

Preface

The challenge to present the dynamic events during a century of service to the Church and the community of Concordia College was accepted with apprehension and completed in awe and admiration for all the men and women God used to build His kingdom in this place and into the most distant places on the earth.

A centennial survey history presents many problems of inclusion and exclusion. It is probable that some alumni and readers will find areas to which more time and space could have been given. Others may find no reference to events that they recall as significant. Likewise, there were individuals whose contributions to Concordia were major, but to whom little space, if any, was given because of limitations of time, space, or helpful information. It is certain, however, that all benefactors of Concordia are known to the omniscient Lord of the Church, whether they are recorded in this volume or not.

The format of this history may need a word of explanation. Chapter one is a summary history of Concordia's first century. Chapter two is a summary of student life through the century. Thus, the historian in a hurry might achieve a comprehensive survey of Concordia by reading only the first two chapters. Chapters three through six give a more in-depth chronological development of Concordia as an academic community. Chapter seven provides a summary of changes and developments during the century with some incidental data injected for the Concordia trivia enthusiast.

In an attempt at consistency, and to avoid possible confusion in the reader, all faculty members are designated as professors. Thus there is no attempt to use other titles representing academic or professional degrees. Exceptions may be found when professors are functioning as clergymen.

Every effort was made to validate the dates for all those listed in the final appendixes. Especially difficult were some dates of service of the full-time faculty and academic administrators. Because

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some records are inadequate, we apologize for any errors, including anyone who may have been inadvertently omitted.

Finally, it is my hope and prayer that this history will be informative, inspirational, entertaining, or any combination thereof. Since I was not an alumnus of this Concordia, I could not incorporate a student's personal perspective. When I joined the Concordia faculty as a one year substitute for Professor Edgar J. Otto during his sabbatical leave, I never dreamed of a centennial history nor of spending my entire ministry at Concordia. Instead of becoming a parish pastor in some pleasant community, I was privileged to become Concordia's first guidance counselor and testing director with teaching assignments in the Divisions of Religion, Education, and Humanities. All of this experience, however, combined with my love for Concordia and its students do not necessarily produce a qualified historian, just the author of this volume.