



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

“MURMUR”INGS FROM THE DEAN



In the previous editions of the newsletter I wrote about two of our program's cornerstone values, integrity and excellence. Integrity represents the strong moral character

expected of each of us, shown best when no one is looking. Excellence provides the high standard upon which a level of performance is based. Continuing on with the series, let's focus on value number three, Compassion.

Compassion can be defined as the emotional response to perceived suffering, followed by a sincere desire to help.

First there is an awareness of someone else's suffering, which is followed by a response of assistance of some kind. Compassion

can be confused with empathy, which is an emotional experience of another person's feelings, like tearing up at something sad, or with altruism which means taking an action that benefits someone else. Interestingly though, empathy and altruism are not always accompanied with compassion, as the motive for compassion is selflessness.

Scientific evidence suggests that human beings of all ages have an instinct for compassion. It appears that people do not simply help others because it feels good, but that it is the actual relief of someone else's suffering that brings the reward. Science has shown that when we are compassionate, our first impulse is to help others, even when we ourselves are in need of help. The act of giving or helping appears to be as pleasurable, if not more so, as the act of receiving help. Jesus tells us this clearly in Acts 20:35 that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

My son-in-law Jordan survived the Joplin, Missouri tornado on May 22, 2011. It was an EF5 tornado that struck a path nearly 1 mile wide through a highly populated area of the city, killing 161 people. Wind speeds were later determined to be in excess of 200 mph. He took cover in the bathtub of his second floor apartment just before the tornado hit and completely destroyed his building. He saw the roof get ripped off and felt the bathtub become disconnected from the plumbing, followed by it swirling inside the tornado. God's hand was upon him during this horrifying event, as he could have easily been sucked out of the bathtub and flung to his death. Instead, the bathtub dropped out of the sky and landed in the vicinity of his apartment.

The bathtub broke, as did his hip, but otherwise he was unhurt.

The reason I mention Jordan's story is that

it is a perfect example of the compassion of strangers. Within minutes of the tornado dissipating, residents of Joplin came out of their destroyed homes and businesses to aid those that had been injured. These folks ignored their own losses and focused on others. A nurse who lived nearby jumped in her truck and began looking for people to help when she happened upon Jordan. Simultaneously a co-worker of Jordan's who lived in a nearby apartment that was also destroyed, started searching for Jordan after seeing that his apartment was decimated. They both came upon Jordan within a few minutes of his injury, removed all the heavy debris covering him, and hoisted him into the back of her pick up. She was able to somehow maneuver through the massive amount of wreckage and got Jordan to the hospital. After making sure Jor-

"He cares for us with an amazing love that feels our suffering and responds to our cries for help. That's compassion."

THIS ISSUE:

Dean's Message
Nurse Excellence
Global Simulation
Feature Story
Career Engagement
Student Government
Uncommon Experiences
Campus Ministry
A Servant's Heart
Important Dates
Academic Corner

dan was tended to, the nurse got back in her truck and went off to help others in need. She didn't do this because she had to, she did it because she was compelled to relieve others' suffering. Jordan's co-worker stayed with him as Jordan was transferred to a nearby hospital for surgery and was able to help notify family of his whereabouts. Examples of compassion happened all over Joplin in the minutes, hours, days, and weeks following the tornado. People who lost everything, including loved ones, were out helping others in need - Compassion.

Our God is such a gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. He cares for us with an amazing *Continued on page 2...*



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Imagine...

Dean's message continued...

love that feels our suffering and responds to our cries for help. That's compassion. He also uses each of us to be His hands and feet to respond to the suffering and care for them.

I'm proud to say that I frequently hear about CUAU nursing students responding to others with compassion (and integrity and excellence). Recently a group of students arrived at a clinical site for their clinical only to discover that all of the CNAs had called off. This left no one to administer care to the patients. Without hesitation, all of the students dropped their plans for the shift and selflessly provided compassionate and excellent care for all of the patients. They realized that without their help, the patients would suffer. They were rewarded with the joy they brought to the patients.

I know there are many more examples of compassion happening everyday here at CUAU. Some I know about,

others I don't. But God knows about them all. In Matthew 6 Jesus tells the disciples to help others but to do it in secret. He is telling them to act compassionately but to do it without fanfare, without expecting praise or acknowledgement. Jesus continues by saying, "Then your Father, who see what is done in secret, will reward you." Let's continue to show the world God's love through our care and compassion towards others.

If you would like to hear more about Jordan's story check out this interview he gave while in the hospital after his hip fracture surgery: <https://youtu.be/eu5tyEhiZTs>



NURSE EXCELLENCE

A Student Perspective

By Caitlyn Freshour

I volunteer every other Thursday at The Luke 52 Project Clinic. I first heard about the clinic from an announcement on Blackboard and I am so glad that I decided to take advantage of the opportunity! I've been volunteering there since last March and look forward to returning each week.

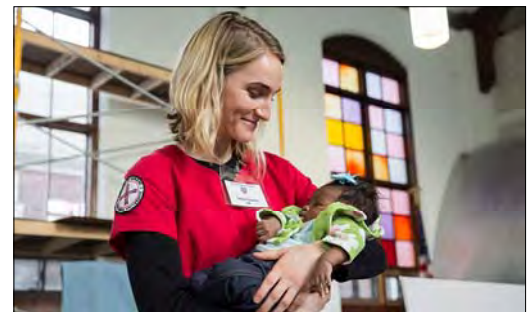
The Luke 52 Project Clinic provides free pre-natal and infant care to moms and babies in the surrounding community who may otherwise have no other means of receiving care.

Since I have been involved I have had the opportunity to work in the lab, helping with pre-natal lab work. I've also been able to work alongside some of the nurses and midwives there and learn firsthand what type of care this patient population requires. Sometimes I have the chance to help out at the vital signs and a few times I have had the opportunity to perform wellness checks on newborn babies.

The clinic has presented me with the chance to get hands on experience and learn about pre-natal and infant care. I feel like I learn something new each week.

However, I have to say that the best part about volunteering at The Luke Project 52 Clinic is the positive atmosphere. The nurses, doulas, midwives, and other volunteers do more than just provide free health care- they foster meaningful relationships with each of the moms that walk through their door. Many of the moms continue to come back to the clinic long past their last appointment because they've developed such strong bonds with the volunteers here.

It is an amazing feeling to be a part of something that is having such a positive impact on these moms and their babies. I am so grateful for the Luke 52 Clinic and the things they continue to teach me and how they continue to encourage me.



Nursing student Caitlyn Freshour. Photo credit: Kelly Cieslak

You can find more information about the Nurse Excellence Program on the CUAU Undergrad Nursing Student blackboard site or by contacting Betsy Cambridge at: betsy.cambridge@cuaa.edu.

Look for opportunities around you to give of yourself, be bold, and love others for Jesus Christ.

SIMULATION GOES GLOBAL

In the last issue of *The Beat*, we wrote about our collaboration with Wisconsin International University College, Ghana (WIUC) School of Nursing. Ben Oliver recently spent two weeks at WIUC providing education on the use of Africa's very first high-fidelity nursing simulators. WIUC purchased two simulators



identical to our mannequins, and one OB mannequin for the Midwife Program. Ben provided the training. This was a very monumental step for higher learning in Africa, even involving Ben introducing the mannequins to the chancellor of Ghana.



Ben Oliver with students from Wisconsin International University College, Ghana.

Ben also was honored with a very prestigious award in January. He received the advocate award from Education Management Solutions, an education company that works with simulation technologies. He earned this national award in recognition of his role in advocating learning through simulation. Congratulations, Ben!



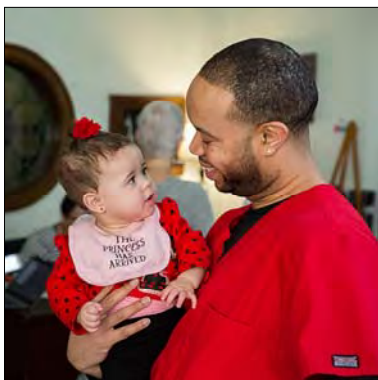
FEATURE STORY: The Birth of a Better Way

CUAA nursing students help provide prenatal health care to Detroit moms

By Rachel Ferguson, University Affairs

Photography by Kelly Cieslak

Editor's Note: This story will appear in the Spring/Summer 2018 edition of CUAA's Arbor Light magazine, dropping in mailboxes later in April.



Nursing student Turome Chandler.

Detroit native Turome Chandler ('18) knew he was somewhere special as he stood in the sanctuary-turned-exam-room of the Luke Project 52 Clinic and saw a young woman with her newborn baby, surrounded by a team of medical volunteers who were doting over her and her child. The clinic's photographer was capturing the special moment, and balloons filled the space. But what really caught the Concordia University Ann Arbor nursing student's attention was the mother, who was dressed in an unbelievably warm smile.

Only a month earlier, Turome had seen the same woman come into the clinic—afraid, untrusting, and closed off from anyone willing to help. Now she spoke to the medical volunteers with the same familiarity as her closest friends.

With plans of becoming the state's first mobile prenatal clinic, the Luke Project 52 Clinic is providing free pre- and postnatal health care to hundreds of Detroit mothers. The clinic, opened in 2016, was born from the passion of pastor and pharmacist Brad Garrison, in collaboration with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Michigan District.

It may be surprising to learn that, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Detroit's infant mortality rate is 2.5 times higher than the national average (i.e., the same as a Third World country). Statistics show that 61 percent of women in the state don't have prenatal care.

"The problem is not a lack of health care in Michigan," Garrison states. "It's an issue of relationship-building with women who have experienced serious issues, like domestic abuse. Our goal is to build a health care delivery system that is designed for the comfort and convenience of women in poverty, while building incentive for them to maintain appointments."

Read the rest of the story at blog.cuaa.edu/thebirthofabetterway.

CAREER ENGAGEMENT STUDIO



Visit the Career Engagement Studio to discover new on and off campus paid positions available to CUAA students. Did you know the Career Engagement Studio can assist you with creating a professional resume, cover letter, and practice relevant interviewing strategies? Stop by today or make an appointment with one of our career ambassadors by emailing career.engagement@cuaa.edu.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The Student Nurses Association at CUAA is up and running! The next meeting is Wednesday, April 11, 3-4:00 pm in pod room 115. All nursing and pre-nursing students are welcome to attend. Work is underway to bring in speakers who would present on various pertinent nursing topics as well as planning service projects.

For more information, please join Concordia's SNA facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CUAASNA>

UNCOMMON EXPERIENCES

Over spring break, eight junior-level students had the opportunity to obtain their clinical hours with an immersion experience. Concordia University partnered with Concordia Lutheran Ministries in Cabot, Pennsylvania to create this experience. The local paper covered the story.

The eight student under the supervision of their clinical instructor, spent eight days rotating between skilled nursing, in-patient hospice and home health care. The students were willing to forego their scheduled spring break in order to obtain all of the required clinical hours that would normally be done over a 14 week semester.

Feedback from both the students and the clinical site has been incredibly positive!



CAMPUS MINISTRY



Spring.

Because we live in Michigan, it is a season that should give hope, optimism, and desires for warmer, longer, and more beautiful days. The snow (should) be in the rearview mirror, and we (should) begin seeing the early blooming of beautiful plants and the evidence of green grass. But yet, there are still cold, cloudy days. Even as I write this, the forecast for today is cloudy with a strong wind out of the north.

Maybe the semester feels like that to you as well. Now that we are in the season of spring, we are also in the final two months of this semester and academic year. You can see the finish line (dimly), but it still seems really far away and some days are so overwhelming that the idea of actually crossing the finish line feels like too much.

At this time of the year, I want to encourage you with a strong visual that you will see whenever you are on the Central Campus. Many of you know that we place a large (and it seems to get larger every year!) Christmas tree in the middle of Central Campus, directly in front of the Chapel. This tree gets placed as Advent begins in late November/early December, and is lit as a reminder that Christ came as the "true light that gives light to everyone" (John 1:9).

A few weeks ago, as we began the season of Lent, that Christmas tree was trimmed to become a cross. The apostle Peter wrote, "He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). But even that cross does not stay up all year. On Easter, it is cut down and brought into the Chapel as we celebrate Easter and the power of the resurrection just a few days later.

Because of what happened on Easter, we have hope, peace, forgiveness, and strength for EVERY DAY.

God be with you, giving you all you need for each day.

Pastor Ryan

CHAPEL @ North

Come join us for worship on the 2nd floor.

The schedule is as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:

Livestream from main campus

WEDNESDAY: CPR with FREE STARBUCKS



“A SERVANT’S HEART”



Doris Delventhal

The good news and early success stories of Concordia University Ann Arbor’s School of Nursing is spreading throughout the public and health care communities in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area and beyond. MariLee Crandell, a Registered Nurse at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti, had met Dean Cindy Fenske many years when they attended the same church and worked at St. Joe’s.

MariLee had taken note of CUAA’s new nursing program, and as she recalled her time with Cindy and the promise of a Christ-centered nursing curriculum at CUAA, an idea began forming in her head and her heart. Her mom, Doris Anita Delventhal, had passed in November of 2016. She’d been a nurse all her life, and the idea came to MariLee to honor Doris’ nursing legacy by sponsoring a scholarship for nursing students at CUAA.



Doris Delventhal (left) and MeriLee’s aunt on the right

MariLee attended the inaugural Manor Christmas activities on campus last December, and that’s where she first made contact with CUAA staff, and raised the possibility of sponsoring a scholarship. She agreed to come in and tour the School of Nursing at CUAA’s North Building, and was blown away as Dean Fenske showed her the facilities, equipment, and the extensive simulation capabilities. It didn’t take long for MariLee to realize this was the right time and the right place to take this step in faith, and make this scholarship dream a reality.

Often, when donors establish scholarships, they attach academic criteria, such as a minimum GPA, for students to qualify for scholarship consideration. When Dean Fenske asked her friend if she’d like to include academic criteria to this scholarship, MariLee laughed. “Mom wouldn’t like that,” she said. “Mom barely made it through school as far as grades go. But what she had was a servant’s heart, and if we could make sure this scholarship goes to a student with a servant’s heart, regardless of grades, it would mean everything to our family!”

Perhaps she wasn’t an straight-A student, but Doris Delventhal was a dynamo of a nurse, and her life story reads like a movie script. Doris first began her long nursing career working in Labor and Delivery at hospitals in Big Rapids, Michigan, Denver, Colorado, and Mt. Pleasant, Michigan before coming to Beyer Hospital in Ypsilanti, Michigan. After her retirement she still worked as an RN at the Anna Botsford Bach Home where she also conducted weekly devotions. She would often say she learned her compassion from watching her father regularly visit and care for those less fortunate, and hearing him say, “Everyone God created deserves respect, compassion, love.”

Her servant’s heart was hard at work for over 50 years in Ypsilanti. Doris helped with immunization days at Fletcher Elementary School, taught health classes at Ypsilanti High School, and helped establish the Corner Health Center & Pregnancy Counseling Center. She worked for over 40 years with Hospice in Washtenaw County. She was the first Volunteer Coordinator and traveled the state helping other Hospices get started, and even though she was legally blind by the time she turned 70 years old, she never let “a little thing like that” slow her down. She only stopped her Hospice work when she broke her hip at the age of 88.



MeriLee Crandell and scholarship recipient Caitlyn Freshour.

Doris was the recipient of many awards over the years such as the Hope Clinic Heffernan Award for Service in 2000.

Doris was a very active member of St. Luke Lutheran Church of Ann Arbor. Here she sang in the choir, and participated in many groups, including the Widows Support Group, Wednesday Morning Bible Study, and many more. Doris’ favorite place on this earth was her family’s cottage, built by her father when she was a young girl. Many, many people were touched by Doris’ love for the Lord and greatly touched by her love and kindness.

This scholarship was first made available to CUAA Nursing students in January of 2018 through Concordia’s Adopt-A-Student program. CUAA is so thankful that MariLee has expressed her intent to keep this scholarship going indefinitely, and her family has also offered their support to help make this award an annual event. “Mom always focused on what she could do for others, and never asked for much of anything for herself. I know Concordia will always attract and nurture students with these same values, and our family is so happy to help them toward their career goals and a life of Christian service.”



IMPORTANT DATES

- April 6th** Last day to drop a class
- April 11th** SNA meeting 3-4pm in pod room 115
All nursing and pre-nursing students are welcome to attend.

ACADEMIC CORNER

Angie Raasch - angela.raasch@cuaa.edu (734) 995-7414

Alpha's: It's time!!!! Please submit your graduation review form. It is located on the student tab on the portal - under "Graduation Information".

Pre-Nursing: If you are on track to start the program Fall 2018:

- 1) Please **MAKE SURE** that you have your CNA complete before August 2018.
- 2) CPR – American Heart Association BLS for Health Care Providers is the **REQUIRED** certification. No others will be accepted. Classes will be held on campus. Please be on the look out for more information.
- 3) Registration: Most of you will only have nursing classes in fall. After midterm grades are posted you will receive a set schedule with your group assignment for fall.

All other Pre-Nursing Students: Please sign up to meet with me to review your 4-year plan and set your schedule for fall. If you have a hold on your account, you must contact the business office beforehand to have the hold lifted so that we have the best chances of getting the classes that you need.

ALL STUDENTS: PLEASE REVIEW YOUR PLANS!!! MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE CREDIT FOR WHAT YOU HAVE TAKEN AND THAT YOU ARE NOT MISSING ANYTHING!

STUDY TIP

Proofreading:

Use Google Translate before turning in your paper. You can hear your paper read to you! It will help you find any mistakes.

Bonus tip: Eating chocolate while studying can help you retain information! Look it up. There's some great research on it. Bring on the chocolate!!



Located at:
3475 Plymouth Road
Ann Arbor MI 48105

Mailing address:
4090 Geddes Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105