Phil Wickham headlines Night of Hope

Concordia's third annual Night of Hope will be held on Thurs., March 15. The program will go from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Sam Brotzmann, ’08, and Mat Vu, junior, are both coordinating the event. Both Brotzmann and Vu have helped plan the Night of Hope event for all three years of its tenure. A team of ten students from all classes is included on the planning committee as well. There are creative, marketing, booking and advertising teams for the Night of Hope. Ellie Hanson, junior, is also in her third year of planning and has taken on the position of Creative Team Director. “We are stepping it up from previous years,” Hanson said.

“So if you enjoyed it last year, our goal is to make this year our best yet,” she added.

Night of Hope is sponsored, but not funded, by Concordia. The school offers the space for the event and it is supported solely through donations. “Our motto is free first, discounts second, and nothing at all price,” Vu said.

All money raised at Night of Hope will be donated to FIKISHA, a non-profit organization that aids street boys in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. A group of Concordia students founded the organization after interacting with the boys on a summer mission trip in 2006. The money will go towards training the mentors that work with the boys and to the various programming needs they participate in. FIKISHA will have a booth for donations at the event. There will be tickets for opportunity drawings, $10 t-shirts, and a Bella Familia Wood-Fire Pizza vendor.

The program of the event includes various student performances, and Toxie Garin, Professor of English, will be returning for an encore poetry performance. The Slow Waltz, an up-and-coming local band consisting of alumni Drew Williams and Megan Atlkinson, will also perform.

The featured guest of the night is Phil Wickham, a contemporary Christian music artist and songwriter. Shout and chapel services perform Wickham’s songs regularly. “I absolutely love Wickham’s song, ‘Divine Romance’ and I can’t believe he is actually coming to Concordia,” said Amber Aranada, sophomore. Wickham will conclude the night with an hour-long acoustic set.

“Night of Hope is a chance for everyone to come together as a community and support an organization that makes a difference. Plus, nothing is better than good music and food. Keep an eye out, this night will always end in a dance party,” Vu said.

Tickets go on sale Feb. 22 in the bookstore and the cafeteria. Prices are $15 for the general public, and $10 for Concordia staff, students and children 14 and under.

See’s CEO to speak at Faith and Business Forum

Bradley D. Kimbler, President and CEO of See’s Candies, Inc., will speak at Concordia’s ninth annual Faith and Business Forum at the Hilton Orange County on March 8.

“What we do is talk about the intersection of faith and business,” said Stephen Christensen, Executive Vice President for External Relations and Special Assistant to the President. “The forum is designed to raise awareness that the workplace is a place where we can have an impact for Christ.”

Christensen said the Faith and Business Forum hosts a different speaker each year, and approximately 500 individuals typically attend the event.

“Although the majority of guests that attend the Faith and Business Forum are local businesspeople, approximately 10 percent of attendees attend each year,” Christensen said. “I’ve never heard of anything like it before and I think it’s a neat idea,” said Nicole Zehnder, junior. “It helps you learn how to express your faith in the workplace and it sounds like you can definitely grow through this experience.”

According to Christensen, the forum is a faith-based examination of business strategies. “It’s a business discussion, so they talk primarily about how they market their company and how they build teamwork in their organization, but most of the time the discussions end up focusing on how they treat people,” he said.

Christensen emphasized that one of the main goals of the Faith and Business Forum is to teach that the workplace facilitates an often-overlooked opportunity for ministry. “We encourage people to recognize that you might work in a secular company, but that you are there because number one—the Lord wants you to be there, and number two—because you’re His light,” he said. “You’re His ambassador in that workplace.”

“If you want to share Christ in your workplace, why don’t you work as Jesus would work and let your lifestyle bear fruit in your workplace?”

In with the new...Blackboard

Bradley D. Kimbler, See’s CEO

Along with all of the new features, Blackboard will still maintain most of its old tools, including Safe Assign and the course content section. Many of these features are often underutilized by the student body. “I mainly just go on to check my grades,” said Alicia Patton, sophomore. “I don’t really use a lot of the other features.”

“I’m in two online classes, so we have to use the discussion boards at least once a week,” said Tara Bletcher, freshman. “I didn’t know about it last semester, but since taking the online classes, I’m more aware of additional features.” Some of these features include a built-in wiki, a discussion board, video lectures and group chat capabilities. “All of these features need to be turned on by the professor, so it just depends on how comfortable the professor is with using those tools,” said Randall.

The amount that professors use Blackboard varies, depending on their individual teaching style. “What holds me back from using more of the features is the extra time it takes to initially set it up. It’s not that easy to get in and out of, and I don’t find it very user friendly,” said Dr. John Nystrom, Assistant Professor of English. “The strengths of Blackboard, however, are definitely the ease of posting documents and resources, and communication with students.”

“Throughout the year, students have questioned why Blackboard is not used more.” To learn more about Blackboard and its features, visit the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching.

“Blackboard Plus” — New features to the Blackboard platform

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, Ephesians 4:15-16

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Volume 6, Issue 10
Concordia University Irvine
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

THE Concordia COURIER
Editorial:
The Greatest Prodigality

EMILY GESKE
EVERYTHING EAGLES EDITOR

I was standing in line in the cafeteria the other day, and I overheard a conversation between two people waiting behind me. One part caught my attention, and it went something like, “Oh, you’re in that class right now? I hated it. It was such a waste of time!” That statement not only frustrated me, but it got me thinking about the entire concept of wasting time and how commonplace it has become in our society.

Benjamin Franklin is quoted as having said, “If time be of all the things most precious, wasting time must be the greatest profligacy.” It’s a shame that few of us seem to think that way these days, especially when we could be spending our seconds on a multitude of constructive activities. 

An entitled attitude of demanding to be entertained has transformed the average mind from curious to careless, inquisitive to inquisitorious. The question that drives behavior is no longer, “Why do I waste this work?” but rather, “Why should I care?”

Now don’t get me wrong—I am by no means against relaxing, having fun, or amusement of any sort. I look forward to those days when I don’t have to think about or work on anything consequential. But when setting a record number of “likes” on your Facebook status consumes a sizeable chunk of your time and effort, you need to rethink your priorities.

Back to the original scene that sparked this train of thought—the way I see it, one of two possibilities exists to explain this statement. The first is that the student did not pay attention or even remotely attempt to connect with the content of the course. It amazes me that people are content to pay for a course, but not gain as much as they possibly can from it. Every session is an opportunity to learn something new, whether it is a fact, a fresh perspective, or the moral from some anecdote, or even an example of how not to act through observing others. It is irrational to choose boredom over active participation, yet how many times have you noticed your neighbors tuning out completely?

The second possible scenario is that the professor of that class had the same lackadaisical attitude, not wanting to push students too hard or demand too much. In situations like these, students have a legitimate right to complain because their time is being wasted without their permission. Professors who present content at a surface level are doing a huge disservice to their pupils, even if they think the easier course load is a generous favor. Mindless busy work is not only a poor excuse for a lesson plan, but it fails to encourage any critical thinking other than a discovery of the inadequacy of the material.

Both proposed situations are ridiculous, unacceptable and unfortunately present on Concordia’s campus. The classrooms are filled with students just interested in getting a framed piece of paper and professors who are unconcerned with the content written on the pieces of paper they receive. On the other hand, these same walkouts also contain those at the opposite end of the spectrum. I’ve encountered lots of peers who ask thought-provoking questions for no other end than furthering their own knowledge. A plethora of professors on this campus are truly invested in their students’ educations, going beyond average requirements of the job. Both groups understand what it is to be productive with time and how rude it is to waste that of others.

With movies out nowadays like “In Time,” where chunks of one’s lifespan are used for currency, you would think that making the most of every moment would be a high priority. Maybe the wisdom of temporal fragility is something that more will come to learn with experience. In the meantime, what you do with your time is your own business, but when squandering it starts to affect other more conscientious people, it’s best to err on the side of respect. If you want to do yourself a favor, try being more aware of how you spend your time. "That statement not only frustrated me, Benjamin Franklin is quoted as having said, “If time be of all the things most precious, wasting time must be the greatest profligacy.” It’s a shame that few of us seem to think that way these days, especially when we could be spending our seconds on a multitude of constructive activities. Every session is an opportunity to learn something new, whether it is a fact, a fresh perspective, or the moral from some anecdote, or even an example of how not to act through observing others. It is irrational to choose boredom over active participation, yet how many times have you noticed your neighbors tuning out completely?

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Academic Showcase returns

MEGHAN JONES STAFF WRITER

The President’s Academic Showcase has arrived once again for students to share knowledge in a particular topic within their major. Students have been working with professors for months, perfecting an intense undergraduate research project that will be presented to the Concordia community. The Tier One Academic Showcase will feature Junior and Senior projects, while the Tier Two Academic Showcase will feature freshmen and sophomore students. The prizes will range from $400 - $1,500 for Tier One and $400 - $800 for Tier Two, both tiers have increased the award amount since the 2011 showcase.

“The Academic Showcase is a stepping stone for graduate school,” said Dr. Melinda Schulteis, Academic Showcase Coordinator. “Because we have a small campus, this gives students a chance to meet one-on-one with a faculty mentor. Students in any major can participate with a faculty member who serves as their mentor. The 2011 Tier One Academic Showcase was won by a senior, Joel Landis, with a project titled ‘Is China a Revisionist State? Examining China’s Military Rise Through Power Transition Theory?’”

Joshua Young, junior, is one of the 25 students participating in the Tier One competition. He has been researching his topic of “Regular Market Power Transition Theory.” His two siblings consist of a brother and a sister. Baxter was born in Whittier, California, in 1938. His Hollywood flair is genuinely enjoyable. His favorite production to work on was “Titanic.” In this film, he played first class passenger and British financier Sir Edward Taylor. While working in the industry, he has met and interacted with many stars.

Terrance Baxter, a traffic control officer on campus often recognized by his aviator sunglasses, has worked at Concordia for a little over 10 years. Baxter has lived in Southern California his entire life, residing in both Orange and Los Angeles counties.

Terrance Baxter, Campus Safety Officer

Terrance Baxter: A Money Revolution

Terrance Baxter, a traffic control officer on campus often recognized by his aviator sunglasses, has worked at Concordia for a little over 10 years. Baxter was born in Whittier, California, in 1938. His two siblings consist of a brother and a sister. Baxter has lived in Southern California his entire life, residing in both Orange and Los Angeles counties.

Terrance Baxter: Campus Safety Officer

Before taking a position at Concordia, Baxter worked in a wide array of vocations. When he was younger, he trained as an artist at the Long Beach Academy of Fine Art and was represented in a couple of galleries.

His interests in art eventually spurred an interest in the movie industry. Baxter was featured in several notable films including “The Lady Killers,” “The Bunker,” and “Titanic.” He was also featured in the television series “Star Trek Voyager.” During his work in the industry, he met and interacted with many stars.

Baxter’s favorite production to work on was “Titanic.” In this film, he played first class passenger and British financier Sir Edward Taylor. While he can be seen in many scenes as a background actor, he is most noticeable in one of the dining scenes when walking with his movie wife. During the production, he resided near Rosarito, Mexico, where filming took place. Baxter describes that time with molotovs “It was quite an experience. I enjoyed it,” he said.

Baxter learned many lessons while working in the movie industry, and stated that the most important lesson is similar to the cliché “hurry up and wait.” “You have to learn patience, but you always have to be ready,” said Baxter. “You may spend hours sitting around on a set and waiting for them to set up everything to shoot just a few moments, but you have to be ready to go when called and to give the best that you can.”

While working at Concordia, Baxter continues to entertain those who work with him. “The first time I met Terrance at work, he put on a German accent and asked if I needed any help from the Gestapo,” said Jessica Bass, junior. “This is how of making our jobs a little more light-hearted in light of the seriousness that we deal with day-in and day-out.”

Baxter has a couple of hobbies outside of his work at Concordia. He is interested in antiques, and he has been a part of a western re-enactment group for about 12 years. This group travels around Southern California and acts out scenes from the Wild West. His Hollywood style is genuinely enjoyed by individuals throughout the community.

Terrance Baxter: Campus Safety Officer

Josh Landis, ‘11, poses with his winning showcase project.

The counselors are here to help the students. The one thing that Vernia likes about this event is that it is less intimidating for students. Many students have not made an appointment. “A student can just come on if they are having a bad day,” she said. “The program has been going for three weeks, with each week yielding an increased student turnout. A commuter student heard about this event from a friend and was excited to try it out. “All of the counselors are great, I totally encourage everyone to at least try counseling once,” she said. “I never knew we had counselors, who are we going to if we have a problem?”

Money Revolution is the School of Business is currently searching for two student leaders for its Money Revolution program. The program is aimed at informing the students about personal finance and how money issues work. “It is our hope that it helps establish the right foundation in a student’s life, so that the students are equipped to begin making wise financial decisions as soon as possible,” said Robert Meaux, financial consultant for Thrivent. Money Revolution was brought to campus in the summer of 2010, and Concordia is one of 11 schools participating. The success of the program is measured by impacts—the amount of awareness it creates across campus. The goal for the 11 schools is to have 15,000 impacts. Concordia is ranked 4th in contributing impacts. Hall stated that one of the most challenging aspects of spreading awareness is reaching the whole student body, and not just the Business Department.

Money Revolution provides a basic, useful knowledge of what it is to make wise financial decisions. Students will be provided a trip to Thrivent Headquarters in Wisconsin for a week of training. “It is important to learn about personal finances in college because it is a time of transition,” said Martha James, junior. According to the Federal Reserve, there is a more than $1 trillion dollar market of consumer debt in America. Money Revolution informs students to provide a more realistic understanding of how money issues work. “It makes me feel like it helps establish the right foundation in a student’s life, so that the students are equipped to begin making wise financial decisions as soon as possible,” said Robert Meaux, financial consultant for Thrivent.

The Counseling Center has launched an ongoing program called Let’s Talk. Every Thursday, any student may drop by room 140 in the RCC between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. to receive a free counseling session. The event is held right by the office of First Year Experience. The session is 30 minutes long, and allows students to get a sense of the benefits that counseling can bring.

Several students that have gone have found the event to be beneficial. One sophomore said, “I walked out thinking in a different way.” Another student expressed great relief after coming out of the session. “I was nervous in the beginning, but by the end of the session I was grateful that I came in,” she said.

Christen Vernia, Marriage and Family Therapist, is holding the event along with the Concordia counseling staff. When going into a session, Vernia wants to get to the root of the issue. She emphasized that counseling can help a student academically, emotionally or spiritually. “If you have any kind of turmoil in your life, do not hesitate to come in,” Vernia said.

The counselors are here to help the students. The one thing that Vernia likes about this event is that it is less intimidating for students. Many students have not made an appointment. “A student can just come on if they are having a bad day.” she said. “The program has been going for three weeks, with each week yielding an increased student turnout. A commuter student heard about this event from a friend and was excited to try it out. “All of the counselors are great, I totally encourage everyone to at least try counseling once,” she said. “I never knew we had counselors, who are we going to if we have a problem?”

Regular counseling sessions are one hour and are held in the Wellness Center. Scheduling an appointment is recommended. The staff believes that counseling is very helpful to students and encourage anyone in need to come in and talk.
**Women’s Tennis enjoys early success**

JAYMIE RODEN\* STAFF WRITER

The women's tennis season is now full swing, as the squad debuted with a win against Cal State Los Angeles on Feb. 1. They continued their success with a 9-0 sweep of Hope International last Tuesday.

Jonathan Sanchez, Head Coach of Tennis, has been satisfied with his team's performance thus far. "Getting the win against CSULA was a great confidence builder for the team," he said. The Eagles won the match 6-3. "Beating a big school like CSULA was great for our motivation for the season," said Bettina Radke, senior.

This year's varsity roster consists of five experienced upperclassmen, along with new arrivals Ellie Johnson and Ulrike Hahn, freshmen. Sanchez was optimistic about the two new freshmen. "They bring positive energy that lifts the whole team's spirits, not just on the court but in the locker room as well," he said. "They are also very skilled and will be important assets to the team this season." The team expressed having so many experienced players in the mix gives them a competitive edge.

Dakota Downs, junior, has been satisfied with his team's performance thus far. "We were definitely working hard during the fall semester, so it's going to be fun watching all the hard work pay off," said Kristen Yep, senior. This year, Jordan Kimura and Radka, seniors, are in the number one doubles spot for the squad. They began the year ranked sixth in the nation and both are two-time NAIA All-Americans.

While the team is united regarding the importance of playing every match well, they are particularly eager to do so because of April with Pacifica University. The team ranked first in the GSAC and second in the NAIA.

Home games are held at the Costa Mesa Tennis Center. "It makes such a difference to have people out watching for you," Radke said. "Also, as an opponent, it can be very tough to compete not only against your opponent, but also against the people watching." The team has a Facebook page for supporters that will be updated as matches and tournaments are held.

The next home game is Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. against Biola University.

**Linsanity: The Method to the Madness**

Jeremy Lin's unprecedented run to NBA stardom has made him the most polarizing sports figure since, well, Tim Tebow. In fact, these two merchant saints actually have quite a bit in common, as both athletes are confessing Christians. While Lin's faith has not established anything close to the media addiction that Tebow's outward profession created, the ascension of another Christian superstar (if such a term actually exists) has conducted further discussion among those believers.

Columnist David Brooks recently wrote a piece titled "The Jeremy Lin Problem," published in the Feb. 14 New York Times. He discusses what he sees as "the biggest anomaly"—people of faith in professional sports. According to Brooks, "the moral ethos of sport is in tension with the moral ethos of faith." He continues that "athletes strive to be intimidating and theatrical, working to portray precisely the opposite of both himself and his team. Conversely (at least in Tebow's case), the Christian ethos is centered in humility, redemption itself. Both paradigms are at odds with each other, and an athlete caught between the two faces some serious tradeoffs.

Lin has previously touched on this debate himself, speaking to the challenge of setting both personal and team success aside in an effort to glorify God. He has outwardly stated that he does not obsess over pleasing others or striving to win a championship. Instead, he said, "God is the audience, and the right way to play is to play for Him—whatever that requires." In a 2010 interview with Patheos (A Christian Magazine), Lin acknowledged this to be an ongoing struggle as he learns what it means to submit himself to God on the hardwood. Brooks believes it is a struggle with no solution.

Lin's mindset brings humility to a divine level—beyond the earthly standards set forth by the John Stockton's. For example, Tebow's faith and devotion of salvation does allow for reconciliation between faith and sport. It solves the problem of how Christians are to live in the world, bringing divine significance to almost any occupation. While Lin has chosen to proclaim the love of Christ, God stations his children in worldly positions—Paul was a tentmaker, Peter fished, and Jesus worked in carpentry just as a businesswoman wants to share the love of Christ while still trying to operate in the black. Lin can legitimately be called by God to be an NBA superstar.

Furthermore, Lin has the opportunity to replace the typical athletic swagger with a heavenly pride. Instead of celebrating his personal accomplishments, an athlete of faith can continually boast about how his or her faith has made him better.

Linsanity is a term that describes the method to the madness of Jeremy Lin's unpropheciable run to NBA stardom. It describes how Lin has contributed to his personal humility. He references times in which he has been in awe of his personal performance, to the point that the only explanation is a supernatural one. In line with his success, Lin's ascension to championship in high school, Lin states that there is still more to be desired—speaking towards the undefeatment without chasing after worldly, materialistic goals. All things said, the logic behind the existence of a Christian superstar is a bit "Linsanity," and that is exactly how it should be.
The Concordia Choir has announced the details of its Pacific Southwest Tour for 2012. Their songs will include sacred choral music ranging from ancient classics to modern gospels and spirituals. Under the direction of Dr. Michael Busch, Concordia Choir Director, this concert ministry tour will feature the choir's repertoire will feature notable selections including J.S. Bach's "Magnificat," Carl F. Muhlenburg's "Requiem," and Mozart's "A Mighty Fortress is our God." The choir was nominated for their performances in Concordia productions by faculty members from other schools. Each nickname provides a partner and a score, and the duo must perform to the best of their ability. Hundred of pairs enter the preliminary round, and only 47 pairs make it to the semi-final round. Then 16 pairs make it to finals, said Professor Lori Siekmann, Director of "The Cover of Life." The winner is awarded the prestigious Irene Ryan Scholarship.

The Concordia Choir has maintained a tradition of performing excellence throughout the United States and around the globe. The choir's 70-person ensemble is comprised of students majoring in music, as well as a wide variety of students majoring in other fields. The choir is known for its high level of musical accomplishment and its ability to perform a wide range of music, from traditional church music to contemporary pop music. The choir has performed in many different countries and has received numerous awards and commendations for their musical abilities.

The choir's repertoire includes a variety of music, ranging from ancient classical pieces to modern pop songs. The choir is known for its vocal strength and musicality, and has received critical acclaim for their performances. The choir has performed in many different venues, including churches, universities, and concert halls, and has collaborated with many different artists and groups. The choir is known for its musical excellence, as well as its dedication to the promotion of music education and performance.

The choir's tour will include performances in various locations throughout the United States, including concerts in Arizona, Nevada, and California. The choir will perform at various locations, including churches, universities, and concert halls. The choir will be accompanied by a variety of instrumentalists, including pianists, organists, and harpists. The choir will also perform in a variety of musical styles, including classical, contemporary, and world music. The choir will be led by conductor and director Dr. Michael Busch, who is known for his musicality and dedication to high standards of performance.

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Freshmen prep for Haiti

Danielle Lee Staff Writer

On May 21-31, five students and Dr. Dorid Burgdorf, Director of Off-Campus MA Program, will travel to Haiti to participate in mission work. While in Haiti, Burgdorf and the students will team up with S.T. Williams, Pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Los Angeles, and other members of the church. As a group, they will be visiting numerous locations in Haiti, building homes and churches while also coordinating a Vacation Bible School.

Before leaving for Haiti, the students will hold regular team meetings to help prepare them for the trip. "They will get cultural awareness and be prepped on how to lead a Vacation Bible School," said Pastor Quinton Anderson, Campus Pastor. In addition, the students will be learning basic phrases of Creole—the official language of Haiti. Burgdorf emphasized that any student planning on participating in the Haiti trip should prepare themselves by having an appropriate mindset for what they are getting themselves into. While the trip will offer a wide array of new experiences for the students, their main focus will be to participate in mission work.

The five students going on the Haiti trip, Jessica Abel, Kathryn Aberg, Alisha Douglas, Austin Jeffers and Ellen Johnson, all freshmen, regard the mission work as one of their main reasons for going. "Even once the earthquake on Jan. 12, 2010, Afghanistan has been interested in going to Haiti. Johnson is also anticipating the trip. "There's a lot of need there," she said. Abel and Douglas feel that besides their interest in Haiti, this was something that God wanted them to do. "I felt Haiti really calling to me, and God calling to me," Douglas said.

Last summer, Chyna Johnson, junior, went on the Haiti trip and learned many things while helping people. Johnson was able to observe just how fortunate many of us in America are. "You don't realize how much you don't have until," said Johnson. By the end of the trip she had formed many new relationships and has been able to main in contact with one friend via Facebook. "The language barrier isn't really an issue. You make it work," she said.

The deadline for applications has closed, but if any student wishes to go on the trip they may still apply by contacting Pastor Anderson. The trip costs $3000 with a $200 down payment with your application. While $3000 is a significant amount of money, the school and church can assist in fundraising and writing letters to ask for help. "You shouldn't let money determine your trip because you definitely get your money's worth," Johnson said.

Abbeywest joins CCM team

Lindsay Walsh Staff Writer

On the second Saturday of each month, Concordia students work with Christ Costa Mesa Lutheran Church (CCM) to provide food to nearly 200 low-income, local families. Sponsored by Abbeywest Local Ministries, Concordia students and rotating sports teams volunteer at CCM Church and School, helping to set up the food distribution area, check-in families and play with children.

Those in need arrive in the early morning, before set up begins, to take a number indicating when they will receive their allotment of food. At 11 a.m., students and CCM volunteers then set up tables to sort the fresh produce and pantry items into bags. The completed packages are then distributed to ticket-holders in need.

In alignment with the food distribution activities, children are entertained with songs, cheers and tables full of art supplies. At noon, CCM pastors begin a bilingual Bible study. "We provide 170-200 families with food here every month—and of those families, I would say at least 25% participate in our Bible class," said Too Bernhard, CCM pastor and Head of Hispanic Ministries. Concordia is always sending students to help with this project so we can be a blessing to those in this city," Berndt said.

Concordia students assist in food distribution at Christ Lutheran Costa Mesa.

Where does your professor worship?

Sally Jean Warren Staff Writer

Several professors worship alongside their students in churches throughout the Orange County area. There is a significant selection of Lutheran churches locally, and faculty members are not centralized to a single location. Some professors attend the same church, while others are unique in their place of worship.

Martin Schramm, Chair of the Communications Department, attends Faith Lutheran Church in Capistrano Beach. There are many activities to get the congregation involved including youth groups and Bible studies. He enjoys going to the traditional service because it includes a liturgy. Schramm also incorporates prayer at the beginning of each of his classes because he believes it is important to thank the Lord for our blessings.

Schramm pointed out many ways the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church and Concordia interact. “Members come to campus for many events,” said Schramm. He also stated that Faith Lutheran is a small church, but is continuing to grow and expand.

Mike Middendorf, Professor of Theology, worships at Trinity Cristo Rey Church, a bilingual church in Santa Ana. This church is unique because it offers services in both English and Spanish to accommodate the diverse demographics of the Santa Ana community. “It’s a great reflection that not everyone lives this way,” Middendorf said.

Middendorf is a pastoral assistant at Trinity Cristo Rey and has the opportunity to preach once or twice a month. He also teaches an English Bible study class once a week. Middendorf enjoys Concordia worship life as he appreciates the variety of worship formats that are offered through Chapel, Shout, and Sunday Source.

Alexandra Wilson, senior, is majoring in Christian Education Leadership and attends Trinity Cristo Rey Church along with Middendorf. Wilson not only attends service here, but she also works at Trinity Cristo Rey. “It’s interesting to see professors do your work,” Wilson said. “It’s nice to see them outside the school element.” She enjoys the cross-cultural environment of Trinity Cristo Rey.

Professor Kristen Schmidt, Professor of English, attends St. John’s Lutheran Church in Orange. This is an older church and contains an elaborate collection of stained-glass windows in its sanctuary. “One of the reasons I enjoy going here is because of the variety of music,” Schmidt said.

Several other members of the Concordia faculty also attend St. John’s. While these three congregations only cover a small sample of Concordia’s representation in churches throughout the area, these congregations are very supportive and appreciative towards Concordia related activities. A Christian school environment allows everyone to discuss their faith and learn from one another, with part of this element coming through worship together both on and off of campus.
Third annual Fine Arts Preview Day held on campus over weekend

JAMIE VAUGHAN
STAFF WRITER

Concordia hosted its third annual Fine Arts Preview Day on Sat., Feb. 18. The event was co-ordinated by the Admissions Department and the Fine and Performing Arts Division for Prospective Freshmen and Transfer Students. This preview day differs from other admissions events because incoming students have the opportunity to audition for choir and theater scholarships. There were a series of music recitals for the families to watch, student art was on display and theater performances were held throughout the day.

There were about 150 prospective students and family members who came to the Fine Arts Preview Day. The prospective students had a chance to mingle with current students and get a realistic view of what the college atmosphere is like. “I think a huge selling point for new students is that the ones who come to Concordia are looking for a more intimate relationship with their school and fellow peers,” said Jeff Held, Performing and Visual Arts Division Chair. The prospective students had a chance to watch a scene from “The Cover of Life,” a Concordia play selected for the American College Theater Festival. The Jazz Combo also played during lunch, and the Concordia Choir and Wind Orchestra performed throughout the preview day. “The arts have a huge draw for Concordia,” said Melissa Cheffers, junior, “The choir has at least 60-70 people in it each year and the theater program has 40 or more.” Cheffers sang in the choir performance, performed in the scene from “The Cover of Life” and worked with admissions giving tours to the prospective students and families.

“I am a music person by heart and it is nice seeing the new talent coming to Concordia along with the excited new faces on campus,” said Narleen Narciso, Assistant Director of Admissions and Events Coordinator. The Fine Arts Preview Day was successful in portraying the Concordia atmosphere to prospective students and their families.

Upcoming Events

Center for Public Policy Forum
Managing Pension Costs: What Local Governments Can Do
Featuring: Nick Berardino, General Manager, Orange County Employees Association
Toni Wood, City Manager, City of Anaheim (Retired)
Girard Miller, Senior Strategist, Public Financial Management and columnist, Governing Magazine
Fri. Feb. 24 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Grimm Hall, Third Floor Conference Room
$10 at the door
Breakfast will be served

Improv Shimprov
Wed. Feb. 22
8 p.m. – 10 p.m.
CU Amphitheater
Sponsored by Concordia Res Life

Stay sharp with sudoku
The award for Best Picture goes to... Pretentiousness

Erek Olsen

The "POP-CULTURE VULTURE"

When I first saw the previews, I & Gruyere sandwich, and the Créme Brulée waffle. When asked what was one worker's favorite, under their black awnings, you are immediately pearl sugar and your choice of Nutella or Belgian sell those too—either a "Brussels Waffle" topped around the restaurant. An original take on waffles, unassuming, but a line of people usually stretches that's how it works so well for 24. The Help

Core book review: “Moll Flanders” vs. “Jane Eyre”: Female Protagonist Showdown

Zach Roberts

Arts Editor

In Charlotte Brontë’s “Jane Eyre” and Daniel Defoe’s “Moll Flanders,” the authors present female characters with vastly different moral behaviors. But which protagonist is more realistic? Moll is born an orphan, and Jane is mistreated by her overbearing aunt. Both experience pain, but is Jane’s response of high-minded idealism and morality likeable? And is Moll forced into thievery, prostitution and deceit understandable? Both novels offer engaging female characters who react against (the moral) social dictates of their times. The narrative of "Moll Flanders," Moll herself, presents the beginning of her biography as an excuse for her later mishandling: “However it was, then I affirm to you, that my Mother pleaded her Belly, and being found quick with Child, she was expelled for about seven months.” Moll was born in unfortunate circumstances—her mother quickly abandoned her and fulfills her sentence in the colonies—and Moll’s physical destitution and poverty continue to haunt her throughout the novel. “Jane Eyre” is similarly narrated after-the-fact by its main character. Jane recounts an early childhood event that terrifies her—she is mercilessly led by her cousin John because she reads from the family’s library. Ms. Abbot, one of the Bronte’s employees, reproaches Jane after she has a spat with her cousin: “And you ought not to think yourself on an equality with the Misses Reed and Master Reed, because Missis kindly allows you to be brought up with them.” Both Moll and Jane come from nonexistent families and have intriguing relationships with men later in their lives. Bordering on the line of male authoritarianism, Jane’s friend St. John. Rev. proposes in a not-so-romantic fashion: “God and His Church is your man.” “I am not going to be seduced, may go free,” Jane’s search for freedom and individuality claims a higher hold than one man’s order, even if he believes it is God-ordained to make Jane a missionary’s wife. The other hand, Moll firmly believes mind mar- marry someone for the wrong reasons: “In short, your eyes were full of light, I had now lost my Power of saying No, and to the story short, I consented to be married.” Unfortunately for Moll, her Lancashire husband—the second of several—has no money. She does not blame him for his subterfuge, however, because of her own trickery. “Why, said I to him, this has been a useful jiggle, for we are married here upon the foot of a double Fraud, you are undone by the Disappointment it seems, and I had had a Fortune I had been cheated too, for you say you have nothing.” Moll’s marriage fails due to finances, and she returns to her childhood feeling of want. This leads her to a life of poverty and crime... again.

It is not the Moll who is caught for theft and brought to the notorious Newgate Prison that she repents of her actions. “I lived Many Days here under the utmost horror of Soul; I had Death as it were in view, and thought of nothing Night and Day” But of Gibbets, of Halters, evil Spirits and Devils.” As I read “Moll Flanders,” I thought that Defoe failed with this ending. A moralizing nar- rowing it to an unshakably exaggerated tale of crime just doesn’t fit.” I was covered with Shame and Tears for things past, and yet had at the same time a secret surprising joy at the Prospect of be- ing a true Penitent.” Perhaps Defoe believed that Moll needed salvation to write a successful novel, but it sounds like moralizing.

Moll serves as a 17-c. version of Hutton’s wife, Gomez, who acted as a symbol of God’s justification of Israel. The convention of Defoe’s part to lead a spiritually saved sinner to some great windfall weakens that message though. Her repentance isn’t entirely believable, and now the ending lines of “Moll Flanders” end on a note that break the suspension of disbelief: “Thus all these little Difficul- ties were made easy, and we lived together with the greatest Kindness and Comfort imaginable; we are now grown Old... That’s pleasant.” Jane ends her narrative on a happy note too. After being tricked into almost marrying a man she doesn’t love, Mrs. Rochester writes to the English countryside to find him a blind widow. Now that Rochester must rely on Jane and can’t lie to her, marry Jane writes; “I hold myself supremely blast—blot beyond what lan- guage can express; I can express, I am my husband’s life as fully as is a mine.” “In order to maintain the freedom she would not have had as a subordinate in the colonies—and Moll’s physical destitution and poverty continue to haunt her throughout the novel. “Jane Eyre” is similarly narrated after-the-fact by its main character. Jane recounts an early childhood event that terrifies her—she is mercilessly led by her cousin John because she reads from the family’s library. Ms. Abbot, one of the Bronte’s employees, reproaches Jane after she has a spat with her cousin: “And you ought not to think yourself on an equality with the Misses Reed and Master Reed, because Missis kindly allows you to be brought up with them.” Both Moll and Jane come from nonexistent families and have intriguing relationships with men later in their lives. Bordering on the line of male authoritarianism, Jane’s friend St. John. Rev. proposes in a not-so-romantic fashion: “God and His Church is your man.” “I am not going to be seduced, may go free,” Jane’s search for freedom and individuality claims a higher hold than one man’s order, even if he believes it is God-ordained to make Jane a missionary’s wife. The other hand, Moll firmly believes mind mar- marry someone for the wrong reasons: “In short, your eyes were full of light, I had now lost my Power of saying No, and to the story short, I consented to be married.” Unfortunately for Moll, her Lancashire husband—the second of several—has no money. She does not blame him for his subterfuge, however, because of her own trickery. “Why, said I to him, this has been a useful jiggle, for we are married here upon the foot of a double Fraud, you are undone by the Disappointment it seems, and I had had a Fortune I had been cheated too, for...