

FAITH IN ACTION CUW's School of Education prepares up-and-coming teachers to make a lasting impact.

FRESH START CUW Midtown opens a door of opportunity to at-risk



Looking Forward, Pressing On

Endurance – by the time this issue of the *Concordian* reaches you, the second “Claws vs. Paws” challenge will be over. This friendly competition between Concordia and UW-Milwaukee is run over the 26.2-mile course of the Lakefront Marathon. CUW vs. UWM; Falcons (Claws) vs. Panthers (Paws) – dozens of faculty, staff, and students run the course in a test of endurance.

Curriculum – the Latin origin of this word literally means “running around a course.” The Concordia curriculum, or course of study, is also a test of endurance. Not every student follows the same exact route. Different programs and majors have varied course requirements, but there is a unifying factor that links Concordians in their learning quest. “Concordia is a Lutheran higher education community.” That is how our mission statement plainly describes who we are. At Concordia, all students, whatever their course of study, will learn in an environment defined by that identity. The Lakefront Marathon course may run through Concordia’s campus, but our Lutheran distinctiveness courses throughout our curriculum and shapes every student’s CUW experience – and beyond.

A marathon is a long race and may take hours to complete, but eventually the runner who endures reaches the finish line. A curriculum is a rigorous challenge and takes years to achieve, but the student who persists gains more than a medal or even a diploma. Christian education itself endures.

Concordia is a great place to get started, and our students who become our graduates are blessed by what they learn and do among us. The rest of the world is blessed when those same Concordians use their education and experiences to have a meaningful impact on the lives of others.

In the pages that follow, the enduring value of Christian education is featured in many ways. The Lakefront Marathon will have been run (I will be glad when it is over), and students will be well into their fall semester’s work. Some of them will graduate in December, others in May, others may still have far to go. Wherever they are on their CUW journey, they are on track to make a difference “for service to Christ in the Church and the world.”

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



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A Degree With a Difference

The School of Education prepares
students for a life-long mission,
not just a job.

DAVE ENTERS, Director of Counseling at Concordia University Wisconsin, has come a long way since his first blood donation more than 35 years ago. He can't even remember why he donated in the first place, though he does recall, "There must have been a need."

Fast-forward 15 years, circa 1990. That would be the next time Enters would donate blood. The reason for the huge gap: donating blood never crossed his mind.

"I wasn't looking for reasons," he said. That is, until he read an article in a Christian magazine which contained an excerpt from the book *In His Image* by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey.



Student Spotlight

CHRISTINA CASH has never been content to just sit back and let things come to her.

The 37-year-old mother has traveled a bumpy road, from high school soccer star to first-year School of Pharmacy student at Concordia University Wisconsin.

Cash's sometimes-arduous path has included restaurant gigs, working as a sales rep for a beer distributor, climbing the corporate ladder, being mom to a 5-year-old girl, and helping her husband navigate scary medical challenges.

To make a long story short, Cash was in her mid-30s and back in college – for the second time – taking medical-related classes with

an eye toward becoming a nurse or a dental hygienist. There was only one problem:

“I saw this wound video in anatomy/physiology, and I got grossed out by the blood,” she said.

Around that time, Cash was introduced to a pharmacist whose work centered on helping make patients' final days as comfortable as possible. And the light bulb went on.

“She was in their lives – these people who were dying – and impacting these patients and their families,” Cash said. “This is what I should be doing.”

However – as far as Cash knew at the time

Madison. She and her husband didn't think that it would be realistic to pursue, considering his medical needs and the responsibilities they shared for their daughter.

"A few days later, I was driving on the freeway, I looked up, and I saw a billboard – 'Concordia University Wisconsin School of Pharmacy ... Have You Seen Us Lately?' ... I almost ran off the road," said Cash.

After an excited phone call – where she said, with a chuckle, she asked the person on the other end of the phone
two or
three
times if
she was sure
CUW had a
pharmacy school –

Campus News

DR. AARON MILLER

Assistant Professor, Physiology
\$3,020 The role of endocannabinoid system in zebra fish stress and anxiety responses

DR. ROBERT BURLAGE

Professor, School of Pharmacy
\$3,000 A three-dimensional image of the XylR regulatory protein

DR. DANIEL S

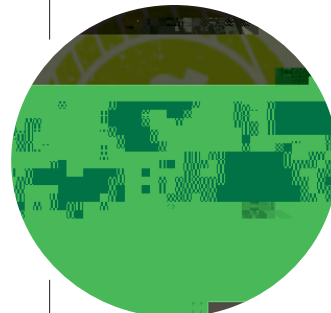
On the Cutting Edge

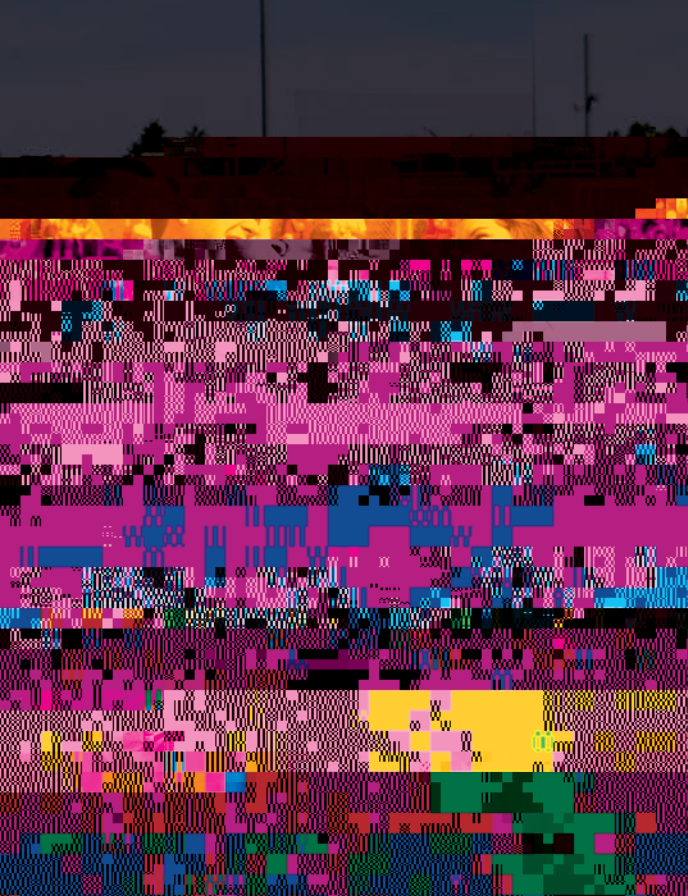
CUW awards internal research grants

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN has awarded seven internal research grants totaling nearly \$17,000. The funds have been distributed to faculty members who can now develop their research projects as well as the University's academic reputation.

The Concordia Internal Research Grants (CIRG) will be applied to a wide breadth of research fields: gene function in cases of spinal defects, effective teaching strategies for end-of-life communication, stress and anxiety responses in zebra fish, nasal delivery of a drug to treat schizophrenia, and more.

"The University has assembled an incredibly





Friday the 13th Kicko for Homecoming

Teams had mixed luck

CUW CELEBRATED HOMECOMING weekend a little earlier than usual. The annual event kicked off on Friday night, September 13, with a parade around campus. This year's theme – "The Masquerade" – included food, music/karaoke, carnival games, and a petting zoo. The parade was followed by a powder pu football game.

As part of the evening festivities, the Homecoming King and Queen were announced. Philip Helge, a senior from Albuquerque, N.M., was crowned King, while Caitlin Pilon, a senior from Neenah, was crowned Queen.

Pilon said the most appropriate way to describe her reaction to being crowned Queen was to quote Sally Field after she won the 1985 Oscar for best Actress in the movie Places in the Heart.

"You like me. Right now, you like me," said Pilon.

The Homecoming celebration continued into Saturday, where the CUW football team defeated Macalester College 20-10 in front of home fans, which included alumni.

The weekend festivities ended on a bit of a downer Sunday afternoon when the CUW Men's Soccer team lost 4-2 to University of St. Thomas.

"All in all, it was a great weekend," said Vice President of Student Life Dr. Andrew Luptak. "We had families and friends of all ages join in the fun."

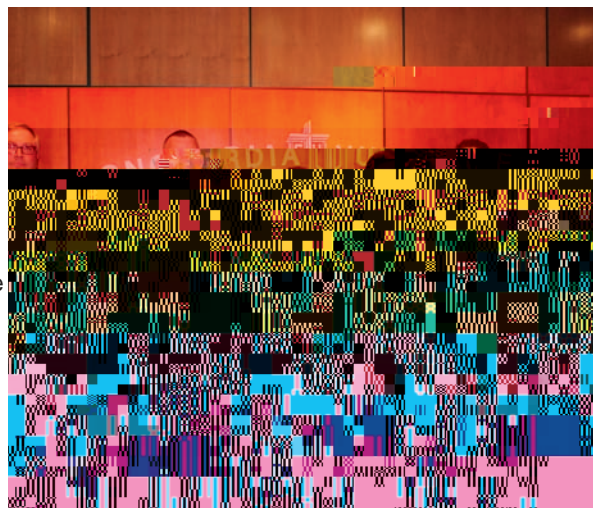
Toward a Rosier Future

Sendik's Scholars named

FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS interested in pursuing careers in retail management, red vests are the most coveted fashion piece of the season. Ted Balistreri, Sendik's Food Markets co-owner, and Dr. David Borst, Dean of the School of Business Administration, together welcomed the first students into the prestigious Sendik's Scholars program at a reception this fall. The four-year undergraduate program provides selected students with an annual \$5,000 scholarship, a customized curriculum, and internship placement within the growing Sendik's Food Markets organization.

"This program will focus on developing future leaders for our family business," said Ted Balistreri. "Sendik's approached Concordia because the cultures of the organizations are a match, with an emphasis on values and work ethic." Family-owned and operated for more than 80 years, Sendik's Food Markets has been Milwaukee's source for quality food products, fresh produce, select meats, and attentive customer service. Now with 11 locations, Sendik's is a rapidly growing retail establishment with sophisticated technology, trained and developed employees, and thoughtfully selected inventory.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 Sendik's Scholars program. For more information, visit www.cuw.edu/programs/business/undergraduate.html.



All Business Left to right: Dr. David Borst, Emily Podewils, Ryan Senkbeil, Jennifer Reichert, and Marissa Bart.



Upcoming Campus Events

November

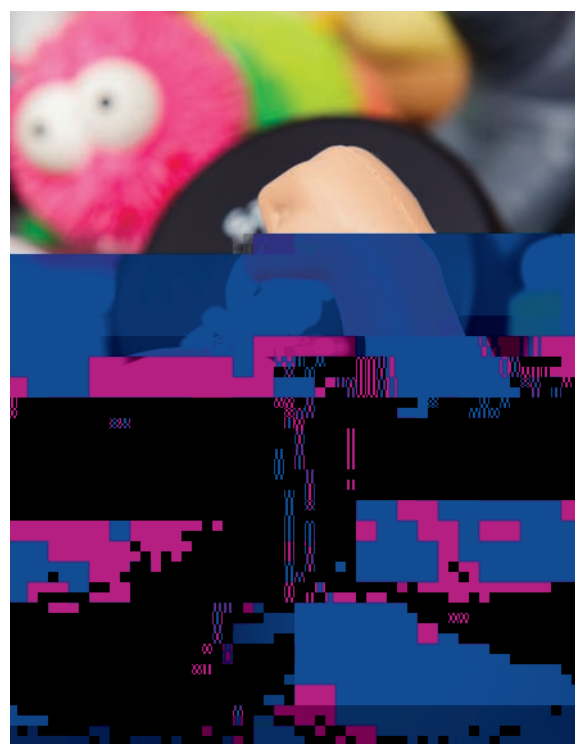
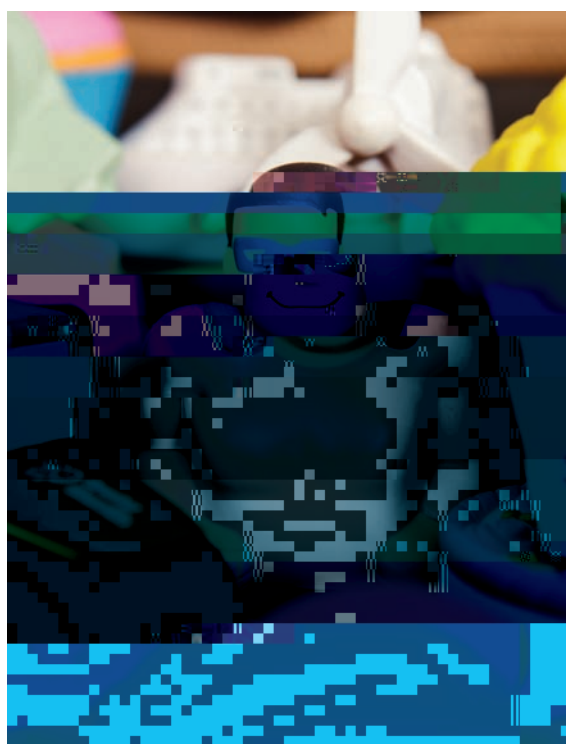
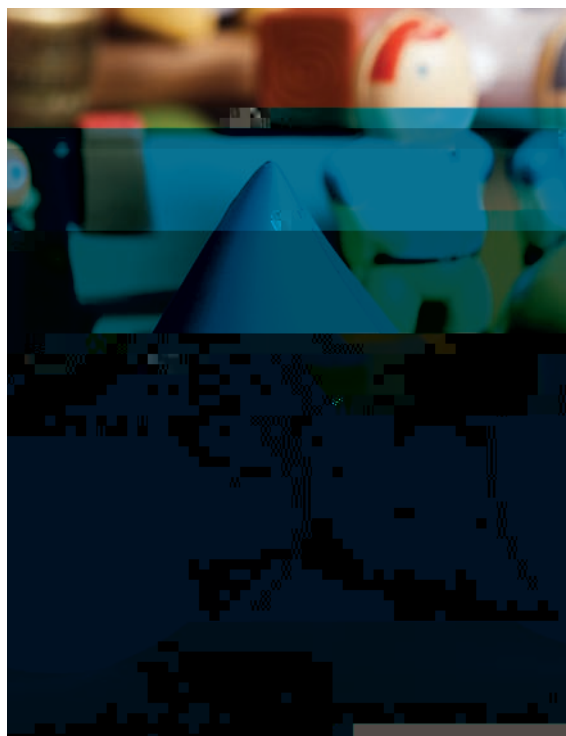
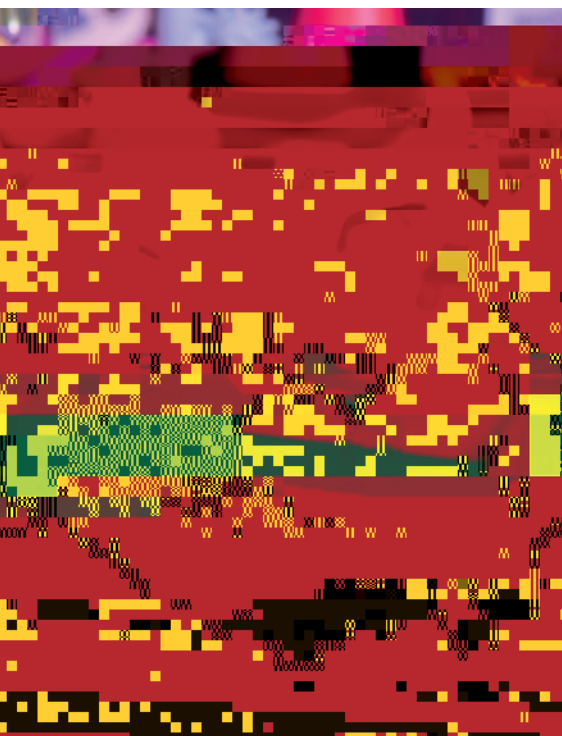
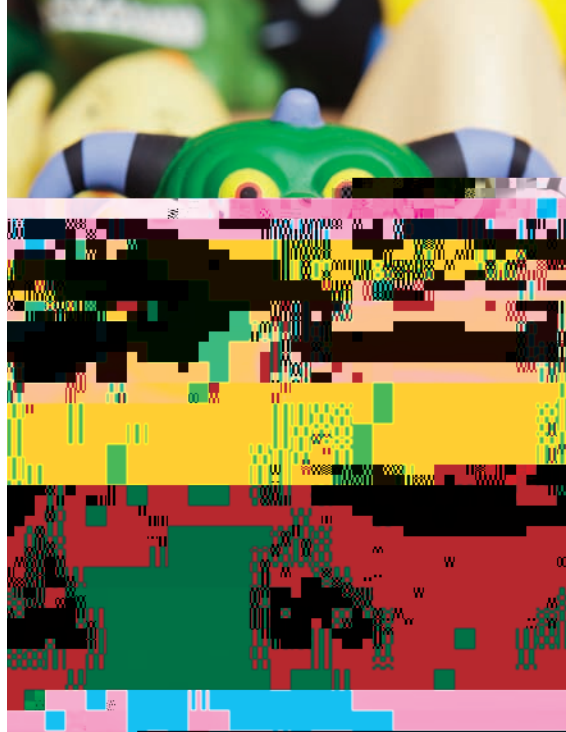
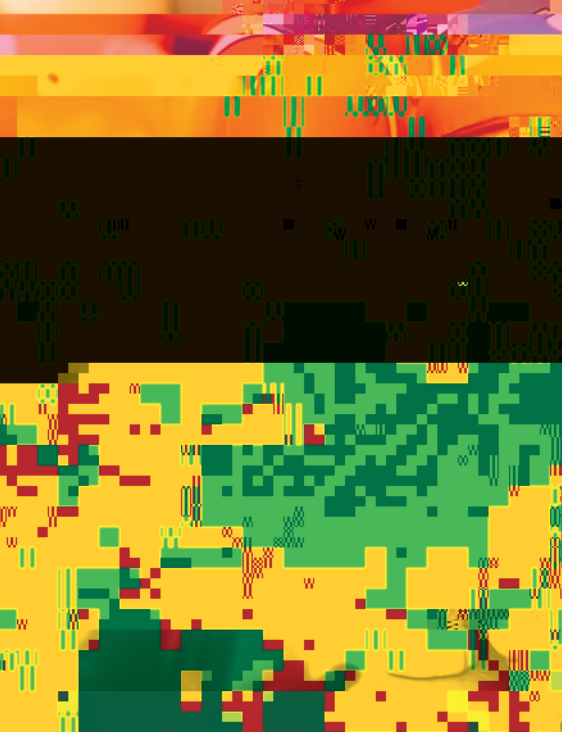
- 16 – Graduate Visitation Day
- 17 – Christ the King Celebration (Kammerchor and Alleluia Ringers), Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 3:30 p.m.
- 22-24 – The Gift of the Magi, Todd Wehr Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Sunday

December

- 06-07 – Christmas at Concordia (all CUW musical groups), Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 – Baccalaureate Service, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 10 a.m.
- 14 – Commencement, Field House, 1:30 p.m.
- 16 – Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble Christmas Bellfest, Chapel of Christ Triumphant, 7:30 p.m.

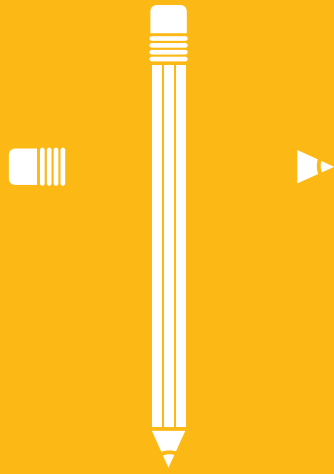
January

- 06 – Winterim Session Begins
- 27 – Undergraduate Visitation Day



Recharged Lukas Powers was set on becoming an electrical engineer – until he saw the light.





may be a fresh face on the Concordia University campus this fall, but his dreams and his goals align perfectly with the mission of the Christian school that started in the basement of a church in downtown Milwaukee 132 years ago.

The 19-year-old from Whitefish Bay, Wis. said he realized while working as a counselor at a Lutheran camp in northern Wisconsin that his calling was to become a pastor and to work with children. Disillusioned with his initial choice to major in electrical engineering, Powers transferred to CUW. He's now pursuing a Lutheran education degree and his goal is to become a pastor.

ons.s no4.333 Td [(The 1)-10Whenrdia basepaliz

We believe that a faith-based approach is part of that excellent education. We believe that addressing issues from a holistic perspective gives students a real-world experience not a compartmentalized one.”

Perhaps the biggest question – at least in the mind of parents – is whether there will be a job waiting on the other side of the commencement stage.

According to Dr. Uden, it’s an excellent time for a young person to be joining the teaching profession, particularly for the 70 percent or so of CUW Education students who take additional courses and also graduate with certification in Lutheran education.

“We’ve done some recent studies to show that of students who are mobile – if they want to go where the opportunities are – we have well over a 90 percent placement rate for our Lutheran graduates,” he said, adding that there is strong demand for teachers who want to serve in urban schools, in special education settings, or in classrooms where an English as a Second Language background is needed.

“We don’t have enough teachers for the forecasted need,” he said. “So if teachers want to be employable, there’s no shortage of opportunity, especially if they’re looking at some of those niche areas.”

Even a casual observer can see the teaching profession is evolving. Benefit packages and automatic pay increases aren’t what they once were. In some cases, changes in collective bargaining laws in Wisconsin and other states have prompted long-time educators to retire.

Uden said that shouldn’t stop young people from pursuing education.

“What is hard-wired in a lot of young people is being mission-minded,” he said. “There are kids who so want to serve in their life’s career. They want to have purpose, they want to have meaning – and the field of education screams that,” he said.

Powers, who said that he hopes his education degree also will help him get a foot in the door for mission work, couldn’t agree more.

“I feel the people who are going into education right now are a special breed of person who purely do it because they want to help, and they want to make a difference,” he said. “This is what they feel they’re being called to do. This is what they want to do.”

According to Dr. Uden, freshly minted teachers entering the job market with the talents and tools received in their CUW education will be in demand.

“You’re going to have a real satisfying economic opportunity, you’re going to have a fantastic vocation and a schedule that is family conducive,” he said. “It’s a very viable profession.”

When Dr. Uden first started teaching 25 years ago, the classroom he entered wasn’t all that much different from the one in which he spent his school days.

“We were using the same curriculum, we were using the same instructional strategies – it was pretty much the same shtick,” he said. “But today, kids are going to be teaching in environments that don’t replicate to any degree what they experienced. We’re going to have opportunities to connect students to learning in ways we’ve never previously done.

“So if the idea of a new frontier, a new challenge – and the idea that I’m never going to teach the same thing twice and that I’m never going to have two days that look the same – excites a younger person looking for a career field, then education has that in spades,” he said.

“It’s such an exciting time because the very way in which we teach and learn looks different than it did even five years ago,” he said. “And to think what it will look like in 20 years is staggering.”^Q

BRIDGING THE GAP

At CUW's Milwaukee Midtown Center, students heading to a four-year degree get a two-year running start with Design Your Future.

BY
Mike Zimmerman

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
Mark Brautigam

IT'S :
A.M. :

at the CUW Midtown Center on North 56th Street in Milwaukee. The campus just opened its doors, and classes don't start for nearly 90 minutes, but students are already making their way inside. The common area – two vending machines, half a dozen tables, one new six-foot likeness of CUW's Freddy the Falcon – slowly comes alive as students settle in to socialize, study together, and get ready for the day.

Perhaps it's not typical for college freshmen and sophomores to want to get such an early-morning head start on their studies, but these are not typical college kids. They're students in Concordia's Design Your Future (DYF) program, a two-year bridge program for at-risk Milwaukee-area high school graduates. They understand the value of the opportunity they've been given and are determined to take full advantage of it.

"All of our goals are pretty much the same," says sophomore Nelson Medlock. "We're all here to get done what we have to do."

For DYF
students like Nelson,
"getting it done" means completing a

much student life at the main campus as they like. Athletic events, Bible studies, study groups, and other student activities are all open to them. There are even a few student-athletes and two members of the Student Senate enrolled in DYF.

“The message we keep trying to instill in the students’ minds is that you’re a part of one larger institution,” LeFlore says. “Even though you’re here, we want you to feel like you’re a part of a larger community.”

Students can even elect to take a class at the main campus if they’re so inclined.

In practice, however, students seem to find plenty of community right at the Midtown Center. With only 50 students in the entire program (up from just 30 last year), there’s a sense that everyone knows everyone. Class size is small, typically no more than 20. Students help each other out, and

instructors routinely stay late to make sure everyone gets the attention they need to understand the material.

“All of our teachers are really good at helping us,” says Dominique Davis, a second-semester Business Management major. “They’ll take time out of their day, or come in on their off-days, to make sure we understand and to tutor us on our homework. Most of my teachers have done that.”

Nelson, a Business Management major, also hopes to be the first in his family to graduate from college. He was able to enroll in the summer bridge program before he started and was helped by the running start it gave him for the fall semester. He also appreciates how his instructors are always willing to go above and beyond.

“I just like how with all of our teachers, we can keep in touch with them,” he says. “They tell us if we ever need anything to just call them. They’re always willing to help us out, whenever we need them.”

Both Nelson and Dominique are fairly representative of the DYF program: bright young people who want to succeed but who are the first in their families to attend college.

Accessibility

is another key factor in the DYF formula. Most students couldn’t dream of paying full tuition to a prestigious university like Concordia, so DYF keeps costs down in a number of ways.

Right off the top, students receive a 40 percent DYF tuition grant from the school. They then work with the Financial Aid office to seek out other grant and scholarship opportunities (completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid [FAFSA] is a requirement for admission). Rather than having to purchase their textbooks, students borrow them through a free book-loan program. And being able to live at home instead of on campus also helps reduce costs.

It’s no wonder the program has grown so significantly since it began in 2007. Hall has been the director for just a year, but it’s clear the program is thriving under his leadership. The current group of DYF students is the largest yet, and he looks forward to even more growth in the future. Visibility is key, he says, crediting the new CUW marketing campaign with giving DYF a big boost. Depicting a more diverse group of students, the campaign includes billboards in north Milwaukee and ads on city buses, as well as ads specifically touting the Midtown Center.

“Part of the problem with DYF was that nobody knew it was here,” Hall explains. “But now people are thinking, ‘Hmm, Concordia ... it’s not just that pretty little campus in Mequon, it’s also in Midtown.’ And we’re getting response from that outreach.”

He pictures a day when they can take the DYF Midtown “template” to other locations. The South side. Miller Parkway. St. Louis. Ann Arbor. “It’ll work,” he says, “because any place you get individuals who aren’t sure what they want to do, or how to do it, but they know they want to do something ... you gotta make something like this available to them. And once they learn about it, it will be very, very difficult to turn away.”

By 2:45 p.m.,

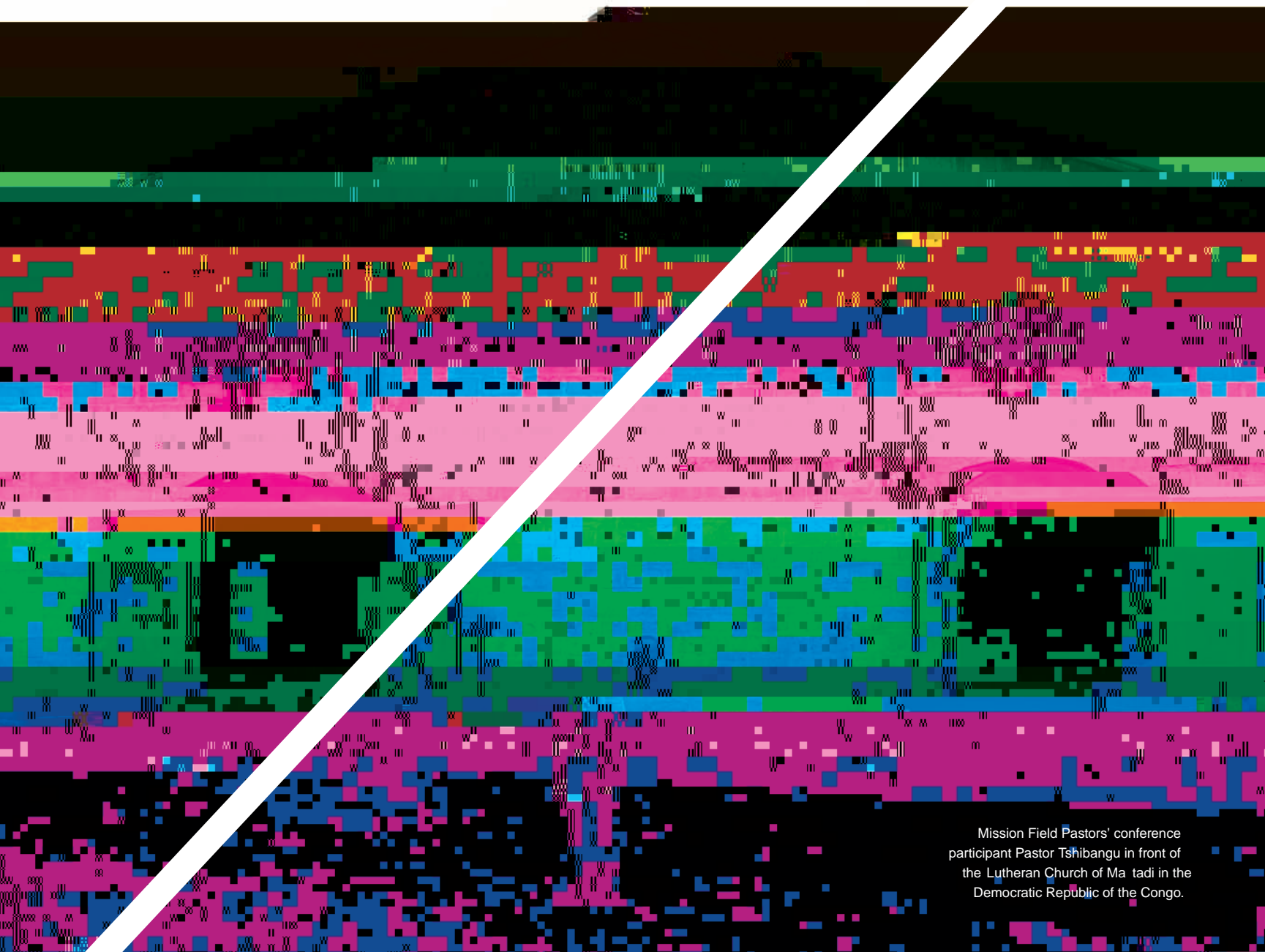
DYF classes have been over for more than an hour. Adult continuing education students won’t start arriving for the evening classes until after 5:00, but the Midtown Center is far from deserted. In one classroom, an instructor still sits with two students going over the finer points of the afternoon lecture. In another, which doubles as the computer lab, a handful of students work on writing assignments. Back in the common area, under Freddy’s watchful gaze, still more are just hanging out, studying, laughing, living ... and learning what college is all about. Q

Likely to Succeed The CUW Design Your Future program helps local students make a smooth transition from high school to college. For many10(e))T6l 534R

Retourner en Afrique

A CUW Associate Professor of Theology takes
his unique skill set where it's most needed.

By Mike Zimmerman



Mission Field Pastors' conference
participant Pastor Tshibangu in front of
the Lutheran Church of Ma tadi in the
Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Serving

Fortunately, the Rev. Dr. Ronald Mudge also has something else: a unique set of credentials, gifts, and experiences that makes it possible to have the best of both those worlds.

As it turns out, there aren't many people who speak fluent French, have a Ph.D. in the Bible, a gift for teaching, and a decade of experience as a missionary in Africa. Throw "ordained Lutheran pastor" and a moderate case of wanderlust into the mix and ... well, now you've really got something.

Something that keeps Mudge in demand in Africa – and in regular transit between his two worlds.

GROWING UP IN LAPEER, MICHIGAN, the future Rev. Dr. Mudge discovered a passion for languages at an early age. In high school he took French. Not because he had a particular affinity for it, but because that's what his sister had studied.

In college, at the University of Michigan-Flint, he majored in English and music. He also minored in French because "I'd started it and thought I should do some more," he says. "And that ended up shaping my life a lot more than I thought it would."

By then he was well on his way to becoming a pastor. Or a Bible translator. Or a missionary. He knew that seminary was in his future, but he wasn't sure where God would lead him after that. In the end, it was his fluency in French that crystallized his calling.

"Lutherans mostly speak German," he says (think about it). "When I talked to LCMS World Mission, and they found out that I spoke French, they were very interested. There aren't a lot of Lutherans who speak French, and that played a major role in where I ended up in the world."

Where he ended up was in Africa – for six years in the Ivory Coast followed by four years in Togo, a tiny sliver of a country on the coast of West Africa. Among its nearly seven million inhabitants are about two million French speakers, a vestige of French colonialism in the early 20th Century.

In Togo, the Mudges served at Le Centre Luthérien d'Études Théologiques in Dapaong. Ron taught Bible classes – en français – to future pastors, while Lisa supported him, the school, and the community in every way imaginable. A biology teacher by trade, she

especially enjoyed teaching about health and leading women's Bible studies.

A number of factors convinced the Mudges that God wanted them to return to the States. The family spent the first few years back home in St. Louis, while Ron worked on his Ph.D. at Concordia Seminary. In 2007, he was offered a position at CUW and moved the troop to Wisconsin.

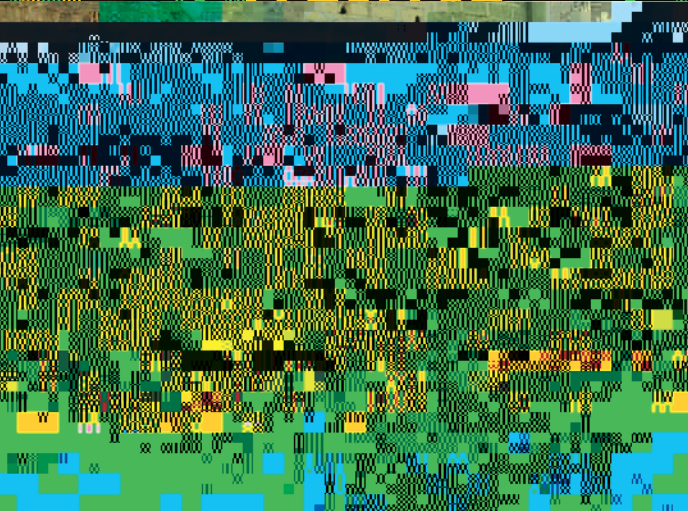
It wasn't long, however, before both Ron and Lisa were longing to return to their "other home" in Africa.

"Lisa and I have found that after living in Africa for 10 years, whether we're in Africa or America, we always feel a little bit homesick for the other one," he says.

Fortunately, Mudge's particular skill set remains in high demand, so there's no shortage of opportunity for him to go back and teach. These days, it's more about finding the time – and balancing his missionary calling with his responsibilities at home and CUW. For now, he makes these trips alone, while Lisa keeps the home fires burning.

In 2013, Mudge traveled to Africa not just once but twice. In May he returned to teach at the familiar LCMS World Mission-affiliated seminary in Togo. In July, he was sent by Luther Academy to teach at a pastors' conference in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In both cases, he taught for a week on the book of Hebrews.

The reason teachers like him are in demand is



“There aren’t a lot of Lutherans who speak French, and that played a major role in where I ended up in the world.”

—Rev. Dr. Ron Mudge

Bible is teaching, but also how to apply its principles to life in Togo or the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

“The book of Hebrews is not the easiest book of the Bible to do that with! But we did it,” he says.

REV. DR. MUDGE IS GRATEFUL for the support that makes these trips possible. In both cases, the sponsoring organizations provided financial support, as did his home congregation. CUW supports his trips in many ways, including through prayer, encouragement, and by giving him the time to .

“It’s one of our values,” Mudge says of the school’s eagerness to send its professors out into the world. “We consider our professors to be resources, and we are willing to share those resources with the community, both locally and internationally.”

University President Dr. Patrick Ferry agrees. “CUW is blessed with great professors like Dr. Mudge who have unique gifts,” he says. “It is a privilege to share these wonderful resources with the church around the world.”

Or, in the words of Christ Himself: “Allez, faites de toutes les nations des disciples, les baptisant au nom du Père, du Fils et du Saint Esprit, et enseignez-leur à observer tout ce que je vous ai prescrit.”* (Matt. 28:19-20, LSG)

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (ESV)

you do in the U.S., and it just wouldn’t be applicable. You could talk about how it applies in America but not realize how it applies in Africa.”

As you might expect, teaching in Africa is different from teaching in the U.S.

“A lot of the school education in Africa still has kind of a post-colonial form to it,” Mudge says, “where the teacher writes things on the board, the students write down what the teacher says, and then the students do their best to learn it. It shows a lot of respect for the teacher, but it’s kind of dull for everyone and doesn’t result necessarily in good learning.”

What works better, he finds, is to follow Christ’s example of using “narrative” – stories and parables – to get the point across. This helps convey not just what the



MORE PHOTOGRAPHS www.cuw.edu/concordian-frenchafrica

2000s

Achievements

[Kailee Sager](#) (13) trained and “Earned Her Ears” with Walt Disney World Security this past August.

[Lucas J. Pfaenroth](#) (11) is teaching English in Jiangsu Province, China.

[Scott Jacquart](#) (10) is the New Alternative Education and GED 2 coordinator at Dodgeville High School. He resides in Beaver Dam, Wis.

[William Unbeck](#) (09) was awarded the Associateship designation by successfully completing seven examinations administered by the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS). He also completed the required CAS Course on Professionalism, which presents real-world situations that contain ethical and professionalism issues for the actuary, and the Validation by Educational Experience Requirements.

Marriages

1 [Craig McCarthy](#) (12-MBA) and his wife, Elizabeth, celebrated their one-year anniversary on June 16, 2013. Craig, who works in CUW’s Marketing Department, was named editor of the Concordian in 2012.

2 [Tegan Hemb](#) (10) and [Adam](#)



Greetings From CUW!



Josh Kraegel (09)

Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

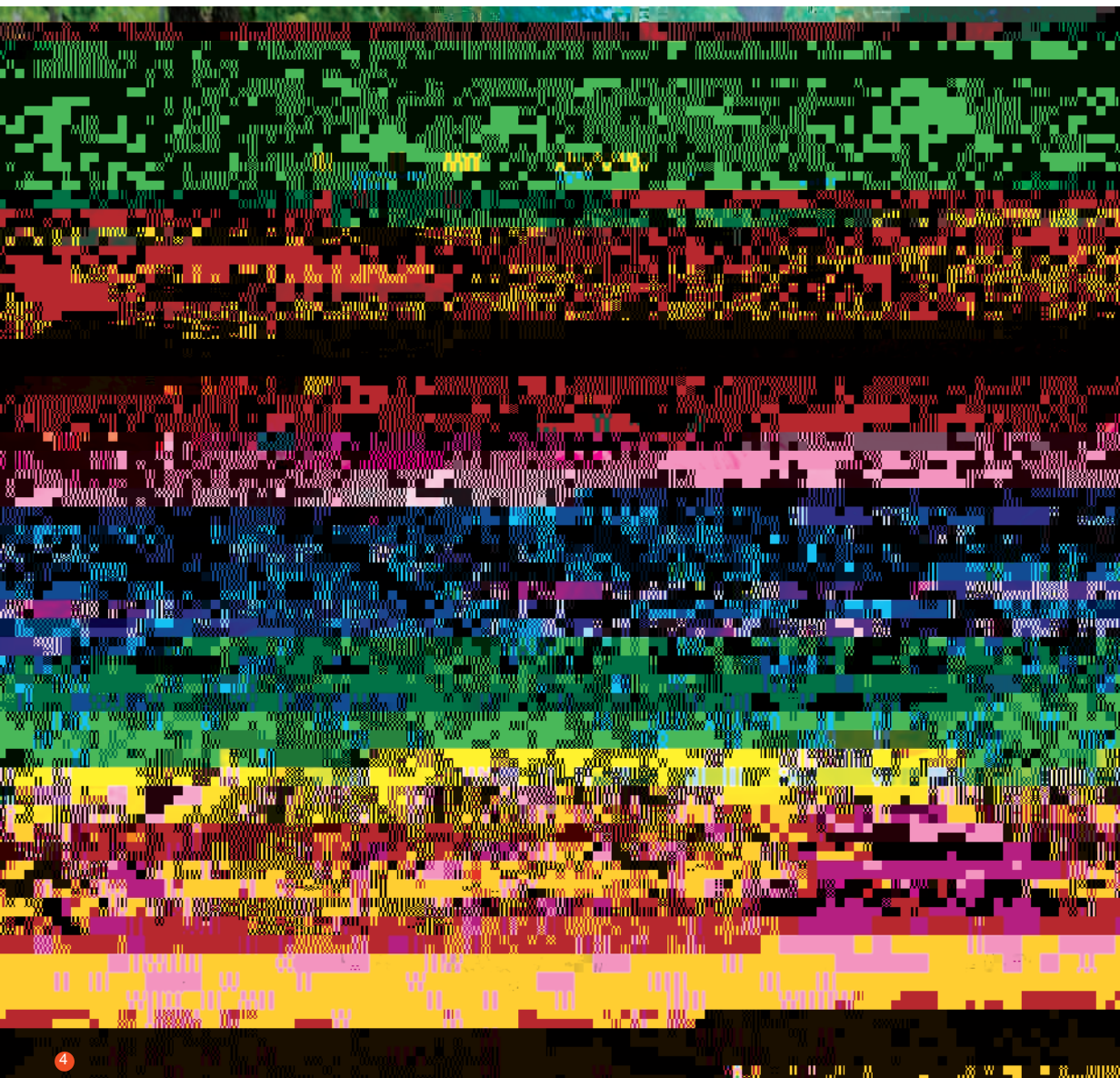
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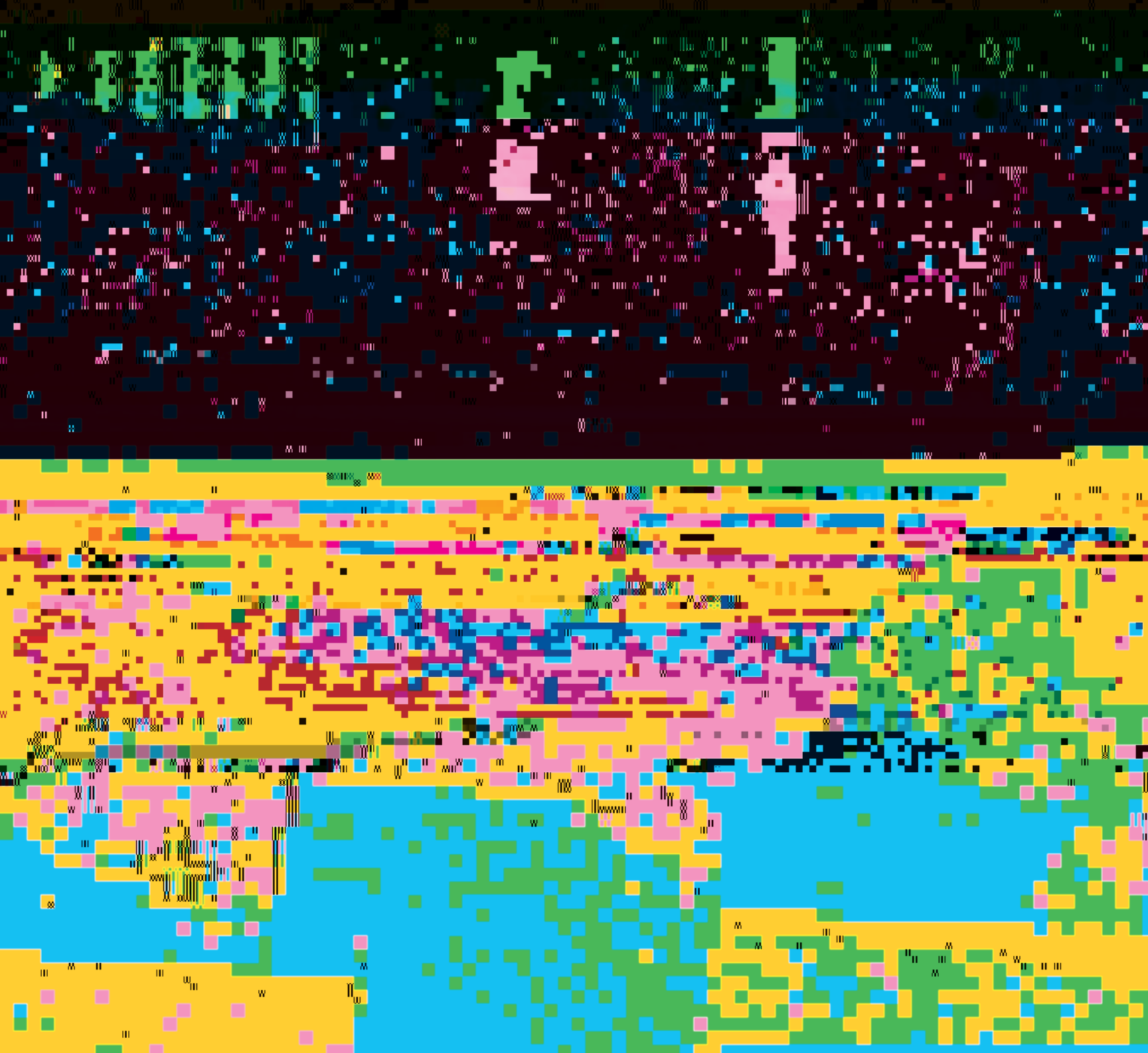
As your new Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, I want to take a moment to introduce myself.

After earning my B.A. from CUW in 2009, I moved across the country, and was responsible for operations and revenue at an entertainment company. It's amazing how much CUW has grown in just the last four years. It's exciting to be part of a growing CUW community.

And just like CUW's campus, the CUW Alumni Association is always changing and growing. If you have feedback on past events, new ideas, or would like to become more involved in the CUW Alumni Association, I'd love to hear from you. This is your Alumni Association!

I'm looking forward to seeing you soon!





Concordian Fall 2013

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Craig McCarthy

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Comments
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Above Late-afternoon sunlight
through the stained-glass windows of
CUW's Chapel of Christ Triumphant
showcases its beauty.
Photograph by Jeffrey Phelps

See Your Photo Here
We're now accepting submissions for
our Benediction page. Send your best
CUW-related high-resolution photos
to Concordian@cuw.edu.

