

CORBAN CONNECTION

SPRING 2023

EDUCATING CHRISTIANS WHO WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST.

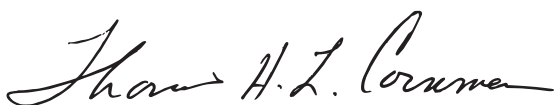
NOTE FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

I wish you could have listened in when I met with a team of our regional accreditors to review last fall's on-campus visit. The review was very positive (and we await their final report next month), but the big story was something said in passing. Several members of the team noted how consistently mission-focused they found our administration, faculty, staff, and students to be. One team member asked me how we manage to accomplish that. Upon reflection, I'd have to say that it is by and through the grace of God.

Mission affects every aspect of what we do! Corban University exists to educate Christians who will make a difference in the world for Jesus Christ. Educating Christians means we cast a very different "net" in our admissions efforts. Our mission informs how we build our curriculum, how we approach Student Life activities, and how we integrate a biblical worldview into all our classes. Our mission should be reflected in our athletic teams' culture, in dorm life, and in our employment practices. This mission is profoundly countercultural, and it requires discipline to stay on track, by and through the grace of God.

Join me in praying to keep Corban one hundred percent mission-focused!

Faithfully,



Thomas H.L. Cornman, Ph.D.



SEEING GOD IN EVERY TRIAL: GRACE MAIDEN

"When most of my friends were talking about what party to go to, and where to attend college, my experience was about 'How do I survive? Where do I get food? Where am I going to sleep?'" says Grace Maiden, now a senior at Corban University.

At age 17, Grace found herself homeless for the second time in her life. "I felt like everything had been ripped out of my hands," she says. College had always been an active dream of hers. She had worked and saved throughout her teen years with the hope of one day attending her dream school. Each day, she watched more of her savings slip through her fingers. "When you don't have a roof over your head you can't think about the future," she says.

Grace's response to her circumstances was anything but common. Most days you could find her at the local homeless shelter, not as a resident, but as a volunteer. It was these selfless acts, serving through her own need, that reshaped her future. News began to spread of a young girl in crisis who chose to help those in need, often at her own expense. Through various channels of support, her way was paid to the college of her choice. She chose Corban.

While on Corban's campus, Grace has flourished in an environment designed to meet her needs—physical, emotional, and spiritual. "It's been such a healthy community where there are so many resources available," she says. "I always brag about the free counseling options on campus. It's made an impact in deciding my career path and having spiritual and mental health."

That career path has begun more quickly than she even anticipated. Even before arriving on campus, Grace's own experiences with homelessness were propelling her toward a career in nonprofit ministry. "I currently work my dream job, and I got into that because of a personal relationship with my professors," Grace says. "I'm making effective change in the area. I get to talk about the problems of homelessness and express and advocate for the needs of a population that doesn't always have a voice."

While finishing her degree, Grace currently works as Administrator of Strategic Growth for Grace House, helping to expand their reach and serve even more women in homelessness crisis. She's already putting her degree to good use. "Most of psychology is not dominated by a Christian worldview, but what happens when you can take very healing scripture, God's Word, and the Holy Spirit, and integrate that with very practical and helpful concepts?" she says. "Corban has equipped me both clinically and theologically to help those that are in crisis."

The road has not been easy for Grace, but it has taken her from a place of survival, never being able to look more than a day ahead, to serving those in need each day, all while imagining a realistic future where she could one day run a nonprofit of her own. "I feel blessed by my struggles," she says. "God's been in all of it. Out of every one of my trials has come something good."

Scan the QR code for the full story.



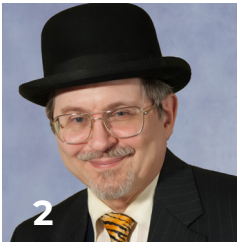
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE SELECTS FINALIST

Over the past weeks, our presidential search has picked up significantly. In mid-February, the Presidential Search Committee interviewed six candidates, narrowing that group down to two finalists. In late February, these two finalists were welcomed to campus for extensive in-person interviews, including the opportunity for staff, faculty, and students to attend a set of forums with each candidate.

During this time, members of our internal Corban community had the opportunity to review each of

the finalists' resumes, hear from them in person, and ask questions. The Presidential Search Committee then gathered formal survey feedback from those who attended these forums while completing their own review process of the two candidates.

We hope to announce Corban's next president very soon. A final candidate has been selected to present to the Board of Trustees for a vote this month. Please continue to pray for the University as we look for the individual God has uniquely equipped to lead Corban in this next chapter of our history.



- Bettie Delury, '84** | Salem, OR
“After living in Eugene, Ore., for 33 years, my husband, Paul, and I moved to Salem in June 2021. We are both working remotely from home now, which freed us up to be able to move closer to our adult children and grandchildren. I would love to reconnect with classmates living in the Salem area.”
 - Paul C. Magnussen, '77** | Tacoma, WA
“After working for the Boeing Company for 24+ years, I retired in 2015. To celebrate, Shelley and I went to Alaska that summer. About a year later, I published my novel, *Totally Unexpected!* and am relaunching it as an audiobook. I now work part time as a custom framer at Hobby Lobby.”
 - Shawnee Marie Randolph, '08** | Bismark, ND
“Shawnee recently released her first fiction novel, *The Author and The Illustrator*. It’s an upper middle-grade fantasy for ages 10+. She lives in Bismark, N.D., with her husband, Josh Randolph, and her two daughters, Raelynn and Finley. Shawnee is the marketing writer at Bismarck State College.”
 - Vince Rediger, '11** | Spanish Fork, UT
“Vince and Jessie Rediger (Jones, ‘11) have moved to Spanish Fork, Utah, as missionaries to reach people for Jesus and plant churches. Vince was the youth pastor at Salt Creek Baptist Church in Dallas, Ore., for the past seven years after completing his ThM at Dallas Theological Seminary.”
 - Chris & Lexie Zuver, '08 & '09** | Moses Lake, WA
“We live in Moses Lake with our two children, William, age 6, and Kennedy, age 3. Lexie practices family medicine in nearby Ritzville, Wash., and Chris is a history teacher at Moses Lake High School. We attend Moses Lake Presbyterian where Chris helps with youth and Lexie helps with children’s ministry.”
 - Zoe Harland, '15** | Salem, OR
“Zoe Thatcher became Zoe Harland when she married David in July of 2021!”
- Let us know the special things that have been happening in your life! Scan the QR code to submit your major life updates.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS FOR 2023

Distinguished Alumni Award: Jenni Burke

Jenni Burke (‘04) is the owner and CEO of Illuminate Literary Agency, a premier literary agency with a reputation for elevating the publishing careers of emerging leaders in diverse fields from Christian living and spiritual growth to leadership and business. Burke is motivated by the concept of “author stewardship,” which plays a signature and foundational role in her agency’s work. “We get to make sure that our authors are being supported in a way that helps steward their own soul and keeps them connected and thriving in Christ,” she says. “We don’t want them just to have a profitable publishing career, but a life-giving publishing career where their words are able to make an impact by pointing people to the light of Christ.” For Jenni and her husband, Seth (‘04), their time at the University was foundational. “It has shaped our trajectory both individually and as a couple,” she says. “Corban’s mission became a north star for us. It is humbling to know that people at Corban feel that, in some way, I am reflective of that mission.”



Distinguished Young Alumni Award: Quinn Neely

Quinn Neely’s (‘08) work as co-founder and CEO of Kijani Forestry is providing vital recovery to Uganda’s indigenous forests, but also to the livelihoods of many Ugandans. Kijani partners with local farmers, providing resources to produce energy more sustainably, all while combatting deforestation and bringing economic growth to vulnerable rural areas. This year, they are working with over 50,000 farmers to plant income-generating trees on their property. Kijani is on track to plant over 20 million trees this year, while also employing around 700 individuals in their various efforts. Added to their work in sustainability and economic recovery is a component of ministry, an emphasis instilled in Neely during his time at Corban. “Working with these groups, we have access to thousands of people, and that number is growing rapidly” says Neely. “We’ve started to integrate a program we call ‘house to house’ which is helping to give the gift of a relationship with God back to the people.”

Christian Ministry Award: Ryan Welsh

Ryan Welsh (‘05) is the current lead pastor at Restoration Church in Southlake, Texas. When Welsh first arrived at Corban as a student, ministry was not on his radar. “I was a brand new Christian,” he says. “I was a pre-law major until the first few weeks in Dr. Trull’s Old Testament Survey class. I wanted to do what Dr. Trull was doing for me. I wanted to help people understand the Bible.” Since that day, Welsh has been involved in ministry, both from the pulpit and in the classroom, with much of his effort dedicated to church planting and growth. “I have a huge desire to see people understand the Bible and understand the gospel with more clarity, so that they can apply it to their lives,” Welsh says. “I am humbled to know that, among the many ministry leaders from Corban, who I consider to be far more deserving than I am, my name would even come up, let alone be chosen.”



Honorary Alumni Award: Terry and Janie Shike

Terry and Janie Shike may not be Corban alumni, but their dedication to the University has been profoundly felt over the last 10 years. Their first encounter with Corban was walking the paths on campus while committing time to prayer. Terry and Janie’s retirement years have been spent serving diligently at their local church and in the community, leading prayer groups, Bible studies, and mentoring fellow believers. “For the last 15-20 years, it has been our goal to help people to grow deeper in love with Jesus.” Terry and Janie have been dedicated supporters of Corban and, for the last eight years, have joined regularly with Corban staff to pray for the University. “This involvement has impacted us in a new way, as we see the need and value of Christian education and preparing students to be a godly influence in the community,” says Terry. “We appreciate this reward because it validates the time we have dedicated to the Lord in supporting this University.”

Outstanding Service Award (posthumous): Paul Null (‘73)

The following statement was collected from members of Paul’s immediate family. “From the beginning to the end, Corban was a vital part of Paul’s spiritual journey here on earth. He enrolled at Corban (then Western Baptist Bible College) shortly after committing his life to Christ. It was here that he developed his enduring passion for the Word, met the love of his life, and established lifelong friendships and mentorships. Corban was where he discovered his calling. This led to over 49 years of pastoral ministry. When called to serve on the Board of Trustees, he felt both compelled and honored to give back to the school that had given him so much. He served until his passing in September. We know he would be moved, delighted, and humbled to receive this award from the school who took a chance on a reformed troublemaker over 53 years ago. As his family, who is so proud to call him husband, father, and grandfather, we are incredibly grateful and touched that Corban has chosen to recognize him in this way.”



LEARN HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR TAX SAVINGS AND CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

As you read this, you may have completed your 2022 tax forms or are in the process. Wouldn't it be great to be giving in the most tax-efficient ways and lessen your tax burden now or in the coming year?

The following example comes from our friends at The Giving Crowd (TGC). Corban partners with TGC, a nonprofit organization specializing in planned giving solutions, to provide free consultation with Corban donors.

"Marjorie was an 80+-year-old widow. After several phone visits, The Giving Crowd was invited to her

home to meet with her and her family face-to-face. She was giving away about \$30,000 per year, but she was also taking a required minimum distribution on her IRA of about \$35,000.

"This meant that she was paying taxes on her income and then giving post-tax dollars to charity. We worked together to help her understand how to do a qualified charitable deduction so that she could give her charitable dollars directly from her IRA and eliminate all of her tax liability. She was able to give more to charity and eliminate the IRS. She was thrilled. Are

you giving in the most tax efficient ways?"

There are many other examples of how TGC has helped Corban donors save even more taxes when they sell their business, land, or other assets. We are grateful for the increased impact Corban donors have had on Corban's mission by using this provided consultation service.

Would you be interested in knowing more? Contact Darrel White at (503) 508-2870 or dwhite@corban.edu.



Exciting news: our annual Scholarship Luncheon has turned into Scholarship Dinner! Each year, this longstanding event is brimming with inspirational student stories and testimonies of transformation as Corban friends and family are invited to support and celebrate the mission of Corban University and discover how it is unfolding, every day, in and through the lives of our students.

This year's dinner will be hosted here at Corban University on Saturday, April 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. While the heart of the event is discovering the work God is doing in the lives of our students, there will also be dinner and, new this year, a paddle-raise auction beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by dessert and fellowship. The dress code is business casual/ semiformal.

Scholarship Dinner is vital to raising awareness of the Corban Fund and the vast impact that donor giving plays in the effectiveness of our University, and our students, in pursuing a future where all can say they are truly making a difference in the world for Jesus Christ.

Scan the QR code for more information and to purchase your tickets today!



PARENT CORNER: RANDY WILLIAMS — WHAT'S THE ENDGAME?



Clara Williams' friends join in prayer

"The other day my wife sent me a picture," says Randy Williams, a second-generation graduate of Corban University, class of 1979. "All of these girls were gathered together at the end of our daughter Clara's bridal shower, all praying for her. I looked at that and got emotional."

Clara is the third of Randy's children to attend Corban. Moments like these, even through the distance of a phone screen, are why he has never regretted those decisions. "This picture was the essence, the biproduct, the end game of the Corban experience," he says. "It wasn't planned. Clara didn't orchestrate it, but all of those kids that were there, present in that moment to pray over her,

were also fully invested in the Corban experience and the spiritual growth that it produces."

Randy is no stranger to the college decision process. He's been through it a few times with his children. With each first day, each graduation, Randy has learned the lesson of perspective. "Parents need to be able to project out, to not just look at dorms and facilities and programs, but at what is the end game for my child?" he says. "I know that I'm biased, but I told my wife that day, 'Why in the world would any Christian parent not do this if they saw what the endgame was?'"

The picture of Clara's endgame was something Randy could hold in the palm of his hand, and yet stretched so much further. "That moment had nothing to do with her major, but it was the pinnacle of her experience here," he says. "If people could see that when their child is in a place like this, where Christ is exalted, where the Word of God is taught, and students are allowed to flourish, that kind of a moment can happen for their child as well."

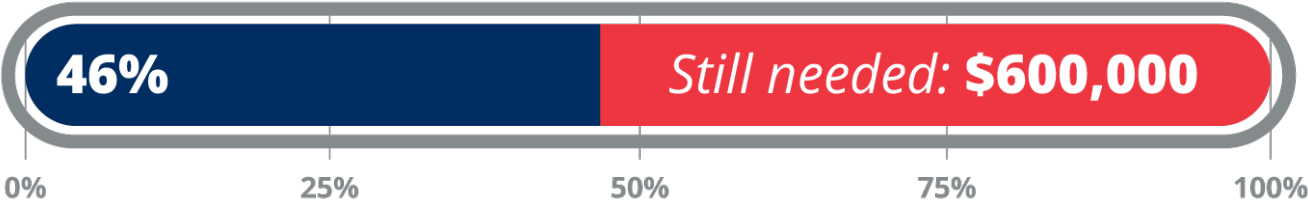
It was these sort of lifelong relationships that defined Randy's own Corban experience. Now they've begun to shape a third generation, impacting the lives of his children. "What caused that moment in that living room was the cumulative intentionality of so many individuals that were not in that living room," he says. "For a parent that's looking for a place for their child to go to school, Corban is able to say, 'Yes, we know what the fight is, and we are fighting it well. We know what the course is, and we're running it well. And we know what the doctrine of our faith is and are teaching it well.' When you drive away from this campus knowing that, then you can go home in peace. That's why I love this school. And I got all of that from a picture."

CORBAN FUND UPDATE



Will you consider joining the ranks of donors and make an impact on students—giving where it's needed most? This unrestricted fund helps bridge the gap where tuition dollars cease and supports nearly every student through educational grants and other student programming. The Corban Fund's annual goal is \$1,119,000 by June 30.

With only three months left in the fiscal year, your gift can help reach the finish line, meeting 100% of the goal! Your prayers and financial partnership truly make a difference!



TIMEFRAME:
JULY 1, 2022–
JUNE 30, 2023



(Left to right): Mason Shaw, Jordan Newton, Angie Newton, Bella (translator), Evan Olson, Lauren Croff, Jacobe Croff



Lauren Croff prays with a Burmese woman who received Christ during a time of preaching.

STUDENTS SERVE ON THAILAND MISSION TRIP

After the end of the fall semester, a small group of Corban students decided to forgo their winter break in favor of service and ministry. Led by Dr. Jordan Newton, this trip sought to bring Corban students into close contact with the global church and new perspectives beyond their American understanding. “To engage cross-culturally while in school is a tremendous sacrifice of time, energy, and money,” Newton says. “It requires months of training, raising nearly \$5,000, learning ministry overseas, emotional fatigue, and being out of your comfort zone each and every day. But it is so valuable for our students to humbly join the ministry of others as learners and servants.”

In their two weeks in Thailand, the team ministered to Burmese refugees, worked in orphanages, put on youth camps, assisted in Bible studies and church services, and saw many Buddhists come to Christ through street ministry. “Every day was a challenge of flexibility,” says Evan Olson. “But looking back, I can see the Lord’s hands in everything we were

doing leading up to this trip. He had a plan, not only for us to serve others, but for our own lives to be transformed by the Holy Spirit through these amazing people.”

Missions is a vital part of the Corban experience and culture. “We want students to join the ministry of the local church in another place, to learn from their methods, and to contribute to their kingdom work,” says Newton. “It is a learning opportunity for students and a way to bless the global church.”

The trip offered more than just memories, but also life-shaping perspective. “This American thing we have going on over here represents only a small percentage of the population of the world. Few people live as we do,” says Shaw. “Having the perspective, the gratitude, the desire to make a change, all of the things that an experience like this offers gave us the fire to excel in our current studies, and an energy and passion to make a difference in the world for Jesus Christ.”

WINTER SPORTS RECAP

Men’s Basketball:

At the time of publication, Corban’s men’s basketball team has just completed another 20-win season under the direction of third-year head coach, Taylor Kelly. The Warriors finished with a 20-10 regular season record, going 15-7 in conference play and securing an at-large bid to the 2023 NAIA National Championship tournament.

Women’s Basketball:

The Warriors women’s basketball team finished a 12-17 season that saw a return to the CCC Tournament. The Warriors will return ten underclassmen and three juniors as they look to build on this season, and ahead to another run at a CCC title in 2024. Freshman, Tori Younker, and sophomore, Gemma LaVergne, were named to the CSC Academic All-District Team.

Men’s Wrestling:

The Corban men’s wrestling team continues to make a name for themselves in their fourth year as a program. This year, they posted a 3-4 dual meet record in a stacked conference that included six teams consistently ranked among the top twenty teams in the nation. This year’s CCC tournament was punctuated by sophomore David Rubio’s repeat performance as conference champion at 165 pounds. Along with Rubio, Brayden Boyd, Matthew Bartlett, and Tyson Stover all qualified for the 2023 NAIA Wrestling National Championships in Wichita, Kansas. Rubio became the school’s first ever wrestler to reach the finals, finishing as national runner-up.



EVENTS

GOLDEN GRAD REUNION FOR CLASS OF 1973

This April, we will welcome the Golden Grad class of 1973 to Corban’s campus for a multi-day event of special recognition commemorating 50 years as a part of the Corban family. All members of the class of ‘73, whether graduates or not, are welcome on April 27-29 for a fun-filled trip down memory lane. Special recognition will be reserved for graduates during chapel on Friday, April 28.



Scan the code to learn more.

SPRING SHOWCASE

Featuring Corban University choirs, band, and orchestra, the Spring Showcase promises to fill your evening with music in all its forms.

The concert is free and open to the public, held in the Psalm Center on April 28, beginning at 7:30 p.m.



Scan the QR code for more information.



SPRING PLAY: THE PHANTOM TOLLBOOTH

Curtains open beginning March 16 for Corban Theatre's staging of *The Phantom Tollbooth*. A story full of wonder, whimsy, and wisdom, *The Phantom Tollbooth* is the perfect event for all audiences.

Colorful characters and comic events give life to a story that reminds us to keep our eyes open to wonder. The play will run from March 16-27 with both matinees and evening performances available.



Scan to purchase tickets today!

NEW CORBAN COFFEE CLUB MUG FOR 2024



Introducing the new, exclusive Corban Coffee Club mug design for 2024! Join today and you can look forward to receiving this brand new mug in your annual fall membership gift. Coffee Club members

honor Corban's mission through monthly giving to the Corban Fund. A special on-campus reception is planned for members to receive their annual gift and connect with fellow Corban and coffee lovers.



Scan to learn more and reserve your new mug today!



SUPPORT CORBAN

Our students and their commitment to Christ make us who we are, but our donors drive what we do. Join the cause with a gift today!

REACH OUT TO US

Do you have something you would like to see featured in an upcoming issue? Let us know by email at advancement@corban.edu, or by mail.