



summer 2018

volume 48 • number 3

# nc advance

nebraska christian schools building lives for eternity

**Pray for**  
**NC**  
Building Lives for Eternity



## Tim Hekrdle Becomes New Administrator

*Editor's note: In the last issue, we asked you to pray for the board as they searched for a new administrator. Shortly after that issue went to press, the board hired Tim Hekrdle (HECK-erd-lee) as administrator for the 2018–2019 school year. Tim's first column will run in the fall issue of the Advance. Thank you for praying with us, and please continue to pray for Tim as he transitions into this role.*



Nebraska Christian Schools is pleased to announce the hiring of Tim Hekrdle as Administrator for the 2018–19 school year.

Hekrdle graduated with a BA in Business Education from Northwestern College in Iowa. He began his career teaching business at Western Michigan Christian High School in Muskegon, Michigan, before relocating to Nebraska to teach at Barr Middle School in 2008. Throughout his tenure, he held positions including Instructional Technology Coordinator, Summer

*continued on pg. 4*

## 35 Graduate May 12

The morning of May 12 dawned cool and damp, but that didn't stop the 35 graduating seniors and their friends and family from celebrating to the fullest.

The seniors marched into the gymnasium to the strains of the NC band playing "Pomp and Circumstance," led in by juniors Ben Janssen and Arwen Zhang. Three seniors had the privilege of speaking to the audience: Corryn Falk, Brennan Nokelby, and Sam Twogood.

Falk spoke about being grateful for NC's founders, who saw the need for a Christian school, and for parents of current students, who recognize the value of a Christian education; thankful for the teachers, staff, and coaches who pour into students' lives; and blessed by the friendships she's made and the opportunities to serve while an NC student.

After expressing his gratefulness at being able to attend NC for his high school years, Nokelby read Paul's prayer for the Ephesians from Ephesians 3:14–21.

Twogood challenged his class-

mates to examine for whom/what they are living and live their lives for Christ, not wasting any opportunities to show Christ's love.

Vance Christie, pastor of the Aurora Evangelical Free Church, gave the commencement address. He used the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14–30) to give the audience two key motivations for serving Christ faithfully. 1: Someday, we will give account to Christ for how we've used all that he's given us and how we've served Him. 2: We should endeavor to receive commendation and reward rather than rebuke or even condemnation when we stand before Christ.

Following the presentation of the class by Superintendent Josh Cumpston, board members Paul McHargue ('88), Les Griess, Doug Langemeier, and Ryan Twogood presented diplomas, and the 35 seniors were officially declared high school graduates and Nebraska Christian alumni.

Continue reading on page 6 for more on each senior.

### Students:

Pray for safety as many of our students are working, traveling, and serving this summer.

Pray for the student council as they meet several times this summer to prepare for the upcoming school year.

### Staff:

Pray for our new staff members as they transition to their new roles at NC.

— Philippians 4:6 —

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Tim Hekrdle, *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:

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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.

#### NC Board of Directors:

Paul McHargue ('88), Central City  
*Chairman*

Doug Langemeier, Marquette  
*Vice Chairman*

Dave Watson, Grand Island  
*Secretary*

Les Griess, Grand Island  
*Treasurer*

Greg Epp, Giltner

Matt Green, Central City

Larry Hoff, Central City

Tyson Ratliff ('06), Marquette

Ryan Twogood, Stromsburg

#### 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.



Students, including Justin Brock, Garrett Swantek, Kevin Yu, and Clay Purkerson, pick up trash in a ditch on one of the gravel roads near campus.

## Students Participate in Community Service Afternoon

On the afternoon of May 1, all of NC's junior high and senior high students and staff participated in our annual community service afternoon. Groups headed out to a variety of places in the surrounding area to work.

The students enjoyed the day, which concluded with Dilly Bars back on campus. Senior Tim Hoffmann, who was on the shed tear down crew at the Merrick County Museum, said, "Community service day is always a highlight for me because it is such a blessing to help the community in any way possible. This year was no different."

One group stayed on campus and baked chocolate chip cookies for our neighbors. Another group picked up trash in the ditches on the roads leading up to our campus. Everyone else went farther away, sorting clothes at Mission Heart, cleaning at the Widman Cinema, tearing down an old shed at the Merrick County Museum, walking dogs and cleaning at the Central Nebraska Humane Society in Grand Island, and doing a variety of outdoor projects at Timberlake Ranch Camp, Covenant Cedars Bible Camp, and Bader Park.

The businesses and individuals helped by our students were grate-

## Calendar of Events

### AUGUST

- 6 Football, Volleyball, & Cross Country practices begin
- 13 Open House, 5:30 p.m.
- 14 First day of school
- 17 Back-to-School Carnival, 6:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

- 28-29 Homecoming  
(see p. 8 for more information)

### OCTOBER

- 26 Harvest Festival, 6:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER

- 14 Festival of Lessons & Carols, 6:15 p.m.

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

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### School Calendar Change:

We will not have school on Friday, Sept. 21, due to a 3 p.m. football game at Shelton.

We will have school Monday, Sept. 17.

ful for their efforts. Charissa Smith ('94), Assistant Camp Director at Timberlake, said, "The kids were great today. We put them in three groups to do different jobs. They worked hard and got a lot done! Thank you!!!"

Overall, the day was a success, and the students gained a greater appreciation for our community.

that God would continue to provide for Nebraska Christian Schools. Also, please consider what part, if any, that God would have for you play in the giving that will make up that provision.

Thanks so much for everything you do to support our school. Until next time, may God bless you and yours.



## Dollars & Sense by Tom Dockweiler ('79), Business Manager

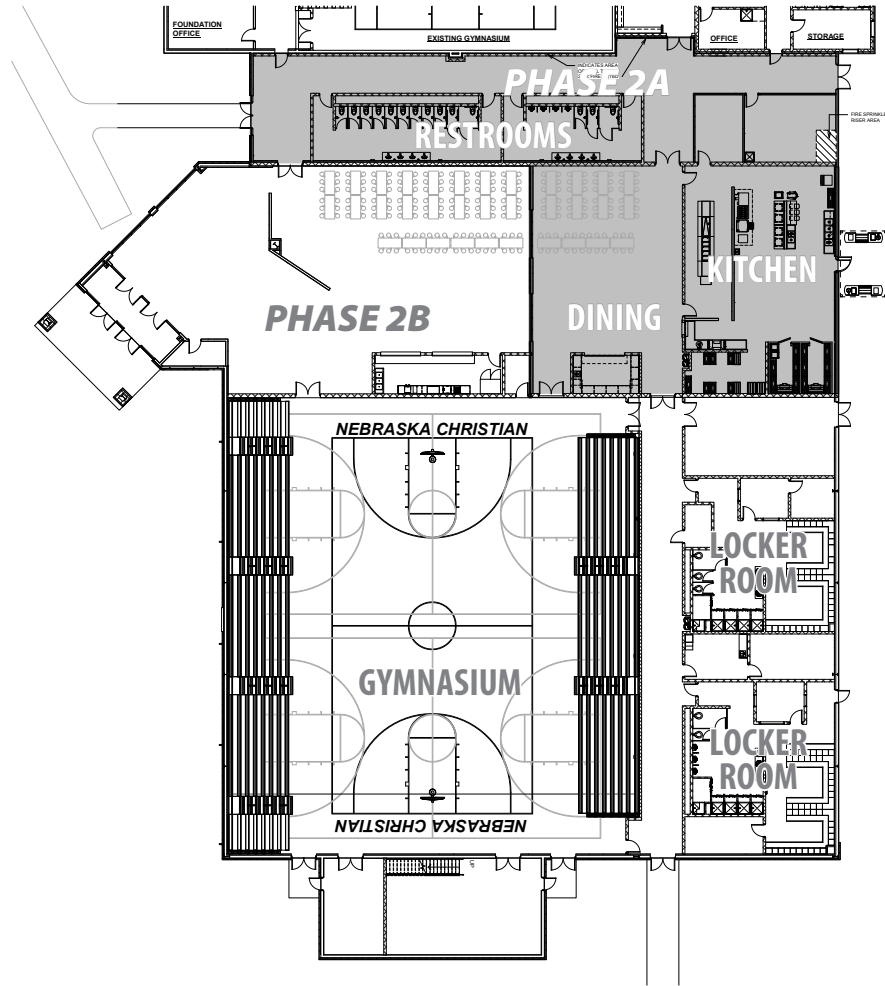
We closed the books on 2017-2018 on June 30th. Gift income was \$84,000 lower than the \$538,380 that we had budgeted for. It was even around \$8,000 less than the amount of gift income we received in the previous 2016-2017 fiscal year. Thankfully, some of our other budgeted income categories came in better than we had budgeted.

Despite the shortfall in gift income, and because of God's provi-

sion of income from other sources, our initial, unaudited reports show that the total income we did receive covered almost all of this year's expenses with the exception of depreciation expenses. Depreciation is the allowance for buildings, vehicles and equipment wearing out. Those of you who have been around Nebraska Christian for a number of years will remember many years where the school survived by living off of depreciation. It just means you are getting by with buildings,

vehicles, and equipment that are getting older every year and not putting aside money to replace those things when they finally wear out. If any organization tries to do that for too long, it will eventually be a problem. For the moment, however, Nebraska Christian Schools is in good shape financially.

We are now several weeks into the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and, once again, we will need somewhere around \$550,000 in gift income to make our budget work. Please pray



### Phase 2

#### New Kitchen, Commons Area & Gymnasium

##### Phase 2A \$1.9 million

- State of the Art Kitchen
- Dining Hall with Seating for Over 200
- ADA Restrooms / Storm Shelters

##### Phase 2B \$4.1 million

- Collegiate Sized 94' Competition Gymnasium & Activity Center with Seating for Over 900
- Concession Stand for Activities & Fundraising
- Boys & Girls Locker Rooms
- Athletic Training Room & Uniform Storage
- Athletic Storage Space
- Fine Arts/Programming Storage
- Entrance & Commons Area
- Exterior Remodel of Existing Gymnasium Building
- Expanded Parking Lot with Convenient Drop Off and Pick Up

### Make checks payable to Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation

Mail to: Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation  
 PO Box 222, Central City, NE 68826  
 EIN: 45-1300291 • Jody Heuermann, Foundation Director

Contact us: 308.946.3836  
 foundation@nebraskachristian.org  
 nebraskachristian.org/foundation

## Leaving a Legacy that Builds Lives for Eternity



by Jody Heuermann,  
 NCS Foundation  
 Executive Director

As we look around our campus, we are very grateful for all that God has done over the last 60 years here at Nebraska Christian Schools.

Campus improvements have enabled us to expand our curriculum and have year round programming.

We are now looking forward to Phase 2A: a new state of the art kitchen, dining hall and ADA restrooms/storm shelter. This will be one place on campus that impacts every student, teacher, staff member, guest, and visiting group. Having this new facility will greatly enhance the many special events that take place on our campus.

The Next 50 Years Capital Campaign will update aging campus facilities and provide new space, which will dramatically impact our appearance and ability to function better during the school year.

Please prayerfully consider how you can financially support moving this phase forward. Thank you for your support of Nebraska Christian Schools and the Next 50 Years Capital Campaign.

### Phase 2A

Goal \$1.9 million



\$300,000 >  
 16% Complete





**State Track Qualifiers.** Front: Laura Carlson, Carsyn Ostrand, Grace Langemeier, Katelynn Halstead. Back: Noah Boersen, Toby Watson, Brennan Nokelby, Sam Twogood, Ryan Dexter.



**Shield Award Recipients.** Sam Twogood, Brennan Nokelby, Claire Ostrand, Corryn Falk

## Four Receive Shield Award

by Carsyn Ostrand, junior

Receiving any award is special, but awards based on character are especially so. The Shield Award is an award given to the outstanding Nebraska Christian female or male athlete who demonstrates Christian character and accomplishment. Mr. Larry Schreiber began this award in 1982 because he “saw a need to not just recognize the best athletes that scored the most or were the most talented, but to honor a student athlete who demonstrated Christ-like

character while still performing well in their activities.”

Head coaches, the activity director, and other directors at NC vote on the recipient of the award. The award winners receive a certificate, as well as their names engraved on the plaque that hangs in the entrance to the gym building. Eighty-two NC athletes have been given this award. In 2018, the Shield Award went to seniors Corryn Falk, Claire Ostrand, Brennan Nokelby, and Sam Twogood.

## State Track Results in Four Medals

Nine Nebraska Christian students qualified for the Class C State Track Meet with thirteen entries. At state, the boys in the 3200 meter relay (Noah Boersen, Ryan Dexter, Brennan Nokelby, Sam Twogood) placed second with a time of 8:18.16. Nokelby also placed second in the 1600 meter run with a time of 4:37.31, setting a new school record in the process. On the girls’ side, Laura Carlson brought home two medals, placing second in pole vault (10’ 6”) and fourth in the 300 meter hurdles (49.01). In the seam scoring, the boys tied for 15th, and the girls tied for 18th.

**Hekrdle**, continued from pg. 1

School Coordinator, Assistant Principal, and Interim Principal. Among his many accomplishments, he was selected as the Region 4 Assistant Principal of the Year, received his MA in Educational Leadership from Grand Valley State University in August of 2010, and is currently working toward his Education Specialist Degree through Doane University.

“I am blessed to have served at Barr Middle School and the greater Grand Island Public Schools system for the last ten years. Having to say goodbye to this GIPS family was by far the most difficult part of saying yes to serving the Nebraska Christian community,” Hekrdle says.

Hekrdle’s hire follows the departure of Josh Cumpston, who served as Administrator for the past seven years and now transitions to lead in the same capacity at Silver Lake Public School.

Chairman of the Board Paul McHargue stated, “We are grateful to Josh for his leadership of the school and his faithfulness to our mission. Throughout this hiring process, God’s hand has been evident as doors have opened leading to Tim’s hiring, and we look forward to seeing how God will continue to use and grow Nebraska Christian under Tim’s leadership

NC’s entries: Noah Boersen in the 3200 meter relay; Laura Carlson in the 100 and 300 meter hurdles, pole vault, and 400 meter relay; Ryan Dexter in the 3200 meter relay and 1600 meter relay; Katelynn Halstead in the long jump, triple jump, and 400 meter relay; Grace Langemeier in the long jump and 400 meter relay; Brennan Nokelby in the 1600 meter run, 3200 meter relay, and 1600 meter relay; Carsyn Ostrand in the 100 meter hurdles, pole vault, and 400 meter relay; Sam Twogood in the 3200 meter relay and 1600 meter relay; and Toby Watson in the 110 meter hurdles and 1600 meter relay.

in the years to come.”

Hekrdle states that beyond the passion of the educators and the rich, faith-filled tradition that has sustained Nebraska Christian since its founding in 1959, he was also drawn to the position for another reason. “When I wrapped my mind around the idea of leading in the same place where my children could receive both a high quality and a Christ-centered education, it was really a pivotal moment for me. That is a priceless prospect.

“It is incredible to think about joining a community of people that is so obviously impacting students and living out its mission in such relevant ways,” Hekrdle adds. “It is an incredible honor to help the Nebraska Christian community move forward in fulfilling next steps in its legacy.”

## Memorial Gifts

For: Viola Eckstrom  
 From: Mary Reisinger  
 For: Marlene Hanquist  
 From: Richard & Carla Mundt  
 For: Don Lundberg  
 From: Dorothy Glad  
 For: Ruth Stone  
 From: Donald & Kayleen Riley  
 For: LeRoy Wolfenden  
 From: Larry & Virginia Cooper

# THANK YOU!



Thank you to all who sent in Campell’s Soup labels & Box Tops for Education over the years! The Campell’s Soup program has been discontinued.

**We still participate in Box Tops for Education.**  
**We receive 10¢ per Box Top.**

*Please keep sending them in!*



**A Day at the Zoo** — The elementary students spent the last Monday of the school year at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha.

## NC Flashback



Since this issue of the Advance is so focused on graduation, we thought we'd feature another graduation in our flashback! If you can identify the student and/or board member in this photo, you could win a prize. Send your guesses to [advance@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:advance@nebraskachristian.org), and you'll get one entry for each correct guess. *Hint: The year is 2006.*

*From the last issue (below):* The workers featured in the remodel of the gym are (clockwise from top left) Elmer Schmidt, Josh Schreiber ('99), Eric Prusa ('94), and Eldon Root. Congratulations to Jacky Uhler! Her name was drawn from all the correct entries, so she gets our prize.



### *Ember Kai Unruh* daughter of Benjamin ('04) & Angela Unruh

Benjamin & Angela Unruh of Lincoln, Nebraska, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ember Kai Unruh. She was born at St. Elizabeth Hospital on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at 4:12 p.m., weighing 6 pounds 14 ounces and was 19½ inches long.

Uncles and aunt are Micah Unruh ('07) of Lincoln, Brady & Alycea (Unruh '11) Hoffman of Hastings, and Ethan Unruh ('15) of Lincoln. Grandparents are Lester & Twyla Unruh of Central City and Tom ('75) & Lila Sharman of Omaha. Great grandparents are Donald & Mildred Blunk of Wichita, Kansas; Edith and the late Wayne Unruh of Enid, Oklahoma; Harold and the late Dorothy Schoenhals of Texas; and Leona and the late Richard Sharman of Palmer.

Follow our blog for regular updates about NC:  
[nebraskachristian.org/blog/](http://nebraskachristian.org/blog/)

# NC Almanac

## 10 years ago (Summer '08)

- Three NC students place at state track: Rebecca Woods ('09), 2nd in the 300 hurdles; Karrah Miller ('09), 5th in pole vault; Michelle Clement ('08), 6th in high jump, 7th in triple jump.
- The girls basketball team wins the consolation bracket of the Miss Basketball Tournament in Kearney.

## 20 years ago (Summer '98)

- The boys 1600 meter relay team takes first in Class D at state track with a time of 3:32.32. Team members are Marty Buller ('98), Josh Merchant ('98), Jeremy Poeffel ('98) and Brian Urwiller ('98).
- New carpeting is installed in the offices and hallways of the Administration Building, thanks to funds raised by the Ladies Auxiliary.

## 30 years ago (Summer '88)

- 70 people attend Alumni Day. Pat Luse ('74) is president; Ed Ritta ('73) is elected vice president, and Lois (Lebar '68) Seadore is elected Secretary-Treasurer.

## 40 years ago (Summer '78)

- During the summer break, a parking lot is built on the east side of the gym building and a leaky roof on the boys dorm is repaired.

## 50 years ago (Summer '68)

- The girls trio goes on a two-week tour after school lets out for the summer.
- The board hosts a board-staff social prior to the beginning of the school year.

## Save the Date for the 13th Annual Festival of Lessons & Carols

**Friday, December 14, 2018, 6:15 p.m.**

Watch our website & social media accounts for more information.





Class of 2018, continued from pg. 1

**Landon Roshan Barcel** is the son of Barton & Paula Barcel of Bellwood. He has attended NC for four years. Landon credits his time at NC with helping him to open up and become more confident. He has signed a letter of intent to bowl at Midland University in Fremont, and he hopes to eventually go into business.

**Danae Rebecca Burdett** has attended NC for four years. She is the daughter of Travis & Trina Burdett of Grand Island. Danae's favorite NC memory is state speech her sophomore year. "I have grown and changed and been challenged so much at NC. I can honestly say I wouldn't be the person I am today without NC," she says. Danae plans to attend Hillsdale College in Michigan.

**Heewon (Clara) Chon** from Seoul, South Korea, is the daughter of Jeongkwan Chon & Heesoo Baik. She has attended NC for four years. Clara is grateful for the friendships she made while at NC, and her favorite memory is the senior trip to Washington, D.C. In the future, she plans to become a nutritionist or dietitian.

**Keziah Rose Dexter** is the daughter of Rance ('86) & Jodi Dexter of Burwell. Keziah's siblings Alysha (Dexter '05) Ramsey and Noah Dexter ('16) are also NC graduates, as are several of her extended family members. She has attended NC for 7½ years, and she credits NC with giving her a solid Christian foundation. Keziah plans to move to Kearney and work at a bakery.

**Benjamin Andrew Griess** of Grand Island is the son of Les & Marty Griess. He has attended NC for five years, and his brother Nathan ('15) is also an alum. Ben's

favorite memories of NC come from the friendships he made through sports, and he is grateful for what he's learned about working diligently on and off the court. Ben plans to play basketball while attending Hastings College, and he eventually would like to own his own business.

**Brayden Lane Gustafson** has attended NC for seven years. He is the son of Joe & Stacie Gustafson of Phillips. Of his time at NC, Brayden says, "NC has helped equip me for my walk with Christ by [teaching me to] be discerning in my faith." He especially enjoyed Mr. Gee's shop classes and the D.C. trip. Brayden plans to get an associate's degree in ag business and management and then farm.

**Corryn Victoria Blair Falk**, daughter of Andy & Monica Falk of Pleasanton, is the second member of her family to graduate from NC; her brother Carson is a 2016 graduate. Corryn credits NC for helping her grow in her walk with Christ and form amazing friendships, and her favorite NC memory is her senior season of volleyball. She plans to study health sciences in college.

**Andrew James Feely** of Aurora is the son of William & Dawn Feely. He has attended NC for seven years, and he says that being at NC has helped him grow mentally and spiritually. His favorite memory is his senior wrestling season. Andrew plans to major in biology with a pre-med track with the goal of becoming an ER doctor.

**Katelynn Atalissa Halstead**, daughter of Tim & Miriam Hal-



Far left: Melinda Kim and Jean Joy Kamau

Left: Board treasurer Les Griess presents a diploma to his son, Ben.

Above: Chase Tate sings a solo during the choir's performance of "Reap What You Sow" at graduation.

stead, has attended NC for two years. Her hometown is Topeka, Kansas, but she currently lives in Marquette. Katelynn's sister Emily ('17) is also an NC alum. Katelynn's favorite memory of NC is making it to state in volleyball. She plans to continue her volleyball career at Central Community College-Columbus, after which she will transfer to a four-year school to study physical therapy.

**Jessica Anne Hilderbrand** from Central City has attended NC for seven years. She is the daughter of Roy & Cheryl (Dockweiler '90) Hilderbrand and is the third child in her family to graduate from NC (Jeff '13, Chris '15). Jessica says that her time at NC helped her grow as a person and in the arts, and her favorite NC memories are of playing in pep band and going on choir tour. Jessica plans to major in Music Education and Psychology at Oklahoma Baptist University.

**Timothy Frederick Hofmann** of Sutton is the son of Fred & Lori Hofmann. His sisters Heidi (Hofmann '12) Rose and Susan Hofmann ('16) are also NC grads. Tim says that attending NC has been a blessing, and he's glad to have met wonderful friends. He plans to major in Sports Communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Joel Jeremiah Kaczor** is the son of Aaron & Bobbi Kaczor of Boelus. He has attended NC for six years. Joel's favorite NC memory is the senior D.C. trip. He's grateful for his

NC education, saying, "It has given me a Christ-centered education, where I can have Christian friends and older students who set good examples and [show] godly manners."

**Jean Joy Wambui Kamau** of Nairobi, Kenya, is the daughter of Reuben & Agnes Kamau. Jean attended NC for one year and finished her studies in December 2017. She then began attending the University of Nebraska Omaha. Jean says that being at NC helped her grow mentally and spiritually, while helping her learn to be independent. Her favorite memory is the Washington, D.C. trip. Jean hopes to become a pharmacist.

**Ji Ha Kim** is from Cheongju, South Korea. He is the son of Chun Sik Kim & Eun Kyeong Yoon, and he has attended NC for four years. Ji Ha says that he learned patience and endurance while at NC. He plans to attend college.

**Yaebeen (Melinda) Kim** of Incheon, South Korea, is the daughter of Nak heon Kim & Ji yeon Yoon. She has attended NC for four years. Her favorite NC memory is meeting her classmates and dorm sisters, and she says that she grew in her faith and learned patience while an NC student. Melinda plans to attend college in Korea and travel the world.

**Lydia Kristyne Langemeier** is from Marquette. Her parents are Doug & Kristy Langemeier, and her brother Cameron graduated

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## Class of 2018, continued from pg. 6

from NC in 2016. Lydia's favorite NC memories are from the junior trip to Minneapolis and the senior trip to D.C. She says that her time at NC has helped her become more confident and has taught her how to defend her faith. Lydia plans to get a degree in publishing.

**Rinrada (Cream) Masatit** has attended NC for three years. She is the daughter of Porntep & Ratana Masatit of Bangkok, Thailand. Of her time at NC, Cream says, "I got to know the Lord so much deeper. Being able to spend time with other believers also impacted my life." Her favorite memory is of talking to her roommates during the senior trip. After attending college in the US, Cream would like to teach English and share the gospel in a village in Thailand.

**Anna Marie Musgrave** of Archer is the daughter of Nathan ('92) & Sandy Musgrave. Anna says she has grown intellectually and spiritually while at NC, and her favorite memory is the 2017 volleyball season. Anna plans to become a nurse and work either in the U.S. or overseas.

**Daniel Lawrence Myers** is the son of Larry & Tracy Myers of Central City. Daniel is the third member of his immediate family to graduate from NC, as his sister Hannah ('13) and brother Matthew ('16) are also alums. Daniel says that his favorite NC memory is Homecoming when his siblings came back, and they all attended together. He says that being at NC has helped to strengthen his relationship with the Lord.

**Hieu Trong Nguyen** of Hanoi, Vietnam, is the son of Hien Trong Nguyen & Van Thuy Thi Dinh. He has attended NC for one year. Hieu says being at NC has given him a new perspective on studying, and he especially enjoyed the senior trip. He plans to attend Missouri Valley College and then return to Vietnam to work.

**Brennan Thomas Nokelby** is the son of Bryan & Christina Nokelby of Marquette. He has attended NC for four years. Brennan says that

being at NC has helped him grow in his faith. His favorite memories are all of his history classes and beating Fullerton for third place in the Goldenrod Conference Basketball Tournament. Brennan plans to major in history at Hillsdale College.

**Kateland Christian Nyberg** of Stromsburg has attended NC for four years. Her parents are Tracy & Cindy Nyberg. Katie says she has learned how she should act and to examine her responses through her NC friends, the influence of Mr. Ostrand and Mr. Falk, cross country practices, and speech meets. One of her favorite memories is getting lost with Anna Musgrave and Lydia Langemeier after a party at Ben Griess's house. Katie plans to attend Central Community College-Hastings to become a dental hygienist.

**Claire Elizabeth Ostrand** of Central City has attended NC for 11 years. Her parents are Carl & Tonya Ostrand, and her sisters Cailyn (Ostrand '14) Grabill and Cassidy Ostrand ('16) are also NC graduates. Her favorite memory is going to state in volleyball. Claire is grateful for the opportunity to have a Christ-centered education, which has prepared her for the future. She plans to attend Hastings College, where she will play volleyball.

**Joel Isaac Poppe** has attended NC for seven years. He is the son of Dan & Diane Poppe of Central City, and his sister Dana is a 2014 graduate. Joel's favorite memories from NC are his memories with Tim Hofmann and Mr. David Gee. He says that his time at NC has helped him become the man God has called him to be, and he's still growing in his faith every day. He plans to study nursing in college.

**Micah William Smith** of Grand Island has attended NC for seven years. His parents are Donald & Dianne Smith. Micah's sister Liz graduated from NC in 2015. Micah's favorite NC memory is playing pep band during Homecoming football games. Of his time at NC, Micah

says, "Getting the opportunity to have a biblical worldview taught to me has been invaluable." He plans to get a server systems technology degree from Central Community College-Hastings.

**Luke Daniel Swanson** is the son of John & Sarah Swanson of Dannebrog. He has attended NC for six years and is the fifth child in his family to graduate from NC, as his siblings Christy Nix ('02), Ted ('04), Lindsay Griepenstroh ('06), and Mike ('08) are all NC alums. Luke is grateful for the strong Christian worldview he was taught and the classes that have prepared him for college while at NC. His favorite NC memory is beating Fullerton in football in overtime during his sophomore year. Luke plans to attend UNL and major in exercise, nutrition, and health sciences.

**Chase Mihail Tate** of Columbus is the son of Rick & Jill Tate. He has attended NC for four years. Chase says that being at NC "gave me the opportunity to open up to people and be more willing to help others." His favorite NC memory is the Christmas lip sync battle where he showed off his breakdancing skills. Chase plans to attend college and join the workforce, and he hopes to have ministry opportunities around the world.

**Samuel Wyatt Twogood** is the son of Ryan & Rachel Twogood of Stromsburg. He has attended NC for four years, and his older sister Whitney ('14) is also an NC graduate. Sam says, "Nebraska Christian has deepened my faith in Jesus Christ by providing a solid foundation in Biblical principles in multiple areas of life." His favorite NC memory is the Washington, D.C. trip. He plans to study engineering at Bethel University in Minnesota.

**Hung (Nick) Gia Vuong** of Can Tho, Vietnam, is the son of Khai Hon Vuong & Hang Thanh Thi Nguyen. Nick has attended NC for two years. He says that his time at NC opened his mind about Christianity, and his favorite memory was

the senior retreat.

**Tai Ming (Rocky) Wang** is the son of Jia Wang & Yin Hong Wu of Guangzhou, China. He has attended NC for three years. Rocky's favorite NC memory is the D.C. trip, and he said he learned to never give up while studying at NC. Rocky plans to attend college.

**James Spencer Williams** of Central City is the son of Wayne & Mechelle Williams. Spencer's sister Reagan graduated from NC in 2017. Spencer says his time at NC helped him grow in his relationship with Christ, and he will always remember getting scared under the Ad building. Spencer isn't sure what his future holds, but he knows he wants to follow God's plan.

**Xin (Sonya) Wu** is the daughter of Yong Ming Wu & Chun Mei Geng of Taiyuan, China. She has attended NC for four years. Sonya says that studying at NC helped her to become more independent, and one of her favorite memories is cooking with NC cook Wendy Schweitzer every Thursday. Sonya plans to do a lot of traveling in the future.

**Xinjie (Ruby) Yang**, daughter of Yang Cheng Bao & Wen Ya Juan of Taiyuan, China, has attended NC for two years. Ruby really enjoyed the senior trip, saying, "I learned a lot of new stuff from the museums, and I also got a lot of impressive memories." She's glad for the variety of people she's gotten to know at NC. Ruby plans to attend college.

**Shaorong (Sharon) Yu** of Taiyuan, China, has attended NC for two years. Her parents are Suoda Gao & Lihua Yu. Sharon's favorite NC memory is the Chinese New Year celebration, and she is grateful for the friends she made while at NC. She plans to attend UNL.

**Weichen (Richard) Zhao** is from Taiyuan, China. His parents are Zhi Hong Zhao & Li Ping Wang. Richard's favorite NC memory is the boys dorm Easter trip to Denver. He's grateful for the knowledge he gained while attending NC.

# NOW ENROLLING FOR 2018-2019!

Nebraska Christian is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year.

Access our downloadable and online applications at [nebraskachristian.org/academics/admissions](http://nebraskachristian.org/academics/admissions)  
Questions? Call the office at 308-946-3836 or send a message to [nc@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:nc@nebraskachristian.org)



**Nebraska  
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SCHOOLS

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NON-PROFIT ORG  
PRSR STD  
Central City, NE  
Permit No. 79

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## CELEBRATE YOUR EAGLE PRIDE

Homecoming 2018 · September 28-29

### FRIDAY

SENIOR FUNDRAISER COOKOUT · 5:30 P.M.

FOOTBALL VS. HEARTLAND · 7:00 P.M.

### SATURDAY

RENEWED STRENGTH 5K · 9:30 A.M.

REGISTRATION · 9:00 A.M.

CLASS REUNIONS & CAMPUS TOURS

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



**QUESTIONS?** CONTACT DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR STEPHANI (DEICHMANN '03) FRANCL  
[SFRANCL@NEBRASKACHRISTIAN.ORG](mailto:SFRANCL@NEBRASKACHRISTIAN.ORG)

**ALUMS, WATCH YOUR MAIL FOR YOUR INVITATION!**