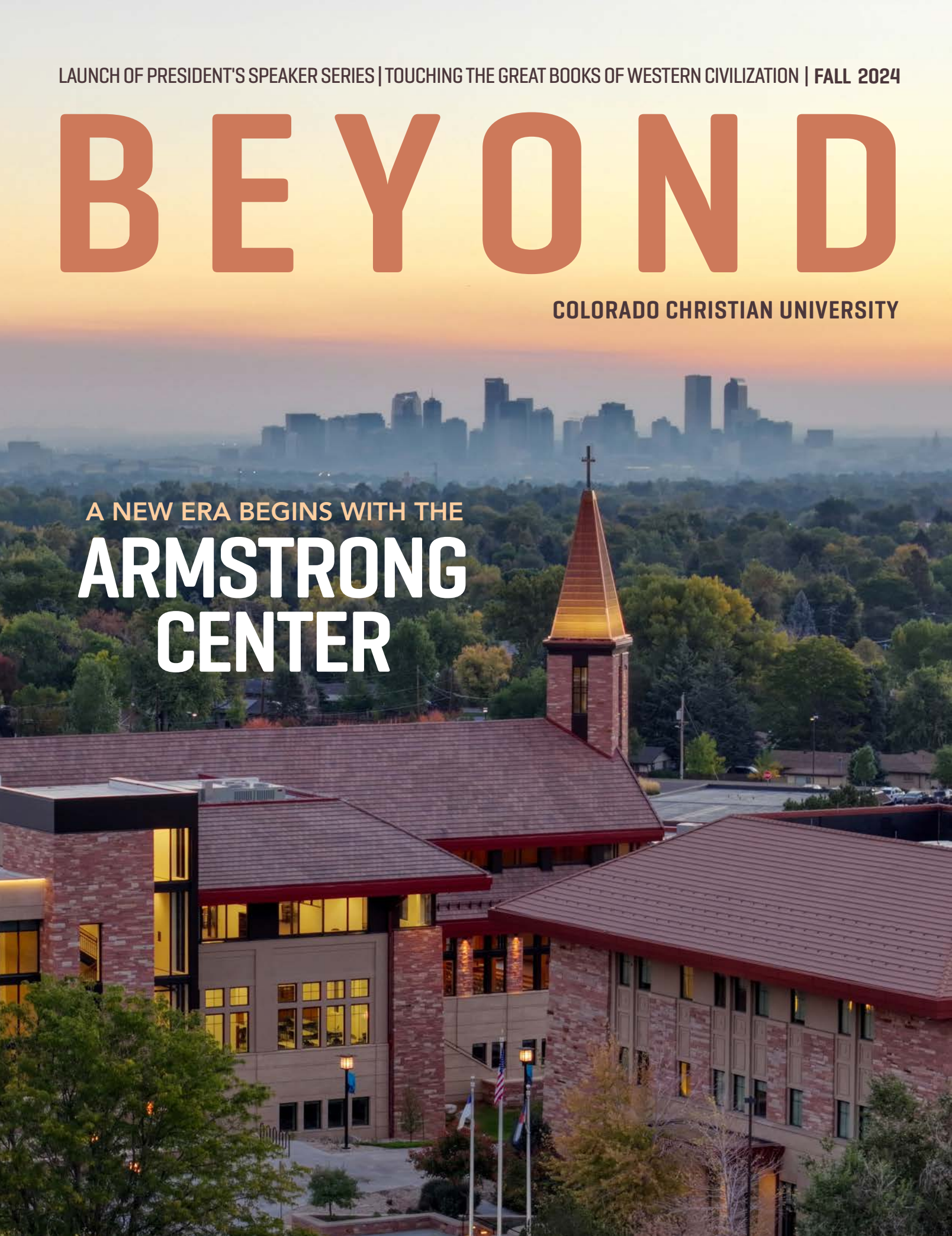


LAUNCH OF PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES | TOUCHING THE GREAT BOOKS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION | FALL 2024

BEYOND

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

A NEW ERA BEGINS WITH THE
**ARMSTRONG
CENTER**





letter from the PRESIDENT



Dear CCU Community,

It is with a renewed sense of excitement that I pen this letter for the Fall 2024 edition of Beyond Magazine. For the last year, I have watched the Armstrong Center slowly rise from the ground just outside my office windows. What seemed like a dream six years ago when I first came to Colorado Christian University has become a reality.

The Armstrong Center is the new academic and cultural cornerstone of the Lakewood campus. It reunites the School of Music to the heart of campus, houses a state-of-the-art library accessible to 1,450 traditional on-campus students and 9,113 CCU Online adult and graduate students, provides essential classroom space for all schools, and features the University's first dedicated sacred chapel — the Terry and Betsy Considine Chapel. This facility will host a hub of activity for CCU's growing community, both locally and globally.

The Armstrong Center is much more than just another college building. It is the culmination of more than a decade of prayerful planning, philanthropic dedication, and hard work. It is the embodiment of the vision for whom the center is named, William L. Armstrong, a former U.S. senator, businessman, and the 20th president of CCU. It is also a sign of the momentum that continues to sweep across the University as we honor the past while moving forward with conviction, courage, and character.

This momentum is not restrained to a building. It is seen firsthand in the innovative partnership with Compassion International as our students serve as the hands and feet of Jesus on the ground in Honduras (p. 6), a work we pray will result in three to five students joining the Lakewood campus annually to continue their education. It is the global reach of the University as students study in world capitals such as London and Washington D.C. (p. 10). It is the willingness to serve our local communities as evidenced by the Sojourners ministering to the unhoused community just steps from campus (p. 20).

Thank you for your continued support of Colorado Christian University and the impact of our mission to provide Christ-centered higher education that transforms students to impact the world with grace and truth. As you read these pages, may you, like me, give praise and glory to Jesus!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Eric K. Hogue, M.Th.
President



The new Armstrong Center brings state-of-the-art spaces, like this rehearsal studio, to our performing arts community.

Go to Page 22 for more details and photos of this marvelous addition to our campus!

06 CCU2THEWORLD
CCU STUDENTS EMBRACE A CITY WITH THE HONDURAS PROJECT

10 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH CCU
EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL COURSES BRING LEARNING TO LIFE

13 HISTORY TOUCHED
GREAT BOOKS WEEK PUT ANCIENT TEXTS IN STUDENTS' HANDS

16 PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES
CCU WELCOMES THE 48TH VICE PRESIDENT MIKE PENCE AND FORMER SECOND LADY KAREN PENCE TO CAMPUS

22 MILESTONES INTO MOMENTUM
THE ARMSTRONG CENTER DEDICATION, CELEBRATION, AND LAUNCH

28 IN DUE TIME
CCU ONLINE BRINGS HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES TO A RURAL MOM

31 CCU RANKED TOP UNIVERSITY
CCU INCLUDED IN THE WJS COLLEGE PLUS RANKING 2025

32 ATHLETICS SPOTLIGHT
THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR STUDENT ATHLETES AND COACHES

40 LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY THE WATER
HOW YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE BY SUPPORTING CCU AND ITS STUDENTS

42 REMEMBERING DR. JOE WALL
CCU MOURNS THE PASSING OF FORMER PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR

43 BENEDICTION
THE ARMSTRONG CENTER DEDICATION, CELEBRATION, AND LAUNCH

BEYOND

A publication of Colorado Christian University

Our Magazine

In *BEYOND*, our goal is to share the story of CCU, as well as God's faithful provision for more than 100 years. We aim to share the stories of the people who go beyond and make CCU the great Christian University it is today. Whether you're an alum or a friend, this magazine is designed for you, because your story, our story, His story, is meant to be told.

University Advancement Team

Vice President of University Advancement;
President of CCU Endowment Foundation: Daniel LaBry
Senior Director of Major Gifts: Amanda Grogan
Director of Major Gifts: Mark Heckelmann
Director of Annual Giving and Strategic Engagement: Kara Johnston Mott
Advancement Services Manager: Davina Vannice
Donor Relations Manager: Betsy Simpson

BEYOND Production & Creative Team

Director of Creative Services: Nicole Heersink, '10
Strategic Communications Manager: Heather Johnson
Lead Writer/Editor: Heather A. Eades
Contributing Editor: Kara Johnston Mott
Contributing Writers: Paul Faust, Cory Butzin, Dr. Janet Black
Project Manager: Kristen Rummel
Graphic Designers: Michelle McCorkle, Catherine Wagner

Mission

Christ-centered higher education transforming students to impact the world with grace and truth.

Colorado Christian University cultivates knowledge and love of God in a Christ-centered community of learners and scholars with an enduring commitment to the integration of exemplary academics, spiritual formation, and engagement with the world. We envision graduates who think critically and creatively, lead with high ethical and professional standards, embody the character and compassion of Jesus Christ, treasure the gospel, and who thereby are prepared to impact the world in their callings.

Cover Photo: Jeffrey Grounds Photography
Feature Photography: Jeffrey Grounds Photography and Lilo Photography

Colorado Christian University
8787 W. Alameda Ave., Lakewood, Colorado 80226
303-963-3000 | ccu.edu



The Honduras Project

By Paul Faust

What could happen if a university committed its mission focus to a single location, a single neighborhood, and a single project designed to change the trajectory of a whole city for the sake of the gospel?

In September of 2023, a small team from Colorado Christian University traveled to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, to explore that very question, and the Honduras Project was born.

In partnership with Compassion International, CCU has founded and adopted a child development center that sits on the property of a local church in the suburbs of San Pedro Sula. In this community, the average monthly income is around eight dollars. Few families own cars, and many homes lack basic necessities like running water and indoor bathrooms. Access to healthcare and education is extremely limited. Yet, at the Compassion Child Development Center, joy reigns. Every day, children receive food, clothing, tutoring, basic healthcare, and, most importantly, the hope of the gospel.

For the 168 children currently sponsored by CCU students, faculty, and staff, life is already looking brighter. And thanks to CCU's continual commitment, their future holds even greater promise.

The impact and growth of the Honduras project have captured the heart of President Eric Hogue and CCU leadership. With their support, the vision has expanded significantly this year. During every Chapel, three front-row seats remain empty, each draped with a Honduran flag. These seats serve as a powerful reminder to pray for a shared dream and goal that one day, three students from San Pedro Sula will attend CCU on fully-funded scholarships. After earning their degrees, these

students will return to their community to make a lasting impact where it is most needed.

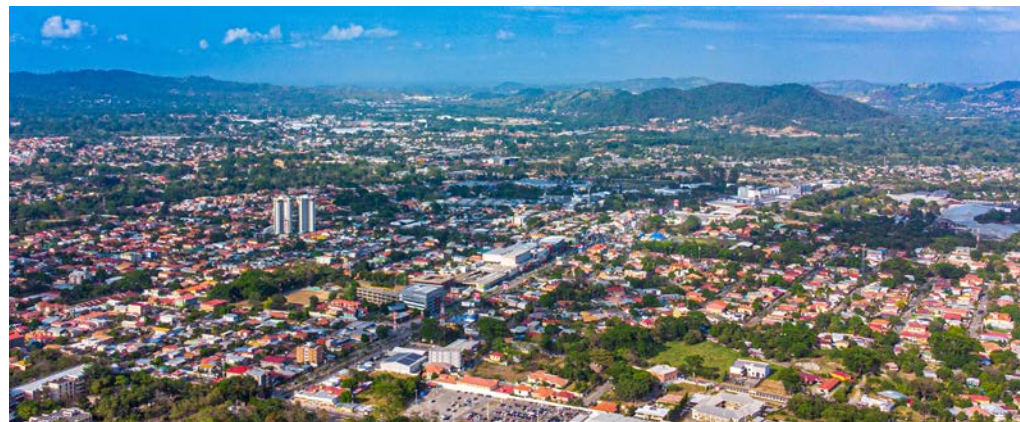
Other marks of God's hand have been clearly evident in this project as we've continued exploring new possibilities. Pastor Orlando, the lead pastor of the church where our Compassion site is hosted, has a deep heart for children. He built his church in this particular neighborhood because he recognized the challenges its children face. In addition to his pastoral work, Pastor Orlando is also a pharmacist and a small-business entrepreneur. He founded a health-care clinic housed within the church, but he hasn't yet been able to fully staff it, and resources for medications have been scarce. With CCU's help, this can all change.

God has used this partnership and my time in Honduras to show me how powerful it can be to understand the relationship we have with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the globe. The church really is a global family, and the family of God is so much bigger than I ever realized.

- Grace Probasco

Pastor Orlando also oversees his denomination's regional pastor's coalition, providing theological education and church development resources to help churches in the area grow and thrive. He's a man of vision with a heart to serve and make a lasting impact.

- Healthcare.
- Education.
- Theological Training.
- Local Church Empowerment.
- Business Development.



It's hard to imagine a more custom-designed fit for a partnership with CCU, but we didn't know anything about Pastor Orlando or his church when we initially built the partnership. We didn't request a church that matched our priorities or programs. There wasn't a planning team aligning shared interests and available resources. In fact, there were no pre-existing connections at all. Pastor Orlando's church was simply next in line when CCU told Compassion International that we were ready to launch the project and fund a new location. It was a divine appointment.

But the marks of God's hand on this project don't stop with the unique nature of the partnership. In May 2024, CCU sent its first student team to Honduras. When they arrived on site, they were told the area was in desperate need of rain. After almost a year of drought, the community was experiencing the impact in major ways.

So, the CCU students did what they do best — they began to pray, asking God for mercy on this special city. As the first of many representatives of the love and commitment of a CCU community that has chosen to put a stake in the ground for the sake of the gospel, together they sought God's blessing.

And the skies opened up.

Before the trip was halfway over, the students were drenched, dancing and singing in the rain around the hotel grounds, celebrating one more sign that this team represents new hope for a place that needs it desperately. Throughout the trip, rainbows appeared after every down-pour, reminding them of God's promise in Genesis — that the times of destruction are over, and these are the times of hope.

After seeing God answer prayers so clearly in Honduras, I've never prayed like I've been praying this last year.

- Anna Hudgens

The people of Honduras beautifully exemplify the biblical truth that joy does not result from material wealth. In San Pedro Sula, the Body of Christ is thriving, the church is alive and growing, and capable, faithful leaders are bringing hope, restoration, and empowerment to a community that has endured far too much violence and despair.




"Before the trip was halfway over, the students were drenched, dancing, and praising Jesus in the rain."

Yet, much remains to be done. Families are broken, and too many children still look to gangs for protection and an escape from their oppressive neighborhoods. Educational opportunities are scarce and unaffordable. Basic healthcare is out of reach for far too many. Jobs are limited, forcing many men in the community to seek work in the United States. Though they promise to send money home to their families, the checks often stop coming, and the men never return, resulting in neighborhoods filled with single-mother households. And while the church steps in to help, as it always does, resources are limited.

Pastor Orlando and others like him are already on the ground, faithfully carrying out the good work of the gospel. Now, through the Honduras Project, we at CCU have the privilege of joining in that mission. We get to witness that work expand and grow. We get to see the long-held dreams of these faithful servants, who have been there for decades, come to life.

What a gift.

This first chapter has been quite a ride — an incredible journey — and the days ahead promise to be even better. 



Be the Difference

Secure CCU's Future with Legacy Giving

Leaving a legacy through a planned gift to Colorado Christian University is a meaningful way to impact future generations with a Christ-centered, higher education, all while aligning with your personal, financial, estate-planning goals.



Join CCU Alumni Fred '81 and Lorie Lautenbach (Rockmont) and take the first steps to exploring estate planning with confidence and ease.

Contact CCU Advancement members today.

303-963-3330
ccuadvancement@ccu.edu



Scan for More Information

Experiential Learning with CCU

Because students thrive on hands-on, adventure-filled learning experiences, the College of Undergraduate Studies offers deep-dive travel courses on diverse topics. These courses demand a lot: Students attend weeks of course meetings in preparation, study in-depth works of history and culture, practice professional decorum with international business leaders, learn the art of various skills (like

archaeology, video-interviewing, and video editing), and write substantial reflections and papers.

Many of these courses have been offered multiple times over the years — and this photo display shows how engaging they have become.



FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL: BIB 397

Students travel to Greece, tracing the footsteps of biblical authors Paul, Luke, and John. They study the biblical text alongside the historical context related to the cities of Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, and Athens. Returning home, they read the pages of the New Testament with firsthand knowledge of the sights, smells, and sounds of the places where the Scriptures were first written and received.



SUPER BOWL: COM 398

Students attend Super Bowl media week, serving as the media crew for FSPN — The Faith+Sports Programming Network. They interview players and coaches about their faith in the context of preparing for the big game. They then produce packages for broadcast to various networks and outlets.

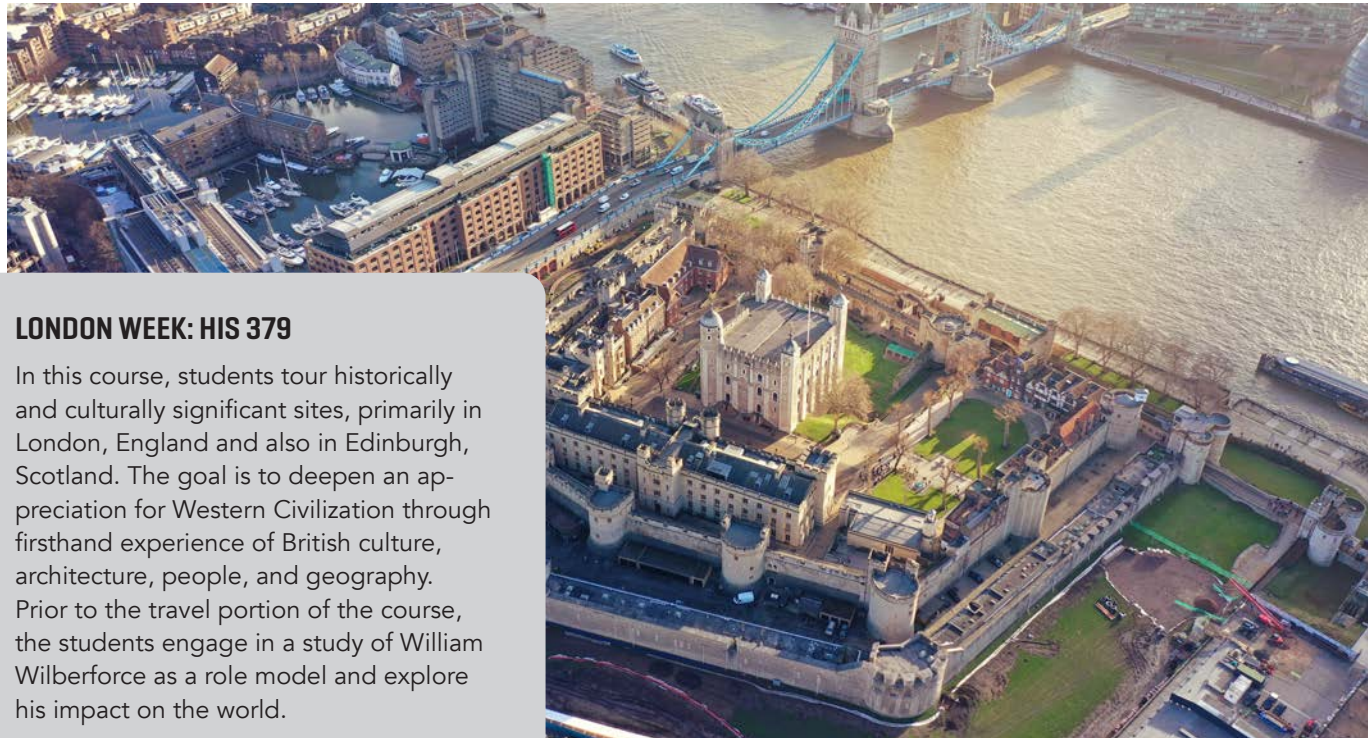
WASHINGTON WEEK: POL 378

In POL 378, students spend a week at the U.S. Capitol with a faculty member focused on the workings of the federal government, public policy think tanks, and current national issues. They hear directly from leading experts in policy areas ranging from domestic concerns to international relations. A key course goal is to encourage students to think deeply about the relationship between the Christian faith and political life.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS: BUS 500

The primary goal of this course is to provide students with better understanding of how business differs in Europe and how cultures impact it, while also familiarizing students with international travel, including navigating foreign cities, languages, and currencies. Student Kendal Baxmeyer reflected, "As a student who is newer to Christianity, Dr. Kerr enriched my spiritual journey by explaining complex doctrines and uncovering my spiritual gifts with remarkable clarity. His insightful guidance transformed my visits to sacred sites like the Vatican and St. Peter's Basilica into profoundly enlightening experiences."



LONDON WEEK: HIS 379

In this course, students tour historically and culturally significant sites, primarily in London, England and also in Edinburgh, Scotland. The goal is to deepen an appreciation for Western Civilization through firsthand experience of British culture, architecture, people, and geography. Prior to the travel portion of the course, the students engage in a study of William Wilberforce as a role model and explore his impact on the world.



**FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY I AND II:
BIB 385 AND BIB 485**

Working on the excavation of a biblical site profoundly transforms how a student reads the Bible, providing lifelong memories and insights that enhance understanding. Unearthing realia, artifacts left by ancient Israelites and their neighbors, students' trust in the Bible and its historical authenticity grows deeper.



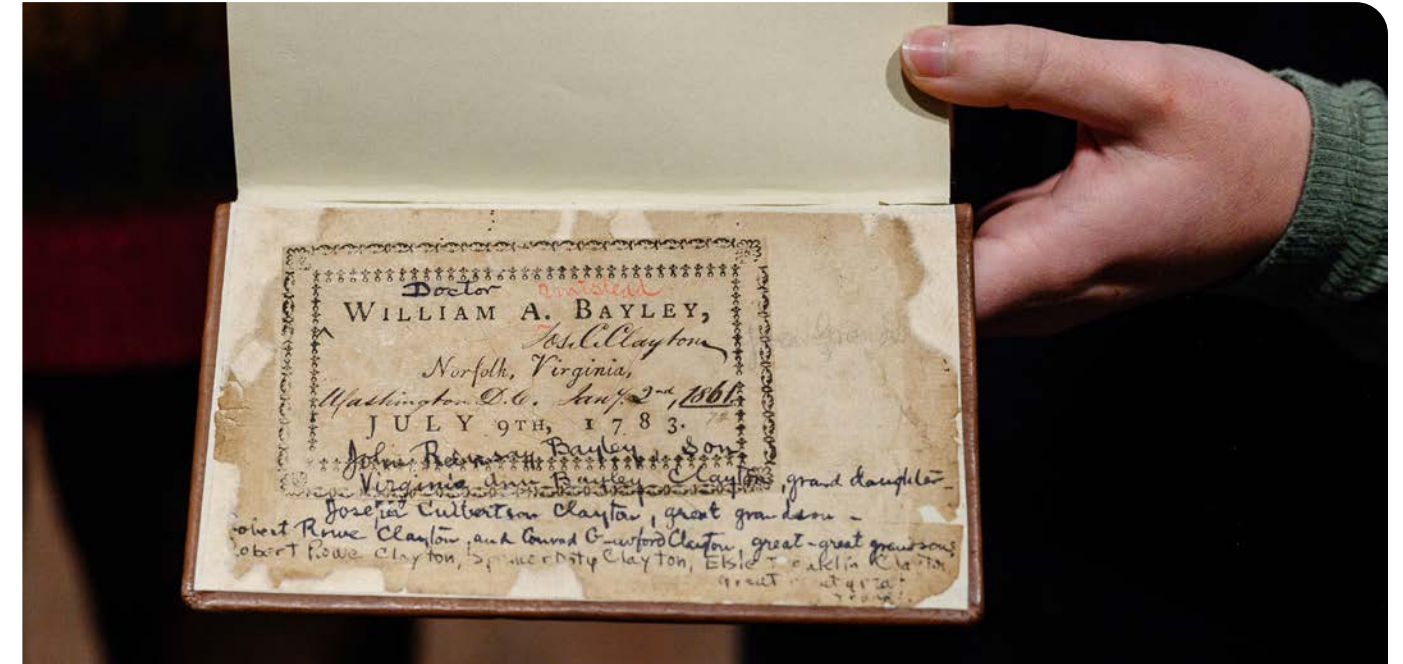
ISTORY TOUCHED

CCU's Great Books Week Put Ancient Texts in Students' Hands



This October, Colorado Christian University (CCU) hosted "Great Books Week: Touch the Books that Shaped the World," an event that brought history to life for students, faculty, and the wider community. From October 21-25, 2024, participants engaged with some of the most influential texts in human history, reflecting on how these works have shaped civilization and point to the ultimate Word that created the world.

In partnership with The Remnant Trust, a public education foundation dedicated to preserving and sharing important manuscripts and first editions, CCU displayed 10 priceless volumes spanning over 4,500 years of human thought and creativity. The collection included an Akkadian clay tablet from 2500 B.C., an illuminated manuscript of the Latin Vulgate Bible (1240 A.D.), and a first edition of "The Communist Manifesto" (1848).



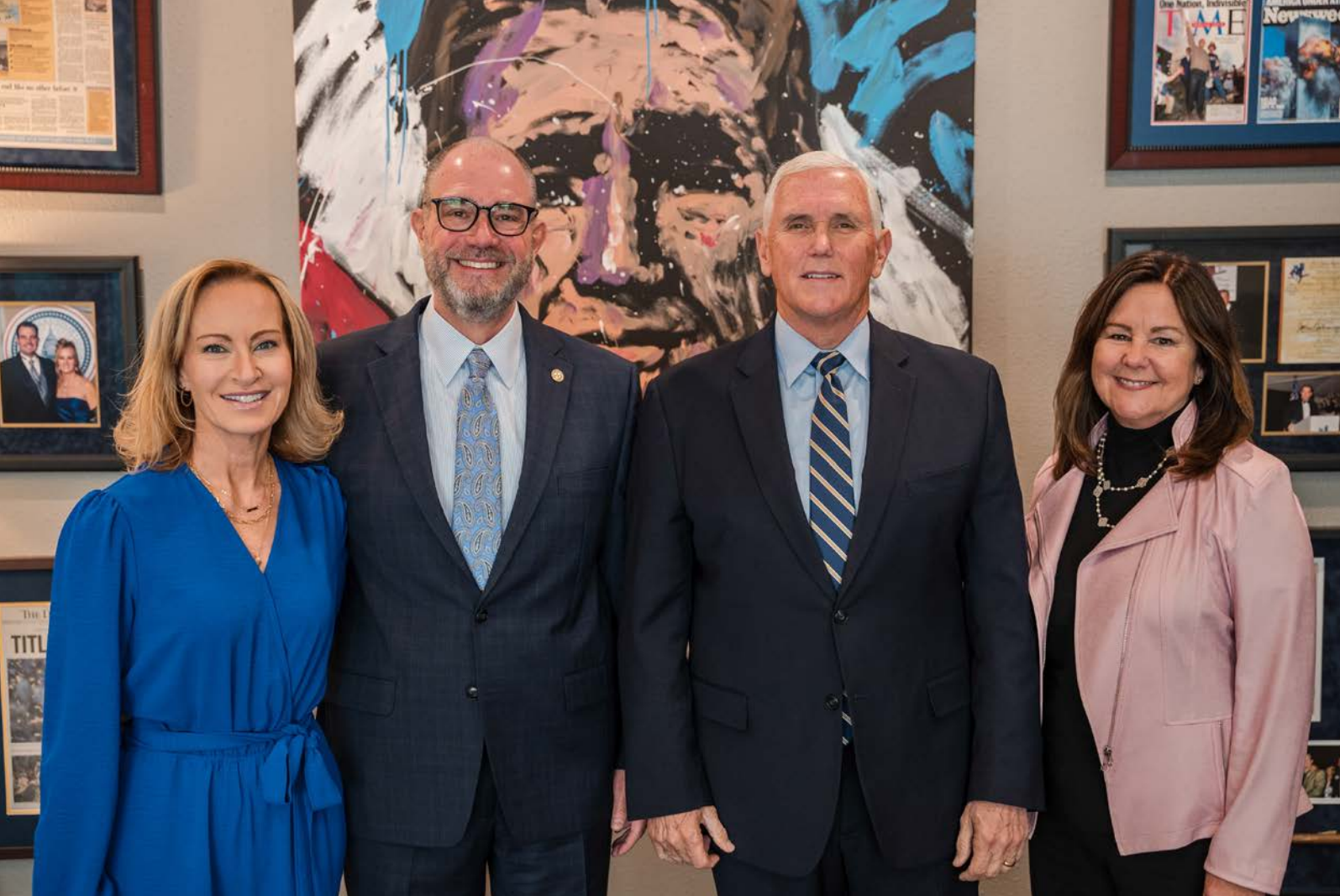
Professors from the School of Theology and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences served as docents, providing context and insights into each text's significance. The weeklong event featured various activities, including classroom studies, a community open house that welcomed over 500 visitors, and special receptions for Augustine Honors students and the Board of Trustees. Dr. David Kotter, one of the event organizers, emphasized the unique nature of this exhibition. "Our goal was to provide a life-changing and memorable tactile experience with great books," he explained. "Seeing students hold a 16th-century Greek New Testament in their hands to read passages from the Gospel of John was truly remarkable."

Other notable works included "The Federalist Papers," William Wilberforce's "A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade," and Thomas à Kempis' "Of the Imitation of Christ." Each text represented a pivotal moment in religion, philosophy, or political thought that shaped our world.

"Great Books Week" exemplified CCU's commitment to providing a Christ-centered education that engages with the foundational ideas of Western civilization. Through direct interaction with these historical texts, the University inspired a deeper appreciation for the power of the written word in shaping our world while ultimately pointing to Christ as the living Word.



For those who would like to learn more or revisit the experience, CCU has made short videos of professors describing these ancient books. Scan here or visit [CCU.edu/GreatBooksWeek](https://www.ccu.edu/GreatBooksWeek).



Colorado Christian University welcomed the 48th Vice President of the United States Mike Pence and his wife, Former Second Lady of the United States Karen Pence, an award-winning educator, to the inaugural session of the President's Speaker Series. The event on November 15 included breakout sessions with students, faculty, and CCU community members, culminating in a keynote address by former Vice President Pence.



Leading by Example

CCU Hosts the 48th Vice President and His Wife to Launch the First President's Speaker Series

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY (CCU) AND INSPIRATIONAL LEADERS HAVE ALWAYS GONE HAND IN HAND, and on November 15, 2024, the inaugural event of the Armstrong Center's Doug and Melinda McDonald Performance Hall welcomed the 48th Vice President Mike Pence and former Second Lady Karen Pence to the Lakewood campus.

Part of the President's Speaker Series hosted by CCU President Eric Hogue, the event expanded upon former CCU President Bill Armstrong's passion for cultivating the next generation of Christian leaders by introducing CCU

students to influential voices who exemplify the University's mission and values. Students, faculty, staff, and CCU community members engaged in timely conversations on education, leadership, faith, family, and politics with this first of Hogue's innovative series to be held on campus..

The historic, full-day event with the Pences began with a breakfast featuring Karen Pence, hosted by First Lady Tammy Hogue, creating a space for educators and CCU community members to discuss the changing landscape of education. Tammy, a longtime teacher herself, admires the former second lady of the United States' powerful influence





in education and outstanding example of leadership for CCU's Schools of Education and Education Professions.

Karen Pence completed the event's morning session with an uplifting lecture on the divine calling of teaching. Speaking to a packed McDonald Performance Hall, the former second lady of the United States led attendees through her 30-year journey as an educator, while balancing her roles as a wife, mother of three, and supporter of her husband's extensive political career, which included 12 years in Congress, a season as the first lady of Indiana, and later the second lady of the United States.

"My desire was to always be a good steward of the positions in which God placed me, using each moment in time for Him and His purposes," shared Karen Pence, emphasizing the eternal impact of answering God's call in any vocation.

Following the lecture, Karen Pence joined a panel discussion with Tammy Hogue; CCU's Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Debora Scheffel; and Dean of the School of Education Professions, Dr. Jeffrey Renfrow. In Q&A fashion, the four addressed critical challenges facing teachers today, including the search for balance with technology in

the classroom, the effects of screen time on young students, the impact of COVID-19 on classroom behaviors and dynamics, and what teachers can do to thrive and have longevity in the field.

After a strong morning session, the festivities continued with a luncheon, bringing Mike Pence into the spotlight, followed by an evening session joined by President Hogue. In partnership with the Centennial Institute, Hogue selected Pence to lead the way with his President's Speaker Series as an outstanding representative of Christian leadership for CCU's students.

"The reason I wanted to kick off this series with Mike Pence is that if you had to pick one high-ranking, Christian evangelical, conservative leader who fits perfectly with the DNA of CCU, at the top of that list is Mike Pence. He represents our strategic priorities, our Statement of Faith, and he models the type of leadership we want from our students when they graduate from CCU," said Hogue. "I'm honored to welcome former Vice President Pence for the first event in the Armstrong Center's McDonald Performance Hall. Vice President Pence is CCU."

Reflecting the University's conservative Christian values, in his keynote address, Pence spoke into the importance of CCU's students impacting their career paths, communities, and the culture at large with grace and truth.

"Leadership begins in the gap, just as you're doing here at Colorado Christian University and through the Centennial Institute," said Pence. "You're training up a generation of leaders at a time in the life of our nation that I believe is our greatest natural need."

"More than anything else, America needs men and women of conviction and of principle, who will adhere to the foundations of faith, who will walk in obedience, who will claim the grace that is available in their faith... It's been men and women of integrity that have always ensured the vitality and the prosperity of living in this nation, and always will."

The topic of leadership continued throughout the evening among various threads of conversation between Pence and Hogue, including discussions around the state of the conservative movement within the Republican party, a look at the path forward for conservative principles in American society, and insights on the merging of faith, leadership, and public service.

In a special highlight of the evening, Karen Pence and Tammy Hogue joined their respective husbands in the final portion of the event, where the couples discussed marriage, families, and leadership, especially marriages in the spotlight, and how to keep family as a priority.

"I wanted students to be equipped to think about ways of overcoming challenges that can come with marriages and raising families while in leadership," said Hogue. "In married life, when the Lord calls you into a significant position of leadership, how do you keep the marriage first? These are the types of conversations that are great for our students to explore."

For CCU, hosting the 48th Vice President Mike Pence and former second lady Karen Pence emphasizes the momentum building within the University as a whole, from the scaling of programs within the Schools of Education and Education Professions to the University's dedication to fostering faith-based leadership. This first event in the President's Speaker Series set a high standard and precedent for upcoming speakers throughout the year. The events are open to students, faculty, and community members, with hopes that these discussions will not only energize the CCU community but also inspire future leaders across the nation.



\$5,000
Alumni Scholarship
online.ccu.edu

37 GRADUATE PROGRAMS
5-WEEK CLASSES
100% ONLINE





SOJOURNERS

CCU Students Bring Hope and the Gospel to Denver's Streets

For over a quarter-century, Colorado Christian University's "Sojourners" ministry has been a beacon of hope on the streets of Denver. Every Thursday night, dozens of CCU students embark on a mission to share the love of Jesus with the city's homeless population.

The evening begins at 5 p.m. with food preparation, followed by prayer and a safety briefing at 6 p.m.. By 7 p.m., 10 teams of students disperse into Denver's poorest areas, armed with backpacks full of food, warm clothing, and an unwavering commitment to bring the love of Jesus to the least of these.

"Week after week students often greet people by name," says Dr. David Kotter, Dean of the School of Theology and faculty advisor for Sojourners. "This consistency builds trust and opens doors for prayer and meaningful conversations about the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Beyond immediate aid, Sojourners offers ongoing support. A dedicated team provides weekly Bible studies and meals at "The Forum," a federally subsidized housing complex, fostering long-term relationships and spiritual growth. Another group of students called the "Boiler Room" (after Charles Spurgeon's prayer team) remains on campus to intercede for evangelism and to prepare a post-briefing for the evening.

The impact of this ministry extends far beyond Denver. Dr. David Bosworth, a CCU professor, recounts a chance encounter in Atlanta with a former recipient of Sojourners' outreach. "Years after our students prayed with him, this man was sober, employed, and walking with Christ," Bosworth reported.

As Sojourners continues to shape the fabric of campus life, it also serves as practical training for future evangelists. Through this ministry, CCU students are not just serving the homeless — they're embodying the transformative power of the gospel of Jesus Christ in action.



Milestones *into* Momentum

THE ARMSTRONG CENTER DEDICATION,
CELEBRATION, AND LAUNCH

“Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!” On October 4, 2024, these words of gratitude echoed across Colorado Christian University’s (CCU) Lakewood campus throughout the dedication of The Armstrong Center, reflecting the trademark enthusiasm and spirit of the building’s namesake. The new 60,000-square-foot facility, named in honor of the late William “Bill” L. Armstrong, former CCU president and distinguished U.S. senator, marks a transformative moment for the University — a celebration of legacy, growth, and forward momentum.

As the fifth building completed under CCU’s campus redevelopment plan since 2015, The Armstrong Center houses the School of Music, the University’s first dedicated chapel, a state-of-the-art library, performance hall, and essential classroom space. It honors Bill Armstrong’s vision and CCU’s commitment to cultivating leaders who impact their fields with grace and truth.

The dedication drew over 700 guests from across the country for two days of celebration, starting with a prayer breakfast on October 3, uniting pastors and community leaders in prayer over the new center. The evening featured the William L. Armstrong Award Dinner, honoring Armstrong’s significant contributions to CCU with distinguished guests, coordinated by the Centennial Institute and the Armstrong Family Foundation.

The official dedication began Friday, October 4, with gratitude for God’s provision and the generous support of

over \$47 million. Speakers included past and present CCU leaders and Armstrong’s son, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Wil Armstrong, who noted, “The dedication of the Armstrong Center is about the future for God’s glory and praise.”

Reflecting on Bill Armstrong’s life and leadership, CCU President Eric Hogue highlighted Armstrong’s journey, from the Colorado State House of Representatives at age 25 to becoming the youngest state senate majority leader at 27 to CCU president.

“He was a CCU president who, after a legendary political career, returned to emphasize the importance of leadership coming forth from this University for 20-somethings. That wasn’t just an idea for him; he resembled those remarks,” said Hogue. “He understood exactly how that could happen in our graduates at age 24 or 25...he had lived it himself.”

In his dedication speech, Hogue also acknowledged Ellen Armstrong, Bill’s wife and former Board member, stating, “As much as we are honoring this building for Bill Armstrong, we are also honoring Ellen Armstrong.” Together, they established a legacy of servant leadership that endures at CCU.

Reflecting the heart of both of his parents, Wil Armstrong emphasized in his dedication speech, “Today is one of the most important days in the history of Colorado Christian

University, but it's not about the new building. It's what happens within these walls, the rising up of the next generation. That's what matters most."

An open house followed the dedication, with Armstrong's favorite treats — pizza and ice cream — served campus-wide and tee-shirts everywhere proclaiming his heartfelt focus of "Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!" Guests eagerly explored the new center, enjoying a preview of the talent and spirit of worship within its walls as School of Music students and faculty provided live performances.

Armstrong affectionately called the School of Music "the front porch" of the University — a welcoming space where initial encounters with CCU could often lead to meaningful conversations about Jesus.

"Through concerts, theater productions, songs, or various events, the performing arts serve as that *front porch* to the University. And on that front porch a conversation about Jesus and who Jesus is for all of us," Hogue explained. "That was a passion for Bill Armstrong and a reason for dedicating this building in his honor."

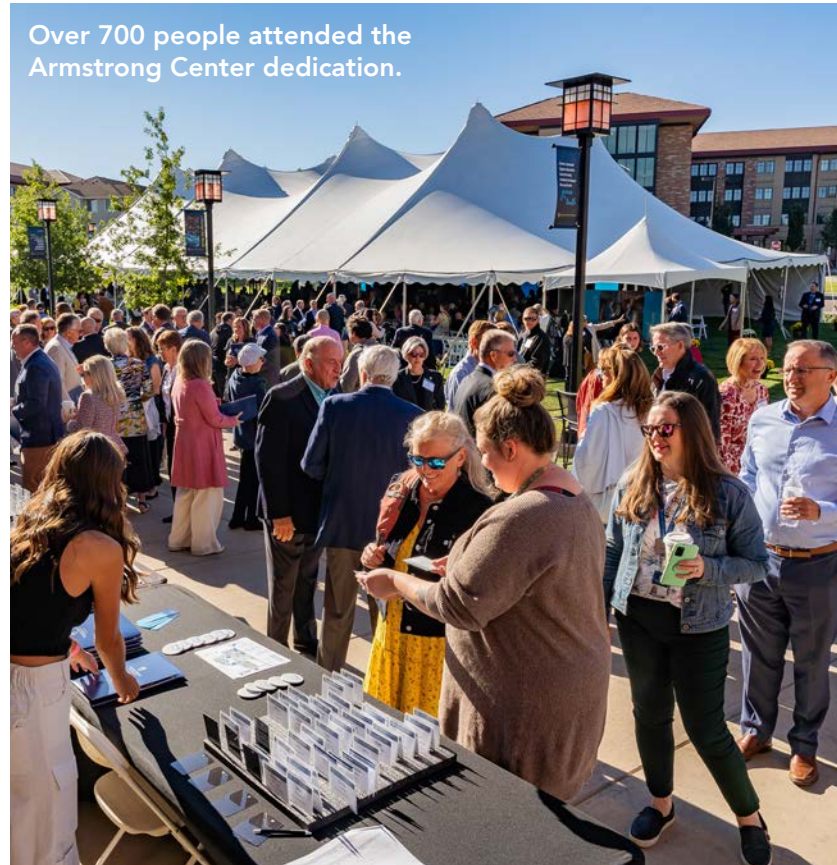
This multi-faceted facility is a testament to CCU's commitment to providing students with comprehensive resources that enhance their educational experience, especially with CCU's School of Music poised for significant growth.

Over the next decade, President Hogue envisions taking the foundation Bill Armstrong established and developing even more opportunities for students. CCU's School of Music is now positioned to grow into a School of Performing Arts, aligning with Armstrong's vision to use the arts as a tool for outreach and engagement.

The center's McDonald Performance Hall also opens doors to a vibrant future where concerts, orchestras, choirs, contemporary worship arts, theater, and dance can flourish in high production value. It enhances the University's capacity to host special events, nationally recognized speakers, and a broad range of academic presentations and artistic endeavors.

"I would hope that what Bill considered to be 'the front porch' of the University would now become the major magnet for all students thinking about engaging the culture through the performing arts at CCU.

The Armstrong Center dedication is not just a moment of celebration; it's a milestone that ignites momentum for the next chapter in CCU's journey.



Over 700 people attended the Armstrong Center dedication.



Wil Armstrong honored his late father in the Armstrong Center dedication ceremony.



Performing arts students rehearse in the new Armstrong Center.



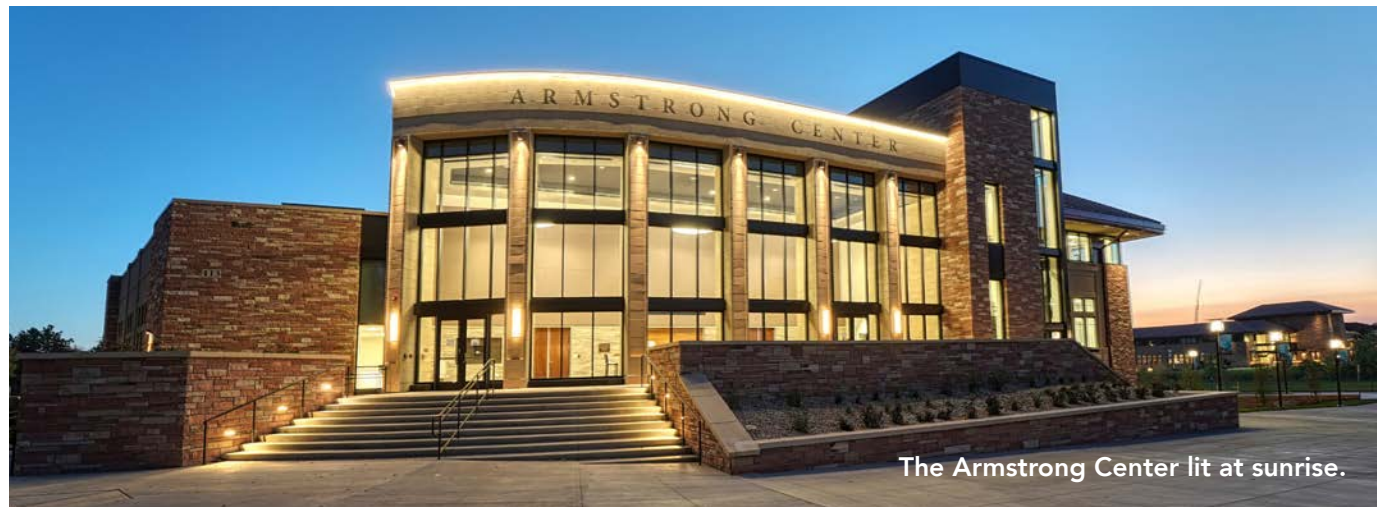
The Jerry B. Jenkins Reading Room is one of the jewels inside the new Armstrong Center.



Jerry and Dianna Jenkins

"I feel a great sense of destiny about the opportunity to educate a new generation of leaders."

-Senator Bill Armstrong. 1937-2016



The Armstrong Center lit at sunrise.

Bill Armstrong's family was present at the building's dedication to celebrate his legacy. His son's family is pictured here. From left to right: Katherine Armstrong (daughter), Wil Armstrong, wife, Kristy Armstrong, son, Jack Armstrong, Elizabeth Armstrong Quinzio (daughter) and her husband, Peter Quinzio.



Scan here to experience more about the Armstrong Center celebration, find links to photo galleries, and watch videos touring the building.



In Due Time

LET US NOT LOSE HEART IN DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE TIME WE WILL REAP IF WE DO NOT GROW WEARY. ~GALATIANS 6:9

Businesses were closing. Prices were rising. A supply chain shortage fueled anxiety and growing mistrust amongst communities amid the global COVID-19 pandemic. In the summer of 2020, it seemed like much of the world was shutting down.

To Gabrielle Kaufman, it seemed like her world was collapsing.

Residing in Wakefield, Nebraska, a small town of less than 1,500 in the Northeast corner of the state, Kaufman — a married mother of three — had long contemplated returning to school as an adult. Naturally drawn toward helping others, Kaufman searched for a calling and felt increasingly compelled toward a career in counseling.

As her 7-year-old and 5-year-old daughters went off to school, Kaufman seized the opportunity to pursue her dreams. In January 2020, she enrolled at Colorado Christian University (CCU) to earn a bachelor's degree in Applied Psychology with an emphasis in Clinical Counseling. Just two months later, the pandemic forced her children's school to close, and Kaufman suddenly found herself juggling online classes at CCU while home-schooling her kids. Shortly thereafter, the house they were renting was sold and they were evicted.

In just a matter of months, the Kaufmans didn't have a school for their children, a home for their family, or even a hope for the future.

"Since we were a single-income household, and my husband was a farmer, we weren't approved for any loans," she said. "We wanted to stay local for my husband's job and to be near family, but we didn't have anywhere to go. A family friend let us stay with them over the summer, but it seemed like everything else was going against us."

Yet, as the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 8, "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

"It felt like everything was falling apart," Kaufman said. "But after four or five months, everything ended up falling into place better than we could have ever imagined."

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Founded in 1987, the College of Adult and Graduate Studies (CAGS) at Colorado Christian University was created with the intention of providing top-tier educational opportunities — rigorously developed over CCU's more than 100-year history — for adult learners who sought to balance their studies with work and family commitments.

Built with a flexible, faith-based educational platform in mind, CAGS was designed to provide higher learning and career advancement opportunities to non-traditional students with courses and programs taught from a biblical worldview. The development of this program allowed for CCU students to simultaneously grow in their professional acumen and in their faith.

As time and technology advanced, that led to the introduction of CCU Online in 2017 as a vehicle for enhancing the opportunities offered by CAGS, offering the same accessibility and top-tier education to everyone.

"CCU Online has fully embraced technological advancements to provide top-tier education online to students around the world," said Allison Burkhart, vice president of Enrollment, Marketing, and Student Success for CAGS. "Online higher education empowers individuals to transform their lives, breaking down barriers of geography and time, and opening doors to endless opportunities for growth and innovation."

What started with a mixture of online courses and hybrid opportunities exploded into an educational phenomenon, with CCU Online offering more than 100 degree program options, helping students in all 50 states and scores of nations throughout the world to earn their degrees and transform their futures.

Between 2012 and 2022, CCU saw enrollment growth of more than 128%. While enrollment trends nationwide were falling, expedited by the pandemic, Colorado Christian University was seeing the opposite.

The fall 2024 term saw CCU enrollment both in person and



online surpass 10,500 for the first time in school history with students clamoring to pursue an education that was biblically based and didn't force them to set aside their values.

It was designed for people like Gabrielle Kaufman.

"I didn't want to get sucked into a setting where my morals were going to be questioned while I was trying to learn," she said.

FALLING INTO PLACE

A Pennsylvania native, Kaufman moved to Nebraska with her husband, Jeremiah, to be closer to his family as he worked in row crop farming, cultivating corn and soybeans.

"I had been looking into going to school for counseling for five years," she said. "One college I was looking at closed down. I'd look into it, get nervous, and then back out. I was a part of [The MomCo.], and they partnered with CCU. I heard they offered tuition discounts and scholarships."

Two years before enrolling, Kaufman had applied for a \$10,000 scholarship, hoping but not fully believing it would come through.

"Then my enrollment counselor flew out to our small town with a huge check to surprise me," she said. "I opened the front door and thought, 'This is a dream. This can't really be happening.'"

"My second thought was that everyone has seen this on Facebook Live. I can't back out now."

She enrolled and started taking classes that January. With two of three children off to school, it seemed like a good time to focus on school herself.

"I was talking to my husband, and it was very daunting thinking about committing to four years," Kaufman said. "But when I talked to my enrollment counselor, she told me how CCU's courses are only five weeks. You're in and out, then you go on to the next one. That was such a huge sanity saver. Getting into a rhythm made it so much easier to organize and adjust around family time, kids' activities, or sports. It was straightforward."

Then COVID-19 threw them a bit of a curve.

With her children's school closing due to the pandemic, Kaufman became both a student and a teacher.

"I ended up homeschooling them, and it was a lot," she said. "It seems silly, but I ended up needing CCU. It made it so much easier having people to talk to when we were all

so isolated (during lockdown).


"My kids were right there learning with me, but I had people to talk to. There was a student lounge where complete strangers all over the country would get together and pray for each other."

After they were evicted, prayers certainly were needed. But as often tends to happen, the Lord met her when and where she needed Him.

"Everything seemed like it was going against us, but then my husband also decided to enroll at CCU. He had an associate degree, but he received a scholarship that gave him the opportunity to finish his bachelor's degree. All of our assignments weren't just focused on what our thoughts were but on what the Bible says about this. It was so impactful because it forced us to dig into Scripture. Yes, it was for classes, but it also became a habit."

What began as a challenging time turned into an opportunity for renewal. They found a home, continued working toward their degrees, and on May 10, 2024, Jeremiah and Gabrielle Kaufman graduated together — he with a bachelor's in Business with a focus in Entrepreneurship, and she with a bachelor's in Applied Psychology with a Clinical Counseling emphasis.

Gabrielle has since been accepted into CCU's Clinical Mental Health Counseling master's degree program and began her coursework in July.

"The house we ended up in, that we still live in today, had been vacant for 10 years," she said. "So, basically, the whole time we were married. It's like it was sitting there waiting for us. ... The icing on top was when my kids came along to residency and got to see where mom and dad were going to school. Then they went to their school and told everyone how proud they were of us." 



CCU Ranked a Top University by *The Wall Street Journal*

Anyone who has ever experienced the "CCU difference" for themselves already understands the distinct value of Colorado Christian University, the leading interdenominational Christian university in the Rocky Mountain region. Now the word is spreading.

For the second consecutive year, Colorado Christian University has been listed in the WSJ College Pulse Ranking 2025, receiving the highest recommendation and character development scores of any institution in the state of Colorado. This distinguished honor, presented by *The Wall Street Journal*, College Pulse, and Statista — known for their expertise in data analysis and industry rankings — was released on September 4, 2024. The full list is available on *The Wall Street Journal* website.

"*The Wall Street Journal's* College Pulse Rankings are an outward sign of Colorado Christian University's continued evolution as a great university," said Eric K. Hogue, CCU president. "For the second year in a row, CCU has been named amongst the best colleges and universities in the nation as a direct result of our commitment to Christ-centered education."

These accolades are not to be taken lightly, as The Best Colleges in the U.S. ranks undergraduate institutions by the value they provide to their students. Learning

environments, amount of years to pay off the net price, degree completion rates, likelihood of higher salaries post-graduation, and diversity are all factored into the assessment of a university's value. The U.S. Department of Education and the Census Bureau provide official data for the results, accompanied by the findings from a nationwide survey of undergraduate students and recent alumni who graduated within the past five years.

In one of the most extensive independent surveys of verified U.S. college students, approximately 110,000 undergraduates and recent alumni anonymously shared their insights. Conducted by College Pulse in partnership with *The Wall Street Journal* and Statista, the survey explored students' views on key components, such as career preparation, learning opportunities, and campus life. The rankings combine these firsthand student experiences with a comprehensive analysis of student outcomes to provide a well-rounded evaluation of higher education institutions.

It may come as no surprise to see Colorado Christian University once again recognized in WSJ College Pulse Ranking 2025, and CCU is honored to be included on this prestigious list. But perhaps the greatest honor may be found in knowing CCU students and graduates appreciate the value found in this small but mighty university that loves the Lord.

Take a Seat!

CCU's School of Music is moving into the Armstrong Center.

With a state-of-the-art building, we need state-of-the-art equipment. Gifts of any size will make a collective difference.

Gifts of \$500 or more will allow you to name a seat with a beautiful brass nameplate with up to three lines of text. You can honor or memorialize a loved one, your family, or reference a favorite Scripture verse.



CCU Athletics SPOTLIGHT

A BANNER YEAR FOR CCU ATHLETICS

Colorado Christian University (CCU) continues to celebrate another outstanding year of accolades across the board in athletics, leading the way in sportsmanship, academic excellence, and athletic prowess. Take a look at the many ways Cougar Athletics has raised the bar in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) and beyond.



CCU WINS RMAC SPORTSMANSHIP CUP FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Since Cougar Athletics are in the business of breaking records, one for sportsmanship should not come as a surprise. The Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference once again awarded CCU the Sportsmanship Cup, for the seventh consecutive year and eleventh time overall — setting a new standard in the ranks of RMAC schools since the award's introduction in the 2006-07 season. The honor is not one to be taken lightly, shining the spotlight on the outstanding

character of CCU's athletes. The award acknowledges institutions that best exemplify the RMAC's and NCAA's standards for excellence in sportsmanship and ethical conduct. CCU student-athletes and coaches have been consistently recognized for demonstrating the University's commitment to promoting respect, integrity, and dignity in all aspects of intercollegiate athletics at the highest caliber.



ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Men's Cross Country stand-out Matthew Storer earned the distinction of Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year from the RMAC after a season that saw him secure five All-American honors while maintaining a 3.71 GPA in Business Administration. Storer's determination, reflected both on and off the field, demonstrates Cougar Athletics' dedication to athletic and academic excellence.

VOLLEYBALL'S AVCA TEAM ACADEMIC AWARD FOR NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

For the ninth straight year and 15th time in program history, CCU's Volleyball team received the AVCA Team Academic Award. This national award celebrates teams that display a high level of academic excellence throughout the season, honoring CCU's high standards of academic success.



HISTORIC NATIONAL TITLE AND WHITE HOUSE RECOGNITION

After a landmark achievement in which CCU's Men's Golf team took home the school's first-ever national title, the team was honored with an invitation to the White House. Following their historic victory, the team joined National Champions from Divisions I, II, and III to be celebrated in the nation's capital, culminating their memorable season.

Following this milestone moment, Adam Duncan and Xavier Bighaus were named All-Americans for their standout athletic achievements, while Dylan Arthur, Adam Duncan, and Peyton Jones were named Cobal All-America Scholars by the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) for their excellence in academics as well. The team was also awarded the GCAA's Outstanding Team Academic Award for the 2023-24 season, once again highlighting CCU's core commitments to excellence and academic success for its student-athletes through these prestigious distinctions.



BASEBALL WELCOMES NEW HEAD COACH

In other exciting news for athletics, CCU Baseball announced Andrew Liberty as the new head coach of the University's baseball program after five years as the team's assistant coach and one as a graduate assistant. Liberty's transition into his new position elicits high expectations for the upcoming season as a new era begins for the team.



THE PASSING OF THE TORCH: CCU WELCOMES JON POAG AS ATHLETICS DIRECTOR



On July 1, 2024, a new era began for the Athletics department at Colorado Christian University. After more than seven years of leading one of the most successful periods in Cougar Athletics history, former

Athletics Director Brian Wall retired, passing the torch to Jon Poag to continue the momentum of the Cougar's winning spirit. Poag has served as the head coach for CCU's Men's and Women's Cross-Country teams as well as Track and Field since 2015 and as the assistant athletics director for facilities since 2023.

Poag's demonstrated leadership and success in training his CCU teams has resulted in landmark victories and unprecedented accolades, including 26 All-Americans, numerous RMAC champions, all-conference runners, and academic all-conference student-athletes. His dedication and work have also led CCU's teams to multiple Top 10 team finishes at the NCAA Championships, with a third-place national finish for Men's Cross Country in 2022.

"Coach Poag has a proven track record of success," said Eric Hogue, CCU president. "I am confident that he will

continue to build on Brian Wall's outstanding leadership and elevate Cougar Athletics into the future."

Poag will now lead the way to ensure the best resources, training schedules, and facilities for all of CCU Athletics and work to create a smooth transition. His work will entail developing strategies to move the University forward toward President's Hogue's initiative to: "Be competitive, character-filled, and committed to excellence while nurturing the spiritual development of each student-athlete, producing CCU Cougar athletes who lead Christ-centered lives inside and outside the arenas of competition." As part of this charge, the department is currently in the midst of the \$14 million Elevate Athletics fundraising campaign that will transform the University's softball, soccer, track and field, and cross-country facilities while providing a class-leading home for more than 150 Cougar student-athletes.

"I am truly honored to follow in the footsteps of Brian Wall as the next athletics director at Colorado Christian University," said Poag. "While athletics success is important and worth pursuing, we also hope our student-athletes experience personal growth that transcends athletic accolades and pushes them to reach their potential in all areas of life. I can't wait to work closely with our coaches and student-athletes to continue the rise of Cougar Athletics in the years to come."

CCU is excited to welcome Jon Poag as the new athletics director to continue leading these teams forward in grace and truth.



College of Adult and Graduate Studies

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

CCU OFFERS UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS FOR THOSE READY TO ADVANCE THEIR CAREER OPTIONS, EXPERTISE, AND EARNINGS POTENTIAL.

SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Applied Psychology (B.S.)
 - Emphasis in Biblical Studies
 - Emphasis in Clinical Counseling
 - Emphasis in Criminal Justice
- Communication Studies (A.A., B.A., Certificate)
- Creative Writing (B.A.)
- Criminal Justice (A.S., B.S., Certificate)
- Criminal Justice (M.S.)
 - Emphasis in Campus, Event, and Organizational Safety
- General Studies (A.A.)
- Psychology (A.S., M.S.)

SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

- Biblical Studies (A.A., B.A., M.A., Certificate)
- Christian Ministry (B.A.)
- Executive Leadership in Christian Ministry (M.A.)
- Theological Studies (M.A.)

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

- Accounting/Accountancy (B.S., M.S., Certificate)
- Business (B.S.)
 - Emphasis in Entrepreneurship
 - Emphasis in International Business
- Business Administration (A.S.)
- Business Administration (MBA)
 - Emphasis in Advanced Accounting
 - Emphasis in Cyber Security
 - Emphasis in Economics
 - Emphasis in Enterprise Agility
 - Emphasis in Healthcare Administration
 - Emphasis in Leadership
 - Emphasis in Project Management
- Computer Information Technology (A.S.)
- Computer Information Technology (B.S.)
 - Emphasis in Cyber Security
 - Emphasis in Data Engineering
 - Emphasis in Database Management
 - Emphasis in Networking
- Computer Science (A.S., B.S.)
- Cyber Security (A.S., B.S., M.S.)
- Data Analytics (A.S., B.S.)
- Economics (B.S., M.S.)
- Entrepreneurship (Certificate)
- Ethics (Certificate)
- Healthcare Administration (A.S., B.S.)
- Healthcare Administration (Certificate)



- Human Resource Management (A.S., B.S., M.S., Certificate)
- Information Systems Management (B.S.)
 - Emphasis in Cyber Security
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management (A.S., B.S., Certificate)
- Marketing and Sales (A.S., B.S., Certificate)
- Nonprofit Management (A.S., B.S., Certificate)
- Organizational Leadership (MOL)
- Organizational Management in Christian Leadership (B.S.)

A.S. = Associate of Science | B.A. = Bachelor of Arts | B.S. = Bachelor of Science * BSN is offered in-seat only

College of Adult and Graduate Studies

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

- Organizational Management in Project Management (B.S.)
- Project Management (A.S., Certificate)
- Public Administration (MPA)

SCHOOL OF COUNSELING

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling (M.A.)
 - Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy
 - Emphasis in Substance Use Disorders
- School Counseling (M.A.)
- Counselor Education and Supervision (Ph.D.)



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

- Alternative Licensure
- Alternative Licensure — Special Education
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education (M.Ed.)
 - Endorsement in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education
- Curriculum and Instruction (M.A.)
 - Emphasis in Alternative Licensing
 - Emphasis in Biblical Studies
 - Emphasis in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education
- Early Childhood Education (B.A.)
- Educational Leadership (M.Ed.)
- Elementary Education (B.A.)
- Special Education (B.A.)
- Special Education (M.Ed.)
 - Licensure or Non-Licensure
 - Emphasis in Alternative Licensing
 - Endorsement in Special Education Generalist
- TESOL Certificate
 - Endorsement in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education

"The quality of the faculty on staff at CCU cannot be paid for in dollars and cents."

— Dick Rodriguez

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Nursing (BSN*, RN-BSN)
- Nursing (MSN)
 - Emphasis in Clinical Care Management in Adult and Geriatric
 - Emphasis in Nursing Education
- Nursing Practice in Visionary Leadership (DNP)



[CCU.EDU/PROGRAMS](https://www.ccu.edu/programs)

M.A. = Master of Arts | M.Ed. = Master of Educational Leadership | M.S. = Master of Science | MBA = Master of Business Administration
 MOL = Master of Organizational Leadership | MPA = Master of Public Administration | MSN = Master of Science in Nursing
 Ph.D. = Doctor of Philosophy | DNP = Doctor of Nursing Practice

College of Undergraduate Studies

Undergraduate Programs

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP

- Accounting (major, minor, dual degree)
- Business Administration (major, dual degree)
- Business Data Analytics (minor)
- Camp Management (minor)
- Computer Information Systems (major, minor)
- Economics (minor)
- Entrepreneurship (major, minor, dual degree)
- Finance (major, minor, dual degree)
- International Business (minor)
- Leadership (emphasis)
- Management (major, minor, emphasis, dual degree)
- Marketing (major, minor, dual degree)
- Military Science — Army (minor)
- Outdoor Leadership (major, minor)
- Pre-Law (minor, emphasis)
- Public Accountant Preparation (minor)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

- Classical Elementary Education (Elementary Education track)
- Coaching (minor)
- Education (minor, emphasis)
- Elementary Education Licensure (Liberal Arts major)
- English (emphasis)
- K-12 Music Education Licensure (Music major)
- K-12 Physical Education Licensure (Physical Education major)

- K-12 Special Education Generalist Licensure (Liberal Arts major, dual degree)
- Reading Education (minor)
- Reading Literacy (emphasis)
- Secondary English/Language Arts Licensure (English major)
- Secondary Science Licensure (General Science major)
- Secondary Social Studies Licensure (History major)
- Secondary Mathematics Licensure (Mathematics major)
- Social Studies (emphasis)
- Special Education (minor)
- Teaching and Learning (major)

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Augustine Honors (minor, emphasis)
- Communication (major, minor)
- Creative Writing (minor)
- Criminal Justice Law and Practice (major)
- Digital Media (minor)
- English (major, minor)
- Global Studies (major, minor)
- History (major, minor)
- Liberal Arts (major)
- Politics (major, minor)
- Psychology (major, minor, dual degree)
- Public Relations (minor)
- Social Science (major)
- Strategic Communication (major)



College of Undergraduate Studies

Undergraduate Programs

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- Contemporary Music (minor)
- Dance (minor)
- Music (major, minor)
- Music Composition (major)
- Music Conducting (certificate)
- Music Education K-12 Licensure (major)
- Music Media and Marketing (major)
- Music Performance (major)
- Music Production and Engineering (major)
- Music Theatre (minor)
- Sacred Music and Literature (minor)
- Theatre (minor)
- Worship Arts (major)

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Nursing (major)

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

- Biology (major, minor)
- Chemistry (minor)
- Computer Science (major)
- Engineering Design (minor)
- Engineering Project Management (major)
- Health Sciences (major)
- Industrial and Systems Engineering (major)
- Kinesiology and Exercise Science (major, minor)
- Mathematics (minor)
- Pre-Engineering (associate)
- Pre-Medical Profession (major)

- Pre-Physical Therapy (major)
- Pre-Physician Assistant (major)
- Science (major)
- Sports Management (major)

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

- Apologetics and Evangelism (major, minor)
- Biblical Archaeology (minor)
- Biblical Exegesis and Linguistics (major)
- Biblical Studies (minor)
- Biblical Studies with Languages (major, dual degree)
- Church History (minor)
- Intercultural Ministry (minor)
- Ministry Management (major)
- Philosophy (major, minor)
- Theology (major, minor, dual degree)
- Young Life Leadership (minor)
- Youth Ministry (major, minor)



**Top-tier academics.
Unwavering values.**

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Over 100 degree program options are available for traditional, on-campus undergraduate students — located in Lakewood, Colorado, in the heart of the Rocky Mountain region.

ccu.edu/undergrad

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Over 100 associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree options are offered 100% online — designed for busy adults, Military Friendly®, with transfer scholarships available.

online.ccu.edu



COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Grace and Truth

Bless a CCU student through your charitable giving and help nurture a future cultural leader.



Like a Tree Planted by Water

We are nearing the halfway mark for this academic year, and I feel a renewed sense of hope for all the possibilities on the horizon for CCU students.

Yearly donations from people like you stand as a seal of approval for the Christ-centered education our students receive. For alumni and parents, annual gifts can also strengthen the connection with the University long after graduation. **CCU is like a deeply rooted tree, planted by water, with strong branches, abundant fruit, and individual tree rings.**

CCU has numerous rings that add to the story that began in 1914. When you study tree rings, it is possible to see the years of drought and plenty, with growth that is either stunted or substantial. Each of the rings point to years of scarcity and years of abundance that both contributed to the spiritual, academic, and personal development of students.

Jeremiah reminds us in chapter 17:7-8 that, "Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

Make a gift today with the enclosed envelope and help a current student develop their own tree ring at CCU. These future nurses, teachers, doctors, lawyers, pastors, missionaries, and business leaders need your support and investment, so they can grow and flourish as they develop roots in the faith and branch out toward their future.

You can preference your gift to a variety of opportunities that all share one thing in common — helping students receive a deeply rooted Christ-centered education so they can impact the world with grace and truth.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Your investment in a student's education will ensure a student who desires a Christian education can benefit from CCU and impact the world with grace and truth. *You can help a student receive a Christ-centered future.*

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

You can support academic programs, equipment, student experiences, and faculty research so that our students can benefit from the best learning environment with talented professors. You can preference a specific School or degree program that is meaningful to you.

You can help enrich the academic experience for a student.

UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC NEEDS

Do you have a heart for donating to help with CCU's pressing needs? A gift to strategic needs enables University leadership to move quickly when opportunities arise that might not be in the budget. *You can help enrich the University's ability to act quickly on academic and experiential programming.*

No matter how much you give, 100% of every dollar works hard to provide resources to the area(s) you love and the students who need your help. Visit our secure site with the QR code below, or use the reply envelope inside this issue and send in your gift today. 🐾



If you wish to discuss your gift with a member of the Advancement team, please contact Kara Johnston Mott, director of annual giving and strategic engagement, at 303-963-3320 or email kjohnston@ccu.edu. Thank you for making a difference!



CCU Remembers Dr. Joe Wall

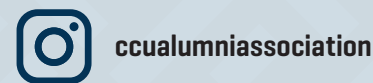
Colorado Christian University mourns the passing of former University president (1983-1991) and chancellor, Dr. Joe Wall. On August 10, he went to be with the Lord following a prolonged battle with cancer. He was 85 years old.

“Dr. Joe Wall was a visionary leader that was integral to forming the great Christian university that we see today,” said Eric K. Hogue, CCU president. “His passion for Christ-centered higher education laid a foundation for our kingdom-building mission.” Through prayer and perseverance, Joe Wall and Dave Beckman, former president of Rockmont College, came together to build a stronger, sustainable Christ-centered Colorado Christian College.

Dr. Wall served CCU through several transitions and helped set up the University for future growth and sustainability. “While many leaders usually wrap up their careers being the president of a university, Dr. Wall was just getting started,” said Daniel LaBry, vice president of University Advancement at CCU. “Joe shined for Jesus in everything he did and with everyone he met.”

Follow the CCU Alumni Association on social media to stay up to date and discover how you can get involved with the University.

Have an update or looking to reconnect with the CCU Community?



CCUSynced  ccusyncedin.com

CONTACT:
Kara Johnston Mott
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations



 303.963.3320
 kjohnston@ccu.edu



benediction

by Earl Waggoner, PhD.



Every Sunday morning, at the conclusion of our worship service, our pastor blesses us with a benediction. Quite often the words he speaks over us are from the book of Numbers, the end of chapter six. Those words serve as a kind of punctuation for a long passage about Nazirite vows (definitely a conversation for another time) and are known as “Aaron’s Blessing.” You know them. “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you....” (ESV). The words are beautiful, encouraging, edifying, and comforting. They comprise the perfect benediction. Thank you, Pastor Shawn.

Benedictions are more than just nice words to end a worship service. They elevate the power of goodness given to the recipients, as in the example: the Lord *blessing* and *keeping*. They highlight the strength of a relationship. The recipients are connected to a “blesser” powerful enough to fulfill the promises in the words: the *Lord* blessing and keeping.

As individual Christians, we exult in that goodness and relationship from and with God Almighty. But it’s not a stretch, nor inappropriate, to exult in God’s benedictory goodness and relationship to Colorado Christian University. As an institution, we proclaim that we are “unapologetically Christian.” We promote and produce “Christ-centered higher education” and self-identify as a “Christ-centered community.”

Here’s the question, though: Does CCU’s Christian commitment earn us God’s blessing, earn us, per our example, the

Lord’s face shining on CCU? The answer is, No. CCU cannot earn God’s blessing even with all our Christian focus and intentionality; Almighty God does not owe us anything for our good, Christian work. The blessing value of CCU’s Christian ethos puts us in a good place to receive God’s blessing, but never think that we earned it.

However, the benediction beauty here is that God *has* blessed us. His grace, love, power, mercy, and goodness have rained down on our University community just because — because He’s a loving, gracious God. The Armstrong Center, full-house enrollment online and on campus, an academic year that ended in good financial shape, and the unifying and ongoing pursuit of being a great Christian university are just a few of the blessings God has bestowed on CCU.

So, back to the Numbers 6 benediction, with a CCU focus:

“The Lord bless you and keep you” — He has!
“The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you” — He has!
“The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace” — He has!

Gratitude and praise be unto our great and gracious God!

Dr. Earl Waggoner is the dean of the School of Biblical and Theological Studies, College of Adult and Graduate Studies.



COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Grace and Truth

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

8787 W. Alameda Ave.

Lakewood, CO 80226

Christ-Centered Higher Education Transforming Students
to Impact the World with *Grace and Truth.*

