

PREPARE *The Way*

Concordia University Wisconsin & Ann Arbor



HEARTS TOGETHER: WOMEN OF INFLUENCE
Kay Thunder-Haab and Doris Rosenberg
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2023: Milestone year for Concordia University

Welcome to the fourth edition of the *Prepare the Way* publication from Concordia University. It has been a privilege to join this joy-filled community, where serving our Savior and students well is our top priority. Indeed, Concordia thrives as an uncommon Lutheran community because we encourage the flourishing of all students in thought, word, and action to make them and our world whole.

As we soon begin the fall semester, I want to thank you all for your faithful support and for welcoming me so warmly into the Concordia University community. I am humbled and honored to serve as your president. I've had the pleasure of meeting some of you already, and I look forward to more opportunities to connect with you throughout the year.

As you may know, 2023 is a momentous year for Concordia University. We are celebrating the 40th anniversary of Concordia University Wisconsin's move to Mequon, the 60th anniversary of Concordia University Ann Arbor, and the 10th anniversary of our two residential campuses (CUW and CUAA) coming together as one university.

There is much to celebrate! But there is also work to be done. Here are a few ways you can help.

1. Pray for us daily.
2. Refer a student. You can do that by using these links: cuw.edu/referral or cuaa.edu/referral.
3. Share resources with us, as you are able. A few of our priorities are:
 - Our Department of Music at CUW needs dedicated space for instrumental and choir practice rooms, as well as new rehearsal facilities.
 - On the Ann Arbor campus, our student population has grown significantly and we are excited about our plans for a new Concordia fitness center, as well as a new health and wellness center.
 - Many of our students are in need of increased scholarship and financial assistance.
 - And our Concordia Fund, which provides funding for our immediate needs, is in constant need of support.

Concordia University has a wonderful history and an even brighter future. This is a remarkable, extraordinary, and special place, and we are fully committed to serve Christ in the Church and the world. We are grateful for you and look forward to what we can accomplish together.

Grace and peace,



Erik P. Ankerberg, Ph.D.
President, CUWAA



Please join us for the inauguration of
ERIK P. ANKERBERG, PH.D.
as the president of
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
WISCONSIN & ANN ARBOR
Friday, September 29, 2023
2:00 p.m.
R. John Buuck Field House
Concordia University Wisconsin
12800 N. Lake Shore Drive | Mequon, WI 53097
Open to the public • Reception to follow
Ceremony will also be livestreamed
cuw.edu/inauguration
cuaa.edu/inauguration



New clinic provides *real-world training*

The School of Health Professions has a new Interprofessional Clinic on campus. The 9,150-square-foot space allows students to learn while also offering health and social care services to community members for free or at significantly reduced prices.

Students began using the clinic in January to serve community patients. The clinic was funded through donations and would not have happened without these donors:

- Russell & Josephine Kott Memorial Charitable Trust
- Patrick & Janet Thompson Family Foundation
- Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation
- Dr. Richard DeWitt
- Family of Judy Nygaard
- Guldmann Inc.
- Many current and past faculty members from the School of Health Professions who have seen a longtime dream come true

The Interprofessional Clinic, which is located between Patrick T. Ferry Hall and the Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center, includes:

- An open gym area for rehab and wellness activities
- A mock apartment
- A simulation space comprised of four rooms with hospital beds
- Private and group treatment rooms
- A splinting area

Concordia has a long tradition of offering health and wellness services to uninsured or underinsured community members, including most recently physician assistant and pharmacy students working together on campus to administer COVID-19 vaccines. Its physical therapy/occupational therapy community clinics kicked off the tradition more than 20 years ago. In recent years, the School of Health Professions has expanded its repertoire of service beyond PT/OT. Today, the list includes occupational therapy, physical therapy, Speech, Language, and Hearing, wellness screenings, and connections to community resources.



CUW faculty and students assist with patient care.



Alumna Tricia Jaworski ('99) understands the value of giving back to your alma mater. Because of her connections through her work with the Wisconsin System Safe Patient

Handling and Mobility (SPHM) Network, the lives of CUW healthcare students and their patients will be transformed.

Jaworski, who earned a bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy at CUW, serves as the System SPHM program manager for Advocate Aurora Health. She also co-chairs the Wisconsin SPHM Network, a non-profit group of like-minded individuals who have some aspect of their job related to SPHM.

During one of the WI SPHM Network conferences Jaworski hosted, representatives of Guldmann Inc, a medical equipment supplier, offered to donate a ceiling lift to help integrate ceiling lift technology and SPHM training into the curriculum at Concordia.

The lift, valued at about \$10,000, was recently installed in the clinic and discussions are taking place to decide the details about integrating it into the curriculum.

To learn more about the clinic and to support initiatives there, email or call Tim Brever at Tim.Brever@cuw.edu | 262-242-2130

Read more at:
cuw.edu/alumnajaworski

Women of Influence

Leaving a legacy for future Concordians

It's amazing what the power of love and grace can do to change lives. Here, at Concordia University, it enables students to live out their dreams of attending a Lutheran university where they can discover and pursue their vocations. It creates transformative spaces on campus in which to learn and develop in mind, body and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the world.

Following are the stories of two cherished women, each of whom made a profound impact on Concordia University and its students through their gifts of love and grace.

Keturah "Kay" Thunder-Haab



Kay was honored as the 2019 Concordia Guild Woman of the Year.



A delight on the CUAA campus, Kay was often spotted riding in her donated golf cart.



Thanks to Kay's generosity, CUAA athletes have the opportunity to compete at the Thunder Sports Complex.

Keturah (Kay) Thunder-Haab, a treasured friend and benefactor of Concordia University Ann Arbor, made an uncommon impact on all things Concordia, from endowed scholarships and faculty positions, to athletic facilities and the fine arts, and everything in between. There was no portion of Concordia she didn't love. And she supported it all!

For over three decades, Concordia was blessed by Thunder-Haab's kindness, generosity, and friendship. She loved Concordia and Concordia loved her back. Because of her graciousness, our students, faculty, staff and surrounding community were impacted (and continue to be) by the many priorities she supported, including the Manor, Concordia Guild, Vespers, The Barn restoration, and student services (survival kits).

Indeed, Thunder-Haab is a familiar name at Concordia. The Haab School of Business bears the family name in recognition of their generous support of Lutheran education and the Concordia campus. And, one of the key projects Thunder-Haab helped come to fruition on campus was the Thunder Sports Complex in 2018. The new competition-grade track and turf field is a significant upgrade for the many student-athletes who compete in collegiate-level track and field athletics.

"As Kay worked with Concordia, she treated each and every student, staff member, and volunteer with kindness and respect, like...family," said Mary Kay Salminen, current president of the Oscar & Keturah Haab Foundation. "She showed all of us the Gospel message each day with joy."

While Kay did not attend CUAA (Thunder-Haab is a 1959 graduate of Concordia, River Forest), she actively and faithfully served the Lord as a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor and volunteered throughout the community. As a longtime Lutheran teacher, she believed strongly in Lutheran education and was committed to increasing access for more students.

Thunder-Haab continued the life of service and sacrifice began by her late husband, Oscar. She served as the president of the Oscar & Keturah Haab Foundation until her passing and remained faithful to the charity's priority to fund education, as well as mission- and Christ-centered ministries.

"Smaller colleges, like Concordia, help students gain the confidence to speak up in class and try new things... Students at Concordia get to grow and learn in a place filled with God-fearing people who want to love and serve the Lord." —Kay Thunder-Haab

Doris Rosenberg

Doris Rosenberg, a friend, and longtime supporter of Concordia University Wisconsin, loved the grounds of the campus that overlooks Lake Michigan and believed in the education at a Lutheran college.

“Her faith was everything to her,” her daughter Suzy Christie recently said.

Rosenberg’s love for Concordia ran deep. Her husband, Ken, became involved in the university when it moved to Mequon in the 1980s. The couple soon became acquainted with the university president at that time, Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D.

“My parents became more involved as their friendship with Pat Ferry grew,” said Paul Rosenberg, their son. “After my father died in 2002, my mother contributed toward the bluff project and later the pharmacy building. Her mother (my grandmother) was a nurse and she thought that building a pharmacy program was a way to honor her mother.”

One of the biggest impacts Rosenberg made on Concordia was her involvement in the bluff stabilization project. CUW is perched on large bluffs impacted by erosion, which caused the university much concern. In 2005, through the kindness and financial support of Rosenberg, a stabilization project for the area began. Not only did she contribute financially, but she stayed actively engaged in the project throughout construction, often touring the site.



Doris Rosenberg with her late husband Ken.

The project was completed over two years, and leaves quite a legacy for Rosenberg, who died in 2022.

“Our mother loved Lake Michigan and the view from the bluff gave her great joy,” Suzy said. “Since the (park) benches were placed, our mother knew this view would give others the same joy.”

In addition to the above projects, the Rosenbergs supported various campus priorities to inspire others, including scholarships, athletic fields, and a residence hall rebuild.

“She loved people and no matter where we were she would connect with someone—a waiter, landscaper, construction workers,” Paul said. “My parents led by example, and as a result, I have a special place in my heart for the organizations (like Concordia) that they supported.”



Left: Before the restoration, erosion destroyed the bluff habitat.

Right: The CUW bluff now offers majestic views of Lake Michigan, an amphitheater, a sloped switchback walking path to the shore, as well as 220 stairs for athletes and bravehearted adventurers.

Leaving a legacy to Concordia

If you would like to impact our students like Keturah (Kay) Thunder-Haab and Doris Rosenberg did, please contact Dean Rennie, vice president of the Office of Advancement, at 262-243-4580 or via email at Dean.Rennie@cuw.edu.



Dean Rennicke joined Erik and Jennifer Ankerberg, who spoke at Living Grace about their faith journey to CUWAA.



WE ARE,
ALWAYS,
CONCORDIA

HEARTS
TOGETHER
IN CHRIST



On campus with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra at River Sounds



CUW School of Nursing celebrated 40 years of nursing at CUW.



Alumni at the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Milwaukee



Join us on campus for homecoming fun
CUW October 6-7 • CUA A October 20



Coming soon...

Concordia Cornerstone Society

CUWAA's new annual giving society for donors of \$1,000 or more to The Concordia Fund in a fiscal year. Membership benefits will include special communications, access, and invitations to Concordia University events.

Watch for details this fall!

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone." Ephesians 2:19-20

Making an impact on future generations

The concept of “paying it forward” is an ageless expression of kindness, appreciation and generosity, and for these Concordians, it’s a way to make an impact on future generations.

Anna (Herbst) Bolha, senior physician assistant with clinical oncology at Flatiron Health, graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin in 2002 with a degree in biology. She was the recipient of the Emeritus Scholarship, which provided full-tuition and room and board for her undergraduate studies at CUW.

“This gift changed the trajectory of my life and at an impressionable age, illustrated in a deeply personal way how generosity can be a tool to counterbalance privilege and promote equal outcomes for all,” she said. “We hope our gift to Concordia might lessen a burden, level the playing field, or open doors for a future student in the same way the Emeritus Scholarship impacted me.”

Anna and her husband, Matthew, created the Matthew and Anna Bolha Endowment for juniors and seniors who have a GPA of 3.5 or above. They decided to fund the endowment through a life insurance policy for which Concordia University is the beneficiary. Through this giving vehicle, the Bolhas pay the premium, and when they pass, Concordia receives the value of the life insurance, which will fund the scholarship endowment.

“We are not independently wealthy, so pragmatically, this was a way to stretch our relatively small contribution



CUW Alumna Anna (Herbst) Bolha with husband Matthew

into something more impactful,” Anna explained. “The Advancement office taught us so much about financial tools and opened our minds to possibilities we didn’t even know existed.”

Anna acknowledged that by giving through the vehicle of life insurance, she would not be around to see her gift come to fruition. But her husband, Matthew, learned from an early age from his father (Dan Bolha, MBA ’05) that the practice of tithing is an act of worship.

“For us, it’s less about who or what we give to, and more about being givers. We are grateful to live lives beyond whatever we dreamed or imagined,” Anna said. “Our gratitude is the legacy we hope to leave behind.”

YOU HAVE TIME... *until you don't*

Nearly 70% of Americans are without a will.

Get attorney-ready for estate planning with our complimentary Pre-Estate Planning and Education Sessions. Designed to assist you in organizing your thoughts, desires, and goals regarding your estate, the program will educate you about estate planning tools.

A couple of short sessions with us will help you to understand the planning process and to be better prepared for an efficient meeting with your attorney.

Contact: Greg Fictum, Senior Director of Donor Relations and Planned Giving
(262) 243-4540 | greg.fictum@cuw.edu

PREPARE *The Way*

Refer a Student Please mail completed form to CUW or CUAA, Attn: Office of Advancement

Student Name _____

Student Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Name of High School _____

Student is currently a Sophomore Junior Senior

60

**1963
CUAA
IS
BORN**

40

**1983
CUW
MEQUON
MOVE**

10

**2013
CUW
+
CUAA**

Each of these milestones is monumental in its own way.

We didn't know how things would work out; but God did. As the prophet Jeremiah wrote, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (29:11 ESV)*. As we reflect on these milestones and celebrate where we are, there's more reason than ever to feel thankful for our past, blessed in our present, and excited for our future in the Lord.