## MARIAN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI NEWS

**SUMMER 2023** 

# Marian University Welcomes Nurses Home with a "Bash"

Marian's Nursing Program is moving back to campus from downtown Fond du Lac, so we celebrated with a "bash" on August 2. Students, faculty, staff and even CSA Sisters were able to swing and put a hole in the wall, to start the demolition. The new location – the 1st and 2nd floor of the Stayer Center – is under renovation, by C.D. Smith Construction.





# UP NEXT... 5 QUESTIONS WITH AN ALUM



Alumna **Amy Ament**, whose degree opened amazing doors for her in the medical field. Read more on Page 4.

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## Miracle at Marian

Maranda Abitz (far right), a Coordinator of Student Success, an ROTC Advisor, and a 2008 alumna from Marian, knew she wanted to donate her kidney after a panel held at Marian. "Share Your Spare" sparked inspiration for Maranda and opened her eyes to the possibility of living donation.

However, through the donation process, the donor is not guaranteed to know where--or who their organ is going to, "I had to take the chance that I may never hear from my person...For me, I was hoping that someday we would connect but knew that in reality we may not ever" said Abitz. To Maranda's shock, her match, Travis (far left), ended up finding her, thanks to only her first name, and the fact that her kidney came from Wisconsin.

In June, Travis and his wife, Kath, were able to visit Wisconsin for the first time, and they all went to Lambeau Field. Travis said that when he found out his donor was from Wisconsin, he hoped it would come from a Packers fan, and it sure did!





#### **OUR NEWEST ADDITION**

We bet you couldn't have guessed this! Marian added the newest photo-op spot on campus! This massive Adirondack chair was built by our own Alumni, Christopher and Jennie Schneider, who graduated in the classes of 01' and 02'. Look for the chair when you come for Homecoming weekend on September 23rd-24th. Don't forget to post your photos and tag us!

## Awards, Promotions, and Other Good News

**Terrance Lofton** - 76, Secondary Education and Teaching/Biology. Hired as the first equity coordinator in the Fond du Lac school district.

**Stephan Wucherer** - '12, Master of Arts in Education, Educational Leadership. Appointed the new orchestra director for SPASH (Steven's Point Area Senior High) and will also direct the fifth and sixth-grade orchestra programs in the district.

Send us your Good News for the Alumni Newsletter to omc@marianuniversity.edu



### **CLASS OF 1980 RETURNS**

A group of friends from the class of 1980 came back to visit Marian University on Monday, July 10th. While on campus, they had a great photo-op with Dr. George Koonce.



Marian University has recently launched the newest set of commercials for the university and for the Construction Management Major, coming this fall. These commercials feature former Packers player, Dr. George Koonce and Casey Bartelt, a Construction Management student here at Marian. You can view these commercials on our YouTube page, or by pasting the link below into your browser: https://youtu.be/wDyGYMqcOEk

## In Memoriam

Virginia Dhein Bartelt - July 4th, 2023, '43 Alumna

Teresa J. Flaherty Dlugosinski - July 10th, 2023, '91 Alumna

Charlene A. Fink Schick - July 15th, 2023, '65 Alumna

Barbara A. Bostwick Kalupy - August 2nd, 2023, '59 Alumna

Jenna M. Razner - August 14th, 2023, '08 Alumna

#### **QUESTIONS WITH AN ALUM: AMY AMENT**

Marian Degree: RN-BSN, Graduated in 2014

Current Profession: Nurse Recruiter for UW Health

#### What were you doing before you earned the degree?

I obtained my ADN in 2004. I worked in Acute Care for about 1.5 years in a small rural hospital and then I worked in Labor and Delivery at SSM St. Mary's for about 14 years. I always knew I wanted to return to school to obtain a BSN as I knew it would provide more opportunities for advancement in my nursing career. I started the RN to BSN program in 2012 and graduated with my BSN in 2014 while working as a RN in L&D.



#### How did your degree change your life?

Obtaining a BSN allowed me to pursue leadership opportunities in my nursing career and I have worked as an Inpatient Unit Nurse Manager, Clinic Program Director and I am currently working as a Nurse Recruiter for UW Health Hospitals and Clinics. I am so thankful to Marian for their support while I was a student in the RN to BSN program and proud to be a BSN nurse and Marian alumni!

#### What made you choose Marian?

At the time, the hybrid program (in class and online) was very appealing to me. The online portion gave me flexibility and in-person class times were in the evenings, therefore, I could continue to work my RN position. At the time, I had three very young children at home but the schedule and class load was manageable. I also loved that Marian University aligned with my beliefs and values.

#### What did you like best about your Marian experience?

I really enjoyed that the program included classes on theology and encouraged exploration of faith. I also loved the smaller class size, this allowed for valuable connections with instructors to obtain the most value from the program. It was clear to me that the instructors were passionate about nursing and education and they loved teaching. I felt that the instructors went the extra mile to ensure that the students were successful and had all the tools they needed.

I had a wonderful experience at Marian! The academic councilors were always super helpful and the pinning ceremony was amazing! When I had classes on campus, the environment was conducive to learning and set up well. My daughter is now a freshman in HS and would like to pursue pre-med. She is also considering Marian University as an option given the reasons above!

#### Did you have a favorite liberal arts class? Or one that surprised you?

Yes, I would say that I was pleasantly surprised taking theology courses. I learned so much about religion and faith in general. The class also encouraged self-reflection, this deepened my connection with my own faith.

### **Alumni Answers!**

Send your responses to Callista Gould at: cgould95@marianuniversity.edu

What was your most memorable experience at Marian University?



# **More Bash Photos!**





## What's our Staff and Professors Been Up To?

This summer, we asked for staff and professors to share what they've done this summer, and we have some amazing responses! To find more, check out our Instagram: **emarianuniversitywi** 









## coffee with kate candee

Join me for a cup of coffee and a chat. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to catch up on your achievements since graduation, hear about your career path, and share updates about the exciting developments happening at Marian University.



## Kathleen Candee, Senior Vice President

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