

FOUR STELLAR STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT | DONNITHORNE GREAT HALL DEDICATION | SPRING 2024

BEYOND

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

CCU GOLF

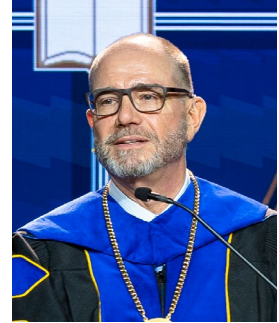
BRINGS HOME
UNIVERSITY'S FIRST
NATIONAL TITLE





Dear Partners,

Welcome to the spring 2024 edition of Colorado Christian University's BEYOND magazine. This year marks the 110th year since the founding of our oldest heritage institution, Denver Bible Institute, in the back of a plumbing business in what is now downtown Denver. From two students that first term to more than 15,000 students combined in our College of Undergraduate Studies, College of Adult and Graduate Studies, and CCU Academy, the University continues to serve our mission of providing unapologetic, Christ-centered higher education that transforms students to impact the world with grace and truth.



In the following pages you will find inspiring stories of an alum racing for a spot in the Paris Olympics (p. 13), nursing students preparing in our new state-of-the-art simulation labs to be the hands and feet of Jesus in hospitals and clinics across the United States and around the world (p. 24), and the University's innovative partnership to train much-needed teachers for Christian, charter, and private schools across the state (p. 34). Reading these stories from the CCU community, it is evident of God's continued favor in these kingdom-building efforts.

When I first joined Colorado Christian University in 2018, it was clear to me that CCU had the elements in place to BE a GREAT Christian University but had not fully realized its potential. My goal since stepping into the role of president in June 2023 has been to transform CCU into the nation's best performing and most trusted, respected, and recognized Christ-centered, biblically sound, evangelical, conservative university. To reach this goal, I outlined nine areas of focus as we build a foundation to propel the University for the next 110 years. I encourage you to explore these nine areas of emphasis that can be found at ccu.edu/BeGreat, and consider how you can partner with us as a vital member of the CCU community as we strive to BE a GREAT Christian University.

Soli Deo Gloria,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric K. Hogue".

Eric K. Hogue, M.Th.
President



Learn more about
President Hogue's
"Great 9" vision
for CCU:
ccu.edu/BeGreat.

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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

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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: Julio Aguilar/NCAA Photos
Feature Photography: Aubri Porter

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Congratulations, Class of 2024!



“Graduates, as we gather today to celebrate the culmination of your hard work and dedication in completing your studies, I am filled with immense pride by your achievements.

You have embraced many challenges, fostered spiritual and academic growth, and collectively championed excellence. As your president, witnessing your accomplishments and the transformational impact of Colorado Christian University’s unapologetic, Christ-centered mission, your efforts fill me with hope and gratitude. May you strive for greatness, rest upon your faith in Jesus’ grace and truth, prayerfully embrace each new beginning, and shine a brighter light for this needy generation. Congratulations to each of you; I pray that your success will be a testament to the enduring call of God on your lives. May we not grow weary of doing good, for in due season, you will reap a harvest, if we do not give up.” (Gal. 6:9)

– President Eric Hogue

On May 10, 2024, Commencement ceremonies were held at Cherry Hills Community Church in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, honoring the hard work and achievements of 1675 graduates of Colorado Christian University.





2024

Grad Stats

1453

CCU graduates

499

CAGS undergraduate students graduating

458

CAGS graduate students graduating

(15 of whom are DNP graduates)

431

CUS students graduating

65

Academy students graduating

Honorary Doctorates

This year, CCU awarded three honorary doctorates to commend the outstanding philanthropic work and contributions of individuals who have impacted the mission and future successes of the University.

Tim McTavish

Tim McTavish served as CCU's interim president during the 2022-2023 school year and is the father of three CCU graduates. An entrepreneur, Tim's business was awarded "Top 25 Great Places to Work in America" and "Most Philanthropic Small Business in Colorado."



Mrs. Donna Miller

Donna Miller has a passion for serving and ministering to others. She met her husband, Scott, at CCU and spent the years following raising their three children. She now serves as a volunteer nurse at Watermark Health and works with Scott in collaboration with their business, Interstate Batteries, in support of furthering future initiatives at CCU.



Mr. Scott Miller

Scott Miller, CEO of Interstate Batteries, designed his business to thrive for future generations and to continue to glorify God in the marketplace. He is currently Chairman of the Board at Interstate Batteries and serves on the board at Dallas Theological Seminary. As a former CCU student-athlete, Miller is also a proud supporter of CCU Athletics.



Commencement Speaker

Rev. Samuel Rodriguez

Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, lead pastor of New Season Church and president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, gave this year's Commencement address. Rodriguez is a globally recognized faith leader and influential advisor to former U.S. presidents and Congress. He has been named among the "Top 100 Christian Leaders in America" (Newsmax, 2018) and nominated as one of the "100 most influential people in the world" (TIME, 2013).

NCAA TITLE!

Congratulations, CCU Men's Golf!

As the men's golf team faced off against North Georgia on May 25, 2024, for the National Championship in Winter Garden, Florida, **the Cougars claimed the University's first-ever National Title.**

This National Championship is the inaugural win for any golf team in the history of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC). Additionally, it marks the first National Title in the history of Colorado Christian Athletics and the first championship at any level ever secured by a Colorado-based golf team.

CCU's golf team already had an outstanding season, with the men's team taking home four prior victories prior to the National Championship and winning their first-ever RMAC Championship. Congratulations to Adam Duncan, Xavier Bighaus, Dylan Arthur, Peyton Jones, Bradley Mulder, Cameron Sandland, and Coach Mark Hull!



Adam Duncan



Xavier Bighaus



Peyton Jones





ATHLETICS ROUNDUP

The soccer team sojourned to Costa Rica for a mission trip where they ministered to children rescued from trafficking, conducted soccer camps, shared their testimonies, and competed against Costa Rican National Teams.



Kayla Middleton



Kenzie Middleton

It was another memorable season for the Cougar softball program. **The team finished with an overall record of 50-10 as they made their third straight NCAA regional appearance.**

Twin sisters Kayla and Kenzie Middleton had memorable senior campaigns as they closed their playing career at CCU. Kayla enjoyed her best season as a Cougar, garnering First Team All-Conference, First Team All-Region, and First Team All-American honors. At catcher and left field, Kenzie continued to excel with a second straight First Team All-Conference nod, First Team All-Region nod, and another All-American honor.

The cross country team had a strong season as the men's team finished eighth and the women finished sixteenth in the NCAA Championships. Matthew Storer helped pace the team as he ran a personal best time of 29:14.5 in the 10k to finish third in the nation.

The indoor track season also brought All-American honors for Storer and Josh Pierantoni in both the 3k and 5k while Shannon King earned the All-American title in the mile. The Cougars continued their momentum into the outdoor season, sending five athletes to Nationals.



Matthew Storer



Shannon King

A One in Two Million Opportunity

FOR CCU ALUMNI SCOTT AND DONNA MILLER, teamwork has always been a part of their story. The couple first met at CCU in 1989 where they both established a foundational faith that has been lived out in their personal and professional life together, and now is inspiring others to do the same.

Announced at the University's annual Athletics Hall of Fame banquet last October, the Millers, in partnership with



Interstate Batteries, are igniting team spirit within CCU Athletics' "Excellence for an Audience of One" campaign. Every dollar donated to the CCU Athletics facilities capital campaign will now be doubled, up to \$2 million. The generous challenge match is intended to encourage a total team effort of gifts of all size. Appreciation includes pavers with family names, recognition on the Pavilion Victory wall, and even the naming of the entire complex, softball field, and track and field area. No gift is too small, and every amount will be doubled. Gifts starting at \$250 will find a place on CCU's Varsity team roster.

As a former CCU soccer player, Scott Miller understands the importance of athletics and the profound impact team sports play in developing leaders for life. Miller is the owner of Interstate Batteries, a family business that has kept God at its foundation for 70 years. For the past 30 years, Scott and his wife, Donna, have worked together in the battery business, now leading the company forward for over a decade in the heart and tradition of Scott's father who purchased the company in 1978.





“My dad always had the mindset that we’re here to glorify God and enrich lives through this business that is a better business. He really built that foundation within us that batteries were a means to an end. The end is to glorify God. And God has blessed that. Profitability within Interstate Batteries continues to grow, and as profitability grows, our ability to give to the kingdom grows.”

CCU extends their deepest gratitude to the Miller family and Interstate Batteries for promoting this unique opportunity in support of Athletics through friendly challenge and competition based on generosity.

“We are so blessed to have such an ideal campaign launch partner with alumni Scott and Donna Miller’s and the Interstate Batteries’ \$2 million challenge match,” said Daniel LaBry, vice president of University Advancement. “The Miller family and Interstate Batteries are well-known for their mission-driven culture ‘to glorify God and enrich lives,’ and CCU Athletics’ focus on ‘Excellence for an Audience of One’ and this campaign’s purpose embodies that same spirit.”



Outrageously Dependable®

Every dollar contributed to the athletic facilities campaign is doubled this year and will help transform the University’s softball, soccer, track and field, and cross country facilities and provide a class-leading home for more than 150 Cougar student-athletes.



Visit the Athletics Facilities
Capital Campaign site for
more information.

Ryder Searle

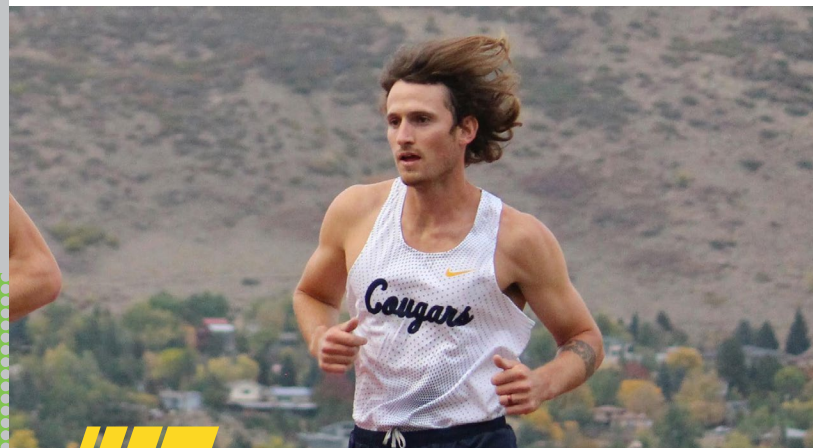
CCU Alumnus Pursues Dream at the Olympic Trials

Two hours and 18 minutes. That was the time needed for elite runners to qualify for this year’s Olympic Trials, held February 3 in Orlando, Florida. After taking home a qualifying time of 2:17:46 at the 2023 Humboldt Bay Marathon, Ryder Searle ’21 not only earned his place competing against professional marathoners and Olympic medalists, but the 27-year-old from Lakewood also became one of the first athletes from Colorado Christian University to qualify for an Olympic trial.

It was Head Cross-Country/Track & Field Coach Jon Pogue who first recognized Searle’s potential in the running world, and it was also Coach Pogue who encouraged Searle to press toward new goals after graduation: the Olympic Trials.

Though Searle did not end up placing in the top three spots at the trials (with a standard of 2:08:10) needed to make the U.S. Olympic team this round, he is already considering a future attempt based on his 2024 experience.

Until then, Searle continues setting the pace in leadership, putting his business degree to work at OGI Minerals, a family-owned investment company specializing in oil and gas. He also continues to invest in his running roots, encouraging other former student-athletes to join him in efforts to support building a new Athletics facility.



Striking *the* Right Note

*The School of Music Returns
to the Heart of Campus*

WHEN STEVEN TAYLOR, dean of the School of Music, first came to what was then known as Colorado Christian College in 1985 as an adjunct faculty member, the music program operated out of an old farmhouse and a small outbuilding. Fast forward nearly four decades, and the school is preparing to move into its new state-of-the-art home in The Armstrong Center this fall.

“My dream has long been that CCU would be known as *the* place Christians who are serious about the performing arts would be able to come and be trained by a world-class faculty – to become excellent in their craft and be fully equipped to impact our culture for the cause of Christ and His kingdom,” said Taylor. “We have the world-class faculty, and now we will soon have the world-class facility to train the newest generation of leaders in the arts.”

The 60,000-square-foot facility re-

turns the School of Music to the heart of the Lakewood campus and makes it a focal point of the University’s drive to “Honor Christ and share the love of Christ on campus and around the world.” That charge is first on the list of CCU’s Strategic Priorities and the “why” behind every performing arts offering from the School of Music.

“I am more excited and passionate about my work today than ever before,” said Taylor. “We need students of excellence to join us in our commitment to ‘Passionately Pursue Excellence to the Glory of God’ and impact our culture for the cause of Christ.”

Fostering an environment where dedicated students hone their God-given gifts and talents in music, theater, and dance, the School of Music uniquely strives to help students grow as professionals in the arts – skilled musicians, performers, and leaders prepared for a

life of service to the Lord.

“At CCU, we believe singing, playing music, and telling stories through drama are ways of embodying the gospel – making the truth of Scripture and Christian faith emotionally tangible to each other and to our audiences,” said Dr. David McNeil, director of Choral Studies.

Once completed, The Armstrong Center will feature state-of-the-art acoustically designed performance spaces and rehearsal rooms for the Symphonic Band, Chamber Strings, University Choir and University Women’s Choir, Dance, and Theatre programs to rehearse and perform, a 498-seat performance hall, a 200-seat acoustically designed Chapel, and a full recording studio with isolation booths, video production, and composition studio.

“As the world of the arts changes, so do the opportunities,” said Taylor. “Colorado Christian University is in the right



place, and this is the right time for us to be bold in our thinking about new possibilities, programs, and opportunities, and to grow.”

Music majors and non-majors alike participate and earn scholarships for singing and playing in ensembles. Each year, many students name their ensemble and theatre experiences as the places where they forged their closest friendships and built foundations for enduring community and belonging.

“Our academic vision for a student who is transformed to impact the world with grace and truth includes the transformation that occurs through participation in the arts – both the transformation of the student and the transformation of culture through the student,” said Dr. Janet Black, vice president of Academic Affairs. “The School of Music is the strongest platform from which we can launch students in this manner.”

Find your home in the School of Music

The School of Music offers an exciting variety of majors and minors, including Music, Music Composition, Music Education, Music Media and Marketing, Music Production and Engineering, Worship Arts, Theatre, Music Theatre, and Dance. Our students receive personal instruction from exceptional, creative, and caring faculty who are themselves active performers and clinicians who desire to teach and mentor the next generation.

CCU is still accepting applications to the School of Music and awarding scholarships for the Fall 2024-25 academic year. Applications are currently open at ccu.edu/apply. Auditions are required for acceptance as a music major and scholarship consideration. Non-music majors can also receive scholarships to participate in select ensembles or theatre. Visit ccu.edu/music for more information and to submit an audition form.

An Interview with *Malachi Little*

Music major Malachi Little '25 plans to graduate with a triple emphasis in Music Production and Engineering, Music Composition, and Piano Performance from Colorado Christian University's School of Music. *BEYOND* caught up with Little to take notes on his CCU experience.

BEYOND: Why did you choose CCU?

Little: I chose CCU for its wide scope of offerings in the field of music and the personalized guidance of the professors. When I was in high school, I went to a music educator's conference as a senior, and one of the professors came and found me after my performance to congratulate me and tell me he was excited that I was looking at CCU. The fact that the professors took time to connect with even potential students made it clear to me that this was a more interactive school.

BEYOND: How has CCU prepared you for your future calling and career?

Little: I think the most important way CCU has prepared me is that we put Christ first and Christ at the center of everything. I think it's important to have that foundation that "this is why we do everything else that we do in life."

Along with that, the professors have helped prepare me professionally. Coming into the music program, I wasn't quite sure exactly what direction I wanted to go. All my professors said that professional musicians end up doing a lot, so you might as well be prepared to do a lot. And they've all really helped me do that. I enjoy music theory, so I would like to continue pursuing music at the graduate level, earn my Ph.D., and teach music theory at the college level.

As far as music performance, the professors push us to perform with excellence and to grow and to learn. There's a high standard which I appreciate, especially in pursuing higher education. And of course, CCU is an academically excellent school.

BEYOND: What excites you the most about the new music facilities?

Little: We have definitely outgrown our old building. The Armstrong Center will help us be better musicians because we've maxed out what we can do in the space we have now. We're excited about things like a better recording studio and larger rehearsal rooms (more than just one).

It's also encouraging how this building shows that CCU cares about the arts and wants to see it be something we pursue – like with the Chapel and putting the worship of God through music right at the center of campus. It will be cool to have the music program where we can blend with the student body as a whole.



Join us in supporting the arts at CCU as we move into the newly constructed Armstrong Center.



ANTICIPATING



The **Armstrong** *Center*

THE COUNTDOWN CONTINUES for Colorado Christian University's highly anticipated addition to the Lakewood campus, scheduled to open this fall. The 60,000-square-foot centerpiece of campus, named in honor of former CCU President Bill Armstrong, is slated to open its doors for the 2024-25 academic year.

Not only will this new facility provide the University with its first dedicated Chapel, along with a 500-seat performance theater and ample library, but it will establish a permanent home for the School of Music on campus (previously housed for several decades about a mile north of campus).

Thanks to the generosity of CCU's faithful supporters, The Armstrong Center will develop a greater sense of unity between campus and School of Music students and faculty, providing room for the program to grow physically with dedicated spaces for rehearsals and performances.

"The Armstrong Center is going to mean so much for CCU," said Dr. David McNeil. "It shows that CCU is committed to the arts – CCU's administration and leadership really get it. Ideas, things that we care about, things in philosophy and theology – we care about what we believe because of our emotional connection to those beliefs, and that's what the arts do. So, for a Christian university that's concerned about these things, the big ideas in culture and theology and philosophy, we have to have strong arts programs because that's how we're going to impact culture long term."



Intentional. Driven. Passionate.

These are a few keywords populating *BEYOND*'s recent conversation with senior student-athlete Michael Mote '24. For Mote, Colorado Christian University played a pivotal role in not only growing his skills on the soccer field and track but also as a follower of Christ.

An Interview with

Michael Mote

BEYOND: Why did you choose CCU?

Mote: It was solely because of soccer. In high school, I didn't want to go to a Christian college or stay in Colorado, but CCU was the best option for soccer. Ironically, it was the only school where I could see myself. I wasn't a Christian when I started, but I appreciated Brad Camp, director of soccer and head men's soccer coach, and the culture he was trying to build. This was the only athletics department that I had been around that wasn't super toxic.

I came to know Jesus my freshman year. Soccer wasn't going well, and neither were school or friendships. I had grown up in church, so the gospel wasn't foreign to me. But I found myself at the point of desperation when the Lord found me and healed my broken heart here at CCU.

BEYOND: How has CCU prepared you for your future calling and career?

Mote: Colorado Christian University has been pivotal in shaping the man I've become; it's all Christ's work. The environment that CCU has created has been special and challenging in my growth.

The biggest thing for me has been the people. It's the people who have challenged and pushed me outside of my comfort zone and provided a space to grow in Christ and have challenged me academically, athletically, and spiritually. CCU has equipped me well in the way I hold myself, believe in myself, and the way I think critically. The foundation they build on is Christ, and it goes back to everything.

My future plans include pursuing my MBA at CCU while continuing to run track. I would eventually love a future position as an athletics director, where I can intentionally impact the hurting world of athletics and offer the hope of Christ.

BEYOND: What excites you the most about the new athletics facility?

Mote: As someone who's played soccer and is now running track, I'm excited to have our own quality field. Largely, I look forward to this because it will help reduce injury for athletes. I struggled with injuries my whole career. Fields aren't a direct impact on injury, but they play a part, especially in their impact on knees and legs. Also, new facilities help recruit new players. Good athletes want to know that we have good facilities; it'll help define what kind of athletes we're able to have. Scheduling-wise, it's been a nightmare to schedule around other facilities, weather, etc. It'll be nice to not be scrambling to find a place to practice, which ultimately lends to more practice time and less travel time. We're all excited about that!



Plans to Elevate CCU Athletics:

"EXCELLENCE FOR AN AUDIENCE OF ONE"

is not only the standard behind CCU's Athletics' demonstrated success, but it is also the name of the capital campaign launched in June 2023. The initiative's goal is clear and simple: to provide CCU's student-athletes with state-of-the-art facilities up to par with their proven distinction.

The proposed athletics complex, situated on CCU-owned property northeast of Alameda Avenue and Kipling Street, promises to be a game-changer for CCU Athletics. It includes a range of cutting-edge features designed to support multiple sports and benefit the broader student body.

The Excellence for an Audience of One initiative is about investing in the growth and success of CCU's student-athletes. By creating a space dedicated to promoting excellence in sport, CCU is sending a powerful message about its values and commitment to student-athlete development. It also supports community outreach, promotes CCU awareness, and showcases University's athletic talent. But above all, this complex will serve as a venue for CCU's "Audience of One" as student-athletes use their gifts to glorify God and make Him known.



Learn more about the Audience of One Athletics Capital Campaign.



A Budding Entrepreneur,

Michel Pinoncely '24 desires to conquer both the business and engineering world. Recently graduated this past May with a degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering, his voice offers a unique perspective on life, faith, and academics.



An Interview with

Michel Pinoncely

BEYOND: Why did you choose CCU?

Pinoncely: God made it clear that I needed to go to CCU. I grew up in Mexico, and I accepted Christ as my Savior during my junior year of high school. I was playing soccer at the time, with an offer to play professionally. That summer, I met CCU's Head Soccer Coach Brad Camp at a soccer camp in Denver. He immediately tried to recruit me and was transparent that he wanted me to come play for CCU. I met the team and liked the team culture, and I started praying about where to go. Almost immediately, I received an email from CCU, offering unexpected scholarship money. To me, this confirmed that God wanted me at CCU.

BEYOND: How has CCU prepared you for your future calling and career?

Pinoncely: The tangible knowledge of being an engineer – you can get that anywhere. But CCU specifically has helped me learn how to navigate a world that doesn't agree with my ideals and how to counter opposing views in a way that honors Christ. The CCU culture does a good job of encouraging and teaching, as well as surrounding me with other godly men that I can learn from as I go into the world. CCU has helped equip me to embody Christ in all my future endeavors. My next step is to further my career by pursuing my MBA.

BEYOND: What excites you the most about the hope of a new Science and Engineering Center?

Pinoncely: As an engineer, I'm excited for the School of Science and Engineering to have adequate space needed for doing the things you have to do to learn well in this program. With engineering being so hands-on, it's necessary to have that space to think about things, observe them being done, and then have room to do them. A new facility will be a strong platform for the engineering program to come to life and appeal to those considering coming into the program.

Building a Brighter Future FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS are some of the most creative people in the world, with discovery and creative problem-solving at the heart of everything they do.

So, when you have a department as rapidly growing as Colorado Christian University's School of Science and Engineering (SSE), rest assured SSE's faculty have meticulously and innovatively utilized every molecule of space in their current home of Beckman Center's basement to optimize solutions for their students. Current limitations of space and resources hinder the potential for hands-on learning and collaborative projects in an otherwise outstanding program.

In February 2022, CCU launched the "Forward with Conviction" Capital Campaign which aims to establish a state-of-the-art Science and Engineering Center, essential for attracting top-tier STEM students, fostering groundbreaking research, furthering impactful industry partnerships, and inspiring the next generation of God-honoring scientists, engineers, and exercise science professionals.

Cory Hixson, associate professor of Engineering, envisions a future where students thrive in program-specific, purpose-designed labs and classrooms, enhancing their educational experience, and setting a higher standard across all of science and engineering.

The need for dedicated space and more (and more advanced) equipment is echoed by Bryan Crutcher, assistant professor of Kinesiology and Exercise Science, emphasizing the transformative impact a new science and engineering center will have on student recruitment and academic experience for STEM-minded students seeking to integrate their Christian values into their professions.



Learn more about how you can join CCU in its mission to empower future innovators, makers, and creators.

An Interview with

Taya Starnes

BEYOND: Why did you choose CCU?

Starnes: I chose CCU's nursing program with Matthew 5:16 in mind. A God-fearing nurse is a light to everyone they encounter. CCU equips nursing students to reflect Christ's love and to share the gospel and His love for us through our service, care, and conversations. The cohort here is like a family as well, and the faculty cares for us deeply. It's a God-fearing environment rooted in the gospel and grace and truth, and those are the pillars I want to stand on in entering the work force. As I prepare to graduate this May, I am just thankful for my experience at CCU and for the opportunity to be a part of this. I am really going to miss it.

BEYOND: How has CCU prepared you for your future calling and career?

Starnes: I think the most important way CCU has prepared me is that we put Christ first and Christ at the center of everything. I think it's important to have that foundation that "This is why we do everything else that we do in life." It has also equipped me with mentorship, discipleship, excellent educational opportunities, and a wonderful community within the scope of nursing. I have learned how to be set apart as a Christian nurse and share the gospel and Christ's love in the field of nursing.

I really loved the clinical rotations and my preceptors, and I absolutely loved OB and Adult 2 as courses. I also appreciate how the professors inspire us. I think my favorite course has been Adult 2 with Dr. Houghton. I had the privilege of going to Florida with her to a medical conference and got to know her outside of the classroom. Then, I had her as my professor for Adult 2, generally considered one of the harder classes. She is one of the most incredible professors I have ever met/had. I don't think that I will ever forget the one class period where she presented her "why" (as in why she wanted to be a nurse) to us in the form of a clinical case study. It's professors like her who have inspired me to become a nurse and strive to be a nurse of her character and quality.

BEYOND: What excites you the most about the new additional nursing facility [the Allison Building]?

Starnes: There are a lot more simulation rooms and lecture spaces in the new facility. It's nice to be able to have more opportunities that translate to real-world clinical scenarios. Simulations are a fun way to learn and collaborate with our classmates. We grow in teamwork and clinical understanding, so we really appreciate the labs at the new facility.

Turn to p. 24 for more on the new home for the School of Nursing!

"Gratitude" is the word

Taya Starnes '24 uses to describe her experiences in CCU's School of Nursing and Health Professions. With hopes of moving into the field of pediatrics, her long-term goals also include coming alongside other nursing students as a professor at a Christian university.



Secure CCU's Future with

Legacy Giving

A recent study shows Americans are set to transfer \$36 trillion in assets in the next 30 years, but only 32% have current estate documents.

\$36 trillion to transfer in 30 years } **68%** without estate documents

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, while aligning with your personal, financial, estate-planning goals.

Take the first steps and explore estate planning with confidence and ease.

OUR ADVANCEMENT TEAM IS HERE TO HELP. Call: 303-963-3330 or email: ccuadvancement@ccu.edu

Thank you for impacting future generations with grace and truth!



Scan for More Information

A New Home for Nursing



In January 2024, Colorado Christian University's School of Nursing and Health Professions saw remarkable progress toward its New Year's resolutions. The expansion of CCU's nursing program into a new facility at the intersection of Allison Parkway and Alameda Avenue marked a significant step forward for the future of nursing at CCU.

Unofficially dubbed "The Allison Building," the new facility nearly tripled the program's space, essential for its rapid growth. The area, spanning 14,200 square feet, now accommodates classrooms, labs, and student workspaces, enhancing the learning environment for nursing students, faculty, and staff.

The demand for additional space stemmed from exciting changes implemented to better prepare CCU's nursing students academically, professionally, and spiritually. After taking over the helm of the nursing program in June 2023, Dean Christine Lepianka introduced curriculum enhancements and additional courses for continued excellence in the program, along with new biannual start dates, beginning in the 2024-25 academic year, aimed at improving enrollment opportunities and retention.

These improvements reflect evolving trends in the field and offer a more holistic and comprehensive approach to health and wellness. However, more courses necessitated more classrooms to facilitate these changes effectively.

The Allison Building includes four advanced simulation labs, doubling the previous number, equipped with high-fidelity patient simulators, enhancing hands-on learning experi-

ences, and mimicking real-life patient scenarios. An expanded skills lab also provides students with critical skills practice with procedures such as tracheal suctioning, wound care, and catheter insertions. A new health assessment lab ensures student experiences with non-invasive assessments, focusing on essential functions such as eye, ear, heart, and respiratory evaluations. And when students are not in the classrooms or practicing their skills in the labs, they can now utilize a dedicated 1,270 square feet of work and study space, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie.

Lepianka stressed the gratitude the entire nursing program feels for the University's support. "It's just great to have the backing behind the vision. We're excited about these changes and our new facility, knowing we're going to offer a more rigorous program to prepare our students for the future of healthcare."

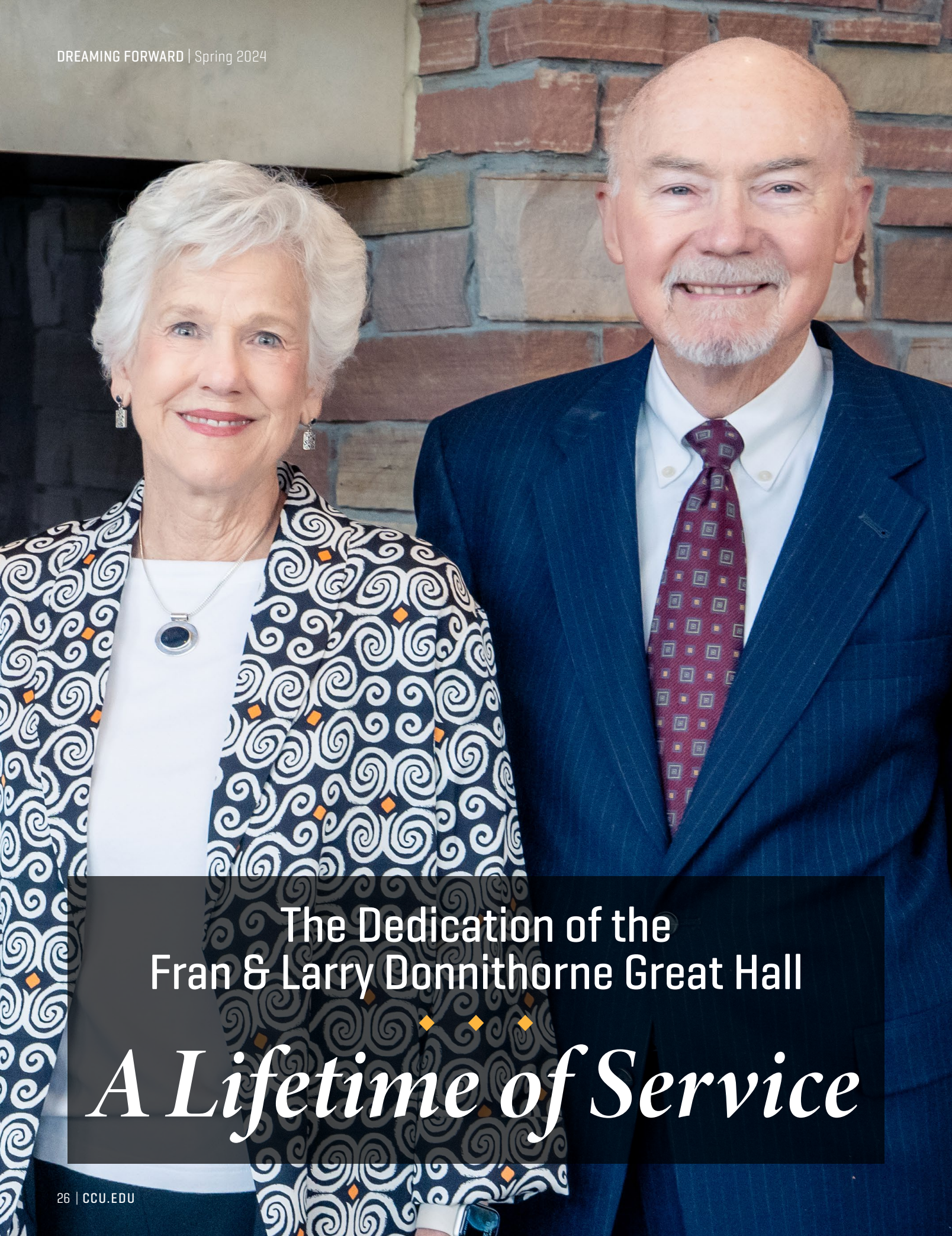




Nursing students now enjoy multiple state-of-the-art simulation labs.

The "Allison Building" provides upgraded labs, classrooms, and study spaces for CCU's nursing students.





The Dedication of the
Fran & Larry Donnithorne Great Hall

A Lifetime of Service

A **TRANSFORMATIONAL SEASON** of Colorado Christian University's history was commemorated on April 23, 2024, when the institution came together to honor Dr. Larry Donnithorne and his wife, Fran.

The Fran and Larry Donnithorne Great Hall was officially dedicated, a tribute to their life of service. Attendees important to CCU's history, including current and former administrators, trustees, and faculty, joined the Donnithornes' four children and their spouses, friends, alumni, current students, and local dignitaries to honor Larry and Fran.

"Dr. D.," as Dr. Donnithorne was affectionately known by students, served as CCU president from 1998 to 2006. He and Fran were lauded for their Christlikeness, dedication to the university's growth, and deep commitment to Christ-centered higher education. Donnithorne was named president emeritus upon his retirement in 2006 after leading one of the most significant periods of growth in University history.

Throughout his tenure, Donnithorne led with integrity and worked tirelessly to ensure that CCU provided an education rooted deeply in integrating faith and learning. He also championed programs that fostered students' spiritual formation outside the classroom.

Investing in the future good of the University, Donnithorne advanced campus development with energy and vision. Four student residence halls were constructed during his presidency. He and his team led the rezoning and sale of the former Western Bible College campus, yielding more than \$30 million to CCU.

Dr. Donnithorne and his team oversaw the Board-directed sale of the University-owned radio stations to K-LOVE, which provided more than \$25 million. Today, more than 1 million Colorado listeners benefit weekly from K-LOVE's top-quality Christian programming.

These endeavors set the University on a firm financial foundation that enabled future growth.



Dr. Larry Linamen, former provost, Mr. Brian Bissell, former senior vice president & CFO, and Mr. Dick Crombie, former vice president - CAGS.

The day of dedication events began with a welcome from President Eric Hogue, who introduced the Donnithornes to over 1,500 students in the Event Center during Chapel.

Dr. Ryan Hartwig '00 shared memories of the Donnithornes' leadership, saying, "This special couple has left not only a great mark on CCU but indelible marks on the lives of thousands of students who came through this university many years ago."

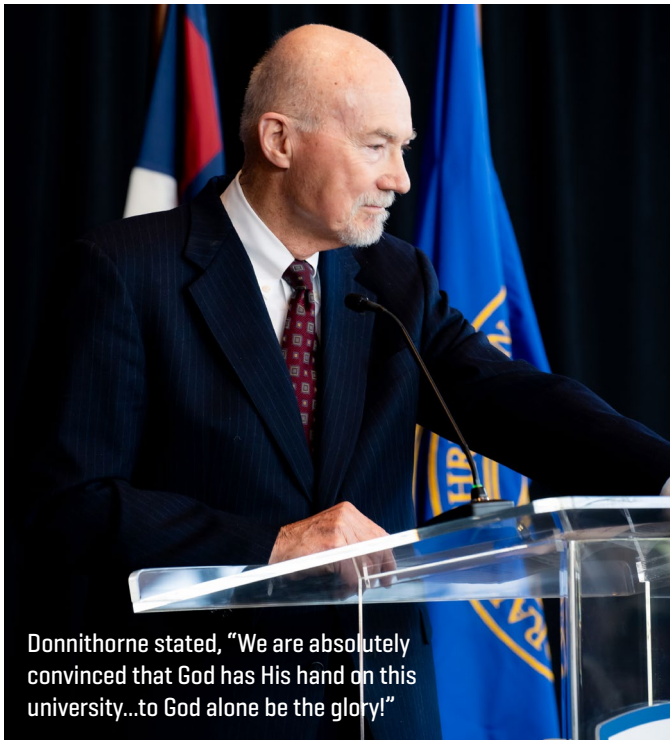
The ceremonies continued in the newly christened Donnithorne Great Hall, where invited guests gathered for a luncheon and dedication. President Hogue and First Lady Tammy Hogue expressed gratitude for the Donnithornes' service.

"Fran and Larry, you've been a blessing to this University for many years, and today, we are honored to honor you," commented President Hogue.

Colleagues and friends shared reflections that underscored the impact of Fran and Larry's service.



The Donnithornes with their children, Jeff Donnithorne, Bekah McDanold, Amy Rohleder, and Mark Donnithorne.



Donnithorne stated, "We are absolutely convinced that God has His hand on this university...to God alone be the glory!"

Reflections were shared by esteemed speakers, including Mr. Brian Bissell, former senior vice president and CFO; Mrs. Caitlin Alexander '02, MBA '06, former controller; Dr. Larry Linamen, former provost; Mr. Dick Crombie, former vice president of Adult and Graduate Studies; Mr. Jim Gunlock, former trustee; Mr. Lance Oversole '06, former assistant vice president; Mr. Tom Beck, chief people and culture officer at Compassion International; and Mr. Peter Culshaw, executive vice president at Shea Properties.

"As the psalmist said of David, you shepherded us, Larry, with the honor and integrity of your heart; you guided us by the skillfulness of your hands," remarked Brian Bissell.

As each speaker shared about their experiences during the Donnithorne years, a central theme was evident: Their leadership was characterized by humility, integrity, and a commitment to service.

"Fran and Larry, you showed us how to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God," said Brian Bissell.

Tributes were also given by United States Senator Michael Bennet, Colorado Governor Jared Polis, and Mayor Wendi Strom of Lakewood, who issued a city proclamation naming April 23, 2024, as "Fran and Larry Donnithorne Day."

Chancellor Donald Sweeting presented the Donnithornes with a custom academic heritage chair, a gift from the University for their years of service.

"Larry and Fran, you have been God's fellow workers in the

enterprise of Colorado Christian University. We stand on your shoulders...thank you for serving faithfully," said Sweeting.

Bissell and Alexander announced a \$100,000 gift to the Murray-Donnithorne Endowed Scholarship Fund at CCU, further emphasizing the Donnithorne family's legacy of generosity and compassion. Established by the Donnithorne family in 2003, the fund provides scholarships to students who demonstrate leadership skills and have financial needs.

"We're grateful to CCU for providing and producing high-quality graduates who are smart, who work hard, and who embody the values of Larry and Fran Donnithorne," remarked Caitlin Alexander.

In his closing address, Dr. Donnithorne expressed gratitude for the bestowed honors, reaffirming his and Fran's belief in the University's mission and the divine providence guiding its path forward. "We are absolutely convinced that God has His hand on this university," Donnithorne said. "He will continue to sustain Christian higher education in the Rocky Mountains. To God alone be the glory."

The Donnithorne Great Hall is the primary event space in the Anschutz Student Center at the center of the University's Lakewood campus. Adorned with beautiful wood, stone finishes, and ample natural light, more than 100 events are held annually in the Donnithorne Great Hall.

President Hogue noted, "All of us at CCU are grateful to the Bissell family and the Alexander family for their generosity, first to our campus development project and now to the Murray-Donnithorne Endowed Scholarship. The dedication of the Fran and Larry Donnithorne Great Hall serves as a testament to the enduring values of faith, integrity, and service that shape Colorado Christian University."



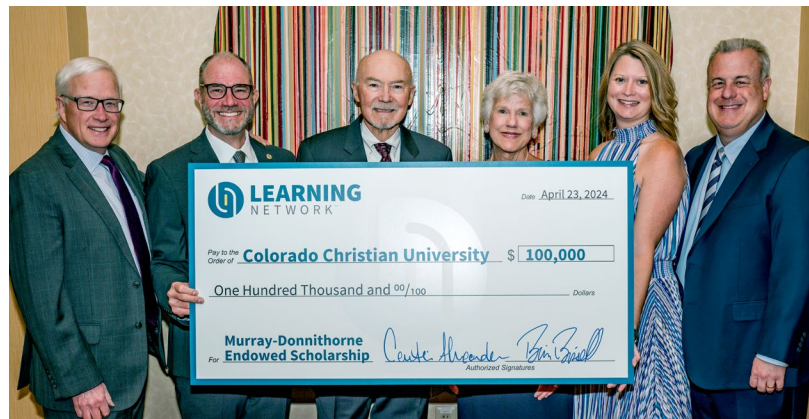
President Hogue and First Lady Tammy Hogue expressed gratitude for the Donnithornes' service.



Over 100 invited guests gathered for the luncheon and dedication ceremony.



Chancellor Sweeting presented the gift of an academic heritage chair to the Donnithornes.



The Murray-Donnithorne Endowed Scholarship supports students who demonstrate leadership skills and have financial needs.



Meet Fran and Larry Donnithorne and watch a video recap of the dedication.

Donors Shine a Brighter Light *by Investing in Students*

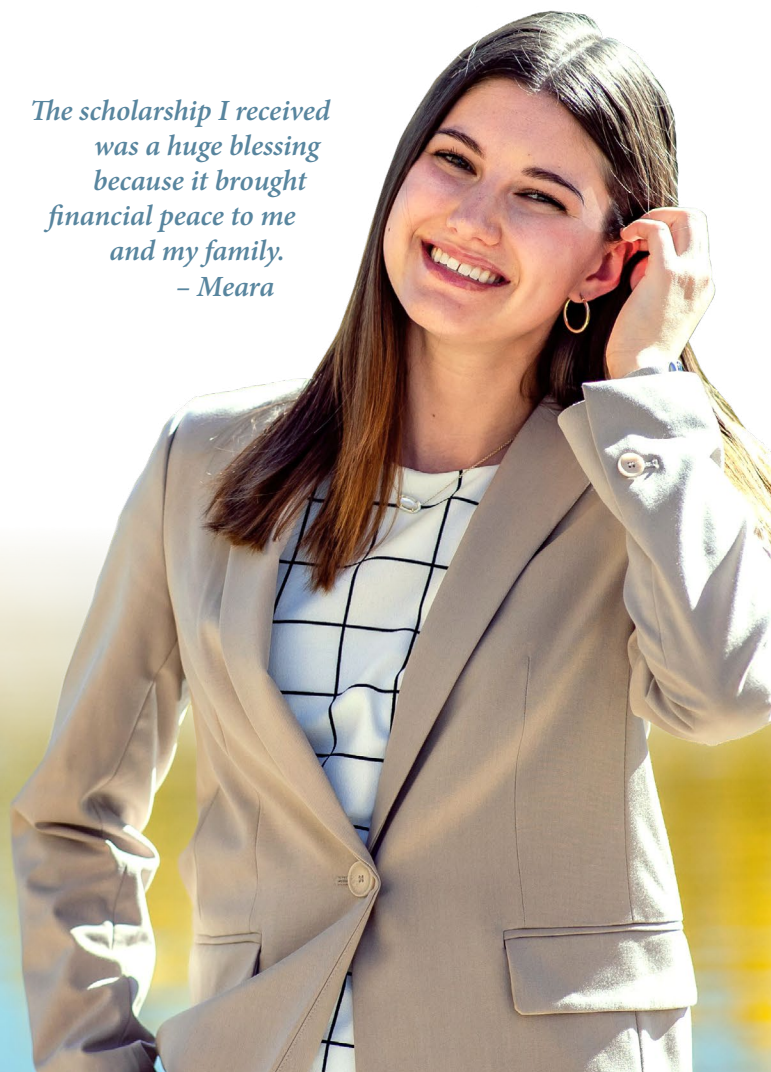


You play a significant role in helping students enroll and graduate from Colorado Christian University. Annual giving supports scholarships, academic programs, capital projects, and the University's strategic needs to provide immediate financial support to the things you care about.

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.

In response to rising student need, annual gifts to the CCU Fund provide vital scholarship aid for students in need. Unlike loans, scholarships do not need to be repaid by the student, so this helps them meet their immediate tuition obligations without increasing their debt load. More than ever, 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.*

*The scholarship I received
was a huge blessing
because it brought
financial peace to me
and my family.
– Meara*



You are invited to partner with
this GREAT university through
your charitable gifts.



One such student is Meara. She hails from Pinehurst, North Carolina, and she has one younger sister in high school. Meara chose CCU because it aligned with her values around faith and academics, as well as her personal goals. She also liked CCU's "Jesus plus everything" approach, meaning Jesus first, and everything else follows.

The Hope Fund is another example of a scholarship fund supported by annual gifts. It helps adult learners in need who are pursuing a degree amid raising kids, working full-time jobs, transitioning out of military service, or taking care of elderly parents. The Hope Fund does just what it says — it gives hope of a better future to a student who is seeking a degree that will transform their career and the economic mobility of their family.

Annual gifts to scholarships play a crucial role in promoting access and opportunities for students from all backgrounds. Your investment in a scholarship fund helps deserving students who may otherwise be unable to afford a private, Christ-centered education. This commitment to helping those in need enriches the educational experience for all students.

Many donors choose to support academic programs through their annual gifts. These funds are pooled together to invest in innovative programs and ensure the University can take advantage of opportunities when they happen. Every School at CCU has ongoing opportunities to support 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, or simply make a gift to support the University's

strategic needs.

Each year CCU is able to use annual gifts to offset costs and fund dynamic student experiences, including: the annual March for Life event in Washington D.C., national Moot Court competition, CCU2theWorld student mission trips, lab equipment, musical instruments, career networking nights for future business leaders, and equipment in the School of Nursing simulation labs. Your gift to an academic program can advance research, enhance teaching and learning environments, and expand opportunities for students and faculty. Your investments ensure the advancement of knowledge and the launching of leaders.

*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.*

Your gifts symbolize a commitment to excellence, community, and opportunity. They embody the belief that education is a transformative force so that individuals can achieve their dreams and enjoy economic and personal freedom.

Your annual gift(s) also helps you have influence and shine a brighter light in God's kingdom work that is happening through CCU.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. – Matthew 5:16

Take a Seat!

CCU's School of Music will move into the Armstrong Center sometime before the end of the year.

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.



Tackling the Great American Teacher Crisis

by Cory Butzin

*A \$500,000 Daniels Fund grant is changing lives
and creating outstanding teachers at CCU.*

What is education?

Is it an industry or a set of buildings? A philosophy or a building block for the future?

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Between budget cuts, teacher shortages, and political agendas, the education system nationwide has been inching closer and closer to the edge of a precipice. But Colorado Christian University is working to make a difference, transforming students to impact the world with grace and truth by way of a \$500,000 grant awarded by the Daniels Fund to CCU to create a pipeline of exceptional teachers for schools in Colorado.

The Daniels Fund is a private charitable foundation dedicated to making life better for the people of Colorado,

New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming through its grants program, scholarship program, and ethics initiative. In 2023, the Daniels Fund awarded \$54 million in grants to nonprofit partners. It has awarded more than \$1 billion in grants and scholarships since 2000.

As part of the Daniels Fund grant, Lohmann and the education departments at CCU will be able to fund scholarships for teacher candidates; launch two Christian school collaboratives with the ultimate aim of sharing ideas, needs, and resources; and provide professional development opportunities for special education to charter schools.

"This is expected to add 100,000 new choice seats by 2030," said Dr. Debora Scheffel, dean of the School of Education for the College of Undergraduate Studies at CCU.

*"Great educators are at the heart of excellent schools, and we're excited to invest in this program to develop skilled and passionate teachers."
-Hanna Skandera, president and CEO of the Daniels Fund*



Through this joint effort between the College of Adult and Graduate Studies and the College of Undergraduate Studies, CCU will provide scholarships to 92 teacher candidates over the next two years, preparing them to fill vacancies in private, faith-based, or charter schools upon graduation.

“When you think about a teacher having 30 students in their classroom and multiply that by how many years they teach, that’s a huge impact,” said Scheffel. “Teaching personal responsibility, love of family, and the values that love our country will have a huge impact, because our culture is stammering. It has neglected the core principles of what it means to be on a flourishing path.

“When you have 40% of students who are not proficient in reading, how can they become productive citizens?” asks Scheffel. “How can they vote wisely? How can they take our country to a greater good? How can they do that when they can’t even read an authoritative document that animates freedom and responsibility?”

Christian Schools Collaborative

In Scripture, we are repeatedly implored to learn, study, and use the gifts that God has given us.

And we’re called to do that together.

Whether it is iron sharpening iron (Proverbs 27:17) or considering how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24), we are called to work together for His glory.

“We launched the Denver-Area Christian Schools Collaborative in March,” Lohmann said. “Not only will this help us identify students who can receive the scholarship, but it will help schools identify needs, share resources, and support one another. ... It’s a huge undertaking.”

Colorado Christian University already partners with scores of faith-based institutions throughout the country on dual-credit courses through CCU Academy and by partnership opportunities offered through CCU Online, so the natural progression toward a collaborative effort amongst them is natural.

“The idea of putting more teachers in classrooms who understand what it takes to be a Christian teacher is extremely satisfying,” Lohmann said. “We’ll be doubling our alternative licensure program and special education enrollments, which will have a significant impact.”

The alternative licensure program can be completed in one academic year and offers a combination of classroom teaching and graduate coursework as students work toward earning their teaching license.

Scholarship recipients will be hand-picked by the education faculty at CCU and will benefit teaching candidates who:

Attend the College of Undergraduate Studies in-person on the Lakewood campus of CCU and plan to teach in private, faith-based, or conservative charter schools.

Enroll in the Alternative Licensure Program at CCU Online and are teaching in private, faith-based schools.

Enroll in the Special Education Alternative Licensure Program at CCU Online and are special education teachers in conservative, charter schools.

Special Education Instruction

According to the Colorado Department of Education, there are more than 260 charter schools in the state serving around 140,000 students statewide, which makes up close to 15% of the total student population.

“Every charter school that has a teacher attending CCU on scholarship will receive information on how all of their teachers can develop professionally or receive regular updates regarding educational laws. It’ll primarily focus on special education and helping students with disabilities. We have existing relationships with quite a few faith-based and charter schools. We strive to be the go-to university for charter schools and special education.”

According to Lohmann, nearly half of the 92 scholarship recipients will be special education teachers serving charter schools in Colorado. The first cohort of students launches in fall 2024.

An additional \$300,000 has already been raised in donor support to expand the efforts initiated by the \$500,000 Daniel’s Fund grant, with a goal of reaching a combined \$1 million for educational support. If you are interested in investing in great teachers in Colorado, please email: ccuadvancement@ccu.edu.

110 YEARS

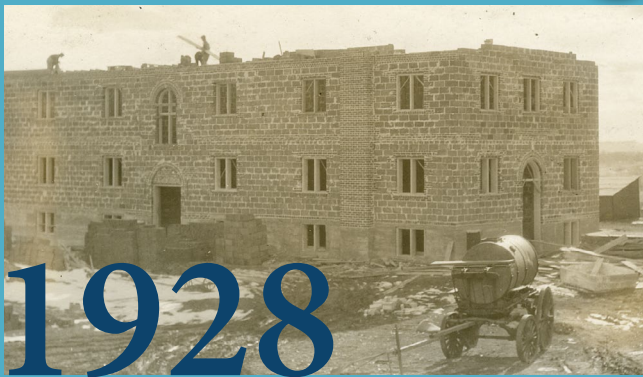
makes way for mighty and remarkable advancements – including the incredible journey of Colorado Christian University. From a humble training institute for Christian workers into a thriving university, 2024 celebrates the milestones leading up to what is now a global institution, impacting over 10,000 students annually with an academically challenging, Christ-centered education.



1914

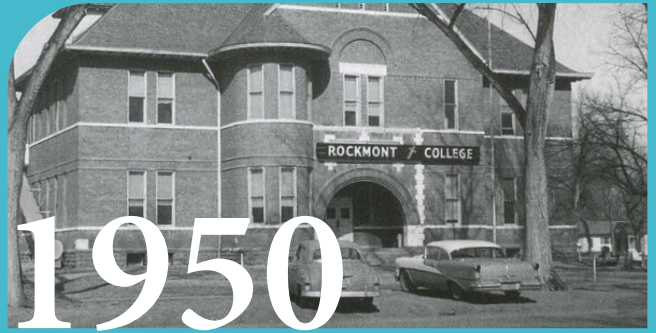


Before there were smartphones or even sliced bread, there was the Denver Bible Institute (DBI), a training school for Christian workers founded by Clifton Fowler in September 1914. The institution quickly expanded into a thriving campus, offering four-year Bible certificates, publishing services, missions training, radio broadcasts, and conferences.



1928

By 1928, the growth of DBI necessitated its own campus, leading to the purchase of land in Jefferson County. The development of this campus involved constructing new buildings and repurposing existing farm structures, the collaborative effort of DBI staff and students.

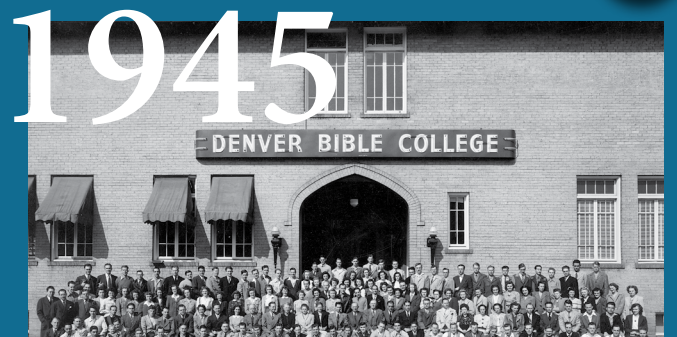


In 1950, Denver Bible College was rebranded as Rockmont College, emphasizing a Christian liberal arts education. The school made its home in Longmont until the move to Lakewood in 1967, where CCU's current campus resides today.



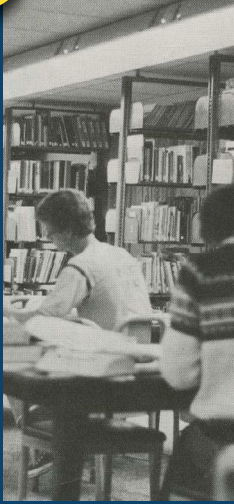
1948

To meet the rising need for ministry training, an alumnus of DBI, Carl Harwood, founded the Western Bible Institute (WBI) in 1948. Located in Denver, the school was later named Western Bible College (WBC), gaining accreditation by 1974 and joining the Association of Christian Schools International by 1978.



With the growing demand for higher education, DBI was renamed Denver Bible College in 1945. By 1949, the now four-year Denver Bible College gained accreditation from the American Association of Bible Institutes and Bible Colleges.

1970s



Rockmont grew in innovation, establishing evening programs in the 1970s for students unable to attend classes during the day. The college gained accreditation by the North Central Association in 1981.



Rockmont College merged with Western Bible College in 1985, forming Colorado Christian College. This strategic partnership led to a merger with Colorado Baptist University in 1989, establishing today's Colorado Christian University.

CCU's
Birthday!

1989



2000s

With the expansion of the internet, the 2000s saw the rise of online education, and CCU's adult-focused education generated rapid growth. Though more students entered online education, still, the Lakewood campus continued to thrive. From 2006 onward, CCU refocused its Christ-centered education around Christian conservative Strategic Priorities and entered a renewed phase of growth.

1990s



The 1990s saw a geographic expansion of CCU with satellite campuses in Grand Junction and Colorado Springs. CCU Athletics also joined the RMAC (Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference) as a Division II school.

TODAY, CCU IS COMPRISED of two unique colleges: the College of Undergraduate Studies (CUS), serving approximately 1,500 traditional residential students, and the College of Adult and Graduate Studies (CAGS) through CCU Online, serving over 10,000 students through online and in-seat programs for adults. Additionally, CCU's educational reach extends to 7,000 high school students nationwide through dual credit and online dual-enrollment programs. Our mission to provide Christ-centered higher education, transforming students to impact the world with grace and truth guides all domains of the University as a whole.



COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
Century Club Member

Receive An Exclusive Century Club Vinyl Decal with Your Gift of \$100 or More!

Colorado Christian University's strength today stems from the legacy of our three heritage institutions, symbolized by the three peaks in our Century Club design from CCU's 1989 logo. Become a Century Club member with your \$100 gift today!



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

I would tell any military service member that with the five week block, you can make it work. In the process, it can bring you closer to Christ." –Scott Russo

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)



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Grace and Truth



Life Above All

by Kristen Rummel

CCU FOR ISRAEL

NOT SO LONG AGO, a prominent German pastor, Martin Niemoller, said, *“First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me.”*

After the extent of Nazi war crimes came to light, the world said, “Never again.” Yet, here we are, almost 80 years later, watching the brutal Hamas attack on Israel that began this past October 7. The eruption of antisemitism around the world, especially on America’s university campuses, was shocking. While many university leaders remained silent in response to their students celebration of Jewish slaughter, CCU did not.

This past December 5, Colorado Christian University spoke out on behalf of the Jewish people during their CCU for Israel prayer vigil. Local Jews and Christians alike gathered in the An-

schutz Student Center, offering prayer and support for the victims of war. During the evening, attendees raised over one million dollars toward the support of the United Hatzalah, Israel’s Emergency First Responder group. The evening also included first-hand war accounts from Rabbi Hillel, who was on the ground in Israel on October 7; members of the United Hatzalah; Hezy Shelev, a soldier in Israel; as well as our own President Eric Hogue and Chancellor Sweeting. In the words of President Hogue, “This university will continue to support Israel, her land, her state, and her people.”

Shelev, a second-generation Auschwitz survivor, told the crowd, “The ultimate revenge is life — free, peaceful, dignified life. That is what they’ve always wanted to take from us and what we will never give them. This is the Jewish revenge: Life above all.” And not just life for Jews but for everyone. Shelev went on to give an account of when he was commanded to rush a Hamas terrorist to the hospital. A man, who moments ago was shooting at him, was now under his watch as the terrorist fought for his own life.





WATCH PRESIDENT HOGUE ADDRESS THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND HAMAS



Not one news source shared that story.

With support from President Hogue, Sweeting and others played a pivotal role in making this evening happen. His heart, and the heart of CCU, is to inspire believers to stand with our Jewish friends, to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, as well as a just peace in the region.

With antisemitism on the rise, Sweeting stressed the importance of remembrance. It's important to remember that our battle is not against flesh and blood; that Christians have a debt to the Jews, their scripture and covenants; the ongoing historical repetition of assault on the people of God and God's continued movement on their behalf; that one day we all will be called to account. CCU continues to stand with Israel, committed to raising awareness and support of our Jewish brothers and sisters. May we work to never forget as we speak "Life above all."

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute." (Prov. 31:8)



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A Legacy of Online Learning Excellence:

Dr. Sarah Scherling retires after 25 years

Dr. Sarah Scherling, vice president of Academic Affairs for Colorado Christian University’s College of Adult and Graduate Studies, will retire on June 30 after more than 25 years of dedicated service to the University.

Reflecting on her time at CCU, Scherling expressed her gratitude for the experience. “It has been an immense privilege and honor to serve this beloved institution for the past quarter-century,” said Scherling. “I am deeply grateful for the opportunities, challenges, and experiences that have shaped my journey here.”

Under Scherling’s leadership, CCU Online has experienced remarkable expansion while maintaining rigorous academic standards, contributing significantly to the University’s overall success.

President Hogue praised Scherling’s extraordinary impact, particularly in building accreditation efforts with the Higher Learning Commission, ensuring CCU’s sustained academic excellence.

In retirement, Scherling and her husband, Doug, now plan to enjoy focused time building memories with their grandchildren in Colorado Springs. It is with heartfelt appreciation for her contributions of excellence and growth in a multitude of ways that CCU wishes Scherling all the best in her new adventures.

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?



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CCU Benediction

TYPICALLY, A BENEDICTION OR “GOOD WORD” COMES AT THE END OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT

that has been communicated through words — one final, uplifting mental peg to hang our thoughts on. Sometimes it includes an admonition, but typically it serves to inspire, embolden, encourage, and equip. In music, we might call the benediction a *coda* at the end of a musical piece that recaps a significant portion of the composition with a final “ta da!” at the end. Perhaps in life, we might call it our final remembrance or even accomplishment — in truth, our legacy.

The Armstrong Center is often referred to as a legacy building, in honor of our good friend Bill Armstrong. As I write this, I am drawn to the idea that this new building stands as a benediction building. This building meets all of the requirements of a benediction: It comes at the end of something important; it will create thousands of mental pegs to hang thoughts on; it will serve to inspire, embolden, encourage, and equip; it is a lasting remembrance and tribute; it is a “ta da!”

I can’t begin to express my gratitude to so many who have given sacrificially to the building of The Armstrong Center. Having been a part of the faculty of Colorado Christian University since 1985, when the music program was meeting in four rooms of an old farmhouse and one outbuilding, to see my life dream of a permanent home built for the pursuit of music and the performing arts is overwhelming.

With the celebration and gratitude of looking back and seeing where we have been comes that admonition of moving forward and championing the work that has brought us here. As those who have gone before us have now passed the work on to us, I am reminded of that passage from Hebrews 12:1:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run the race marked for us. (NIV)

Now is our time to run. God through His work has given us the tools — now we must faithfully and boldly run. We must not just admire and be grateful; we must forge ahead and be bold to engage the world’s culture for the cause of Christ. We must reach outward. We must now run the race that God used Bill Armstrong and other giants to prepare for us. We cannot be happy and satisfied to see and live within the walls of this beautiful new building, but we must burst beyond them to prepare, equip, educate, and embolden a new generation to impact our culture for the kingdom’s sake. We must be willing to take risks — to lead through innovation, anticipation, and with boldness. Hmmm... that sounds like the life of Bill Armstrong to me. His legacy is not to look at what he accomplished so much, but to use his example to move forward with courage and boldness — to proclaim, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!” through the arts to a lost and dying world.

For those of us of a certain age, I share this familiar chorus by Kurt Kaiser that I sang with my friends around every campfire we shared:

It only takes a spark to get a fire going. And soon all those around a can warm up in its glowing. That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it. You spread His love to everyone. You want to pass it on.

I want to pass it on! And now this benediction from God’s Word to us in Romans 15:13-14:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another. (NIV)

Steven T. Taylor
Dean of School of Music





COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
Grace and Truth

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Photo contest winner of the CCU Alumni Association's student photo contest, illustrating "A Brighter Light."

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