

# Happy 2022 to the Class of 1992!

## It is our 30th class reunion this year!

Hello 1992 Cobbers!

2022 is our year! Our 30th reunion year! We look forward to seeing everyone this fall at Homecoming. Please consider being a part of our reunion planning committee.

If you have not yet become a part of our Class of 1992 Facebook page, please join! There are often updates and photos posted by many of your classmates and we'd love to see you there, too.

## Campus Update 2022

### President Craft to Retire

President Craft announced his upcoming retirement at the end of his second presidential term, on June 30, 2023. The Board of Regents has already started seeking Concordia's next president with a presidential search committee and national consulting firm.

### New Executive Director for Faith and Learning

Dr. Michael Chan will be welcomed in June as the new Executive Director for Faith and Learning. He will direct the Lorentzsen and Dovre Centers, guide Concordia's interfaith relationships, and oversee the work of Campus Ministry.

### Learn. Work. Lead.

A Concordia College education is rooted in the college's deep commitment to providing a transformational experience for every one of our students through learning, working and leadership. Development has continued on our academic framework through **Three Schools, One College**:

- Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions
- Offutt School of Business
- School of Arts and Sciences

Concordia will begin renovation in the summer of 2022 on the Sanford Clinic building adjacent to campus to provide expanded laboratory, classroom, and centralized office space for its freshly named Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions. The project will include a nursing simulation lab and a human performance lab. It will be a remarkable advancement to the program.

Dr. Gwen Wagstrom Halaas '75 named new dean of Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions.

Dr. Halaas brings more than four decades of research, teaching, program development and administrative experience to Concordia. She grew up in the Fargo-Moorhead area and is a 1975 graduate of Concordia. Dr. Halaas will assume the role on July 1, 2022.

### **COVID Response/Planning**

We continue to monitor guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health and the CDC to keep our campus as healthy as possible amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Students, faculty, and staff are updated regularly and encouraged to engage in risk-reducing practices to prioritize in-person learning and working through the academic year.

### **Advancing the Mission: Cobber Ambassador Program**

A new initiative was officially launched to invigorate the unique network and relationships among alumni, friends, and students of Concordia College. Cobber Ambassadors are people who care about the students and mission, believe in the college, and help spread the word about Concordia's life-changing education.

Learn more or become an Ambassador at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/cobber-ambassador-program](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/cobber-ambassador-program)

### **Around Campus**

- Renovation was completed in Christiansen Recital Hall to provide a higher quality and more modern experience for students and guests.
- A gas fire pit was installed on campus near the 8<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to Knutson Campus Center.
- An Indoor Performance Center for golf was added in Olson Forum using the latest simulator technology to provide year-round training for the men's and women's golf programs.
- Olson Forum's workout balcony will be expanded this summer.

### **Concordia Recognized for Women in Coaching**

The University of Minnesota's Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport gave Concordia an "A" grade on its 2020-21 report card. The college was highlighted for having female head coaches for 70% of its women's sports. Concordia was the only MIAC school to receive an "A" grade in the report. Compliments to Athletic Director Rachel Bergeson for her leadership in athletics.

### **Homecoming**

100 Years of Homecoming was celebrated on campus in October 2021. The college was happy to successfully welcome back over 700 alumni and friends to celebrate this strong Cobber tradition.

We look forward to celebrating with you this year for our 30th! **October 7-9, 2022!**

Watch for updates at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming)

### **Corn Feed Season is around the corner!**

We will continue with the tradition of hosting corn feeds in the summer and hope to see you!

Updates can be found at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/cornfeeds](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/cornfeeds)

### **Giving Update**

We can pay forward the generous scholarships we received as students by supporting this new generation of Cobbers. Together, we help ensure that a Concordia education is possible for every student.

In 2021, more than 5,000 people came together to raise \$2.6 million for The Cobber Fund.

### **Thank you to the members of our class who made a gift in 2021!**

Be on the lookout for the Cobbers Give campaign March 7-18; a generous alum will add an additional \$100 to each of our gifts to The Cobber Fund. The class of 1992 can truly make a difference in the lives of current students. Learn more or give online at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/giving](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/giving).

### **Travel the World with Concordia**

Each year, the Alumni Relations Office offers opportunities for alumni and the Concordia family to partake in global travel experiences led by our in-house experts. From wine tastings in the French countryside, participating in Northern Spain's rich culture from the seat of your bicycle, or traveling as a companion to our top vocal and instrumental ensembles as they share their music with the world, there's an excursion catered to every interest.

Explore the trips at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/global-travel](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/global-travel)

### **News & Notes**

Stay up to date on news throughout the year and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

[ConcordiaCollege.edu/news/news-and-notes](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/news/news-and-notes)

## Alumni Awards

### 2021 Alumni Achievement Award

Fay Ferguson '73

Co-CEO Burrell  
Communications  
Group



Dr. Gwen (Wagstrom) Halaas '75

Vice chancellor for Academic Affairs  
and professor Washington State  
University Health Sciences



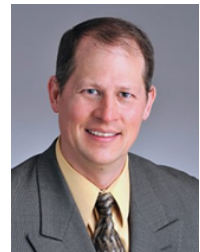
Harold D. Pope '77

Senior counsel at  
Dykema Gossett, PLLC



Dr. Corey Teigen '86

Chief Scientific Officer  
Penumbra, Inc.  
Vascular and interventional  
radiologist, researcher and  
developer



### 2021 Sent Forth Award

Judge Jade Rosenfeldt '05

Clay County Courthouse  
Seventh Judicial District



Stephen Letnes '00

Founder, Executive Director  
Able Artist Foundation



## Nominations Always Open

To read more about these recipients or to nominate a deserving alumni go to

[ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/awards-and-recognition](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/awards-and-recognition)

## **Classmate Information**

### **Remembering those we have loved and lost:**

Jul 17, 2000	Haugen, Carla J. (Holter)
Sep 24, 2005	Harris, John D.
Apr 8, 2008	Close, Elaine
Jan 2, 2013	Linnerooth, Peter J.
Sep 25, 2013	Potoczny, Joseph L.
Mar 1, 2016	Logan, Jeffrey R.
Apr 4, 2017	Fjeld, Julie L. (Bronson)
Mar 28, 2020	Hodges, LuraLynn Obituary Link: <a href="https://www.garrisonthompson.com/obituary/lura-hodges">https://www.garrisonthompson.com/obituary/lura-hodges</a>
Apr 10, 2020	Anderson, Sheree M.
Aug 29, 2020	Burton, Shane A.
Jan 9, 2021	Lowney, Kristen E. (Hedlund) Obituary Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3bqldxG">https://bit.ly/3bqldxG</a>
Apr 23, 2021	Morken, Jeffrey J. Obituary Link: <a href="https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000389708/">https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000389708/</a>

**We've lost touch with a few of our classmates. If you have contact information for them, please have them get in touch with the alumni office, so we can get everyone back in the loop (who would like to be):**

Axelson, Karla M. (Brandon) Bast, Joseph D. Benson, Amy J. (Mueller) Bjelland, Ted E.  
Brubakk, Hilde A. Campe, Beverly J. Chan, Sin-Wa Chen, Xin (Daisy) Cheung, Pak-Tak  
Cheung, Siu-Mei Dulski, Karin L. Eid, Charles F. Erickson, Peter J. Fee-Dubois, Elizabeth A. (Fee)  
Haarr, Tora-Sofie Harrington, Mark C. Hassman, Michael N. Herring, Jacqueline J. Hover, Joanna L.  
Johnson, Michelle L. Karstu, Janne T. Kjos, Arnulf Mackenzie, Scott C.  
Mbandeka, Festus K. Mosby, Mark E. Nicklas, Nicolle M. Pettersen, Eivind A. Rasmussen, Heidi S. (Schock)  
Rosenbaum, Karla M. (Erickson) Rosenbaum, Steve A. Rosencrans, Todd W.  
Skaanes, Nina O. (Sletten) Sobstad, Margrethe Soderholm, Keith F. Stevens, Rolfe M.  
Thomson, Annette F. Treinen, Kristen P. (Brandon) VanWeelden, Kimberly D. (Lindblad)  
Williams, Janelle J. (Hinchley) Wiseman, Bradley D. Wolf, Karen M.

**Classmate info was sent in by your classmates, along with updated contact info; let us know or contact the Concordia Alumni office if you'd like to get in touch with any of us!**

Please let us know if there are any corrections we need to make for the next letter.



**Binfet, Kelly (Abrahamson)**

My part time business, ABEEJUNK, became full time this year and I am now the owner of Fargo Junk Market, a seasonal vendor show with vintage antiques, handmade items, and clothing. You can find me on Instagram @fargojunkmarket and on Facebook!



**Evenson, Karen (Ekstrum)(Burton)**

2022 is a year of changes and moving forward in lots of ways! After serving 6+ years as Pastor of Faith Church UMC of Farmington, MN, I am being appointed as Senior Pastor of the United Methodist Church of Anoka and will begin my ministry there in July. My husband, Scott and I have recently begun a nonprofit called, "SoulKare," and we are hoping to launch a destination B&B in connection with SoulKare this year, too. Our granddaughter, Riley, will be 3yrs old in July and we love spending as much time as we can with her (currently, at least every Friday)! Our three adult kids are fun to stay connected with, and our loving labradoodle, Winnie-the-Pooch and tabby Polly-cat get our time and attention, too, so life is pretty full, but we wouldn't have it any other way.



**Fjare, Heather**

I am entering my 25th year of living in Colorado. After 23 years together, I married the love of my life, Ruth, this past April. We are the grateful guardians of two adorable felines, Felix and Merlin. After earning my master's at CSU, I have been a music therapist for 20 years and have enjoyed the last three years working for UCHHealth as the neurologic music therapist on the inpatient rehab unit at Poudre Valley Hospital.

## **Hall, Geoff**

After leading Wayside Waifs (Kansas City, Missouri's largest animal welfare nonprofit organization) for the past eight years, I will be returning to my vocational roots in the zoo industry. I am excited to begin a new chapter back to where my fascination with wildlife began as a child growing up in Minnesota. I will be joining the staff at the Como Park Zoo & Conservatory in St. Paul Minnesota as a General Curator in March 2022. My responsibilities will be overseeing the care of all the animals and managing the people who care for the animals at the zoo. Yes, DREAM JOB for me! My wife, Michele Pritchard, PhD, will be wrapping up a series of research projects at the University of Kansas Medical Center over the next several months before joining me in St. Paul. She is an Associate Professor in the Pharmacology/Toxicology Department and is Director of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences at KUMC. Our family of furry, feathery, and scaly creatures will be preparing for a move to Minnesota in the coming months.



## **Knapp, Kari (Morgenthaler)**

Last year in March 2021, we adopted a third baby, Torsten Jack Knapp. Born March 18, 2021, he is the full sibling to our other two boys, Bjorn (6 years old) and Hans (3 years old). We are happy to have another child. They will keep us young and active.

## **Lance, Jessica (Greco)**

2021 was still quite the year. We were not fully out of the pandemic yet, so things were still not the same. I ended the 20-21 school year teaching online to 18 2nd graders while also going to school online myself for another master's degree in Reading - from Grand Canyon University. The new school year (21-22) started with in-person school and I am enjoying teaching 20 2nd graders who were just in Kindergarten when the pandemic hit. In March of 2022, I finished my master's degree in Reading and hope to become a literacy specialist sometime in the near future. Being a grandma has been the best job description addition over the past 21 months.



## Miles, Sarah (Nelson)

During the 2020 lockdown I decided to make a complete career change and enrolled in the Healthcare Navigation programs at NWTC in Green Bay. I am currently finishing up my final semester, while serving a one year term with AmeriCorps as a Community Connections Navigator at ThedaCare Regional Medical Center in Appleton. I work directly with patients who are experiencing financial strain, which creates stress and may impact their health. I connect people who have food insecurity or financial, housing, or transportation needs to community resources. I love working with the patients! Once my service term is done in August I will be actively looking for a job in the Fox Valley (or remotely). The family is also doing well. Alex is a junior at the business school at UMN Twin Cities and Madison is a freshman in high school. Alex just secured a summer internship in St. Paul and Madison is a super talented competitive dancer.

## Mulcahy, James

I am Dean of Students at Prairie Wind Middle School and Head Baseball Coach at Perham High School in Perham, MN. My son, Carter Joel, is a sophomore at Concordia and will graduate in 2024.



## Munson, Lianne (Loeks)

My daughter Rachel is a sophomore at Concordia, and a RA at Park Region. We recently moved to Stacy, MN, where we purchased a lake home that has been in my family since the 1920s. In June, I won a global volunteer leadership award from the IMA (Institute of Management Accountants) called the IMA Champion award.

## Servaty-Seib, Heather

I have accepted a new position as the Associate Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning at Purdue University.

Thanks to all who sent in updates!! We'd love to hear from ALL of YOU in the year ahead, so please stay in touch and let us know what's up! Want to host a CORN FEED in the future? Let us know (or contact the Alumni Office).

Take care, and be well, and Soli deo Gloria! See you at Homecoming, Oct. 7-9, 2022!

Jess and Karen

Jessica (Greco) Lance

[jesslance27@gmail.com](mailto:jesslance27@gmail.com)

(956) 376-7890 (New Mexico)

Karen (Ekstrum/Burton) Evenson

[beahrgs777@gmail.com](mailto:beahrgs777@gmail.com)

(763)370-4245 (Minnesota)