


PREPARE The Way

Centralia University Wisconsin & Ann Arbor



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as CUWAA president

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FEBRUARY 2023

Every little bit helps.

You've probably heard that phrase before. But it's not just a cliché when it comes to supporting Concordia University. It's a fact.

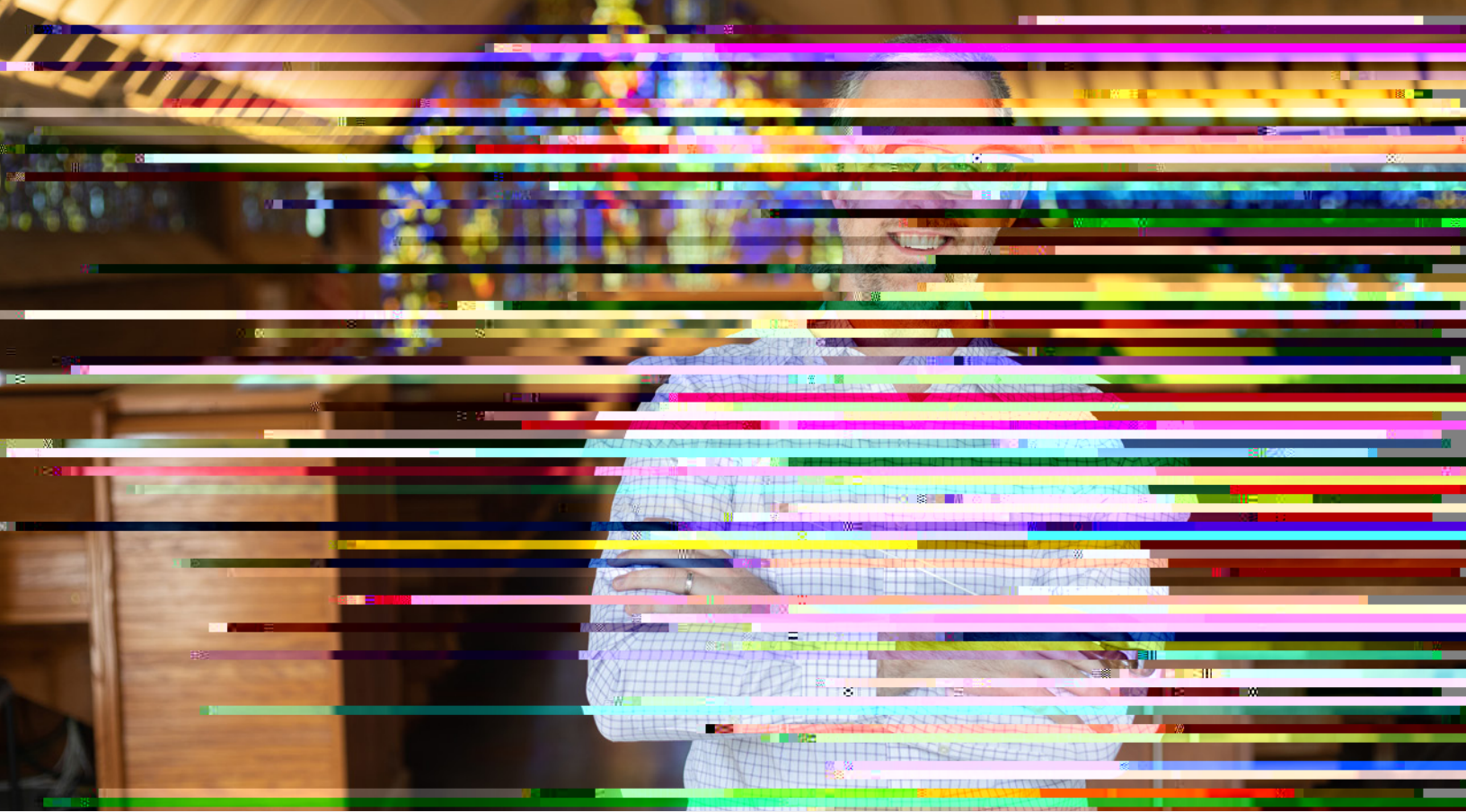
With its hundreds of givers, our annual day of giving, historically held in March, exemplifies this concept well. Last year the university raised \$79,000 in a concerted effort from students, faculty, staff, alumni, community friends and partners.

"I gave on giving day because it was a great way to help the school in a small way," said Payton Woodruff, a senior studying elementary education on our Ann Arbor campus. "I chose to support athletics because, as an athlete, that is something that is really important to me.

"Giving to my university made me feel really good," she added. "It was wonderful knowing that the money I was donating was being used for a good cause."

Our giving day is called March MATCHness because it includes a matching gift from donors and is a play on the words "March Madness" philip

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Faithful donors made this possible

CUAA Kreft Endowed Chair in Music

The Department of Music at Concordia University Ann Arbor is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. John Boonenberg as the university's new Kreft Endowed Chair in Music. The endowment is made possible by significant support of longtime CUAA supporters Karl and Shirley Kreft. (We honor Shirley Kreft posthumously as she passed to be with the Lord in December 2022.)

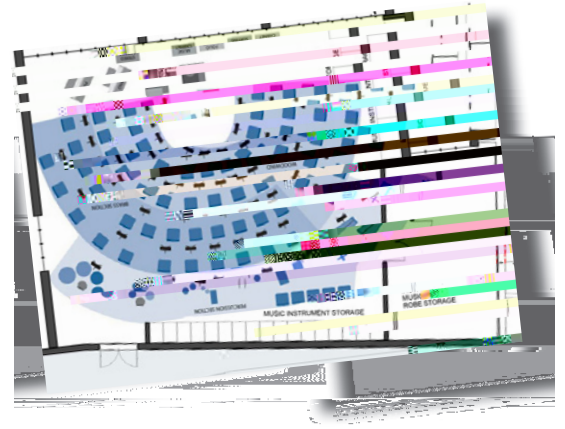
"This generous gift in support of the CUAA Kreft Endowed Chair in Music is a game-changer for the music ministry program on our Ann Arbor campus," said Dr. Leah Dvorak, interim provost at Concordia University Wisconsin & Ann Arbor. "Dr. Boonenberg is an outstanding musician and educator. Under his leadership, we are confident that the CUAA music programs will soar even higher."

"I'm honored and humbled to serve in this new capacity, and to be a part of this exciting inflection point for the Music Department at CUAA," Boonenberg said. "We have so many wonderful things happening in our ensembles and academic programs, and I'm thrilled to be able to elevate the public's awareness of the quality of music-making and training happening at CUAA."

In addition to teaching music courses and leading choral music programs as Director of Choral Activities and Church Music, Boonenberg focuses his energies on promoting all CUAA music programs regionally, nationally, and within the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He will actively recruit students with exceptional gifts in music who will elevate the quality, visibility, and reputation of these programs, while also developing new ensembles to serve both the CUAA campus community and the LCMS.

"The Krefts' vision for this endowed chair is one we enthusiastically endorse," Dvorak said. "We expect it to drive enrollment in CUAA music programs, to substantially increase the number of new, dynamic music ensembles, and to foster increased recognition of the quality of our music offerings and performances."

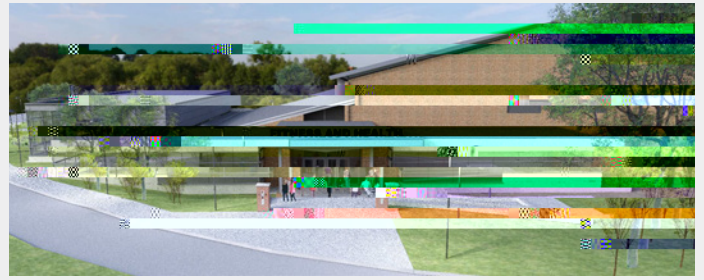
Boonenberg, who holds degrees from The University of Michigan (B.M., D.M.A.) and The Juilliard School (M.M.), has used his musical gifts to serve God and the Church in a wide variety of ways throughout his career. He plays organ, piano, guitar, and other instruments for worship services; conducts award-winning choirs and instrumental ensembles; and has taught general music and drama in Lutheran schools.



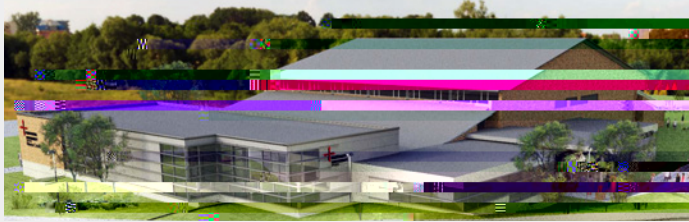
New fitness center to meet growing needs at CUAA

Since Concordia University Ann Arbor has grown significantly in student population, academic programs, and co-curriculars, our current fitness center space for the campus community has become inadequate and unable to meet our increasing needs. Therefore, we are excited to share the plans for a new Concordia fitness center, as well as a new health and wellness center.

The three-phase project, with a cost of about \$4 million, will include the construction of a new fitness center as phase one. To date, we have raised or received



commitments for \$2.5 million. The appropriate planning documents have been submitted to the City of Ann Arbor and we are awaiting approval as we continue to invite interested friends of Concordia to consider involvement in this important project. It is a needed space for our students and will certainly enhance their uncommon Concordia experience as they fulfill our mission of helping students to grow in mind, body, and spirit.



GIVE ONLINE AT www.concordia.edu/give



