Founders' Day Convocation (2020 Program and video)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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WE STAND IN A POSITION OF INCALCULABLE RESPONSIBILITY TO THE GREAT WAVE OF POPULATION OVERSPREADING THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI. DESTINY SEEMS TO POINT OUT THIS VALLEY AS THE DEPOSITORY OF THE GREAT HEART OF THE NATION. FROM THIS CENTER, MIGHTY PULSATIONS, FOR GOOD OR EVIL, MUST IN THE FUTURE FLOW, WHICH SHALL NOT ONLY AFFECT THE FORTUNE OF THE REPUBLIC, BUT REACH IN THEIR INFLUENCE OTHER AND DISTANT NATIONS OF THE EARTH.

The Founders of Illinois Wesleyan University

Peter Cartwright  W. H. Allin  Thomas P. Rogers
C. W. Lewis  W. C. Hobbs  John W. Ewing
J. C. Finley  John E. McClun  Lewis Bunn
John S. Barger  John Magoun  E. Thomas
James Leaton  Thomas Magee  Isaac Funk
John Van Cleve  William Wallace  James Allin
James F. Jaquess  Charles P. Merriman  D. Trimmer
William J. Rutledge  James Miller  Kersey H. Fell
C. M. Holliday  William H. Holmes  Silas Watters
W. D. R. Trotter  Linus Graves  Reuben Andrus
**Program**

President Georgia Nugent, Presiding

**Prelude:** Hymne d’Action de Grace “Te Deum”  
Jean Langlais  
(1907-1991)  
Doris Hill, organist

**Processional (please stand)**  
La Marche  
G. F. Handel  
(1685-1759)

**A Founders Invocation (remain standing)**  
Elyse Nelson Winger  
University Chaplain

**Founders’ Day Remarks**  
Georgia Nugent  
President

**Introduction of Speaker**  
Mark Brodl  
Provost and Dean of the Faculty

**Remarks**  
“The Future of Journalism in the Fake News Era”  
Jim Kirk

**Alma Wesleyana (please stand and join in singing)**  
Madeline Hanrahan ’21, soloist  
George William Warren  
(1828-1902)

From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee,  
Where’er we wander, over land or sea;  
Through time unending, loyal we will be —  
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.  
When college days are fully past and gone,  
While life endures, from twilight dream til dawn,  
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on —  
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.  

— Professor W. E. Schultz (1935)

**Recessional (remain standing)**  
Fugue in C Major  
Dietrich Buxtehude  
(1637-1707)

**Jim Kirk**

As Publisher and Executive Editor of  
*Crain’s Chicago Business*, Jim Kirk leads one of the largest city business newspapers in the country.

Prior to joining Crain’s in November of 2018, Jim was senior vice president of strategic initiatives for Tribune Publishing. In that role, he also served as Interim Editor and then Editor-In-Chief of the Los Angeles Times, which won the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting.

An award winning journalist and veteran of the publishing industry, Jim served for more than five years as the publisher and editor-in-chief of the Chicago Sun-Times. He was previously the chief of editorial operations at Crain’s Chicago Business and, prior to that, the managing editor at the Chicago News Cooperative, a non-profit news organization he helped develop with other top Chicago journalists. He has also worked in Washington, D.C., at Bloomberg News overseeing coverage of the White House, Congress and other federal agencies.

Jim started his journalism career in Chicago at Grocery Marketing Magazine and Adweek magazine before joining the Chicago Sun-Times in 1995. He joined the Chicago Tribune in 1997 as a reporter, and later became a columnist before being promoted to Associate Managing Editor for Business.

He is a 1990 graduate of Illinois State University. He currently resides in the Chicago suburbs with his wife, Michelle, and their three children.