

GOING THE DISTANCE Practice makes perfect, grace abounds. On and off the athletic field.

IN EXTREMIS Belief that endures. Even in the wake of a terrorist attack.

TRULY CENTERED A faith-based approach produces better results at CUW adult accelerated centers.

Concordian

THE MAGAZINE OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN



Faith

Assurance of things hoped for, evidence of things not seen.

WINTER/SPRING 2014



Author and Finisher of Our Faith

Occasionally, people will describe Concordia as a faith-based institution. While broadly speaking that is true, the description as it stands alone is not adequate. Ours is not some generic faith, nor do we give room to the popular perspective that one version of faith is as credible as any other. Indeed, our faith is not a faith which might leave the impression that simply and sincerely “believing with all your heart” is the objective. Believing in what? Concordia is not merely a faith-based institution. More to the point, Concordia is a Christ-centered university. As Luther’s hymn asserts, “Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, who did for all the world atone; he is our one Redeemer.”

That refrain echoes to the very heart of Concordia’s self-definition. In contrast to the world of spiritual ambiguity surrounding us, Concordia’s first Core Value is for ours to be a university that is “Christ-centered.” Our definition for what this means is, “We have faith in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.” Concordia’s students may come from different faith backgrounds, and there are perhaps some who insist that they are not people of faith. Every student is treated with respect, and we welcome the opportunity to learn from others through engaging dialog. But, there is no mistaking what is core to Concordia. Luther continues, “Faith clings to Jesus’ cross alone and rests in Him unceasing.”

The author of the letter to the Hebrews offers this description, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” The holy writer urges us to follow in the footsteps of heroes of faith gone before us and to “Look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.”

Concordia’s founders established this school in faith. Surely they hoped that those who followed would continue to look to Jesus. Much about Concordia has changed, and many things undoubtedly would surprise our predecessors if they could see us now. But, at the core, and in our Core Values, the earliest generations of Concordians would immediately recognize this as a place that centers on the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. Faith in Jesus Christ is woven into all that we do and everything that we are at Concordia. May God continue to bless Concordia with faith and faithfulness for generations of students yet to come!

REV. PATRICK T. FERRY, PH.D.
President

Concordian INTROIT

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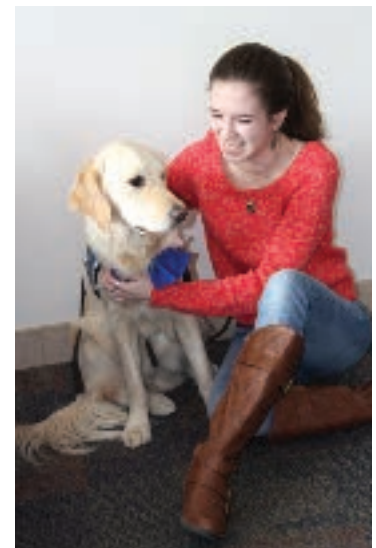
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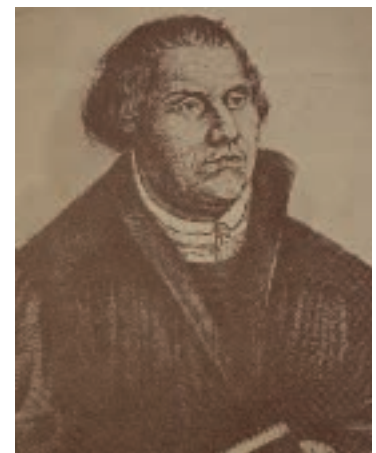
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ON THE COVER: The sun appears above the horizon on an icy February morning creating a backdrop for the wooden cross handmade for the Biblical documentary *Come Follow Me*, shot in part along Concordia's beach last summer. *Photograph by Jeffrey Phelps*

@ QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Email us: Concordian@cuw.edu or tweet us: [@ConcordianMag](https://twitter.com/ConcordianMag)

Faculty Spotlight

From Clinic to Classroom

Kevin Voss went from working with large animals to wrestling with large questions of bioethics



IT'S LIKELY Rev. Dr. Kevin Voss never imagined he'd be where he is today. He grew up on a dairy farm outside of Green Bay and started his career as a veterinarian in 1981. However, persistent allergies led him to make a difficult decision 14 years later.

His journey led him to the ministry, earning a doctorate degree and his position as Director of Concordia University Wisconsin's Center for Bioethics.

Voss now teaches a number of bioethics courses, many targeted toward students pursuing degrees in health professions. In addition to making presentations at conferences and seminars, he works with the administration whenever ethical issues come up.

"I think we feel strongly here at Concordia that all of our health care profession students should have a solid grounding in the word of God and ethics – solid ethical principles," Voss said.

"The approach is a little different at secular institutions because they will tend to exclude religion from the discussion," he added. "But, studies have shown that 70 percent of people base serious ethical decisions on their religion.

"If you exclude those things, you're really excluding a large part of their decision-making," he said. "Here, we don't exclude it. We encourage students to talk about it. Of course, we'll share with them what the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod believes about certain issues, but we'll also get them to talk about their religious perspectives."

Voss enjoyed animals and working on the farm when he was growing up but had doubts whether he had the fortitude to be a farmer.

"I had been good in school typically, so I thought maybe a career in veterinary medicine was the place for me," he said. "I always thought a lot about the veterinarians who came to our farm. One, Dr. Kenneth Weston, was a member of our church. When I was in high school, he took me around on calls – and I really got interested."

That led Voss to the University of Minnesota, which had a veterinary school that gave the best opportunity for accepting Wisconsin applicants. Wisconsin didn't have a veterinary school at the time. After passing the undergraduate prerequisites, he applied to the school. On his second attempt, he earned one of 17 slots in the program designated for Wisconsin students; there were 120 qualified applicants.

"It was really competitive. In fact, it was more competitive than medical school at the time," said Voss, who got a job after graduating with the Village Veterinary Clinic in Bonduel, about 55 miles northwest of his hometown. Approximately 80 percent of their work was with large animals.

While Voss said he always had asthma and fall allergies, they seemed to get worse as he spent his days around animals in closed dusty barns.

"It seemed like I was sick a lot," he said. "I rarely missed work, but it seemed like I was always tired and had a cold."

That led him to an allergist, a full battery of tests, and news that he was allergic to dogs, cats, and practically everything around cows, like hay, straw, and dust. A short time later, Voss got kicked by a cow he was treating, breaking his leg in three places.

"I was laid up for about three months and had time to think," he said. "It was like God was sending me a message – sort of putting a little dissatisfaction in my heart that perhaps I should be doing something else."

Voss' pastor at the time encouraged him to consider the ministry. He visited the Missouri Synod seminaries in Fort Wayne, Ind. and St. Louis.

"Long story short, we decided to sell my share of the practice, and we moved down to St. Louis – my wife and I, and our two children, Rachel and Ryan," he said. "They were in grade school at the time, so it was a pretty traumatic move for them, going from Bonduel with a population of 1,000 to St. Louis with a metro area of around two million. But they

“... studies have shown that 70 percent of people base serious ethical decisions on their religion.”

—Rev. Dr. Kevin Voss, Director, CUW Center for Bioethics

adapted and actually liked it better as time went on.”

Voss graduated from seminary in 1999 after serving his third year as a vicar at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seymour, Ind. Several faculty members at the seminary encouraged him to go to graduate school. They thought his combined medical and theology background would be a natural fit to teach bioethics. That led him to the Ph.D. program in health care ethics at St. Louis University.

"Before I could finish, CUW found out about me and wanted to bring me on board as Director of the Concordia Bioethics Institute, as it was called at the time. I've been here since August of 2003," he said. He earned his doctorate in health care ethics after starting work at Concordia.

Health care professionals have to make ethical decisions every day, Voss said, adding that his aim is to get his students to think about the issues involved and make appropriate choices.

"In my classes, I do tell students what we believe. We try to cover both sides of an ethical issue, but then I'll say, 'This is our perspective, and we



The Last Straw A discovered allergy to barnyards and barnyard animals provided fodder for a possible career change. Three months of recovery from a cow-inflicted injury provided time to think things through.

believe this," he said. "I want to get them thinking about it – because, of course, we believe our perspective is correct or we wouldn't believe it."

Voss said two current ethical issues are research involving embryonic stem cells and mandates in federal health care reform that require faith-based institutions to provide contraceptives.

"Many people in the LCMS are not opposed in principle to contraceptives necessarily – as long as they are used properly (for example, within marriage only or for treatment of an illness) and don't cause abortions – but we are opposed to the government telling faith-based organizations that we have to do something that's violating a fundamental belief," he said. "Our synod has teamed up with the Roman Catholic Church opposing that mandate, mainly because we see it as an infringement of our First Amendment rights."

The Center for Bioethics plans to expand its reach, starting in fall when it will offer an undergraduate minor in Bioethics, as well as a graduate certificate program.

"We're hoping that a lot of our health care profession students are interested," he said. "I think it would actually help in employability if they have that minor along with their health care degree."

—Gary Achterberg, Concordian contributor

Campus News



Chemnitz Hall Opens Doors

New state-of-the-art residence hall also houses classrooms and fitness facilities

CUW'S NEWEST RESIDENCE hall officially opened to students in fall on the Mequon campus. The 274-bed, \$12.5-million Chemnitz Hall is also home to classrooms, laundry facilities, and two aerobic fitness areas. Each student suite has three double bedrooms, three sinks, two toilets, and one shower.

"The addition of Chemnitz Hall promises to be a great blessing to Concordia and our students," said CUW President, Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry. "The state-of-the-art classroom and residence facility will help to create an extraordinary learning and living experience."

The hall is named after Martin Chemnitz (1522-1586), an eminent second-generation Lutheran theologian, reformer, and churchman who studied under Martin Luther.

"Faith means that I make in my life, forgiven and my define who I am."

Clean-up Crew

After a tornado struck Wrestling Coach Corey VanGroll's hometown, he and the team stepped in to help

CUW WRESTLING COACH **COREY VANGROLL** remembers his roots. So much that he and several of his players traveled to Maribel, Wis., a small town south of Green Bay, last September to help rebuild as part of a community service project after a tornado struck in August.

"The storm damaged many of the homes and farms of the neighbors I grew up with," said VanGroll. "Thankfully my parents' property had no damage."

The main job of VanGroll and the CUW wrestlers was to help Steve Post, who had

several damaged barns. Team members moved hundreds of bales of hay and piles of loose straw from one of the barn floors to allow for new construction. The group worked for nearly five hours to complete the job.

"A project like this would have taken days, while they got it done in just a few hours," said Post. "It means a lot."

Helping someone out and then relaxing at VanGroll's parents' home afterward helped build team chemistry and resulted in an enjoyable day all around.



no matter what mistakes I am still loved and past mistakes will not

-Meghan S. Ballard
Social Work/Music, Class of 2015



Campus News

Upcoming Campus Events

April

04 - Undergraduate Visitation Day

06 - Kammerchor Spring Concert, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.

11 - University Band and Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 7:30 p.m.

12 - Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra Spring Concert, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 7:30 p.m.

27 - Kammerchor and Selah Spring Concert, Concordia Chapel Ringers, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.

May

01-04 - Sense and Sensibility, Todd Wehr Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Sunday

04 - Alleluia Ringers Handbell Choir Spring Concert, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.

17 - Spring Baccalaureate Service, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 10 a.m.

17 - Spring Commencement, R. John Buuck Field House, 1:30 p.m.

June

02 - Graduate Visitation Day

July

08-11 - Higher Things Youth Conference

August

23 - Opening Service, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 5 p.m.

25 - First Day of Undergraduate Classes

Class Act

CUW professor Dr. Thomas Feiertag sacrifices his beard to help fund a Winterim trip to Peru

THEOLOGY PROFESSOR DR. TOM FEIERTAG took eight students and Campus Ministry Deaconess Kim Bueltmann to Peru in January to observe the life and work of the LCMS missionaries.

“I’m proud of our students,” said Dr. Feiertag. “They interacted with missionaries, with the Peruvians, and with each other in wonderful ways. They learned from the missionaries and encouraged them in their very important work.”

The group traveled as part of a 10-day Winterim trip. A campus-wide fundraiser that coincided with “No Shave November” raised nearly \$2,000 for the trip and required the sacrifice of Dr. Feiertag’s beard in December. Dr. Feiertag said he’d like to take another group next Winterim.

“It’s summer there in January, you know.”



Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow Above: Dr. Feiertag pre-shave. Below: Clean-shaven Feiertag with a few members of his Peru crew: (left to right): Jessica Long, Sam Reinhard, Dr. Feiertag, Adam Kosberg, and Deaconess Kim Bueltmann.



“Faith is being able to lift your worries to God so that your worries do not bring you down.”

—Sarah A. Latendresse
Occupational Therapy Program, Class of 2016

“My faith means everything to me because of its source that gives me life. It is a gift from God that connects me to the cross, secures my life with Christ, and grants me the certainty that my sins are forgiven by God in His Word.”

—Bethany Woelmer
Parish Music and Theology, Class of 2015



CUW Expands Ministry Staff

Golden Retriever Zoey becomes Concordia's first "comfort dog"

SHE HAS BIG EYES AND A SMILE that will melt your heart. And if you rub a spot behind her ears *just* right, she'll slobber all over your face. Meet Zoey, a Golden Retriever and Concordia's new comfort dog.

Zoey came to CUW from the K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry. Other than being a bundle of fluff and cuteness, Zoey is trained to interact with people dealing with depression, anxiety, and stress, bringing stability and joy to those who need it most. Lutheran Church Charities, inspired by Isaiah 66:13 – “As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you” – placed their first dog last January in Fort Worth, Texas. Since then, the Comfort Dog program has spread across the country.

Although she's still new to campus, Zoey is making a name for herself. She works with the Counseling Center to help students, faculty, and staff who are dealing with emotional hardship or trauma. And it's working, too – according to David Enters, Director of Counseling.

Enters, Zoey's primary handler, is one of 12 people on campus qualified to handle her. He believes in the Comfort Dog program, and he's seen it work firsthand. Interacting with Zoey, he says, “provides a calming influence that allows for conversations to happen without having to build a rapport first.” Behind that furry face is an opportunity to safeguard the well-being of students and staff, bringing them the support they need but may not ask a counselor for.

Oh, and did we mention she's adorable?

For more information, check out K9Comfort.org or visit Zoey's page at facebook.com/ZoeyComfortDog.



Dr. James Juergensen leads the charge to integrate faith and athletics.



FAITH IN // *Sweaty, Hard-hitting* // ACTION

By Jennifer Clausing, Class of 2014

DR. JAMES JUERGENSEN HAS BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY THAT MOST PEOPLE HOPE FOR THEIR ENTIRE LIVES.

In his new role as Director of Faith Integration for Athletics at CUW, Juergensen combines two of his great passions: sports and faith.

“For me, it’s kind of a dream situation,” said Juergensen.

Juergensen’s involvement in collegiate sports dates back to the early 1990s when he played both basketball and baseball for the CUW Falcons. He recalls that during that time he was extremely impressed at how involved his coaches were with the students, even in the classroom.

“For the most part, my coaches were also full-time faculty members, very connected with the campus community. It was kind of a different time,” said Juergensen.

In a decision in line with many other collegiate sports programs, Concordia has transitioned from hiring current faculty as team leaders to bringing in a full-time coaching staff. While the growing Athletics program will certainly benefit from these capable new additions, something has been lost in the process.

Juergensen’s new position is aimed at helping CUW Athletics strengthen the bond between sports teams and the rest of CUW. The idea originated with Campus Pastor Steve Smith.

“It seemed to make sense to have someone who could work well within the Athletics department in a more intentional effort to connect with coaches and teams,” said Rev. Smith.

While many teams already integrate faith into the groundwork of their programs, Smith sought to provide a resource, someone who would always be there for the assist.

“Many coaches set a very positive spiritual tone on their teams, but their expertise doesn’t always equip them to be intentional spiritual leaders,” Smith added.

In only the first few months in his new role, Juergensen has shown that he’s just the man for the job. His previous experiences as an education professor, coach, and athlete, along with a strong spiritual base, enable him to assist coaches and athletes alike in several areas, including faith.

Student athletes also seem to be responding positively to Juergensen’s involvement. Noah Kegley, a senior Pre-Seminary major and star Falcon basketball player, sees Juergensen’s new role as a “great tool” for reaching out to a big demographic.

“Many students are part of a sports team on campus and being able to reach them through campus ministry is essential for CUW’s mission,” said Kegley.

And Juergensen is reaching them, every day. From a greeting and a handshake in the hallway to being present at games and leading devotions, Juergensen is making a lasting impression.

Matthew Gates, a junior hockey player, put working with Juergensen on his “list of things to do” as a CUW athlete. From their initial meeting, the “to-do list” has only grown. He says Juergensen has been extremely helpful and appreciates student ideas.

“It’s crucial to be reaching this often unreached group through building relationships based on faith in God,” said Gates.

The two meet, along with other student athletes, including sophomore hockey player Elijah Riddle, on a regular basis to discuss the connection between faith and athletics.

Riddle sees room for growth in CUW’s sports ministry and welcomes Juergensen’s support. In a short amount of time, Riddle is experiencing the effects.

“We’ve been able to stir up some excitement for service among our teammates,” he said.

Both athletes are excited to join Juergensen in the chance to serve God through something they love.

“We both play hockey,” said Gates, “but our faith in God is what brought us to CUW.”

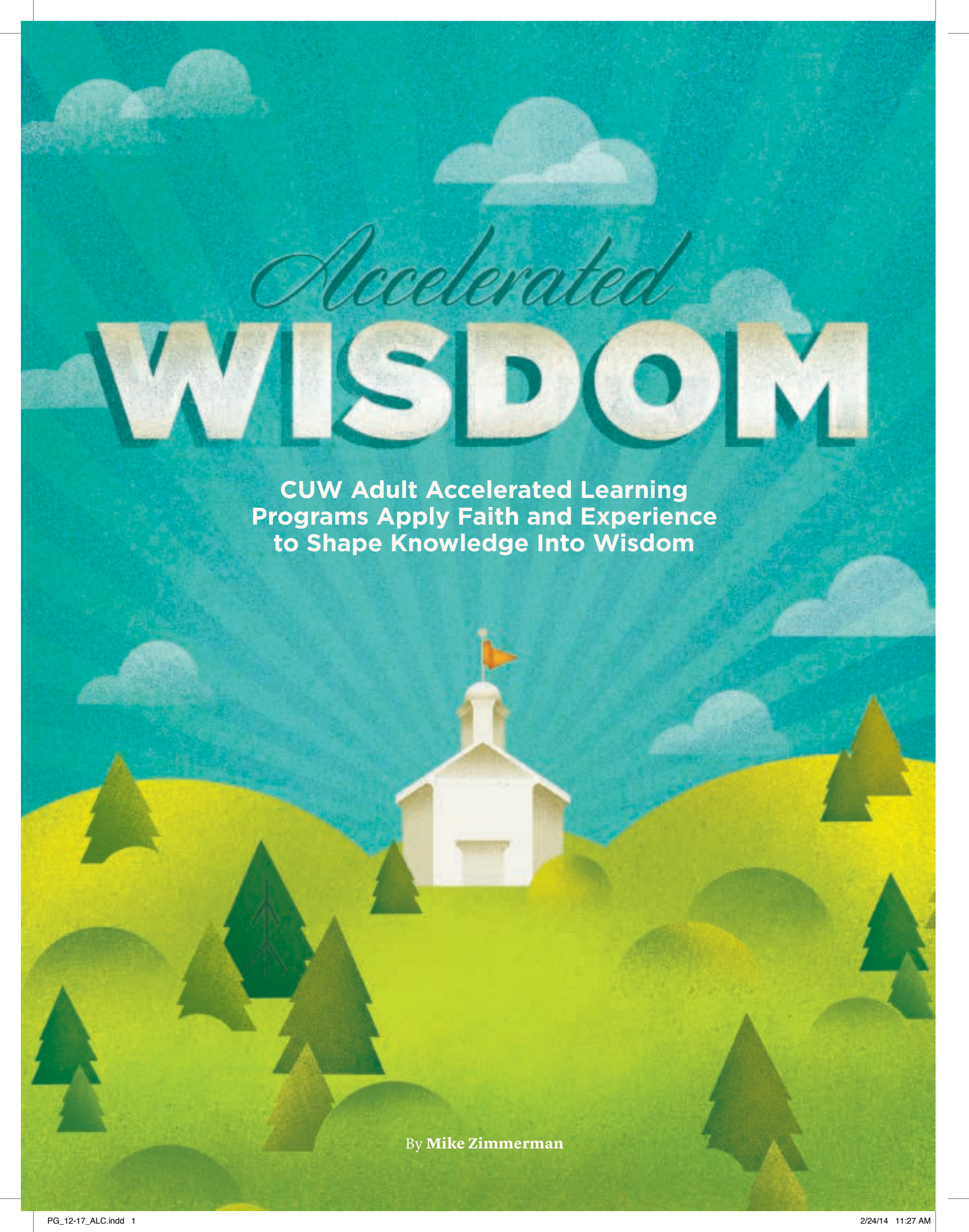
Juergensen has taken advantage of the open-ended nature of his new position to become involved in other outreach programs like Campus Ministry’s CORE Training (Conditioning Our Run Eternally) program and CUW’s Good Samaritan Team (GST).

The GST is an organization made up of faculty and staff leaders from many departments of the University that reaches out to at-risk students. As the first representative for CUW Athletics on the GST, Juergensen considers this role to be one of the most important parts of his new job.

“It’s something really unique, I think, that we have on this campus. That we have a group of people willing to come together on a weekly basis and purely work in a way that’s serving students and helping students who are in need,” he said.

While there are still many new avenues to explore and details to be finalized, Juergensen is taking the experiences God gives him as they come.



“What I know is that every morning, on the way to work, I pray that the Lord would give me some opportunity to have an impact on somebody this day, and it’s amazing how He’s been doing that.” ■

The background of the page is a stylized illustration. The top half is a teal sky with several light blue, rounded clouds. Below the sky is a white church with a steeple topped with an orange flag. The church sits on a green hill. The foreground is filled with rolling green hills and numerous dark green, triangular trees of various sizes. The overall style is flat and graphic.

Accelerated **WISDOM**

**CUW Adult Accelerated Learning
Programs Apply Faith and Experience
to Shape Knowledge Into Wisdom**

By Mike Zimmerman



Knowledge and wisdom share an interesting relationship. Though sometimes they're used interchangeably, the terms are not synonymous. The first comes more from instruction, the second more from experience. Book smarts versus street smarts.

No matter how you define them, both are essential for success in life.

And both are essential to the approach taken by the CUW Adult Accelerated Learning Programs. With another key element – faith – they clearly distinguish CUW's programs from the competition.

"We offer a faith component, as part of the curriculum, within every class at Concordia University," says Rochelle Regenauer, Executive Director of CUW Centers and Accelerated Programs. "It changes not only how the courses unfold for the students but the conscience within the subject material. It becomes more about doing the right thing with the knowledge that you have, rather than just accumulating knowledge for its own sake."

Faith in Action

CUW Adult Accelerated Learning Programs are designed to help busy, working adults further their college education. Certificate, associate, bachelor's and master's degree programs are available at nine off-campus locations in Wisconsin, as well as one in St. Louis, Missouri.

You won't find "faith" listed in the course content or called out on the syllabus, Regenauer says. Rather, it's integrated into

the classroom environment, providing a solid foundation for everything that's presented and discussed. How overtly it manifests itself depends both on the instructor and the make-up of the particular class.

"We have some classes where they'll take student prayer requests at the beginning of each class and others where the message is more subtle within the delivered material," Regenauer says.


One instructor who takes the faith component very seriously is Mark Millard. Retired from 40 years in law enforcement, Millard now teaches Criminal Justice Management classes at the Waukesha Center. He views his role as a teacher as an opportunity to share not just his knowledge and experience, but also something more.

"I share with my students some of my faith, as I weave it into the lesson," he says. "I tell them a very foundational truth: You may learn concepts and even obtain a degree and recognition from many places of higher learning, but still be left empty."

Citing Acts 20:35 – "It is more blessed to give than to receive" – Millard views his teaching as an opportunity to give back. He's felt very blessed during his long career and feels doubly blessed to be able to guide aspiring law enforcement professionals as they strive to build their own careers.

"From my years as a police lieutenant, I saw many examples of people who had lots of education, plenty of money, and good opportunities but had no moral foundation. What good is knowledge alone? It is a fragile thing, and we are here such a short time."

This sort of approach helps students feel



cared for as they work their way toward a degree, Regenauer says. They get a lot more one-on-one personal attention from staff and instructors than they would in a more traditional education setting.

"It's almost like family because you see

"What good is knowledge alone? It is a fragile thing, and we are here such a short time."

Mark Millard

Criminal Justice Management
Instructor, Waukesha Center

them once a week for a couple of years as they complete their degree," she says.

It's a setting where students can talk through the challenges and day-to-day struggles they're facing. Not just with the faculty and staff, but with other students – fellow working adults in similar circumstances.

"If you're having a hard day, you know you can go there for support," she says. "Your instructors and classmates become like mentors and counselors."

Bennett Franzen, 33, a Theology major at the St. Louis Center, agrees.

"I'm building this base friendship with guys who are my age, who are going to be going into the seminary at the same time," he says. "It's really incredible, just building an awesome, awesome network of incredible,

ALL OVER THE MAP

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS



HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT



CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT



MEDICAL ASSISTANT (CERTIFICATE)



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT



NURSING (BSN TO RN)



DESIGN YOUR FUTURE PROGRAM



LIBERAL ARTS



ACCOUNTING



THEOLOGY

CUW offers a wealth of Adult Accelerated Learning options in convenient locations.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS



M.S. ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION (OLA)



MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)



TEACHER CERTIFICATION



M.S. EDUCATION



Missouri

Green Bay



Lake Michigan



Wisconsin



Accelerated RECOVERY

The future wasn't always so bright for Bennett Franzen, 33, a Theology major at the St. Louis Center. Raised in a Lutheran home, Bennett was in junior high school when he first felt called to a life of service to the church. He set his sights on becoming a Director of Christian Education (DCE) or perhaps even a pastor.

When he got to high school, however, he started making some bad decisions. Or, as he puts it, "I became not such a good little kid anymore."

At 17, determined to make his own way in the world, he left home without finishing high school. For 10 years he worked a string of menial jobs, drank too much, lived in terrible apartments, stayed in a "poisonous relationship," and generally made a mess of his life. During all that time, however, he never lost sight of God.

"I would go out and drink too much, wake up, feel guilty, and immerse myself in scripture," he says. "I would go to church with a hangover on Sunday. It was a very overwhelming and confusing time."

Finally, when things were about to hit rock bottom five years ago, his parents took him back into their home. God stepped in and pulled him back from the brink.

"By 11:00 a.m. that day I was in an AA meeting, and I haven't had a drink since," he says. "God has done amazing things in my life in the last five years."

Today he's happily married, active in his church (with the worship team and youth group), and working part-time while going to school full-time – and then some. He attends classes at a community college by day and CUW Accelerated Learning classes by night. It's an intense schedule but one he loves.

"God has really shown me how to love and embrace *effort*," he says.

As a result, the one-time high school dropout is just a year from finishing his bachelor's degree and moving on to seminary. It's been a remarkable turnaround, one which gives him plenty of "real-world experiences" to talk about in class.

"I've come to realize that the mistakes I've made are *learning*," he says. "And I can use those things to relate to people. If you've made a mistake, chances are I've made that mistake, too."

"Bennett loves to share his inspiring story with instructors and classmates," says St. Louis Center Director Debra Ellerbrook. "He is very well spoken, and his contributions to in-class and online discussions really benefit his fellow students. We're blessed to have him in our program."

God-fearing men and women. It's been just an absolute blessing."

Franzen has overcome a lot to get his life back on track (see sidebar). But now he's on the fast track to completing a degree in theology, with his eyes on attending seminary when he's done. In addition to taking evening classes at the St. Louis Center, he also takes classes during the day at a local community college. Between the two, there's really no comparison.

"I'm not super excited about the classes at the community college, but I *love* what I've got going on here," he says. We have incredible – *incredible* – professors. Every one of whom I've had has been a pastor, and has a congregation or has had a congregation. So for someone like myself, it's invaluable."

Experience Counts

It's one thing to learn about a subject "in theory" as a traditional young undergrad. It's another to be able to ground your new knowledge in real-world experience. At CUW Accelerated Learning Centers, both the instructors and students bring professional experience into the classroom, creating a very dynamic learning environment.

Regenauer describes the classroom environment as something like a "think tank," where instructors might say, "This is what the book says, but here's what happened to me in the field." And then a student might weigh in and describe a different scenario that they've experienced on the job.

"That changes the whole dynamic of the class," she says. "We're using the theories that were designed for the class, making sure all the objectives are met, but we're also all learning from each other."

"It's wonderful," Bennett says. "We come here for four hours, but it seems like an hour, at the most. And we have fun, but we learn. I'm building an awesome network."

Kevin Vue earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Management at the Green Bay Center in 2012 after getting his associate's

LOCATIONS & DIRECTORS

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FAST & CONVENIENT

CUW Adult Accelerated Learning Programs make it easy to find time to learn.



degree in Law Enforcement at another school. As a younger student, he appreciated hearing the perspectives of experienced professionals in his classes.

“I had classes with students working full-time and going to school, people who have jobs in law enforcement, human resources, and a wide variety of other careers,” he says. “Being exposed to a variety of new ideas in an accelerated learning program with these students has given me a new outlook in my life and career.”

Students who have already learned a lot about a particular area through work experience are invited to apply for “portfolio credits.” By demonstrating how their experience fulfills the requirements of a particular class, they get credit for the course without actually taking it. It doesn’t even have to be a class offered by CUW, as long as it’s a legitimate course offered by an accredited institution.

“It’s what we call ‘scholarly experiential learning,’” Regenauer says – with an emphasis on scholarly. To earn portfolio credits, *knowledge* must be demonstrated, not just experience. It’s not necessarily a simple process, but it can save time and money for busy professionals who can produce evidence of this knowledge.

Regenauer speaks from experience when

she describes this type of environment. She’s been in the adult education field for more than 20 years, and earned her advanced degrees (including an Ed.S., or Educational Specialist)

“If you’re having a hard day, you know you can go there for support. Your instructors and classmates become like mentors and counselors.”

Rochelle Regenauer

Executive Director, CUW Centers and Accelerated Programs

through similar program deliveries. When the opportunity to lead the CUW accelerated program opened up in 2012, she jumped at the chance.

“I’m coming up on my second anniversary with CUW, and I’m loving every minute of it!” she says. “The environment is so much more

cooperative and supportive than my previous experience in higher education. I find it’s much more about the people here.”

At CUW, Regenauer says, it’s evident how much everyone truly cares about the students. They get to know them on a personal level and take notice when something seems wrong.

“We know when someone’s missing,” she says. “We reach out if they’re not registered for classes. Not as a sales tactic, but as an advocate for that student’s well-being and encouragement to complete what they have started.”

“Or, if someone has a baby, for example, we celebrate with them. If something happened with a loved one, we pray together about it. The supportive environment here is hard to describe because it’s like nothing I’ve ever seen.”

That’s something you just won’t find at propriety (“for-profit”) schools, she says, where the ultimate concern is the school’s bottom line. With a solid foundation in Christian faith, values, and teachings, Adult Accelerated Learning at CUW is all about what’s best for the student – in mind, body, and spirit.

For adult students looking for a solid educational foundation that encompasses knowledge, wisdom, and faith, it’s hard to imagine a wiser choice than that. ■

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NOWHERE TO RUN

***FAITH UNDER
FIRE IN BOSTON***

By Mike Zimmerman



CUW grad Ashley Vana and her friends were enjoying a light lunch at a café in downtown Boston on April 15, 2013.

Calm Before the Storm

Ashley Vana's photos from the day of the Boston Marathon bombing. (Vana is shown holding banner in photograph at right.)



The mood inside was festive – until two explosions outside rattled the windows and smoke from the street began to fill the room.

“It was the scariest moment of my life,” Ashley says.

A job offer from a software company brought the Milwaukee native to Boston after graduation. The city, with its world-famous marathon, was a good fit for Ashley (Business Management/Marketing, '09). At CUW, she earned All-Conference honors in Cross Country in 2006, '07, and '08, while leading the Track and Cross Country teams to multiple conference titles.

On race day, Ashley rode downtown from nearby Newtonville to watch her first Boston Marathon in person. She and her friends got off the train several times along the way to watch the race. By the time they finally made it downtown, Ashley was eager to get to the finish line. Instead, her friends convinced her to go to lunch.

It was a potentially life-saving change of plans. Without the detour to the café, “I don’t know if we would have been exactly where the bombs went off, but we would have been pretty darn close,” she says. “And I thank the Lord Jesus that we weren’t there.”



At the sound of the first explosion, diners in the café fell instantly silent. Fourteen seconds later, another blast shook the room. They knew something was terribly wrong. But they had no idea the city was under terrorist attack, as two bombs planted near the finish line sent shrapnel tearing through tightly packed crowds.

“At that point I was just frozen,” Ashley says. “Everyone was kind of standing up, wondering what to do, looking around at each other. Everyone was scared; you could see it in their eyes. And then smoke just started flooding in through a doorway. I didn’t know what to do ... I wanted to cry, I wanted to run.”



“When tragedy strikes, whether we’re personally affected or not, we can also take comfort in the knowledge that God Himself has experienced pain and evil, through the Incarnation.”

–Rev. Dr. Dan Paavola,
CUW Theology Professor

Once the initial shock wore off, one thing was clear: They needed to get out.

“We walked up the stairs,” Ashley says. “All the patio tables had been flipped over. Anything people had been holding – flyers, bags, whatever – was just lying in the street. There were a couple of people lying in the street, bleeding. There were people crying, people shouting, people running.”

Sirens blared as fire trucks, police cars, and ambulances raced through the streets. In the panic and confusion, Ashley and her friends still had no idea what happened or where they should go.

With a final call on her dying cell phone – drained by all the earlier picture taking – Ashley let her mom know she was okay. Then she and her friends slowly made their way out of the city, called a friend to pick them up, and went home.

“It was the first Boston Marathon I had gotten to experience, and it was a really cool moment – or it should have been,” Ashley says. “To have it turned upside-down by something so selfish, and so sad, that brings so much hurt to a lot of people. It’s just ... I don’t know, I can’t even find the word for it.”

The final toll: three spectators dead, 264 others injured.

Fast Friends

Left: Ashley Vana (left) with her CUW Cross Country teammates.
Below: Four-time Boston Marathon runner and Theology professor Rev. Dr. Dan Paavola.

HITTING CLOSE TO HOME

Horrific incidents like the Boston bombings can be a real test of faith. They have a way of focusing one's attention – regardless of where you stand spiritually – on the larger questions of life. Such as, “How could a just, loving, all-powerful God *allow* something like this to happen?”

As a professor of theology and former parish pastor, Rev. Dr. Dan Paavola has decades of experience helping people sort through such tough issues. “It’s a great question – and a mystery,” he says. “I think we can set these kinds of limits to our understanding: God *knows* the evil that’s going to be done, but he doesn’t *create* the evil. So His knowledge isn’t its cause. But in between *knowing* and the outside-of-Himself *cause* of evil, He puts a limit, a direction: ‘You’ll go this far but no further.’ And strangely, He even has the chance to “turn it into a purpose that the evil itself never intended.”

Dr. Paavola cites Genesis 50:20 as a favorite illustration of this concept. In extending grace to his brothers, who had sold him into slavery many years before, Joseph says, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”

The Boston Marathon bombings had more than a theological impact on Dr. Paavola. A dedicated runner, he has run the Boston Marathon himself four times, most recently just a year before in 2012. On three of those trips, his good friend and colleague Rev. Dr. Tom Feiertag went with him – and waited for him near the finish line.

Watching news coverage of the event, the scene seemed so familiar: the streets, the crowds, the finish line. When he saw the time on the race clock when the bombs went off, he thought, “That could have been me! And Tom could have been right where the explosions happened.”

When tragedy strikes, whether we’re

personally affected or not, Dr. Paavola says we can also take comfort in the knowledge that God Himself has experienced pain and evil, through the Incarnation. It’s not a distant God who comforts us, but one who walked the earth and experienced the worst of our fallen world.

BOSTON STRONG

In Boston, after the bombings, Ashley never doubted God was near. In fact, she found herself drawn closer to God through the

experience, her faith strengthened through the pain and anguish she witnessed and shared with those directly affected.

“Now I don’t take any days for granted,” she says. “And I’ve really gotten closer to God with prayer.”

And she sees the good that God is accomplishing in the strength of the people of Boston.

“Boston has a reputation for being rough and tough around the edges,” she says. “But seeing that whole city come together and be there for each other is probably one of the coolest things I’ve ever seen.” ■



A Look Back

Pilgrim's Progress

Following in Luther's footsteps 50 years ago

Mementos *Opposite:* Rosalyn Metzger (top of stairs), with Concordia President Dr. Walter Stuenkel (bottom row, third from left) and group. *Photograph from the Walter W. Stuenkel Collection in the CUW Archives. Inset:* Metzger today. *Below:* Trip brochure and travel notes. *Items donated by Rosalyn Metzger Hammes to the CUW Archives.*

ROSALYN METZGER looks excited in the black-and-white photo. She's standing on the top step of the stairs that hardly anybody ever climbs in this day and age, to board a KLM flight to Amsterdam.

The 13-year-old was about to embark on quite an adventure back in 1964 – along with her parents, her grandmother, her aunt, and 11 others. They were following the footsteps of Martin Luther through Europe more than 400 years earlier.

Fifty years ago it was called the Lutheran Heritage Tour, a trek to many of the sites critical to Luther's life and the formation of today's Lutheran church. Its leader was Dr. Walter Stuenkel, president of what was then called Concordia College.

"He was such a dynamic personality and such a good researcher on all of these cities that were of historical significance to the life of Martin Luther," said Rosalyn Metzger Hammes, who sat down in the Concordia University Wisconsin library to reflect on that trip she took as a teenager.

"He really made everything come alive," she said. "He would preach sermons on Sundays as we traveled. It was just such a great adventure, and I'll never forget it."

The \$946.50 price of the 22-day all-inclusive trip was no doubt a hefty sum in April 1964. But it did include round-trip airfare from New York, all hotels, most meals, and bus and train transportation around the continent. Even tips.

Rosalyn carefully preserved a copy of the yellow brochure advertising the trip and its stops in the Netherlands, East and West Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, and England. She also kept a diary – in perfect penmanship – with her reflections and recollections. She recently donated those, along with other photos and materials, to CUW.

The group landed in Amsterdam the morning of Friday, April 10. They

saw the Anne Frank House; Rembrandt's house; the Queen's Palace; and the Rijksmuseum, home to works by Rembrandt and many other Dutch masters. The next morning they visited a diamond factory and took a boat ride on the city's canals before boarding a train through the scenic Rhine Valley to Frankfurt, Germany.

From there, they followed Luther's footsteps in earnest. The group's motor coach whisked them down the Autobahn to Eisenach, where they visited Nikolaikirche and Lutherhaus. They also visited Wartburg Castle, where Luther hid out and translated the New Testament into German. They went on to Erfurt. They saw historic medieval churches and an Augustinian monastery – converted to an orphanage – where Luther served.

Dr. Stuenkel led the group to Eisleben the next day. They visited where Luther was born and died. Rosalyn recalled that armed guards marched in front of the "quaint house" where Luther was born. They were told to be careful not to take pictures of the soldiers because they would confiscate the cameras.

"Since Martin Luther was so influential in the Lutheran faith, I think it made my Lutheran heritage more meaningful to me." –Rosalyn Metzger Hammes

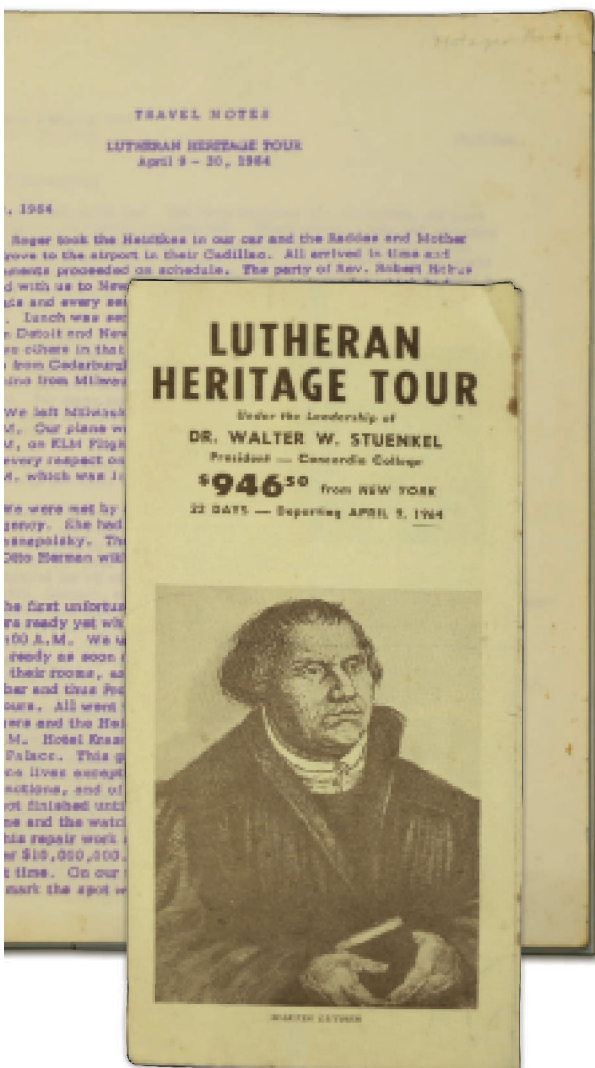
They traveled next to Leipzig and spent the night. The next morning, the group visited Thomaskirche, where Johann Sebastian Bach worked. Their next stop was Wittenberg – perhaps the highlight of the Luther trek.

It was in Wittenberg in October 1512 where Luther received his Doctor of Divinity degree. Five years later, he nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church. He taught at the university there for many years.

The Concordia group then went to Berlin. They crossed from West to East. Young Rosalyn wrote about that experience in her diary:

"We had to cross the border and go through Checkpoint Charlie. Here our passports, visas, currencies, etc. were checked, and we waited over an hour! We were really glad to leave. They don't trust anyone and since this is all Communist territory, we were closely guarded all the time."

The group moved on to Nuremberg, where their stops included the Law Courts. One of the others on the trip,





Dr. Waldemar Heidtke, a professor at Concordia, was one of the Nuremberg translators in 1945.

After stopping in Munich, the group went to the famous Passion Play village of Oberammergau.

"I remember so clearly just touring the three stages, the whole set, the costume area, and being told that every 10 years the entire village participates in the play," she said.

Other stops on the tour included Innsbruck, Austria; as well as Lucerne, Switzerland; Paris; and London, where the group left for home. Rosalyn and her family left the tour in Lucerne and went to Venice, Italy and Madrid, Spain before flying back to Milwaukee.

Rosalyn's father, George, was the chairman of the board of regents at Concordia College at the time and worked closely with Dr. Stuenkel, who served as Concordia's president from 1953 to 1977. Stuenkel shares a trait with CUW's current president Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry: a passion for bowties.

While religion already was a major part of her life, looking back Rosalyn said the trip helped enrich her faith.

"Since Martin Luther was so influential in the

Lutheran faith, I think it made my Lutheran heritage more meaningful to me," she said. "I was always a strong Lutheran. It wasn't like this brought me to my faith, but I think it created a little bit of excitement. There we were in Europe with Dr. Stuenkel, who was a very influential Lutheran here in Milwaukee, and he was explaining the different sites to us."

Mrs. Hammes said this trip, as well as another trip her family took with Dr. Stuenkel the previous year to the Holy Land, sparked a lifelong interest in travel.

"Travel really enriches your life, and it gives you great insight," she said. "It gives more meaning to what you read in print because you can experience it."

While Rosalyn and her husband, Eugene, and their family have traveled extensively over the years, she said she's excited to return later this year to Europe for the first time since that trip.

They hope to again visit many of the same places where Luther walked half a millennium ago.

—Gary Achterberg, Concordian contributor

Advance



In the epistle of James we find the well-known words, “Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead,” (James 2:17 NIV). This issue of the *Concordian* has shown that Concordia is not only a place where faith is taught and learned, but also lived. From faculty to students, athletes to musicians, faith is put into action every day at Concordia, and the mission is advanced.

That should come as no surprise. Since its founding in 1881, Concordia has always been a place where faith is alive and put into action. In more recent times, the clarity of our mission of “... service to Christ in the Church and the world” reminds us that higher education has a purpose beyond academics. That is what makes Concordia a different type of school; a place where families of faith want to send their children and grandchildren.

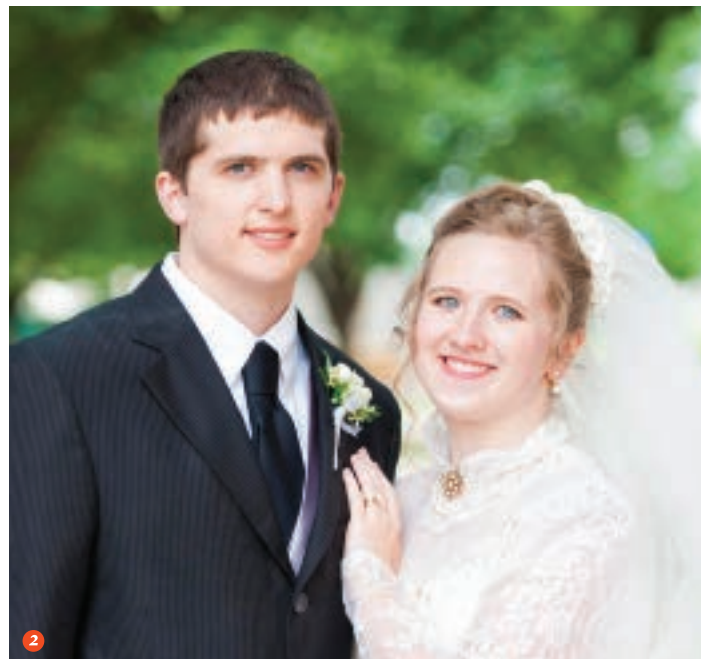
Students at Concordia not only receive a world-class education, they also learn how to put that education to work as an expression of their faith. They learn this from our amazing faculty and staff who support them while they live the mission themselves. Their faith in action helps students grow into productive adults with hearts for service.

Advancement at Concordia includes many things. Receiving gifts of all sizes from generous alumni and friends is an important part of helping us advance our mission by keeping a Concordia education affordable. Our mission is also advanced every time someone volunteers to work alongside our students as a mentor or helper on a mission trip or service project. Our mission is advanced every time a young person is encouraged to consider Concordia as their university. Our mission is advanced every time a prayer is lifted up for God’s continued blessing upon us.

In all of these actions, the world clearly sees that faith is not dead but most certainly alive at Concordia.

REV. DR. ROY PETERSON
Vice President of Advancement

AlumNotes



2000s

Achievements



Dr. Tracy Saladar (13), health care instructor at the CUW Beloit Center, recently completed her DNP online, as well as started a new job at UW-Madison.



Kathy Dunn (10) moved to Connecticut and will be the account manager with Direct Supply Inc., managing the state for independently owned or small corporately held senior living communities.



Rodrick Burton (02) is the pastor at New Northside Missionary Baptist Church in St. Louis, Mo.



Marriages

1 Kaitlyn Heren (13) and Andrew Sell on August 3, 2013 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Washington, Ill.

2 Lydia Temme (13) and **Timothy Wilcoxon (13)** on June 29, 2013 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Roanoke, Ill. CUW alumni and students in the wedding party included **Rachel Shirk (12)**, Ruth Temme, **Nathan Spaulding (13)**, and Joseph Strattman. Lydia teaches literature, health, and drama at Central Lutheran School; Timothy attends Concordia Theological Seminary. The couple resides in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Rachel K. Shirk (12) and Ensign Steffan Maiwald on December 28, 2013 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hancock, Md. The couple resides in Pensacola, Fla.

3 Rachel McCall (09) and Nathan Schlie in October 2012. Rachel is the music director at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg, Texas.



Births

Jessica (Plummer) Wilke (01) and husband Reed welcomed son Elijah John on April 23, 2013.

1990s

Achievements

Jennifer Joanne Kuhn (99) and business partner **Thomas Tegart (01)** launched a digital travel magazine entitled Overnight Buses. Visit overnightbuses.com or download the magazine from the iTunes store at <http://xrl.us/ONBMagazine>.



Sylvia Ellen Marshall (97) is living in Mesa, Ariz. and raising her daughter. Sylvia teaches high school and is obtaining her Principal Certificate.

4 Rebecca (Stein) Kruse (96) and **Scott Kruse (96)** celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary in a special way: Scott beat out eight finalists in the Ultimate Leap Sweepstakes and won the rare opportunity to perform the Lambeau Leap at the Packers game on Sunday, December 22.

Scott is the pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran in Grafton, Wis.; Becky is an administrative assistant in the CUW Residence Life office at the Mequon campus.

Faith J. (Drawbaugh) Doyle (92) and husband Tony are pleased to share that 9-year-old daughter Rachel is declared "leukemia free" after two years of battling the disease and five years of remission. The family resides in Warsaw, Ind.

1960s

In Memory

Darryl Kohn (66) lost his wife of 45 years, Jo-Ellen L. Luick, on September 26, 2012. Darryl is retired from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and resides in Largo, Fla.

CUW wants to hear from you!

What are you up to? Did you marry recently or give birth to a child? Did you receive a big promotion or travel the world? We want to know! Please email your update, with a high-resolution photo if possible, to alumni@cuw.edu or via our Web link at <https://www.cuw.edu/Alumni/whatsnewform.cfm>. With your permission, we'll post your update on the CUW Website, and in the print and online versions of the *Concordian*.

Objective Faith

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)

“Have faith in yourself.” “I believe in you.”

When we make a statement like this, it’s intended to be the greatest of encouragements. We oftentimes try to convince others or ourselves that we can achieve something or be bold or embark on some new adventure.

When things go well, we feel great about ourselves and our accomplishments. But when things don’t go well, then it’s a little harder to know what to say. We lose the game. We don’t get the job. Cancer doesn’t go into remission, and we face death.

That’s where, for so many Christians, faith steps in. It seems cliché to speak of having faith. Our faith will see us through. Our faith

will strengthen us. Our faith is strong. Except that it wasn’t *our* faith in the first place. It’s only our faith in the sense that it’s God’s specific, individual, personal, wonderful gift to every one of us.

Why, then, don’t some have faith (i.e., *believe*)? God doesn’t force the gift upon anyone, and some (tragically) reject it. Why would someone reject a gift? Perhaps they want the gift to be something other than what it is. It’s easy to focus more on the subject of

the faith rather than the object. To say that *I* (subject) believe in *Jesus* (object) can focus so much on the subject that the object is lost. When the subject becomes the hero of faith it starts to not even matter what the object is. We can have faith in a company, a sports team, or ourselves, and the value for many is how strongly or sincerely we believe.

But thank God that we say, “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him ...” (from Martin Luther’s explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed). I believe that I can’t believe. My faith is only in the faith that is from God. What a mystery! What a gift!

REV. STEVE SMITH
Campus Pastor





Concordian Winter/Spring 2014

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For a free subscription,
call 888-700-8336.

The *Concordian* is published
three times a year by the
CUW Marketing Department,
Concordia University Wisconsin
12800 North Lake Shore Drive
Mequon, WI 53097

Postmaster
Send address changes to
Concordian Circulation
12800 North Lake Shore Drive
Mequon, WI 53097

Above Fans root for their favorite
Concordia basketball teams at the
63rd Annual Concordia Invitational
Tournament, January 24-25 at CUW.
Photograph by Jordan Vredevel

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Upcoming Tours:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| May/June 2014 | Northern Europe
<i>(Iceland, Norway, England)</i> |
| January 2015 | South America
<i>(Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile)</i> |
| May/June 2016 | Eastern Mediterranean
<i>(Italy, Greece, Turkey)</i> |
| January 2017 | Southeast Asia/Australia |

Our annual educational tours focus on both the environment and human cultures of the regions we visit. Tours are open to individuals of all ages and physical abilities.

**For more information, contact CCES
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