Commencement and Pinning Ceremony

BSN Summer 2022

Sunday, August 28, 2022 — 4 p.m.
Portland, Oregon
Concordia Mission Statement

The mission of Concordia University, St. Paul, a university of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, is to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living, for dedicated service to God and humanity, and for the enlightened care of God’s creation, all within the context of the Christian Gospel.

Nursing Mission Statement

The nursing mission at Concordia University, St. Paul is to provide a transformative education for students to become exceptional nursing leaders who value lifelong learning, gain a spirit of inquiry, and are resilient within the dynamic healthcare environment. This is accomplished by integrating experiential learning that is informed by Christian values, the liberal arts and sciences, and nursing knowledge.

Graduates are prepared for informed living and dedication to holistic and evidence-based nursing practice that advocates for social justice, tolerates ambiguity, and improves health outcomes for diverse populations in the evolving global context of healthcare delivery.

Concordia University Board of Regents

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Concordia University Seal

The Concordia University seal was originally designed by Dr. Theodore Buenger for Concordia College in 1895. The Lamp of Learning symbolizes the light of the knowledge of God’s Word illuminating the minds of the students as well as the darkness of the world. The Crossed Quills symbolize the writings of the student and the writings of the great individuals throughout history from which the student learns. The Moccasin Flower symbolizes the State of Minnesota and the beauty of God’s creation. The Latin inscription means, “I wish to be proficient in academics, but even beyond that, I wish to know Jesus.” It is based on Ephesians 3:19: “And to know the love of Christ surpasses knowledge.”

Nursing Pin Seal

The Concordia St. Paul’s nursing pin displays the rose seal, designed by Martin Luther, which represents his theology and is the most enduring symbol of the Lutheran Reformation. The cross sits at the center of the seal, which stands inside a red heart, reminding us that we live by faith in Christ crucified. The heart is then placed in the middle of a white rose to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. Around the rose is a sky-blue field symbolizing the heavenly joy for which we hope, but which is not yet fully revealed. Lastly, the golden ring around the seal symbolizes heavenly blessedness which has no end.
Welcome

The theme for the 2021-22 academic year at Concordia University, St. Paul is “He Restores My Soul,” taken from Psalm 23. In all of the joys and challenges of this year, the psalm writer reminds us that we have a God who restores us in mind, body, and spirit. As a Christ-centered, Lutheran university, we hope and pray that you, our graduates, are both academically equipped for your present and future, and are also keenly aware of the unique gifts God has given you to serve in your home, workplace, community and beyond.

Today, you join nearly 30,000 other living alumni who hold degrees from Concordia, each one created for a unique purpose, but all woven together in the vibrant tapestry of our CSP community. We celebrate you as the newest alumni of Concordia St. Paul, the skills you have learned, the knowledge you have gained, the friendships and relationships you have built and the opportunities that now lay before you. As you go forth, continue to fulfill CSP’s mission by engaging in thoughtful and informed living, dedicated service to God and humanity, and enlightened care of creation, all within the context of the Christian gospel.

To parents, spouses, family members, and friends of our graduates: thank you. You have been tremendous supporters of your graduate, and your love, prayers, and encouragement have been invaluable contributions toward the success of your loved one.

Graduates, today we celebrate you and look forward to all that you will accomplish in the years ahead. Thank you for being a part of the dynamic and diverse community here at Concordia and sharing your life with us. I invite you to stay connected at CSP as you move forward, and pray that God would richly bless you as He continues to grow and shape you in the years to come.

Congratulations!

Rev. Dr. Brian Friedrich, BA ‘79
President
Notes on Academic Attire

The gowns, hoods, caps and insignia that are worn in today’s processional derive from centuries of academic tradition. Not only do they lend color and dignity to this festive occasion, they also serve to identify the wearers by indicating their field of specialty and by marking their level of achievement.

Gowns are usually black, although in some instances, the institution from which the wearer graduated prescribes a different color. A pointed sleeve indicates the wearer holds a bachelor’s degree, while a closed sleeve with a slit is the mark of one who has earned a master’s or educational specialist degree. Those who hold the doctoral degree are recognized by the velvet trimmings on the front facings of the gown and by the crossbars on the sleeve. Similarly, the length and shape of the hood indicates whether the wearer holds a master’s or doctoral degree, while the educational specialist recipients wear a stole.

The color of the stole or velvet trim on the hood identifies the field in which the degree was granted:

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<th>Field</th>
<th>Color</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>Drab</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Drab</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coaching &amp; Athletic Admin</td>
<td>Blue Green</td>
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<td>Communication Studies</td>
<td>Crimson</td>
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<td>Divinity</td>
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<td>Dramatic Arts</td>
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<td>Exercise Science and</td>
<td>Blue Green</td>
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<td>Orthotics &amp; Prosthetics</td>
<td>Forest Green</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
<td>Copper</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Fine Arts</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>Humane Letters</td>
<td>White</td>
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<td>Humanities</td>
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<td>Law</td>
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<td>Letters</td>
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<td>Library Science</td>
<td>Lemon</td>
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<td>Literature</td>
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<td>Music</td>
<td>Pink</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Apricot</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Blue Green</td>
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<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>Teal</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Citron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>Scarlet</td>
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Those who have earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree typically wear black mortarboard caps with black tassels, while the holder of an education specialist or doctoral degree wears a six-sided tam. Some academic institutions, however, prescribe their own colors for caps, tams and tassels.

You may note, some professors in the processional wear the bronze medallion bearing the seal of Concordia University. This indicates that the professor has attained tenure at this institution.

ACADEMIC HONORS

Undergraduate students who have earned 60 or more credits at Concordia University, St. Paul and have earned the following Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA):

- 3.90 or higher are designated as graduating summa cum laude (gold medallion)
- 3.75 to 3.89 are designated as graduating magna cum laude (silver medallion)
- 3.60 to 3.74 are designated as graduating cum laude (bronze medallion)

Undergraduate students who have earned 59 or fewer credits at Concordia University, St. Paul and have earned the following Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA):

- 3.90 or higher will be recognized as graduating with high distinction (medallion with gold and navy ribbon)
- 3.75 to 3.89 will be recognized as graduating with distinction (medallion with white and navy ribbon)
Commencement and Pinning Ceremony

for the
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE NURSING PROGRAM
in the
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Sunday, the twenty-eighth of August, two thousand twenty two
At four in the afternoon

Holiday Inn Portland, Columbia Riverfront
Portland, Oregon

THE ASSEMBLY COMES TO ORDER AT THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

INVOCATION

FACULTY ADDRESS

HISTORY OF THE NURSING PIN

CONFERRAL OF DEGREE

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

PRESENTATION OF NURSING PINS

RECOGNITION OF NIGHTINGALE LAMP AWARD
NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly to faithfully practice my profession of nursing. I will do all in my power to make and maintain the highest standards and practices of my profession. I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping in the practice of my calling. I will assist other healthcare providers in their work and will devote myself to the welfare of my patients, my family, and my community. I will constantly endeavor to increase my knowledge and skills in nursing and to use them wisely. I will zealously seek to nurse those who are ill wherever they may be and whenever they are in need. I will be active in assisting others in safeguarding and promoting the health and happiness of mankind.

ALUMNI WELCOME

PRAYER

CHORAL BENEDICTION

E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

This choral piece is Concordia’s traditional closing anthem for commencement; the composer was a Concordia, St. Paul music faculty member.

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Ruth Manz (1919-2008)
based on Rev. 1, 12, and 22
text ©1987 Morningstar. Used by permission.

GRADUATE SENDING

RECESSIONAL
Participants

Officiants................................. Rev. Dr. Brian Friedrich, BA ‘79, University President
Liturgist................................. Rev. Dr. Paul Linnemann, President of the LCMS Northwest District
Faculty Address....................... Dr. Kate Whalen, Associate Professor of Practice
Degree Presenters..................... Professor Tennille Gifford, ABSN Director & Associate Professor of Practice
                                  Dr. Hollie Caldwell, Dean, College of Nursing
Pin Presenter........................... Professor Heather Hurst, Clinical Lead Faculty
                                  Dr. Kate Whalen
Student Honor Marshals............. Ms. Colleen Lawler ‘22
                                  Ms. Janet Sananixay ‘22
                                  Vice President of Concordia University Student Nursing Association
Faculty Marshal....................... Professor Kim Nasser, Clinical Lead Faculty
Music........................................ Pacific Brass Quartet
                                  John Ohnstad, Bass Trombone
                                  Graham Middleton, Tenor Trombone
                                  Bruce Dunn, Trumpet
                                  Scott Winks, Trumpet
Christus Chorus Ensemble
                                  Dr. David Mennicke, conductor
**Faculty Address**

Kate Whalen is passionate about preparing the next generation of nurses to care for patients with excellence. She graduated with her Bachelor of Science Nursing from Grand Valley State University in MI, completed a ministerial training course at Rhema Bible Training Center, and earned her Master of Science and Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees from Regis University.

Kate has gained valuable experience throughout her career working at Blodgett Hospital in MI, the City of Faith Hospital in OK, a small hospital in Kotzebue, AK, Landspitalinn (University Hospital) in Reykjavik, Iceland, and a few hospitals in the Portland area.

After working as a clinical instructor for many years, she started full-time at Concordia University Portland in the fall of 2019 as an Associate Professor of Practice. The following spring, she transitioned to CSP where she enjoys working with excellent colleagues and aspiring student nurses.

Kate and her husband, Jeff, were missionaries to Iceland during their first time living there. Her claim to fame is receiving her Icelandic nursing license after a couple of years of working at the University Hospital. She enjoys continued travel to Iceland, working on her language skills, spending time with family and friends and making chocolate chip cookies.

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**Nightingale Lamp Award**

Zacharia Azar was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He earned his Associate degree in Fire Science in 2012 prior to pursuing a career in fire and EMS. Zach spent 6 years serving as both a volunteer and paid firefighter, along with volunteer work with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Habitat for Humanity, and the Special Olympics. Since adulthood, Zacharia’s passion to serve others, regardless of compensation or recognition, continues to grow.

At 28, Zacharia moved to Portland, OR with the goal of pursuing a nursing career. After completing an Associate degree in both general studies and sciences, Zacharia was accepted into the Concordia St. Paul’s, Accelerated Bachelor of Science Nursing program. His passion to help others, along with his ability to connect and bring people together helped him shine bright in this program.

While earning his nursing degree, Zacharia served as a cohort representative in the Student Advisory Board his first semester and president of the Concordia University Student Nurse Association for his third and fourth semesters. These opportunities allotted Zacharia to act as an advocate for the student body. He spent time with students one on one, helping them get through the rigors of the program while simultaneously implementing several changes to the program structure, making life a little easier for both his and future cohorts.

Zacharia is passionate about emergency medicine and is pursuing a career at an emergency department. However, his love to serve others makes him adaptable to any form of nursing and will be grateful to help wherever he can. His love for others, his joy to serve, and his ability to lead is what earned him this award.
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<td>Molly Faubion</td>
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<td>Scappoose, OR</td>
<td>Mary Ngure</td>
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<td>Vladislava Capsizu</td>
<td>Yelm, WA</td>
<td>Andrew Hoffman</td>
<td>Issaquah, WA</td>
<td>Zackarie O’Krakel</td>
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<td>Alyssa Chen</td>
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<td>Christina Hyde</td>
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<td>Haley Conroy</td>
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<td>Alisha Jeoung</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>Nika Ella Perez</td>
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Greetings from the Concordia University System

Dear Graduates,

On behalf the Concordia University System, I extend to you warm and hearty congratulations. You have experienced a remarkable faculty that has shared its expertise and prepared you for a promising future. More than simply downloading facts and forming career skills, your teachers have conveyed wisdom concerning the good and noble meaning of life. This wisdom flows from the Concordia confession of Jesus Christ as God’s Incarnate Son and Savior of the world through His life, death, and resurrection. In Him, you have beheld God’s expansive love for you. In Him, your life becomes remarkably significant and worthwhile, however great the challenges become.

So I wish you every success in your chosen calling, but most of all I pray that all your knowledge and achievements will be ordered and draw meaning from the wisdom that shines forth from God’s love in Jesus Christ.

May the adventure of such wisdom and faith guide and brighten each day of your life.

Yours in Christ,

Dean O. Wenthe
President, Concordia University System

Greetings from the Alumni Advisory Council

Dear Class of 2022,

Today you graduate from Concordia University, St. Paul, Portland. It is the closing of a memorable journey of studying, meeting new and lifelong friends and learning more about yourself.

This is also a day of beginnings as you transition into a lifelong relationship with the university. Congratulations and welcome to your CSP Alumni Association. You are in the company of more than 28,000 CSP alumni around the world who individually and collectively uphold the mission, vision and promise of CSP. The Alumni Association promises to continue to provide resources to support all your future endeavors. We pray God’s continued blessings wherever life may take you, this is your university for life.

Please stay in touch with the CSP community and keep us informed of your contact information and any exciting events in your life (alumni@csp.edu). Visit our Alumni & Friends website, one.csp.edu/welcome, for news, events and ways to be involved.

Congratulations!