

CORBAN WINTER 2025 CONNECTION

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Merry Christmas!

The trees are lit, the houses are trimmed, and children are excited about the gifts accumulating under the tree. In this wonderful time of year, we joyously celebrate the arrival of our Savior, the Light of the World!

During this semester, our campus studied part of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus reminds us that we are to shine brightly for all to see. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden!" (Matt 5:14) At Christmas, we can see this aspect more clearly. We serve others. We share hope. We sing songs. We point to our Savior.

As you read this edition, we know you will be encouraged by stories of what God is doing in this special place. We hope you see the transformational power of the Gospel lived through the students, staff, and faculty at Corban. Our location on a hill on the south side of Salem becomes an excellent launching ground for the light of Christ to be taken to our community and around the world.

As men and women transformed by the Light of Christ, we cannot help but shine brightly in a world of darkness. This Christmas, join with us in shining the light of Christ so all can see!

Onward!

John Mark Yeats, Ph.D.
President

CORBAN MEDIA ARTS PARTNERS WITH KEIZER POLICE

When a voicemail from the Keizer Police Department (KPD) appeared on Corban professor Naomi Yanike's phone, she admits her first thought was related to potential speeding tickets, not a partnership that would come to define her students' experience.

For Yanike, the director of the media arts program at Corban University, it was a connection she did not expect. The same could be said for KPD, who attended Corban's Career Day last fall at the invitation of Dr. Sandee Flint. They anticipated hosting a few mock interviews, meeting students, and returning to headquarters. At the event, officers noticed Corban students filming, interviewing, and producing content for campus media. Their professionalism made an immediate impression, and an unexpected partnership began, one that would soon place Corban media arts students at the center of a complete media refresh for the department.

Soon after Career Day, KPD reached out with a request for help modernizing their recruitment materials, photos, videos, and overall visual identity. "It became clear very quickly that this was a serious client who could have hired any number of professional firms," Yanike said. "They weren't looking for a small student project. They wanted to go all in."

The officers at KPD were attracted to the same qualities and characteristics they look for in police force recruitment, actively displayed in Corban's busy media arts students—communication and character.



Sean Jackson interviews Chief Andrew Copeland. (photo credit: Kale Stearns)

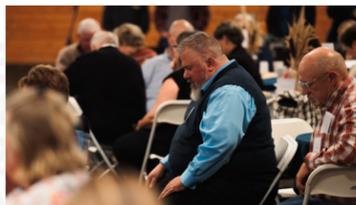
Students stepped into real production roles—filming officer interviews, gathering B-roll, producing short-form videos, and redesigning the look of KPD's recruitment presence at community events. Their work will appear on banners, printed materials, social media, and in digital campaigns. "Being involved in a real-world, hands-on project was exciting because I had the chance to create with my classmates but also to partner with and benefit the community," media arts major Sean Jackson said. "I learned the importance of planning and communication. We had to triple-check everything: weather, lighting, cameras. Planning was key, and we delivered."

With hours of footage, interviews, and branded materials produced, the project has become a showcase of the hands-on experiences Corban students gain in the media arts program. Yanike has plenty of future plans to assemble content showcasing and featuring students at work, demonstrating the professional-level opportunities the program provides. "This partnership shows students exactly what they're capable of," Yanike said. "They're doing work that matters, and they're doing it with excellence."

AG SCIENCE DINNER RAISES OVER \$220,000 IN STUDENT SUPPORT



On October 20, 2025, more than 200 supporters gathered at Quiet Meadows in Jefferson, Oregon, for Corban University's Ag Science Dinner. The evening raised over \$220,000 in support for Corban agriculture science students and will offer vital support for the growing program.



As the only ag science program in the Northwest intentionally rooted in biblical principles, Corban is preparing students to lead the industry with integrity, stewardship, and Christ-centered purpose. This year's dinner highlighted the remarkable growth God has brought to the program and the impact students are already making.



Guests enjoyed food, fellowship, and table conversations with ag science students, hearing firsthand how their education is

shaping both their faith and their careers. One of the evening's most memorable moments came from Anne Gaskill, a graduating senior in Corban's inaugural ag science cohort. She closed her testimony with the words, "Here I am, Lord, send me," capturing the heart of the program and the readiness of its students to serve wherever God leads.

The funds raised will provide vital support to help the program flourish, expanding opportunities, strengthening resources, and equipping students for gospel-driven impact across the agricultural world.

The evening served as a powerful reminder that Corban's ag science students are already making an impact, and that, with continued support, their influence will only grow.

CORBAN UNIVERSITY
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Address service requested



Make a difference with a gift today!

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- Dylan Tut, '23**
“Finished grad school, got married, started a new job. Couldn't have done it without my experience at Corban and the unwavering commitment faculty and staff had to support me.”
- Justin Wallace, '10**
Justin lives in Philomath, Ore., with his wife, Amy Spivey, and their six children, with a seventh on the way. They homeschool, serve in children's ministry at Calvary Corvallis, and Amy will direct their Classical Conversations group. Justin holds an MSW and manages rental properties.
- Reid Saunders, '98**
“We just celebrated our 26th wedding anniversary! Our oldest son, Azlan, just graduated from Corban, our daughter finished school and is now working, and our youngest son, Tobin, began attending Corban this fall!”
- Amanda Briley, '24**
“I recently published my first sci-fi novel, *Prometheus: Vampire Project!* It's about a world where genetic engineering has brought formerly-mythical creatures to life—but the edited vampires are more human than you might think. It's available on Amazon!”
- James Busch, '23**
“Youth Pastor at Red Hills Church. Olivia and I have been married for nearly three years. Our son will be two in October, and we are expecting a daughter in November!”
- Randy Cranston, '76**
“Met Judi at WBBC, married in 1976, raised seven kids, and currently have ten grandchildren. Active in church and community.”

- Grant Boyer, '78**
“US Director of Khumi Children's Village, Zambia, Africa (www.khumichildrensivillage.com) and am now writing children's books. Have three series available, Hatty and Barty Adventures books 1-12 (www.hattyandbarty.com), Maya's Adventures books 1-5 (www.mayasadventures.org), and Yojik books 1-6.”
- Travis Schulz, '20**
“I just pivoted from working as an Amazon manager for five years back into higher education, which was my goal. I am working to attain a master's degree in higher education at the same time. I am also newly married. New career, new degree, new marriage—it's great!”
- Colette (Heesacker) Miller, '24**
“I got married on January 1st to my wonderful husband, Preston.”
- Kevin Dial, '00**
“I am involved in local nonprofit efforts for men, youth, and veterans that also rolls over into community assistance.”
- Carl Thong, '23**
“I serve as the chairman of TrustBridge Global, the largest international Christian Donor Advised Fund. I also serve as the co-chair of Generosity Path, a global ministry providing workshops to promote Christian generosity. My marketplace ministry is www.sunstone.biz.”
- Olivia (King) Hudson, '22**
“I got married soon after graduating from Corban's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program!”
- Alexis Gallaway, '09**
Recently relocated to the Willamette Valley as a family of seven. Alexis and Isaac homeschool their five children

together. Alexis has recently started her own business, Joyful Connections, which facilitates growing warm, strong bonds among adults. She recently finished her first identity group cohort.

- Dean Ellis, '90**
“After serving in ministry in Colfax, Wash., for 30 years, my wife, Connie, and I moved to Yakima, Wash., in the spring of 2021, where I am now serving on the pastoral leadership team at West Side Church as Pastor of Discipleship. We have three grown sons, three daughters-in-law, and seven grandchildren.”
- Bruce Fields, '74**
“Married 54 years with three children and four grandchildren. Pastor for the last 38 years and still serving the Lord.”
- Andrea Stout, '01**
“After years in the making, my novel has finally been published! *Running on Rooftops* (Blackwater Press, 2025) is a fictional memoir set in China, inspired by my years of teaching there. Though I went on to do other writing programs after Corban, I certainly owe my start to Dr. Tennant & Prof. Hills!”
- Kenji & Amy Fukanaga, '12 & '13**
“We are part of the pastoral care with Cadence International, specifically caring for our missionary kids all over the world.”

Let us know the special things that have been happening in your life! Scan the QR code to submit your major life updates.



FROM PERSECUTION TO PURPOSE: RITU'S STORY



When Ritu (Alice) Kapali left Bangladesh for the United States, it wasn't to pursue an academic dream. She arrived seeking safety, stability, and the freedom to practice her faith without fear. Growing up in Bangladesh, she faced persecution that made it impossible to build a future. Leaving home meant leaving everything behind, but she knew she needed a place where she could live and learn without being threatened because of her beliefs.

Ritu first came to Salem through an exchange program with the nonprofit Salem for Refugees. The transition was jarring and lonely. “People in my country are very warm and welcoming, so when I got here, I was just completely by myself,” she recalls. “Initially, I found Americans as cold as their weather.” Over time, though,

she began to warm to both the climate and the people. A turning point came through Corban alumni Paul and Jody Beals, whose support made it possible for her to stay, connecting her with Corban and offering the encouragement and community she needed.

Now, as a graduate student in Corban's Master of Arts in Christian Leadership program, Ritu is flourishing. “Corban is shaping me both spiritually and professionally,” she says. She points to her Christian Ethics course with Dr. Tim Anderson as reshaping her worldview. “When I face cultural conflict between the U.S. and Bangladesh, now I really want to learn what is right not just to my own cultural experience, but what is right in God's eyes,” she says.

Looking ahead, Ritu hopes to remain in the United States while serving vulnerable women from Bangladesh. “My deep desire is to work for women in Bangladesh,” she says. “I want to be involved in anything that helps people who find themselves in a similar situation to where I was.” Trusting God with what comes next, she rests in His guidance: “God hasn't told me everything He's going to do, but I think He's showing me one step at a time.”



GOLDEN GRAD REUNION

WESTERN BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE
CLASS OF 1976
APRIL 23–25, 2026

Reunion Dinner • Coffee Reception • Chapel
Campus Tours • Spring Choir Concert
Saturday Brunch



Scan the QR code or visit www.corban.edu/event/goldengrad for more details.

Watch your email for an invitation to register, coming soon!

CORBAN FUND UPDATE

FY2025 GOAL: \$1 MILLION

(July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026)



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Will you consider joining the growing ranks of faithful Corban donors, impacting the lives of our students by giving where it's needed most? The Corban Fund helps bridge the gap where tuition dollars cease, supporting nearly every student through educational grants and other student programming.

Your gift means more than just dollars and cents. You can make it possible for students to thrive in a Christ-centered community that will prepare them to be difference makers in our communities and the world for Jesus Christ.

Your prayers and financial partnership truly make a difference!



We partner with the Giving Crowd to help you maximize the impact of your charitable giving, minimize your tax-burden, and plan your estate in a tax-efficient manner. Email advancement@corban.edu if you would like to have a free consultation with their team.

CORBAN GRAD HELPS HER COMMUNITY FIND ITS VOICE



Jerusalem Jimenez-Ramon

When Jerusalem Jimenez-Ramon graduated from Corban in May 2025, she stepped into the professional world equipped with confidence, technical skill, and a clear mission. Today she runs her own media business, J.FUSION Media, offering photography, videography, web development, and content creation for small businesses—especially

those within her Hispanic community. Recently, she was recognized by Oregon Small Business Development Center for her work, chosen from a wide pool of individuals.

For Jerusalem, reaching this point feels extraordinary. “It’s a miracle to be where I am today,” she said. “It’s all because of God, and because of Corban. I’m grateful for a community that really values and gives opportunities and a voice to people like me. I didn’t do it by myself.”

Her passion for media began in childhood, but Corban gave her the hands-on training she needed to turn that passion into a profession. “I was able to work across a variety of media, and that’s where I gained my real experience,” she said.

But her growth at Corban reached far beyond technical training. As a self-described shy student, she credits Corban and professors like Naomi Yanike for helping her find her voice. “Corban really did challenge me mentally and spiritually,” she said. “Little things, like writing a 10-page paper or giving a presentation in front of 20 people, shaped me into who I am now. Now I’m talking with professionals on a daily basis, and I have courage and confidence because of those moments.”

That confidence fuels her passion to serve those who often struggle to express themselves. “It’s rewarding to help people who need support, especially my Latino community,” she said. “As a bilingual person, I can help my community express their brands and businesses to the community at large. Helping them fuse their story into the world is incredibly rewarding. Everything I do, my hard work, my achievements, is for them too.”

CORBAN’S NURSING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO EXPAND WITH NEW SKILLS LABS



Director of Nursing, Dr. Christine Sommers

Corban University’s nursing program is stepping confidently into its next chapter as newly developed lab classrooms and growing student interest signal strong momentum for the young major. Under the leadership of Dr. Christine Sommers, who brings more than 35 years of experience in intensive care and nursing education, the program is rapidly becoming a standout offering on campus.

Two classrooms have been outfitted to serve as a dedicated nursing skills labs, designed to support hands-on learning in an environment that mirrors real clinical settings. Equipped with hospital beds, essential medical supplies, and spaces for simulation-based practice, these rooms give students the opportunity to build competence and confidence before they enter clinical rotations.

“The beauty of nursing is that it’s both an art and a science, and with our skills lab, students are able to do both,” Dr. Sommers says. This new space allows students to practice assessments, procedures, communication, and clinical judgment—key components of excellent nursing care. “We want to

make this space as real as possible so students can safely develop the skills they need before stepping into the hospital.”

As the facilities grow, so does enthusiasm from future nurses. Dr. Sommers notes that community and student interest in the nursing major has been consistently strong, with enrollment outpacing expectations and early program cohorts already progressing into their clinical experiences.

Applicants, alumni, parents, and local healthcare providers have all expressed excitement at seeing nursing education take root at Corban. “It’s been encouraging to see nurses in the community wanting to come alongside us to train the next generation,” she says. “I think that speaks to the need for nurses everywhere and Corban’s reputation for developing graduates who make a difference.”

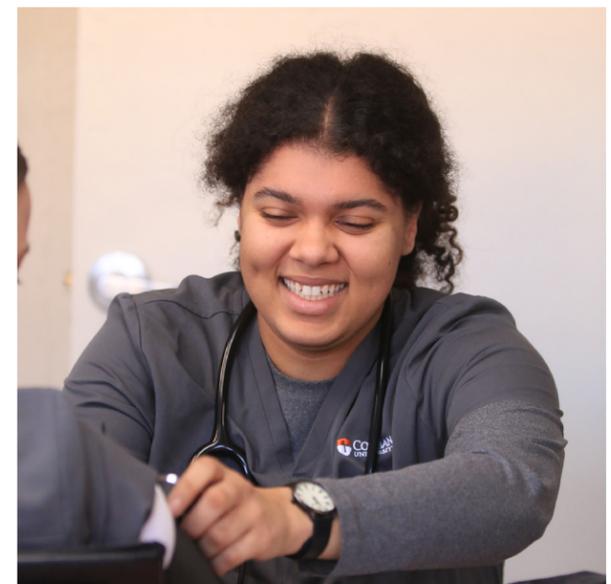
At the heart of the program is a distinctly Christian philosophy of nursing. Corban’s vision emphasizes “nursing as ministry,” preparing graduates not only to provide excellent clinical care but also to serve with compassion, integrity, and spiritual sensitivity. “We’re teaching our graduates how to make a difference not only in healthcare, but for eternity,” Dr. Sommers explains. “As believers, we look to the power of the Holy Spirit, listening for God’s prompting, and demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit to patients, families, and coworkers, often in difficult circumstances.”

The new skills lab plays a crucial role in shaping that holistic formation. Students now have an environment

where technical skill, clinical judgment, and Christ-centered compassion can be practiced together. Whether learning how to perform an assessment, communicate with a patient, or collaborate with a care team, Corban nursing students are gaining practical experience in a setting intentionally built to support their growth.

For Dr. Sommers, this work is deeply personal. “I’ve stayed in nursing for more than 35 years because I wanted to make a difference in people’s lives,” she says. “Now, I get to help students learn how to think like nurses and see the many ways they can serve as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in healthcare settings around the world.”

With a new skills lab in place, a dedicated faculty, and expanding interest from prospective students, the future of Corban’s nursing program is filled with promise. As the program continues to grow, these labs, and the learning that takes place within them, are laying the foundation for well-trained, Christ-centered nurses who will impact communities at home and across the globe for Jesus Christ.



FALL SPORTS RECAP

Men's Cross Country: The Warriors delivered one of their strongest seasons in years, qualifying as a team for the NAIA National Championships. Junior Jack Gladfelter (3rd) and senior Zander Moha (6th) earned All-Conference honors.

Women's Cross Country: Senior Abigail Oosterhout led the way, placing sixth at the CCC Championships and qualifying individually for nationals.

Men's Soccer: Under returning head coach Tim Kagey, the Warriors finished 4-10-4, narrowly missing the CCC Tournament. Sophomore defender Alexander Guindy earned Second Team All-Conference honors.

Women's Soccer: In her first season, head coach Brooke Altender guided the Warriors to a 5-12 record, highlighted by All-Conference recognition for Maya Alston and Ava Hayes.

Women's Volleyball: Ranked no. 5 nationally, Corban volleyball completed a stellar 24-5 season and enters the NAIA postseason looking to reach the final site for the tenth straight year. Kaile'a Ontai earned CCC Libero of the Year, joining four other All-Conference selections.

Across all programs, Corban celebrated 58 Academic All-Conference athletes, 43 NAIA Scholar-Athletes, and, for the second year in a row, all 17 teams qualifying as NAIA Scholar Teams.



Jack Gladfelter finishes strong.



May Alston passes a defender.



Bryan Gutierrez advances the ball.



Kendra Bittle elevates on offense.



WOMEN'S SOCCER WINTER ID CAMP

DECEMBER 29
9 A.M. – 12 P.M.

Girls in high school graduating classes of 2026-2028 are invited to come train with Corban's women's soccer coaches, get to know the team, and see if being a Warrior is in your future!

Register: 



HOLIDAY HOOPS

BASKETBALL CAMP

DECEMBER 29 & 30 | 2-5 P.M.

Led by Coach Kylie Frizell and the Corban University women's basketball team, the Holiday Hoops Camp is designed to introduce the fundamentals of basketball to **boys and girls in 2nd-8th grade** and to have fun learning the game!

Register: 

CORBAN UNIVERSITY HOSTS THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR CONFERENCE

This fall, Corban University welcomed Christian school educators from across Oregon to its third annual Christian Educator Conference—a one-day gathering designed to uplift, equip, and encourage those serving in classrooms throughout the state. The event created space for teachers to learn together, worship together, and build meaningful connections rooted in their shared faith and calling.

“Our Christian educators have been underserved as far as having a local, affordable educator conference,” said Assistant Professor of Education Angela Sotelo. “Our team delights in being able to offer this conference and provide meaningful sessions throughout the day. Teaching can be an isolating profession in many ways, so offering an opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from your own school as well as other schools will always be worth it.”

The day began with coffee and conversation followed by a time of worship and reflection, grounding the day in the purpose of Christ-centered teaching. For many, this spiritual focus set a powerful tone. “We started with worship and setting our hearts and minds on who we are all here for,” said Lauren Bernard, a language arts teacher at Crosshill Christian School. “Being here, refocusing on who we are seeking to serve, and getting to come together as a community to worship and learn alongside each other is powerful.”

From there, the schedule moved into a keynote address from Corban alum and 2024 Oregon Teacher of the Year, Dr. Mandy Vance. Attendees then dispersed into a full lineup of breakout sessions, ranging from critical topics such as supporting students facing mental health challenges to navigating emerging issues like artificial intelligence in the classroom.

Lunchtime became another highlight, offering time for connection. These moments of relationship-building were intentional for Corban's education department, recognizing the often-isolating nature of teaching. “As an educator, you are giving your students your full energy at all times,” Sotelo said. “To be able to provide time for educators to learn and refresh at the beginning of the school year, is a gift we want to keep offering to educators.”

For Salem Academy teacher and Corban alum Sarah Reed, the day reaffirmed the University's commitment to preparing Christ-centered educators. “It makes me proud to be a Corban alum and know that Corban is continuing to pour into educators while also equipping the next generation to carry the love of Christ into our schools.”

The conference concluded with final thoughts from Dr. Vance, sending educators out refreshed, encouraged, and newly equipped for the vital ministry of teaching. Through worship, collaboration, and professional



development, Corban's Christian Educator Conference once again fulfilled its mission: to strengthen those shaping the hearts and minds of the next generation.

“VEILED IN FLESH”: REDISCOVERING THE WONDER OF THE INCARNATE CHRIST



By Dr. Jacob Rainwater
Chief of Staff and
Assistant Professor
of Theology

One of my favorite classic Christmas hymns is “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.” In particular, one line has always struck me: “Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity.” In just two short lines, we are drenched in an ocean of theology.

Really, these lines are just a reflection of the New Testament’s teaching that Jesus is not merely a good man or merely a prophet. Jesus of Nazareth is God. He is “the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature” (Hebrews 1:13). He is the “image of the glory of God” (Colossians 1:15).

Though in eternity past the Divine Son was “in the form of God,” He took to Himself the form of a servant so that he could be born of a virgin, live the life we ought to have lived, die the death we ought to have died, and be resurrected to eternal glory, “so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:10-11).

While we rightly spend the Christmas season praising God for the miracle of God becoming man, we must also remember that Jesus didn’t stop being God. Far from it. Jesus is God the Son, having become flesh and blood. When Mary and Joseph looked down at the Christ Child, they were truly seeing the Triune God in human flesh. When we return to Him, or He returns to us, we will see Jesus Christ, and in so doing see the fullness of the Trinity enfleshed and enthroned.

So, the next time you sing this wonderful Christmas hymn, with a mind in awe and a heart filled with worship, remember the truth in these simple lines: “Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!”

GETTING TO KNOW NEW DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES, GARLAND DUNLAP



What brought you to Corban and this role?

I started my career working for Dallas Theological Seminary, where I described my job as “pastoring future pastors.” In a lot of ways, coming to Corban has

been a return to a first love. The through-line in all my roles has been asking, “How does faith form, and how does that shape how we move in the world?”

What’s your vision for Career Services at Corban?

My vision is rooted in Ephesians 2:10—God has prepared good works for us in advance. My job is to come alongside students and build connections with outside partners so we can align students toward the good work God has prepared for them, and help launch them into it.

What’s something students might be surprised to learn about you?

I am definitely a nerd—comic books, role-playing games, video games, all of it. I think it all stems from my love of good stories. All those hobbies are really just different forms of storytelling. And yes, I’m looking for a new RPG group if you know of any.

Where might we find you on a Saturday afternoon?

Lately I’ve been exploring Corvallis. I love good food, and so I’m often out trying new places. Another favorite spot I need to return to is Silver Falls—trees overhead, water rushing, trails everywhere. I always wonder why I don’t go more.

What’s a piece of advice that has stuck with you?

Recently I’ve been working through the realization that I think too much about what others think. I was diagnosed with autism and ADHD a couple years

ago, and part of that journey has been recognizing the ‘mask’ I’ve worn to fit in. I tell students the same thing I’m learning: you have to embrace how God created you. You’ll never be satisfied in your career until you do. My hope and prayer is that every student begins to understand their identity in Christ and realizes how that helps them express who they are and positions them for making an impact in the world. I want to design a program that helps students realize the unique expressions of that identity, and then walk in the positioning that God has planned in advance for them.

What makes Corban’s approach to career development unique?

Corban is unapologetically Christian—not in-your-face, but authentically and warmly Christian. We show up with that identity in a way that welcomes others. I love that. It shapes how we help students pursue their callings.

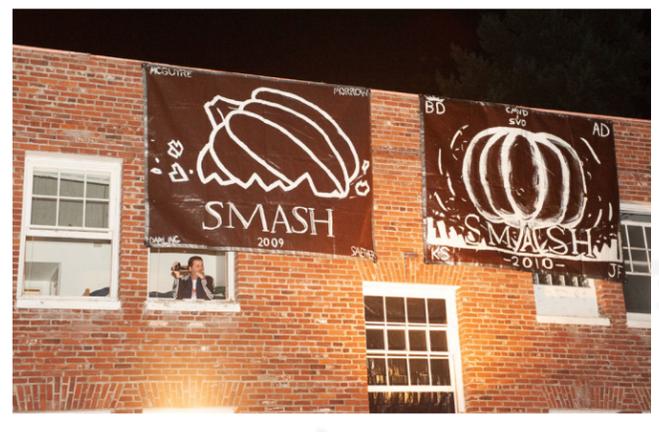
A SMASHING SUCCESS: PUMPKIN SMASH RETURNS FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2021

On November 9 behind Farrar Hall, one of Corban’s oldest and most iconic traditions made its long-awaited return. For the first time since 2021, students gathered for Pumpkin Smash—hurling pumpkins from Farrar’s windows, splattering them across a tarp, and wrestling in the pumpkin guts until only one competitor remained.

This year’s Smash King, Isaac Potter, was unsure what to expect going into the event, but his excitement was at an all-time high, especially knowing he had the chance to follow in the footsteps of his longtime friend and 2021 champion, David Walberg. “Being able to take the torch from him specifically is personally very cool,” he said.

Potter loved helping revive a tradition so many students and alumni cherish. “It was really cool to be part of bringing it back, and to see alumni return to watch,” he shared.

Looking ahead, he hopes to see even more participants join in. “We had a great time with the small group who participated. Imagine it with thirty plus!”





CORBAN THEATRE BRINGS A CLASSIC JOURNEY TO LIFE

“What is the virtuous way of traveling from London to London?” For the cast of Corban Theatre’s production of “Around the World in 80 Days,” the answer proved to be a whirlwind of color, character, and comedy. Frantic as the journey was, the performance offered more than motion—it held a still and thoughtful heart at its core.

The production, directed by Tamara McGinnis, showcased an eclectic cast of companions determined to prove that nothing is impossible with enough daring—and perhaps a little love. The show captured the wonder of travel, the rush of discovery, and the timeless search for meaning. The story followed Phileas Fogg (Cameron Wenger), a meticulous English gentleman who wagered his fortune that he could circumnavigate the world in just 80 days. Accompanied by his loyal valet, Passepartout (Alekaï Faber), and pursued by his determined fiancée, Amanda (Neleah Watkins), Fogg’s calculated voyage quickly spiraled into globe-spanning adventure. From the fog of London to the heat of Cairo, uncharted jungles to the Wild West,

the production brimmed with inventive stagecraft and lively character work that transported its audience across continents.

“I felt like I was never out of character because we were always running,” Watkins said. “It was a fun and frantic pace, and as a cast we were able to take that energy and pass it to the audience.”

Freshman actor Noah Whitted, who played the relentless Inspector Fix, said the experience helped the entire cast to grow as performers and collaborators. “Watching Fogg’s transformation reminded us why storytelling matters,” he shared. “We learned to be present and invest in each other.”

With vibrant performances and a script rich with humor and heart, “Around the World in 80 Days” offered a theatrical voyage filled with risk, rediscovery, and the joy of returning home changed. Corban Theatre’s production left audiences reflecting not only on Fogg’s world tour, but on the wonder of the present moment.

COURSE EXCHANGE SERVES CHRISTIAN COLLEGES

As enrollment patterns and program needs continue to shift, many Christian universities face unexpected course gaps that make it difficult for students to stay on track toward graduation, especially when a required course isn’t offered every term.

The new Corban Course Exchange initiative offers a solution, allowing students from other Christian universities to enroll in Corban Online’s undergrad courses. In particular, Corban’s ability to offer high-quality general education courses, such as math and science, from a distinctly Christian worldview meets a growing need among smaller institutions.

Dr. Rich Weber, Director for Online and Nontraditional Learning, explains, “The Corban Course Exchange program is an opportunity for

Corban Online to partner with institutions that share our mission. When an institution struggles to offer particular courses, this program provides opportunities for their students to receive biblically sound instruction at an affordable rate.”

Through the Corban Course Exchange, students complete a course in Corban’s established online learning environment while remaining enrolled at their home institution. This initiative helps students stay on track academically with access to the courses they need, taught through a Christ-centered lens and supported by a community committed to academic excellence and biblical truth.



BE A PRAYER WARRIOR



Thank you for your faithful prayers for Corban University’s students, faculty, staff, and mission. As we enter Christmas break and look ahead to a new semester, please continue praying.

Pray for Our Students: that the Lord will nurture their spiritual

growth, guide their studies, and surround them with friendships that challenge and encourage them in Christ.

Pray for Our Leadership: that our leaders will continue to press into the wisdom of God’s Word, making all decisions through thoughtful and prayerful consideration, always prioritizing, first and foremost, God’s will for Corban, its students, staff, and future.

Pray for Our University’s Future: Praise God for His continued faithfulness, and pray that He will continue to provide for, protect, and uphold the mission and purpose of this University, allowing it to remain an institution that is uncommonly committed to the truth of God’s Word, and to educating Christian students who will make a difference in the world for Jesus Christ.

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EST. 1935
CORBAN UNIVERSITY

**NEED SOME FRESH
CORBAN GEAR TO SHOW
YOUR WARRIOR SPIRIT?**

**Shop our apparel and
accessory store online!**

EVENTS



HYMN FESTIVAL

February 6, 2026 | 7:00 p.m.
February 7, 2026 | 3:00 p.m.

Join us for our annual Hymn Festival with Corban’s music ensembles! This time of worship through prayer, the reading of psalms, and the singing of hymns will be held on campus, in the Psalm Center, and is free and open to the public.



SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

February 23, 2026

Join us to hear inspiring stories of impact and transformation from Corban students and discover how you can play a crucial role in making a difference in the world for Jesus Christ. Purchase tickets:



SIBLING DAY

February 27, 2026

Siblings (ages 10+) of current Corban students are invited to campus for this one-day event. They’ll attend classes, chapel, special activities, meals, and more with their Corban sibling!



REFRESH CONFERENCE

April 16, 2026

Join fellow ministry leaders and keynote speaker Dr. James Gleason for a time of fellowship and learning, centered around this year’s theme of “Healthy Ministry Identity.”



FAITHFUL LEADERS CONFERENCE

May 8, 2026

Hosted by the Corban’s Hoff School of Business, this one-day conference aims to inspire and equip both emerging and evolving leaders to embrace their roles with confidence. Register 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.