

# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS

WINTER 2008

OUR MISSION IS TO DEVELOP CHRISTIAN LEADERS

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Concordia University Texas is a private, coeducational institution of liberal arts and sciences offering undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Concordia offers an Accelerated Degree Program for part-time students and adult returning students. Concordia University Texas is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

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WINTER 2008

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### On the Cover:

Concordia University Texas has a rich history. Every picture on the cover is of Concordia University Texas or the Austin area. Some of these pictures date back to the 1920's.



## Dear friends of Concordia,

As you're undoubtedly aware, construction on Concordia's new campus started in September 2007. We had just 12 months to complete the move before classes began in September 2008. The reason for the relocation? The University had outgrown its 23-acre site along Interstate 35 in Central Austin.

At the dedication of the new campus during a Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration in October, Rev. Dr. David Kluth, Vice President of University Services, said: "Few colleges in the U.S. have ever done what we've done in the last 12 months. When you look at the history of this institution, God has been a marvelous presence."

Concordia University Texas certainly strives to be its own marvelous presence. At our new home, Concordia students, faculty and staff benefit from more space for learning and growing. Meanwhile, we are treated to rolling hills and spectacular views.

Of the 389 acres on the new campus, 250 are dedicated to what is known as the Concordia Preserve; features include wetlands, caves, dense tree cover and a habitat for the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler. Now, Concordia University Texas is not only a steward of great education but a steward of some wonderful God-given resources.

Concordia's unique relocation and expansion were merely the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the University. Stay tuned as we keep you updated on God's continued blessings to Concordia University Texas.

Yours in Christ,



Thomas E. Cedel, Ph.D.  
President



# With God's Help CONCORDIA Accomplishes Phenomenal Feat

Concordia University Texas took a visionary—and giant—step in May 2005 when the Board of Regents decided to relocate the main campus of Concordia University Texas from Central Austin to Northwest Austin.

As Jesus said in Matthew 17:20: "I tell you with certainty, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

Indeed, nothing proved impossible for Concordia in the 12-month move of its own "mountain"—the main campus in downtown Austin.

The move required plenty of planning, prayer and faith. There was construction,

relocating faculty and staff and student move-in to the new residence halls. Concordia welcomed new students with a first ever Induction Ceremony. Each new student received a medallion with the official university seal on one side and mission statement on the other. There was first day of classes, opening service, continued construction and dedication all within the first two months. A phenomenal feat that could not be done without God's help.

The history of Concordia in Austin dates back more than eight decades. The former 23-acre campus in Central Austin had been home to Concordia since 1926; back then, it was known as Lutheran Concordia College of Texas. Eighty-two years later, on Oct. 26, 2008, the new 389-acre campus was dedicated

during a service at the new University gym attended by thousands of people.

Among those who spoke during the service were Rev. Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; Ken Hennings, President of the Texas District LCMS; Dr. Thomas E. Cedel, University President;

**nothing proved impossible for Concordia in the 12-month move of our own "mountain"—the main campus in Austin.**



# With God's Help CONCORDIA Accomplishes Phenomenal Feat



Rev. Dr. David Kluth, Vice President of University Services; Keith Weiser, Chairman of the University Board of Regents; Dr. Bruce Pepper, Campus Chaplain; University Alumnus Don Graf; and Stephen Kreher, President of the University's Student Body.

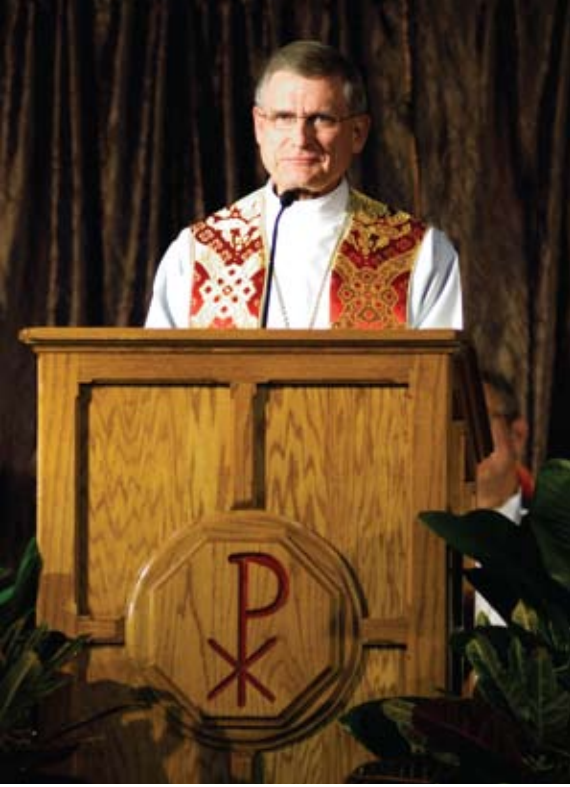
Kreher is among the 2,269 students enrolled during the Fall of 2008—a record for the University. It's the first time enrollment has exceeded 2,000. That headcount is a far cry from Oct. 26, 1926, when the school was founded with just 26 students at the original site along Interstate 35.

At the new campus, Concordia students,

faculty, staff and visitors are treated to rolling hills and spectacular views along Ranch Road 620 North in Northwest Austin. "With the relocation, Concordia is now able to serve more students and continue to develop Christian leaders," President Cedel said.

Six existing buildings that constituted the former campus of Schlumberger Ltd., an oil field and information services company, were renovated into classrooms, offices, a cafeteria and a library. Concordia built an athletic field house and gym, athletic fields, student housing and additional parking. In all, the project cost \$110 million. Faculty, staff and administrators relocated to the





a habitat for the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler. Concordia is one of only two universities in the country to hold a 10(a) Fish and Wildlife permit, a key element of the federal Endangered Species Act.

“Concordia embarked on a unique relocation and expansion process within higher education,” President Cedel said. “Like many other campuses, Concordia was in need of expansion, but rather than try to create more space at our current confined location, we elected to move our entire campus to the relative openness of the new site. This is the beginning of an exciting new chapter in Concordia’s history.”

That new chapter includes a new academic program—a bachelor’s degree program in nursing. Pending approval by the Texas Board of Nursing, Concordia anticipates admitting students to the program in the Fall of 2010.

But that’s only one aspect of what God has in store for Concordia. Our 30-year plan for the new campus includes many new buildings, a continuously expanding student body and countless opportunities to develop Christian leaders.

Dr. Kluth said: “The plan is designed to make the most effective and efficient use of the land at the new location, while preserving its inherent beauty and environmental integrity.”

**“With the relocation, Concordia is now able to serve more students and continue to develop Christian leaders,”**

new campus by July 2008, two months ahead of the start of Fall 2008 classes. Of the 389 acres on the campus, 250 are now dedicated to what’s known as the Concordia Preserve, which features wetlands, caves, dense tree cover and



TEXAS



Pictured in photo from left to right: Tiffany Harris, AACOG, Community Relations; Cindy Reye, RM Crowe, Building Manager; Gloria Arriaga, AACOG, Executive Director; Patti Mitschke, Concordia University Texas, San Antonio Center Director; US Marine Corps Recruiting Station San Antonio Color Guard.

## CTX San Antonio Remembers

The events of September 11, 2001 are still fresh in our minds. As we approached the 7th anniversary of those tragic events, several San Antonio area businesses came together to remember and honor our fellow human beings, the fallen heroes, and the families and communities that still suffer from the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Flight 93. A special remembrance event was held on the morning of Thursday, September 11, 2008. The event included the singing of the national anthem by Shelia Kidd, Off-site Coordinator for Concordia University Texas, and the playing of Taps by Sergeant Charles Lopez of the St. Mary's University Police Department, formerly of the United States Marine Corps, Drum and Bugle Corps. It was a time to recognize the families, loved ones and friends who mourn or endure the hardship of prolonged separation from those who continue to fight the global war on terror.



### Ceremony sponsors included:

Alamo Area Council of Governments  
Concordia University Texas  
Hispanic Internal Revenue Employees  
Kathy's Kitchen  
RM Crowe Management



# Kinship Care:

## African American Adolescents' Perceptions



by: **Dr. Ann Schwartz**  
Associate Professor of Sociology

"Nobody knows me no more," lamented a 13 year-old boy who has spent most of his young life living with strangers in a traditional foster care setting. How would his sense of anonymity be different if his placement was with relatives? Dr. Ann Schwartz, Associate Professor of Sociology, has studied kinship foster care, an arrangement where children who are in the legal custody of the child welfare system are placed with relatives or people with whom they are emotionally close. The practice of kinship care has long been an informal means of caring for children in the African American community. African American children are disproportionately represented in the foster care system, assessing the benefits of kinship care for these children is a significant issue. Through interviews with African American early adolescents living in kinship and non-kinship foster family placements, Dr. Schwartz has explored the effects of placement type on different measures of child well-being, including identity outcomes. She has also examined in depth the nature of the relational context in the kinship care setting.

This past August, Dr. Schwartz presented on her research findings at a summer institute on "Race and Kinship Care" at The University of Pittsburgh. Her presentation was entitled "Kinship Care: African American Adolescents' Perceptions." The institute was one of four one-day institutes held in July and August of 2008 to examine racial and ethnic disparities in different social problem areas. These institutes, organized and hosted by the Center on Race and Social Problems and

funded by the Pittsburgh Foundation, focused on explanations and outcomes as well as responses through highlighting new policies and programs. Attendees at the institutes came from diverse backgrounds in research, education, community advocacy, policy making and practice.

The Center on Race and Social Problems was established in 2002 and is housed in the School of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh. The center's mission is "to conduct applied social science research on race, color, and ethnicity and their influence on the quality of life for all Americans."





# My Trip Down Under

When Harris Middle School opened two years ago in Sydney, Australia, Dr. Mike Heithaus of Florida International University and National Geographic's Crittercam came to give a presentation. I met Dr. Heithaus and within about ten minutes, we were talking about me writing lesson plans to accompany his research in Australia. Dr. Heithaus applied for a continuation of funding of his research through the National Science Foundation (NSF). My work would contribute to the public outreach conditions of the grant. This past March I received word that it had been approved, and I was going "down under."

I flew out of Austin on July 19th. It was about 19 hours of flying time to Sydney. I stayed in Sydney for a few days of vacation before heading across the continent to Shark Bay. I took a flight to Perth, and from there it was a ten hour bus ride up to Shark Bay. Shark Bay is a World Heritage Site. This status, combined with its remote location, has left it relatively untouched my man. It is one of the world's largest seagrass communities. It is considered to be pristine, a model ecosystem. By studying species interactions in Shark Bay, researchers can apply their findings to improve conditions in threatened marine ecosystems elsewhere. My host was Derek Burkholder, a PhD candidate working under Dr. Heithaus. Over the next two weeks, Derek exposed me to a wide array of activities. This included recording data on GPS transects across the bay, processing seagrass for nutrient analysis, and catching animals for tagging and data collection.



While out on the boat, I saw bow-riding dolphins, watched an entire herd of dugongs, saw graceful manta rays, and many a beautiful sunset. Everyday was filled with the vibrant colors of Shark Bay's geology – crystal clear, blue-green water, a white sandy beach, and the deep red, iron rich soil of the outback just yards behind. All of this, however, did not compare to the excitement and awe I felt at

catching a shark and turtle for the first time. Shark fishing lines consisted of buoys attached to an anchor, a hook with bait, and a long line so the shark could continue to swim and breathe. While I was there, we caught two tiger sharks. Once a shark is caught, he is held alongside the boat which moves forward to allow water to oxygenate the gills. He is tagged, measurements are made, and tissue and blood samples are taken. As this goes on, someone is holding onto the head and watching out for the teeth! Throughout the time I was there, Derek was catching turtles. On my last day on the boat, he told me it was my turn. I was a little unsure about jumping off a boat into winter ocean waters to grab onto an animal that bites. When the time came, however, I just did it without even thinking. The



**"The next thing I knew, I was swimming over to the boat with a turtle in my hands! What an experience!"**

next thing I knew, I was swimming over to the boat with a turtle in my hands! What an experience!

I returned from Australia on August 11th. Now that I am back in the classroom, I am eager to start writing my lessons and sharing them with my students. I am going to teach marine biology and the ecology of Shark Bay through my AIM class once a week. As activities are developed, I will send them to Dr. Heithaus, and they will be made available for all teachers and the general public.

**In order to learn more about the Shark Bay Ecosystem Research Project (SBERP),**

visit the following website:

<http://www.fiu.edu/~heithaus/SBERP/pages/homeframeset.htm>

# A Week at Oxford University

by: Dr. Joel Heck  
Professor of Religion

Thanks to the support of Deans Mike Moyer and Ken Schmidt, Vice President Don Adam, and to an invitation to teach, I was able to attend what I call the ultimate in C. S. Lewis conferencing this past July. While those were budgeted funds that they allocated to my trip, Deans and Vice Presidents have to believe in what faculty are doing in order to provide support for conference attendance and faculty development. I tip my hat to them.

Using two of C. S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia—The Horse and His Boy and Prince Caspian—I had the privilege of teaching a seminar entitled "The Education of Cor and Corin: How Lewis' Medieval Mindset Colored his View of Learning, His Sense of Self, and Meaning in Life." I taught from July 29 to 31. It all happened in Oxford, England, at Oxford University where Lewis taught from 1925 to 1954.



Lewis was a medievalist, which sounds deadly, until one learns that the Chronicles of Narnia are thoroughly medieval with medieval forms of: transportation (horses, ships, walking), medieval language ("hastilude," "gentillesse," "estres," "pajock," and "dromonds" are among the medieval words of Narnia), medieval clothing ("silk and cloth of gold ... snowy linen glancing through slashed sleeves ... silver mail shirts and jeweled sword hilts ... gilt helmets and feathered bonnets" are descriptions that appear in Prince Caspian alone), medieval weaponry (crossbows, catapults, bows and arrows), medieval polity (kings, queens, and princes), and medieval institutions (castles, sailing ships, no mechanized vehicles). I could add a lot more about geography, cartography, cosmology, characters, and customs.

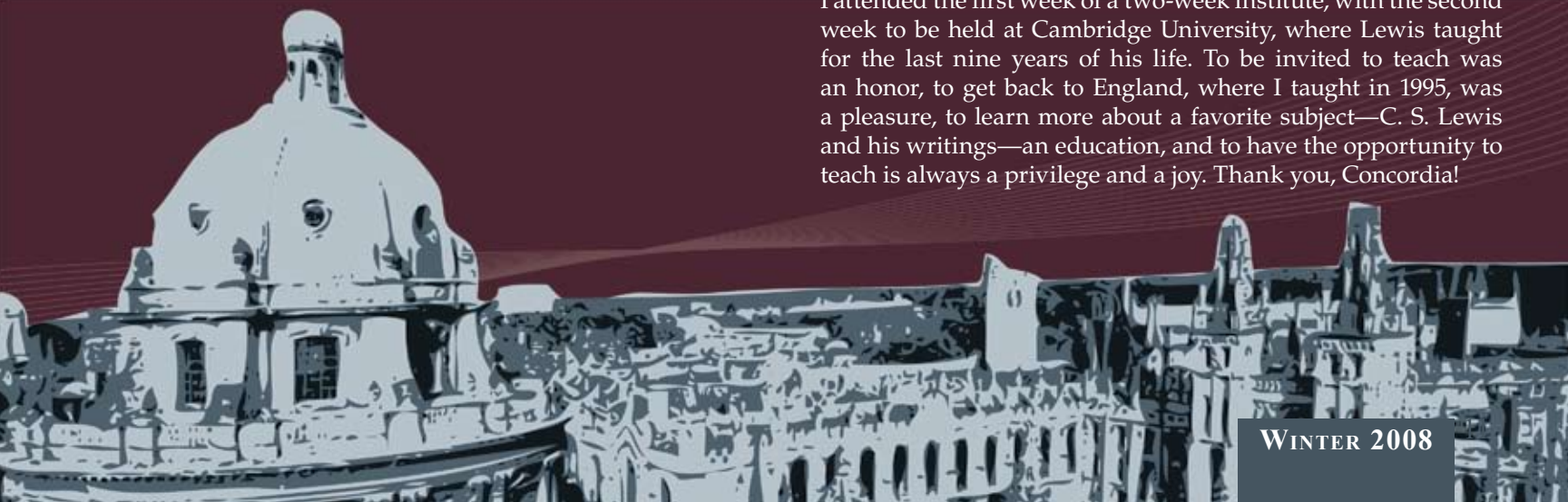
Lewis believed that the medieval worldview, while inaccurate in many ways, had some things right: God rather than man at the center, imaginative beauty, the universe as an ordered reflection

of God, and an objective standard of right and wrong. Those standards are the reason why the Chronicles of Narnia develop moral virtues in all who read them, both children and adults. In our seminar, we studied how Prince Caspian and Cor learned, what attitude they brought to their learning, who their teachers were, what their curriculum was (mainly the liberal arts), how to keep pride in check, how to respect nature, what the false ideas of the current age are (egalitarianism, Marxism, atheism, etc.), the fruits of the Spirit, and how they learned right and wrong, especially through the person of Aslan, the Christ-figure of Narnia.

In the midst of the conference, sponsored by the C. S. Lewis Foundation, I taught my seminar. Surrounding that teaching were plenary sessions with Diana Glycer, Professor of English Literature at Azusa Pacific University; Francis Collins, former head of the Human Genome Project; Richard Mouw, President of Fuller Theological Seminary; Richard Swinburne, Oxford University Professor of Philosophy; and Dana Goia, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. We saw dramatic performances from Tony Lawton, Andrew Harrison, and Michael Ward, heard music sung by mezzo-soprano Kate Butler, piano virtuosity by Paul Barnes, and poetry from Dana Goia and others.

The weather was beautiful and the city glorious. The architecture of the colleges of Oxford University always impresses me, from the majestic Tom Tower at Christ Church (whose dining hall is the site of filming parts of the Harry Potter movies) to the Martyr's Memorial, and from the stately beauty of Magdalen College to the Ashmolean Museum. Sessions were held at Keble College, St. Aldate's Church, the University Church (St. Mary), and my sessions were taught at Wycliffe Hall, one of the 35 colleges of Oxford University.

I attended the first week of a two-week institute, with the second week to be held at Cambridge University, where Lewis taught for the last nine years of his life. To be invited to teach was an honor, to get back to England, where I taught in 1995, was a pleasure, to learn more about a favorite subject—C. S. Lewis and his writings—an education, and to have the opportunity to teach is always a privilege and a joy. Thank you, Concordia!



# Oxford Round Table

## The Politics of Conflict & Peace

Review

The Oxford Round Table discussions are held every year in the city of Oxford, England and take place on the campuses of Oxford University in cooperation with university officials. The sponsors of the Round Table events include faculty, deans, and graduates of Oxford University who spend a year identifying and grouping the solicited presentation proposals from social workers, church workers, political activists, and academicians from around the world. This year, along with thirty-nine others, I participated in the Round Table session titled "The Politics of Conflict and Peace." Our session was chaired by Dr. Brian Mountford, Canon and Vicar of St. Mary's, The University Church of Oxford University. In an hour-and-a-half blocks, participants were given fifteen minutes to describe an event, an individual, a program, or literary text related to the topic, then respond to questions from other participants for another fifteen minutes. The central concern of all presentations and questions was how the church helps, hurts, or neglects people and nations living in spiritual conflict. The session took place in the Oxford Union, a nineteenth century debating hall alive with the spirits of such past and present leaders as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, missionary Mother Teresa, Nobel peace prize recipients David

Trimble and John Hume, revolutionist Malcolm X, Senator Robert Kennedy, nineteenth century poet W.B. Yeats, Ireland's first female president Mary Robinson, and three American presidents: Nixon, Reagan and Carter. The following overview offers some insight into the breadth of topics and seriousness of concerns raised at this gathering.

This year, along with thirty-nine others, I participated in the Round Table session titled "The Politics of Conflict and Peace."

An Australian social worker, Dr. Christina Landman (University of South Africa, South Africa), described her two year efforts in setting up safe houses and counseling clinics in rural villages of northern South Africa for victims of severe wife and child abuse, rape and incest.

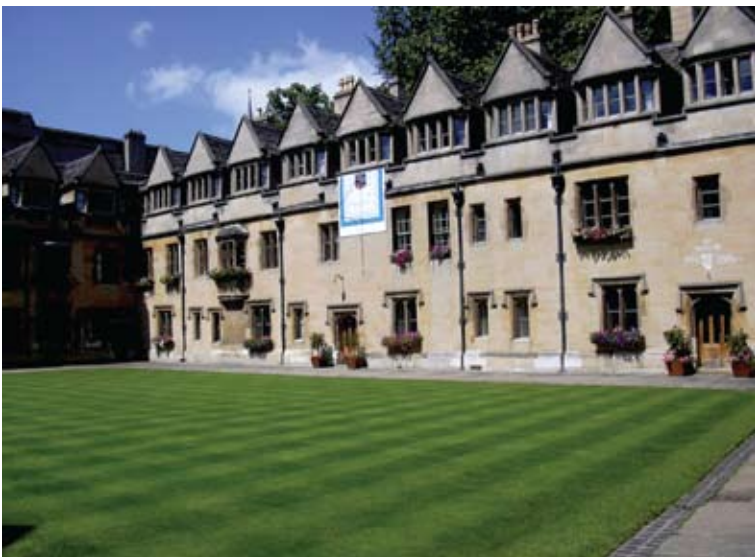
Her conversations with husbands, wives and children revealed the devastating effects of unemployment, idleness, isolation, poverty and depression on these communities. Of further difficulty, she learned, village shamans instruct women to accept the beatings and torture from their husbands since God has made the man ruler over his wife, and if he beats her it is God's will that he do so and the wife must not protest. A similar attitude is projected on rape and incest victims. Operating with much autonomy from village to village, shamans (trained and untrained ) are seen as the voice of law in these settings. Dr. Landman said her greatest challenge in serving the women and



children has been persuading the village religious leaders to adopt a greater reverence for the sanctity of women's and children's lives.

Two sociology professors from the University of Tokyo explain their research efforts to investigate the motivation behind the sarin gas bombings in five train stations of the Tokyo Metro in 1995. A dozen people were killed in the attacks; hundreds injured. Dr. Shin'ya Yatsutomi and Dr. Masanori Matsuda conducted interviews over several years with the young Japanese men responsible for the attacks. Their paper focused on their findings. Most memorable is their observation that all five men were graduates of undergraduate and graduate programs in Japanese universities in physics, applied physics or artificial intelligence. In addition, all three of the universities the men had attended had removed Humanities course requirements from their science degrees some years before these men enrolled. (The Humanities include the areas of psychology, sociology, history, literature, the fine arts, languages, and in some settings, religion.) Professors Yatsutomi and Matsuda emphasized that none of the attackers had courses of study that increased their ability to learn empathy for others, to imagine the consequences of their own actions, or to examine what constitutes ethical and unethical behavior. Essentially, their university educations had done nothing to help them develop a moral code of responsibility to self and others. Consequently, these men felt no such responsibility, not even to their own countrymen and women. As a result of their study, these professors have appeared before government officials to insist that Humanities courses be reintroduced into every undergraduate and graduate degree plan in Japanese universities.

Professor Ava Pickard, Director of Foster Care, University of Texas at Arlington, studied the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in order to explore what circumstances would move a publicly declared pacifist at the time of World War II to join the resistance and participate in a plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler. Professor Pickard examined Bonhoeffer's text ethics, and in particular, his interest in the ethical basis for moving a committed pacifist and moralist to such extreme actions as political assassination. That a



moral and responsible person could be driven to such behaviors was a primary concern of his. Pickard drew parallels between Bonhoeffer's conversion to violence and the conversion of many women and children to violent behavior after enduring years of abuse from family members. Through this analogy, Professor Pickard encourages social workers, psychologists and therapists to adopt new strategies for ministering to the abused, chiefly, to work more actively with the legal system in demanding counseling for abusers.

**Though the Oxford Round Table session was not a traditional "academic" gathering, it displayed a range of knowledge and concern equal to purely scholarly conferences.**

My own presentation concerned the early short fiction of Willa Cather (1873-1947), one of this country's most unique American writers. I proposed that the protagonists in Cather's early fiction of the American Midwest display a "spiritual primitivism", which allows them to recognize the presence of God in ways rarely discussed in the security of church pews. Cather's concern for the dehumanizing effects of modern advancements on the human soul inspired in her a longing for a world that was more aware of the raw forces of the divine supernatural; for a world "haunted by a divinity, [by] forces on earth and in heaven greater and more mysterious than man could interpret" (Bernice Slote on Cather in *The Kingdom of Art*). Her long-suffering Midwest pioneers negotiated daily with those supernatural forces and principalities of God in order to survive in that environment. It seems that in Cather's near primeval, uncivilized setting, God appears to the isolated settler not in scriptures and sermons, but in tornados, droughts, blizzards, and wildfires – truly powers of the Ancient of Days. It seems also that the degree of spiritual peace those protagonists achieved personally directly affected the degree of peace they were able to contribute to their surrounding communities.

Though the Oxford Round Table session was not a traditional "academic" gathering, it displayed a range of knowledge and concern equal to purely scholarly conferences. That all participants grounded their presentations in their faith perspectives gave a depth and significance to their talks not often heard at traditional scholarly events.

## Meet a CTX Student



Caitlin, a freshman, considered Concordia University Texas after she went to a National Youth Gathering in 2007. “I have not been in a circle of friends that had the same moral and religious beliefs that I have,” said Caitlin who attended public high school. “One day, as my mother and I were discussing my going to college, she asked me where I would really like to go to school if money was no object. I told her that I would love to go to Concordia.”

Through gifts to the Annual Fund, Caitlin is receiving a collegiate scholarship from Concordia University Texas. “My dream of going to Concordia is a reality,” said Caitlin. The Annual Fund supports scholarships, computer labs, library resources, residence halls and more. Over 75 percent of Concordia’s students receive financial aid. Generous donations to the Annual Fund support students like Caitlin.

Planning to major in Communications, Caitlin is excited about her future. “However, I intend to always be open to God and the direction He has in store for me,” Caitlin said.

## Job Satisfaction in Religious Education

Dr. Jim McConnell, former Associate Professor of Education and Director of the DCE program at Concordia University Texas, now Dean of Education, published the results of his dissertation with VDM Publishing. The book, “Job Satisfaction in Religious Education—A Look at Job Satisfaction and Educational Needs of Directors of Christian Education in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod” documents his 2005 research with DCEs serving in congregations throughout the Synod. In his book, *Directors of Christian Education, in the LCMS, were surveyed to determine if they were satisfied with their jobs. They were provided an opportunity to*

*evaluate their ministry skills and share what additional competencies might be added to their education to enhance job satisfaction. Also, they were asked to provide information regarding their likelihood to leave ministry in the next three years. This information is the first extensive research of this type with DCE ministry. A similar study was conducted by our Synod in 2000 for Lutheran teachers.*

*“The results were somewhat surprising, yet very encouraging for DCE ministry,” commented McConnell. “The majority of DCEs are generally satisfied with their jobs, and no specific variables showed up that had significant impact on their satisfaction or likelihood to leave ministry,” he said. While the study concluded that there is no way to guarantee the retention of these workers, evaluating the educational curriculum and integrating needed competency skills and training can enhance the profession and ministry longevity. At the same time, improving relationships in the parish and taking preventative actions regarding factors that create dissatisfaction can help both the Director of Christian Education and the congregation. Dr. McConnell’s book*



# Find all the up-to-date news and events going on at CTX by visiting

[www.concordia.edu](http://www.concordia.edu)



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View the Donor section of the Website or enter  
[www.concordia.edu/giving](http://www.concordia.edu/giving)  
and find out how you can help Concordia  
Develop Christian Leaders.

## 2nd Annual Service-Learning Week

### Concordia Community Focuses on Meeting Basic Needs During 2nd Successful Service-Learning Week

In John Chapter 4, Christ speaks these life-giving words to a Samaritan woman that he meets at a well: "But those who drink the water that I will give them will never become thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give them will become in them a spring that gushes up to eternal life." In the Gospel of Matthew, we also hear, "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink—a call to meet the needs of the least of these among us." In response to such passages and the presence of Christ in our lives, how do we give food and water in tangible ways to those in need? How do we spread the Good News about the Bread of Life and Living Water that will meet their deepest spiritual longings? How do we share the love of Christ through addressing basic needs?

The Concordia community explored these questions through the events of the second annual Service-Learning Week, held from November 1st through 8th. The week's theme, "Hunger and Thirst No More" was highlighted through lectures, chapel messages, films, discussions and service opportunities.

On Monday, November 3rd, the Rev. Dr. David Stein gave the Robert C. Greene Endowed Lecture in Service-Learning. As a member of the speaker's

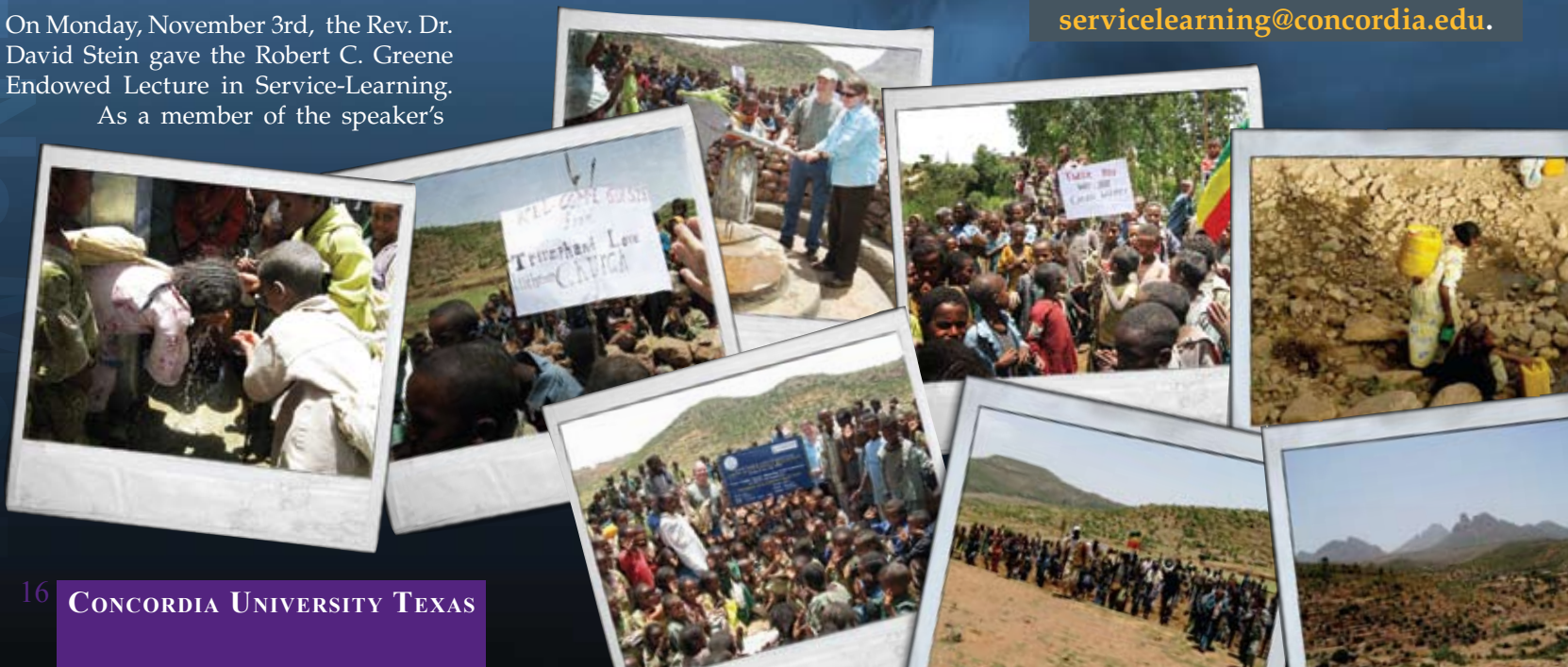
**How do we give food and water in tangible ways to those in need and spread the Good News about the Bread of Life and Living Water?**

bureau of Food for the Poor, the largest international relief organization in the U.S., Dr. Stein has worked to promote assistance for those living in abject poverty. Information about Food for the Poor's ministry in 16 countries across the Caribbean and Latin America was available at a Service Fair on campus. Other fair participants included Can-Do Missions, Student Laborers for Christ (NAILS), Acts 1:8 Mission, Stand Down for Homeless Veterans, Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic, and the Director of Christian Education Club, whose members sold fair trade items.

A special emphasis of Service-Learning Week was Concordia's involvement with the Water to Thrive Campaign. The founder of Water to Thrive, Dick Moeller, shared a message on "Quenching Thirst" with students at 9:08, the Thursday night chapel service. Following the service, students gathered to watch the movie, "How Far Would You Go?".

Throughout the week, student leaders with the Service-Learning Program led service opportunities in the community with Texas Baptist Children's Home, Summit Assisted Living, Texas State School, Emma Long Park, and Mobile Loaves and Fishes. On-campus service projects, such as assembling health kits for Lutheran World Relief, were also made available.

For more information about Service-Learning at Concordia, check out the **Service-Learning web page** under Academics on [www.concordia.edu](http://www.concordia.edu) or contact [servicelearning@concordia.edu](mailto:servicelearning@concordia.edu).







H<sub>2</sub>O  
water<sup>2</sup> thrive

# Learning about the Ethiopian Water Crisis Inspires Student Service

On the new campus of Concordia University Texas, water is plentiful. In the serene environment, a small stream winds through campus, visible from the suspension bridge that supports students heading to classes. The vending machines and bookstore are stocked with an overwhelming number of choices of bottled water, let alone soda, juice and other beverages. Even Starbucks is available in the new cafeteria!

In contrast to this scene, imagine living in rural Ethiopia where only one in three individuals have access to clean water, and women and children walk for hours over difficult terrain to collect water in large jerry cans. Often the water that they tote is contaminated so that every week, an estimated 42,000 Ethiopians die from unsafe drinking water and sanitary conditions.

At a special evening during this year's Service-Learning Week, Concordia students caught a glimpse of the exhausting and treacherous journey experienced day in and day out for millions in Ethiopia. On Wednesday,



November 5th, representatives from Water to Thrive, a faith-based service organization committed to raising funds for wells in Ethiopia, asked student volunteers to hold jerry cans filled with water for as long as possible. As the students began to falter, other students came to their aid. It was apparent from this activity that the walk for water in Ethiopia is a grueling task.

To further increase awareness about the water crisis, Norma Van Horn, a speaker from A Glimmer of Hope—the organization who will build the wells funded by Water to Thrive—discussed how the daily trek for water prevents women from caring for their young children and keeps older children out of school. In many ways, the productivity and economic development of communities is upset by the lack of access to safe water.

In response to the activities of Water to Thrive Night, students gave more

financial support for the campaign and offered ideas for future fundraising events. Concordia Service-Learning has been involved with the Water to Thrive campaign since the Fall 2008 semester began. Service-Learning Student Leaders have sold water, wristbands, t-shirts, coffee and accepted donations to move toward the goal of funding Concordia's first well. Bags of Ethiopian coffee (fair trade and organic) are also available for sale in the Concordia Bookstore.

Concordia's fundraising efforts will support a well that will benefit 1,200 Ethiopian students who attend the Sudi School. Concordia Service-Learning will continue to present opportunities for students, faculty and staff to support the Water to Thrive Campaign through March 2009.



# Record Number of CTX Students Race for the Cure

Thousands of people everyday are affected by breast cancer. The Susan G. Komen Foundation raises awareness about breast cancer and is a leading contributor to funding and furthering scientific research to bring an end to this disease. A Concordia record of 38 Tornados ran alongside over 20,000 others in Austin and the surrounding areas, all joined together to raise money and awareness to help fight against this destructive disease in the 2008 Race for the Cure. Each of us fought for different reasons. Some ran, walked or jogged for their mothers, others for aunts or grandmothers and friends. Still others may have participated simply to help fight against a leading form of cancer. Although we chose to participate for different reasons, we joined together for one cause; to raise awareness and support research for breast cancer.

Concordia's team went from six members in 2007 to 41 this year! Thirty-eight participated in the run, but all contributed financially to this great cause. Together, we raised \$611. It was a miracle that so many college students, faculty and staff, registered, and furthermore, woke up at 5:30 a.m. to run or walk 5K to raise over \$600. Praise be to God that He let this issue weigh heavily on so many people's hearts who chose to contribute financially and physically!

**Audrey Beyer '09**  
Service-Learning Leader



# TORNADO RADIO

<http://web.me.com/concordiatexas>



## STUDENT-DRIVEN RADIO

The Concordia family is asked to support the Communication Club by tuning into their new internet radio station called: The Tornado.

Club President Derek Finch and Radio Co-Managers Bud Cahill and Mike Lowther have worked hard to create an eclectic mix of music to please all tastes. The Tornado also features talk shows on sports and entertainment. Philip Hohle is the faculty sponsor. He notes that the programming is student driven, created as a way for students to practice the art of communication. Listener feedback is invited in order to help encourage the refinement of these student programs.

Tune in by visiting the Club's web portal at <<http://web.me.com/concordiatexas>



# What Lies Beneath?



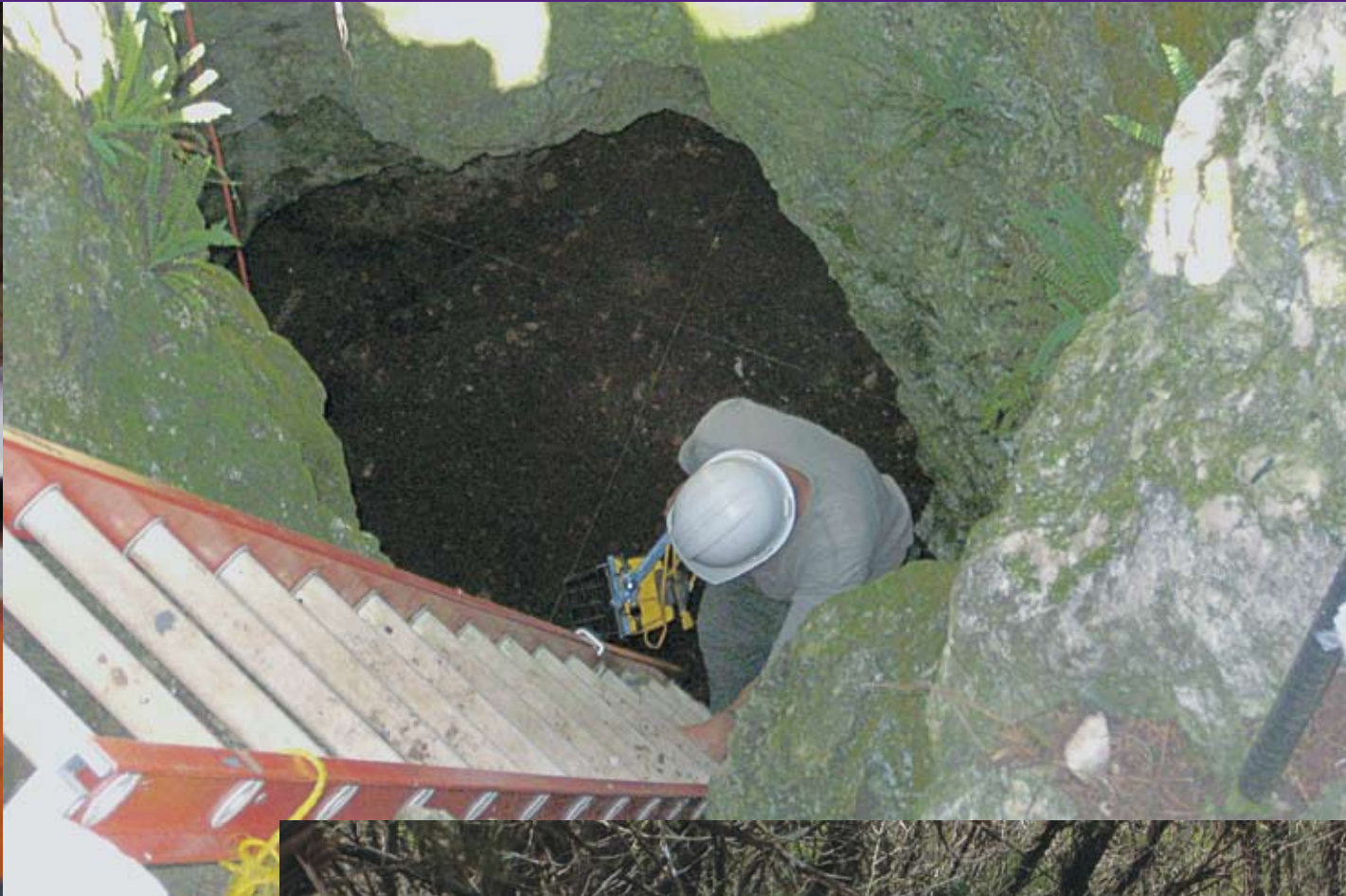
A few years ago Concordia University Texas acquired the Friesenhahn Cave, a place some paleontologists have called "one of the most important paleontological sites in the United States." (Veni, 1988). Besides the La Brea Tar Pits in California, it is believed that no site in the United States has yielded a greater variety of significant Pleistocene vertebrate fossils. From excavations conducted by the University of Texas at Austin nearly 50 years ago, the Friesenhahn Cave has yielded over 4,000 isolated teeth and bones of more than

30 genera of ice age mammals, reptiles and birds. Especially noteworthy from the Friesenhahn Cave is the holotype specimen of *Geochelone wilsoni*, a new species of turtle which is represented by only a very few specimens worldwide (Milstead, 1956).

Also noteworthy are well-preserved specimens of a scimitar cat *Homotherium serum* and a long nose peccary *Mylohyus nasutus* that were excavated from this site in the 1950's. These are on display at the University of

Texas Memorial Museum and bulletins pertaining to their excavation are available from the museum (Lundelius, 1960) (Evans and Meade, 1961). Surprisingly, until Concordia acquired it, the cave had been virtually untouched for decades and there are many rich finds yet to be discovered.

For the past 12 years, Dr. Laurence Meissner and students from the Science Department at Concordia University Texas have been mapping and securing the Friesenhahn Cave, preparing it for



**Friesenhahn Cave, a place some paleontologists have called “one of the most important paleontological sites in the United States.”**

another major excavation. In removing and sifting sediments that had been disturbed by previous excavations, Concordia has already found numerous teeth and bones of mammoth, sabre tooth cat, bear, sloth and peccary. There is evidence that there may be more unexplored areas of the cave, that, if excavated, will undoubtedly yield many more relicts from our past. Only the future, with hardwork and dedication, will tell what lies beneath.





# Go Green CTX

Help us at Concordia University Texas  
keep our city and state beautiful.

Please recycle this magazine  
when you are finished.



# CTX 2009 Athletic Calendar

## Mens Basketball

1/5/2009	University of Mary Hardin Baylor	7:30 pm
1/8/2009	@ Mississippi College	7:30 pm
1/10/2009	@ Louisiana College	3:00 pm
1/15/2009	@ Howard Payne University	7:30 pm
1/17/2009	@ Sul Ross State	3:00 pm
1/22/2009	Schreiner University	7:30 pm
1/24/2009	@ Texas Lutheran University	3:00 pm
1/29/2009	Hardin Simmons University	7:30 pm
1/31/2009	McMurry University	3:00 pm
2/5/2009	@ Hardin Simmons University	7:30 pm
2/7/2009	@ McMurry University	3:00 pm
2/10/2009	@ University of Mary Hardin Baylor	7:30 pm
2/12/2009	@ Schreiner University	7:30 pm
2/14/2009	Texas Lutheran University	3:00 pm
2/19/2009	Howard Payne University	7:30 pm
2/21/2009	Sul Ross State	3:00 pm

## Womens Basketball

1/5/2009	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor	5:30 pm
1/8/2009	@ Mississippi College	5:30 pm
1/10/2009	@ Louisiana College	1:00 pm
1/15/2009	@ Howard Payne	5:30 pm
1/17/2009	@ Sul Ross State	1:00 pm
1/22/2009	Schreiner University	5:30 pm
1/24/2009	@ Texas Lutheran University	1:00 pm
1/29/2009	Hardin Simmons	5:30 pm
1/31/2009	McMurry University	1:00 pm
2/5/2009	@ Hardin Simmons	5:30 pm
2/7/2009	@ McMurry University	1:00 pm
2/10/2009	@ University of Mary Hardin-Baylor	5:30 pm
2/12/2009	@ Schreiner University	5:30 pm
2/14/2009	Texas Lutheran University	1:00 pm
2/19/2009	Howard Payne	5:30 pm
2/21/2009	Sul Ross State	1:00 pm

## Softball

2/7/2009	@ Trinity (DH)	1:00 pm
2/14/2009	Sterling College (DH)	1:00 pm
2/21/2009	Trinity (DH)	1:00 pm
2/28/2009	@ Univ. of Dallas	TBD
2/28/2009	@ Cornell	TBD
3/3/2009	@ Southwestern (DH)	1:00 pm
3/6/2009	East Texas Baptist	12:30 pm
3/6/2009	Louisiana College	5:30 pm
3/7/2009	UT Tyler	10:00 am
3/7/2009	UT Dallas	3:00 pm
3/13/2009	Mary Hardin Baylor (DH)	12:00 pm
3/14/2009	Mary Hardin Baylor (DH)	12:00 pm
3/20/2009	@ Schreiner (DH)	TBD
3/21/2009	@ Schreiner (DH)	TBD
3/27/2009	Sul Ross State (DH)	12:00 pm
3/28/2009	Sul Ross State (DH)	12:00 pm
4/3/2009	@ Texas Lutheran (DH)	1:00 pm
4/4/2009	@ Texas Lutheran (DH)	1:00 pm
4/9/2009	Hardin-Simmons (DH)	12:00 pm
4/10/2009	Hardin-Simmons (DH)	12:00 pm
4/18/2009	@ Univ. of Dallas (DH)	TBD
4/24/2009	@ Howard Payne (DH)	TBD
4/25/2009	@ Howard Payne (DH)	TBD
4/30/2009	ASC Tournament	Irving

## Baseball

2/6/2009	@ UT-Dallas	3:00 pm
2/6/2009	@ UT-Tyler	6:00 pm
2/7/2009	@ Trinity Univ.	2:00 pm
2/11/2009	Texas Wesleyan Univ. (DH)	1:00 pm
2/14/2009	Huston-Tillotson Univ.	12:00 pm
2/20/2009	@ Louisiana College	6:00 pm
2/21/2009	@ Louisiana College (DH)	1:00 pm
2/24/2009	Huston-Tillotson Univ.	2:00 pm
2/27/2009	UT-Dallas	1:00 pm
2/28/2009	UT-Dallas (DH)	12:00 pm
3/2/2009	DeSales Univ.	7:00 pm
3/3/2009	Trinity Univ.	2:00 pm
3/6/2009	@ Texas Lutheran Univ.	2:00 pm
3/7/2009	@ Texas Lutheran Univ. (DH)	1:00 pm
3/10/2009	@ Trinity Univ.	7:00 pm
3/13/2009	Howard Payne	2:00 pm
3/14/2009	Howard Payne (DH)	1:00 pm
3/16/2009	Nebraska Wesleyan Univ.	7:00 pm
3/17/2009	Southwestern Univ.	2:00 pm
3/20/2009	@ Sul Ross Univ.	7:00 pm
3/21/2009	@ Sul Ross Univ. (DH)	1:00 pm
3/27/2009	Hardin-Simmons Univ.	1:00 pm
3/28/2009	Hardin-Simmons Univ. (DH)	12:00 pm
3/31/2009	Southwestern Univ.	2:00 pm
4/3/2009	@ McMurry Univ.	7:00 pm
4/4/2009	@ McMurry Univ. (DH)	1:00 pm
4/9/2009	UMHB Univ.	1:00 pm
4/10/2009	UMHB Univ. (DH)	12:00 pm
4/17/2009	@ Schreiner Univ.	2:00 pm
4/18/2009	@ Schreiner Univ. (DH)	1:00 pm
4/24/2009	Cross-over	TBA

## Tennis

2/15/2008	@ Howard Payne	3:00 pm
2/16/2008	@ McMurry University	9:00 am
2/16/2008	@ Hardin-Simmons University	1:00 pm
2/28/2008	Schreiner University	2:00 pm
2/29/2008	@ Austin College	4:30 pm
3/8/2008	@ Hardin-Simmons	9:00 am
3/26/2008	University of Mary Hardin Baylor	3:00 pm
3/28/2008	@ Grambling University	9:00 am
3/28/2008	@ University of Texas at Tyler	2:30 pm
3/28/2008	@ LeTourneau Tournament	
3/29/2008	@ LeTourneau University	9:00 am
3/29/2008	@ University of the Ozarks	2:00 pm
4/5/2008	@ Sul Ross State University	10:00 am
4/5/2008	@ College of the Southwest	2:00 pm
4/8/2008	Texas Lutheran University	10:00 am
4/10/2008	@ McMurry University	10:00 am
4/10/2008	@ Howard Payne University	3:00 pm
4/12/2008	@ Austin College	9:00 am

# 2008 Excellence in Leadership Gala



## AN EVENING OF FRIENDS, FELLOWSHIP AND FUNDRAISING

Concordia University Texas celebrated its second annual Excellence in Leadership (EIL) Gala on August 28, 2008. Chaired by Elizabeth Christian, President of Elizabeth Christian & Associates, the event honored Tom Stacy, an outstanding Central Texas leader.

President of T. Stacy & Associates, Mr. Stacy has been connected with real estate development in Austin since 1977. He has been instrumental in transforming Downtown Austin into the district that residents and businesses enjoy today, as well as being an advocate for the city's homeless and underprivileged children. He has triumphed over personal tragedy, and perhaps most importantly, he serves

as an example to others as a husband, father, friend and man of faith.

Mr. Stacy's unwavering faith has inspired him to contribute to some of the neediest people of Austin as Director and later as Chairman of the Community Partnership for the Homeless, a non-profit organization that provides housing for homeless veterans and low-income families with children.

Mr. Stacy and his wife, Melinda, have provided "camperships" for underprivileged children to attend Camp Buckner and experience God's love through summer camping ministry. The Stacys started this scholarship in

memory of their late son Christopher, who served as a camp counselor and attended Camp Buckner for most of his childhood.

Most recently, Mr. Stacy worked hand in hand with members of his congregation to found the flourishing Austin Baptist Church.

Notable guests in attendance to honor Mr. Stacy included former Austin Mayor, The Honorable Bruce Todd; Dick and Sara Rathgeber,





local philanthropists; Jack Tisdale, principal at Sussman, Tisdale, Gayle; Charlie Betts, Chair of the Downtown Austin Alliance and Tony Budet, President and CEO of University Federal Credit Union, among others. In addition, Concordia Board of Regents members from across the state attended in support

year, honored Roger Staubach and set the bar high with a sold out crowd. Again hosted at the Four Seasons Hotel, the 2008 EIL Gala measured up to the high standards set the previous year. With a sold out crowd of 400 guests, the gala raised significant contributions in support of Concordia's scholarship fund totaling \$115,000.

"Concordia's mission is to develop Christian leaders," Elizabeth Christian, Event Chair said. "With the many scholarships made possible by this successful gala, the University will be able to expand its capacity to financially assist the young people who are the Christian leaders of tomorrow—the

future Tom Stacys—certain to become the pillars of our community." Reverend Doctor David Kluth, Vice President of University Services for Concordia, gave a blessing which opened up the dinner portion of the evening where guests dined on a gourmet three-course meal.

University President, Dr. Tom Cedel, another exemplary Christian leader, addressed the gala guests, expressing admiration for Mr. Stacy and pride in all that Concordia has accomplished within the past few short years.

The gala ended with guests dancing the night away to music by the David Perkoff Little Big Band.

of the University.

In 2007, the EIL Gala, in its inaugural



## 1970s



**Dr. Johnnie Driessner '76**, Executive Director of the Concordia University Portland Foundation, was named a 2008 Thrivent Fellow. Congratulations on this prestigious distinction.



**Paul '95 & Jennifer '95 (Montgomery) Ferguson** announce the birth of their fourth child Samuel Thomas Ferguson. Sam was born on February 19, 2008 at 9lbs 4 oz. and 21 ½ inches. Sam joins big sisters Caitlyn (10), LaurieAnne (5), and Cassandra (3).



**Andrew '96 and Erica Nichole '94 (Speckman) Green** welcomed John-August Karl Green on December 08, 2007. Jak is absolutely adored by his 5 year old sister Clara Noelle. The Greens live in Harker Heights where Andrew is the pastor at Grace Lutheran and Erica is a special education teacher with Killeen ISD.

## 1990s



**Tim '91 and Wendy '93 (Mayerhoff) Zoch** and their son Andrew announce the birth of Naomi Elizabeth Zoch on March 26, 2008.



**Stacie Watkins '96 and Tom McCollum** were united in marriage on February 09, 2008. Stacie and Tom live in West Hartford, CT and both work at ESPN.



**Emma Schutte** proudly announces the birth of her baby brother, Ethan Erhard to **Jennifer '96 (Behring) and Greg Schutte** on January 31, 2008. Ethan weighed in at a healthy 9lbs and 20.5 inches long.

## 2000s



**These 2004 pre-seminary graduates were invited to lunch with LCMS President Gerald Kieschnick after receiving their First Calls.**

**They are, from left to right (Dr. Kieschnick is seated):**

Ryan Honeycutt - Redeemer Lutheran, Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
Christian Wood - Hales Corners/Ebenezer Lutheran, Milwaukee, WI  
Jace Detrie - Athens Lutheran, Athens, TN  
Michael Cofer - Hope Lutheran, Virginia Beach, VA  
Christopher Kennedy - Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio, TX  
Martin Danner - St. Paul Lutheran, Fort Worth, TX  
Landon Ledlow - Prince of Peace Lutheran, Carrollton, TX

**Other Alumni receiving First Calls are:**

Jason Krause '01 - Cross of Christ Lutheran, Bountiful, UT  
Mark Schulze '03 - Immanuel Lutheran, Twin Falls, ID

**Alumni receiving vicarage assignments are:**

Timothy Appel '06 - Trinity Lutheran, Garden City, KS  
Joel Meyer '06 - Immanuel Lutheran, Parkers Prairie, MN  
Martin Richardson '06 - Christ the Shepherd Lutheran, Alpharetta, GA  
Sean Smith '06 - Immanuel Lutheran, Bossier City, LA



### **Cemelli de Aztlan '05**

Concordia University Texas graduate and Harvard Divinity School graduate student Cemelli de Aztlan presented her research on indigenous religious studies at The Mexican American Cultural Center on Saturday, August 30, 2008.



**Candice Biels '08 and Nate Hill '08** were engaged on November 25, 2008 on the lawn of the Texas Capitol. A summer 2009 wedding is planned.

## In Memoriam

Class of 1955 - Fr. Richard John Neuhaus, January 8, 2009

Class of 1967 - Diane Miller Reeves, September 24, 2008

Les Bayer, August 26, 2008 (1960's registrar)

Dorothy Zielke, December 27, 2008 (CTX Professor)

Jack Graham, January 5, 2009 (CTX Professor)

# Alumni Notes



Homecoming 2008 was a wonderful success with more than 300 Alumni in attendance. The weekend was full of fun! Friday started with a Welcome Happy Hour at the Oasis; the live band was a hit. Alumni danced, enjoyed refreshments and had a great time of fellowship while admiring a picture-perfect sunset. Saturday, everyone was full of enthusiasm as they were introduced to the new campus. Concordia Faculty and Staff led guided tours, lunch was hosted in the cafeteria - 'college style', and future Alumni enjoyed the children's activities including bounce house, snow cones, pumpkin patch and more. The Kilian Time Capsule was opened, the Purple Rock dedicated and there was a sneak preview of the Concordia documentary. Sunday included a time of reflection and fellowship and closed with the campus Dedication Service. Thank you to everyone who attended, making Homecoming 2008 a weekend to remember.

Amy E. Huth, Alumni Development Officer





## China Trip

On November 12-19, 2008, President Tom Cedel and his wife Penny hosted a group of Alumni to China. The group included David Happe '07, Stephanie Malveaux '97 and her cousin Tanieka Young, Helen Wenthe '59 and her husband William, as well as Penny's mom and aunt.

The stay in Beijing began in a fabulous Five Star hotel (five restaurants, two indoor heated pools, great exercise club, two indoor tennis courts, very inviting shops, and rooms that were a pleasure to come back to each night). The group had many wonderful experiences. President Cedel climbed to the top of the Great Wall of China, the group was in awe of the adorable pandas at the Beijing Zoo, explored the Forbidden City and took a rickshaw ride to visit a family in the historic Hutong area where they were treated to a homemade meal. The Olympic Site opened only the week before, so the group was able to see all the places the athletes competed without fighting the crowds! There was a day flight to Xian to see the Terra-Cotta Warriors with a fabulous guide who had worked on the excavation site. The trip was a great success.

The China trip raised over \$1,700.00 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund.



# And We're OFF!

Three of our Alumni Chapters have kicked-off their first events

## Houston



Our Houston area Alumni kicked off their chapter with dual events on Sunday, July 20, 2008. Delynda Cruz and Sharon Fisk hosted Alumni at Minute Maid Park and Jodi Leslie gathered more Alumni at Discovery Green.

Pictured here are the Heckmanns and the Bohots after a day on the lawn in Discovery Green.

## San Antonio



## Yes, it's real!

If the salsa bar wasn't enough to entice our San Antonio area Alumni to come out on Wednesday, July 30, 2008, then perhaps Brian Messer's tattooed commitment to Concordia did!



Chapter President Mike Arldt gathered a small group on Sunday, August 17, 2008 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for a brief presentation by Concordia's Advancement Staff Jackie Faulkner and Amy Huth along with hors d' oeuvres and homemade cookies.

## Executive Board

**President** – Donna Rupp '87 , M.Ed. '04

**Vice President** – Jodi Leslie '95

**Vice President** – Mike Arldt '96

**Secretary** – Myra Simmons-Homer '06

**Treasurer** – Rebecca Lange '92

**At-Large Place 1** – Kathy Jarrell '00

**At-Large Place 2** – Candice Bielss '08

**At-Large Place 3** – Bettie Horn Bendewald '57

**At-Large Place 4** – Lisa Jahnke '95

**At-Large Place 5** – Eileen Godeaux '06

**At-Large Place 6** – Lee Zimmerman '94

**At-Large Place 7** – Layne Jungmann '00

**Past President** – Linda Pittsford '85

*The Board is completed by the Chapter Presidents, whom may also serve in executive seats. They are:*

**California**  
Marc Clakley '90, '91

**Washington DC**  
Stephanie Aspinwall '97

**Chicagoland Area**  
Ruth Sievers '59

**Houston**  
Jodi Leslie '95

DeLynda Cruz '04

Sharon Fisk '04

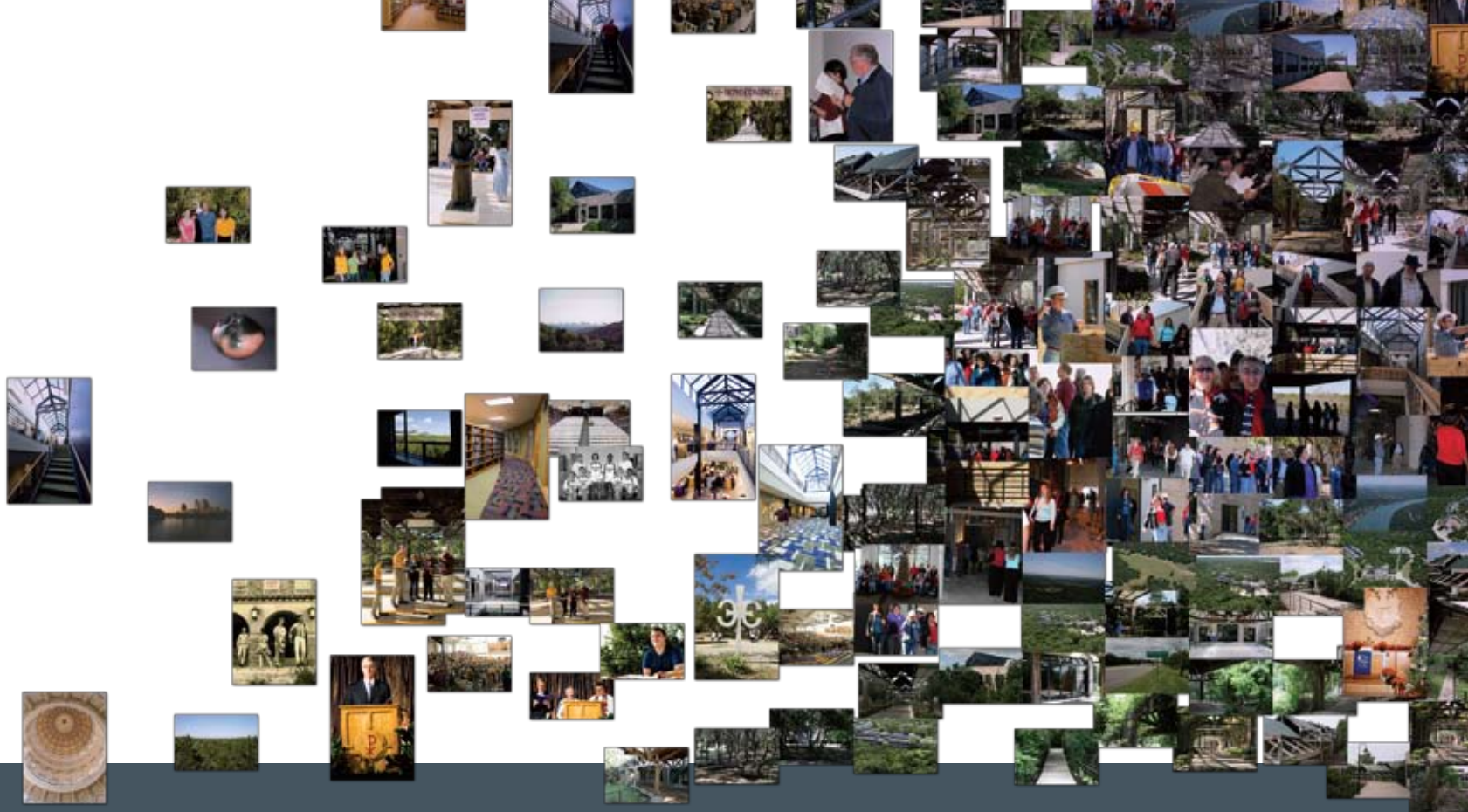
**Dallas / Fort Worth**  
Mike Arldt '96

**San Antonio**  
Dave Goeke '68

**Austin**  
Norman Stoppenhagen '59, '61

Priscilla Trevizo '06

**Rio Grande Valley**  
David Vandercook '03



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