



# nc advance

nebraska christian schools — building lives for eternity

## He Doesn't Change

by Josh Cumpston, Administrator



In the last month, I have had a few chances to see how God is working in the U.S. and around the world in the lives of people associated with Nebraska Christian. I met these people on the NC campus, through an email, and on my recent trip to Asia. I wasn't expecting these encounters, but God used them to encourage me, and I wanted to share them to encourage you as well.

Gib Killion and I spent the last two weeks of September in Asia, meeting with parents of current international students and recruiting students for next year. While in Korea, we met with a friend who has recommended NC to Korean parents. He took us to a coffee shop the night before we came home. We were able to reconnect with several students that he brought to the United States two summers ago for visits to Washington, DC and Nebraska Christian. One of those students became a Christian after the trip to Nebraska. She had been wrestling with this decision prior to their trip, but she said something changed for her while at NC. She couldn't describe exactly what it was; she just said that being able to see the stars at night (not visible in the large city she was from) made her realize how big God was, and the love shown to her by people she didn't know (Nebraska Christian

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## Running Down a Dream

by Dan Tran, senior

On October 25, 2013, the NC boy's cross country team and Katie Cumpston competed at the Nebraska State Cross Country Championship Meet at the Kearney Country Club in Kearney. The meet included 18 teams as well as individual qualifiers for each race. The total runners were 147 boys and 136 girls.

Competing for the Eagles were Hans Epp, Warren Dexter, Adrian Epp, Cameron Langemeier, Jerron Tiemeyer, and Matthew Myers on the boys' side, and Katie Cumpston for the girls. The boys' team got the State Runner-Up Championship with a total of 71 team points, only

## Hall of Faith

Each year, the board chooses one or two individuals or couples to receive the Hall of Faith Award. This award is presented for years of service at Nebraska Christian--be it through teaching, giving of time and finances, promoting the school, or being involved in other ways on campus, these individuals have made an impact on Nebraska Christian and its students.

This year, the board selected two couples to receive this prestigious award: Ed ('73) & Marilynn Ritta and Gordon & Terri Thiessen. Board member Lester Unruh and board secretary Paul McHargue ('88) presented these awards at the Harvest Festival. Following is some of what they had to say about these couples:



Cross Country State Qualifiers. Warren Dexter, Matt Myers, CJ Ruybalid (alternate), Adrian Epp, Hans Epp, Jerron Tiemeyer, Katie Cumpston, Head Coach Janet Landrigan, Cameron Langemeier.

2 points behind the State Championship team, Crofton, with 69 points. Hans won 1st place with a time of 16:26, Warren Dexter placed 3rd finishing in 17:05, Adrian Epp finished in 21st in 18:04 (but 14th in the team points), and Cameron Langemeier was 86th in 19:37 (but 53rd in team points). Katie Cumpston medaled for the girls, coming in 7th place.

Some of the thoughts from Coach

Landrigan at the end of the season were that God has blessed our athletes with a great ability and desire to do their best. Her favorite memories of the season were how determined Adrian ran in the season, how Katie Cumpston set goals and achieved them, and how Hans and Warren ran their best at the State Meet.

Coach Landrigan said, "It has been a wonderful season!" Congratulations, runners on a great season!

They served as girls' dorm parents for many years, he coached volleyball, she worked in the kitchen, and he still drives bus as needed. He served on the school board for many years and is now a member of the Advisory Council. He is also a long-time member of the football "chain gang."



Ed & Marilynn Ritta

Tonight, we honor a couple with a long family history of service to Nebraska Christian. He attended NC for high school, graduating in 1973. After graduating from Grace Bible Institute, he returned to Central City to farm. She joined the NC teaching staff in 1975. They met at a singles Bible study in the fall of 1976 and married in the fall of 1978.

Throughout the years, they have been involved at NC in many ways.

Five of their six children are NC graduates, four of whom attended NC from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Beth graduated in 1998, Kate in 2000, Jon in 2008, Nathan in 2011, and Shawna in 2013. Their youngest, Brittany, is currently an NC junior. Their granddaughter Alexis Perry, an NC preschool student, is the third generation of their family to attend NC.

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# nc advance

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Josh Cumpston, *Administrator*

Becky Ritta ('99), *Editor*

Beth Ritta ('98), *Layout & Design*

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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:

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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.



Tune in to  
AM-750 KMMJ

**Saturday at 1:04 p.m.**

**Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**

to hear Josh Cumpston  
and Gordon Thiessen.



### Winning Season

The varsity volleyball team ended the season with the best record in school history: 25-5. The team was also Goldenrod Conference Regular Season Champion and Tournament Runner Up. Front: Emily Simmons, Reagan Williams, Rubi McHargue, Katie Entz, Victoria Boersen. Back: Tara Murphy, Amber Mazankowski, Whitney Heuermann, Cassidy Ostrand, Cailyn Ostrand, Alexis Hower.

### Dollars & Sense

by Tom Dockweiler ('79), Business Manager



In preparation for this column, I looked over my last one and realized that all the reasons for optimism I expressed then are still true today.

I pulled up a profit and loss report and a budget versus actual report. The income is ahead of last year and ahead of budget, and the expenses are below budget. If our donors continue to be as faithful through the rest of the year as they have been so far, the financial position of the school will remain solid.

We are continuing to enjoy improvements to facilities and equipment, even planning for additional improvements.

We have continued to have regular reminders of how God has worked through the school in the past. Josh's column (see pg. 1) gives several of the more recent examples.

So why do I find myself less optimistic this morning than I seemed to be last time I wrote? I could point to a busy schedule, unfinished projects, and unmet expectations. In more honest moments, I might even acknowledge the effect of my own sin on my outlook on life. All true, but also true when I penned my last column.

The Sons of Korah took up this question in Psalm 42 and 43, asking three times, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?" They mention circumstances and hint at broken fellowship that may have been the result of sin, but at the core of their analysis, the real problem is that they are thirsty. They need to see God.

So, how do I respond when I find my soul cast down and in turmoil within me? Each time the question is asked, the writers give the same answer. "Hope in God; for I will yet praise him, my salvation and my God." Remembering is part of the strategy, as is prayer for God to "send out your light and your truth," but the ultimate goal of all the strategies is to arrive in God's presence and to praise him.

Jeremiah describes the sin of Israel as forsaking God, "the fountain of living waters" and trying to satisfy their thirst with cisterns of their own making. Isaiah extends the invitation to "Come everyone who thirsts, come to the waters" and asks why we spend our "labor for that which does not satisfy?" Paul calls it "exchanging the glory of the immortal God for images." Regarding the woman at the well's attempts to satisfy her thirst, Je-

## Calendar of Events

### NOVEMBER

28-29 Thanksgiving Break  
*School dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 27th*

### DECEMBER

13 Christmas Program, 7-9 p.m.  
18-19 Semester Tests  
20-Jan 6 Christmas Vacation

### JANUARY

7 2nd Semester Begins

### FEBRUARY

16 Choir Tour

### MARCH

7-8 Elementary Musical  
*6:30 p.m. at Central City Performing Arts Center*

9 Choir Tour

16 Choir Tour

28 Auction Preview, 5-8 p.m.

29 Dinner & Benefit Auction  
*5 p.m.*

### APRIL

9 Campus Preview & Kindergarten Roundup

13 Choir Tour

For additional events, check our website calendar:  
[nebraskachristian.org/calendar](http://nebraskachristian.org/calendar)

sus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The fact that I find myself thirsty is not because of my circumstances. I need to meet with God; I need to return to the fountain; I need to come to the waters; I need to see the glory of the immortal God; I need to drink from the spring of living water.

"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I will yet praise him, my salvation and my God." Until next time, may God bless you and yours.

**Hall of Faith, continued from pg. 1**

For their years of service to the Lord at Nebraska Christian, we are pleased to present the 2013 Hall of Faith Award to Ed & Marilynn Ritta.

**Gordon & Terri Thiessen**

Tonight's Hall of Faith recipients have been heavily involved in Nebraska Christian since the 1990s. Their oldest child began attending NC in 1995, and their other children soon followed. She was an outspoken advocate for Christian education and enjoyed helping out with their children's activities. He quickly became involved with NC athletics, serving as the girls' basketball assistant coach and football assistant coach from '96-'99 and the boys' basketball head coach from '00-'04. In 2006, he returned to NC in his current role as chaplain and girls' basketball head coach. His 2004 Boys' Basketball Team won the Goldenrod Conference Championship.

All four of their children are NC graduates: Leslie in 1999, Adam in 2002, Josh in 2004, and Amy in 2006.

For their years of service to the Lord at Nebraska Christian, we are pleased to present the 2013 Hall of Faith Award to Gordon & Terri Thiessen.

**Twogood Named Commended Student**

Senior Whitney Twogood has been named a Commended Student in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship

Program. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2014 competition by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

**Cumpston, continued from pg. 1**

teachers) made her realize the awesomeness of God. The creator of the universe loved her and cared for her, and she chose to follow Him. I think that is awesome!

While in Asia, I received an email from the daughter of Ted Olling. Ted was one of the 15 men who each gave \$50 to help start the school. He had been reminiscing about NC and wondering about the school. His daughter found our website and contacted me. I recently spoke with him on the phone and heard his testimony of helping to found NC. This was such an encouragement to me. I had heard about these men who stepped out in faith to prayerfully and financially begin what NC is today, but never before had I had the oppor-

**The Class of 1973 reunited at Homecoming.**

**Top:** Norman Mieth ('73) presents former Head Coach Ruben Ruybalid with a football signed by some of NC's first football players.

**Above:** The class of 1973. Linda (Sellers '73) Johnson, Elroy Thieszen ('72), Debby (Foley '73) Thieszen, Kathy (Moody '73) Wert, Kathy (Vollers '73) Hale, Dave Penner ('73), Dean Dahlke ('73), Phil Binder ('73), Barb (Hohndorf '73) Wood, Debi (Van Boening '73) Bell, Eric Davidson ('73), Ed Ritta ('73), Norman Mieth ('73), Jerry Scott ('73), Ruben Ruybalid, Rachel (Martin '73) Dugger, Vincent Ressel ('73), Tim Rollogas ('73).

tunity to speak to one of them. His story and example of faithfulness were convicting and uplifting at the same time. I really appreciated the conversation.

Shortly after my return to Nebraska, we had Homecoming. Many alumni visited, including a special group: the class of 1973. Many class members came back for their 40-year reunion, and I was able to spend some time with them. I enjoyed hearing their stories about their time as students and learn what has happened in their lives since graduation. As we traded stories of how God is working on campus in the lives of

students, one of the men shared an amazing story. He was in Afghanistan a few years ago trying to help the people in that area. In one of his meetings, he met another more recent grad of Nebraska Christian who was working there, also. He said that he couldn't believe it: Two NC grads, all the way from Central City, Nebraska, helping the people of Afghanistan. Amazing!

I love hearing how God is moving in people's lives and the ripples that it causes at our school, locally, nationally, and even worldwide. I was very encouraged by these stories and hope they've been a blessing to you as well.

**Benefit Auction: Looking Back & Looking Ahead** *by Deana Leonard, Special Events Office*

It started out in November of 2001 as an idea inspired by then superintendent, Dr. Dave Edgren. He approached Kathy Chase, asking her to organize an auction for the school to raise funds, not really knowing what direction this event would take. After researching and gathering information from other schools, Chase

quickly realized that she was going to need someone to help with the data processing. She got her friend Becky Deichmann on board, and that first year the auction brought in \$52,000. Since 2002, the school had held 11 auctions and amassed a grand total of a little over \$1,000,000 for NC.

"This has been a God thing since

day one," Chase says as she reminisces over how the auction has grown and changed through the years. An auction has been held every year since 2002, except in 2007, when the school was in the midst of a campaign to raise money for the new high school building. "A lot of people told us to go ahead and have

the auction because they were afraid we would lose momentum by skipping a year, but we felt like God was telling us to take a year off. And God provided even without having the auction; an anonymous donor gave \$50,000 that spring."

In 2007, Jody Heuermann joined

*continued on pg. 5*

# NC Welcomes Staff



## Jay Garrison

English Teacher,  
Drama Coach

Spouse: Joanne  
Children: six grown children  
Education: University of Nebraska at Kearney

Following 31 years teaching in Nebraska public schools, Jay Garrison is now teaching sophomore, junior, and senior English and drama at Nebraska Christian. He is especially enjoying the relationships he's forming with other believers on campus.

Jay accepted Jesus as his Savior and Lord in 1974 through the influence of a minister involved with Campus Crusade. He points to Proverbs 3:5-6 as verses that help him endure: "Though I have made mistakes and sometimes gotten sidetracked by circumstances, I recognize the spiritual battle believers face, and I rely on God to indeed give me a straight path."

## 9th Festival of Lessons & Carols Postponed

The 9<sup>th</sup> Festival of Lessons and Carols hosted at Nebraska Christian Schools has been postponed. Originally scheduled for December 13, 2013, the event will now take place next year on December 12, 2014.

The postponement is due to what NC Festival Chairwoman Jody Heuermann calls, "The perfect storm. Unexpected delays, unforeseen obligations, and problems acquiring music, all brought on by external circumstances beyond our control make having a Festival this year impossible." The Festival planning staff has spent the fall trying to correct these issues. However, due to the high standards set over previous years for this program, the Festival Committee decided that the best option is to postpone the program until next year to



## Chasity Gulbranson

Cook

by Brittany Ritta,  
junior

Spouse: Ryan  
Children: Alexis (NC senior) and Chase (NC 8th grader)

Education: Grace University, Western Government University

Chasity Gulbranson is one of the talented new cooks we have here at NC this year. Before Chasity came to Nebraska Christian, she was a Special Education Paraprofessional at Central City Middle School. She decided to work at NC because she wanted a more Christian working environment and a place that is uplifting. Chasity became a Christian in the second grade while in Sunday School. She really enjoys working at Nebraska Christian because she gets to work with her mother (Kathy Kirby) and gets to have a little fun in the process.

maintain the quality that the participants and the community have all come to appreciate.

Area musicians, local high school students, and music lovers alike are sure to miss the sacred musical event that has become a holiday tradition for many families. But they won't miss the event for long.

The planning already completed as well as the extra year to prepare for the event simply set the stage for a 9<sup>th</sup> Festival program that promises to surpass any of the previous years. NC Superintendent, Josh Cumpston encourages participants and attendees alike to look forward to next year. "We hope that this year's postponement won't affect your commitment to this program with us, because we're more committed than ever to making the 9<sup>th</sup> Festival a great event,"



## Kristy Langemeier

Special Events  
Coordinator

by Taylor Swantek,  
junior

Spouse: Doug  
Children: Cameron (NC sophomore), Lydia, Grace (NC 6th Grader), Gabe (NC 3rd grader)  
Education: University of Nebraska—Lincoln

The new special events coordinator, Kristy Langemeier, isn't entirely new to Nebraska Christian Schools. She has been on campus helping behind the scenes in many different ways for about three years, and she has helped out with the Nebraska Christian Auction for the last two years. Kristy decided that being the events coordinator would be a really fun job to have. She realized that it was a job that she could do to help out the school. She has enjoyed it so far. Besides organizing the auction, her job as special events coordinator also includes setting up for events like our Harvest Festival, Grandparents' Day, and Festival of Lessons and Carols.

During Kristy's sophomore year at UNL, she was involved in the FCA program. There, she came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal savior. Now the Lange-meiers enjoy telling others about their Savior by holding Bible studies in their home for students in the Central City community.

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he explained. Additionally, Nebraska Christian students will be presenting a Christmas concert on December 13 this year in lieu of the Festival. All are invited to attend.

Please mark your calendar now for the December 12, 2014, date. Ticket sales will open on November 1, 2014.



## Tim & Rachel Jewell

Boys' Dorm Parents  
Children: Paige, Keagan (NC junior), Haley  
Education: Metro Community College (Tim)

by My Luu, senior

Rachel Jewell was born in Omaha, and she grew up in a Christian home. She attended church and was baptized as a teenager. She always believed that she was a Christian. Rachel thought she was having a good life, but it was not until she lost her daughter Haley nine years ago that God really broke her and showed her that she needed to change and repent of her sins. After that, she realized God's love, and she changed her life for Him.

This year Rachel works for NC as a dorm mother. Before she came to NC, she was a director of a day care center, so she has a lot of experience taking care of other people. Being the boy's dorm mother, Rachel will be able to take care of many students. In addition, she wants to help the students grow in Christ as well as love and comfort them. Rachel hopes that she will do her best this year, taking care of the boys in the dorm and helping them to know Christ.

by Eric Kim, senior

Tim Jewell grew up in a Christian family. He accepted Christ and was baptized as a teenager. He always thought he was a Christian, but it wasn't until later he understood what God really did for him. He truly turned around and began living for the Lord. He graduated from Metro Community College in Omaha, then he worked as a farm hand. He is currently working for Nebraska Christian as the boys' basketball assistant coach and boys' dorm dad. He really enjoys dorm parenting at NC.



## JJ Springer

Bible Teacher

by Rachel McHargue,  
senior

Spouse: Carol  
Children: Dakota (NC 5th grader), Amy (NC 4th grader), Faith (NC 2nd grader), Alyssa (NC 1st grader)  
Education: UNL and Biola University

JJ Springer has been a youth pastor at Heartland Evangelical Free Church in Central City for five years. This year he decided that he wanted to co-teach worldviews to the senior Bible class with Mr. Cumpston. JJ really enjoys the students and staff here at NC. He says, “My favorite part of NC is the Christ-centered education and the genuinely caring community and staff.” JJ attended UNL, where he majored in elementary education, and Biola University, where he studied Christian apologetics.

JJ grew up on a farm north of Aurora, Nebraska, where—with his mom and brother—he accepted Christ as his savior at three years old.

JJ and his wife Carol have four children who all attend Nebraska Christian. They are very excited to be a part of this school.

**Auction**, *continued from pg. 3*

the team to add a whole new dimension into planning the auction. Over the years, numerous individuals have put countless hours into the success of the auction. Chase said that besides the obvious first goal of raising money for the school, the immediate secondary benefit of having the auction has been the relationships and image the school has built for itself. “I think the community and surrounding area has a completely different view of our school now,” says Chase. “People either hadn’t heard of us or saw us as an isolated private school.”

Now a new chapter in the evolution of our annual auction has begun.



## Tara Mundt

Junior High Science,  
Algebra A Teacher

Spouse: Charles  
Children: Carl (NC 5th grader), Marlie (NC 3rd grader)  
Education: University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Tara Mundt is excited to be back in the classroom after taking several years away to raise her family. She is teaching life science to 7th and 8th graders, as well as Algebra A to freshmen not enrolled in Algebra 1. She says her schedule is the perfect combination of part time (3 periods per day) and full time (her classes meet each day).

Tara is especially enjoying teaching science. “I LOVE teaching science!” she says. “I’m also excited to teach [it] with a Biblical worldview, which is a welcomed change from my previous teaching experiences.”

Tara grew up in a Christian home, and she became a Christian at a very young age. However, she says she did not “own” her relationship with Christ, and while in college she “set God on a shelf” while she experienced what the world had to offer. “He patiently and lovingly waited for me to return,” she says. “Where would I be without His unending grace?”

Kristy Langemeier was hired this past May to replace Chase as the school’s Special Events Coordinator, while Deana Leonard was hired as an assistant. Langemeier wants to continue where Chase left off, as well as possibly expand on different ways to put on the auction. Langemeier would like to try to put some items up for bidding online, an idea Chase had considered but was unable to bring to fruition.

This year’s auction is set for March 29th, 2014, and, as always, volunteers will be needed in various ways. For instance, people are needed to assist with mailings, miscellaneous errands



## Kathy Kirby

Head Cook

by Nhung Phan,  
senior

Spouse: Terry  
Education: Metro Tech College  
Children: Chastity Gulbranson (NC cook), Joshua, Jonathan, Jessica (\*05), Anna (\*13), Maddie (NC junior).

After 14 years of devotedly driving the school bus at Nebraska Christian, Kathy Kirby became a cook in the kitchen last year. Now she’s transitioned to the role of head cook. In 1999, her family moved from Omaha to Central City so that her children could attend NC. That was when she became the school bus driver. According to the words of God, she worked diligently everyday with all of her heart. When asked about the most enjoyable part of working at NC, Kathy answered, “I love to fellowship with teachers and students in my free time.”

When Kathy was small, she knew the existence of God, but she hardly had opportunities to know and understand Him personally. After she married Terry Kirby, who was a Christian, she began to learn about God’s words. She said, “I came to the Fremont EFC, and I felt surrounded by the acceptance of people in the church and the love of Christ.” Eager to find out the truth, Kathy soon became a Christian. One of her favorite verses in the Bible is Philippians 4:4: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

and other small jobs that may arise. Whether someone can donate an hour or many, any amount of time would be appreciated.

Be on the lookout for the initial auction mailing during the first few



## Deana Leonard

Preschool Teacher,  
Special Events Assistant

by Lydia Johnson,  
junior

Spouse: Mark  
Children: Jayden (NC 6th grader), McKenna (NC 5th grader), Landen (NC 2nd grader), and Alyza (NC preschooler)  
Education: Wayne State College

Deana Leonard is not completely new to NC; last spring she taught a few ESL classes, and she often substitute taught in both the elementary and secondary schools. Also, her husband Mark is in his third year as the business teacher, and their children all attend NC. This year, Deana works as the preschool teacher and special events assistant. As the special events assistant, she helps out with the auction, Grandparents’ Day, and any other way the school might need help. One aspect that Deana loves about working at NC is her role as preschool teacher. She gets a lot of enjoyment out of teaching the preschool students. Also, being at a workplace with other believers is truly rewarding.

Deana grew up in a spiritual home with a more works-based philosophy. She and Mark didn’t know if they wanted to raise their kids that way, so they got involved in a Bible study and started reading the Bible. From there, they attended a church that preached the truth, and the pastor visited their home. Mark and Deana both accepted Christ that day.

Mark and Deana decided to come to NC for two reasons: Mark wanted to teach in a Christian school, and they wanted their kids in a Christian school. That Deana is now able to work at NC as well is a blessing.

weeks of January, which will outline the details of this year’s event.

If you would like to help in any capacity, please contact Kristy Langemeier at 402-209-3282 or klangemeier@nebraskachristian.org.

## NCS Foundation

by Jody Heuermann, NCS Foundation Executive Director



By God's grace, fulfilling the dream of a group of parents from the Sandhills of Nebraska desiring a Christian education for their children, Nebraska Christians Schools opened its doors in the fall of 1959. Much has been accomplished since that time in terms of buildings and programming, all through the prayers and commitments of faithful people depending on the Lord.

An important step in maintaining that dream was the formation of the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation. As the name implies, we seek to provide a solid financial foundation for the school by investing the funds entrusted to us for the long term good of the school.

As we continue to invest for the long term, we have been able to make some short term investments, as well. This past year, the foundation board voted to provide \$18,000.00 in funds to the school to overhaul the website and purchase necessary software and hardware. Because of this investment, the school now has a new website, donor software, fiber optic cables to connect the buildings on campus, and a striv.tv subscription

for live streaming of home events. This investment has made a big impact on the efficiency of school communication with students, parents, alumni and friends.

In addition to these recent immediate investments, the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation has more than \$382,000 invested for the long term support and financial stability of the school and \$100,000 invested to address other short term needs for the school. We have five open endowment areas including:

- » Student Scholarships
- » Teacher Salaries
- » General Fund
- » Capital Improvements
- » Athletic Equipment

These funds have been set aside, like Joseph set aside resources during the years of plenty in order to prepare for the years of want. We manage these funds to help ensure that the option of a Christian education is always available to students.

My prayer is that as we work to leave a legacy that builds lives for eternity, we will be faithful stewards of the Lord's resources, and that He will be glorified by the work of our hands today and forever! I can't think of a better legacy to leave for future generations.

## What does the Development Office at Nebraska Christian do?

by Stephani (Deichmann '03) Francl, Development Director



Good question. That's something I've actually wondered myself over the last year and a half I've spent as the Development Director at NC. But the answer I keep coming back to is that the Development Office is here to serve YOU.

Unlike our administration, teaching, cooking, maintenance, and dorm faculty and staff who focus on serving our students, the development staff has a different focus. It's true that a major part of our job is to help raise the funds to fill our gift income need each year, and that does directly affect and benefit our students. However, because the students are so well cared for by the rest of the staff, we don't have to focus on caring for them. We get to focus on caring for YOU.

So who are YOU? YOU are an important part of Nebraska Christian. Whether you're an alumnus, parent, grandparent, supporter, friend or neighbor, YOU are part of what makes NC a unique and special place, part of the fabric of who we are as a school. We already know that about YOU—it's time you knew it too.

Now that we know who YOU are, I bet you're wondering, *If the development staff is caring for me instead of students, how are they caring for me?* Great question! Let's explore that and see what exactly it is that we on the development staff do.

We think about YOU.

We plan for YOU.

We host YOU.

We communicate with YOU.

We work together with YOU.

The development staff does each of these things in partnership with faculty and staff all over campus, but we get to keep in mind the unique perspective of YOU. What kinds of

things would you like to see or read about our students? What types of events would you enjoy? What kinds of communications do you want to receive from NC?

As we think about you, we also plan for YOU. Events such as Grandparents' Day, the Festival, and the Dinner and Benefit Auction are planned specifically for your enjoyment. And at those events, we have the privilege, along with the rest of the staff, of hosting YOU. We get to have you into our "home," show you how we do things, and welcome you as part of the NC family.

In addition to events, we also put together some of the letters you receive in the mail. They're written thoughtfully – we don't want to fill your mailbox with junk. But we do want YOU to know what's going on here, because you're important to us and we hope NC is important to you.

Finally, we work together with YOU. The development office gets to partner the community around Nebraska Christian to ensure that the school meets its budgetary needs each year. The development office gets to partner with the community in support of Christian education in Nebraska and spreading the word about the mission of NC, "Building Lives for Eternity."

The Development Office does just what it says – it develops because it has to. As YOU change the way you communicate, the way you spend your time, the things you like or dislike, we have to develop new ways to serve you, to help you feel a part of all the exciting things that are going on at NC. And, as it turns out, that's what we love to do in the Development Office!

If you have ideas for ways we can better serve YOU, please let me know. It is, after all, my job.

## Thanks for Voting!

Thanks to all who voted for NC during the Celebrate My Drive grant competition sponsored by State Farm. The top 50 schools in our category received grants of \$25,000 or more. Unfortunately, NC did not win a grant this year. We ended up in about 100th place (50 spots too low to receive the grant money), but that was still WAY ahead of most of the other 1,500 schools that were competing. Thanks for your vote and your support!



## Memorial Gifts

For: Gary Ackles	Don & Kayleen Riley
From: Dave & Ruth Ferris	For: Sharon Nelson
Gil & Dorothy Glad	From: Don & Kayleen Riley
Bob & Susan Ritta	For: Darlene Schmidt
Ed & Marilyn Ritta	From: Stephen & Faye Schmidt
For: Walter Betz	For: Getha Swanson
From: Don & Kayleen Riley	From: Gil & Dorothy Glad
For: Shirley Bjorkman	Steve & Karen Miotke
From: Roger Lord	Bob & Susan Ritta
Linda Peterson	For: Doug Young
For: Velma Carnes	From: Glen & Diana McKoski
From: Don & Kayleen Riley	Vera Reddish and Tom
For: Cereta Filkin	Reddish
From: Don & Kayleen Riley	Mr. & Mrs. David Young
For: Velma Kay Fitzgerald	For: Neta Jeanne Westing
Johansen	From: Dave & Ruth Ferris
From: Mike & Fran Ebel	For: Rita Zaruba
For: Ellis Kasten	From: Bob & Susan Ritta
From: Dave & Ruth Ferris	Ed & Marilyn Ritta
Gil & Dorothy Glad	Mike & Susan Royle
Bob & Susan Ritta	Kerry & Janice Stuhmer
Ed & Marilyn Ritta	In Honor of
For: Bob Kremer	Janice Stuhmer's Birthday
From: Dick & Carla Mundt	From: Russ & Joyce Comstock
Mary Reisinger	

## NC Flashback



We aren't flashing back very far for this photo, taken following a performance of the elementary's Patch the Pirate musical *Afraidika Fever*, as several of the students pictured are currently NC juniors and seniors! If you can identify four of these students, you could win a prize. Send your guesses to [nc@nebraskachristian.org](mailto:nc@nebraskachristian.org).



**From the last issue (left):** Congratulations to Gloria (Nickolaus '67) Lehman! Her name was drawn out of those who correctly identified the girls in our flashback picture, so she wins our prize. The girl studying is Marie Taylor ('66), and the girl working is Sheila Lemmert ('66).

## Elsberry 50th Anniversary



The children of Eldon & Geneva (Ford) Elsberry will give them a 50th Anniversary Celebration on November 30, 2013, from 2-4 p.m. at the Cairo Baptist Church in Cairo, Nebraska. No gifts are requested.

Eldon Elsberry and Geneva Ford were married October 26, 1963, at First Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky. The Rev. Charles Epper son officiated.

Their children, grandchildren, and one great-grandson include: Todd & Rebecca Williams and daughter Jessica of Siloam Springs, Arkansas; Mark ('85) & Judi ('85) McHargue and children Andrew ('08) & Emily (Murphy '09) McHargue and son Carl, Jordan ('11) & Janae (Landrigan '10) McHargue, Rachel, and Charis all of Central City, Nebraska; Allen & Beth ('87) Richard and children Morgan, Adlynn, and Brice of Claremore, Oklahoma; and Lon & Christi ('90) Loy and children MaKenna and Micah of Cairo, Nebraska.

Their home address is 29240 Wiseman Rd., Ravenna, Nebraska 68869.

## Janeal (Johnson '80) Schroder

Janeal is currently battling a form of cancer, leiomyosarcoma. She was scheduled for surgery on November 19. Classmates who would like to contact her may reach her at 1313 Logan St., Holdrege, NE 68949.

## NC Almanac

### 10 years ago ('03)

- Larry & Virginia (Ravenscroft '70) Cooper and Wendell & Nancy Faeh receive the Hall of Faith Award at the Harvest Festival.
- The football team goes 8-0 in the regular season before losing to Friend in the second round of the playoffs.
- For the first time in school history, the girls' cross country team qualifies for state.

### 20 years ago ('93)

- Thanks to a successful magazine sales campaign, the school purchases a portable stage for the gym.
- Jared Rogers ('94) and Erin Marsh ('94) are named Homecoming King and Queen.

### 30 years ago ('83)

- The school's 25th year is celebrated at the Harvest Festival.
- The football team goes 8-0 in the regular season before losing to Palmer in the second round of the playoffs.

### 40 years ago ('73)

- Albert Franz, Stan Gurney, Stuart Mieth, Ted Rollogas, and Eldon Root are elected to 3-year Advisory Council terms.

### 50 years ago ('63)

- The classroom addition to the gymnasium is dedicated at the annual corporation meeting.

# Festival of Lessons & Carols postponed to 2014

See page 4 for details.



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April Faeh and Hannah Myers on *Blue & White Day*



Myles Wheeler as a farmer on *Occupation Day*



Scott Smith as Jonah on *Bible Character Day*



Ruger Webb and Christian Strobel as Willie & Jase Robertson on *Famous Pairs Day*

## Homecoming Highlights by Taylor Swantek, junior

Homecoming Week has always been one of the most exciting weeks of the year. Nebraska Christian students love Spirit Week for many different reasons. Senior Hans Epp said, "This is a week where people can kind of relax, mess around, and show their school spirit!" Junior Keagan Jewell said, "It's cool to see how many people will actually dress up."

This year the student council chose four fun dress up days:

famous pairs, Bible character, occupation, and blue & white. Senior April Faeh said, "Pairs day was my favorite because you got to guess who paired up with whom and there was a wide variety of creative costumes."

This year was especially fun because a lot of people seemed to really get into dressing up. A wide variety of characters could be found roaming around the school

from superheroes to Jonah in the Whale to farmers driving little peddle tractors to class. To top off the week, on Friday the dress up day was the traditional Blue & White Day. People went all out with tutus, streamers, and even little blue sparkly hats.

Friday's pep rally was full of awards for the best costumes, hilarious games, and interviews with athletes. It ended with an all-school

game of dodge ball. Each class had to work together to get all the other classes out for the top prize, which was no lunch clean up for a month. It was a blast!

On Friday night, the class of 1973 was back on campus and our football team pulled out another big win against East Butler, with a final score of 40-18. All in all it was a good week, making for a great year ahead!