

nc advance

nebraska christian schools — building lives for eternity

NC Matters

by Josh Cumpston, Administrator



Since this is my first article for the *Advance*, I want to take this opportunity to let you know who I am

and what has brought me to NC.

I am now serving as the Administrator at Nebraska Christian and will soon be moving my family from our home in Hastings to Central City. My short affiliation with the school, staff, and NC community has been a blessing. I have heard many examples of how God has used NC in the lives of students and parents alike. I look forward to seeing how God will use NC in the near future, and I hope to continue the work of assisting the family and church by providing a Christcentered education, equipping students with a Biblical worldview, and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are a current student or a parent of a student, then you most likely received the following information in a previous letter from me, but I also wanted to introduce myself to all of you that receive the *Advance*:

A year and a half ago, God began working in my own heart and softening it to the idea of sending my children to Nebraska Christian. A statement in Voddie Baucham's book "Family Driven Faith" about religion becoming compartmentalized in the lives and experiences

continued on pg. 2





In the fall of 1998, nine kindergarten students set foot on the Nebraska Christian campus. Nearly 13 years later, seven of those students—along with 19 others—crossed the stage to receive their Nebraska Christian diplomas. The graduation ceremony provided an opportunity for the seniors to look ahead to their futures as each speaker challenged the class to press on through the good and bad times ahead.

In a unique address, Anna Faeh chose to pray for her classmates. She asked the Lord to help them truly live for Him and not get caught up in the trivialities of life. "Keep our eyes fixed on the eternal joy You've set before those who believe in You," she concluded.

Nathan Ritta shared what God is teaching him regarding pride, saying, "If I am dependent only on myself, I will inevitably fail." He went on to challenge his classmates to grow up, live life to the fullest, and fully rely on Christ as they leave Nebraska Christian.

Class speaker Katrina Troester used the class' eighth grade graduation verse, Philippians 3:14, as the anchor for her speech. She challenged her classmates to always remember that life is not about winning earthly prizes. "When our ultimate goal is to know Christ and to make sure that others know him as well, we are fulfilling our heavenward call," she said.

Mr. Dan Woods, whom the seniors chose as commencement speaker, warned the class members that they are headed onto a slippery slope in the world, and he challenged them to stand firm on the truth. "We must stand firm and let Him win the battle," Woods said.

As the 26 seniors left the stage as Nebraska Christian alumni, they set out toward their futures, "press[ing] on toward the goal."





Top Right: Matthew Musgrave (right) receives his diploma from Board Chairman Mark McHargue ('85).

Above Left: Graduates Nathan Ritta (back left), Caleb Schulze (back right), and Anthony Epp (front) sing with the Master's Musicians for the last time.

Above Right: Class speaker Katrina Troester challenges her classmates and the audience to press on, pursuing Christ.

NC Registration Day

Monday, August 8

9 - 11 a.m. and

7-9 p.m.

One parent from each family must attend.

nc advance

Josh Cumpston, Administrator Becky Ritta ('99), Editor Beth Ritta ('98), 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 Christcentered education, equipping students with a biblical worldview and encouraging a love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.



afternoons at 1:04 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. to hear Dan and Gordon on AM-750 KMMJ.

Dollars & Sense

by Tom Dockweiler ('79), Business Managel



It has been a good summer. Actually as I write this we have a few weeks left before school begins, but it will

be here before we know it. I already am requesting prayer that I will be able to obey Christ's command that I not worry about tomorrow.

My new boss is in place, and you're going to like him. Be sure to read his article in this edition of the NC Advance. The summer projects appear to be on schedule, and student enrollment is steadily increasing to near last year's levels.

Between the last issue and this one, we sent out an end of the year appeal letter that caused at least some of you to ask how the school could have such a successful auction and be needing money two months later. It is a legitimate question, and we are especially appreciative of those of you who brought it to our attention.

In any household budget, NC Matters, continued from pg. 1

of most U.S. teenagers caused me to consider my own children. My children have had good experiences in public school, but were they at risk of the very things Baucham was writing about? This past fall my wife and I had discussed moving our family closer to NC to allow our children to attend school while would commute to Hastings and continue working as a public school principal. When the Administrator position opened, after praying and asking others to pray; seeking wise council from friends, elders at church and my pastor; and visiting NC; I felt that God wanted to use me in Central City.

I have been in public education for 15 years. I taught Social Studies and coached football and wrestling for six years in Hastings. I then \$140,000, the amount raised by our auction, is a huge amount of monev. In the budget for a 215 student school, it covers about a month. If it were all applied to only utilities and insurance, it would last a little longer than a year. These facts are astonishing to me, so I expect they will be to you as well.

I can assure you that even with recent capital improvements our cost per student is competitive with the most efficient public school systems anywhere in the nation, and they don't run a seven day dorm program. They manage their budgets through taxes, and rightfully so. We manage ours either through tuition or through the generous donations of supporters like you. We are dependent upon and grateful for your generous support of our special events and your response to our appeal letters.

Continue to pray that God would grant us wisdom as we seek to fulfill our mission. Until next time, may God bless you and yours.

spent two years as the principal and football coach at Blue Hill. I returned to Hastings as an assistant principal at Hastings High for five years, and I have spent the last two years as the principal at Hastings Middle School.

My wife (Allene) and I have three children: Katie will be an 8th grader, Trevor a 5th grader, and Tyler a 2nd grader. Allene was a music teacher before staying home with all three children. Since Tyler has been in school, she has been a part-time substitute teacher. I help lead an adult Sunday School Class, and we are both involved with music and other roles at the Hastings Evangelical Free Church.

We are very excited about joining the NC family. The people that I've met and their commitment to the

Calendar of Events

- Registration 9:00-11:00 AM, 7:00-9:00 PM
- Football practice begins
- Volleyball & Cross Country practices begin
- International Orientation
- School begins, 8:00 AM
- Golf marathon

SEPTEMBER

- Midterm of 1st quarter
- Family Prayer Time
- 23-24 Homecoming Reunion for information, see pg. 10
- Homecoming Football vs. High Plains, 7:00 PM

OCTOBER

- End of 1st Quarter
- Parent/Teacher Conferences, 2:00-8:00 PM

*For additional events, check our website, www.nebraskachristian.org

school and its mission have encouraged me. I am excited to not only work to impact students' academic learning and activities, but their spiritual lives as well. We want to faithfully serve God with our gifts and talents and feel that He wants us to be in Central City. Please be in prayer for the transition process and pray that God continues to use Nebraska Christian in the lives of young people, their families, the community, and the world. I am excited to meet those of you that I haven't yet met and partner with all of you in fulfilling God's plan for Nebraska Christian.

Correction: We inadvertently left off the names of some athletes who were not pictured in our athletic photos in the last issue. Boys' Basketball: Tim Fread. Track: Jahn Landrigan, Levi Landrigan, Joanna Stuhmer.

NC Sees Growth in International Program

International Program Director

The last 10 years have seen some noticeable changes on the Nebraska Christian Campus. We have been blessed with expansions in our classroom facilities in 2006. The changes in the landscaping of the grounds has resulted in a more esthetically pleasing campus. We have seen the seed of the idea for a fundraising auction flower into a vital source of support and community outreach. Throughout this time, Nebraska Christian has been blessed through the leadership of two outstanding administrators, Dr. David Edgren (2000-2006) and Daniel Woods (2006-2011). Both ably guided us through some

difficult circumstances and the constant challenge of keeping the doors open. One of the greatest changes has occurred within our student body with the growth of the International Program. The program, started with the encouragement and leadership of Dr. Edgren, has grown from having five students in 2000-2001 to having 36 students at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year.

In my years as director of the international program, I have encountered many questions from folks both familiar and unfamiliar with our program. The first question many people have is, "Why do these students want to come to the United States to study?" World-

wide, the U.S. has a reputation for excellence in its university system. The best route to entering our universities is through our high schools, where the students can achieve a much greater command of the English language. For this reason, most of the

students who wish to attend American universities choose to come to high schools in the United States.

The next question that begs to be asked is, "Why Nebraska Christian?" Why would students choose Nebraska Christian out of the



Above: Following graduation, twin sisters Alice (left) and Yeni Kim (right) of Korea pause for a picture with Janet Song (center) of China. The Kim sisters attended Nebraska Christian for five years.

more than 300 schools across the nation that accept students from foreign countries? If one considers the list of options available to prospective students, it is a wonder that they somehow find their continued on pg. 4

NCS Foundation

by Jody Heuermann

NCS Foundation Executive Director

Since the inception of the Nebraska Christian Schools Foundation, we have been very grateful for the many endowment areas that have been started. This includes student scholarships, teacher salaries, general fund, capital improvements, and athletic equipment fund.

Our foundation board continues to work closely with the Nebraska Christian School Board to determine new endowment area needs and to map out a vision of growth in areas of student recruitment, building curriculum and programming.

We are still enjoying some of the highest commodity prices we have seen in years. Won't vou consider what your part might be in making a gift to the foundation in the form of cattle, corn or other grains? Please feel free to contact me at 308-940-0249. I would be most happy to meet with you at any time.

Please consider what your part might be in helping to "leave a legacy that builds lives for eternity."

Landrigan Represents NC at Boys' State



Levi Landrigan attended American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State from June 5-11 at the Uni-

versity of Nebraska-Lincoln. He joined nearly 400 other boys who will be seniors in the fall at the annual citizenship program. Of his experiences at Boys' State, Landrigan said, "Boys' State was awesome. I learned a ton about state government. I was elected to the state legislature and sponsored one of only four bills that were passed and signed by the governor."

While participating in Boys' State didn't change any of Landrigan's political views, he said, "It directed [my views] and helped me formulate opinions on different areas. I wish everyone knew that politics isn't too confusing to understand and that citizens still need to get involved and make their voices

Above: NC State Track Qualifiers. Front (I-r): Cailyn Ostrand (9), Alycea Unruh (12), Michelle Toukan (12), Rachel Miller (10)

9 Qualify for State Track

Team members participated in the Class C State Track Meet in Omaha on May 20 and 21. Luke Woods placed 3rd in the 300 intermediate hurdles and 5th in the 110 high hurdles, Michelle Toukan placed 6th

Nine Nebraska Christian Track in the pole vault, and Dillon Dexter came in 4th in the 1600m run. Additionally, the girls' 4 x 400 relay team comprised of Alycea Unruh, Michelle Toukan, Cailyn Ostrand and Rachel Miller broke the school record with a time of 4:19.35

SAVE THE DATE: The Festival of Lessons & Carols will be held December 16.

Watch the NC website and Facebook for details!





Above (I-r): Alvcea Unrub, Yeni Kim, Cailyn Ostrand, Bekah Mead, Alex Frederick, Kameron Kaelin, Tanner Cooper, and Luke Woods perform their original song of farewell for the departing teachers at the end-of-the year pep rally and social. Left (I-r): Student Council members Jessica Kim, Jahn Landrigan, Scott Smith, and Katrina Troester prepare root beer floats for the junior and senior high students

International Program, continued from pg. 3 way to our campus. There are now over 300 schools across the nation that accept students from foreign countries. Most international students are city kids who love the large cities and the excitement they provide. Every major U.S. city boasts schools with international programs; some of these cities are located near an ocean or panoramic mountain range. Oceans and mountains are conspicuously absent in our area. Most of these students have lived their lives in tropical climates, and the harshness of our winters (especially in the last two years) has caused many a native to flee to warmer climates when given the opportunity to do so. The students have choices, and many of these other choices seem



mind. But still, they have come. Not all choose to stay, and some will transfer out in search of a better fit, but most do return, often for all of their high school years. The question that I ask myself is, "What is there about Nebraska Christian that has drawn these students to us?"

one great strength that we have is

that which comes from above. Our program is staffed by people who understand that fostering these students is a ministry that has been "dropped on our doorstep." Sure, we want to make them into the best students they can be; we want them to be able to enter the college of their choice; we want to please their parents with the results that we produce in their children. We quite attractive to a young person's have been successful in doing these things and are constantly seeking ways to do them better. But our greatest thrill comes in bringing these students to a saving knowledge of Christ. As our program has matured, we have gotten an increasing number of students with a Christian background. We have always received applications from Korean students who have been raised in churches, but increasingly we receive applications from Chinese students who are coming out of Chinese churches. Last year, four of our international students were children of pastors; it is a trend that

we hope will continue. In the meantime, we continue to accept students with no church background, and—like good farmers—we begin the cultivation process that we hope will culminate in a bounti-I continue to believe that the ful harvest before our time with the students ends. In the last three years, we have had seventeen of our interna-

tional students accept

Most have chosen to be baptized while they are with us. It recall a year in which our students is so uplifting to see the Holy Spirit moving in our dorms; the staff is energized with each success. I believe the answer to why students come to Nebraska Christian is not revealed on the material human level but can be found by looking to the Lord.

Our program is only as strong as the sum of its parts. It is by working together that we can maintain what we have assembled in a time of increased competition from schools across our country. We are thankful for the support that we have received from families of Nebraska Christian in their willingness to welcome our students into their homes when home stay opportunities arise. In the six years that I have been in my position, I cannot



Above: Sisters Eunice (left) and Sophia Songthangtham of

Below left: Duy Trinh of Vietnam performs his humorous prose during the annual speech showcase. Most international stu-Christ as their savior. dents are very involved in extracurricular activities like sports,

> were more excited about their home stays than this last year. I don't believe there is anything more powerful in helping these students feel accepted than the friendship and outreach American students and their families extend to these young people who have left their families many thousands of miles away. For those of you who have invited international students into your homes and into your hearts, we thank you. For those of you who would like to be a part of this ministry, please feel free to call or email and let me know of your interest (308-946-3836 or lhoff@nebraskachristian. org). You will be blessed, and our program will be blessed as well. We would love to "drop a ministry on your doorstep!"



From the **Development Office**

by Becky Deichmann, Kathy Chase, and Jody Heuermann

Thank you all our donors and patrons of the 2011 Dinner & Benefit Auction! When you do business, remember them. Be assured that if your name was misspelled or omitted, it was not intentional. We are very sorry and would like to know, so we can correct it in the future.

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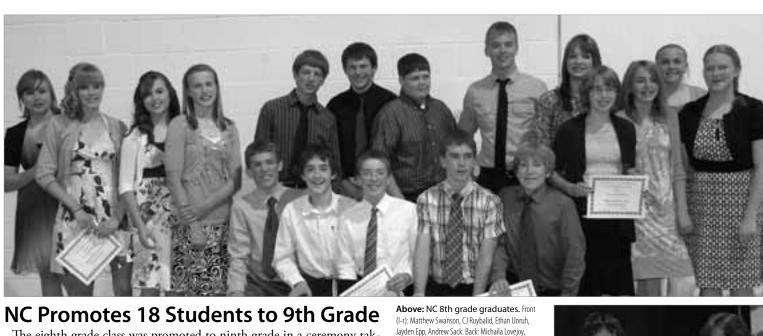
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Alumni / Homecoming Weekend

Friday, September 23, 2011 Football vs. High Plains at 7:30 p.m.

Check our website and facebook page for more details.



The eighth grade class was promoted to ninth grade in a ceremony taking place on May 17. Following a challenge by Program Coordinator Brian Whittle, each student had the opportunity to thank parents, friends, teachers, and the Lord for helping them through junior high school. The students then received graduation certificates from English teacher Janet Landrigan.

Elge, Keegan Francl, Hannah Ritta, Katie Burdett, Maddie Right: CJ Ruybalid receives his

certificate of graduation from English teacher Janet Landrigan.

Hannah Mead, ShayeLeigh Cooper, Emily Simmons,

Warren Dexter, Carson Huenefeld, Dusty Whisenand, Levi



Help Us Find Them...

Nebraska Christian lacks contact information for the following alumni. Please send updates to nc@nebraskachristian.org or call 308-946-3836.

Class of '81

Class of '86

Brian Hall

Tim White

Robert Wolfenden

Wayne Garrett

Daniel McGrew

Martin Swan

Jay Hitchcock

Doug Goertzen

Jason Urwiller

Brady Marsh

Iuri Yoshino

Greg Prusa

Class of '91

Class of '96

Class of '01

Karen (Graber) Nachtigal

Holly (Wolfenden) Ganser-Appelt

Class of '61

Jerry Sutton

Pamela (Goodner) Klippenstein

Class of '66

Betty (Allen) Hubel Irma Reimer

Class of '71

Jeanne (Anderson) Burch Diane (Sutton) Burgess Crystal Jensen Janet Lange Colleen (Warren) McDaniel Victor Harms Bill Schwenk

Class of '76

Cheri Sears

Kent Forsberg Tim Luse Steve Ranney Kenneth Vanderlinden Jerry Hondorf Ruth (Goehring) Farmer Vanessa Shumaker

Tyler Storz

Class of '06

Annie (Nickel) White

_NC Flashback



are praying together before a concert? If you can, you could win an NC coffee mug. Send your guesses to advance@nebraskachristian.org

rom the last issue (left): No one correctly entified the event pictured, which was the groundbreaking for the addition of the Music & Worship to the gym building in 1976. Thanks for guessing!

Alumni Spotlight: Rebecca Brill ('06)

This Alumni Spotlight focuses on 2006 graduate Becca Brill, who will be going to Africa with Africa Inland Mission this fall.

Can you give us a brief update on what you've been doing since you graduated from NC?

After high school, I uprooted and moved south to attend College of the Ozarks near Branson, Missouri. I studied nursing there and graduated in May 2010 with Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Since then I have been working in the Branson Emergency Room as a registered

Why Africa?

Well, everybody asks, "Why Africa?" Honestly, my only explanation is that God created me with an unexplainable love for African people. I am fascinated by them and their culture. My heart breaks as I think about their need for Christ.

When do you plan to leave, and how is your support coming?

My team and I are scheduled to leave this November as long as our

support comes in. God has been so gracious in bringing in my support. I have been overwhelmed by people's generosity and support! It is so encouraging to have people stand beside me in this new season of life.

What will you be doing?

My role hasn't officially been decided. I might be able to work in a clinic as a nurse, I might teach English, or I might be involved in a women's ministry. I will know soon what tangible direction my team will be taking. However, most importantly, my team members and I will simply live among these unreached African people in order to learn their language and culture in hopes of developing relationships with them through which we can share the hope we have in Christ.

How can we pray for you?

port raising. I am fully confident that the LORD will continue to provide, but I have received word that some of my team members are really struggling in the support department. You can also pray for

You can definitely pray for sup-



our hearts as we seek to prepare for this journey and that we would be taking every opportunity to share Christ's love before we leave and in the years to come. Pray also for the people we will be living among, as they are 99.9% Muslim. The area we are going to is one of the hardest assignments Africa Inland Mission has taken on, so we need a lot of

If people want to join your prayer and/or financial support team, what should they do?

People who would be interested in supporting me either in prayer

or financially should first send me an e-mail at rbrill@aimint.net so can get them on my e-mail list. Next, if the LORD leads, anyone interested can make a check out to "Africa Inland Mission" and send it to my address at 153 Hope Road, Branson, MO 65616 and I will send it on to AIM. My outgoing costs are pretty much covered and I am 60% monthly supported! God is so good! If anyone would like more information, they can contact me through e-mail, facebook, or snail mail. To learn more about Africa Inland Mission, visit their website at aimint.org.



Above: Rebecca holds a baby while working in the Keur Yaakar clinic in Dakar, Senegal, West Africa

Send address changes to advance@nebraskachristian.org



Rowan & Phyllis Ballagh

Kalynn (Ballagh '96) Scoular and Adair Ballagh ('99) invite you to join them as they celebrate their parents' 40th wedding anniversary.

> Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011 2 - 4 p.m. United Methodist Church 917 I Street Burwell, Neb.

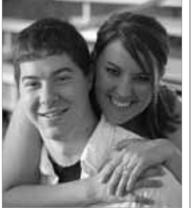
If you are unable to attend, you may send your congratulations to: Rowan & Phyllis Ballagh 84894 State Hwy 11 Amelia, NE 68711



Robert & Barbara *McGrew*

The children of Robert & Barbara McGrew (former Nebraska Christian employees) held an anniversary open house for their 50th Anniversary on June 18, 2011, in Mason City, Illinois. Congratulations to the couple may be sent to the following address:

Robert & Barbara McGrew 604 East Chestnut Mason City, IL 62664



Stacey Krieger ('07) & Tyler Nunnenkamp ('07)

Stacey Jo Krieger and Tyler Scott Nunnenkamp will be united in marriage on September 17, 2011. The ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. at Faith Community Church in O'Neill, Neb. with a reception to follow.

Parents of the couple are Lowell ('82) and Vicky (Masters '81) Krieger of O'Neill, NE and Gary & Joyce Nunnenkamp of Henderson, Neb.

Bill & Jacky Uhler

Art Palser

Deryl Peterson

Lloyd Quaring

NC Almanac

10 years ago ('01)

- Luke Osler ('02) attends Boys' State at UNL.
- School begins with an enrollment of 193.
- The 7th grade moves to the Marquette campus.

20 years ago ('91)

- Two new classrooms are created in the dorms during summer work days.
- Beth Bokelman ('91), Doug McHargue ('91), and Jonathan Musgrave ('91) become the first students to attend Nebraska Christian from kindergarten through 12th grade.
- NC's largest student body begins classes with 228 students enrolled in grades K-12.

30 years ago ('81)

- Nineteen students, staff, and alumni travel to Arizona to work at the Navajo Gospel Mission's Hardrock compound station on the Navajo Indian Reservation.
- Andy Faeh ('81) plays in the 8 Man All-Star Game in Hastings.

40 years ago ('71)

• NC's Junior High program opens with 18 students.

50 years ago ('61)

- The girls' dorm is built.
- Fire detection systems are installed in many campus buildings.

Memorial Gifts

Rev. Lester Anderson From: Carol Sandsted Jack Burger For: From: Gil & Dorothy Glad Harry Christensen From: Gil & Dorothy Glad Wanda Ediger From: Dorothy Ritta Oren Hoback For: From: Dorothy Ritta Jerry Kushner From: Mrs. Carl Moore Arlene Larson From: Gil & Dorothy Glad Gene Lavelle

From: John & Mary Armatys James & Nancy Augustine Louis & Suzanne Brunken Bob & Marie Clymer

Dave & Kim Deichmann Wayne & Sue Deininger Mr. & Mrs. Harold Dexter Lee & Jolene Dittmer Lyle & Marlene Garwood Gil & Dorothy Glad Tom Gustafsen Layne & Debbie Hanquist Roger & Marlene Hanquist Mike & Maurie Hofer Joyce Kuhn Cheri & Jordan Osborne Mike & Kathy Ritta Tom & Jody Ritta Larry & Denise Schreer Kim & Kristi Shoup Paul & Lois Smith Kerry & Janice Stuhmer

Larry & Virginia Cooper

From: Gil & Dorothy Glad For: From: Doris Benner For: From: Gil & Dorothy Glad From: Mr. & Mrs. Gene Lavelle

Now scheduling spring choir tours!

Our choir will be touring on four Sundays this spring:

Feb. 19, March 11, April 15, April 29.

Call Susan at 308-946-3836 or send an email to sritta@nebraskachristian.org

to schedule the choir at your church.

Michael Sanger From: Mrs. Carl Moore For: Helen Schlieker From: Gil & Dorothy Glad Max & Janice Kirby For: Gary Woodring From: Kole Imports In Honor of: Elsie Kasten's 103rd Birthday



Help Keep Our Campus Beautiful!

We need volunteers to spray weeds, trim trees, and pull weeds before school starts. If you can help, please call the office at 308-946-3836. (Families, this is a great way to work off your facilities fee!)



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Remembering Days Gone By...

Dear Alumnus,

Please join us for Nebraska Christian's 2011 Homecoming Reunion, Sept. 23 & 24. This is your opportunity to reconnect with old friends, renew relationships, and reminisce about old times.

Members of the classes of '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, and '06 should plan to stay through Saturday evening (and in some cases, Sunday afternoon) for a special reunion dinner and/or other activities planned for your class by your class.

Watch for the latest details by visiting our website www.nebraskachristian.org.
Under "About Us," click on "Alumni," then "Homecoming 2011." Also, check out the NC page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nebraskachristian.

For more information or to register a volleyball team, contact Kathy Chase at 308-940-0264 or daveandkathychase@msn.com

2011 Homecoming Weekend Schedule

Friday, September 23rd

6p – BBQ Tailgate Fundraiser

7p – Homecoming Football Game vs. High Plains Honored Classes Will Be Recognized During Half Time.

Saturday, September 24th

8a – Complimentary Continental Breakfast in the Dining Hall

9a - Co-ed Volleyball Tournament

Form your own team or we can place you on a team – consider forming a team with your classmates!

9a - 12n - Supervised Activities For Elementary Children

12n – Complimentary Lunch in the Dining Hall Open House and Guided Tours to Follow

1p - Open Gym

6:30p – Husker Football Game vs. Wyoming Broadcast in Music & Worship

The Music & Worship Room will be open for casual visiting all day with drinks and snacks provided. Check out the great photos of last year's event on Facebook!