

# THE BEAT



for CUA School of Nursing Students

## “MURMUR”INGS FROM THE DEAN—Cindy Fenske, DNP, RN, CNE



**Welcome back to the Alpha, Beta, Delta, and Omega classes!** I would also like to extend a special welcome to our newest class (yet unnamed)! I’m excited to get back into the regular routine of fall classes and connect or reconnect with each of you. Summer at the School of Nursing has been hectic, intense, interesting, and invigorating. A full load of specialty courses

and clinicals were offered this summer for the first time with 65 students in attendance. Students experienced multiple births and complications coming from the OB simulation room. Blue pads with simulated blood loss and blood clots covered the tables in the large debrief room. This moulage magic was compliments of Ben Oliver and his team of student workers. The skills lab was filled with newborn dolls all lined up for assessment and diapering.

Later in the summer the simulation center contained bassinets and cribs filled with the child and baby mannequins all experiencing a variety of childhood illnesses and trauma. Another day brought in over twenty real live children of all different ages and their parents for a time of interaction, physical exams, and growth and development assessments. Next sent half of the summer students to sites around the globe, while the other half was busy working with children and adults in various local agencies for community health clinical. I’m hearing numerous reports from those involved with the community clinicals about how amazing the CUA nursing students are and how they are selflessly serving others.



“Babies” ready to go for pediatric simulation.



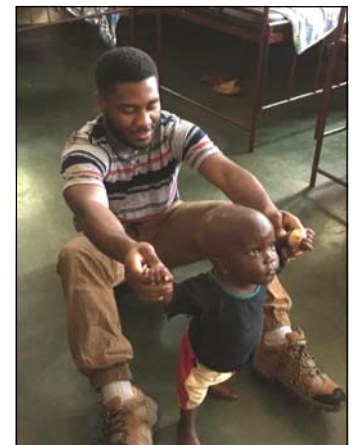
Students Sam Eubanks and Katie Ford assess a 7 year old during pediatric simulation.

Service is one of our program’s cornerstone words, as seen on the wall entering the simulation center. As always, God’s timing is perfect. Talking about service now in this edition of the newsletter, lines up perfectly with what has been going on all summer.

Service, in simple terms, is the act of doing something for someone else. There is

no requirement that the service be of a specific type or a set amount, but it is an act of selflessness and requires a giving of one’s talents, treasures, or time. The Bible has many references to service and serving others. In Matthew 22:30, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” and in 1 Peter 4:10, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” I’m sure many of you have heard this verse from Act 20:35, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Serving God is one of service to others, where we should show love and kindness to all, regardless of how they are treating us or what they are giving back to us.

Let’s think about this for a minute. We should make every effort to give or serve others without regard to how they are treating us or expecting anything in return. Wouldn’t the world be an amazing place if we all thought and acted with this in mind? This mindset goes against our nature to take care of ourselves first, getting what we think we deserve, and then maybe helping others if there is any time or money left over.



Student Ashton Gray spends time with a patient during his clinicals in Uganda.

This summer I am so proud to say, I have heard of many examples of CUA nursing students serving others in need. Whether it was caring for pregnant women and their children at the Luke 52 clinic, or tirelessly serving large numbers of ill people in an open air clinic in Guatemala, or comforting babies and small children in stark conditions in Uganda and Kenya, our students have served selflessly without expecting anything in return. These are just a few of the numerous examples of servant hearts caring for those in need. It makes my heart swell with pride and joy.

This year, let’s all continue to strive to serve each other through the giving of our time, and encouragement. Let’s all continue to carry this forward by serving our patients, and others that God places in our paths. Let’s all continue to serve others at CUA and in our community that could be blessed by the special gifts that God has given to each of us. Let’s all continue to make a special effort to show others we care for them. Let’s all continue to “Live Uncommon” here and beyond CUA.

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# SIMULATION



Instructor Betsy Cambridge instructs students during pediatric simulation.

The summer has been a busy one for the simulation team. The Alpha and Beta students completed exciting simulation rotations in maternal health, pediatrics, and community health. Many babies were delivered, immunizations given, and global issues addressed. This fall continues to see growth in simulation courses as the Alpha students begin their Advanced Perfusion course which includes emergency and ICU nursing care, practicing ACLS and PALS skills. This will bring a total of 6 simulation courses this fall including at least one sim course in every nursing semester.

The sim staff also advanced their knowledge this summer by attending various conferences and trainings. In May, Betsy Cambridge, Anita Simmons, and Joe Yaksich attended CAE Healthcare’s Motor City Regional Sim day in Macomb, MI, with Joe presenting on debriefing techniques. In July, Ben attended the EXAMSOFT training in Fort Lauderdale, FL and Joe attended the EMS Summit on Simulation in Phoenix, AZ.

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Students assess a high-fidelity infant mannequin during pediatric simulation.

# CAMPUS MINISTRY



Friends,

Life as a nursing student is challenging, and we all need encouragement. Understanding the spiritual and emotional needs of our students, we are excited to announce some changes in Campus Ministry at the North Building. The first change is that we are partnering with Student Life to have our office open and ready to serve you Monday through Friday. If you need to chat or pray, we’ve got your back. We will also provide a cup of coffee! In addition to this, beyond our usual CPR (Coffee-Prayer-Relief) on Wednesdays, we will also have a daily “Devos @North” at 10:35 for 15 minutes. At these sessions, you will have a Biblical devotional thought and prayer to encourage you and help you with your day.

Know that you are loved. If you have any question, concerns, or comments on ways we can better serve you, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Can’t wait to see you!

**Pastor Randy Duncan**

## CHAPEL @ NORTH

Come join us for worship in the library. The schedule is as follows:

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:**  
15 minute devotions @ 10:35

**Wednesday:**

CPR @ 10:30 with FREE STARBUCKS



# STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Why not join Concordia’s Student Nursing Association? It’s a fantastic resume builder, gives scholarship opportunities through NSNA, and provides you with community outreach. Any current CUAA nursing and pre-nursing student is welcome. Come to our first meeting, **Wednesday September 5th at 1:00pm** in the Skills Lab. If you cannot attend the meeting but are interested in CUAA’s SNA, feel free to contact one of the current officers.

Courtney Deyarmond—[courtney.deyarmond@cuaa.edu](mailto:courtney.deyarmond@cuaa.edu)

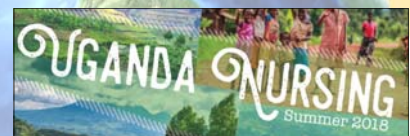
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[www.facebook.com/CUAASNA](http://www.facebook.com/CUAASNA)



Over this past summer, 26 Concordia Nursing students went overseas for pediatric and community clinical learning. This October, a special edition of **THE BEAT** will spotlight those experiences. It’s an issue you don’t want to miss!

# Imagine...

## NEW FACES



Hello everyone! My name is **Renee Clemons**. I am new to Concordia University this fall and am excited to be here. I am going to be co-teaching Med-Surg I and Assessment Lab, as well as teaching Psychological Wellness this fall semester. I am looking forward to an exciting and an engaging semester with all of you.

I am a DNP with a nurse practitioner specialty in acute care. I started my nursing journey in the medical-surgical arena and later migrated to the emergency department and ICU setting. My research thus far has focused on delirium prevention in critically ill patients. I must admit, it took some time for me to truly appreciate the evidence-based practice realm, those research articles can be long and tough to get through sometimes. I love a good read on the midnight shift!

I have been blessed. My husband is Shon. We met at work years ago when we were both police officers. My sun still rises and sets with him. We have four children who are growing up in the blink of our eyes, and we have a dog. He is like the fifth child and is truly adored. Our oldest daughter is gearing up to start her senior year and the college application process; we are very excited for her as she begins this journey. Our younger three children are all in competitive travel gymnastics. When I'm not here at Concordia teaching or in my office; I am likely the bus driver, either traveling to or from practice, or across a few states to gymnastic meets.

I have often been told I don't take enough "me" time. True, totally true. Over the past two years I have made a conscious effort to try to take a few "time-outs" during the week. My hobbies are reading and running. Rain or shine, treadmill or road, I love running. Oh, and maybe I have to add dancing around the house listening to music when I'm cleaning or cooking.

I feel very blessed and fortunate to be here at Concordia to be doing the Lord's work. He has been a continued constant in my life. Up or down, he has always carried me through. I do not remember a time without him.

I am grateful for this amazing and awesome opportunity. I cannot wait to meet and get to know you! See you soon.



My name is **Leah Tweedale** and I'm the new Administrative Assistant for the School of Nursing. I graduated from Concordia University, Ann Arbor with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Event Management. I call Munising, Michigan my hometown, but I now reside in the Ann Arbor area with my Husband, Tyler. I love spending time in the UP, talking about my adorable niece and nephews, and being a fan of the Detroit sports teams. I also have a strong passion for Concordia and am excited to be joining and serving the nursing team!



My name is **Jim Birdsell** and I am the new Clinical Compliance Officer. I Graduated from The University of Michigan Accelerated Nursing program in 2011. I have worked in med/surg, Orthopedics, Surgical Intensive Care, float pool and as a nursing clinical coordinator at Saint Joe's in Ann Arbor and Livingston. In 2015 I earned my MSN in education and I have taught clinical for Lansing Community College and the University of Michigan for the past five years.

I live in Howell with my wife Shannon, my 14 year old daughter Jamesen and my 8 year old son Bodey. Outside of work you will find me at my daughter's cheerleading competitions or at my son's hockey, basketball, or baseball games.

## 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](mailto:career.engagement@cuaa.edu).



## IMPORTANT DATES

- September 5** Blessing of the Hands @ 10:30am in the North Building Library  
*All current nursing students are encouraged to attend.*
- September 7** The LAST day to add a class
- October 1** SNA Blood Drive - *Stay tuned for more info*
- October 3** Flu vaccines at the North Building - *Stay tuned for more info*
- October 18-19** Fall Break
- November 2** Last day to drop a class

## ACADEMIC CORNER

Angie Raasch - [angela.raasch@cuaa.edu](mailto:angela.raasch@cuaa.edu) (734) 995-7414

***A warm welcome to the freshman and transfer Pre-Nursing students. Welcome back Alphas, Betas, Deltas, and Omegas! Congratulations and welcome to the incoming nursing class of December 2020!***

Please check your schedules with your 4-year plan! If you have any questions or need a copy of your plan, please ask!

### TIPS FOR SUCCESS

#### Tips for a successful start:

- **Get organized:** Be ready to start the week off running. Charge your computer, have notebooks and school supplies, wash your scrubs, make sure your shoes are clean, find your stethoscope, and pack some snacks. Gentlemen, make sure those beards are trimmed!
- **Plan your week:** Make a schedule. Map out classes, work, designate study time, practice, and some time for yourself.
- **Connect with the ARC:** See what tutors are available for your classes OR sign up to tutor that class you aced last semester. One of the best ways to learn is by teaching someone else!
- **Fuel your body and mind:** A well balanced diet and exercise provides stress relief, lowers anxiety, and increases energy.
- **Come to class prepared:** Do any pre-learning or reading assignments prior to class. Come prepared with questions. Your instructors are there to supplement and build on the information that you've been assigned.
- **Stay in contact with your advisor:** I'm here to help, listen, lend a tissue, or share a laugh!

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged.  
For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go!" Joshua 1:9*



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