

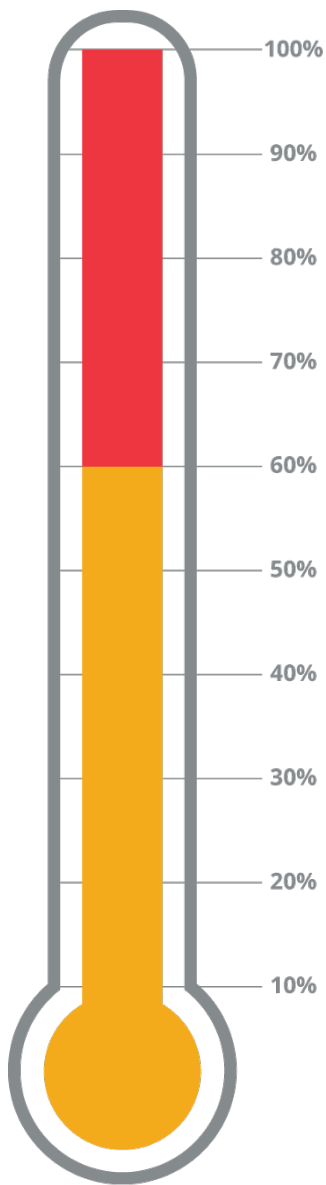
CORBAN CONNECTION

SUMMER 2023

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

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\$668,779 raised

\$450,221 remaining

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President Elect Dr. John Mark Yeats

PRESIDENT ELECT YEATS PREPARES FOR JUNE ARRIVAL

“When we stepped foot on Corban’s campus, my wife and I had such a sense of God connecting us in the supernatural way that only He does,” says Corban University President Elect, Dr. John Mark Yeats, recalling his first visit to Corban. Yeats remembers boarding the flight back to Kansas City, turning to his wife and asking, “What just happened?”

“It felt like we were leaving with friends,” he says. “We didn’t truly know anybody here. There was no reason for us to have that feeling, but it was such a sweet expression of God’s kindness, and so powerful that, when the Board offered us the position, we had already sensed the Lord’s calling.”

Set to officially begin his duties on June 1, Yeats is eager to press into the strengths of the Corban community that made such an impression on his family. “In our society, we

are increasingly seeing institutions buckle under cultural pressures,” he says. “Corban has stayed the course and been determined to live out its mission and not capitulate. That’s rare. And that is becoming increasingly difficult. I want to see Corban remain lashed to the Word of God, committed to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to seeing it advance in the world.”

There will be many priorities on his plate come June, but Dr. Yeats has two things at the forefront of his mind when considering his new role as president. “I would love for us to have fiscal security, including endowments that enable future ministry,” he says. “Not because we want to lose our dependency on God, but we need to be good stewards of the treasure that is Corban and invest in a way that keeps it as a long stay for this region. But even more so, at the end of the day I would love for it to be said, “They remained faithful.”

CELEBRATING THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023

On May 6, championed by the familiar sound of pipes and drums, Corban University celebrated the graduating class of 2023. A culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to Christ, the three graduation ceremonies were full of bright smiles and even brighter futures.

This year’s ceremonies featured commencement speaker, Rev. Dr. James Gleason, senior pastor at Sunrise Church in Hillsboro and Executive Director of Church Venture Northwest. Gleason encouraged the class from Psalm 119:32. “Make God’s heart, His teaching, His laws, His commands the lane that you live your life in. When you run in the path of God’s commands, true happiness follows.”

Interim President Dr. Thomas Cornman recognized this year’s distinguished graduates, Heather Rayhorn and Hannah Maupin, for their embodiment of Corban University’s commitment to academic excellence and dedication to making a difference in the world for Jesus Christ.

It was a fitting close to this early chapter in the lives of the class of 2023, punctuating the theme for the year, “But God ...,” referencing Romans 5:8—a demonstration of His love and faithfulness to see them through, and a reminder of His continued calling on their lives.

Scan the QR code to watch the Commencement recap.



Make a difference with a gift today!

INSIDE

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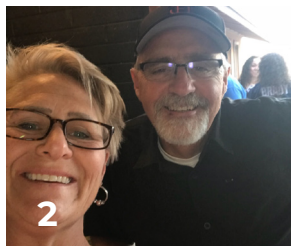
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Golden Grad Class of 1973
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Corban Word Search
Beach Volleyball Rakes in Postseason Awards Events



Scan the QR code to submit your major life updates.

- 3. Rebekah Linn Cornelius, '00** | Westminster, Colorado
Rebekah recently joined staff with The Navigators and she is discipling college students at the University of Colorado Boulder to know Christ, make Him known, and help others do the same. In addition, she's helping equip colleagues and teammates as a CliftonStrengths coach in life and leadership.
- 4. John Coby Davies, '72** | Non Sang, Thailand
"I'm involved in my third church plant since arriving in southeast Asia in 2003. Exciting times in our Thai town!"
- 5. Travis and Kristin (Bushnell) Frank, '04 & '05**
Saint Maries, Idaho
Travis and Kristin Frank are currently living in North Idaho among the mountains and snow. Travis is pastoring a small church there, while Kristin is homeschooling the kids and running them and their friends to activities. Last month, their oldest son got married.
- 6. Shawn Hussey, '84** | Livermore, California
"I was recently hired as the MBA Program Director for George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon, starting fall of 2023."
- 7. Naomi Talty, '08** | Kent, Washington
Naomi completed a Master's of Professional Counseling degree (2021) and is now working as a mental health therapist in King County, Washington.



- 1. Kim Allan, '05** | Helena, Montana
After 13 years of ministry in Alberta, Canada, Kim and her husband, Byron, moved to Montana to pastor Helena Alliance Church. They have five children, Kayley, Josiah, Samuel, Benjamin, and Caleb. They enjoy being involved in the church, homeschooling their kids, and exploring their new state.
- 2. David Scott Hammond, '99** | Phoenix, Arizona
"After 38 years in the car financial services industry, my wife and I now travel full time selling non-dairy soft-serve at fairs and festivals."

ABOVE ALL REMAIN FAITHFUL: PASTOR LEVI MANITSAS

"I believe your greatest times of growth come after you go through trials, or you do something stupid," says Levi Manitsas ('00), Head Pastor of Cornerstone Christian Church in John Day, Oregon.

Trial and tragedy are no strangers to Levi's story. In the winter of 1993, as a young high school student, he committed his life to ministry. Just months later, his mother's life was taken by cancer. "I remember feeling broken," he says. "And I had no clue how I was going to be able to pay for school in order to receive my ministry training."

Levi chose to be faithful to God's calling on his life despite the circumstances, attending Western Baptist College (now Corban University). He worked the night shift at UPS to help pay for his education. "I would go to work at one in the morning, get off at eight, and hustle to my nine o'clock class," he says.

While Levi labored through his years at Corban, often feeling exhausted or disconnected, the community rallied around him. "I could feel how much Corban cared about me," he remembers. "I experienced so much support and grace." And while Corban equipped Levi for future ministry, the coming years would prove vital in defining the perseverance and faithfulness that God had been instilling in him from an early age. "Corban gave me the foundation, equipped me for ministry, and showed me how to serve, but you can't train people to hold hands at the death bed."

After graduating, God led Levi and his young family on a ministry journey that brought them to remote John Day, Oregon—three hours from the nearest Walmart. "It's not just rural ministry," Levi says. "It's



Levi Manitsas (center) and family in John Day, Oregon

rural, remote ministry, and you have to be tough."

Six years into their ministry in John Day, that sentiment was put to the test. "2015 was a crushing year," Levi says. "A horrendous wildfire tore through our community. We lost over 40 homes. We had a young man die in a vehicle accident. My best friend, an elder in our church, was diagnosed with cancer. And that fall, my parents were both killed in a car accident. To top it off, that winter our church boiler went out. It just felt like we couldn't do anything. But even so, God was so faithful to us, and the church was so faithful to Him."

When his community lay in ashes, they rallied and rebuilt. "We were just dealing with a lot," he says. "When I was forced to spend six weeks away to take care of funeral arrangements, in my grief, I was

convinced that everyone would be gone when I came back. But everyone was here—faithfully."

If trials are indeed what defined Levi's early ministry, faithfulness, more than anything, is what they produced. "My plan is to die with my boots on out here," he says. "I guess I've kind of been like a weeping prophet. Sometimes my lot in life is to walk with people through their most difficult times, probably because I've been through them myself."

To Corban, the school that stuck with him, Levi has one message. "I pray that Corban continues to know its students and their stories," he says. "I was working all night long, and Corban was there for me. To the student working two jobs to pay for school, I encourage them to get plugged into their local church, and to above all, remain faithful."

COLLIN BOX NAMED OUTSTANDING YOUNG PROFESSIONAL BY SALEM CHAMBER

On April 8, Corban alumnus Collin Box ('10) was recognized as the Salem Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Young Professional at the First Citizen Awards Banquet in downtown Salem.

"It is a tremendous honor to be named among the other recipients, as well as the long list of previous winners who have demonstrated a legacy of servant leadership in our community," says Box. "The award is a testament to how sport can be leveraged to make a difference in the community."

Box, born and raised in Salem, currently serves as the executive director of Capital Fútbol Club (CFC), a role he has held since 2011. In this role, Box has seen the club grow to serve over 4,500 kids in the area.

"Communities need spaces for kids to be active, have positive adult role models and connections, and interact with people who are different from them,"

Box says. "CFC is providing a space for that to happen." Under his guidance, CFC has experienced a revitalization, expanding its programs each year, with future expansion on the horizon.

One example of recent expansion is CFC's GRASSP after school program, set up to serve kids who cannot access sports due to financial and transportation issues. Fellow Corban graduate Mike Cowan ('11) has taken over as director of the program, watching it grow from 4 schools and 80 students to 18 elementary schools, 11 middle schools, and more than 1,000 students served.

"I'm excited about expanding our impact," Box says, "both in the ways we serve those within our programs as well as the ways we have been able to tell the story of the power of sport, leveraging that for the good of families in our community."



Interim President Dr. Tom Cornman and Collin Box



(left to right) David Vanderburg, Janice Eldridge, Peggy Blanchard, Beverly Mortimer, Peggy Pardini, Brenda McCoin, Georgia Rogers, David Pardini, Rex Lewis, Ed Osborne, Jack Rabenberg, Steven Sandberg, Helen Tripp, Valerie Darnell, Gary Darnell, Kevin Moyer

GOLDEN GRAD CLASS OF 1973 RETURNS TO CAMPUS

From April 27-29, members of the class of 1973 returned to campus as “Golden Graduates,” marking 50 years since graduation, and were treated with a special slate of experiences held in their honor.

From memories of “chicken pickin’” to lining up for meals in the tunnels beneath campus, wild stories and sweet nostalgia followed this class wherever they went during their weekend reunion. “We certainly had the absolute best time,” says Golden Grad Kevin Moyer. “These memories will last clear until the greatest of all reunions in the air takes place.”

During their stay, the Golden Grad class of ’73 was treated to numerous opportunities to reconnect and reminisce on campus tours and during on-campus meals. They also enjoyed the opportunity to meet with current students, take in live music at the Spring Showcase concert, and be recognized with special honors at the year-end chapel celebration.

By special request, the group culminated the event with impromptu singing of hymns and the “Doxology” in the tunnels where they once waited for meals as students over 50 years ago.



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CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2023!



SCHOLARSHIP DINNER EXCEEDS GOAL WITH MORE THAN \$120,000 RAISED

April 15, Corban University’s annual scholarship event was transformed into Scholarship Dinner. The crowd was buzzing in the new format, with over 180 attendees packing the Psalm Center for this ticketed event, especially when time came for the newly introduced paddle-raise auction.

Emceed by Dr. Jennifer Kleiber, Scholarship Dinner featured Alumni Award Winner and keynote speaker Jenni Burke (’04), and a special appearance by President Elect, Dr. John Mark Yeats, as he led a student and graduate panel featuring Travez Whyte, Andrew Wheeler, Mariah Sede, Grace Maiden, and Neha Joseph.

The event was an incredible success, with attendees enjoying the new format and the moments of nostalgia afforded by bringing the event back onto Corban’s campus. More than \$120,000 was raised in support of the next generation of Christian leaders through student scholarships.



(left to right) Dr. John Mark Yeats, Grace Maiden, Neha Joseph, Travez Whyte, Mariah Sede, and Andrew Wheeler



Attendees participate in the paddle-raise auction

CORBAN WORD SEARCH

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- CLASSES
- CLOCKTOWER
- CORBAN
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- FARRAR
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- LUMBERJACK
- PAVILION
- PREWITT
- PUSHBUSH
- STAFF
- STUDENTS
- TUNNELS
- TURKEYTROT
- VANGILDER
- WARRIORS
- WESTERN
- YEATS

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BEACH VOLLEYBALL RAKES IN POSTSEASON AWARDS



Corban's beach volleyball team with their national runner-up trophies

Another successful season for the nationally-ranked Corban beach volleyball team came to a close in mid-April at the NAIA National Invitational, where the Warriors once again made an appearance in the National Championship match.

While they were unable to defend their 2022 national title this season, instead settling for a national runner up trophy, the program still set multiple individual, pair, and team records across the board. In the inaugural NAIA West-Pacific Northwest Group Postseason Awards, the Warriors cleaned house, claiming Pair of the Year, Attacker of the Year, Co-Freshman of the Year and Co-Coach of the Year. Corban was also the only school to earn multiple First Team and Honorable Mention All-Star pairs.

At the National Tournament, senior Avari Ridgway was named the Tournament MVP, while she and sophomore Megan Dennis were named the NAIA National Pair of the Year. Ridgway, Dennis, and seniors Ally Schmidt and Kealani Ontai were all named to the All-Tournament team. Academically, the Warriors secured 11 NAIA Scholar-Athletes, the second-highest mark in the nation.



Kealani Ontai and Ally Schmidt celebrate a match win



NAIA National Pair of the Year Avari Ridgway and Megan Dennis

EVENTS



THEATRE CAMP

This summer, from July 24-Aug. 5, Corban Theatre is hosting its annual a two-week Theatre Camp for students entering grades 4-12. This positive and fun environment gives students the chance to explore and express their God-given creativity and imagination while encouraging them to delight in the theatre process and the end product.



Scan the code for more info.



ATHLETICS YOUTH CAMPS

Throughout the summer, Corban University athletics will be hosting a variety of athletics camps, including basketball, volleyball, and wrestling, for students of all ages.

Featuring a variety of options for different ages and skill levels, Corban athletics camps are the perfect way for your kids to stay active while improving their skill in their favorite sport.



Scan the code for more camp information, dates, and details on how to sign up!

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!



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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.