



June 2018

Dear Classmates,

For those of us able to attend our 25<sup>th</sup> reunion, we would all agree that the theme lived up to its name; it was EPIC!

Here are a few quotes & pictures from the Facebook page, Concordia College Class of 1992, that capture the EPIC spirit of the weekend.







“Beloved WhoBodies  
We are gathered here today  
To get through this thing called reunion  
Electric word "reunion"

Seems like forever and that's a mighty long time  
But I'm here to tell you, there's something else  
The after-college

In A world of never-ending darkness  
You can always be the sun  
Day or night  
So when you call up that friend from Livdalen Hall, you know the one, Dr. mister  
miss or simply friend  
Instead of asking them what have you done with your life  
Ask him how much good have you done, baby

'Cause in this life  
Things are much harder  
than in the afterworld but  
In this life, we have each  
other  
And if de-elevator tries to  
bring you down  
Go crazy, punch a higher  
floor.” Wade Gardner



“Well that was fun...” Karl Stumo

“I also want to chime in on the thank you’s to Quarter to Midnight. Epic performance. I'm sure it was months and months of practice time. I hope you know it was much appreciated across the board. Thanks also to Liza, Karl, Trevor and others who planned it and those who made the commitment and effort to attend.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Kevin Williams for something he did. Jeff Logan was a great guy and a friend to many in our class; I was hoping that his tragic early passing would be acknowledged in some way. I thought Kevin's comments before The Replacements song were appropriate and from the heart. Thank you, Kevin! RIP Logan!” Derek Wolden

“It was totally a Kevin Williams move to acknowledge not just the passing of a beloved classmate but also to acknowledge the loss of every classmate we have lost at this time to help us keep perspective on where we stand in this crazy world. Our time is short but we are “sent forth” and our class has impressed with its contributions to the  world.” Chris Boe

“To see bonds that have endured a quarter century and to learn of the amazing contributions our classmates have made in our time after graduation is truly amazing-educators, advocates, doctors, attorneys, entrepreneurs, coaches, amazing ambassadors of Soli Deo Gloria. I am so blessed to be associated with this class of '92. Best wishes to you all, carry forth and keep making positive change in this world that needs the caliber of Cobbers you truly all are. Clearly the last 25 years have been epic, carry on!” Elliot Korschak

“Great Reunion!” Stephanie Larsen Newland

“Thanks for a great reunion weekend Moorhead and all the class of '92 friends! This was truly an [#Epic92](#) and amazing weekend. So many reconnections, laughs, memories, and new and familiar sights were experienced. See you all and more in 5 years!” Jessica Graco Lance

“Pretty sure it will take until our 30th to recover from our 25th. "Epic" comes close to describing the weekend, but may not be a full enough word. Serious props to anyone celebrating a reunion number higher than 25. You are animals.” Gretchen Drenkow Anderson

## **CAMPUS UPDATES**

The Department of Chemistry celebrated 100 years in early March (Chemistry has been at Concordia 102 years, but the event was postponed until the completion of the new Integrated Science Center). The day-long celebration included talks from chemistry alumni from across the country, a career networking event for students and a banquet in the evening with Robert Homann, Professor Emeritus and Past Dean of the College, as the keynote speaker.

Concordia Language Villages received the largest gift in its history from Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park: \$5M to support the first phase of construction of the Korean Language Village on Turtle River Lake. The gift was given in celebration of 30 years of language and culture at Sup sogŭi Hosu, the Korean Language Village. Additionally, the Language Villages will recognize and celebrate 35 years of Sēn Lín Hú, the Chinese Language Village, with a special program prior to International Day on August 10.

This past fall, Concordia College launched the RISE Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign with a goal of raising \$150,000,000 by December 2019. These funds will be used to support three pillars of the Concordia experience: integrative learning, inclusive learning, and innovative learning. For more information, head to [www.riseforconcordia.com](http://www.riseforconcordia.com)

## **ATHLETICS and MUSIC**

Brandon Zylstra '15 signed a reserve/futures deal with the Minnesota Vikings for the upcoming season, after two successful seasons with the Edmonton Eskimos. Zylstra caught 100 passes for a league-best 1687 yards in 2017.

Becca O'Shurak has been hired as the first female head coach of women's soccer. O'Shurak has previously served as assistant coach at Youngstown State and Tennessee Tech University.

Senior Bailey Hovland broke several throwing records this year, winning the MIAC Championship and breaking the conference meet record in the hammer throw. Hovland's hammer mark qualified her for the Women's Track and Field Nationals Meet this spring.

Dr. Rene Clausen was honored with the Weston H. Noble award for Lifetime Achievement at the 2018 ACDA Central and North Central Conference this year. Clausen is in his 32<sup>nd</sup> year at Concordia College as the conductor of The Concordia Choir.

## **GIVING**

Concordia continues to have fundraising success due to generous supporters in each class. In the past few years, Concordia has continued to surpass fundraising goals and can create new opportunities for students, including the completion of the Integrated Science Center and student scholarships.

This past year, our class had 21% participation and gave \$34,141. Since graduation, our class has given \$838,825 in outright gifts. THANK YOU!

## **CLOSING THOUGHTS**

Concordia is a special place. As my husband and I discuss potential colleges for our two girls we often drop the names of colleges in California or Hawaii—warm, tropical, good places to visit... But my heart wants them at Concordia—cold, windy, sometimes smelly, potential for flooding... because it was and is a place that not only educates men and women but lives out its mission--*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.*

It was wonderful meeting some of our classmate's children who attend Concordia. And if mine don't, oh well, they need to find a school that is a good fit for them. But if you happen to be in conversation with a high schooler looking at colleges, put in a plug for your alma mater; just don't talk about the weather.

With utmost gratitude,

Liza Okan  
Class of 1992 Rep