

YETTER HALL OPENS · RECORD ENROLLMENT · CCU IN SOCIAL MEDIA · FALL 2015

# BEYOND

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



## OVERCOME

Feature Story (Page 8)

Dear Friends,

No doubt, you've already noticed some differences in our magazine. Our goal is always to give you something that not only informs you, but makes you proud to be associated with CCU. We believe this new, contemporary format fits the excitement and dynamism that are both on campus and throughout the larger CCU community.



Additionally, we've changed the name of the magazine to BEYOND, with the goal of telling stories that are happening to those who go beyond. Some of these stories are about alumni, who are literally beyond CCU, and others are about those who go beyond the norm, affecting change in uncommon ways.

This new magazine reaches you at a momentous time—the first year of our second century of existence. And as we move forward, we do so boldly, trusting always in the grace and faithfulness of our God.

It's His faithfulness that has allowed us to open the new Yetter Hall, a 103,000 square foot residence hall, housing 300 students.

It's because of His faithfulness that we have seen a record enrollment in our College of Undergraduate Studies, with over 1,200 students for the first time in our history. Our College of Adult and Graduate Studies continues to grow apace, with almost 5,000 students.

It's because of His faithfulness that we saw over 500 students walk across the stage to get a diploma this past May. Some of them overcame harrowing odds, faced down homelessness and debilitating sicknesses, financial strain, and illnesses affecting those nearest them. Yet, with the help of the CCU community—the staff, professors and students who rallied about them—these students were able to get a diploma. You can read about them in the pages of this magazine and be inspired by their stories.

It's because of God's faithfulness, too, that we will break ground on a new student center this school year. In it, we'll be able to provide cafeteria and hangout space, offices for Student Life, and give the bookstore permanent space in the center of campus.

Finally, it's His faithfulness that also gives us your continued friendship and support. Whether you are an alumnus of CCU or a dear friend, know that the school is rising in stature nationally, and producing students who know how to work hard, have fun, and worship Jesus.

Thank you for your friendship—God is using you in the life of Colorado Christian University. And at the start of our second century, there is a palpable sense of energy and excitement. God is alive here.

Thankfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul J. Eldridge".

PAUL J. ELDRIDGE, J.D.  
Vice President  
Development & Alumni/Parent Relations



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# BEYOND

A Publication of Colorado Christian University

## Mission

As the premier Christian college in the Rocky Mountain region, CCU 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.

## Sponsored By

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## Our New Magazine

We’ve updated our alumni magazine with you in mind. Our goal is to show you the stories that happen at CCU and beyond every day, and to produce a magazine that represents your university—whether you’re an alum or a friend—as you’d want it represented.

Colorado Christian University  
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# RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Here's an overview of what's been going on at CCU.



## The Opening of Yetter Hall

August 19, 2015

CCU dedicated the new, 103,000-square-foot residence building, Yetter Hall, which features 53 apartment-style units; each includes a full kitchen, living room, and washer and dryer.



## CCU Census

September 2015

The annual census verified a record enrollment of more than 1,200 undergraduate students and 4,840 students in our college of adult and graduate studies—both milestone achievements for CCU!



## Year of the Bible Symposium

September 22-23, 2015

The annual symposium focused on CCU's 2015-16 theme: "Year of the Bible." Attendees experienced speakers, events, and workshops concerning the history, veracity, and application of the Scriptures.



## President's Circle Dinner

September 23, 2015

This evening of dinner and fellowship celebrated the numerous core supporters who demonstrate their commitment to the success of CCU by joining the President's Circle and continually providing and praying for CCU students, faculty, staff, alumni and partners.



## Homecoming and Family Weekend

October 9-10, 2015

CCU alumni, current students, parents, and friends of the University gathered for a weekend of fun; including a golf tournament, BBQ, pancake breakfast, and 5K run.



## The Bible in America – Steve Green, President of Hobby Lobby, Chairman, Museum of the Bible

October 13, 2015

As part of the Year of the Bible lecture series, Steve Green discussed the history and impact of the Bible on the modern world, with a standing room only crowd.



## Dr. Ben Carson at CCU

October 29, 2015

As part of our Distinguished Speaker Series, CCU was honored to host retired neurosurgeon and presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson.

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



The Great Commission Research Network (formerly American Society for Church Growth) announces the awarding of the Win Arn Lifetime Achievement Award in Great Commission Research to Dr. Gary L. McIntosh, professor of Christian Ministry & Leadership at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, La. Mirada, CA.

Dr. McIntosh was selected a Distinguished Alumnus of CCU in 1998. He graduated from Rockmont College in 1970. In his presentation Dr. Wilkes saluted Dr. McIntosh for his "thirty-two years of excellent ministry in the field of North American church growth." Wilkes noted that Dr. McIntosh is the "recognized leader of the American Church Growth Movement, having written over 300 articles, twenty-four books, as well as having spoken at over 700 events on the topic of church growth during the last thirty-two years."

The Lifetime Achievement Award is given in remembrance of Winfield Arn, founder and president of the influential Institute for American Church Growth, as well as the primary person who introduced Church Growth Missiology to pastors in the United States and Canada during the last half of the twentieth century.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date for these CCU events!



## Fall Play: Sense & Sensibility

November 11-14, 2015

CCU's music and theatre students present Jane Austen's iconic story of two sisters living in the late 1700s.



## Men's Basketball Thanksgiving Tournament

November 28-29, 2015

CCU Men's Basketball team hosts Bethel College and Bethany College for the annual Thanksgiving Tournament at the CCU Event Center.



## CCU Christmas Celebration

December 4-5, 2015

Celebrate the birth of Christ and the beginning of the Christmas season with the talented performers from CCU's School of Music at West Bowles Community Church.



## Former Vice President Dick Cheney

December 7, 2015

CCU's Centennial Institute and Hugh Hewitt will host former U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, along with his daughter, Liz Cheney, former deputy assistant secretary of state as they will speak at CCU on their newly released book *Exceptional: Why the World Needs a Powerful America*.



## Student Center Groundbreaking

First Quarter 2016

The new Student Center will feature 55,000-square-feet of dining, hangout, and office space. At the center of the Lakewood campus, the building will host students as they study, meet, workout, eat, and study together.



## Spring Musical: Little Women

March 10-13, 2016

Lakewood Cultural Center will host CCU's music and theatre students as they perform Louisa May Alcott's story of a family's life unfolding during the Civil War.



## Values-Aligned Leadership Summit

April 21, 2016

Business executives and CCU students will network and discuss the themes of ethical leadership and business at this annual convention taking place at The Westin Westminster; Spirit of America: The Ethics of Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century.

Colorado Christian  
UNIVERSITY

For more information and additional events, visit [ccu.edu/news-events](http://ccu.edu/news-events).



# OVERCOME

The Kevin Burns Story

*Every year, CCU students overcome numerous challenges and beat the odds on the path to graduation. Here are the stories of two who did exactly that.*

In 2013, Kevin Burns ('15) found himself wheelchair bound—completely unable to walk on his own despite a healthy medical background. Prior to this, he had been enjoying a busy junior year at CCU.

During his first day at college, Burns, a commuter student, was determined to integrate into student life. “I walked right up to a dorm room, knocked on the door, and introduced myself,” he explains. “I became a part of their stairwell and spent nearly every day there for the rest of the year.” Burns’ sophomore year was even more social. He was a Discipleship Leader, played in the Littleton Symphony Orchestra, and started a commuter group to connect off-campus undergrads with the CCU community. During the summer, Burns traveled to Hawaii and Russia, the latter on a mission trip. His junior year, he focused on studying for his business degree.

Burns was not around Christians when he was in high school. “At the time I was very anti-God and against any sort of religion,” he shares. “But a friend took me to church when I was a senior and I fell in love with who Jesus is. I didn’t know much about the Bible, but I chose to follow Christ.” Burns visited CCU and decided to attend within the first 15 minutes. “I walked around campus and saw these people who were so in love with God and I said, ‘That’s what I want.’ I want God to influence every area of my life.”

## SOMETHING’S WRONG

CCU didn’t disappoint. “I had one of the best spiritual growing times in my life,” Burns says. He began dating his now-wife, Amy Johnson, during his sophomore year. And it was at her house, in October 2013, where he first experienced extreme fatigue despite his naturally energetic personality. Burns couldn’t stop falling asleep on the couch; when he tried to stand his legs buckled and he fell to the floor. “For 45 minutes



Amy tried to get me to stand up and I kept falling over and over,” he says. “Her face went from smiling to grave fear.”

During an overnight visit to the emergency room, doctors thought a virus might be attacking Burns’ spine; they ran tests that all came back negative and told him that he was experiencing periodic paralysis and it would go away within a couple days. But Burns returned home and worsened over the following week. “I got muscle twitches all over my body,” he says. “I started to lose sight in my eyes and lose the ability to move my hands.” But then he found a chiropractor who helped Burns walk again. They assumed it was back problems, and other than occasional flare-ups, the next couple months were symptom-free.

## WHEELCHAIR BOUND

But in February 2014, Burns started feeling worse than ever. He experienced spinal spasms, lost his eyesight, and stopped responding to his chiropractor’s therapy. Burns and his mom saw all kinds of physical therapists, chiropractors, and doctors. He explains: “At one point I had a neurologist tell me, ‘You’re making this up. Our tests show that nothing is going on. You need to see a

therapist and deal with these repressed emotions.’ I was so insulted because I felt crazy.” Burns couldn’t walk for three months, and then he was fine for three months with the help of a chiropractor. “Everyone was confused,” he explains.

*“And we decided if this is the life we have to live we’re going to glorify God while living it.”*

Then in July 2014, the treatments stopped working and Burns ended up in a wheelchair. “I couldn’t move my arms or legs for seven months,” he says. “I was basically like a vegetable.” The top neurologists in Colorado could not diagnose him. At one point a doctor told him he might never walk again. “It hit me so hard,” Burns adds. “Amy and I were like, ‘What are we going to do?’ And we decided if this is the life we have to live we’re going to glorify God while living it.”

At the time, it was difficult for Burns to speak. “My tongue didn’t work well,” he says. “I would be talking and all of a sudden it would be gibberish.” Then he met a

functional movement neurologist—the best in her field. She told him he had a functional brain disorder that most neurologists write off as stress. “I wasn’t crazy!” Burns exclaims. “This disorder only shows up on a specific brain scan that neurologists generally don’t do. We did the brain scan, and it was a poster-child perfect brain for this disorder.”

Burns’ case was so severe that the mayo clinic prioritized his therapy. In January 2015, he began therapy to “rewire” his brain pathways. “I had to learn to walk again like I was a baby,” he says. “In five days I logged eight hours of therapy a day. And I relearned to walk. It was absolutely incredible and by far the most difficult thing I’ve ever experienced.”



As Burns explains, his disorder isn’t degenerative, and some people are predisposed. Other than those characteristics, neurologists are still learning exactly what it is. Although therapy makes a big difference in Burns’ daily life, each day is different. “Last night I couldn’t walk,” he says. “It just depends on the day and different factors.” If he overheats or feels excessive stress, he may lose his vision or lose control of his movements. “Today I went to

church and dropped communion because my hand locked,” he says. “What I have to do is find this balance of what is best for my body, which I’ve never done in my life.”

### CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

During this process Burns experienced an intense spiritual journey. “I had great discussions with Dr. Aaron Smith, my systematic theology professor,” he says. “I’ll never forget what Dr. Smith said. He said Satan is never going to win. God will never lose. There’s not a battle that God can lose because he’s God. And it just set me at ease. It began my love of theology, which I didn’t know I had.” Burns began to love God for who He is—for His absolutes and qualities—not just

because He grants things in prayer or gives a blessing. “I find comfort in understanding that our God is the one who ventures into humanity and suffers alongside us,” shares Burns. “When I was in that chair I felt like God was sitting with me and He was. The Holy Spirit never left me. After that, I just had to go to seminary.”

Burns is now enrolled at Denver Seminary and hopes to teach theology someday. “My

life goal now is to become a professor, and I thank Dr. Smith, Megan DeVore, and the whole theology department because they helped me understand a deeper side of God,” he says. “I don’t know what would’ve happened to my faith if I hadn’t been in the environment that CCU fostered.”

*“I find comfort in understanding that our God is the one who ventures into humanity and suffers alongside us. When I was in that chair I felt like God was sitting with me and He was.”*

Burns was also touched by the CCU community. “People were there, supporting me and literally lifting me up at some points,” he says. Johnson helped him every step of the way—even brushing his teeth and helping him eat. “It was extremely humbling, and it’s something that I will go through for the rest of my life,” he says. “But because of the way that my faith grew while I was at CCU, I was able to persevere.”

Burns hopes to get his Ph.D. while studying in England, Scotland, or Finland—with Johnson. They married in August 2015 in Golden, Colorado, and spent 16 days in France for their honeymoon. “Our first Sunday as a married couple was at Notre Dame,” he says.

Every day Burns reminds himself that the essence of living is in Christ. “I had to have everything stripped away to learn what is really worth living for,” he explains. “It wasn’t all of the things I thought I wanted.” •



Emily Gruner (’15) is another student who faced daunting challenges on her journey to graduation—in the form of homelessness, health problems, and college rejection. Instead of defeating her, though, these obstacles strengthened her character and faith.

As a high school senior, Gruner, along with her mother and siblings, lost their Rhode Island home. “We were pretty much homeless—not living on the streets—but we did not have a place to go,” she says. “A friend from church took us in, and the four of us lived in one room.”

### CHANGE OF PLANS

Gruner planned to attend Brown University on a full-ride scholarship, but she received a heartbreaking email from her recruiter a month before her college decision was due. “He said, ‘I’m so sorry but we have to revoke our offer. We found a different candidate.’ And I was crushed,” she says. Gruner’s mother suggested CCU as an alternative. “I was involved in youth group and taught Sunday school. I did not want my relationship with God to suffer during college,” Gruner mentions. So she prayed about it and—despite never visiting CCU—decided it was the best option.

Pursuing the pre-med track was an easy decision for Gruner once she got to CCU. She had wanted to be a doctor her whole

life—a result of spending so much time in doctors’ offices. “I was diagnosed with three different autoimmune diseases when I was 14,” she says. “It motivated me, and I’ve always been so interested in science and helping people.”

“It was hard to grow up with those diseases because you’re chronically tired and sick, and you’re on a lot of supplements,” she adds. “You have to have your blood monitored every two to four months to see what’s active and what’s not. But at the same time, [these diseases] were not my identity.”

### GROWING PAINS

Going to college expanded Gruner’s perspective on her life experiences. “I began to understand that hard times are part of life and growing pains are necessary,” she says. “It grew my character a lot, having to understand that sometimes life happens and you can’t blame God.”

*“I began to understand that hard times are part of life and growing pains are necessary.”*

Gruner was actively involved with both CCU’s student and faculty experiences. She participated in Sojourners, The Calling,

Weekend of Welcome, and Snappers—leading the latter group her sophomore, junior, and senior years.

### REMEMBERING GRACE

Dr. Christa Koval taught Gruner every year and invited her over for dinner with her family on a regular basis. “She took me in on a personal level,” says Gruner. “She talked me through being sick and was a great resource.” Gruner compared CCU to her friends’ experience at state schools and saw major differences. “CCU blew them out of the water,” she states.

Gruner credits her worldviews class with reinforcing her beliefs. “It helped me understand the depths of why I chose Christianity,” she explains. “And it changed some of the views I had of the Lord. I naturally put God in a box as life experiences happened to me. And it reminded me what grace looks like.”

*“The Lord has been teaching me that it’s okay to rest and regroup.”*

Now a CCU graduate, Gruner has learned to identify her needs. “The Lord has been teaching me that it’s okay to rest and regroup. I don’t need to fill my time with busyness to please Him.”

Gruner currently lives in Connecticut near family, friends, and her boyfriend. She recently accepted a position as the program coordinator for Boys & Girls Clubs of America, showing middle school kids how to live healthier lifestyles. “I hope to go back to school to get my teaching certification, so I can teach science but not have the crazy hours of a doctor,” she adds. “Health-wise that makes sense for me, and it’s the best way I can honor the Lord in my calling.” •



# A DECISION OF PRINCIPLES

In the fall of 1967, Kathy Johnson enrolled at Rockmont College to study sociology. “It was the time of hippies,” she says, “and I wanted a school with good principles.” Rockmont had just relocated to its present-day Lakewood campus, but it was lacking comforts that first semester.

“We ate meals at the mall at first,” Kathy explains. “The guys would come by—they had cars—and honk their horns in the morning. If you wanted breakfast, you had to get up and get a ride.”

## A PLACE OF SAFETY

Rockmont offered a place of safety for Kathy. Her dad had passed away when she was 15, and the close friendships and caring professors, she confides, were “what she needed.”

*“The college years were some of the best of my life.”*

She also spent considerable time praying on campus—for her family, even for the school—and remembers a clutch of trees on the west side of the pond where she would go. “There was talk of where to move the school way back then,” she remembers. “But, as I prayed, I always thought it should stay where it was.”

Beyond friendships, Kathy also met Frank Grasmugg as she was babysitting his sister’s kids. They began to date, but in the fall of 1968 Frank was sent to Vietnam. They

stayed in touch by sending letters and tapes back and forth.

Kathy wanted to continue at Rockmont, and she did for another year, but funds ran out. “I had to get my cosmetology license,” she says, “in order to finance my way through Rockmont!”

Frank returned in the spring of 1970, and he made his way from his hometown of Chicago back to Denver as Kathy worked toward her degree in sociology. She graduated in May of 1974—walking across the stage one month after walking down the aisle with Frank, in April of that year.

## LIVING BY PRINCIPLES

From there, the Grasmuggs began their lives together. Kathy went into social work, eventually working at the Denver Crisis

Center. Frank worked at RTD until he was a manager for the city of Westminster. He ran marathons. They hosted exchange students, and they adopted a child in 1986. All the while, they sought to live their lives on the good principles that originally attracted Kathy to Rockmont—later Colorado Christian University. With an inheritance they received in the mid ‘70s, as a young married couple, they donated much of it to a Christian organization. But they weren’t particularly involved with the school, despite being in its vicinity.

“We knew it was there,” says Kathy, “but campus wasn’t big enough for a lot to be going on. It wasn’t until the late ‘90s that we started going to luncheons, and later plays and concerts.”

So, when another inheritance came about in 2003, the decision of what to do with the money was simple. “We were living comfortably,” says Frank, “and we didn’t

need to use it. So I said, ‘Let’s give it to the school.’”

It was a decision of principles.

“Our future lies with conservatism and faith, and we wanted to put our money where our mouth is,” Frank explains. “We want Christianity to grow and be a solid value. And it starts with young people. So if we want this society, let’s start by funding it.”

*“We want Christianity to grow and be a solid value. And it starts with young people. So if we want this society, let’s start by funding it.”*

## THE NEXT GENERATION


With such straightforward logic, Kathy and Frank not only give to Colorado Christian University, now they’ve also provided for CCU in their will. They committed to this year’s Legacy Challenge, which provided both immediate funds and future pledges to the school.

“Where’s the next generation going to come from?” asks Kathy. “This is recruiting ground for our country’s next leaders. We need good solid people of faith.”

Today, the couple has relocated to Byers, 50 miles east of Denver. It’s a quieter life. They raise goats, selling them for meat. But they remain involved with Colorado Christian University. Kathy is part of the IVy Women—a group of women who support the University through four (IV) pillars: prayer, learning, serving, and giving. But they don’t get together just to drink coffee; they’ve learned about Van Gogh from a famous local artist, and in October visited Bandimere Speedway to see what drag racing was like.

*“This is recruiting ground for our country’s next leaders. We need good solid people of faith.”*


And they still get onto campus from time to time—including the dedication for Leprino Hall last fall. As they attended, Kathy couldn’t help but think back nearly half a century, as she prayed for the school in a group of trees on the west side of the pond—almost exactly where Leprino Hall had been constructed. •



**TYPES of SCHOLARSHIPS**

[ COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY ]

SCHOLARSHIP GIVING




**GIVING STATISTICS**


**ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS:**  
Helps both current students and future generations by providing scholarships in perpetuity.


**WORLD CHANGERS SCHOLARSHIP:**  
This full-tuition merit-based scholarship is offered to outstanding high school students.

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY SCHOLARSHIP:**  
Awarded to students who demonstrate the ability to memorize entire books of Scripture.

**BECKMAN SCHOLARSHIP ANNUAL FUND:**  
Created to honor Dr. David Beckman, each year every dollar goes directly to a student’s education.

 In 2014-15, CCU students received almost **\$200,000** through endowed scholarships.

 Total scholarships awarded to students in 2014-15: **\$14,500,000**

 Percentage of students who receive some form of financial aid: **96%**

Dear Alumni,

The new academic year is off to a busy and fun start! The Alumni Association is thriving with new ventures in social media, a new mentorship program, and partnerships with lots of other departments at CCU. We recently asked some of you to send us advice for current students. It was great hearing your advice and your stories! I'm excited we've been able to start the mentorship program, and I am confident it will be a blessing to you and to our students. Our alumni are absolutely the coolest folks in the world and I love getting to know you!

My greatest desire is to connect you to the university in meaningful ways. There are a lot of exciting things happening at CCU! Last year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper spoke on campus. This year, presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson spoke at our Distinguished Speakers Series and we are also expecting former Vice President Dick Cheney. Both men's and women's basketball teams won major tournaments last year. Full-time CCU Professor Charles Denler has been commissioned by the Colorado Symphony to write a symphony based on the beauty of Colorado, and School of Music Dean Steven Taylor sang at Carnegie Hall. Plus, our admissions staff is partnering with The Newsboys for their fall tour. Oh, and you should see the beautiful new buildings going up on campus!

I'll also be sending out an alumni survey in mid-November. We value your feedback; I hope you will take a few minutes to complete this when you receive it. It'll help us serve you better. I'm always looking for ways to bless you—beyond the survey, please feel free to send me a note or call me with your ideas.

I am looking forward to a year of fun and fellowship, and meaningful encounters with you!

Be blessed!

Grace and peace,



MISSY SMITH  
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations



# Stories Are Meant to Be Told.



If you're an alum of Colorado Christian University, we're guessing that you haven't been hiding under a rock since you graduated. You've landed jobs, published books, gotten married, had children, earned more degrees, and learned a lot about life on the way.

And we want to know about it. That's why we have a web page set up where you can share your story—good news or bad—and keep the community informed. Your story is important, and it'll have an impact beyond what you know. After all, stories are meant to be told.

Visit [ccu.edu/alumni/share](http://ccu.edu/alumni/share) today and tell your story!

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PARENTS  
[www.facebook.com/groups/ccuparents](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ccuparents)



# ALUMNI NEWS 2015

## 1950s

**Duane Ayers ('54)** - Duane graduated from Colorado Christian University in 1954. He then pastored and taught at a church in Hooper, CO, for 10 years then moved to Riverton, WY. On May 9, 2015, he joined our Lord and Savior. He lived a full and blessed life, leaving behind a legacy of 64 years of marriage, four children, six grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

## 1990s

**Deb Stier ('90)** - Deb graduated in 1990 with a degree in elementary education. She remarks that God "gave me the confidence that I needed to become a teacher, and to this day, I do not regret being an educator and having the awesome opportunity to learn right along with my students!" She resides in Arvada, CO, with her two children, Jeremy and Kailey, and her husband of 25 years, Greg. Congratulations Greg and Deb on 25 years of marriage! **01**

**Debbie Milkes ('92)** - Debbie graduated from Colorado Christian University with a degree in psychology. This year marks her 15th year anniversary as business owner of Painfree5280, a local business dedicated to offering relief in the forms of pain elimination, massage therapy, Trauma Touch Therapy, and anti-aging product solutions. **02**

**Jennifer Bauman ('93)** - Jennifer graduated in 1993 with a degree in liberal arts. Not only is she a proud CCU alum, but is now a CCU parent. She says, "Being a part of the CCU family is still very precious to me and now for my entire family." **03**

**Cory Chelf ('94)** - Cory studied youth ministry while at CCU and graduated in 1994. He resides in Aurora, CO, with his wife, Jessica, and their three children, Kaelyn (19), Rebecca (17), and Nathan (15).

**Jennifer Chase ('95)** - Jennifer graduated with a degree in communications. She is excited to be the host and emcee for the upcoming Colorado Adoption and Foster Care Expo 2015, happening November 14, 2015, at the Denver Mart. This event's purpose is to bless adopted and fostered children and their families/caretakers. If you would like to volunteer or showcase your business, contact [ColoradoAdoptionFosterCareExpo.com](http://ColoradoAdoptionFosterCareExpo.com). **04**

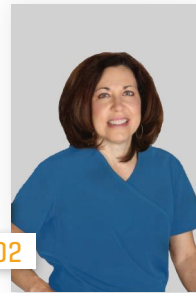
**Dr. Hayward (Woody) Doyle, Jr. ('98)** - Dr. Doyle graduated from CCU in 1998 with a degree in organizational management. He went on to complete his master's and doctorate of business administration from California Coast University in 2001. He now resides in Highlands Ranch, CO, with his wife, Royalene. In May of this year, Royalene published her book entitled, Fireproof Proverbs, A Writer's Study of Words. The book aims at helping authors, particularly Christian authors, develop their vision through writing. **05**

## 2000s

**Michael Robertson ('06)** - Michael and his wife, Cary, met at Denver Seminary while pursuing their master's degrees. Now, they have served as missionaries for two years through the ministry organization, Apartment Life, which strives to reveal the love of Christ to neighbors and the surrounding community. **06**



01



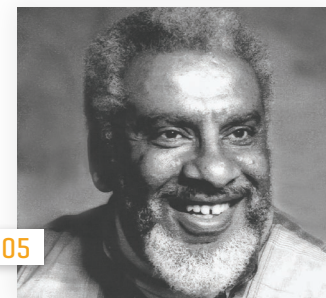
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03



04



05

**Erin Rose Myers ('09)** - Erin Rose left CCU with a degree in business. She and her husband, Scott, are expecting their first child on November 27, 2015. Congratulations Myers family!

## 2010s

**Hannah Kellerman ('11)** - Hannah's passions are music and the local church. After graduating in 2011, she was planted into a church south of Denver called Mission Hills Church where she serves as a worship leader and overseer for the youth worship program. This program is geared toward training and raising up youth as musicians and worship leaders. She says, "I love and am passionate about what God is doing in the local church, how each church is planted in a specific place to reach a specific community, and how it doesn't matter what church we are planted in because we are all a part of the bigger body of Christ." **07**

**Laura Kaighen ('12)** - Laura graduated from CCU with a degree in liberal studies with an emphasis in elementary education. She had her heart set on teaching straight out of college, but she was reminded that "His thoughts are not our thoughts, and His ways are not our ways," according to Isaiah 55:8. Instead, the Lord blessed her and her husband Josh, with two children, Carter and Lacey. She is currently a stay-at-home mom and her husband is the junior high youth pastor at Harvest Bible Chapel here in Colorado. **08**

**Diva Martin ('12)** - Diva graduated in 2012 from the Early Childhood Education program. She and her children, Katyja and Joren, currently live in Colorado Springs but are looking forward to moving to the Denver area in the summer of 2016.

**Rocco Bachara ('13)** - Rocco graduated from the School of Business and Leadership in 2013. Since graduation, he has married his sweetheart, Kelli, and they now reside in Owatonna, Minnesota. In addition, he has recently been promoted.

**Rachel Calar ('13)** - Rachel graduated from Colorado Christian University in 2013 with a degree in communications. Following graduation, she moved to Tennessee where she has had the privilege of working in the music industry. Rachel is in the heart of downtown Nashville, working in the box office of a local venue and production company for major concerts and festivals. She states, "God has had his hand in every step of the way and for that I'm truly thankful!"

**Eva Lopez ('13)** - Eva graduated in 2013 with a degree in organizational management in project management. This year has been full of God's blessings and promises in her life. Her daughter, Nakeesha, is recently engaged, but more importantly, has rededicated her life to the Lord. Her son, Ira, just started college in Euless, TX, and is pursuing a ministerial degree.

**Chelsea Roussopoulos ('13)** - Chelsea Roussopoulos graduated from the School of Education in 2013. She is currently in her third year of teaching geometry at Overland High School in Aurora, CO. When she isn't teaching, she is coaching the cross country and track teams for the school. She relays, "I couldn't be more grateful to be a light for God to my students and coworkers. Even on the busiest of days with meetings, planning, and grading, I remember that it is all for the kids."

**Esmeralda Ellis ('14)** - Esmeralda graduated in 2014 with a degree in psychology. CCU became a possibility when the Air Force brought her and her husband, Shaun, to Colorado. While she attended, she enjoyed the community and now comments on how she misses her CCU family. Esmeralda and Shaun live in New Mexico with their two daughters, Ava and Nicole. **09**



06



07



08



09



Remember to share your news today and tell your story!

[ccu.edu/alumni/share](http://ccu.edu/alumni/share)

# #MyCCU

From CCU previews and student retreats to Cougar athletics and incoming freshman, check out some of the most memorable moments from the past couple months at CCU! And don't forget to post your CCU experiences on social media using the hashtag #MyCCU.

yo\_al



Less than 70 days until I can officially call this beautiful state my home @myccu #ccuclassof2019

matthewhodgkins13



Bringing CCU to Africa! #CCU-inaction #Uganda2015 #Fútbol #shirtsvskins #thisonesforafrica #myccu #CCUclassof2019

beccalyttkens



One week until athletes retreat #ccuclassof2019 #CantWait

mandee.mid



T minus 3 days. #ccuclassof2019 #101WaysToUseANalgene

myccu



CCU's Student Activities allows students to be involved in event planning and putting their degree to use. Last night, they brought in NeedToBreathe for a free concert for our students! #NeedToBreathe #ccuacademics

karleew00



Can't wait to be a part of the #ccuclassof2019 family!

myccu



Shout out to just a few of our prospective students who toured our campus today! Sign up for one of our Previews and get a glimpse into life at CCU! #ccusocialstudent

shaerae11



Scavenger hunt! #RTDDenver #myccu

colleges\_of\_distinction



#Repost @myccu The CCU Cross Country team started the year off running with a great start at the UCCS Rustbuster last weekend. #myccu #ccu-athletics #ccucrosscountry

hope.baldrice



Colorado bound! #ccuclassof2019

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