



# nc advance

nebraska christian schools

building lives for eternity

## Distractions



by Josh Cumpston,  
Administrator

Recently I had one of those days. It was day that I had a list of things that I needed to get done. Important things. I had a large report that was due in a few days for the Nebraska Department of Education. The senior trip to Washington, DC was only days away, and I still had a few last minute details to finish. I had a list of emails to respond to, a school directors' meeting to run, a Senior Bible quiz to grade, and many other tasks that needed my attention that day.

Then it happened. I was informed that THE internet cable that connects our entire campus had been cut by a crew working in the area. Suddenly I wasn't able to work on some of the things that I was relying on an internet connection to allow me to do. As we discussed short term fixes, a couple of guys from the city and one of their boom trucks showed up to fix a ballast on a parking lot light. While I was talking with them, a supervisor from our pest control company stopped in. Then a new bearing for the bus that we were hoping to take to a volleyball game that night arrived from Grand Island. I needed to talk with all of these people. It was important that I did so.

When I looked at my watch the next time, I realized that my entire afternoon was gone, and I hadn't

*continued on pg. 4*



## Grandparents' Day 2015 ENCOUNTER NC SAFARI

*Clockwise from top left:*  
Grandma Dee and Gabe Langemeier fill out their family tree.  
Gib Killion leads the "Encounter NC Safari" tour.  
Molly Griess enjoys craft time with her Grandma Carol Moore.  
Landen Leonard & Grandpa Tom Aschoff  
Jungle gym activity time fun.

## Fall Sports Recap

Nebraska Christian's fall sports teams recently finished their seasons with winning records and individual accomplishments.

Cross Country wrapped up its season at the state meet in Kearney on October 23. We had four qualifiers: seniors Katie Cumpston and Nolan Kohmetscher, junior Alyssa Prettyman, and sophomore Brennan Nokelby. Cumpston (5th), Kohmetscher (3rd), and Nokelby (7th) all placed at the meet and were selected to the Nebraska All-State Team. Both the boys' and girls' teams placed first

at the inaugural Goldenrod Conference Meet, with Cumpston and Kohmetscher winning individual titles.

The football team's season also ended on October 23. Due to enrollment numbers, the team was ineligible for the state playoffs, but it posted an impressive 6-2 record, losing only the first and last games. The volleyball team had another



Cross Country State Qualifiers Brennan Nokelby, Nolan Kohmetscher, Katie Cumpston, Alyssa Prettyman.

excellent season, winning the Goldenrod Conference Tournament for the second year in a row and posting a 23-5 record. The season ended with a subdistrict loss to Hastings St. Cecelia.

## nc advance

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Josh Cumpston, *Administrator*Becky Ritta '99), *Editor*Beth (Ritta '98) Keim, *Layout & Design*

The NC Advance is available free of charge. To subscribe, change your address, stop receiving the publication, or submit information, please contact us at:

## NC Advance

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**Editorial Submissions:** All news or information from NC Alumni, students and teachers is welcome. Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

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**Mission:** The mission of Nebraska Christian Schools is to assist the family and church by providing a Christ-centered education, equipping students with a biblical worldview and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.


**TRUTH IN FOCUS**

Tune in to  
AM-750 KMMJ  
**Saturday at 6:30 a.m.**  
to hear Josh Cumpston  
and Gordon Thiessen.



Phase 1: Girls' Dorm, \$1.4 million

Phase 1.5: City Water Project, \$240,000

\$125,000 received

\$115,000 remaining

## Dollars & Sense

by Tom Dockweiler ('79), Business Manager



Several things have happened recently that have me thinking about the undeniable truth that I am growing older. Less than a month ago, my oldest daughter turned 30, and less than one month from now I will turn 55. Both Kentucky Fried Chicken in Sioux City, Iowa, and Pizza Hut in Central City, Neb., have assigned me senior citizen status.

These aren't the first clues. There was the guy at my dad's funeral who shook my hand and said, "You must be Danny's brother." There was that time when I was helping a friend move, and I noticed a young man going out of his way to make sure I didn't have to handle anything too heavy. More recently, a couple of our current parents concluded that one of my uncles, whom they know very well, must be my brother. The truth is undeniable. I am growing older, and yet denial comes so easily.

I may continue to deny the increasing signs of my approaching "old age," but one thing I am 100% sure of is that, some day, I will not only be "old"; I will be dead. The Bible makes that truth very clear. The writer of Hebrews tells us in chapter 9 verse 7, "And just as it is appointed to man to die once and after that comes judgement..." (ESV)

My 8th grade math class is another little hint. Nearly a third of the students in that class are children of my former students. We have been opening class with sections from the first few chapters of Paul's letter to

the Romans. Paul makes perfectly clear in the first three chapters of his book that no one has any chance of standing before God at the judgment and being justified by their works. Like growing older, this is an inevitable truth. Like growing older, many people never come to terms with this truth until they are dead.

In the midst of Paul's discussion of man's unjustifiable condition, he speaks often of the gospel. In chapter one, he declares it to be the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. In chapter two, he says that part of his gospel is that God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus. In Romans chapter three, he lays out the good news very clearly and gives some guidance to those who would consider the inevitability of death and judgement before they die.

*"For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the law and the prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith." (Romans 3:20-25a, ESV)*

My prayer for all of you is that even if you are now or eventually do struggle with the truth of getting older, you will not attempt to deny

## Calendar of Events

### NOVEMBER

26-30 Thanksgiving Break

### DECEMBER

11 Festival of Lessons & Carols  
*Doors open at 5:15 p.m.*  
*Festival begins at 6:00 p.m.*

23 Christmas Vacation Begins

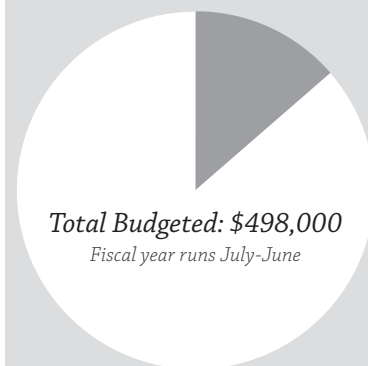
### JANUARY

5 Second Semester Begins

For additional events visit  
[nebraskachristian.org/calendar](http://nebraskachristian.org/calendar)

## 2015-2016 Gift Income

Received through November 5:  
\$67,639.23



Total Budgeted: \$498,000

Fiscal year runs July-June

Finances at Nebraska Christian Schools continue to be good. Gift income is slightly down from last year, but we have seen God provide in previous years and are praying for his provision and trusting him to meet our needs. Please join us in those prayers and give as the Lord leads. Your prayers and financial support are among the greatest assets this school has. Thank you.

your need of Christ at the judgement that is sure to follow death.

Until next time, may God bless you and yours.



# New Teachers & Staff Join NC Family



## Chris Broman

by Hailee Broman, junior

Chris Broman, wife of Kevin Broman and loving momma to three kids, Hailee (11th), Alyssa (7th), and Conner (6th), has recently joined the Nebraska Christian kitchen staff. She is both excited and prepared to serve God through her culinary knowledge. As the year progresses, she is looking forward to getting to know the new and international students, working with believers, dwelling in the encouraging environment, and simply doing what she loves: serving.

Before she came to NC, Mrs. Broman was a bookkeeper for a local irrigation business. In her previous job, she worked at a desk most of the time and never really got to do what she loved. So, she is embracing the opportunity to utilize her gifts in this area.

Mrs. Broman grew up as a churchgoer with the simple head knowledge she needed, but no real saving faith. She lived her life thinking she was good enough for Heaven and that was all there was to it. Then, in her early 20's, she witnessed one of her friends sharing

their own faith. This caused her to re-think her beliefs, and at the age of 23, she committed her life to Christ. She has been an entirely different woman ever since.

Having Mrs. Broman in the kitchen will be a blessing to the staff and students. We will all enjoy seeing her smiles every day as she encourages and positively influences everyone around her. This will be an incredible learning experience for her, and she will be a super addition to the NC team.



## Curtis Cooper

by Aaron An, senior

In early September, Mr. Curtis Cooper began working at Nebraska Christian. Mr. Cooper is a new custodian at NC. He applied for this job at NC because he knew a couple of people who worked at NC before. In addition to his job at NC, Mr. Cooper also pastors the Christian Church in Central City.

Mr. Cooper has been a Christian for nearly 25 years. He struggled with an addiction, but after attending a concert where the Gospel message was given, he found Christ, and his life changed. Mr. Cooper's

main job at NC is keeping the high school and gym buildings clean and in working order. When asked how he likes his job and what difficulties it presents, he said, "I enjoy my job very much. I love the interaction with the students and keeping things clean for them. Sometimes, it is hard to work around all of the different schedules of classes and activities."

His favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 41:10: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Overall, NC has received a faithful and diligent new faculty member in Mr. Cooper, and we wish him the best in his new position.



## Ronda Jividen

by Tara Murphy, senior

If you were to poke your head into the school's library this year, chances are you would see a new face! The NC staff has yet another wonderful addition in the form of Ronda Jividen. This year marks her first year working at Nebraska Christian as a study hall monitor and teacher's aide. Mrs. Jividen is not unfamiliar with the school, however,

as her husband Chad ('90) and eldest daughter Jamie ('08) are both alums. Three of her younger children, Kendyl (8th), Anthony (7th), and Christian (preK) are currently enrolled at the school.

Mrs. Jividen attended Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, before marrying Chad. Their large family includes seven children: Jamie, Ashley, Madison, Kendyl, Anthony, Aaron, and Christian. Before beginning her time at Nebraska Christian, Mrs. Jividen mainly kept busy with home schooling her children. She and her husband also opened up their home to multiple children through foster care and adoption. Her decision to work at NC as a study hall monitor/teacher's aide stemmed mainly from her desire to help children in their quest for education and assist them in meeting their full potential as students. When asked what part of Nebraska Christian she enjoyed the most, Mrs. Jividen responded, "All of it!"

Mrs. Jividen's faith spans across most of her life. She accepted Christ at a young age, largely due to the Christian influence of a Sunday school teacher who weekly impressed the truth of the Gospel on his students. The school is truly blessed to have Mrs. Jividen on staff.

## A Festival of Lessons & Carols!





**Distractions**, *continued from pg. 1*

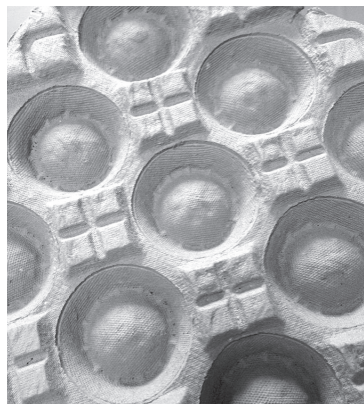
been able to work on the things that I had designated as important for the day. I didn't have much of anything to show for my time. Thankfully, I still had a few days to complete all of the things that I had hoped to finish that afternoon. The distractions I faced that afternoon ultimately didn't keep me from finishing my to-do list or have a known eternal impact, but they did remind me of Mary and Martha.

In Luke 10:38-42, we are shown Mary and her sister Martha. Mary stayed focused on the most important thing—Jesus—while Martha concerned herself with other things. Mary had her priorities in the right order, and her attention that afternoon was focused on something lasting, not the busyness and everyday distractions that Martha fell victim to. Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is nec-

essary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:41-42, ESV)

This is the time of year that many people struggle to keep their eyes on Jesus, as Mary did, and instead, like Martha, look at some worthwhile distractions. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of Christ, Emmanuel—God with us. Even though this is the focus for Christians, we have many good things that often compete for our attention. Often it's the busyness of Christmas and family itself that pulls at us. As Jesus reminded Martha, she was anxious and troubled about many things, but not the most important thing. Do you allow anxiety and worry to distract you from keeping Christ at the center of Christmas?

This year, be intentional with where you place your attention, and keep Christ at the center of Christmas.

**NC Flashback**

This December, Nebraska Christian will put on the 10th Festival of Lessons & Carols. Pictured are two NC alums who were student participants in some of the early Festivals. If you can name them, you could win our prize! Send your guesses to [advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org).

*From the last issue (left):* Congratulations to Wally Goff, one of NC's former shop teachers! His name was drawn from the many entries correctly identifying the item in this photo as one of the hundreds of egg cartons that line the ceiling of the gym. He'll receive an NC coffee mug as his prize.

**Cumpston Named National Merit Semi-Finalist**

by *Laura Carlson, freshman*

Recently, senior Katie Cumpston was notified that, because her PSAT scores were so high, she is a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

In order to be considered for a scholarship you must take the PSAT and score above a 201, be fully supported by your school's principal or administrator, and have a consistently high socialistic record throughout all four years of high school.



Katie Cumpston

Cumpston earned an impressive 211 points on her PSAT. She took the PSAT her freshman and sophomore years in preparation for junior year, so she was well practiced. Cumpston's advice to students looking to take the PSAT is to take practice tests so you know what your strengths and weaknesses are. Intelligent and proficient, Katie Cumpston is well on her way to achieving academic success.

**Memorial Gifts**

For: Shirley Beck  
 From: Gil & Dorothy Glad  
 For: Alice Brandes  
 From: Anonymous  
 For: Roger Erickson  
 From: Gil & Dorothy Glad  
 For: Wesley Luce  
 From: Gil & Dorothy Glad  
 Dave & Ruth Ferris  
 Bob & Susan Ritta  
 For: Leona Martinez  
 From: Don & Kayleen Riley  
 For: Vivian Newlon  
 From: Laura Christensen  
 Leona Sharman  
 For: Janeal Johnson Schroder  
 From: Richard & Donna Porter  
 Class of 1980  
 For: Betty Sullivan  
 From: Mary Reisinger  
 For: Lawrence Reeves  
 From: Gil & Dorothy Glad  
 Ed & Marilynn Ritta  
 For: Ron Rowse  
 From: Ron & Marie Adams  
 Dave & Ruth Ferris  
 Bernice Grantham  
 Ed & Marilynn Ritta  
 For: Wesley Sell  
 From: Mary Reisinger  
 For: Tommy Stewart  
 From: Bob & Susan Ritta  
 For: Mary Ann Winfrey  
 From: Mary Mae Reisinger &  
 Dianne Parker  
 For: Rhonda Wolf  
 From: Gil & Dorothy Glad

**NC Almanac****10 years ago ('05)**

- A Festival of Lessons & Carols, under the direction of Maestro Eric Dale Knapp, is held at NC for the first time.
- Carol Mieth and Ruben & Carol Ruybalid receive the Hall of Faith Award at the Harvest Festival.

**20 years ago ('95)**

- Brannon Howse is the featured speaker at the Harvest Festival.

**30 years ago ('85)**

- The football team makes the state playoff for the third straight year. The team loses to Sandhills in overtime in the semifinals.
- Laura Christensen and Ralph & Mary Sawyer receive the Hall of Faith Award at the Harvest Festival. The award is also given to Connie Barnell posthumously.

**40 years ago ('75)**

- The first semester ends with 158 students.

**50 years ago ('65)**

- Student Body President Stan Dyck ('66) speaks at the corporation meeting.

# #NCEagles

# Alumni News



## Brady & Alycea (Unruh '11) Hoffman

Alycea Victoria Unruh of Central City and Brady Joseph Hoffman of Hastings were united in marriage on August 29, 2015, at the Evangelical Free Church in Hastings. Pastor John Prettyman of Grace Bible Fellowship in Central City officiated.

Parents of the bride are Lester & Twyla Unruh of Central City. The groom's parents are Todd & Lisa Hoffman of Hastings.

Maid of Honor was Sarah Armatus ('11) of Omaha. Bridesmaids were Anna Faeh ('11) of Kearney, Natasha Winkowitsch of Virginia, and Kendra (Gripenstroh '11) Newby of Omaha.

Best man was Caden Hoffman of Hastings. Groomsmen were Logan Miller of Dallas, Texas; Ethan Unruh ('15) of Central City; and Cole Spady of Hastings. Ushers were Benjamin Unruh ('04) of Lincoln and James Royle ('13) of Central City.

Alycea graduated from Nebraska Christian in 2011 and Hastings Central Community College in 2014. She is currently employed at Platte Valley Endodontics in Grand Island as a dental assistant.

Brady graduated from Adams Central in Hastings in 2011 and attended Hastings Central Community College. He is currently employed by Royal Engineered Composites in Minden as a cure technician.

Following a wedding trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida, the couple is at home in Hastings.



## Jeff Hower ('88)

by Alexis Hower, senior

Class of 1988 alumnus Jeff Hower has recently co-written a book about members of the 1941 Cornhusker Football Team who went on to fight in World War II.

*Cornhuskers Go to War* is historical non-fiction written in conversational voice by Tom Kruger and Hower. The two spent years researching and interviewing for their book, and now, the publishing date has finally arrived. The book focuses on the stories of homegrown Nebraska boys who played in the 1941 Rose Bowl and then bravely served their country during World War II.

To learn more about the book, go to [www.cornhuskersgotowar.com](http://www.cornhuskersgotowar.com) or [facebook.com/cornhuskersgotowar](https://www.facebook.com/cornhuskersgotowar). To read more about Luther and others like him, get your own copy of *Cornhuskers Go to War* now available online at Amazon, or at fine retailers such as Hy-Vee, Hastings Bookstore, and Bosselman's Travel Center.

**Editor's note:** The article about the Dexter family's running legacy, which was scheduled for this issue, will run in the January-February Advance.

Follow recent NC activities & events: [nebraskachristian.org/blog](http://nebraskachristian.org/blog)



## Do You Like Change?

by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director

I don't mean the coins that jingle around in your purse or pocket—I mean things that are different and new...and many times uncomfortable. ☺ (I always wanted to put that little smiley face in an article ☺)

When I look at Wikipedia there is a definition at the top that says **change** is “the process of becoming different.”

Webster's Dictionary gives us a few definitions:

- To become different
- To make (someone or something) different
- To become something else

We know that God is in the **change** business...he wants us to be different than we were yesterday or last week or last year, and he promises to do that if and when we are willing.

One of the ways that God wants to **change** us is the way that we give and the way he gives to us. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV) say: “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

And, God uses one believer's generosity to accomplish **change** in others. Verses 10-14 go on to say: “Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generos-

ity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people, but is overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the Gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given to you.”

Would you take a minute and read back through these words from the Apostle Paul?

I don't understand everything he is saying here, but it seems that God **changes** a lot of hearts through obedience to Him when His child sows generously!

God is really working at NC—these are exciting times! Would you remember the Nebraska Christian Foundation this year as we approach the end of a God-directed year and look ahead at another one?

There are many creative ways that you can give to the work here and be part of the **change**. Consider the following endowment areas: General Fund, Student Scholarships, Capital Investments, Teacher Salaries, and Athletic Equipment. If you're interested in giving to the Foundation, I'd love to speak with you! Please call me at 308-946-3836 (office) or 308-940-0249 (cell). You can also drop in or shoot me an email me at [jheuermann@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:jheuermann@nebraskachristian.org), or send a year-end tax deductible gift to the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation.

Thanks for your support of Nebraska Christian Schools.

May God's best blessings come to you — Jody ☺

keep up  
with **NC**

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# Myers, Flynn Selected to All-State Chorus

Senior Matt Myers and junior Marilla Flynn were selected to the 2015 Nebraska All-State Chorus. They rehearsed Nov. 19-21, and the weekend culminated with a public concert at the Lied Center on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus.



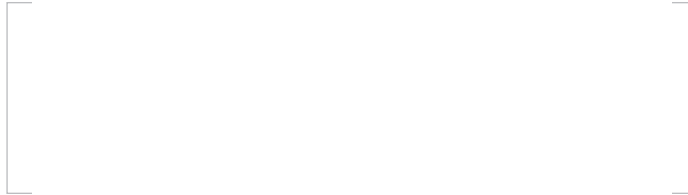
## Nebraska Christian

SCHOOLS

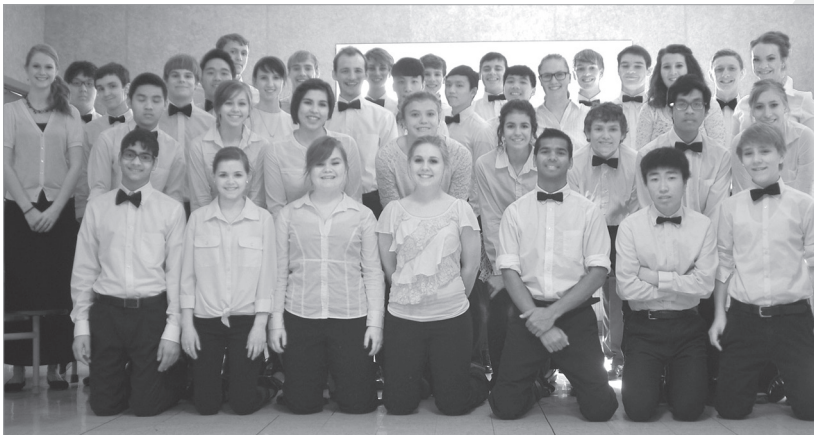
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## Nebraska Christian Schools 2016 Dinner & Benefit Auction Saturday, March 19, 2016



By God's grace, this event has raised **over \$1.4 million** during the past 13 years and has afforded NC the ability to supplement teachers' salaries and provide scholarships for those students who may not otherwise have been able to attend.

You are invited to attend this very important dinner and auction!

Please partner with Nebraska Christian by:

- Providing items, gift certificates, or services
- Donating cash to underwrite the event or go directly to student scholarships
- Sponsoring a Table

Corporate Level

*\$1,000 Table Sponsor • 8 Guests*

Standard Level

*\$400 Table Sponsor • 8 Guests*

Individual Level

*\$50 Per Dinner Reservation*



*Kristy Langemeier & Deana Leonard,  
Special Events Office*