

Summer Greetings from the Bozone!

It's time for yet, ANOTHER class letter....it seems as though the days accelerate as time marches forward! Also, has it ever occurred to you that the older we get, the earlier it gets late? CRAZY....

As I write this letter to you, it occurred to me that, outside of scribing the class letter on an annual basis, I ***rarely*** take the time to even consider (handwriting) a letter! ***Think about it...***

Handwriting is personal.

There is nothing quite like the personal touch of a handwritten letter. The paper filled with the ink of someone's pen; and the handwriting that is unquestionably their own. There is nothing quite as personal as someone's handwriting.

Letter writing takes time and thoughtfulness.

Generally, a text or an e-mail isn't usually well thought out. It is a convenient way to send a few thoughts, emoji's or a list. But letter writing takes time, effort and reflection. A page of our thoughts, love, interests and news. Let's be honest, physically writing out a page of words takes more time and energy then hastily typing out a few lines of text or e-mail.

They are worth saving – not easily deleted.

We tend to save letters. I still have some from my days in NYC. I have a card from my grandmother and have saved several cards from my parents over the years. Unlike email or texts, letters can't just be deleted in a whim. These get tucked away in drawers, files and boxes for later enjoyment.

The simple joy of getting something in the mailbox besides bills.

I don't know about you but, I used to be excited to check the mailbox. That ended years ago as my mailbox became a bill box. But when I open the mailbox to find a handwritten note or card? PURE SMILEAGE. There is nothing quite like enjoying those moments of great anticipation when one opens a personal card or letter!

Letters are a legacy.

Far after we are gone, few folks will care about the million texts we may have sent. But a letter will last. It can even be passed down to the generations to come. Can you think of a single e-mail that would be worth printing out and storing away? For me, perhaps just a few.

There you go....my thoughts on sending cards and letters...and what it is like receiving them. ☺

On another note (LOL)....

Several of us were together for our 35th reunion...it was a terrific time, had by all. Wish you all could have been there!

Here are a few pics (wish I had more!):

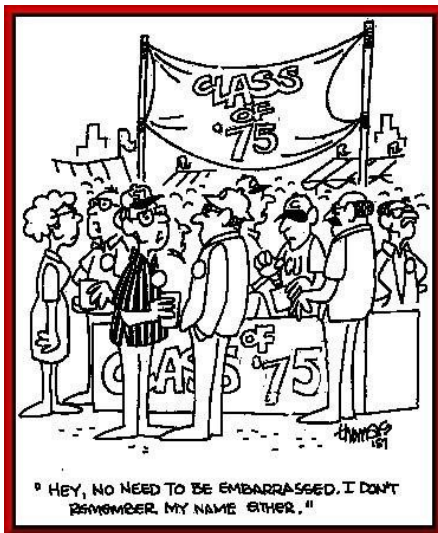


Life continues to be good for us here in Bozeman. These days I am enjoying some public speaking and

doing consulting work - along with my continued involvement in Chairing the BOD for Special Olympics and Co-Chairing the Capital Campaign for Bozeman Health – our local hospital. Heidi and I move forward in a steady, yet fun-filled pace. Like you, we are grateful for good health, great travel and take the time to appreciate wonderful family and terrific friends along the way. ☺



FUNNIES...



CLASSMATE UPDATE *(Keep your updates coming!)*

Brian and Ruth (Flagstaff) Lundborg: In a time when our Cobber friends are saving for retirement, in the final planning time, or have achieved the no alarm clock stage of life, we are the rebels and took a dive into the deep waters of business ownership. Within the year, we bought 2 AAMCO Transmission shops which Brian is managing and Ruth is doing the bookkeeping. If this wasn't enough, we have also flipped a house, and started flipping cars. (Who knew that would be a thing...) Eventually, when we succumb to the age when normal people retire, Brian will take baby steps as we turn the business over to our mechanic son. Ruth, however, will pick a day, close the books, and dance away. Those of you who know Brian will understand when we say that he will never fully retire so why not have something to keep him busy. Having Brian occupied in our golden years is also good news for Ruth. Find Brian & Ruth at: ruthlundborg@gmail.com



Dorthy Tufte: I've been a Pastor with the Assemblies of God for 20+ years; the last 15 as Ordained but never having the MDIV needed for chaplaincy ministry so went back to school at almost 51 years old. I graduated from Seminary in 2015 with a Masters of Divinity: Pastoral Care. The next year I completed a Graduate Certification from the Seminary in Spiritual Direction. I received my denominational endorsement in May of 2018 and Advanced Ecclesiastical Endorsement and Call in November of 2018 with the Assemblies of God World Missions Department. I am a full-time Chaplain in a healthcare community which includes a long-term care facility, assisted living facility, and senior independent apartments. I LOVE MY JOB! The final (BIG) step in all of this is working toward Board Certification in the Association of Professional Chaplains. I have 3 adult children. My son is married, they have the 3 most perfect children in the world (!!), and he heads up our state wide denomination's children/youth ministry department. I have two daughters – one is a youth pastor in Yankton, SD, and the other is an administrative assistant and a professional photographer. She is also a certified pastor, but not serving right now as she pursues an advanced licensure and her photography. I am enjoying life, enjoying peace, loving being a grandma, and doing a little travel (that's not really a big thrill for me unless it's to a beach in winter!). Find Dorthy at: dtufte@ulcbrookings.com



Barb (Jaeger) Koppendray: My husband Randy and I live in Elk River, MN. He works for Boston Scientific, and I am currently a housewife. I have spent the last 15 years volunteering my time to develop not-for-profit entities in our community. The first was a support group for mothers of multiples (Multiply Blessed) which has a membership of approximately 200 families. My last two projects were writing the proposal and developing a K-8 charter school (Kaleidoscope) and a college prep charter high school (Spectrum). All 4 of our children attended both of the charter schools. Our two daughters graduated from Concordia with degrees in nursing and currently work for Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Our youngest son graduates this May from Spectrum high school and has committed to play football for the Cobbers this fall. He also hopes to pursue a career in nursing. So we will be attending many Concordia football games and when we aren't cheering for the Cobbers, we will be in Rochester enjoying some Grandpa and Grandma fun! Find Barb at: barbarakoppendray@gmail.com



Barb (DeJonge) Overline: After a nine year plus battle with early onset Alzheimer's my husband went home to be with Jesus on New Year's eve. Our son is 14 and we plan to take a month-long trip to Europe this summer which gives us something to look forward to. We have had 5 intern teachers live with us over the past 6 years (each for 9 months) and we plan to spend time with 3 of them who live in Spain for part of our trip. We continue to live in Eden Prairie and I celebrated my 31st year at the University of MN Medical center where I work as a therapist in their adolescent day therapy program. Find Barb at: boverline@hotmail.com



Cathy Miller: I retired from the Minnesota School Boards Association in February after 18 years as the Legal & Policy Services Director. Find Cathy at: catm981@hotmail.com



Greg Schmid: Boy do the years go fast. I'm still living in beautiful lakes country, Vergas, MN. with my wife Ruby and yellow lab Bailey. We are fortunate to be retired, spending time at our remote cabin 900 miles north in Manitoba along with winters in sunny Naples Fl. In between time we are blessed with Ruby's two daughters and grandkids. Gods blessing and good health to all. Find Greg at: ruby.greg.schmid@icloud.com



Jeff Kjellberg: I thought I would share a few major accomplishments for me this past year. I decided to join a church client of mine who was leading a trip Tanzania to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro this past February. It was the most physically and mentally challenging experience I have ever done. Amazing to climb to 19,341 feet. Of our group of 22, all of us made it to the summit. That was no small feat. I also have just finished a book called, "Imagining a New Church: What if it's Different then We Think?" It should be out this fall if I can get Fortress to publish it. Finally, I became a grandpa. My daughter, Kelsey Walz (Kjellberg), a 2012 Cobber Graduate, gave birth to Felix Edward Walz on December 14th, 2018. It's a blast. Life is good. Find Jeff at: jmkjellberg@comcast.net



Sonia (Welker) Knopf: I am married (June 9 will be 35 years) to Mark Knoff. We have three sons, Drew, Jay, and Paul, two are married. We have four granddaughters. I am partially retired, subbing as a special ed para in the Mankato school district. This allows me to travel more with my husband who is also partially retired. I have traveled to several countries in Europe, Israel, Honduras (mission trip and also visited children we sponsor through Compassion International), Dominican Republic, Mexico, and almost every state in the US... HI is my favorite! We have an upcoming trip to Thailand. Our favorite vacations are visiting old friends out of state whom we met while my husband was in the Air Force. Hobbies are walking my dog, gardening, making wine with my husband, and serving in ministries at Hosanna Lutheran Church. We lead a marriage enrichment ministry called Three Strands, and I continue to serve in children's

ministry. I also help the college ministry every other Wednesday night at Hosanna Highland Church just off campus. We simplified life by buying a small fixer-upper home, gutted and remodeled it over the past three years. Apparently I watch too much HGTV! Find Sonia at: mknoff1@me.com

John Albertson: I serve as senior pastor at Faith Lutheran Church ELCA in Marion Iowa. This year marks 27 years of ordained ministry. I also celebrated 30 years of marriage. Our Son, Leif is a senior at Iowa State University majoring in Instrumental Music. Find John at: jalbertson@faithlutheran.org

Darla (Armstrong) Haller: Hi Classmates! I have retired from teaching music in Greybull for 32 years and my husband Dave and I are getting ready to build our last home on 5 acres south of Basin, WY. I'm planning on becoming a "country woman", which means, I'm getting chickens (for eggs and to love), goats (just to love), and I really want a donkey (to love and because I'm a Democrat). Our back patio will have a beautiful view of the Big Horns-come and see us and we'll share all of that with you!! Find Darla at: darlahaller@icloud.com



Sorry, Darla...had to do it! ☺



Miriam (Stadum) Kindem: I am living in Bemidji MN with my husband Mark. I am teaching K-12 music in Northome and Kelliher, MN. Just went to graduation at Concordia for my son. I have 2 Cobber graduates: Sarah (Kindem) McKeown, class of '13, and Matthew Kindem, class of '19. Find Miriam at: miriamkindem40@gmail.com



Nancy Pawlowski: I am currently teaching here and there. I teach beginning knitting and crocheting to adults and the occasional child at the Casper Recreation Center. I also teach beginning knitting and crochet at the Casper College Community Education. And on top of that I am teaching Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention part 1 and 2 at the Wyoming Athletic Club. Besides my various teaching jobs, I am also crocheting or knitting scarves for Special Olympics Wyoming, scarves and hats for Handmade Especially for You (a charity in Rancho Palos Verdes, California), and afghans/throws for the local Seton House. My sister and I make about 40 afghans a year to donate, and last year I presented SO-WY with 115 scarves (about 90 of them from my sister and me) made by a small group of ladies in the Casper

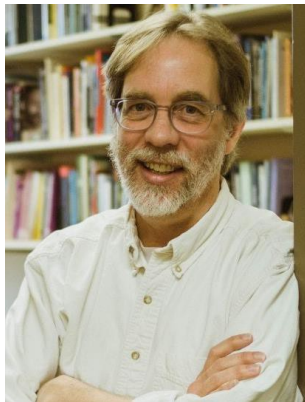


Needle Guild chapter of the Embroiderers Guild of America, Rocky Mountain Region. I fondly remember my days at Concordia College and learning Norwegian as well as learning Hardanger embroidery in a home ec class. Find Nancy at: crochetkid@prodigy.net

Ann Wagner Wasson: I continue to be employed at AllinaHealth as an OB hospitalist. Our son Luke is excited to be attending Concordia next fall. He will be starting there 40 years from when I was a freshman there! Yikes! Our daughter Leah will be a junior in HS at Minnehaha Academy in the fall. Find Ann at: a.annwasson@comcast.net



Jeff Kerssen-Griep: Nothing newsworthy from here, and these days that feels like a good thing. Now am a 21-year communication professor at the University of Portland (<https://www.up.edu/directory/Jeff-Kerssen-Griep.html>) – surprised to somehow be 35 years into this career already – and a traveling contra dance musician with my “Joyride” mates (<https://joyride.erikweberg.com/>). Family healthy. R.I.P., Hank. Find Jeff at: kerssen@up.edu



Karen Schulz and Greg Schulz: In addition to his IT and cloud technology consultancy business StorageIO.com where his fifth book was recently published, Greg Schulz has launched a new business www.picturesoverstillwater.com as a commercial drone operator. Karen has started a landscaping project replacing their lawn, except for the dog’s area, with native plants and bushes. She’s taking their one-year-old lab/shepherd mix to agility training classes. When not at work, she likes to capture images of the St. Croix River valley, near Stillwater. Find Karen & Greg at: karen@karenandgreg.com



Melanie Reiten: I started Preferred Healthcare Staffing 25 years ago, Staffing Allied Medical Professionals on per diem, contract and travel positions throughout the United States. Preferred has been awarded ClearlyRated’s “Best of Staffing” 5 years in a row for both Clients and Talent, named “One of America’s Best Recruiting Firms” by Forbes Magazine, Certified by The Joint Commission and earned the status and trust of the Veterans Affairs West Coast Preferred Medical Staffing Agency. Our personality and quality of service speaks for itself in online testimonials and reviews, as well as in the happy environment we provide at our office headquarters in beautiful San Diego, California. Preferred staffs PT,s OT,s PTA’s, COTA’s, SLP’s, Radiology and Oncology, Physicists, Audiologists and Recreational

Therapists in every setting from Hospitals, Out Patient and Skilled Nursing facilities, Home Health to Schools. Find Melanie at: melanie@preferredregistry.com

Lynn (Kelting) Gibson: Two years ago I retired as Associate Professor Emerita of Education from Montana State University. Since then I have been busy traveling and fixing up a 930 square foot 1900 house in Pony, MT. Our (my husband and I) goal was to repurpose and reuse as many items as possible in this house. For example, we used old wainscoting for a section of the ceiling and the new island in the kitchen. We worked very hard on the project and are now enjoying it tremendously, as it is a weekend home an hour from Bozeman. I also just recently became a team leader (Bozeman area) for an international organization called Days For Girls. We will be creating washable, reusable feminine hygiene products for girls and women in countries around the world. I look forward to the new challenge. Find Lynn at: lynn.keltinggibson@gmail.com



Dana Wheeler: I have children who will be a junior and senior with mild autism. The latter is a subject I'm happy to talk with others about. If you face autism, talk with others because it impacts the lives, expectations and hopes of those near. My junior daughter is taking a year (2021-2022) between high school and college to sail the Caribbean and beyond with me. We're praying for a faith mission associated with the trip. I'm Executive Director for MN Govt. Engineers Council and trying to figure out a way to continue with that position and travel with Allissa. Find Dana at: dana.wheeler@mgec.org

KERNELS from CONCORDIA

Concordia Language Villages

-Summer 2018 was a busy one for Concordia Language Villages. We had over 4700 villagers and families from all over the world attend immersion programs at our Turtle River Lake sites just north of Bemidji and at other leased camps in northern Minnesota. This strong enrollment demonstrates the value families are placing on world language and culture education.

-Thanks to a generous gift of \$5 million from the Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park, we will soon begin the first phase of construction of *Sup sogŭi Hosu*, the Korean Language Village, on Turtle River Lake. The first Village to be built was *Skogfjorden*, the Norwegian Language Village, and that happened 50 years ago this summer. A special event to commemorate this milestone will be held on July 13. *Sjölunden* the Swedish Language Village, celebrates its 45th summer with a *midsommar* event on August 3. International Days are July 5 and August 9 where we will also celebrate 50 years of offering four-week high school credit sessions.

Music

-Dr. René Clausen announced that he will retire following the 2019-20 academic year, concluding his service as professor of music and conductor of The Concordia Choir. Clausen is a leader in choral music as both a conductor and a composer. He is the artistic director of the Concordia Christmas Concerts. In addition to composing arrangements and original pieces for Concordia ensembles, he has written dozens of commissioned compositions including "MEMORIAL" and "Crying for a Dream" for the American Choral Directors Association. Clausen was also commissioned by Concordia to create a major work in observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The work is titled "The Passion of Jesus Christ" and premiered at Orchestra Hall in 2017. President William Craft noted in an announcement

to the Concordia community that throughout his work at the college Clausen has lived the mission of The Concordia Choir “to uphold a sacred choral tradition through the uncompromising and unrelenting collaborative pursuit of musical integrity and spiritual expression.”

-The Concordia Choir completed a highly successful tour through the Pacific Northwest in March. The tour featured concerts in Washington, Oregon, Montana, North Dakota, and Minnesota. The Choir also had engagements with ten high school choirs, as well as The Choir of the West at Pacific Lutheran University and a collaboration concert with The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists at the Ordway in St. Paul. Work is now being done to plan the Choir’s 2020 tour to the Southeast United States. Updates and more information can be found at www.TheConcordiaChoir.org.

-The Concordia Orchestra completed a very successful fall domestic tour with performances in Appleton, Wausau and Chippewa Falls in Wisconsin and Roseville, Sartell and Brainerd in Minnesota. Repertoire included *Symphony No. 3* by Florence Price, *Scheherazade* by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and *Concerto for Trombone* by Jim Pugh, which featured Concordia Professor of Low Brass Dr. Nathaniel Dickey on trombone. Also joining the tour was guest conductor Christoph Rehli-Fankhauser, professor of conducting at the Lucerne University of Music in Switzerland.

-The Concordia Band was invited to perform at both the Minnesota Music Educators Association Mid-Winter Clinic in Minneapolis and the North Dakota Music Educators Association Conference in Bismarck. In addition, the band was also invited to be the featured collegiate band at the Westman Honour Band concert at Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba. As part of their annual domestic tour, the band performed a joint concert with the Encore Wind Ensemble in St. Paul, MN as well as concerts in St. Anthony Village, Albany and Staples-Motley, all in Minnesota. The band is in the beginning stages of planning their international tour to Spain in May of 2020.

Cobber Athletics

-In the spring of 2018, Concordia had only one team – women’s basketball – with a female head coach. Fast forward one year, and with the hiring of new volleyball head coach Faith Dooley, the Cobbers now have 5 additional female head coaches mentoring student/athletes. Dooley, who was an All-American at the University of North Dakota, joins women’s golf head coach Kari Weidner-Ceniceros, Maureen Greiner of women’s hockey, Rebecca O’Shurak from women’s soccer and NDSU All-American Laura Januszewski who coaches both the men’s and women’s cross country teams. The rise of female head coaches was recognized by University of Minnesota’s Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport in their 2018-19 coaching report card that cited Concordia as the top college in the MIAC for the increase in female head coaches over the past year.

-Concordia men’s track and field junior Matt Bye, Moorhead, won the heptathlon at this winter’s MIAC Indoor Championship Meet and went on to finish 11th in the event at the NCAA National Indoor Meet held in Boston, Mass. Bye won the MIAC title with the second highest point total in school history.

-The Cobber men’s hockey team earned its seventh consecutive berth in the MIAC playoffs this season. Concordia finished conference play with nine league wins which was the most since the 2013 season. Sophomore forward Tyler Bossert, Fargo, led the MIAC in scoring and went on to earn All-American Second Team honors to become the ninth All-American in program history.

New Hires

-Concordia added two critical new leaders in the Career Center this year. Kris Olson joined the College as the new Director of the Career Center in October 2018. Jill Wenger, a Barnesville native, was hired in the role of Assistant Director of the Career Center in March 2019.

Kris began her career in Higher Education spent several years in Higher Education at NDSU and Concordia before making a career switch. She began working for Cargill, Inc as a Corporate Training Consultant, Training Curriculum Specialist, a Member of a Global Realignment Team, and a Recruiting Manager. Following her time at Cargill, Kris founded her own consulting business. Kris is an experienced professional with over 30 years of progressive experience in Higher Education, Corporate Business and Consulting.

Jill is an experienced professional with progressive experience within the City of Moorhead ranging from City Clerk, Assistant City Manager, and most recently, Human Resource Director. Jill brings great insight into public service, the local Fargo-Moorhead area, the Restorative Justice process, and recruitment best practices.

-Katie Nystuen was hired as our Health Services Coordinator this year. Part of her role is to guide students in making choices regarding their healthcare needs, and connecting them to the many quality providers in our community. Though direct care is not the focus of the Health Services Office, she is First Aid, CPR and AED certified, and can assist with triage and referral to an appropriate medical facility should an urgent situation arise, as can our Public Safety Office. One of her goals is to be more proactive and holistic regarding health and wellness programming on campus.

-Dallas Fossum joined Concordia as the new Director for Facilities Management in March. Dallas is an experienced director of facilities management and has, with his teams, completed more than \$50 million in renovations, new constructions, infrastructure, and deferred maintenance.

-Dr. Jill Abbott has been appointed Deputy to the President at Concordia College, effective June 3, 2019. Dr. Abbott holds a bachelor's degree in literature/language arts education, a master's in counseling and human resource development, and a doctorate in educational administration. She currently serves as the associate vice president of academics at Minnesota State Community and Technical College. Dr. Abbott will serve as a member of the college cabinet and will continue the good work of her predecessor Tracey Moorhead as liaison to our Board of Regents. As Deputy to the President, she will work with me to ensure the fulfillment of the new college plan following its affirmation by the Board of Regents, to represent the college in building strong local and regional partnerships for mutual success, and to position Concordia as mission driven institution of national significance.

Other News

-Concordia's outstanding tradition of preparing students for medical school is now available to those who have completed an undergraduate degree. This intensive, 1 year program is designed for highly motivated individuals with excellent academic records, who have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year institution, but lack most or all of the prerequisite science courses needed for admission to medical school. Our program is ideal for career changers, and individuals deciding later in their academic journey, to pursue a career in medicine.

-Concordia sent 12 members to the American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament (AFA-NIET) at the University of Alabama, where 60 colleges and universities from across the United States competed for top honors. Concordia was one of only a few smaller colleges that placed in the top 15, which is dominated by larger research institutions.

-The Center for Student Success has a new home in the Normandy. The beautifully renovated space is open and light making for an inviting space for students. The center includes academic support, Orientation and First-Year Transition Programming, the Peer Mentor program, and the Diversity Coordinator for Student Support Services.

-More than 300 students presented their posters or spoke at concurrent sessions during Concordia's 2019 Celebration of Student Scholarship (COSS) on April 10. Some students participated in multiple presentations. New at this year's

COSS was an art display with printmaking pieces and two sessions presented in Spanish. “Our goal is to keep building on the diversity of research,” says Kryz Strand, director of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity and coordinator of the Celebration of Student Scholarship.

A dinner was held April 4 to celebrate the naming of Dr. Dan Biebighauser as holder of The Sigurd and Pauline Prestegaard Mundhjelld Endowed Chair of Mathematics. Biebighauser is a 2002 graduate of Concordia and joined the faculty in 2006. The holder of the Mundhjelld chair is to be a person who has provided exemplary service in teaching and scholarship in the field of mathematics and who is known and respected in the field. All of the past holders of the Mundhjelld Endowed Chair were present. Past holders include Dr. Bill Tomhave, Dr. James L. Forde, Dr. Alexander Sze and Dr. Gerald A. Heuer '51.

Alumni Awards:

The National Alumni Board voted on the 2019 Alumni Achievement, Sent Forth and Called to Serve Awards. To learn more about each award, visit www.concordiacollege.edu/alumni/awards-and-recognition/.

2019 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients

- **Dr. Paul Brandvik '59**, professor emeritus of music at Bemidji State University, served as director of choral activities for 31 years. Brandvik received several awards, guest conducted more than 100 festivals and workshops in 16 states and abroad, and composed, edited or arranged more than 50 works.
- **Dr. Kristi Ferguson '71**, is professor emeritus of General Internal Medicine and served as director, Office of Consultation and Research in Medical Education at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. She spent her entire career at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine where she has greatly influenced the development, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum.
- **Dr. Thomas Samuelson '81**, a board-certified ophthalmologist, is a founding partner and attending surgeon at Minnesota Eye Consultants, P.A., Minneapolis. He's also an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota and on the faculty of Hennepin County Medical Center. He has received several awards and has been named to America's Top Doctors each year since 2002. He has written numerous articles and given more than 600 presentations around the world.
- A 1977 Concordia graduate, **the Rev. Ann Svennungsen** is the bishop of the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod, the first female bishop to serve in any of the ELCA's six Minnesota synods. She served as a parish pastor prior to serving as president and CEO of The Fund for Theological Education and then as president of Texas Lutheran University. Svennungsen, a well-respected theologian and speaker (*if you have been captivated with this stimulating material thus far, let me know via email and be the third submission for a prize!*), is published in numerous journals, and is invited to lecture, preach, and provide keynote and commencement addresses.

2019 Sent Forth Recipients

- **Betsy Grams '98**, co-founder and executive director of Cycle Health, is a 1998 Concordia graduate. CycleHealth was founded in 2014 to equip kids to power their own wellness. CycleHealth's programs are based on adventure and self-directed goal attainment, and are prescribed by pediatricians in more than 50 Twin Cities clinics through an innovative platform called Sweat Rx.
- **Matthew Culloton '98**, Matthew Culloton, founding Artistic Director of The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists, is a 1998 Concordia graduate and earned a master's and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota. He is Choirmaster at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minn., an adjunct faculty member at the

University of Saint Thomas and composer. Culloton received the VocalEssence/ACDA of Minnesota Creative Programming Award (2003) and MN ACDA Outstanding Young Choral Conductor of the Year Award (2004).

2019 Called to Serve Recipients

- **LaVern '54 and Lois (Austin) '56 Nornes** have spent their lives dedicated to the Lutheran faith. LaVern was a high school biology teacher, a driver's education instructor and a high school hockey coach. Lois, a retired public school music teacher, was also director of music and senior choir director at their church, Transfiguration Lutheran. In addition to their involvement with the church, LaVern and Lois have been active in Meals on Wheels and Feed My Starving Children, among others. At Concordia they've been members of C400, the National Alumni Board and various committees and volunteer activities. They've received several awards from the college for their generous gifts and sponsor, in part, the Nornes Lectureship.
- **Gayle (Carpenter) Denny '76** has served as the executive director of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association since 1999. She previously worked in congregationally based early childhood center management and taught pre-K through college in a variety of public and private schools. She is a current board member of the Council for American Private Education (CAPE). She has devoted her life to being a member of the ELCA, and has served as a musician and choir member for various churches. Throughout her life, she has maintained her commitment to educating others, and serving both the church and her community.

OUR GIFTS AT WORK

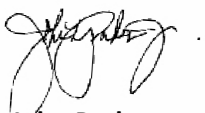
"The purpose of Concordia College is to influence the affairs of the world by sending into society thoughtful and informed men and women dedicated to the Christian life." Written more than 100 years ago, the Concordia College Mission Statement continues to be a guiding force that connects our past to the future.

This letter serves as a reminder for us to reflect on our own experiences at Concordia and continue to come together as a class to make a difference in the life of the college moving forward. **To date this year, the Class of 1983 has pledged \$56,191.00 and 16% participation from our class.** Since 1983, our class has given back to Concordia over **\$1,253,000.00!** Let's continue to join in this effort: www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/reuniongiving.

ENOUGH FOR NOW.....

Thank you, as always, for all of the wonderful ways you support Concordia – past, present and future.

Feel free to call, click or drop by anytime.



-John Parkes

john@parkesclan.com

406.570.8315



"Life is a gift. Never forget to bask in every moment you are in." – Unknown

"Start each day with a "positive thought, like: "I can go back to bed in just 17 short hours." - Unknown