

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Concordia University Wisconsin Breaks Ground on New Nursing Wing to Help Address Regional Healthcare Shortage

MEQUON, Wis. — March 24, 2026 — At hospitals, clinics, and care facilities across Wisconsin, nurses are often the steady presence patients remember most — the reassuring voice, the careful attention, the compassionate hand during moments that matter most.

Concordia University Wisconsin is preparing the next generation of those caregivers.

This spring, **on April 22, from 3:30 to 6 p.m.**, the university will hold a ceremonial groundbreaking for [a new nursing wing](#) designed to expand how Concordia prepares future nurses to address ongoing healthcare workforce shortages. The project will include approximately 26,000 square feet of new construction and 11,650 square feet of renovated space. Construction is expected to continue through summer 2027, with the new space anticipated to open for the fall 2027 semester.

Across Wisconsin and the country, healthcare systems continue to face critical staffing shortages affecting hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and community health organizations. Concordia’s investment reflects a proactive response to that need by expanding the university’s capacity to prepare highly skilled, practice-ready graduates.

“Our students are equipping themselves for moments that truly matter — when the stakes are high, when families are looking for reassurance, and when steady, thoughtful care makes all the difference,” said Jessica Leiberg, dean of the School of Nursing at Concordia. “We view nursing as both a profession and a calling. The new nursing wing will give students the space to practice with confidence, learn alongside dedicated faculty mentors, and grow into nurses who serve others with clinical excellence, compassion, and Christ-centered purpose.”

The new wing will feature advanced hospital simulation and virtual reality suites where students practice responding to real clinical scenarios, such as stabilizing a patient in cardiac distress, navigating difficult conversation techniques and de-escalation, as well as assisting with the delivery of a newborn baby. **Before students ever care for a real patient, they will face hundreds of realistic clinical situations inside these walls.**

Collaborative learning spaces will allow nursing students to debrief cases together, reflect on decisions, and learn from one another under faculty mentorship. Comfortable gathering areas will also create space for conversation, encouragement and formation as students grow into professionals called to serve others through the vocation of nursing.

Concordia's School of Nursing has prepared nurses for more than four decades. In 2025 alone, the university awarded 388 healthcare-related degrees, including 68 bachelor's degrees in nursing. Graduates now serve patients and families in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, in leadership, research, and community settings throughout Wisconsin and beyond.

This new nursing wing builds on that legacy, expanding Concordia's ability to form nurses who combine clinical excellence with compassionate, Christ-centered care.

Concordia welcomes opportunities to work closely with media partners interested in covering the future of healthcare education and the growing demand for nurses across Wisconsin. Journalists interested in previewing the new facility, speaking with faculty or students, or learning more about Concordia's role in preparing the region's healthcare workforce are encouraged to connect with the university's communications team.

About Concordia University Wisconsin

CUW is a Lutheran higher education community committed to helping students develop in mind, body, and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and the world.

Media Contact:

Name: Susan Suleski

Title: Director of Communications

Phone: 262-243-4549

Email: susan.suleski@cuw.edu

Website: cuw.edu