

CLASSIC

A publication for Northwestern College alumni & friends • Winter 2002-03

Themed Housing: Defining Community





Dr. Bruce Murphy
President

Seven Risks of Gratitude

I believe this is an exciting and intriguing moment in Northwestern's history. Ever since Northwestern became a four-year institution in the early 1960s, she has had, essentially, the same set of goals: to reach enrollment capacity; to provide programs of recognizable quality in the classroom and across the campus; to establish financial stability; to create excellent facilities; and to strengthen the Christian mission. While improvement in all of these areas is always possible and certainly continues to be a priority, it can now be argued that these goals have been met—by God's grace and through the efforts of many people.

The question this new moment raises is, "What now?" What is the next step for Northwestern College?

As I have prayerfully considered this question, I have been instructed and inspired by Jesus' parable of the talents in Matthew 25. I believe God has given certain talents to Northwestern. The question before us is, "What will we do with them?" There is the temptation, especially in difficult times like these, to protect the talents—make sure we don't lose them. But the parable reminds us that when talents are given by

God, the only appropriate response is to risk them for His glory.

With this teaching in mind I have asked our community to take the following seven risks of gratitude as we look to the future of Northwestern.

- To become a house of prayer—Doing things by prayer, rather than simply praying for the things we do.
- To enhance global awareness among our students, faculty and staff.
- To introduce the rich Christian notion of vocation, or calling, throughout our educational program.
- To continue to pursue the building priorities in the master plan: theatre arts center, art building, library, and to investigate the need for a new cafeteria and residence hall.
- To explore a new pricing and financial aid strategy.
- To strengthen an already loyal Board of Trustees by reducing the number of trustees and clarifying the commitment we desire of them.
- To cultivate a deeper level of community among faculty, staff and students.

In future issues of the Classic I will develop further each of these risks of gratitude in this issue I would like to focus on the last.

Community has long been a strength of Northwestern College. Due in part to our relatively small size, in part to our Christian identity, and in part to our conviction that learning for 18-22 year olds happens best in the context of healthy personal relationships, Northwestern always has been a place where people have cared for each other. We believe this history and commitment enables and calls us now to new levels of community.

One important expression of this deepening of community on campus is featured in this issue of the Classic Under the leadership of Lisa Burch, our director of service learning, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Karen Cianci, three theme houses for students were created this year. In each, a group of students interested in a particular subject—e.g., Spanish, servant leadership—lives and studies together, guided by a faculty or staff member. As you will see in the following pages, these communities of learning bring together academic content and personal growth in unique and powerful ways.

Back in the 1970s the Murphy family had the privilege of experiencing firsthand the benefits of living and learning communities. For two years Di and I and our two children lived with 14 Northwestern students. We studied, prayed, laughed, cried, played and worked together. Our focus was on Christ and culture, exploring as a community how to live the Christian life in contemporary America. As we look back now, I do not believe it is an exaggeration to say that this experience was one of just a few that have significantly shaped each of our lives. The opportunity to live life as a whole—not simply as a series of parts—set before us a vision of Christian faithfulness that has guided us ever since.

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"Northwestern always has been a place where people have cared for each other. We believe this history and commitment enables and calls us now to new levels of community."

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Bruce Murphy

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What's inside

Northwestern receives \$2 million grant

Northwestern has received a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to help prepare a new generation of leaders for church and society. The grant period begins in January and will run for the next five years.

Grant monies will fund over 30 initiatives aimed at helping students reflect on how their faith commitments are related to their career choices and what it means to be "called" to lives of service.

"One of the most critical questions for college-age students is discerning what God wants them to do with their lives," said President Bruce Murphy. "The promise we make to students and their families is that when you come to Northwestern, we will help you find your place in God's world. This grant will enable us to better fulfill that promise."

Grant initiatives include establishing an Office of Vocation with a full-time director who also will direct the grant's initiatives and adding a full-time career counselor to the college's Career Development Center.

Funding for faculty and staff to develop more study and

service abroad experiences is included as well as funds for anti-racism and multicultural training.

In addition, a number of initiatives especially target preparing students for church ministry. Murphy said, "The grant will further connect us with the Reformed Church in America and our seminaries as we work with students who sense a particular call to work in the church in addition to a broad call to serve in the world. In our Reformed tradition, we value both."

Extensive information about how the Lilly grant will transform Northwestern's campus will be included in the spring Classic.

"The promise we make to students is that when you come to Northwestern, we will help you find your place in God's world. This grant will enable us to better fulfill that promise."

Lacrosse club to begin inaugural season

Given the full-contact nature of the sport of lacrosse, it's probably no surprise that the members of Northwestern's new lacrosse club didn't blanch about donating their plasma to raise money for the team.

Seeking to raise most of the \$7,000 needed to get their team up and running, the players also have served at Pizza Ranch on a fund-raising night and solicited family, friends and businesses. The 18 members of the team have purchased their own equip-

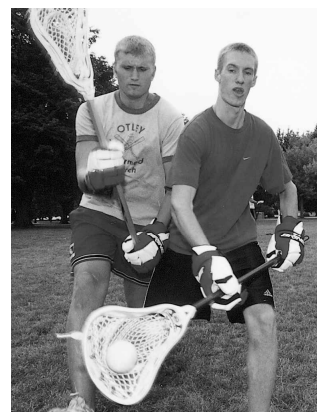
ment.

Junior Matt Schuring of Pella, Iowa, spearheaded the team after watching the sport on ESPN and playing it with some friends who are on Dordt's club squad. "It's a fast-paced sport; I describe it as a cross between football, soccer and hockey. It's got the contact of football and hockey, and the duration and field setup of soccer. It's the most exciting sport I've ever played because of the intensity," he says.

Playing on a field 110 by

60 yards wide, the athletes use a crosse—a stick with a catching net on the end—to try to get a heavy, racquetball-sized ball into a six-by-six-foot net. Games include four 15-minute quarters.

"Penalties are similar to hockey—no slashing, no hitting from behind, no headshots," says Schuring. "Otherwise, you do anything you can to get the ball free from the crosse. It's a tough sport, but if you have heart, you'll do fine. There's a lot of heart on our team."



Lacrosse club members Matt Schuring and Justin Wolfswinkel practice on the campus green.

The Northwestern group will participate in the B level of the NCAA, mostly against other club teams. Part of the Great Rivers Lacrosse

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Art building to be named in memory of former student

Northwestern's new \$1.88 million art building will be named the Thea G. Korver Visual Arts Center, thanks to a generous naming gift donated in her memory by the Clayton (Paul) Korver family.

Thea Korver '79 attended NWC for three semesters. A talented artist and musician, she had begun struggling with mental illness just before her senior year in high school and was eventually diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. Korver was murdered in Ames, Iowa, in 1993, leaving behind four young sons.

Korver's father, Clayton (Paul) Korver, is an Orange City native who founded MED-TEC Inc. in Dallas, Texas, in 1983 to manufacture products and services for radiation physicists. The company's headquarters are now located in Orange City, and MED-TEC has grown to be a global leader in the design, development and distribution of products and systems essential for accurate cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Kelvin Korver '72, Thea's oldest brother, also is a member of the contributing family. An All-American football player for the Raiders, he graduated with a math and physics degree. He now is a land developer and business owner in Lincoln, Neb.

"We've been incredibly blessed, and with that goes the responsibility to share," said Thea's other brother, Clayton '87, an art major who now is president and CEO of MED-TEC. "When this opportunity came up, I thought it was a neat thing for Northwestern's longtime art faculty, John Kaericher and Rein Vanderhill, who've taught in the old creamery building forever. I knew I wanted to do something. When it was suggested that we could name the building in memory of someone, I mentioned that to my folks and they immediately agreed to do it to express how we feel about Thea. We appreciate the opportunity. We can't think of a more fitting tribute to Thea than to have this beautiful art building named after her."

"We hope that the building which will bear her name will have an atmosphere and spirit which will inspire and engender creative expression in each person who aspires to that in



that place," said Thea's mother, Anita Korver.

"The Korver family's benevolence is going to have a shaping impact on our campus amongst not only art students, but those students who are being exposed to art—which is a significant number of our student body," said John Greller, vice president for development. "The art department has so much potential for growth. This will be a tremendous morale builder for the department and will be helpful in attracting new art majors."

Clayton Korver, who still produces sculptures and has won awards for his entrepreneurial achievements, said he has fond memories of his art education at NWC. "What stands out to me is the passion John and Rein have for art. They don't just go and do a job, they 'leave it all on the field,' as you say in athletics, and it's infectious. I was excited to work alongside and have them as teachers. Southern Methodist University, where I started my college education, might have had better facilities, but they didn't have better teachers. I always looked at myself as being marginally talented, but they still took the time to work with me. That's what I liked; they took an interest in you and encouraged you."

Northwestern's development office is continuing fund raising for the project. Contact Greller at 712-707-7106 for more information.

Lacrosse club to begin inaugural season

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Conference, the Raiders are in the west division, along with Dordt, Creighton, the University of Nebraska and

Kansas State. Six games are currently scheduled for March and April.

For more information, or

to support the club team, contact Schuring at mschurin@nwciowa.edu or 712-707-1324. Check

www.nwclax.com for updates as the season approaches.

Chicago program receives national recognition

The Chicago Semester, an off-campus program sponsored by Northwestern, Calvin, Central, Dordt, Hope and Trinity Christian, has been named the Experiential Education Program of the Year by the National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE).

The Chicago program, which will celebrate its 30th year in 2004, hosts from 60 to 70 students each semester, and offers internships and seminars for general students, student teachers and social work students. Students work in an internship that befits their major field for 32 hours a week, participate in a weekly practicum group and in occasional Urban Issue Forums, and take two additional seminars among four offerings.

Northwestern had five interns and two student teachers involved in the Chicago Semester this fall. Twelve NWC students will be enrolled in the program during the spring semester.

Audio Adrenaline to return



Popular Christian rock band Audio Adrenaline, which packed Northwestern's Rowenhorst Student Center for 1998 and 2001 concerts, will be returning to campus for a concert on Saturday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Joining Audio Adrenaline will be another big name, Mercy Me, whose "I Can Only Imagine" single rocketed to the top of the Christian music charts last winter.

Ticket prices are \$15 for NWC students, \$20 for the general public in advance, \$18 for groups and \$25 at the door. Contact the student activities office for more information, 712-707-7295.



More than \$6.85 million has been raised for the \$8.3 million theatre arts

Construction continues full force

The sounds of jackhammers, welding torches and circular saws remind the NWC community that the campus is expanding quickly. Workers are currently involved in three different construction projects that will improve facilities for academics, co-curricular programs and student housing.

At the main entrance to campus on the south side of Orange City, the adaptation and expansion of Northwestern's old Auditorium into the new theatre arts center is on target for its projected completion date of the winter of 2003-04. Rooms have been framed in, and crews anticipate having the roof finished by the middle of December.

Just south of the theatre arts center, earth work began in October on the new Thea G. Korver Visual Arts Center. Workers expect to have the 13,500-square-foot home for the art department enclosed by the end of February. The facility is scheduled for completion by Aug. 1.

On the northwest side of campus, two new student apartment buildings are ahead of schedule. The buildings, designed to house 86 students, will be ready for occupancy next fall. Exterior work is nearly completed, most of the Sheetrock is up, and the heating and mechanical system is being installed.

Faculty/staff news

An article by **Dr. Doug Anderson**, history, was published in the Autumn 2002 issue of *Western Historical Quarterly*. It is entitled "Protestantism, Progress and Prosperity: John P. Clum and 'Civilizing' the U.S. Southwest, 1871-1886." He and colleague Dr. Mike Kugler delivered papers at the Conference on Faith and History meeting in Huntington, Ind., in October. In a session on "Christian Conceptions of the Past after the Post-Modern Turn," Anderson presented "Narrative, the 'Cruciform Shape of Reality,' and the Writing of History Christianly" and Kugler spoke on "The Cross, Skepticism about Power and Enlightenment Techniques of the Self."

Joonna Trapp, English, presented her current research on contemporary American gothic fiction at the American Literature Association's December symposium on American gothic in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Dr. John Brogan, religion, was honored as the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year last May by Hastings, Mich., High School.

Dr. Kimberly Utke Svanoe, music, directed the Northwest Iowa String Festival on campus in October. About 200 middle school students were involved in the event.

Dr. Michael Kensak, English, presented a eulogy for his Vanderbilt University mentor, Dr. Emerson Brown, at his jazz memorial service in May. The eulogy will be published in the Winter issue of *Chaucer Review*.

Jolynn Tonsfeldt, education, gave a teachers' in-service presentation, "FISH—Forever In Service to Him," for Remsen St. Mary's High School in August.

Dr. Jim Rohrer, religion, participated in the International Conference on Christianity and Native Cultures at St.

Mary's College in Indiana in September. He presented a paper, "The Ambiguities of Taiwanese Aboriginal Christian History," which will be published as part of the conference proceedings.

Dr. Ann Lundberg, English, presented a paper, "Casa Grande, the Ruin of Our Expectations," at the Western American Literature Conference in Tucson, Ariz., in October.

Duane Jundt, history, also presented a paper at the Western American Literature Conference. He spoke on "Theodore Roosevelt's Language of Landscape on the Little Missouri."

Cornie Wassink, director of planned giving, has been elected president of the Planned Giving Council of Siouxland for 2003.

Dr. Ed Starkenburg, education, and **Dr. Scott Monsma**, sociology, received a \$1,000 mini-grant from the Iowa

College Foundation, matched by NWC funds, for purchasing a digital video camera, accessories and software. The equipment will be used in Ethnographic Research and Cultural Anthropology courses and in the preparation of electronic professional portfolios by senior education majors.

English faculty **Barb Turnwall**, **Dr. Michael Kensak** and **Deb Menning** presented reflections on Northwestern's 2001-02 Faculty Pedagogy Project at the Iowa Writing Project's 25th anniversary celebration, part of the Iowa Council of Teachers of English annual conference in Des Moines in October. Menning also was part of a panel of alumni from the Iowa Writing Project's memoir writing workshops. She shared how the class inspired her to make major changes in what and how she teaches Basic Writing.



Dr. Adrienne Forgette

Forgette joins Northwestern's board

Dr. Adrienne Forgette, associate professor of psychology, is a new member of Northwestern's Board of Trustees. She attended her first board meeting in October.

Forgette was elected by her colleagues last spring to serve as the board's faculty representative. Appointed to a four-year term, she serves on the Academic Policies Committee of the board.

A member of the faculty since 1995, Forgette earned a doctorate in clinical psychology at the Fuller Theological Seminary Graduate School of Psychology. She did her undergraduate work at California State University, Fullerton.

Defining Community

by Beth Nikkel '02

I'm sitting on an olive green sofa in the '70s Room. A tall, gray stone fireplace looms on the opposite wall next to the two-tone walls and below the rough, dark wooden beams that span across the ceiling. Burnt orange straight-back chairs settle in one corner. Beanbag chairs slump in the opposite one, and two bright Spanish banners hang, adding desperately-needed color to a room of various shades of brown.



La Casa Española residents, with sponsor Piet Koene.

Many NWC graduates might be saying, "Hey, that's where I lived." But even if you lived in a campus cottage, you never lived in this one. This is no typical campus house. It is the Spanish House, and tonight there are about 25 people squeezed

into the '70s Room for study break. And in the same way that this is not just any house, the people gathered are not just any people, either. It is the gathering of all the women who live in houses like the Spanish house: themed houses.

This idea of themed housing is expanding the definition of community at NWC. While the community that most NWC graduates remember fondly will continue with all its late nights, snack runs and pranks on the guys next door,

Northwestern is taking community life one step further with a program that intentionally integrates all that social fun with every other aspect of students' lives. A themed housing plan has been developed to build communities that will help students synthesize the personal, the spiritual and the academic. In the plan's pilot year, three cottages—Doorenbos, Van Rooyen and Ooltman—have been transformed into "living and learning communities," and 22 women are making NWC history as the first students to participate in the program.

According to Lisa Burch, service learning director and head of the new program, the idea came to life about two years ago when the residence life staff began asking how they could help students build better community and prevent students from "getting lost in the shuffle." They began looking at models at various colleges, discovering that learning houses were becoming an increas-



The women of Tamar House.

From 1976-78, history professor Bruce Murphy (now Northwestern's president) and his wife, Di, pioneered the concept of living and learning communities at NWC by residing with students at Prexy House (now known as Granberg Hall). For an alum's recollection of that experience and its impact on his life, turn to David Landegent's Classic Thoughts essay on P. 39.

"The Prexy experiment," an article first published in the Spring 2001 Classic is posted online at www.nwciowa.edu/newssports/pub/.

ingly popular method to answer these community-building questions.

"We wanted to create these integrated communities where students learn about true Christian community, but then also add another learning aspect," Burch said.

Academic Dean Karen Cianci also is an advocate of this kind of learning. She has been involved in the development of themed housing alongside Burch and others in the student affairs office, and she also is the sponsor for one of the homes, the Tamar House. Cianci's role comes not only from her interest in NWC academics but also from her intense desire to help students overcome the pressures of our Western society. Her own experiences with non-Western cultures, including a semester in Africa in 2001, have made cultural strains painfully clear to Cianci. "I'm just amazed how intensely individualistic we are and how much of a handicap that is for community," she commented.

Themed housing is intended to start correcting that handicap by creating intentional community in which residents are devoted to serving one another and the community at large. The residents are committed to achieving this type of community by living according to a specific theme. This year's themes include speaking Spanish, becoming a servant leader and learning to take risks of culture and faith. In its initial year, the themes were established by the staff and faculty sponsors, but the intention of the program is to encourage student initiative.

In years to come, students of sophomore status or above

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Servant Leadership House participants.

La Casa Española



Local Hispanic kids come to La Casa Española twice a week for tutoring by NWC Spanish students.

You would be lucky to get an “Hola” in the morning at La Casa Española, not because the eight women living there are unfriendly, but because they might either forget to speak Spanish or simply be too sleepy. “It’s really basic in the morning,” sophomore Lindsey Fredriks admitted.

Contrary to popular belief among other NWC students, the women of the Spanish House do not have to speak Spanish 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Even their house sponsor, Professor Piet Koene, did not recommend that. They decided that in the house they would speak Spanish to one another from the time they woke up until 9 each night, making exceptions when speaking to visitors, of course. “It’s not a punishment for us. We want to do it,” junior Jamie Pease said.

Halfway through the semester, the eight Spanish students were already discussing increasing the hours for second semester, but that does not mean that speaking Spanish comes without its challenges for them. “Sometimes it’s frustrating. You’re tired from everything else, and it’s just one more thing,” sophomore Bridget Clement said. But, according to Koene, that is the purpose of the new house.

“The goal is not to learn Spanish, but to practice and learn to speak it fluently,” Koene said. That is why students must be advanced beyond Spanish 202 in order to live in the house. With five sophomores, two juniors and one senior, some of this year’s residents are in their first advanced course.

The residents of the Spanish House have seen certain benefits to their situation. Their varying levels of Spanish allow them to learn from one another and to ask each other questions. Senior Tricia Henderson, who already has had two semesters abroad and a summer study experience in Mexico, said she sometimes feels like a “human dictionary.” The

women said that speaking Spanish also has benefits around campus. “If there are guys around and you want to talk about them, you can,” Clement commented with a laugh.

After experiencing the benefits of a Spanish house himself during his senior year at Calvin College, Koene had always had the idea in the back of his mind. When Service Learning Director Lisa Burch approached him about starting one at NWC, it did not take much convincing. Now he is seeing the same progress in his students that he saw in the men he lived with during his college days.

Koene could not be more excited about that progress. He and his wife, Rosa, a native of Honduras, and their two sons share a meal and social time with the women once every week. Watching them make supper one night, he was thrilled to see how natural it was for them to speak Spanish to one another and to his family.

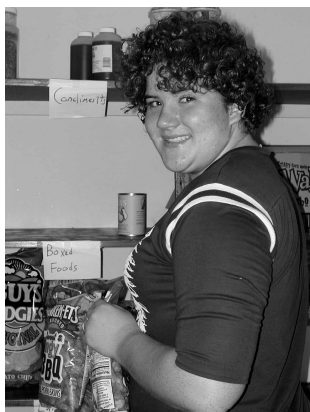
Apparently it is becoming so natural that they even are starting to dream in Spanish. According to junior Missi Ingham, her roommate, Pease, speaks Spanish in her sleep “at least once a week.” Along with keeping her roommate up at night, Pease is the leader of Hispanic Ministries, a new branch of campus ministries. Through that she sends NWC students who are studying Spanish to area classrooms to help Hispanic students who struggle to keep up in their new language and surroundings. Pease also holds two-hour tutoring sessions for the kids twice a week at the house. She has been surprised at the ministry’s quick growth. “I didn’t think there would be that much need, but there really is,” she said.

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**“If there are guys around
 and you want to talk about
 them [in Spanish], you can.”**
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The other members of the house are reaching out as well. “A lot of us are tutors. That’s our outreach to the campus,” Clement said. Senior Tricia Henderson also has a student in lower-level courses who comes over every week to speak Spanish with her for a half hour. In addition to that, the women hope to involve Hispanic women in the Orange City area by holding a Ladies’ Night once or twice every month. On these nights the guests could feel comfortable speaking Spanish while having a good time with other women.

Although Koene already believes that the Spanish House is the best preparation for studying abroad, which is required of all Spanish majors, his dream for the Spanish House is to have a native Spanish speaker living with the residents. “I think it would enhance the program quality,” he said. But for now the women will continue learning from each other. “It has been a huge success already,” Clement said.

Servant Leadership House



Lora Goll organizes the lunch supply closet at the Glory House, a transitional facility, as part of a Servant Leadership House service project.

With one of the best porches on campus, the women of Servant Leadership apparently know how to throw a great “porch party” at Ooltman Cottage. Ask those who attended their “P”-themed study break on the porch last September. But party planning on the porch is not their primary purpose—the porch is just a perk.

“We are studying servant leadership—how we can learn about it and really instill it in us so that it will be portrayed in our future roles,” said house sponsor Lisa Burch, defining their true purpose.

Burch is yet another perk of living in the Servant Leadership House, according to its residents. “It’s cool because you get to see a side of your sponsor that you wouldn’t otherwise see,” said Erin Piehl, a junior business major living in the house.

Burch, director of service learning, is the only live-in sponsor in the themed housing program this year.

The Servant Leadership House also is unique because it is the smallest themed community with just four female students living in the house: one sophomore, one junior and two seniors. But even with just four, actually spending time together is difficult. “I think our house’s biggest challenge is getting everyone together,” Piehl said. What else would you expect from a group of leaders?

Piehl is a tutor, a member of the Student Activities Council and the Business Club, a student ambassador for the admissions office and, according to roommate April Booth, “a study nut.” Booth, a senior Christian education major, is in the Symphonic Band and was part of the High School Leadership Conference Planning Committee. And the other two are just as involved. Sarah Taylor, the other senior, is opinion editor for the Beacon and an ESL tutor, and Laura Goll, a sophomore music major, can rarely be found anywhere but DeWitt Music Hall.

Clearly, trying to find them all in one place, even at home, is no easy task, which is why the themed housing program requires them to make time every week for a meal together and a Bible study with their sponsor. These women eat together

every Monday night, and once every month they cook a meal together, sometimes inviting special guests to join them. Their Bible study

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“We are studying servant leadership—how we can learn about it and really instill it in us so that it will be portrayed in our future roles.”

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comes on Wednesday nights at 9. They are, of course, doing a study on servant leadership. Other than that, you might find most of them together with their friends

some of them worrying that they might be secluded from students outside the house, but Piehl said the opposite has happened. Not only do they get to entertain their own friends in the comfort of a house, but they also have had the opportunity to get to know everyone else’s friends. “You don’t really get to choose who you live with. It encourages you to be more vulnerable,” Piehl said. “I think I’ve been more social than ever before!” she added.

They have all been more intentional than ever before about being leaders and serving others as well. Their Bible study has made them each focus on their personal vision, and their house mission statement also has them



Sarah Taylor and April Booth organize the kitchen at the Glory House.

watching an episode of NBC’s “Ed” on Wednesday evenings.

“We all hang out with each other’s friends now,” Booth said, an unexpected benefit for the women. The themed housing concept had

moving boldly forward. “We wrote our mission statement, and since then, we’ve been going somewhere,” Taylor said.

As rookies in a rookie program, they are continuing to figure out a lot of things

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Tamar House



Students from across the campus socialize with Tamar residents during Tea Time at Tamar on Tuesdays.

In the Spanish House the residents speak Spanish. In the Servant Leadership House the women learn and practice servant leadership. In the Tamar House . . . uh . . . um . . . well . . . the purpose is less clear, to say the least. Even the women living there were stumped at first. If you ever have read the story of Tamar in Genesis 38, you know why. It seems a bit strange for 10 female college students to live a whole year based on the life of a widowed woman who disguised herself to sleep with her father-in-law.

But to Academic Dean and Tamar House sponsor Dr. Karen Cianci, the connection is clearer. "To me the theme was that she went to extraordinary measures to do what was culturally right," Cianci explained. She should know. She is, after all, the one who developed the theme after studying Tamar's story in detail for a chapel speech she gave last year. Now the women of the Tamar House are on a yearlong quest to figure out what that means for their lives.

On the surface, life in the house does not seem all that different from life in a regular campus cottage. They drink a lot of tea and coffee. They jump on the floor when they want their downstairs roommates' attention. They stay up late, and they do a lot of laughing and talking. But arrive early in the morning to hear Heidi Friesen and Lindsey Erickson worshipping together before they begin their full day of classes and meetings, or take notice when two housemates stop in the middle of their studying to pray for another housemate who is having a tough week, and you will see that their common

bond goes beyond living within the walls of Doorenbos Cottage.

"I was ready for deepening relationships," said junior Jessica Mueller. "We all came together for a Christ-centered purpose." That unifying purpose is extremely important among the women of the house, especially considering their diverse backgrounds. Part of the Tamar theme is understanding cultural pressures and expectations, and they have plenty of cultures to understand. They have two Japanese students, one student from India, one missionary kid, two students who spent last summer in Spain and one who served in Bosnia on a Summer of Service project.

The women of Tamar are incorporating their diversity into their house service project. They are writing letters, preparing packages and praying for persecuted Christians around the world. On top of that, they also are supporting NWC students who are studying abroad with prayer and correspondence.

This international flavor is one of the greatest benefits and one of the greatest challenges for the women of the house. "I think the hardest thing is 10 people coming together with different ideas of what we want this to be. We want to unify," said Erickson, a senior.

Their quest for unity is hard work in light of their busy schedules. "I have 10 very competent upperclassmen, but my particular 10 are extremely over-involved," Cianci said. The women see taking risks as an important aspect of Tamar's story, and saying "no" to activities and responsibilities is one risk that the busy women are learning to take for the sake of their community. "We know that Tamar risked what she could to do what was right, so we're trying to think about how that idea of risk applies to our lives," Mueller said.

Like the other themed communities, the women of the Tamar House eat together once each week, sometimes experiencing true international flavor with authentic Japanese, Spanish or Indian meals. They also are studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together* with Cianci every Monday night, learning and discussing what true Christian community is.

Mueller said Cianci's involvement is important for the group. "She sets the tone but allows a lot of freedom to hash out issues and be personal with each other," she commented.

In addition to these weekly meetings, the women



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Defining Community continued from page 9

who are in good disciplinary standing will be able to develop their own living groups and themes as well as find their own faculty or staff sponsors. Along with propos-



“We wanted to create these integrated communities where students learn about true Christian community, but then also add another learning aspect.”



ing a theme, members of every themed house must also develop a service component related to their focus, describe how their community will be evaluated and discuss how they will impact the entire campus community through their activities. By allowing students the freedom to create their own theme and purpose, Cianci says that the program can be a need-based system, “filling the need for students who long for deeper relationships.”

Clearly a program like themed housing does not come without its proverbial “bugs” to be worked out, and the discussion about needed changes is already under way

among academic and residence life leaders. This year’s house sponsors—Burch, Cianci and Spanish Professor Piet Koene—all agree that future participants should receive academic credit for their time commitment and their learning outside the classroom. Another issue is whether to add a formal academic course to the program in the effort to ease the formation of a deep, integrated community. And the location of the themed housing project also may change. Because the cottages hosting the themed communities are old and difficult to maintain under current fire and safety codes, leaders of the program hope to continue it on floors of campus apartments or potentially even on floors or wings of dorms.

Another challenge, according to Cianci, is to keep participation in a themed house from becoming “just one more activity” on the résumés of over-involved students. “In developing themed housing I asked the question, ‘How could we simplify instead of adding?’ The primary effect is for those in the house to go deeper. Instead of a bunch of shallow relationships, how about a few deep ones?” Cianci said.

But along with the ques-

tions that come with any new program, themed housing is showing benefits already. For Burch one of the greatest rewards has been to see the development of relationships within the houses. “When I look at who lives there [in the themed houses], last year I never would have seen them together,” Burch said. Koene, sponsor of the Spanish House, has seen the same results. “I see them functioning as a group,” he said of the eight women who reside in the house.

The most immediate challenge now is getting the word out to students, faculty and staff interested in intentional community. “We want people to see our vision,”



“The primary effect is for those in the house to go deeper [in their relationships].”



Burch said. And they especially want men on campus to see what they see. With only three women’s houses this year, it is important to Burch to get NWC men involved. In fact, Burch said the program may not continue without male interest.

But one thing is sure. Even if the program continues for decades to come, no year or theme will be like the one before it. “It’s not tied to permanence. I do not see it as a fraternity, sorority or club,” Cianci said. This moldable nature makes it more appealing to both staff and students. It is only a one-year commitment for everyone involved, which frees faculty from adding a permanent commitment to already full schedules and offers students the freedom to form the environments they personally need to grow.

After gaining insight from one another about the experiences in each of their houses, it is time to liven up the party in true Spanish House style. Moving to the next outdated room, everyone sees the unicorn piñata dangling from the ceiling. The Spanish music begins, and what would the music be without dancing? One student from the Servant Leadership House takes the first whack, chopping off the unicorn’s head. Laughter ensues, as it often does when 25 women gather. A resident of the Tamar House practices her Spanish with a Spanish House resident. Dancing continues as a resident of Servant Leadership learns a popular Mexican dance from a student living in the Spanish House. It feels like community to me.

A Time to Worship

by Carrie Odell '01

**Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God.**



It's Sunday at 9:02 p.m., and Christ Chapel resounds with 700 voices lifting up prayers and praises as one. The lights are dim, the pews are full, the energy is high. Some students stand in the aisles to kneel or to dance. Hands and voices are raised as the worship team leads a variety of songs: some fast, some slow; some old, some new. The soulful, classic *Be Thou My Vision* and the boisterous, contemporary *The Happy Song* are sung back-to-back. Halfway through the evening, senior Sam Dose takes the stage to share a challenge.

Every Sunday night, hundreds of students stream into the chapel for what has become a beloved weekly tradition: Praise and Worship. Of course, worship can take place anywhere, and unlike Northwestern's chapel program, Praise and Worship is not required. It is student led, although under the oversight of the campus ministry program. So why do students keep filling the chapel each Sunday at 9 p.m.?

The Praise and Worship services are nothing new to NWC, but in recent years, attendance has grown exponentially. Praise and Worship began in the early 1990s when a small group of students began meeting in the middle of the week in





the choir room with a vision: to join together to worship God. Since then, Praise and Worship has grown to include a worship team of 11 vocalists and band members, and a regular attendance of hundreds of students and even Orange City community members on Sunday nights.

Kevin Jansma '99, a key player in the early growth of Praise and Worship on campus, has fond memories of his involvement. "We wanted to provide a worship experience that would reach out to students." Jansma and Brian Keepers '99 began leading the services in the spring of 1998. They moved the services from the choir room to the chapel, and the pews soon began filling up. "For us, it really was a growing experience," Jansma says. "All those people coming

really communicated to us that God was doing something."

And God is still at work. Praise and Worship has continued to develop and to reach out to numerous stu-

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**"It's a place of rejuvenation
 for the upcoming week."**
 ▲

dents. Sophomore Isaiah Lockard, who is leading the praise team this year, has a passion for music ministry. "God has given me musical gifts," he says. "I feel like it's something I'm called to do." Lockard says that a spiritual hunger on campus is evident right now, and that many

students are seeking something more in their lives. This searching leads many students to attend Praise and Worship. Lockard attributes part of the strong attendance to the high personal character standards of the Praise and Worship team. When students auditioned for the praise team this past August, they were required not only to display their musical gifts, but also to take a survey on their spiritual status and growth. "It's not just musical ability," Lockard says. "It's also attitude."

Lockard has his own vision for the role of Praise and Worship on campus, yet he states clearly that Praise and Worship should not take the place of attending church or chapel regularly. "In the past, people would substitute Praise and Worship for church and think that's OK. But what I'm trying to create is a community atmosphere where we can have worship and prayer." The community atmosphere of Praise and Worship is unique because of student involvement, voluntary attendance and an informal setting. According to Junior Jon Mouw, "It's something college kids can relate to."

While singing makes up the bulk of each service, student messages and testimonies also have an impact. Freshman Kyle Jansma finds the "worship uplifting and the messages practical." In order to speak at Praise and Worship, students must approach Lockard about their desire to share and a

summary of what they would like to say. Recent topics have included fasting, renewing commitment to God and getting back to the basics of Christianity. These messages, according to Orange City resident Peggy Feltman, come "straight from the heart." Feltman, mother of praise team alum Aaron Feltman '00, attends Praise and Worship regularly. "I just love Praise and Worship," she says. "I really admire kids of today because you can see that they're sincere about their faith."

For many students, Praise and Worship plays an





integral role in transitioning into a new week. Jon Mouw comments, "It's a place of rejuvenation for the upcoming week—to prepare. It puts you in the right frame of mind." Sophomore Matt Klomp agrees. "It's refreshing and a great escape with God," he says.

Students often linger after services to chat or pray with friends. It's a time for students to connect with God and with others from

the community. According to Kyle Jansma, this is what Sunday night Praise and Worship is all about. "So many people are needing a place to be authentic. I think that's what continues to drive it—it's a place where students can worship together." A place where students can worship together as one body, one voice—every Sunday night.

At the end of tonight's service, students join hands

across the aisles to sing together, "The grace of the Lord be with you, now and always . . ."

"The thought of You stirs us so deeply that we cannot be content unless we praised You, because You have made us for Yourself and our hearts find no peace until they rest in You." St. Augustine

Classic online

PDF files of this issue of the Classic and the last three alumni publications, are available online at www.nwciowa.edu/newssports/pub.



Chaplain

Northwestern seeks a chaplain to begin during the summer of 2003. A senior-level administrative position, the chaplain reports to the president, is responsible for the spiritual life program of the college and leads a team of campus ministry staff members.

Major functions include planning and administering a daily chapel program, discipling students, supervising student leaders and personal counseling. Preference will be given to candidates with a Master of Divinity degree, ordination in the Reformed Church in America and three years related experience.

Send a letter of application, professional vitae, college transcripts, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to President Bruce Murphy, president@nwciowa.edu. Applications can be filled out online, or downloaded as PDF files, at www.nwciowa.edu/about/employment/default.asp.

Northwestern College
101 7th St. SW
Orange City, IA 51041

Northwestern College complies with government regulations concerning nondiscrimination in employment. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Servant Leadership continued from page 11

for themselves. For example, they are learning how to serve on and off campus and how to empower other leaders in the process. While each themed house is required to do one service project each semester, the four women of Ooltman have taken on at least four projects this semester—once again, what you would expect from an ambitious, passionate group like these four. The women just finished collecting gifts from NWC students for Operation Christmas Child, culminating the project with a gift-wrapping party in their home. As a group they also gave a weekend this fall to serve at the Glory House, a transitional alcohol and drug treatment residential facility in Sioux Falls. Back on campus, they led a workshop at the High School Leadership Conference. On top of all that, they hope to empower the female resident assistants by planning a support meeting for them in their home as a “getaway” from the stresses that can accompany leadership roles and dorm life.

“For me, it definitely has been integrated into my classes and into my life,” said Booth of her experience in the house. The others agree that their themed community is extremely practical for their lives.

“I think the dorms are a great experience, but when again am I going to be able to live in a place and apply it to my academic life?” Piehl reflected. And where else can you plan parties with your pals on the porch?

Tamar House continued from page 12

of the Tamar House have developed a unique outreach to campus that also bonds them together as housemates. Tea Time at Tamar happens every Tuesday night, complete with various flavors of tea, hot cocoa and all the sugar and cream a college student could want. Sometimes Tea Time has a specific theme, and other times it just allows the students time to relax with friends. The themes have included serious discussions of theology and world religions, but they have also been more lighthearted, such as Mueller’s favorite, Pancakes and Haiku. “Molly really needed chocolate chip pancakes,” Mueller said with a laugh at housemate Molly Micheels’ craving. But no one present at that Tea Time received pancakes without writing a haiku, which made for some interesting reading, including Micheels’ own haiku: “Laughter fills the air. It smells like Grandma’s kitchen. Yay! I love Tea Time.”

Silly poetry, academic fervor and spiritual depth make community life at Tamar as rich as a good cup of tea. “Energy comes from this house,” said Mueller. “I’m safe here,” added Erickson. I’ll drink a cup of tea to that.

Thank you!

“It is so encouraging and exciting to talk with alumni and friends who are truly interested in our lives. Knowing we are mentioned in their prayers in an amazing blessing.”

Carrie Stromley '05
Rockwell, Iowa

“I love hearing about old memories at NWC and sharing all about the new things transpiring here on campus. Thank you for your willingness to share and spend time with me over the phone.”

Lindsey Buche '03
O'Neill, Neb.

“Talking with donors is a great opportunity for us to get to know those who support NWC on another level. One night I was particularly blessed by an alum who asked if I had any prayer requests and then offered to pray for me. It was a wonderful blessing.”

Tara Bajema '06
Lynden, Wash.

Thank you for answering the calls of student phonathon callers from Sept. 23 through Nov. 7. Your support provides increased academic opportunities, financial assistance and much more for Northwestern students. May God bless you for your time and gifts to NWC!

Stacy VanderVelde
Alicia Grider
Keith A. Hansen
Maria Smith
Janaya Zwald
Miranda Brandel
Stephanie Horton
Hannah Kunder-Helm
Lisa Seiwert
Ruthie Umthun
Carrie Stranberg
Kristina Van Holland
Cari Jo Pusee
Yara Bajema
Bethany Walters
Rose DeBuren
Jana Papp
Julie Warren
Lindsey A. Buche
Jamie Pease
Cassie Jrapal

Laughing

by Tamara Fynaardt

"Although this course may sound like a fun way to earn two college credits while telling Dordt jokes, watching Monty Python and reading *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, we wish to inform you that the class will, in fact, be painful and boring. You have been warned."

Matters

Syllabus, GEN 205: Honors Seminar, Humor

Funny stuff. "You crochet like a girl," freshman Peale Scholar Daniel Berntson overheard one guy say to another on a recent weekend road trip. Crocheting and knitting have become popular campus pastimes, and mention of the hobby and the humorous put-down found their way into Daniel's Week 10 paper about gender and humor for his honors seminar on humor. "Gender-based humor is not so much about oppressing females as it is about oppressing femininity," he wrote. "It includes both women and men who exhibit feminine qualities."

"That is great insight," said Dr. Scott Monsma, sociology, who is team-teaching the course with Dr. Michael Kensak, English.

Monsma, who calls himself a "punologist," authored the class "sillybus," which includes, in addition to Monty Python and *The Hitchhiker's Guide* TV episodes of "The Simpsons," the ancient Greek play "Lysistrata," Chaucer's *The Miller's Tale*, and Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

The 14 class members, all honors students, began the course by keeping a laughter journal, recording the things they laughed at, then trying to categorize and theorize: "What does our culture laugh at? What does our societal sense of humor reveal about us?"

Students also read *The Game of Humor* by Charles Gruner along with articles by other humor theorists and over 200 pages of Freud, after which "just about everyone slipped into unconsciousness," said



Monsma. He revived students with a whole class devoted to puns.

In week seven of the course, students rested from the other literature and film they'd been studying to ask, "Does God have a sense of humor?" and to survey the Old and New Testaments for examples of divine hilarity.

"The students settled on some of the incongruities of the Bible," said Kensak. "The first shall be last; the last first. You have to lose your life to save it. Christ is supposed to be a king, yet he arrives as a baby in a cattle stall. It's God playing a joke on the 'wise' people of the earth. Parables put big truths in small words and smart people don't get it. That's funny."

No, seriously. "I've always been interested in taking humor seriously," explained Kensak. He remembers watching a "Letterman-like" late-night talk show with several friends when he was a high school exchange student in Germany. "Everyone was falling down laughing. I understood the words, but the show wasn't even remotely funny to me. That's





when it hit me—humor must not be innate. We must be taught what to laugh at. And if we're taught, we can be taught well or poorly."

Monsma also thinks studying humor is no joke. "As a sociologist, I'm very interested in looking at society and studying the types of jokes we tell. What do Americans laugh at?"

"More than a year later, we still don't laugh about Ground Zero," he noted, pointing out that Americans have created and told jokes about tragedies like Waco, Texas; Jeffrey Dahmer; and the Challenger disaster. "What is different this time?" he wonders.

"The students are learning that humor can be studied," said Kensak, "and that humor is more than just fun; it's power, and it performs important functions." He goes on to explain some of the humor theories the students have examined: Humor as a holiday from reality, humor as a game with a winner and a loser, humor that serves to include or exclude, humor as a way to deal with tensions around societal

taboos, humor in the unexpected or incongruous.

"As Christian scholars, we need to keep our ears open to what is being said beyond the joke," wrote junior Magdalene Biesanz in one of her weekly reflective papers. "The power of humor can be abused."

Senior Dietrik Vanderhill commented, "I never realized the full implications of the social functions of humor—how we attack others with it and separate ourselves, but also how we can unify people with humor."

"So much of our humor reveals what we are truly like," wrote Malinda Burk, a senior, in a response paper after the class on gender and humor. Senior Sarah Wynia added, "I've stopped laughing about some things. Somehow, now, 'harmless' male-chauvinist and ethnic group-bashing jokes seem not the slightest bit funny."

As the class wraps, the students are working on their final punch-lines—uh, projects. Shadi Awwad, who is from the Middle East, and Shannon Gorres, a Spanish major, are researching and

writing about cross-cultural humor. Shannon is comparing jokes submitted to *Reader's Digest* with jokes submitted to the Spanish version of the magazine. Malinda is interviewing medical staffers who use humor to cope while caring for terminally ill patients. Sarah is writing about humor in musical compositions like Haydn's "Surprise Symphony." And Daniel is listening to Garrison Keillor and writing about the humor of heritage.

"I've been at some of the best colleges in the country, and the best students here are as good as the best students anywhere," said Kensak. "I can't wait to read their papers. Some papers you grade because it's your job; others expand your mind."

Outtakes

"In a class on humor, there is free reign for everyone to exercise their sense of humor, even Dr. Monsma, whose trademark puns have drawn more groans and eye-rolling than a day-long seminar on knock-knock jokes." – Magdalene Biesanz

"Going through junior high is training in how to laugh and what to laugh at." – Dr. Michael Kensak

"I chuckled, I reddened, I turned away, I breathed more quickly, I giggled, I maybe even farted." – Shannon Gorres, laughter journal

"I'm going to be depressed when this class is over." – Dr. Scott Monsma



Treasured Memories

Homecoming 2002 • Oct. 4-6



"Pirate" Karen Woudstra, director of alumni and parent relations, livened up Morning on the Green and Lunch on the Green, which were held in the Rowenhorst Student Center due to the cold.

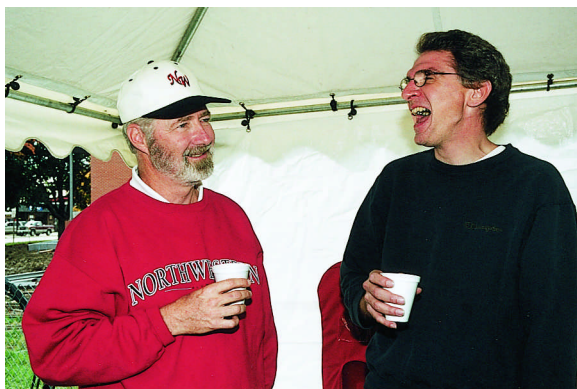
Mary (Ver Steeg '92) Swart catches up with Suzanne (Riche '96) Haverdink at Morning on the Green.



SGA President Matt Emster helps a youngster putt at Morning on the Green.

Alumni from '92 looking at mementoes from their NWC years are: (left to right) Cory Brandt, Jason Ter Wee, Lori (Burris) Van Beek, Dan Van Beek and Eric Westrate.





President Bruce Murphy and the Rev. Dave Vander Laan '78 reminisce at one of the alumni tents at the football game.

Eighty-nine runners braved a chilly morning to compete in the Raider Road Race.



Trying to show that they still "have it" are cheerleading reunion participants: (front row left to right) Barb (Sampson '75) Krull, Capi (Vellinga '77) Kountz, Ronda (Katt '73) Aalbers, Jackie (Woudstra '75) De Groot; (middle row) LaVonne (Rens '71) Sietstra, Anita (Plantage '77) Bomgaars, Barb (Jacobs '70) Lubbers; (top) Rachel (Te Brink '72) Meekma.



Members of the 40th reunion class visit at dinner on Saturday night.



Wayne Kooiker '70, shown with his wife, Sue, received the Distinguished Service to Northwestern Award. To read recent Classic articles about Kooiker, click on www.nwciowa.edu/newssports/pub/.



Members of the 1968 football team came back for a Homecoming reunion. Left to right: Paul Lubbers, Jay Jackson, Tony Van Helden, John Haack, Jake Moss, Rick Hames, Carl Johnson, Terry Hill.

Missions on Her Mind by Amy Scheer

A man walks along a beach, the story goes, and comes upon hundreds of starfish. There's another man, near the water, returning the creatures to the sea one at a time. "What are you doing?" the first man shouts. "The entire beach is covered in starfish. There's no way you can save them all. You're not going to make a difference!"

"I made a difference to that one," the man replies, nodding toward the splash of one he just threw in.

Heather Lambert, a sophomore from Colorado Springs, Colo., sees herself in this story—as a character who never appears. "My roommate says, 'You're the person who comes along and you see all these tons of starfish . . . You have pity on all of them, and you want to go save them all . . . you're racing up and down the beach, nudging, trying to push them all in, and instead of getting any in, you're only pushing them in an inch.'"

"I always feel passionate about so many things, but you have to just focus on one; even if I push eight [starfish] in an inch, it's not as good as picking up one and chucking it in," admits Heather. She's speaking of her responsibilities as a biology major, Student Ministry Team leader and member of the women's soccer team, but she's also reflecting on her sense of priorities and her calling to work in foreign missions.

When former NWC admissions counselor Kristin Robertson visited Heather's high school, Heather tried to avoid her. The enthusiastic cheerleading of other colleges' representatives hadn't impressed Heather; a friend had to convince her to cut class and give the NWC presentation a try. Kristin was different: she was interested in Heather. She asked how Heather was doing, what Heather was looking for, if Northwestern would be a good fit for her. "She cared about me as a person, not a number," Heather said. "If Northwestern is like this, I want to go," she thought at the time. Subsequent visits to Northwestern's campus confirmed Heather's peace about her decision, even amidst the "bitter cold, freezing weather" of an Iowa February!

A Christian since her freshman year of high school, Heather came to NWC with missions on her mind. Her passion for evangelism was sparked at a Campus Crusade camp in Estes Park, Colo. "How can I keep Jesus to myself?" she wondered. "I've got to share Him."

Last summer, Heather went on a NWC Summer of



Heather Lambert, right, with a teammate and a Turkish woman they met on a Summer of Service project.

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"Do you have faith in God that He has required you to love them, and He's the one that does the saving—are you going to do your job and let Him do His?"

▲

Service trip to Turkey, a country whose population is 99 percent Muslim. Mission to Unreached Peoples sent Heather and nine others with leader Kent Schneider, a former missionary to Turkey with 18 years of experience. Trip members spent many hours in the homes of friendly and hospitable Turkish people; drawings and phrasebooks flew about in efforts to build relationships. Though exhilarating at first, these attempts at communication soon frustrated Heather. Nagging her was the sense that she wasn't doing what she traveled to Turkey to do: evangelize.

She remembered the advice of Shadi Awwad, a Northwestern junior raised in Jordan: "Love without agenda." Heather struggled with her friend's words. "Can you look at a person and completely love that person for who they are, knowing that they may never come to Christ, and be OK with that?" she asked herself. "Do you have faith in God . . . that He has required you to love them, and He's the one that does the saving—are you going to do your job and let Him do His?"

Now back at NWC, Heather is making the transition between cultures with the help of Writing and Reflection After Cross-Cultural Experience, a new course taught by Spanish prof Piet Koene and English professor Barb Turnwall. The professors' challenging questions skillfully guide Heather's thoughts about the trip and her calling to foreign missions.

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by Amy Scheer

Hanging Out

Josh Perkins
began his NWC
resident assistant
training before he
could walk.



In the fields of their Beaver City, Neb., farm, Josh's father planted the relational skills the small boy would someday need to care for 27 young men in Northwestern's Colenbrander Hall. "Before I could walk he'd throw a carrier on his back, and I'd go out with him checking cows," Josh remembers. "He'd take the car seat, and I'd ride the tractor. You name it, I was with him. I did everything with Dad. Through that, our relationship grew. I've always been able to talk to him about everything."

His father's example deeply ingrained, Josh makes time to build relationships with the men on his wing. "When you go looking for a deep conversation with somebody, you're probably not going to find it," admits Josh. "It's when you're just hanging out, and all of a sudden, somebody asks something. I've had some of my best talks at 4 a.m.; then you try to make up your sleep the rest of the day."

A junior sociology major, Josh challenges his men on important issues during their weekly Bible study. "What are our battles as men of God? What are our struggles? How can we help each other? How can the Word help us?" he asks them. "It's been awesome to

see the guys talk to each other and say, 'This is where I'm struggling,' and to have another guy say, 'Have you tried this?' And I'm just sitting back watching."

It's this kind of student interaction that first drew Josh's attention to Northwestern. During Thanksgiving break of Josh's senior year, his family happened to swing by the campus while driving home from his grandparents' home in Minneapolis. His mother hopped out of the car to grab some information from the admissions office.

Though he was sure that maybe "10 percent of the students are real Christians" at any given Christian college, an overnight stay at NWC convinced him other-

wise. People at Northwestern seemed different than those at other campuses he had visited; they were friendly, open and hospitable. "I didn't know anybody, yet I felt at home," Josh remembers.

Attending NWC would put a seven hour drive between Josh and his family, whereas two other colleges that had offered Josh scholarships sat only three hours from his home. His father, a discerning man who hadn't gotten out of the car that first stopover, had a sense that Northwestern was the right college for his son. The appealing offer of both a baseball and a theatre scholarship eventually confirmed the decision for Josh.

Josh appreciates the opportunities for relationships that the size of Northwestern's community affords. He's thankful to have friends who challenge him in his faith and spend time with him having "good, clean fun." Professors, too; Dr. Scott Monsma, sociology, is Josh's adviser and close friend. "I've had dinner at his house," Josh says. "We talk outside of class, not always about what we're studying, but about life. Why are we here? What is the point of living? What should your goal be after you leave here? It's been nice to talk to him.

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Humble-Hearted Parenting by Tamara Fynaardt



Pictured with Lana and Jerry Schrock (front) are their five children (left to right): Sara (Veldhuizen '97), Jason '97, Larry '03, Justin '01 and Vicki (Dykstra '01).

Almost a decade after they brought their first son, Jason, to NWC as a freshman, Jerry and Lana Schrock, Adel, Iowa, have been named Northwestern's 2002 Parents of the Year. They were honored on campus during Parents' Weekend in

November.

"As parents, they make an incredible team," wrote the Schrock's oldest son, Jason '97, in his nomination letter. "My dad led our family with a humble heart. He always encouraged my mom and us and made sacrifices for us. He helped tremendously around the house, cooking, cleaning and modeling that there are no 'gender-specific jobs' when there's work to be done.

"My mom taught us to be sincere, to have patience and a caring heart. We knew our parents' marriage was blessed because Mom was always quick to encourage us to become like Dad," Jason continued.

Larry '03, the Schrock's third son, told the award committee he hopes to one day be the man his dad was for him. "[My parents] taught us how to face and boldly love the world around us," he added.

Second son Justin '01 echoed his brother: "When we are old and gray, all three of us hope to look back and say we were half the men our father was. 'Servant' defines my par-

At home with the Schrocks

Jerry and Lana Schrock met as undergraduates at McPherson College in Kansas. They married before their senior year and both graduated with education majors. Today they live in Lana's hometown of Adel; Lana has been teaching kindergarten for 13 years and Jerry has driven for UPS for 27 years.

"Dad always showed us he is still madly in love with his best friend on earth: our mom," said Jason, adding that his mom modeled for each of them what to look for in a spouse. "She always has been involved in our lives, taking an interest in

everything we did and getting to know our friends. There wasn't a night we went out that she wasn't waiting up to see how the night went."

"I grew up with all women," explains Lana, "and women love to talk. I always was asking the boys lots of questions about their friends and activities. I'd end a list of questions with, 'Sorry; it's a mom-thing.'"

"My mom makes the world's best monkey bread," said Jason, reminiscing about Schrock family traditions like candlelight devotions on Christmas morning and fine China and spaghetti every

Valentine's Day.

"Those innocent childhood memories are the things that give me comfort while the world changes around me," said Larry. "I felt safe, and I remember only love and caring because of my parents."

"Lana gets the credit for raising them," said Jerry. "She stayed home when they were little, and that was a good investment. She nurtured and taught them and always made them make up from fights by saying 'I love you.'"

Jerry and Lana attend the Panther Creek Church of the Brethren where they've been involved as deacons, Sunday School teachers and

youth advisers. They also both sing in the choir and with other musical ensembles as well.

In addition to sending their three sons to Northwestern, the Schrocks have been instrumental in recruiting other students for NWC. Current freshman Laura Barker attended their church and heard them praise the college often. "I heard Northwestern has a wonderful sense of community," she said. "And now I can just feel Christ walking on this campus."

"We'll miss Northwestern when Larry graduates," said Lana.

ents. Their gifts of love, servanthood, encouragement and prayer have touched not only us, but all those around them.”

“We’ve always looked at our kids as gifts from God,” said Lana, “and we felt privileged He chose us to raise them. All three are open-minded and good listeners. Now that they’re adults, we’re learning things from them.”

After he graduated from high school, Jason decided on Northwestern College over even his parents’ alma mater, another Christian college. “All the boys fell in love with the Christian atmosphere at Northwestern,” said Lana. After Jason’s experience, the decision was easy for Justin and Larry. Justin remembers, “Mom always said, ‘College is up to you boys, BUT your father and I are extremely pleased with Northwestern, and if you want to visit, we’ll take you,’—said with a knowing smile, of course.”

“We’re pretty sold on Northwestern,” said Jerry. “The money we’ve spent sending them to a Christian college was a good investment. Two of the boys even found their wives there.”

Jason and his wife, Sara (Veldhuizen ‘97) currently live in Bellflower, Calif. Jason is the principal at Valley Christian Middle School in Cerritos, and Sara teaches Spanish at Valley Christian High School.

The Schrock’s second son, Justin, and his wife, Vicki (Dykstra ‘01), live in Ripon, Calif. Justin is a youth pastor at Calvary Reformed Church, and Vicki is a social worker.

Larry will graduate this spring with a degree in elementary education.

“Maya Angelou says, ‘When you learn, teach; when you get, give.’ My parents live this out in their lives,” wrote Jason. “We all attended Northwestern, and now we’re working in youth education and ministry, hoping to touch lives like they have touched ours.”

“This is as much for our kids as it is for us,” said Jerry, about the Parents of the Year honor. “People at Northwestern don’t really know us; they know our sons. The boys must have represented us well.”

Missions on Her Mind continued from page 22

Heather also seeks the advice of religion professor Dr. James Rohrer, her adviser last year. Drawing on his years of experience as a missionary in Taiwan, Rohrer helps Heather picture how her biology major can translate into a job in medical missions. “I am so impressed with the professors here,” Heather says.

The compassionate Heather feels overwhelmed at times by a burden to help people far away, yet she knows she’s needed for some nearby missions work, as well. She serves as one of two student coordinators for the 2003 Summer of Service trips, enabling others to experience their own life-changing journey. Just a few more starfish back into the sea.

The Joy of Discovery continued from page 28

stronger my background was than that of many of my peers.” Likewise, he prizes the broad education he received. “I can carry on conversations outside the field of science because I had that liberal arts foundation. It has really prepared me for life, not just working in a job.”

Throughout his career, Mike has been active in programs that help children get enthused about science. “I feel a very strong sense of obligation to chemistry,” he explains. “And I love seeing kids get excited about the amazing things chemistry can do.”

Maybe his efforts, like those of Hansen, Veldhuis and others in Mike’s life, might help others uncover their potential and lead to surprise success.

Hanging Out continued from page 23

He shares his home experiences—what it’s like to be married, to have a kid.”

As a student ambassador, Josh shares his enthusiasm for NWC with prospective students. He calls them, gives them campus tours and welcomes them on overnight campus visits, just as some students did for him a few years back. New students meet up with the self-proclaimed “people person,” as well; last year, Josh worked on the Orientation Staff to coordinate a week of activities for freshmen. Writing skits, leading a small group and following up with students throughout the year led Josh to pursue more of the same, in the form of the resident assistant position he holds now.

“When it comes time to work, work hard; when it comes time to play, play hard.” Josh’s vigor for life displays his father’s work ethic in everything he does, from baseball to building relationships. Even picking up the phone holds the promise of adventure for Josh—his “hello” is energetic and eager.

If he had it his way, Josh’s future would find him living in the country, farming a little and counseling people—substance abusers, juvenile delinquents or families, perhaps. In the meantime, prospective students, freshmen, Colenbrander men and those who happen to dial Josh’s number are surely blessed to spend time with him, just “hanging out.”

A Willing Servant

by Dana (Smith '93) Daniels



Carol Oliver reads to youngsters at Rock Rapids Kids' Club.

When Carol (Buttjer '56) Oliver remarks that her time at NWC called her to live a life of service to God and humankind, you can see that it was a calling she took seriously. Oliver received the Alumni Association's 2002 Distinguished Service to Humankind Award during

the college's Homecoming festivities in October.

In Rock Rapids, Iowa, where Oliver resides, her passion for service is evident. She is a regular at Lyon Manor Care Center, assisting residents with their meals, providing musical entertainment and helping with social

activities, like playing bingo. Every Sunday morning, Oliver arrives early to set up for the weekly worship service. She recalls a particular Sunday when no pastor arrived, and, after numerous attempts to contact someone failed, Oliver found herself assuming the role of preacher. After leading several hymns, she stepped to the microphone and shared why the words of these hymns were meaningful in her life. At the conclusion of the service, several people told her it was the best sermon they'd ever heard. Oliver humbly says they were just being kind.

In addition to caring for the elderly, Oliver is deeply involved in the lives of her community's children. Several years ago when a group of young mothers recognized the need for a community daycare center, Oliver was invited to join the planning committee. Not only did she serve on this committee, but she also assisted in raising financial support for what became Rock Rapids Kids' Club. Her involvement with the project continued to grow as she found herself taping and mudding Sheetrock and priming and painting walls to finish off the basement of the building. Oliver says that she

gains much satisfaction in seeing a place where children receive quality love and care. She and her husband, Roger, continue their involvement with the center by providing cleaning services and caring for the lawn throughout the summer. She baby-sits on a regular basis and is "on call" in case the daycare needs help at the last minute.

▼

"I just enjoy giving to others, and I always seem to receive more than I give."

▲

Her time and talents also have been useful to the local community when she served as president of the Merrill Pioneer Hospital Auxiliary and United Fund treasurer. Oliver is also active in Rock Rapids Community Chorus, Rock Rapids Community Council of Churches, the Central Lyon Foundation Board, and River Valley Players, a local community theatre group.

Oliver's commitment to service extends to her church community as well. At First Reformed Church, Rock Rapids, she has served as Sunday school superintendent, Girls' League sponsor and Christian Women's Club chairperson. As she dreams of future opportunities for service, she is considering becoming involved in Stephen Ministries, a ministry that trains and commis-

continued on page 29

Fallsports

Football

- Compiled a 6-4 record.
- Tied for fifth in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) with a 4-4 mark.
- Fullback Jon Paulsen and cornerback Aaron Schmidt earned GPAC offensive and defensive player of the week honors, respectively.
- Finished first in the league in passing offense, 234.5 yards per game; total offense, 420.9 yards per game; first downs, 201; and punt returns, a 14-yard average.

Volleyball

- Finished with a 16-13 record, winning their last five regular-season matches.
- Tied for third in the GPAC with a 10-6 record.
- Qualified for the post-season conference tournament.
- Melissa Jelsma earned GPAC setter of the week honors three times and was the regional honoree once.
- Carli Blom was GPAC player of the week twice and earned the regional honor once.

Men's Soccer

- Finished with a 6-10 record.
- Seventh in the GPAC with a 4-6 slate.
- Qualified for the post-season conference tournament.
- Pat Dirkse was second in the conference in goals with 11.

Women's Soccer

- Compiled a 3-11 record overall.
- Went 3-7 in the GPAC, tying for eighth place.

Men's Golf

- Won the Northwest Iowa, Mt. Marty, Sioux Falls and Dordt invitationals.
- Ryan Anema was medalist at two meets; Blake Bengard placed first at one.

Women's Golf

- Placed third at the conference meet, shooting a 696.

Cross Country

- The women were sixth in the GPAC meet; the men placed 10th.
- At the Region 4 championships, the women placed sixth and the men finished 12th.



Jeremy Van Soelen hauls in a 56-yard touchdown pass in the Raiders' 33-13 Homecoming loss to Doane.

Track facility dedicated

Northwestern's newly-renovated track and field facilities were dedicated in an October ceremony.

A three-stage project, the renovation is a joint venture between NWC, the city of Orange City and the two local high schools—MOC-Floyd Valley and Unity Christian. The city and high schools contributed a combined \$184,250 to the \$1 million project. Work began in May 2001 and will likely be completed in the spring when entrances and parking on the east side of the facilities are added.

The first phase of the project included the construction of a 7,250 square-foot locker room and concession building. Not only does the space accommodate both home and visiting football teams, it serves as a place for track athletes to shower and change after competing. In addition to locker rooms and a concession stand, the building also houses an officials' locker room, public restrooms and storage space. Utilized last spring by the local high schools, the totally

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The Joy of Discovery

by Duane Beeson

When Mike DeKrey '80 reviews his life, he realizes that many of the major decisions he made happened with - out him recognizing how big they were. He sees that as a good thing.

During his high school years, the Colton, S.D., native was proud of never taking a book home. He wasn't going to college: "There are enough people who'll tell me how stupid I am, I don't need to pay a college to do that," he'd quip.

One day a friend told him he was going to visit "your church's college," and asked him to come along. Seeing it as a chance to skip classes for a day, Mike agreed to go.

"The thing I remember is how friendly the students were," says Mike. "By the end of the day, not only did I change my mind about higher education, but I chose Northwestern.

That decision changed my life."

Entering NWC as a religion major, Mike discovered a love of chemistry and decided to switch majors. Not realizing how important graduate school was for a career in chemistry, Mike began getting application forms because his prof, Peter Hansen, had nominated him for Who's Who in Chemistry. "If it wouldn't have been for Peter, I wouldn't have even thought of it," says Mike.

Mike found a novel way of deciding where to apply. Over Christmas break, he sorted the applications according to the application deadline, then by the cost of the application fee. "I applied to the half dozen that made those two cuts," he recalls. "I was accepted by all of them. A couple people said I should go to Purdue. I had no idea Purdue was one of the top analytical chemistry schools in the world."

As he worked on his doctorate at Purdue, Mike received a \$1,000 annual scholarship because of the teaching experience he had received as an assistant for NWC physics professor Henry Veldhuis. It was another reminder, Mike says, of how the Lord was directing his steps. "I've got to believe that God was guiding my whole life. There were too many critical decisions to be made—that I didn't understand were critical decisions!"

"I enjoy the problem solving—dealing with the unknowns and figuring things out," he says. "I love this job. It very much makes a difference."



Mike remembers the realization he had as an undergrad, during a summer research project at Exxon in Baton Rouge, La., that he enjoyed industrial analytical chemistry. He set his sights on his dream job—and obtained it a decade earlier than he had hoped.

Mike is an analytical chemist at DuPont's Packaging and Industrial Polymers Division in Orange, Texas. He worked for Conoco, which was formerly owned by DuPont, for 13 years at a central research facility in Ponca City, Okla., until taking his current job when the two companies separated in 1998.

In Orange, Mike uses a variety of equipment and techniques, including gas chromatograph and X-ray, to analyze products. He is responsible for a quality control lab that runs 24 hours a day, providing the production unit with real-time data so adjustments can be made to meet quality specifications. He also works to prepare the lab for examining new DuPont products, develops ways to apply new equipment and scientific advancements to their analytical work, and investigates customer complaints.

"I enjoy the problem solving—dealing with the unknowns and figuring things out," he says. "I love this job. It very much makes a difference."

Mike, who received the Northwestern Alumni Association's 2002 Distinguished Professional Achievement Award at Homecoming, says he has seen the value of all facets of his NWC education over the last 22 years. While in graduate school, he explains, "I was surprised by how much

continued on page 25

Track facility dedicated continued from page 27

reconstructed polyurethane track was also part of the first phase of the renovation. The track now contains a steeplechase pit and was expanded to eight 42-inch lanes.

The completion of the field event areas on the northeast side of the football field brings the second phase of the renovation to a close. The site includes a hammer throw area, two discus rings and three shot put areas. A new 100x100 foot high jump area has been added west of the shot put areas and east of the tennis courts, and features the same state-of-the-art red polyurethane finish as the track. Dual-direction long/triple jump and pole-vaulting areas have been added behind the east bleachers. New fencing around De Valois Field and the relocation and renovation of the bleachers on the east side of the field were also components of the most recent phase.

Along with the purchase of a fully automated timing system and a new public address system, the renovations elevate Northwestern's facilities to the stature of one of the premier track and field facilities in Iowa. The initial collegiate competition utilizing the new facilities will be the Great Plains Athletic Conference outdoor meet next May.

"The creation of a quality track and field facility has long been a goal, and through the commitment, planning and work of a lot of special people we have now realized that goal," said Northwestern Athletic Director Barry Brandt. "With its many events, the sport of track and field demands the construction of a multi-faceted venue. This facility is marked by some unique options geared to enhance the enjoyment and performance of the athletes, and I believe they will truly love competing here."

**A Willing Servant** continued from page 26

sions laity in the church for Christian care-giving.

Who sparked Oliver's interest in service? She credits her mother. Oliver says, "My mother was a good example, and I grew up seeing her involved in many kinds of volunteer activities." Her mother, now a resident of Lyon Manor Care Center, is able to witness her influence on a daily basis.

Oliver's professional life was also dedicated to serving others. After her years at Northwestern, Oliver completed her bachelor's degree in education at Sioux Falls College. She spent seven years teaching elementary, junior high and high school students at various school districts in Lyon County. In 1964, she completed her master's degree in educational psychology and guidance at the University of South Dakota. Oliver continued her involvement in the world of education serving as a high school guidance counselor in Le Mars and later in George. While a guidance counselor, Oliver won guidance institutes at South Carolina State College and the University of Miami. She believes her profession was instrumental in preparing her for future service work. Oliver comments, "I was involved in a helping profession and received great satisfaction from that work. Volunteering fills my heart in a similar way."

Following the birth of



Carol Oliver visits with a resident at Lyon Manor Care Center.

her children, Oliver chose to remain home while raising her family. When her youngest daughter entered college, Oliver accepted a position as a prevention education coordinator for the Northwest Iowa Alcoholism and Drug Treatment Center. She served in this position until her husband retired. Since retirement, they have enjoyed volunteering together on various projects in their church and community. Their family includes Lisa Marco '92, a physical therapist in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Amy Kim, a missionary with the Reformed Church in America currently serving in South Asia. The Olivers also have a granddaughter, Nicole.

When asked why she dedicates so much of her time and energy to volunteerism, Oliver's response is simple: "I just enjoy giving to others, and I always seem to receive more than I give."

Alumnicorner



Karen Woudstra '79
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

"Dinner for 8 was Great!"

This was in an e-mail I received from a California student after holding our first Dinner for 8. What a fun e-mail to receive!

Students from Iowa, Michigan, California, Washington, Nebraska, Ohio, Minnesota, etc., signed up to attend the first Alumni Dinner for 8.

After attending the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities alumni conference at Taylor University, I came back excited to promote this idea! I mailed out a brochure explaining the program to some supportive alumni in the area who I knew had the room to host and a heart for the college. They were asked to choose a date and time that worked for their family between the middle of October and the middle of November to host a meal in their home. I also asked them to list their major in college, their profession and any activities they were involved in when they attended NWC.

The cafeteria tables were decorated with the first sign saying "Home Cooked Meals Coming Soon!" sponsored by the Alumni Association. The next table sign informed

them that sign-ups would begin next week, and then finally the day came to sign up. In two hours, 60 juniors and seniors signed up for a meal at 10 different homes in the area.

The idea behind the dinners is threefold: First, it's a way for alums and students to connect with each other. Students can share what's happening on campus and alums can share stories of "when I was at NWC . . ." Second, the dinners can provide a way for students to ask questions about the alums' majors, college involvements or present jobs.



Enjoying a Dinner for 8 were: (front row, left to right) Rachel Muilenburg, Chrystan Fuller, Sarah Greenwood, Nichole Blaede, Emily Muilenburg; (back row) Lisa (Waite '83) Muilenburg, Rebekah Muilenburg, Mark Muilenburg '84, Marvin Holford, Jordan Dowdy, Dan Johnston.

It could be used as an opportunity to help students understand what a specific job involves or the steps to pursue that occupation. Third, it can provide a home atmosphere and possibly a

place to share faith stories. College students miss their families and the nurturing environment of a home.

God calls us to show hospitality and use our gifts to serve others (I Peter 4:9-10). It's exciting to see that alums are getting involved in this program and are serving students and being role models for God's glory. Who knows the impact these dinners can have on both the students and alums?

After the evaluation sheets are returned, I can make adjustments in the program and see if the feedback merits some Spring Dinners for 8 (probably from the middle of March through April). I will be asking different families to host and possibly open it up to underclassmen if I have enough host families. I may even open it up to non-alumni community families who love the college if they would like to be involved!

I'm praising God for the many alumni who pray for the students here at Northwestern and for the many ways you give back to your alma mater. God has blessed Northwestern with the heart you have for the ministry and mission that continues here! If you are interested in hosting or want more information, contact me at karenw@nwc-iowa.edu or 712-707-7127.

Death

Dr. Alfred Vande Waa '41 of Zeeland, Mich., age 80, died Oct. 25. After graduating from Northwestern Junior College, he earned degrees from Hope College and the University of Michigan Medical School. He served in the Army in World War II. His career as a physician included 31 years in Zeeland and nine years at the Grand Rapids Veterans Outpatient Clinic. Alfie was a member of First Reformed Church in Zeeland, where he was a former choir member, elder and Sunday school teacher. Among his survivors are his wife, Barb, and four sons.

'62

Don Vander Stoep, Orange City, has been appointed coordinator of special gifts for the Reformed Church in America (RCA) Foundation. His responsibilities include soliciting contributions from members and friends of the RCA in order to support denominational programs. He also serves as a resource person for denomination fund drives.

'67

Nancy Herzog, principal of Spring Creek Youth Services Center in Colorado Springs, accepted a national award from the Council for Educators of At-Risk and Delinquent Youth in October in Las Vegas. Herzog received the national Best Practices Award for excellence in at-risk education to youth on behalf of the staff of Spring Creek's District 11 Detention Education Program. The award, given for the first time, recognizes innovative approaches, dedication and professionalism in educating youth placed in alternative learning environments.

'68

Dr. Corwin Smidt's latest book, with co-author James Penning, is *Evangelicalism: The Next Generation*. In the book, published by Baker Academic, the authors dedicate it to "our undergraduate instructors at



Members of the Class of 1962 gathering at Homecoming included: (front row, left to right) Richard Van Zee, Deanne (Post) Van Zee, Chris Fedders, Ken Fedders, Julie (Van Dyke '63) Kuiper, Don Kuiper, Alyce Faye Vander Stoep, Don Vander Stoep; (second row) Ben Koerselman '58, Elaine (Kolenbrander) Koerselman, Henry Vande Kieft, Milly (Van Roekel) Vande Kieft, Wayne Vissers, Jan (Haase '61) Vissers, Karen (Symens '61) Jongeling, Darrel Jongeling; (third row) Virg Mulenburgh, Harold Dykstra '64, Carol (Friese) Dykstra, Marlene (Star) Mellema, Eleanor Blankers, Miriam (Schutte) (Donaker) Behrens, Harriet (Landhuis) Cleveringa, Myra (Gunnink) Quale.

Calvin College and Northwestern College, whose efforts and dedication encouraged us in the Christian faith, provided us with a solid undergraduate education and fostered in us a desire to see our academic endeavors as a vocation." Corwin holds the Paul Henry Chair in Christianity and Politics at Calvin College and is the executive director of Calvin's Paul Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics.

'69

The Rev. Paul Nulton, former Reformed Church in America (RCA) coordinator for volunteer services in North and Central America, has been appointed East Coast coordinator of volunteers by the RCA's Regional Synods of New York and Mid-Atlantics.

'71

Merrita (Smidt) Tumonong was a



Celebrating their 25th reunion were these members of the Class of 1977: (front row, left to right) Dave Bomgaars, Anita (Plantage) Bomgaars, Connie Beernink, Greg Beernink, Carla (Kjorness) Moore, David Moore, Linda (Van Wyk) Tigges, Mark Tigges '76; (second row) Sue (Paarlberg '78) Klinker, Lynn (Woelber) Bruxvoort, Debra (Heyman) Mastbergen, Karla (Sietstra) De Jongh, David Ritsema, Ruth Kampen, Jeff De Haan, Capi (Vellinga) Kountz, Linda (De Roon '78) Gould, Dan Gould; (third row) Terry Klinker, Brian Mastbergen, Gary Karssen, Mary (Van Zandbergen) Karssen, Ed Johannsen, Cindy (Ludwig '80) Tigges, Larry Tigges, Gerry Korver.

Alums in student development

Northwestern has a growing number of alumni who are serving in higher education. The NWC student affairs staff would like to establish contact with those who are working in student services across the country; we are interested in forming a database resource that would allow us to stay better connected. If you or another alum you know are working in admissions, residence life, student activities, orientation, career services, counseling services, etc., please direct your contact information to Kim Case at 712-707-7200 or kmcase@nwc-iowa.edu.

In the future we will be putting together periodic newsletters, a map in the student affairs office pin-pointing our alums in higher education, and reunions at conferences and NWC Homecoming.

presenter at the 2002 Families in Global Transition International Conference held in Indianapolis in October. She spoke on "Cross-Cultural Marriages: Global Partnerships at Home." Merrita works as a marriage and family therapist at the Christian Counseling Center in Grand Rapids, Mich. She and her husband, Prospero, have two teenagers, Spencer (16) and Samara (14).

'75

Bruce Jensen and his wife, Glenda, are in their 26th and 25th years, respectively, of teaching elementary at Moulton-Udell in Moulton, Iowa. Last June Bruce became vice president of the Iowa State Education Association. He had previously served for five years on the board of directors of the National Education Association.

Jim Simmelink is the new superintendent of the Adair-Casey Community School District.

'78

The Rev. Wayne Sneller has been elected president of the Synod of the Heartland for the Reformed Church in America. He has served for the past nine years as senior

pastor of First Reformed Church in Maurice, Iowa. Wayne and his wife, **Tamra (DeNeui '77)**, have three daughters, **Kari Dykstra '02**, **Jodie Wielenga '04** and Jana.

'79

The Rev. Bill Gould has been the pastor of the Apple Valley, Minn., Baptist Church since 1995. He previously pastored in Saskatchewan for seven years after graduating from North American Baptist Seminary. He and his wife, Beth, have four children: Bill, Tim, Tom and Christina.

Debbie (Hitchcock) Moats lives in Wingate, N.C., where she teaches K-5 Spanish and is chairperson for the elementary Spanish teachers in Union County. She and her new husband, Mark, have three children in college in North Carolina: Pam Medina (21), Lucia Moats (21) and Erin Moats (19).

Char Ten Clay recently bought an acreage outside of Orange City; she reports that her daughters, Sami (9) and Bre (5), are singing "Green Acres" with her every day. Char is slowly developing a menagerie of animals on their five-acre site. "We're learning the joys of poop scooping and fly counting (why

Miniprofile



B.J. Mulder, with two Danish basketball campers and his sons, Kyler and Keegan.

Mulder provides basketball training in Denmark

by Duane Beeson

B.J. Mulder's reputation as an outstanding basketball clinician gave him the opportunity to train players and coaches in Denmark in October.

Mulder '85, his wife, Denise, and sons, Kyler (12) and Keegan (9), spent a week in Denmark as guests of an organization that is trying to raise basketball's profile and level of play in a country where team handball and soccer are the sports of choice. They were invited by Ole Rinck Christensen, who had met Mulder in the summer of 2001 at a Northwestern basketball camp.

Christensen ran a basketball school for more than 100 Danish children during a national holiday week. The Chinese national men's and women's teams also participated. Mulder offered instruction for the schools' players, and used the Chinese women's team to demonstrate shooting techniques at a clinic for coaches.

"They treated us awesome," said Mulder of his family's interaction with the Danish people. "The highlights were the relationships we established, and that our kids were able to take part in it. We had a blast."

Mulder, an Orange City resident who teaches health, fitness and business courses at Kingsley-Pierson High School, operates B.E.S.T. (Basketball's Effective Shot Training) shooting school. Last year he worked with over 1,200 students in a four-state area. Along with Red Raider standouts Craig Douma '94 and Brandon Woudstra '03, he takes the camp to 12-15 sites each summer, presenting seven sessions at each location over an eight-week period.

"The key with the program is that we deal with the little things in detail," explains Mulder. "We do drills that break down every part of the shot. We teach the form slowly so they learn how to shoot correctly. Half of the program deals with getting them to train at game speed."

Mulder got his start working with then-high school student Jackie Olson '00 in 1994. A third-team All-American her senior year at NWC, she also was second in the nation in three-point shooting as a junior.

"If kids are committed to our program, they'll see unbelievable gains," says Mulder.

didn't God promise Abraham that his children would number 'like the flies near a piggy' instead of the sands of the sea—I'll bet there are more flies than sand!," she says.

'80

The Rev. Edward Schreur has published "After Lewis and Clark: The History of the Classis of Dakota," which is Occasional Paper No. 10 in the RCA Historical Society's series. He is pastor of Faith Reformed Church in Brookings, SD. The booklet can be downloaded from the RCA website,

www.rca.org, or purchased by sending \$10 to Schreur at 1330 Main Ave. South, Brookings, SD 57006.

'83

Susan Brinkhuis lives in France, where she taught English to students of various age groups for 10 years. She is now on parental leave and at home full time with her two children, Melody (4) and Jameson (1).

Warren Kroontje is the maintenance director at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls. He also is attending master's degree classes at

the seminary. His wife, **Sharon (Ver Mulm '81)**, recently completed her master's degree in counseling there and is a therapist at the Volunteers of America-Dakotas, working with high-risk youth and their families. The Kroontjes live in Sioux Falls with their four children.

Rod Nagel was recently promoted to vice president-human resource administration for Tyson Foods Inc. He and his wife, **Jacque (Rypkema '84)**, now reside in Fayetteville, Ark.

Yearbooks needed for archives

While working through an inventory of the archives, it was discovered that we do not have yearbooks for the years 1922-38 and 40-48. (There may be years in which issues were not published due to the Depression or the war.) If you have an issue you would be willing to donate to the college archives, please call Judy Hilbelink at 712-707-7311. We greatly appreciate your assistance.

Dan Raak is the controller for Health Inc. in Sioux City.

'85

Bob Vander Plaats has been named president of strategic vision for Opportunities Unlimited in Sioux City; Village Northwest in Sheldon, Iowa; and Quality Living Inc. in Omaha. In his new position, he works with the board of directors, CEOs and leadership teams of the three entities in furthering the mission of independence for people with disabilities. He previously was CEO of Opportunities Unlimited.

'86

Elizabeth Bakker Johnson is employed by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as a historic sites restoration coordinator. Her husband, Richard, is a network engineer for Worldcom. They live in Troy, N.Y.

'88

Brenda (Pool) Keene teaches fourth grade at Venetucci Elementary School in Colorado Springs.

'89

Bill Dixon is the new manager at Sherwin-Williams in North Platte, Neb. He had been assistant manager at the Sherwin-Williams store in Spencer, Iowa, for the past two years. His wife, **Chris (Barnes '85)**, is a stay-at-home mom, home-schooling their children.

Scott Ranck teaches junior high and high school math in the Baxter, Iowa, school district. He also coaches high school girls' basketball and junior high track. His wife, Sonja, is the pre- and post-surgical nursing director at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. Scott and Sonja live in Baxter with their daughters, Kylie (11) and Emily (7).

Shawn Ritenour presented a paper at the Christianity in Economics conference in Waco, Texas, this fall. His wife, **Michelle (Skinner)**, teaches seventh and eighth grades at a local Christian school. The Ritenours live in Grove City, Pa., where Shawn is on the economics faculty at Grove City College.

'90

Greg Heemstra teaches K-6 physical education and sixth grade math at Rock Valley, Iowa, Community School. He also coaches varsity boys' basketball and junior high football and track. His wife, **Pat (Anker '89)**, is a full-time mom and part-time youth ministry coordinator at Faith Reformed Church in Rock Valley.

Londa (Wagner) Revis lives near Memphis with her husband, Paul, and sons, Paul (8) and Sam (3). Londa is the new associate counselor at Germantown Baptist Church's counseling center. Working part time, she practices marriage/family therapy and therapy with adolescent girls and women while also assisting the counseling ministry. She says her real joy in life comes from staying home with their two sons and watching them grow. Her husband is a patent



1992 alumni gathering for their class reunion were: (front row, left to right) Eddie Fox, Kaori (Adaniya) Fox, Greg Van Peursem, Donna (Pennings) Van Peursem, Kristen (Te Grotenhuis '93) Olson, Jason Olson, Lori (Burris) Van Beek, Daniel Van Beek, Lisa (Burris) Ciccarelli, Chris Ciccarelli, Heather (Blankers) Bulthuis, Cindy (Pletke) Blackard; (second row) John Swart '90, Mary (Ver Steeg) Swart, Susan (Stander) Brandt, Cory Brandt, Lisa (Hubbling) Haberer, Jody (Kroon) Nieuwendorp, Michelle (Haverdink) Goodrich, Bob Goodrich, Erik Charter, Lisa (Oliver) Marco, Laurie (Wipperling) Van Engelenhoven, Amy Carlson, Joel Bundt, Melissa (Clark '03) Bundt; (third row) Brad Schroeder, Joy (Brinkhuis) Schroeder, Paul Van Engelenhoven, Randy Van Peursem, Jason Ter Wee; (fourth row) Sandra (Hurlburt) Muyskens, Kevin Muyskens '91, Jim Heeren, Sandy (Tew) Heeren, Kelly Christiansen Cox, Leslie Rider, Darren Strasser, Rob Wiese, Amy Westrate, Eric Westrate, David Weiss, Kris Korver, Ann (Sybesma '93) Korver, Heather Kleis, Darren Kleis.

New career website provides services for alumni

Whether you are a recent graduate or have been in the marketplace for many years, Northwestern's Career Development Center encourages you to check out the new career management website, **www.nwcareerconnections.com**. If you are searching for employment, seeking an employee or desiring to be an alumni contact/mentor for current NWC students, the site is worth investigating.

The site offers recent graduates the opportunity to register, upload a resume, and search local and national career positions. If you are an alum who is in the position to offer entry-level or experienced career positions, you are encouraged to register, search senior and recent graduate resumes, and upload job postings. All of this is offered at no cost to you.

The relationship between current NWC students and alumni can be an important one. The alumni contact/mentor section of the site allows you to register and enter as much information about yourself and your career situation as you wish. You control how you can be contacted by students, and how often. If you are interested in helping current students explore a certain major or if you only wish to be a contact for students moving to your area, it is worth looking into!

If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to contact the Career Development Center at 712-707-7225.

Bill Minnick, Director
Nancy (Walhof '88) Landhuis, Office Manager

Prayercorner



Dr. Keith Anderson
Chaplain

She sat in the office with a look of animated concern on her face. "So this identity thing, it's the real thing, isn't it? I mean, my work in these coming months of my college life is to figure out something about the core of my person, right?" A bright student with a deep concern for her world, she reminded me of someone looking at a family photo to find her own face in the picture. Where did she fit into the larger picture?

Identity, vocation (calling) and purpose—these are the three tasks that travel alongside us on the journey through the young adult years. Students are definitely in a process of discovering and developing an identity. The vital spiritual work is to discover their place in God's kingdom—to know themselves as called by God, gifted by God and sent by God into the work of the kingdom. And to find a deep purpose for life that will guide their days and nights well into the future—these three are the developmental tasks for NWC students.

Every day that work goes on—in chapel, the classroom, the residence halls and apartments, on the athletic fields, in the practice rooms and any place that students spend their time. Steve Garber speaks of the coherence of the task as worship, worldview and way of life. I would add the idea of word—encounter with God as one who speaks into our lives. So, we at Northwestern College are privileged to walk alongside students on the journey toward maturity in Christ as He develops them in those areas of worship, worldview, word and way of life. To know is to love and to love is to be responsible. In the "total package" of life at NWC, we also send students out as people engaged in the world to love as responsible people in the kingdom. When it is working at its best, students are nurtured as people becoming fully alive to the work of God's Spirit in all of life.

Please pray for students, faculty, staff and administration:

- To learn skills of attentiveness to the speaking Word of God
- To nurture spiritual practices which are "big enough" for the world as it is unfolding in this new century
- To become engaged with one another in the art of spiritual friendship
- To walk these historic days of such turmoil in the world, as people defined first by God's kingdom in thought, prayer and practice.



Correction for 2003 calendars

Please note that the 2003 NWC calendars mailed out during the Fall Phonathon have Thanksgiving incorrectly labeled. It is printed as Nov. 20, 2003; however, Thanksgiving is Nov. 27, 2003. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

attorney who works for a medical device company.

Ken Ven Huizen Jr. is a life skills instructor for Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon. His wife, **Karla (De Boer '92)**, works in food and nutrition services at Northwest Iowa Health Center. The Ven Huizens live in Sheldon with their children, Jake (7) and Libby (3), and attend Bethel Reformed Church.

Cheri Waggoner recently moved from Holland, Mich., to Grand Rapids to be closer to her work as general manager of the Comfort Suites in Grandville. The hotel was recently awarded its highest inspection score since its first day of operation in 1999. Cheri is now working at achieving the Gold Award from Choice Hotels International.

'91

Dirk Bak completed his teaching certificate at Morningside College last November. He now teaches third grade at Lincoln Elementary along with coaching freshman football and junior high boys' track in Le Mars. His wife, Amy, is working at Oral Surgery Associates in Sioux City as a dental assistant. Their three children all attend school in Hinton: Kinsey, seventh grade; Keegan, fourth grade; and Kade, first grade.

'92

Ruth Koob lives in Waconia, Minn. She is writing a book about Holocaust survivors.

'93

The Rev. Patricia (Helmer) Aurand pastors the United Church of Christ in Chamberlain, S.D., a church of 435 members. Her husband, the Rev. Charles Aurand III, serves the Presbyterian church in Platte, S.D., and the United Church of Christ in Academy, S.D. Patricia reports that with the marriage she became the "bonus mom" to Dory (12) and Charlie (8).

Renia Park has moved from California to Westcliffe, Colo., where she is a cook for a family conference center.

'94

Amy (Brink) Lamfers recently completed her master's degree in library science at the University of Iowa. She is in her fourth year as an elementary media specialist. She and her husband, Kevin, live in Princeton, Iowa, with their sons, Andrew (9) and Noah (6).

Dr. Scott Murray finished his emergency medicine residency at Michigan State University's Saginaw campus in June. Since July, he has been working in the emergency trauma department at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City.

'95

Dr. Jeremy Bolluyt and his wife, **Courtney (Noble '97)**, have relocated to Spirit Lake, Iowa. After both graduating from Des Moines

University-Osteopathic Medical Center. Jeremy is a family physician at Lakes Family Practice and Courtney is a physician assistant at Gaul Dermatology in Spencer.

Chad Noble is financial planning and analysis manager at Wells Fargo Financial in Sioux Falls.

Dr. Christine Phillips is still working at the Williamson Eye Institute in Lafayette, Ind., and serving in a variety of ministries at her church. She ran the Chicago Marathon in October.

Greg Romberg is a physical therapist at Work Systems Rehab in Pella, Iowa. His wife, **Marci (Klahsen '96)**, is a medical receptionist at the Newton Clinic. They reside in Newton with their son, Austin (2).

'96

Elise (Rens) Binsfeld is in her final year of family practice residency at Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, Minn.

Melissa (Harder) Drier is a second grade teacher at Coleman Elementary in St. Joseph, Mo. Her husband, Mark, is a sales associate for the Midwest middle markets at Altec Capital Services. Their son, Austin, was born 14 weeks early in August. He weighed only one pound and 9½ ounces, and was 13½ inches long. Melissa reports that Austin is doing well and expected to come home from Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City before Thanksgiving.

Kevin Kroese has been a deputy with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department since December 1999. His wife, Amy, is an interior designer in Newport Beach.

Scott Petty and his wife, **Julie (Main '98)**, live in Spirit Lake, Iowa, where Scott teaches third grade and coaches cross country and track. Julie also teaches K-6 Spanish at Spirit Lake.

'97

Matthew Bloom is the grain superintendent at Farmers Cooperative Elevator in Earlham, Iowa. His wife, **Catherine (Vermeer)**, is a senior finance analyst with Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Des Moines. They live in Waukee.

Dan De Groot is an independent district sales manager for Zippo Manufacturing Co. in Bradford, Pa. Living in Orange City, he covers seven states in the Midwest.

Matt Jahn teaches English and mass media at Ontario, Calif., Christian High School.

Joel Sterk is an information technology analyst for Cargill Inc. in Minneapolis. His wife, **Alison (Veldhuis '96)**, stays at home full time with their three children. The Sterks have been very involved in the establishment of a new church, River Rock Church, in their hometown of Belle Plaine.

David Wenell graduated with honors from North Park Theological Seminary last May with a master's degree in Christian education and a certificate in nonprofit management. He now works as the program director at Twin Lakes Christian Center near Manson, Iowa. His wife, **Beth (Fisher '98)**, is doing freelance graphic design work.

'98

The Rev. Jim Daniels graduated in May from Western Theological Seminary. He and his wife, **Dana (Smith '93)**, now live in Primghar, Iowa, where he serves as pastor of the American Reformed Church.

Sarah (Huizenga) Kinne and her husband, Patrick, are both teachers. They live in Bourbonnais, Ill.

Laura (Schoolen) VanDerLinden has moved from teaching junior high and high school band to an elementary position. She teaches grades K-6 at Edgerton, Minn., Public Schools.

Planned givingnotes



Comie Wassink '73
Director of Planned
Giving

Planned gifts come in many shapes and sizes. Some people think of will bequests when they hear the term "planned gift"; others think of charitable gift annuities or life estate gifts. All of these examples are basic planned gifts. Other prominent planned gifts include charitable remainder trusts, life insurance, gifts of securities and gifts of real estate. In certain instances even a gift of cash can be classified as a "planned gift."

What is a planned gift? A planned gift is one that takes into consideration the type and size of assets when a charitable gift is transacted. A donor's circumstances can change substantially over any given period of time. Recognizing this fact and being flexible when making gifting decisions allows some donors to maximize both their giving and the assistance that they provide for their favorite charities. Donors often use a combination of planned gifts for the best results.

There are several key factors that must be considered when striving to maximize one's giving. Among the prime criteria are:

- The nature of the project or program the donor wishes to support
- The current financial status of the donor
- The portfolio of assets available for gifting
- The timeframe in which the gifting will take place
- The ability of the charity to convert non-cash assets
- The ability and desire of the charity to accept non-cash gifts
- The long-range and short-range needs of the charitable organization
- The long-range and short-range goals of the donor
- The tax implications

The successful compilation of an efficient planned gift takes teamwork. The donor should work with the charitable organization and his/her professional advisers. Those advisers might include an attorney, an accountant, a financial planner, a securities broker and a trust officer.

If you are interested in learning more about how a planned gift can maximize your gifting potential while providing significant financial benefits, please contact me at Northwestern College, 101 Seventh St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041, (712) 707-7109 or cwassink@nwciowa.edu. All requests are treated confidentially, and you are under no obligation.



Alumni from the Class of 1997 enjoying their class reunion were: (front row, left to right) Jason Vanden Bosch, Mary (Dieck '99) Vanden Bosch, Bryan Chalmstrom '99, Elaine (Knight) Chalmstrom, Jerry Hunt, Robin (and baby Shariah) (Chalmstrom) Hunt, Cheri (Bergman) Van Der Hart, John Van Der Hart; (second row) Ben Van Engelenhoven, Bryant Engelman, Jennifer Meendering, Renee Wrzesinske, Angie Lawson, Penny Rouse, Jennifer Van Leeuwen, Sara (Veldhuizen) Schrock, Jason Schrock; (third row) Daron De Jong, Emily (Van Donslear) De Jong, Sheri (Zimmerman) Gunderson, Laura Hibma, Kristine Rogers, Gretchen (Vander Velde) Bruhn, Tricia (Reynen) Veenendaal, Eric McDonald '98, Julie (Schuiteman) McDonald, Stephanie (Hutchcraft) Hamby, Robert Hamby; (fourth row) Mark Laman '96, Abby (Verburg) Laman, Jason Medina, Jeff Beekhuizen, Michelle (Aberson '98) De Groot, Dan De Groot.

Sherrie Barber Willson is a writer and editor with The Wordsmiths Inc., a communications company in Grand Rapids, Mich. Her husband, Brent, is an engineer with Anchor Lamina, a tool-and-die manufacturer.

'99

Darrin De Vries received his M.Div. degree in May from Western Theological Seminary. He started his new position as pastor of Community Reformed Church in Clinton, Iowa, in October, and was ordained Nov. 10.

Heather (Finkelstein) Huey is a reference librarian for Somerset Christian College. Her husband, Patrick, is a digital librarian for Rutgers University.

Kristi Ten Clay teaches history at Junction City, Kan., High School.

Brian Town teaches special education and coaches ninth grade girls' basketball at Valley High School in West Des Moines. He also coaches freshman football at Southeast Polk

High School. His wife, Sarah, is a nurse in the intensive care unit at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines.

Christie (Rydell) Vos is a special projects librarian at the Sioux City Public Library. Her husband, Joel, is an attorney at the Heidman law firm. They reside in Sioux City.

'00

Nathan Agre is a C.P.A., having passed his exam in May, and works at the public accounting firm of Blanski, Peter, Kronlage and Zoch in Minneapolis. His wife, **Carla (Kelm '01)**, is employed with YouthWorks! Inc., a missions organization.

Jennifer (Tuor) Bogle works as a laboratory technician for the BP Cherry Point Refinery in Blaine, Wash.

Matt De Young teaches third grade at Bellflower, Calif., Christian School and coaches varsity football at Valley Christian. His wife, **Dawn (Van Meeteren '99)**, teaches kindergarten at Bellflower Christian.

Jeremy Eisenga is the senior web developer at Powercom in Beaver Dam, Wis. His wife, **Kara (Koopmans '01)**, is working part time as the human resources manager for Alsum Produce in Friesland.

Christal (Smith) Fendley is a museum outreach teacher for the Putnam Museum in Davenport, Iowa.

Brian Kading and his wife, **Amber (Smith '01)**, now live in Greeley, Colo. Conesco Finance has promoted Brian from loan originator in Duluth, Minn., to branch manager of their Golden office. Amber, who formerly taught K-5 Spanish, is enrolled in the master's degree in sports administration program at the University of Northern Colorado. She also is helping coach the university's women's soccer team.

Nathan Lamb is in his second year as an M.Div./Master of Arts in Christian education student at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Va.

Andrew Lee is pursuing the M.Div. degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He can be reached at andrew-k-lee@mail.com.

Dawn (Pulscher) Olijnek works as the community development director for The Salvation Army in Abilene, Texas.

Jennifer Van Beest is a full-time student at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, working toward a master's degree in counseling.

'01

Justin Grimm is the director of youth and family ministries at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. He also is attending Luther Seminary. Justin and his wife, Anna, live in Lauderdale, Minn.

Jessica (Jelsma) Shults does college ministry at Calvary Reformed Church in Grand Rapids and attends Western Seminary. Her husband, Matt, is the student ministries director at Standale Reformed Church in Grand Rapids.

Brady Steenhoek is a resident director at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. His wife, **Kristi (Kuiken '02)**, is a recreational therapist at St. Joseph's Hospital.

'02

Andrea Brouwer received the 2002 Elementary Promising Teacher Award from the Iowa Council of Teachers of English in October. She teaches fifth grade at Harris-Lake Park Elementary in Harris, Iowa.

Carrie Cleveland received the 2002 Secondary Promising Teacher Award from the Iowa Council of Teachers of English at the organization's annual conference in Des Moines in October. Carrie is an English teacher at Fulton, Ill., High School.

Cam Smith and his wife, **Anita (Aeikens '01)**, live in Clarion, Iowa, where he teaches history at Clarion-Goldfield High School. He also

serves as head boys' basketball coach and assistant football coach. Anita teaches 4-6 resource at Garner-Hayfield and is head softball coach and 9th grade volleyball coach.

New Arrivals

Tony and **Ann Johnson Girard '82**, daughter, Claire Jolee, joins Haley (8).
 Danel and **Dan Raak '83**, daughter, Sarah Grace.
Chris (Barnes '85) and Bill Dixon '89, daughter, Sara Joy, joins Jesse (15), Danielle (13), Zachariah (10), Joshua (8), Caleb (6), Elijah (4) and Rachel (2).
 Richard and **Elisabeth Bakker Johnson '86**, daughter, Lillian Annelies.
Jodi (Carlson '88) and Kevin De Reus '87, daughter, Katelyn Hope, joins Jonathan (10), Emily (8), Sarah (4) and Benjamin (2).
Vonda (Velgersdyk '88) and Jim Sterk '87, daughter, Savonne Elizabeth, joins Jordan (7), Bryce (6) and Caleb (4).
 Rebecca and **Don Tellinghuisen '88**, son, Owen Andrew.
 Peter and **Pam (De Boer '88) Wanninger**, son, Nathan Terrill, joins Timothy, Stephen, Abigail and Joseph.
 Paul and **Betty Jo (Smit '89) Bolt**, daughter, Abigail Margaret, joins Matthew (7), Betsy (5) and David (3).
Pat (Anker '89) and Greg Heemstra '90, daughter, Abby Grace, joins Marcus (10), Joanna (8) and Bryce (5).
 Heath and **Barb (Ehlers '90) Austin**, daughter, Rebecca Joy.
Michelle (Hofmeyer '90) and Jeff DeKok '89, son, Kellen Clay, joins Will (7).
Mary (Vander Zwaag '91) and Marc Kuiper '89, daughter, Elizabeth Claudia, joins Anna (6) and Benjamin (3).
Kelly (Rensink '92) and John Blok '92, daughter, Abigail Faith, joins Anna (7), Isaiah (4) and Jordan (2).
 Kathy and **Chris Godfredsen '92**, son, Christian Alexander, joins Josie (8) and Maddie (5).

Holly and **Jon Munch '92**, daughter, Elyssa Rose, joins Hannah (3).
Kristi (Vaugh '94) and Brian Hovenga '93, daughter, Emma Grace, joins Caleb (5) and Grady (2).
 Jennifer and **Scott Murray '94**, daughter, Laura Elizabeth.
Sandy (Scholtens '95) and Derrick Mars '94, daughter, Rachel Susan, joins Benjamin (3).
 Jennifer and **Chad Noble '95**, daughter, Sierra, joins Olana (2).
 Crystal and **Mike Rozeboom '95**, daughter, Leah Beth, joins Katie (4) and Caleb (1).
 Scott and **Kristie (Langstraat '95) Simonsen**, daughter, Keely Elizabeth, joins Mikayla (2).
 Jeff and **Deb (Van Leeuwen '95) Tornow**, adopted son from Korea, Nathan TaeWoong.
 Brett and **Angela (Kenobbie '95) Vanderhoff**, son, Austin Lee, joins Sydney.
 Charlie and **Elise (Rens '96) Binsfeld**, son, Elliott.
 Mark and **Melissa (Harder '96) Drier**, son, Austin Andrew.
Alison (Veldhuis '96) and Joel Sterk '97, daughter, Anneka Erin, joins Schuyler (3) and Noah (2).
 Jesse and **Danyale (Temple '96) Tamminga**, son, Hans Jacob.

Jill (Zeiger '96) and Shane Ver Steeg '96, son, Samuel Evan.
Julie (Bouroughs '97) and Shad Danker '97, son, Ryan Shad.
Kristen (Bernardy '97) and Jonathan De Bie '99, daughter, Kaelene Elizabeth.
Janelle (Fikse '98) and Kyle Brouwer '99, son, Cade Gerrit.
Kristin (Arneson '98) and Joel Brunick '99, daughter, Kaylee Christine, joins Jaden.
Michelle (Aberson '98) and Dan De Groot '97, son, Kleyton Michael, joins Emma (2).
Esther (Leman '98) and Pete Errington '97, daughter, Talea Marie, joins Aidan (2).
Jen (Rhinehart '98) and Sean Nathaniel '98, daughter, Anishka Miriam.
Kara (Koopmans '01) and Jeremy Eisenga '00, son, Ethan Jay.

Marriages

Debbie (Hitchcock '79) Medina and Mark Moats, Wingate, N.C.
Scott Ranck '89 and Sonja Newsom, Baxter, Iowa.
Patricia Helmer '93 and Charles Aurand III, Chamberlain, S.D.
Kevin Kroeze '96 and Amy Moorlag, Bellflower, Calif.

Dean Van Farowe '96 and Christine Royhab, Lakewood, Ohio.
Matt Jahn '97 and Suzy Dykstra, West Covina, Calif.
Sherrie Barber '98 and Brent Willson, Kentwood, Mich.
Sarah Huizenga '98 and Patrick Kinne, Bourbonnais, Ill.
Heather Finkelstein '99 and Patrick Huey, Old Bridge, N.J.
Shaun Olson '99 and **Kristin Schuiling '02**, Boyden, Iowa.
Brian Town '99 and Sarah Brouwer, Des Moines.
Nathan Agre '00 and **Carla Kelm '01**, Minnetonka, Minn.
Matt De Young '00 and **Dawn Van Meeteren '99**, Bellflower, Calif.
Dawn Pulscher '00 and **Matt Olijnek**, Abilene, Texas.
Jennifer Tuor '00 and J. Bruce Bogle, Bellingham, Wash.
Stephanie Waage '00 and Andrew Turcotte, West Des Moines.
Jessica Jelsma '01 and Matt Shults, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Josh Pickard '01 and **Julie Westenberg '04**, Minneapolis.
Brady Steenhoek '01 and **Kristi Kuiken '02**, Phoenix.

The couples reside in the city listed.

Alumni - What's New with You?

Let us know so we can tell your friends and classmates. Send to: Office of Public Relations, Northwestern College, 101 7th St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041. Or e-mail it to beeson@nwciowa.edu; fax number is 712-707-7117. Deadline for the Spring Classic is Jan. 15.

Name _____
 Address _____

 Home Phone _____ Class of _____

Raider RD Road Rally

Northwestern residence hall directors Jon Cavanagh, Brian Gunderson and Marlon Haverdink '97 will be biking coast to coast this summer, and are looking to connect with NWC alumni and friends whenever possible. Beginning May 19 near Florence, Ore., the bikers expect to complete the trip about seven weeks later in Rehoboth Beach, Del.

They're looking for people who would be willing to provide a meal or housing—or ride along for part of the trip. If you live along the following route, or know someone who does, please contact Brian Gunderson at bgundy@nwciowa.edu, 712-707-7219 or by returning the form at the bottom.

Oregon

Starting near **Florence**, traveling on 126 through **Eugene** to **Redmond**. Continuing east on 26 through **John Day** to **Ontario**.

Idaho

Traveling from **Ontario, Ore.**, south of **Boise** near **Nampa** down to **Mountain Home**. Taking 20 over to Idaho Falls, then picking up 26 to **Jackson, Wyo.**

Wyoming

From **Jackson** to **Dubois** by way of 191 and 26/287, then continuing on to **Riverton** and **Casper** on 20/26. Traveling on to **Douglas**, then **Lusk** on 18/20 before heading to **Edgemont, S.D.**, on 18.

South Dakota

We will be traveling on 18 all the way from **Edgemont** to **Winner**. Then we will pick up 44 to **Freeman**, then taking 81 down to 46 and east through **Beresford**. Then we will travel on 10 into Iowa.

Iowa

We will ride on 10 east to **Orange City**, down 143 through **Marcus** and on to 3 all the way through **Waverly** and on to **Dubuque**.

Yes, I might be able to help! Please contact me as you continue your trip planning.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Send to Brian Gunderson, NWC/RSC Box 33, 208 8th St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041

Illinois

We will continue from **Dubuque, Iowa**, down along the east side of the river to **Fulton** where we will turn eastward and travel just south of 30 through **Harmon** and **Paw Paw** on to **Plano**. We will then travel around **Joliet** on to **Manhattan** and further eastward through **Monee** and on to **Crown Point, Ind.**

Indiana

From **Crown Point** we will travel down 231 to 8 and take that east to **Plymouth**. From there we will continue on Old 30 into **Ft. Wayne**, and head out of Indiana by way of 2 NE into Ohio.

Ohio

From **Hicksville** we will go up to 249, and just north of **Napoleon** onto Co. Rd. P into **Bowling Green**. We will then travel through **Fremont** and **Sandusky** before dropping down below **Cleveland**, squeezing through the **Akron/Canton** area on to **Canfield** near **Boardman**. We will head toward Pennsylvania by way of 224.

Pennsylvania

We will continue east **north of Pittsburgh** and on toward **Johnstown**. We will head east through **Shippensburg** into **York**, taking 74 down into Maryland.

Maryland/ Delaware

We will ride to 213 and down through **Barclay** and **Denton** on 313 to 404 in **Bridgeville, Del.** We will then continue on 404 to the conclusion of our trip in **Rehoboth Beach, Del.**



Prexy House: Experiencing Intentional Community



Before I came to Northwestern, I experienced a life-transforming encounter with Jesus Christ that was strongly influenced by the hippie-oriented Jesus movement of the late 1960s. I rejected, of course, many elements of the hippie lifestyle (including drug abuse, "free love" and infrequent bathing). But I was enamored with those elements of the hippie experience

which could be carried over into the Christian life, such as long hair, beards, rock music, the promotion of peace and simple living. The idea of a Christian commune fascinated me because it seemed to echo what I read in Acts 2 about how the first believers "were together and had everything in common," worshiping, evangelizing and praying together each day.

Dorm life approximated this experience (especially since my floor at Heemstra had many pre-sem students), but when the opportunity arose at Prexy House to try to be more intentional about community, I jumped at the chance. To have Dr. Murphy and his family leading us was an extra bonus because I had enjoyed studying Western Man under him. I admired the Murphys for making the sacrifice of leaving their own private home to share themselves with a bunch of college students.

During that semester the men lived in the basement with two to a room, the women lived upstairs, and the Murphys were on the main floor with more private quarters in the back. Sharing meals together would have been problematic (no one had the time to prepare and the house did not have the space), so the students ate at the cafeteria while the Murphys ate in their own kitchen. I believe, however, that we did all dine together each week at the cafeteria.

The students not only enjoyed interacting with one another, but also getting to know the Murphys. Many of us had younger siblings back home, so it was refreshing to have the Murphy children around. I still treasure a picture of me with Chris Murphy on my lap on the front steps of Prexy House. He's wearing my trademark derby and I'm wearing his little baseball cap. Prexy House gave us residents an opportunity to experience community in an intergenerational setting.

The main place for interaction at Prexy House was the living room, a spacious area for talking. That's where we discussed books about Christ, culture and Christian community. That's where we watched Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford's presidential debates. Our debates continued as we were all trying to figure out how we would handle our first opportunity

to cast a vote for president.

At Prexy House we not only learned about Christian community, but also about the limits of community. I believe that most of the participants thoroughly enjoyed Prexy House, but I'm not sure any of us would have wanted that to be a permanent arrangement (in the same way that few people would like to live in a dorm for their entire lives). Even though we Americans often like our right to privacy too much, it's still true that the need for private times and places is legitimate. Prexy House helped me to value both community and aloneness.

Today I'm doing the same thing as the Murphys were doing at Prexy House: helping people learn to live in that Christian community called the church. Even though we have our separate homes, we still come together to worship, study, eat, pray and build relationships. We are a family together, even though most of us are not biologically connected. We are connected by the Spirit of God who teaches us to cry, "Abba, Father." Prexy House taught me to enjoy being in community. The people around me at church are not opponents to defeat in consistory meetings, customers to satisfy, allies for pushing my agenda or cliques within which I must find my place. They are my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I also know the limits of that community—that as a pastor I must give people space for developing their own walk with God. It's the cults that create community without space. In the church we share God's Word together, but we do not demand rigid conformity to only one perspective on that Word. Instead we give people space to ask questions and think the Word through for themselves. In the church we sponsor many activities, but we do not demand that people spend every possible minute in the church building. Instead we create space for people to participate wherever they sense God's call. In the church we share resources together, but we don't use manipulation to rob people of time and money. Instead we create space for God's people to be cheerful givers of what God has given to them. The church is not a cult in which the community is everything. Nor is the church a loose association in which individual desires carry the day. Rather, the church is a community called by God to live in the kind of love that still gives people space to grow. It's like what I experienced at Prexy House.

The Rev. David Landegent '78 became pastor of Central Park Reformed Church in Holland, Mich., on Dec. 1 after serving Second Reformed Church in Fulton, Ill., since 1989. A member of Northwestern's Board of Trustees for the last five years, he and his wife, Ruth (Korver '81), are the parents of Talitha '04 and Ben '05.

Send your Classic thoughts to beeson@nwciova.edu

Change Service Requested

2003 Gala Auction Alert!

February 15 is the date
 Where you can also raise your plate!
 Bid your number in the air
 And show the students that you care.

The '02 Western theme was a barn-burnin' hit
 As you "rounded up" fun, and quite a bit!
 2003's Hawaiian theme, to be sure,
 Might be just what you need for that "cold winter cure!"

Come to the auction and be greeted at the door
 With a lei and a welcome you can't ignore.
 Alumni and friends come near and far
 To support NW wherever they are.

Help some students with the cost of school,
 Your scholarship money is such a tool!
 Let me know if you want to donate . . .
 Call me now; please don't wait.

Then come and bid, yes, raise your plate!
 Show up for our Gala Auction date!
 Get your calendar and mark the date;
Your presence makes the auction great!



Call now to donate items, 1-800-588-6692, or
 e-mail Karen at karenw@nwciowa.edu.
 Auction books available Feb. 7! www.nwciowa.edu/alumni/gala.asp



EVERYONE WELCOME!
 (Call to register for childcare: 712-707-7127)

Last year we raised \$40,000 dollars that went to 28 student scholarships and more!
 Thank you for your support in the past!

Saturday Feb. 15, 2003
 Silent bidding begins at 6 p.m. • Audible bidding at 7 p.m.

Tips for trips

Send us your summer vacation stories! The summer Classic (published in June) will include an article about creative vacationing:

You might read about:

- Two alums who grew up taking "Mystery Vacations."
- An alum whose vacations are mapped out years in advance—to ensure her daughters get a good "vacation education" before leaving for college.
- An alum who experienced some of his heritage by hiking Maine's "100-Mile Wilderness," part of the Appalachian Trail.
- An alum whose family has vacationed while building houses with Habitat for Humanity.

What's your vacation story? If you have creative vacation ideas, destinations or tips for singles, families or retirees, please contact us. You might be featured in our "Tips for Trips" summer Classicstory. To share your creative vacation ideas, complete and mail in the information below, or e-mail your "tips for trips" to Tamara Fynaardt, fynaardt@nwciowa.edu.

Name(s): _____ "Tips for Trips" story: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Graduation Year(s): _____

