He is married and has two children.

1960s

GENE KRINN ('67) and his wife relocated from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, to Noblesville, Indiana. They enjoy traveling in their RV and riding their Vespa scooters.



REV. DR. TIMOTHY MASCHKE ('68) will retire from his position as professor of theology at Concordia University Wisconsin at the end of the 2017 fall semester.

Cardinal Hall of Fame Gala

On June 1, 2017, CUAU held its inaugural Hall of Fame Gala, during which the athletic department inducted the Class of 2017, Concordia's eighth Hall of Fame class. Congratulations, Cardinals!



CHUCK BOERGER ('67)



RACHEL (WESCHE) BOMBERGER ('02)



ROCKO HOLMES ('12), pictured second from the left, with former teammates AUSTIN COOK ('12), AARON OLSEN ('14), and CHAD MCMULLEN ('12)



Women's Basketball Team ('11-'12)

ADVANCING THE MISSION



SAVE THE DATE: CLASS OF 1968 REUNION WEEKEND

On May 19–20, 2018, Concordia University Ann Arbor will host a 50th Reunion Weekend for the Class of 1968. For more information, contact Laura Thomas at Laura.Thomas@cuaa.edu or 734-995-7318.



Members of the CUAU graduating Class of 1967 gathered on campus in May 2017 for a weekend of fun, reuniting with old friends, campus tours, and making new memories (while reliving the old)!

STAY CONNECTED TO CONCORDIA

We want you—our Concordia family—to feel connected to our mission, our students, and all that is new on campus as we enter this fall season.

Please take a moment to email us at alumni@cuaa.edu with your correct mailing address, phone number, and preferred email address. By doing this, you will receive our alumni newsletter that provides you with opportunities for you to connect with other alumni, network, be a classroom presenter, volunteer to help others, and live out the Concordia mission. Those who respond by October 31 will be entered in a drawing to receive a \$100 gift certificate for Amazon.

Many thanks and blessings to you and your family.

—CUAA Alumni Relations

After I finish showing someone around campus or talking to them about our students and programs, and they ask “How can I help?” it brings me great joy. When people hear about all God is doing within our campus community they are moved to be a part of it. They want to share in the excitement of helping to prepare our students for lives of service to Christ in the Church and the world because they have a heart for Concordia.

So what's the answer? How can someone help Concordia continue to extend its mission to an increasing number of students? And perhaps most importantly, how can YOU be part of this mission?

Allow me to invite you to join us in *A Heart for Concordia*, a campaign for Concordia University Ann Arbor. Launched this past summer, *A Heart for Concordia* is a visionary campaign to provide the necessary funding that will carry the university into the next decade and beyond. Through this campaign we will be able to address some of the most critical needs of our campus, as well as seize opportunities that God is creating.

This comprehensive campaign will support five vital initiatives:

- Student scholarships
- Endowments
- Athletics
- The Concordia Fund
- The Maier Center for Evangelism and Apologetics

While each of these elements will provide essential resources to support our students and ministry, it is The Maier Center that may well have the most far-reaching effect. Recognizing the impactful ministries of Rev. Drs. Walter A. Maier and Paul L. Maier, this new center, to be located in the heart of the CUAU campus, will truly serve Christ, His Church, and the world. And in it, our students will be prepared and equipped to impact the world for generations to come.

If you have *A Heart for Concordia* or would like to know more about any of these initiatives, please contact me anytime at 734-995-7317, or visit www.cuaa.edu/friends.

REV. DR. ROY PETERSON
Vice President of Advancement

ALL THINGS NEW

Editor's Note: In this edition of the Final Word, the editorial team asked CUAA sophomore Celia Walkowicz to share her reflections on the 2017-18 academic theme and verse.

This past spring I was honored to be a part of the group to discern the theme phrase and verses for the upcoming academic year. Throughout our search, the group—made up of Pastor Ryan, Pastor Duncan, and several of my peers—kept returning to these words found in Revelation 21:5: “Behold, I am making all things new.”

As we prayed, discussed, and looked at other passages, we fell more in love with what God says to each person as recorded in Revelation 21. Whether you're a lifelong Christian, a new Christian, or a “not-yet” Christian, this verse speaks life into our hearts. Its power to do so lies in the fact that Jesus shows us that He takes our well-worn hearts and beautifully renews them. He does not choose to simply make new, perfect people. He chooses to take us—bumps, bruises, and all—and love us, making us a part of His perfect plan. A plan that includes giving us the hope of life everlasting with Him in the New Heaven and New Earth as depicted in Revelation 21.

It was amazing to see God work through our group this past spring as we chose this theme and verse, and remembered past themes. Two years ago, Concordia University Ann Arbor's campus learned that our God is capable of doing *immeasurably more* than we can ask or imagine. Last year we learned that we are *together set apart* by God. Reflecting on this past academic year, we discussed the many “new” opportunities at CUAA, including interactions with new faculty and staff, academic programs, athletic teams, our new North Building, and our largest student body ever.

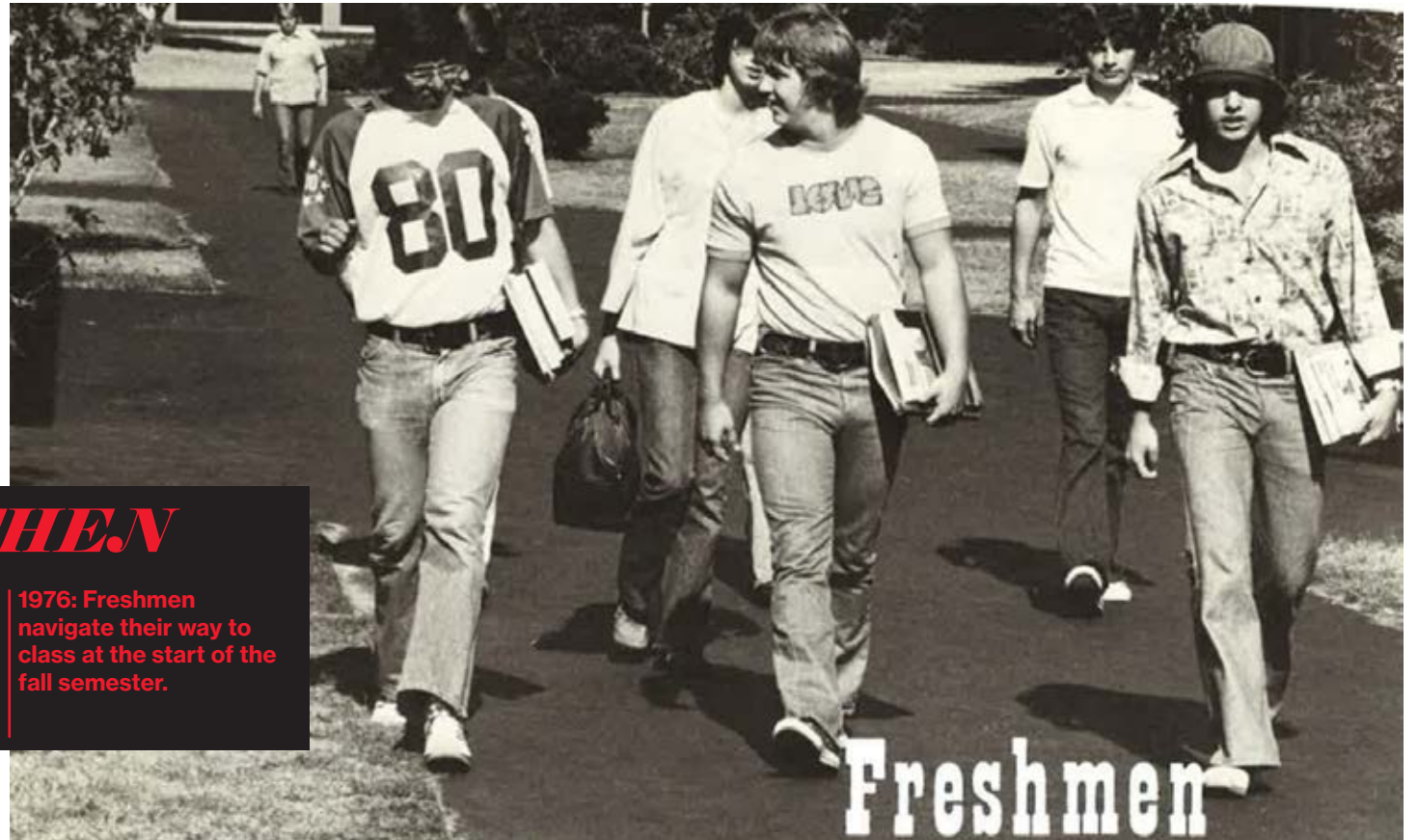
The newness we experienced in academics and athletics is also something that we get to encounter in our spiritual lives each day. The theme “All Things New” is a reminder of the blessings CUAA has had and the restoration that we continue to receive as believers in a gracious Redeemer.

It's an exciting time to be a part of CUAA. Our campus is looking forward to weaving this message of hope into our daily lives and diving deeper into it these next two semesters.

CELIA WALKOWICZ ('20)
Student Contributor



Photography by Kelly Cieslak



THEN

1976: Freshmen navigate their way to class at the start of the fall semester.



NOW

2017: Students seek out lunch on central campus after settling into their rooms on freshmen move-in day.

Arbor Light
Fall/Winter 2017

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~ A ~

MANOR CHRISTMAS

at Concordia University

Concordia University Ann Arbor invites you to attend the
inaugural *A Manor Christmas*, December 1-3, 2017.

The free event will include:

Tours of the historic Earhart Manor, decorated for
Christmas by professional designers



An outdoor European-style Christkindlmarkt, featuring
shopping, music, food, children's activities, and merriment



A unique Festival of Trees display of tabletop Christmas
trees decorated by local business and community groups,
and available for purchase



Extend the celebration: Starting November 1, purchase
tickets for the 40th annual Boar's Head Festival pageant.