

26th Annual

# CONVOCATION

Celebrating the Class of

# 2026

Saturday, April 25



CANADIAN MENNONITE  
UNIVERSITY

## Graduation Verse | 2 Timothy 4:7

*“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,  
I have kept the faith.”*

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### 2026 CMU PAX Award: Dr. Nora Murdock

Dr. Nora Murdock is an educator, consultant, and administrator whose career has been marked by a deep dedication to strengthening First Nations education in Manitoba through advancing systems level change and empowering youth. A member of Ochekwi Sipi (Fisher River) Cree Nation, Murdock is currently working with Fisher River Cree Nation as the Director of Education. Developing culturally responsive curriculum, programs, and land-based education, Murdock works to ensure students of Fisher River Cree Nation have a deep understanding of their own cultural history and ways of knowing built on the foundation of the Cree language. Murdock is an exceptional leader whose dedication to First Nations education, guided by a postcolonial theoretical framework, is informed by the experiences, perspectives, and lives of Indigenous peoples.

Murdock previously worked for the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Center as the Director of Instructional Services for the Manitoba First Nations School System. Engaged in post-secondary work across the province, she has served as a member of the University of Winnipeg Board of Regents, the University of Manitoba Board of Governors, and the University of Manitoba Alumni Council. She is currently a member on the University of Manitoba Faculty of Education Indigenous Advisory Council and the CUSO International Indigenous Advisory Circle.

As a learning community committed to practices of thinking and doing, dialogue, hospitality, and peace, CMU is inspired by Murdock’s longstanding commitment to bringing the Christian faith into healthy relationship with Indigenous spirituality — in the lives of individuals and in communities. Murdock’s ethos as an educator embodies the longing and vision at the heart of CMU — to create a university dedicated to reconciliation, belonging and extending welcome to all.

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### Academic Dress

The commencement processional is a colourful affair, with faculty and staff dressed in various robes, gowns, and hats. This academic dress is a tradition that dates back to the first universities in the Middle Ages, which in turn was derived from the dress worn by clerics of that day. At universities today, the different academic dress represents the attainment of bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees, and the colours of the hoods indicate the graduate’s or professor’s field of study. At CMU, principal colours for graduates are white (arts), pink (music), yellow (science), brown (business), and scarlet (theology).

## CMU Convocation Service

Knox United Church | Saturday, April 25

### Processional

#### Welcome

Dr. Cheryl Pauls, President

#### Prayer

Rev. Elder Vince Solomon

#### Congregational Song

*Praise with Joy the World’s Creator*, VU 312

#### Valedictory Addresses

Undergraduate: Sophia Nast-Kolb

Graduate: Omolara Akua Oyelakun Tay

#### CMU Singers

*Precious Lord*—arr. A. Sevier

#### 2026 CMU PAX Award and Convocation Address

Dr. Nora Murdock

#### CMU Singers

*The plans I have for you*—Jonathan Adams

#### Conferral of Degrees

Mr. Jeremy Perrott, Registrar

Dr. Janet Brenneman, Academic Dean

#### President’s Medals

#### Prayer of Blessing

Dr. Christine Longhurst

#### CMU Singers

*A Celtic Prayer*—Barry Peters

#### Benediction

#### Recessional

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**Conductors:** Dr. Janet Brenneman, Dr. Matthew Pauls; Organ: Prof. Neil Weisensel, Joshua Zentner-Barrett; Piano: Dr. Cheryl Pauls

# CMU Graduating Class of 2026

## Bachelor of Arts, Four-year

Annabel Charlotte Buhler	Major: Psychology   Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies
Gonzalo Adrián Centurión Manzi	Major: Communications and Media   Minor: Business and Organizational Administration
Anna Sophia DeFehr	Major: Psychology
Amanda Mirna Dueck	Major: Communications and Media
Alexander Lucas Dynkavitch	Majors: Psychology, History (three-year)
Austin James Alexander Friesen	Major: Psychology   Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies
Hannah Elizabeth Friesen	Major: History   Minor: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies
Keyara Aleece Froese	Major: History
John Ronald Chernecki George	Major: Communications and Media   Minor: Sociology
Taylor John Godwaldt	Majors: Social Science, Biblical and Theological Studies (three-year)   Minor: Political Studies
Robert Stanley Hastie	Major: Psychology   Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies
Isabel Elora Bree Hendricks	Major: Music
Braydon Mykael Wiebe Heppner	Major: Business and Organizational Administration   Minor: Psychology
Joel Anthony Heppner	Major: Psychology
Angus John Schellenberg Hildebrand	Major: Arts and Science (Business and Organizational Administration, Ecology)
Madeleine Marie Thérèse Lambert	Major: Psychology   Minor: Philosophy
Gabriella Christine Skublics Lampman	Majors: Psychology, Music (three-year)
Lindsay Belle LeRoux	Major: Psychology   Minors: Biblical and Theological Studies, Sociology
Bryna Alice Link	Major: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies   Minor: Communications and Media
Manuela Mariño Calixto	Major: Communications and Media   Minor: Business and Organizational Administration
Halle Bryn Meisner	Major: Psychology   Minor: Biology
Sara Nicole Mueller	Major: Social Science   Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies
Sophia Jubilee Nast-Kolb	Major: English   Minor: History
Logan Matthew Nord	Major: English   Minor: Philosophy
Julia Lorraine Marie Norris	Major: Psychology   Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies

Matthew Rick Pahl  
Lianna Lisi Peters

Kasey Evelyn Marie Petruskavich

Tatjana Piasta

Jillian Eve Recksiedler

Alyssa Deann Rendina

Elliott Dru Russenholt

Anie Constanza Sanchez

Rebecca Ann Marie Stoesz

Emily Dianne Surgeoner

Ezra John Unger Brandt

Kesstra Brenda Marie Vogan

Kalyssa Caroline Nicole Wasyluk

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## Bachelor of Arts, Three-year

Nicholas Grayson Bergen

Sydney Pearl Marie Hiebert  
Caleb Paul Hofer  
Lyndon Timothy Hofer  
Matthew Robert Hofer  
Briana Elizabeth Holbrook

Shalom Lawrence Madzinga  
Eraldo Marku

Alexander James Murphy

Pauline Muthoni Njoroge

Charmee Eberling Penner

Shusmita Shovona

Major: Psychology  
Major: Communications and Media | Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies  
Major: Business and Organizational Administration  
Majors: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies, Psychology  
Major: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies  
Major: Psychology | Minor: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies  
Major: Communications and Media | Minor: History  
Major: Business and Organizational Administration  
Major: History | Minors: Biblical and Theological Studies, English  
Major: Psychology | Minor: Biblical and Theological Studies  
Major: Social Science, Counselling Studies | Minor: Philosophy  
Major: Psychology | Minor: Business and Organizational Administration  
Major: Social Science, Counselling Studies | Minors: Biblical and Theological Studies, Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies

Majors: Biblical and Theological Studies, Psychology | Minor: Philosophy

Major: General

Major: General

Major: General

Major: General

Major: Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies | Minor: Psychology

Major: General

Major: Business and Organizational Administration

Major: Business and Organizational Administration

Major: International Development Studies

Major: Social Science, Counselling Studies

Major: Business and Organizational Administration

Caleb David Waldner  
Mackenzie Samantha Elise  
Luella Wynn Wall

Major: General  
Majors: Peace and Conflict  
Transformation Studies, Psychology

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## Bachelor of Business Administration

Michelle Eva Dyck  
Tiancheng Hao  
Luke Robert Janzen  
Redis Zyba

Major: Accounting  
Major: Human Resource Management  
Major: Business Management  
Major: Business Management

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## Bachelor of Business Administration, Co-op

Kaylene Rebekah Blackwood

Major: Accounting

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## Bachelor of Music

Jacob Anthony Kenny

Concentration: Music Education,  
Senior Years Choral

Cole Brian Peters

Concentration: Music Education,  
Senior Years Instrumental

Shanley Anika Rae Vogan Rekiel

Concentration: Music Education,  
Early/Middle Years

Hudson Malachi Thiessen  
Rebekah Joy Wiebe  
Stefanie Breanna Lynn Zacharias

Concentration: Comprehensive  
Concentration: Comprehensive  
Concentration: Music Education,  
Senior Years Instrumental

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## Bachelor of Music Therapy

Jason Sean Buchanan  
Shing Fung Hui  
Sarah Charis McClay

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## Bachelor of Science, Four-year

Kate Sofia Kroeker Kilbrei  
Markus Darren Martens  
Duncan Stuart Petrie  
Asher Nikolai Warkentin  
Paige Kathryn Wright

Major: Biology  
Major: Mathematics  
Major: Biology  
Major: Biology  
Major: Biology

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## Master of Arts

Joshua Olamide Adeleye

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Tanya Kandi Aloo

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Yong Jin Jeong

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Erin Maggie Moyer

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Oscar Alexander Navarro Callejas

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Ayobami Stephen Oladimeji

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Osita Daniel Onuora

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Lorraine Margaret Reimer

Concentration: Theological Studies

Abigail Matthew Tangbuin

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

Omolara Akua Oyelakun Tay

Concentration: Peacebuilding and  
Collaborative Development

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## Master of Business Administration

Ruvini Vindhya Ediriweera

Terence Kyle Fisher

Thanh Nguyen Lai

Bukola Lois Ojobe

Ashiat Oluwatosin Okunola

Tasmina Kabir Urmi

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## From Eastern Mennonite University

Eugene R. Martin

Nathan Quinten Marshall McGhee

Jesse Allen Miller

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## From Goshen College

Renert Auguste

Melissa Belcher

Victoria Green

Marshall King

Milady Torkornoo

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## Master of Divinity

David Gary Naylor

Elizabeth Jo Wipf

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## Graduate Certificate in Christian Studies

David Larissa Bentham

## The CMU Mission

CMU is an innovative Christian university,  
rooted in the Anabaptist faith tradition,  
moved and transformed by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Through teaching, research, and service  
CMU inspires and equips for lives of service,  
leadership, and reconciliation in church and society.



Consider a gift to CMU to celebrate your graduate and to make  
CMU education possible for future students.

Visit [cmu.ca/give](https://cmu.ca/give).



You may also use a credit or debit card at this event, or e-transfer to  
**e-donations@cmu.ca** (include your email in the comments section).

(A POS machine is available in the foyer.)

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