

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
Alumni Association
 Box 919
 Norfolk, NE 68701
 Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 182
 Council Bluffs, IA

The Alert

Published by Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
 January, 1983

Producers or Reproducers?

Most preachers think they have to be producers. In fact, most Christians have the producer attitude about the work of the Lord. A producer is a person who does a lot of things that show and look good to his competition. The producer keeps an accurate record of his calls, church attendance, percent of increase in giving, in fact he records anything that will make a good impression on his record. He reports these facts regularly to his church board, his wife and family, fellow preachers, and of course, the nationally recognized church publication gets a full report.

I did this for years as a preacher. I ran in circles thinking the Lord was blessing the big wheel that produced. Then one day I realized that I ought to be *reproducing* instead of producing. I began to get others to do the work I was doing, and I began to seek young people who could be trained to do what I was doing. I took them calling, taught them to lead the worship services, had a few preacher-training classes and urged them to go to Bible College. Today there are men and women doing better than I could *ever* do because they had an opportunity to help do the same work I had been doing.

Nebraska Christian College is ready to help you reproduce yourself. There's a thrill in producing; but it's shallow indeed compared to the thrill of reproducing. If you like what you received at NCC, it can be reproduced in the lives of others you influence to become our students.

—Ron McConkey

Coming Events

Pioneer Bible Institute Jan. 3-5
 Second Semester Registration . Jan. 5
 Classes Begin Jan. 6
 Valentine Formal Feb. 14
 Spiritual Emphasis Feb. 14-16
 Mid-Winter Break Feb. 24-25
 Trustees' Meeting Mar. 8
 Bible Bowl Tournament .. Mar. 11-12
 Spring Break Mar. 31-Apr. 4
 Alumni Days/Spr. Conv. Apr. 5-6

Alumni Officers for 1982-83

President Jim Hopkins
 Vice President Larry Fiscus
 Secretary Disa Nelson
 Treasurer Linda Lu Lloyd
 Editor, *Alert* Harold Fox

Editor's Comment

I really like Ron's article (above), and I asked Ron for some additional information. He told me that during his 17 years with the Lewistown, Montana congregation, more than 20 of their young people went to Bible College, and all but four of those came to Nebraska Christian College. Many of these are in active and successful pulpit ministries, or have distinguished themselves in other phases of Christian work. Though Ron is not an NCC alumnus (he *was* voted our first *honorary* alumnus several years ago), he has always boosted our school because he likes what he sees here. He believes in the direction NCC is going, and the attitude and spirit of her students, graduates and faculty.

—Harold Fox



Excelling in Grace

Certainly all of us are eager to receive God's grace in abundance. Where would we be without it? Our very salvation depends upon it! The hymn writer expresses it so well:

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see!"

It just goes without saying that we all want to excel in God's grace. But let's not forget that excelling in grace means more than passively rejoicing in God's gifts of forgiveness, salvation and the abundant life that Christ brings to us. Really excelling in God's grace means to *actively* rejoice in these gifts by emulating God's own gracious nature through giving cheerfully of our material possessions to meet the needs of the church. The entire 8th and 9th chapters of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians are devoted to this important truth. Read them over carefully for a deeper appreciation of God's grace.

Nebraska Christian College is doing the work of the church in educating a faithful ministry to proclaim the gospel of God's grace in Jesus Christ. And her financial needs at this time are greater than ever.

Fellow alumni, I know that God has given grace to all of you just as certainly as he gave it to the Macedonians. "But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving."

NCC is depending upon you!

*L.A. Burkum,
Director of Development*

NEW WAY SINGERS

January 17 is the deadline for registration!
Write or call (402) 371-5960 for your packet.



Bo Deaton

If you weren't here for Career Days, you missed a great treat. And part of that treat was Bo Deaton, Encounter Ministries, Milligan College. Bo is so accomplished in so many areas, I won't try to enumerate, but I do want to say that Bo Deaton was impressed by, and excited about, Nebraska Christian College. Again and again he said that if he had children of college age he would encourage them to come to NCC.

—Harold Fox

Some News of Some Alumni

Births

Timothy David, to Randy and Mindy Maas, on November 17, 1982.

Kayci Joyce, to Mel and Deb Shepherd, on December 2, 1982

Graduations:

Bonnie Leitzke Fox, R.N. at Albany Oregon, on June 10, 1982.

Kent Turnbull, University of Nebraska, College of Law, December 18, 1982

Barbara Hill Woockman, Wayne (NE) State College, B.S. in Home Economics, December 19.

Laurie Swinney, CPA Certificate, University of Cincinnati, December, 1982.

This is by no means complete, but if you will give us such information, we'll try to keep you up-to-date on this sort of information.



An Estimate

In ACTION for Nov., '82, its editor Jimmie Lovell had an item, "An Estimate," in which he told of Clyde Carey, a friend from his earlier days in the construction industry, with whom he had become re-acquainted in recent years. Clyde phoned him one day and asked, "Jimmie, what must I do to be saved?" Jimmie answered, "Clyde, you have received honors as one of our greatest engineers, especially in the field of estimating. Make me an estimate of the Book of Acts." Some time later Clyde called again. "I've got the estimate made. When can you baptize me?" Jimmie did so the same day.

Nearly 30 years ago we heard of an old fellow in the Kiamichi mountains of Oklahoma who had never been inside a church building or heard a sermon in his life. During a long sick spell he became desperate for a way to pass the uncomfortable hours, and began to read the Bible. When he got into the New Testament he made his own "estimate." When he felt up to it, he headed for town. One of the Kiamichi Mission church buildings was under construction beside the road. The old man stopped to watch, and, learning that one of the men was a preacher, he asked him to baptize him, which he did immediately in a nearby stream.

I've heard people object to sending Bibles to foreign lands unless one of "our preachers" could go along to properly explain the doctrine. If we would stop worrying about indoctrinating people in "our position," and encourage them to make their own estimate, they would be sounder in the faith, and it would be their own faith and not a second hand one. And since they had studied it out for themselves, they would not be easily led astray by cultic views.

As a matter of fact, have *you* made your own estimate of the Book of Acts? You might be surprised at what you'd find!



BOOST NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE!

How Do Your Dues Do?

Paying your dues to the Alumni Association brings about very positive results. Let me first hit the intangible effect that shows itself through both the college and your own ministry.

First, when you pay your dues, you demonstrate to the college and the association that you are willing to help build up the college through the association. You show your appreciation for the time and expense that the college and her friends have invested in you. It can't but help the total outlook of the college toward her graduates.

Also your influence will be felt by the people closest to you. That's because you'll feel better about yourself. You will be numbered with the loyal supporters of Nebraska Christian College. It will also serve to improve your outlook and interest in the college.

There are also some *tangible* benefits for dues paying members of the association. We have just received word that when at the bookstore on campus, when you present your paid-up membership card, you will receive 10% off the retail price of your purchase. Is that tangible enough?

We are presently looking into the possibility of group insurance for our members. (If you are interested, please let us know. Write to: The Alumni Association: Insurance; Box 919; Norfolk, NE 68701.) This will possibly benefit our total body with quality insurance at a reduced rate.

Even though dues paid won't do it all and we must support the college faithfully by added means, your dues indicate a willing spirit to let God support the college through you and through the association. Take care of this today, won't you?

In His Service to be of service,
Jim Hopkins

Alumni Serving on NCC Campus

Over the years quite a number of NCC alumni have served their college in many capacities. Here are some who are presently working on campus in either part-time or full-time capacity:

Lori Maertens Blacker	Secretary
Carl Brandt	Maintenance
Richard Brown	Ministries Faculty
Dave Burkum	Music Faculty
Lowell Burkum	Director of Development and Music Faculty
Harold and Phoebe Fox	Dorm Parents
Harold Fox	Print Shop
Judy Gillen	Receptionist
Rhonda Schwarz Juve	Registrar
Duane King	Deaf Classes, Faculty
Linda Lu Lloyd	Bookkeeper
Jan Lammert Parker	Executive Secretary
Linda Pippitt	Deaf Classes, Faculty

NCC is well served by these who choose to labor for the Master right here on campus.

Jim Hopkins, our alumni president, refers to a new policy of our College Bookstore to give a 10% discount to alumni on presentation of your paid-up membership card. You'll see below a sample. These cards are now being prepared, and come in two kinds, Lifetime Membership, and Annual Membership.

The Lifetime Membership costs \$100 for a single or \$150 for a couple. This is not a gimmick to raise money fast, after which it would be gone and no money coming in. The idea is to take that \$100 or \$150 and invest it, so that the interest would pay approximately the regular annual membership, thus saving *you* the bother of wondering each year, *Did I or did I not pay my Alumni Dues?* It would also save your Association the hassle of reminding you that it has not been paid.

The Annual Membership is \$7.50 for a single or \$10.00 for a couple. It is due and payable each year on September 1, and expires the following August 31.

You'll find a handy coupon for your convenience, no matter which way you decide to pay your dues.



Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association Membership

I want to be a paid-up member of the Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association, and share in both its benefits and responsibilities.

- ☐ Please sign me up for a lifetime membership.
☐ Single, \$100 ☐ Couple, \$150

- ☐ I'm enclosing my dues for the current year.
☐ Single, \$7.50 ☐ Couple, \$10.00

My/our name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I graduated or left NCC in 19____

ADVANCED EDUCATION SEMINAR

February 4-5, 1983

On Friday and Saturday, February 4-5, 1983 Nebraska Christian College will present an advanced education seminar on "Unity and Authority in the Restoration Movement." The seminar is provided in cooperation with Cincinnati Christian Seminary and will be conducted by Dr. James North, Professor of Church History at CCS.

Lecture Schedule

Friday:

- 1:30-3:00 Unity and Authority in Church History
- 3:20-5:00 Unity in the Early Restoration Leaders
- 6:00-8:00 Biblical Authority in the Early Restoration Leaders
- 8:20 -9:30 Biblicism Without Unity

Saturday:

- 8:30-10:30 Unity Without Biblical Standards
- 10:50-12:30 A Current Assessment

The lecture series will consist of approximately ten hours of classroom presentation. One may enroll on an audit basis, or may take the course for graduate academic credit.

Fees are as follows:

Non-credit	\$15.00
Non-credit (college Jrs. & Srs.)	7.50
Graduate credit (one hour)	55.00
Graduate credit (college seniors)	27.50

For Information, Write:

Advanced Education Seminar

Nebraska Christian College
Attention: Dean L.T. Swedburg
Box 919
Norfolk, Nebraska 68701

Or call (402) 371-5960

The Born Loser

Maybe you heard about this fellow. He bought an overseas flight ticket, then took out \$50,000 in flight insurance. He then weighed himself on a penny scale, and got a fortune card with this message: "Your recent investment will pay big dividends!"

Some days even your *good* luck is all bad!



Let us hear from you! Moving? Send old and new address. Got a new job? New baby? Newly married? Maybe you have news of interest to other alumni. Do yourself, your school, and your fellow alumni a favor, and drop us a letter. Others want to know about you!

What is *Your* Price?

Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What are you willing to give me to deliver Him up to you?" And they weighed out to him thirty pieces of silver.
Matthew 26:14-15

Someone put it in rhyme:

Still, as of old,
Man by himself is priced.
For thirty pieces Judas sold
Himself, not Christ."

Money talks. What does your money—how you get it and how you use it—say about you? Are you sold out 100% to Jesus Christ, or could you be "bought off" for a price by Christ's enemies or the world's attractions?



Generic Christians

Steve Jackson, Sixth Avenue Church, Havre, MT, once preached on *Generic Christians*. He decorated the pulpit with "name brand" cola cans, plus a black-&-white "generic" label. Bro. Steve learned later that at least two of the brand name colas came from the same company that made the generic cola. Only the sweetener was different!

We're all familiar with generic products. A medication may be marketed under several trade names, but if you ask for it by its generic name you get the same thing, and you'll probably save money. All aspirin is chemically the same. Bayer may add something to make it dissolve faster and another brand may add a buffering agent, but they all contain the same basic chemical. Even the supermarkets carry many products under well-known trade names, and right alongside is the generic product with the plain label. I even saw a label from a "Generic Company", somewhere in Canada, I think.

I wish I had heard Steve's message. But his comments in the *Messenger* were enough to inspire this column. Anyhow his point was that we need to be just *generic* Christians. We have a great slogan that we must guard against violating, the one that says we're not the only Christians, but Christians only. Let's be real live sure-enough Christians, with everything essential to the term; but let us not become Generic Christians (with a capital G)—just another "brand", alongside the dozens of name brands we find already, in almost every town.





The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
March, 1983

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA

Coming Events

Spring Break March 31-April 4
Adv. Education Sem. April 22-23
Alumni Days/Spring Conv. April 5-6
VBS Clinic April 28
Spring Banquet May 4
Thank You to Norfolk May 7
Senior Rehearsal Dinner May 9
Honors Convocation May 13 (am)
Commencement May 13 (8:00 pm)
Faculty Planning Session May 19-20
Pastoral Counseling Seminar . May 23-26

Your Best Friend

Love your enemy!
He is your truest friend.
He spurs you to accomplish
Your every worthy end.
Faithfully he scorns you,
Lest you become too proud.
All your friends are numbered
But your enemies are a crowd.

Love your enemy!
No virtue could be won
Without his hateful help;
He is a benison.
So be faithful to him,
And never once forget
How much he does for you.
He is your best friend yet!

—Alice Josephine Wyatt

Report on Mr. "B's" "Report to the Churches"

Lowell Burkum, Director of Development for NCC, has prepared a "Report to the Churches" containing facts about NCC's cost of operation, size of student body, and number of graduates for the years 1978 through 1982, with an exciting forward look regarding the class of '83. Also, and perhaps more significant from the standpoint of Stewardship, this report shows what those graduates are now doing—how many are actually involved in some area of regular Christian ministry. Here are some of the facts:

Graduates (1978-'82, 2-4-5 year degrees): 117
Number of these graduates in a regular ministry: 64

(Of these, 31 are preachers, 2 youth ministers, 3 between ministries, 12 are preachers' wives, 7 missionaries, 4 in Christian Education, 2 Bible College staff, and 3 are in graduate school.

Percent committed to regular vocational service: 55%

Did you know that *almost 60%* of our churches in Nebraska and *almost 30%* in Iowa are served by NCC alumni and student ministers? *It's a fact!*

And did you know that, in addition to several minister internships in recent summers, *many have been serving as mission interns*, both in the U.S.A. and elsewhere? *It's a fact!* Look at these facts:

Summer of 1980 7 mission interns on the field
Summer of 1981 19 mission interns on the field
Summer of 1982 11 mission interns on the field
Summer of 1983 4 or 5 already committed for the summer

Besides, several of our 1983 graduates are going to mission fields full time. Our Missions Program is going great, and we're proud of it!

If you haven't seen Lowell's report, you ought to write for it. It's a real eye-opener. We believe that NCC's proportion of graduates in full-time service will hold up under any comparison.

You'll not be disappointed when you decide to encourage your students—and your Stewardship dollars—to go to Nebraska Christian College.

—The Editor

Why Should I?

"Me—make a commitment to the NCC Daily Dollars Fellowship? Why should I?" This may be a question on your mind as an NCC Alumnus. It's a fair question and it deserves a good answer.

Not long ago an NCC graduate said to me, "When I receive an appeal asking me to give because of what I owe for the education I received, it doesn't motivate me. When I attended NCC I paid my tuition and expenses and my home church contributed to the college. I don't really feel like I 'owe' anything. Isn't there a better basis of appeal that could be made?"

This alumnus is a regular contributor and a loyal friend of the college, but he certainly has overlooked some vital facts about the costs involved to provide his education. The average student pays 30% or less of the total cost of his education at NCC! Our tuition, board and room charges at the college are about average compared to other Bible Colleges in our brotherhood, but *far less* than almost all denominational Bible Colleges and private schools. The only reason NCC has been able to offer quality education at these lower-than-cost prices is because of the contributions of concerned alumni and faithful Christian individuals and churches.

Nonetheless, my friend's suggestion that there must be some more convincing appeal that could motivate alumni giving to NCC got me to thinking. As alumni, why should we make financial commitments to the college? And how should we determine the amount?

There are probably many good answers to these questions. For most of us there will be an emotional tie with NCC which will motivate us to give something, at least occasionally. Recognition of the fact that student costs at the college can only be kept at a reasonable level if sufficient contributions are received will cause many of us to give regularly. But is there any word from the Lord that would help us to determine what kind of priority we should give to our financial stewardship to NCC?

I have personally found real meaning and positive motivation from Paul's exhortation to Timothy, "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others." (II Timothy 2:1,2, NIV).

Certainly our responsibility is no less than Timothy's. I give to NCC not only because the college has needs, but because I have a need to give in response to Paul's charge. The church in our day has elected to fulfill her responsibility to send forth qualified proclaimers of the Word through the agency of the Bible College. As alumni, we received sound teaching at NCC and we need to ensure that other reliable men/women will receive this same sound teaching and become "qualified to teach others."

But how much should I give? I have a major stewardship responsibility to my local congregation and there are many other worthwhile missionary works to consider. Where does the Bible College stand in the order of importance?

While each of us may respond differently to this question we should all reflect on the following questions before making our decision.

How many missionaries would remain on the fields if all of those who received their preparation and motivation in Bible College were removed?

How many preachers would be left in the local congregations if all of those who were challenged to the ministry and learned their basic skills in Bible College were removed from the pulpits?

The Bible College is unquestionably the primary source of leadership ministers in the church today. Surely NCC deserves a regular and significant share of our tithes and offerings if we are to continue to entrust the Word to "reliable men who will be qualified to teach others."

Won't you please respond with a commitment to the **Daily Dollars Fellowship** today?

—L.A. Burkum
Director of Development

Most Student Prospects Need Financial Aid

In a recent survey sent to us from ACT, we were told that out of 117 seniors who said they were interested in coming to NCC, most of them expected to apply for financial aid. Of those who came, 74% said they needed financial aid, and of those who did not enroll, 88% expected to apply for financial aid. Of those who did not come, only 6% have a family income of over \$20,000.

This year we have awarded about \$60,000 in scholarships to our students. This is a tremendous drain on our finances. Perhaps you would like to assist NCC in this area of finances? Money does make a difference to the prospective student. Of those who came, 44% had a family income of over \$20,000. Perhaps if we could have helped more we could have had more.

Thank you for your financial help. The two main reasons that 5% of the colleges in the U.S. will close are lack of finances and lack of students. It's a serious matter and we appreciate your serious consideration of the problem.

—Ron McConkey

"Memory is that faculty that makes it possible to recognize a man without having any idea what his name may be."

BOOST NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE!

Advanced Education Seminar Rescheduled

The Advanced Education Seminar on *Unity and Authority in the Restoration Movement*, originally scheduled for February 4-5, was canceled because of severe weather. *It has been rescheduled for April 22 and 23.* Dr. James North, Professor of Church History at Cincinnati Christian Seminary, will lead. If you plan to attend, if you want graduate credit, or if you need more information, please write or call Dean Swedburg right away!

Following are schedule and costs.

1983 Advanced Education Seminar

Lecture Schedule

April 22 - 23

Friday:

- 1:30-3:00 Unity and Authority in Church History
- 3:20-5:00 Unity in the Early Restoration Leaders
- 6:00-8:00 Biblical Authority in the Early Restoration Leaders
- 8:20 -9:30 Biblicism Without Unity

Saturday:

- 8:30-10:30 Unity Without Biblical Standards
- 10:50-12:30 A Current Assessment

The lecture series will consist of approximately ten hours of classroom presentation. One may enroll on an audit basis, or may take the course for graduate academic credit. In this latter instance, there will be outside assignments to be completed.

The Seminar will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, April 22, and will conclude at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 23.

Cost:

Fees are as follows:

Non-credit	\$15.00
Non-credit (college Jrs. & Srs.)	7.50
Graduate credit (one hour)	55.00
Graduate credit (college seniors)	27.50

Those who plan to take the course for graduate credit will engage in pre-session and post-session activities

Bill Nungester killed

We at NCC were shocked to learn that Bill Nungester was killed when struck by a car in Oklahoma City on January 27. Bill had been a student at NCC just last year, and had preached at Clearwater. He had more recently attended Midwest Christian College in Oklahoma City.

Bill's parents, family and friends are remembered in our prayers. A very touching memorial service for Bill was held here during our chapel service, during which several of his friends and staff members paid tribute to Bill.

Dollars and Sense

By Victor Knowles

I LAID the book down.

I couldn't believe it.

I had just read that the price to kill a single enemy soldier in World War II was \$200,000. In more recent times the price to destroy a life in the Vietnam War was a staggering \$500,000.

In contrast with these astounding figures, the average cost to save a soul in overseas evangelism is only \$654 (Source: *Beyond the Wall*, Hank Paulson, Regal, 1982).

Paulson says, "Even though we can never put a price tag on the life of an individual, nor on the saving grace of Jesus Christ, these figures should make us stop and think."

And weep.

The above-mentioned figures show just how far out of kilter our modern world really is. We spend a half-million dollars to kill one enemy soldier on foreign soil. Yet it would take less than \$1,000 to save a soul on foreign soil—perhaps that very young man that our money sent crashing to the ground.

Something is wrong—terribly wrong—with our crazy, mixed-up world today.

Did you know that advertisers stood ready to pay \$150,00 for thirty seconds of time for the 1982-82 NFL Monday Night Football season? They shelled out an incredible \$180,000 for the same amount of time to hawk their products during the 1982 World Series.

My question is this: if the War Department and Madison Avenue are willing to pay those exorbitant amounts for ideals that most Christians would question (to say the least!), why in the world isn't the church—whose purpose is to save souls and propagate the message of Jesus Christ—ready and willing to spend and be spent for a legitimate and lasting cause?

Where are our priorities?

Where, indeed.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). ▲

Victor Knowles ministers with Oskaloosa, Iowa, Church of Christ.

The above article appeared in *Christian Standard* for January 23, 1983. It is under copyright by *Standard Publishing*, and is reproduced here by permission.

My handy-dandy little calculator says it costs 765 times as much to kill a man as to convert him. So heed the Great Commission and *save!* —Both souls and money!
—H. Fox



How About the Divorced?

Leroy Garrett had an article under the above title in the June, 1982 issue of *Restoration Review*, of which he is the editor. Since space will not permit reprinting in full, the following is my summary of his article, published here with his permission.

Marriage failure is common today. Even conservative churches are finding their traditional doctrines on the subject unworkable. Churches that have made a test of fellowship of the doctrine that those who divorce and remarry are "living in adultery" are having to rethink their position. What little the Bible says about divorce and remarriage is being restudied and old conclusions are being questioned. Garrett sums up the basic scriptural aspects under four points.

1. *People legally married cannot properly be accused of "living in adultery," however many times they were previously married.*

The Samaritan woman (John 4) was committing adultery, but only because her latest paramour "is not your husband," as Jesus put it. He reminded her, "You have had five husbands." She *was* married to them, and Jesus passed no judgment on her in that regard. His judgment was that she was then living with a man who was *not* her husband.

2. *Some sins, including those committed in divorce and remarriage, are irreparable.*

Repentance presupposes reparation or restitution so far as it is possible. But when it is not possible, as in murder or slander, God in his mercy still forgives—if we repent. Though we may grant that one has sinned in divorcing and remarrying, it does not follow that in repenting one must dissolve the second marriage. A second divorce will not atone for the first one. Too many lives, and deep emotions, are involved. Two wrongs do not make a right.

3. *In his forgiving mercy, God accepts the sinner where he is.*

God wants to save, not to condemn. He does not demand the impossible. Repentance means a change of attitude. It cannot require another broken home to repair the error of the past. But it *does* mean not to divorce again. It means to change one's lifestyle and to start glorifying God in one's life. Never mind the ugly past, but let a man have a *Christian* home from now on, and live with his present wife "until death do us part," as God intended.

4. *Divorce is not the unpardonable sin.*

There *is* an unpardonable sin; but it is not divorce and remarriage. One can no more make things right by going back through a maze of tragic circumstances than he can put Humpty Dumpty back together again. If one who fouled up a marriage contracted while in high school or college must live celibate from now on, then it must be unpardonable. But, no. Divorce *is* forgivable, even if irreparable.

It was amidst a bad marriage that the prophet Hosea stated these words, repeated by the apostle in 1 Peter 2:10:

Once you were no people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

—Leroy Garrett, as summarized by Harold Fox



Look Who's Coming To The Convention!

That's April 5-6, 1983. Our special speaker is Robert Russell, minister to Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY, zeroing in on our theme, *Laborers Together With God*. You'll profit from our many workshops, too. Alumni will lead some of them, and will be teaching college classes on Wednesday morning.

You won't want to miss the Alumni Meeting. Decisions must be made that will affect the future direction of your Association. And bring your paid-up membership card. Or if you don't have one, you'll want to pay your dues while here. That card is worth \$\$\$ to you. Besides helping pay for this paper and other alumni costs, it gets you 10% off on NCC Bookstore purchases, and that's worth a lot these days!

So come, and bring your friends. If you have no friends, bring an enemy; you'll make him your friend!



Mail Delivery



Fast delivery of our mailings is a problem with all of us. One organization stamps the date the material is mailed just above the words, *Dated Material*, and finds that two or three days are saved between mailing and delivery.

Some years ago, in Sutton, NE, I received church mailings from both Havre and Lewistown, Montana. The Lewistown paper reached us in three days while the Havre paper took ten days. Though both papers often arrived on the same day of the week, one would be for the previous week—just one week late. I wrote to the Havre Postmaster, suggesting that I would not report the problem to the Postmaster General in Washington if the delay was remedied. It was remedied.

H. Fox



Let us hear from you! Moving? Send old and new address. Got a new job? New baby? Newly married? Maybe you have news of interest to other alumni. Do yourself, your school, and your fellow alumni a favor, and drop us a letter. Others want to know about you!

NCC Dorm has New Deans

We are pleased to introduce Mr. and Mrs. Bob Dean, who have been called to serve as dorm parents at Nebraska Christian College. At the present time, home for the Deans is Danville, KY where they have owned and operated a Christian bookstore. As soon as they sell their bookstore and home, they will be moving to Norfolk and assuming their responsibilities as dorm parents.

The Deans are graduates of Eastern Kentucky University. Bob holds a major in Psychology and a minor in Physical Education. His wife, Jane, has a masters degree in Library Science from the University of Kentucky. Before opening the bookstore, Bob served as director of Kentucky Business College. Before that he was a school teacher and football coach on the junior high and high school levels. Jane also taught in public schools and served as school librarian for three years.

In addition to her responsibility as dorm parent, Mrs. Dean will be working part-time as college librarian. Her education and experience qualify her to meet the requirements of the American Association of Bible Colleges Accrediting Association.

We extend a warm welcome to Bob and Jane Dean, and heartfelt thanks to Harold and Phoebe Fox who have served as dorm parents for the past two years.



Bob and Jane Dean

CC Big Events

June 12—17

Neb-Wyo-Dak Camp, Wyoming
Prof. Donley

NEW WAY SINGERS on campus for rehearsal

June 17—26

NEW WAY SINGERS on tour

July 17—22

Kootenai Camp, Montana
Prof. Brown

MacGomery Camp, Illinois
Ron McConkey

July 25—29

North American Christian Convention. Come visit us at our booth in St. Louis

the ChRONicle Report



It's almost SUMMERTIME!!! ☺
Finally, Norfolk has received some
sunshine, and my office is getting
too warm.

Applications for the fall term
are coming in. It looks like an-
other good year for the freshman
class. If you are planning to be
a part of the NCC family this fall,
be sure to get your application in
ASAP (that means, as soon as possi-
ble). Call or write me if you need
an application packet. I'll have
one in your hands before you can
say antidisestablishmentarianism.

This year we have 31 GRADUATES,
with some of them beginning their
work in churches as ministers,
associates in music ministry, Chris-
tian education and Deaf evangelism.
Also, a number of our graduates
will be going to mission fields.
Taiwan. Mexico. Japan. Puerto Rico.
The Navajo Reservation in Arizona.

I've been doing a lot of tele-
phoning the past few weeks, talk-
ing to seniors about Bible college.
As a Christian, you really should
consider placing your life in God's
hands and letting Him lead you. I
rejoice with you if you have already
done this. If not, take a moment
and talk to the Lord about it.

Sincerely,

Ron McConkey



Secretaries— Past and Present

Debbie Marcum has
been Ron's secretary dur-
ing this school year. Many
of the letters and mailings
you have received from
Ron have come through
her hands. In June, Deb-
bie will be traveling with
her husband, Scott, to
Taiwan where they will be
working with Ted and
Beverly Skiles at the
Home of God's Love.



Hello! My name is
Laurie Gillespie. I am go-
ing to be Ron's secretary
for the next couple of
years. My husband is a
student at NCC and will
graduate in 1985. I am
really looking forward to
serving the Lord in this
position.

the column

What's news with U?



PAOLA, Kansas—
Kelly Cuthbertson is a 1980 graduate of Paola High School. She has attended one semester at Emporia State University and is presently employed at Poncho's Mexican Restaurant.

Kelly helps with the high school youth group and children's church at her home church. This year she will be helping with the Children's Convention at the NACC. Kelly often provides special music for revivals and church programs. Kelly plans to attend NCC next fall.

Attend the
NEW WAY Singers
concert...

...in your area.

See the
June issue of
the NCC News
for details.



For more information return this form to Nebraska Christian College, Box 919, Norfolk, NE 68701

Name _____

Present School _____

Address _____

Expected date of transfer or graduation _____

City, State, Zip _____

My special academic interests are: _____

Home Phone _____

☐ Please call me. I would like a personal interview.

☐ I would like to visit the campus.

☐ I would like an application packet.

Send me information about:

☐ Christian Education

☐ Church Secretarial

☐ Deaf Ministry

☐ Missions

☐ Music

☐ Financial Aid

☐ Pastoral Ministry

☐ Tech/Comm. College Co-op Program

NCC 071
6/83



NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Nebraska Christian College admits qualified students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin, without regard to sex or handicap.

The Mock + Chronicle

Published by the Admissions Department of Nebraska Christian College

Yea, I know what you mean. That last
test made my fins spin.

Boy, am I glad school's out
for summer vacation!

I just hope she grades on a scale.

"School's out for the summah..."



NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Box 919

Norfolk, Nebraska 68701

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA





The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
August, 1983



I'm Proud of Nebraska Christian College,

And I'm especially excited about our 1983 graduating class! You saw the 16 pictures on the front of the June *NCC News*, but I want you to think about them again. They are not the whole graduating class, of course, but they do include *all* of our B.A. Pastoral Ministries grads, and all but one of the B.S. Pastoral Ministries grads, as well as one who received two Associate of Arts degrees.

But what these young people are contributing to the ministry of Christ is beyond estimation! Most of these have already been involved in week-end or intern ministries or mission work, and churches have grown under their leadership, and mission enterprises have greatly benefited, both at home and abroad because of their commitment. We're proud of them!

Underclassmen as well are responding to NCC's fine Missions program. Five students and graduates will go out as mission interns this year, and seven as "full-time" missionaries. Most of these will be on the field by the time you read this.

Some of these are *your* young people; and *your* dollars help support this program. God bless your giving! Please stand by your school and have a greater part in this fruitful ministry!

Down in the print shop I've been working on the 1983-84 NCC Calendar of Events, and I was disappointed to see that no *Founders' Day* and no *Spring Convention* are scheduled. There are an *Opening Convocation* and the *Spring Alumni Days*, however! Alumni, this means that you and I are going to have to *try harder* to get to those activities that *are* scheduled, and to do the things that most colleges depend on their Alumni Associations to do. We're going to have to *care* more, to *pray* more, and to *pay* more. Nebraska Christian College has a great faculty and staff, a great student body, a great campus, a great Alumni Association, and a Great Commission. And we have a great Lord and Savior who promises to be with us so long as we are carrying out that Great Commission. And that's where *we* come in. Let's get with it!

Jim Hopkins, our Alumni President, mentioned the other day that there have been amendments to our alumni constitution which have not been incorporated into it, and it has not been updated for several years. We need to set up a committee to formulate an up-to-date draft.

A nominating committee is needed for next year, and a committee to choose candidates for Mr./Mrs./Miss NCC. If you can suggest someone (not necessarily an alumnus) who has served or promoted NCC in an outstanding way, please send us the name, with a brief review of why he/she ought to be chosen.

And *please*, if you are picked for a committee, pitch in and do the job with enthusiasm!
—Harold Fox, Editor

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Alumni Association

Box 919

Norfolk, NE 68701

Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA

Coming Events

Opening Convocation Aug. 24
Trustees Meeting Sep. 6
Parents' Day Sep. 23
Nat'l Missionary Convention
at Des Moines, IA Sep. 27-30
Dunning Lectures, with
W.F. Lown Oct. 5-6
Career Days, with
Duane King Oct. 27-28
Thanksgiving Break Nov. 23-25

The Perfect Church

I think that I shall never see
A church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the straight and narrow way.
A church that has no empty pews,
Whose preacher never has the blues;
A church whose deacons always seek,
And none are proud, and all are meek;
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints, or criticize;
Where all are always sweet and kind,
And to others' faults are blind.
Such perfect churches there may be,
But none of them are known to me!

But still we'll work, and pray, and plan
To make our own the best we can.

The original poet is unknown to us, but we "borrowed" it from Dwaine Dunning, who admits he "swiped" it from The Broadcaster of Bland, Missouri. Many thanks to both!

We're Doing Things Right!

I attend a lot of Recruiter Conferences because I want to know what's going on in my field. Usually I represent the smallest school present and sometimes I'm the only representative from a Bible College. I try to keep my ears open to what's going on in the recruiting world and what we need to be doing if we are going to succeed in the race for students.

For instance, nearly 5% of the private colleges in the U.S. went out of existence last year and another 5% died the year before. It is expected that 5% will die this year and then perhaps the death rate of colleges will taper off and level out. I have a book in my office that lists about 3000 colleges and just a few years ago they were claiming to list nearly 3500.

Colleges go out of existence for three reasons.

1. A change from their original purpose.
2. Lack of finances, and
3. Lack of students.

We have problems in two of these areas, but we are overcoming them. We have not changed from our original purpose and I pray that we never do. But we have a lack of students and a lack of money.

Competition is tough on us; and I don't mean the struggle that goes on in a student's mind about what Bible College to attend. I mean that the state universities, private colleges, and community-technical colleges are making it tough on us. Colleges that did not have to recruit can no longer wait for the student to walk into the admissions office and ask for admission to the college. Over 50% of our students come from the state of Nebraska, and during the past three years the state colleges have begun an active recruiting program directed toward Nebraska junior and senior students.

Just a few years ago, few students were concerned with the caliber of program a college offered. Today high school counselors, parents, and job placement organizations are concerned about the quality of education that the student is receiving. Lately I've noticed that preachers and churches are asking more about the quality of the education. They are asking about the credentials of the professors and the possibilities of transfer of credits.

I believe we are doing things right. We have hired new professors who are putting us "up front." Dave Burkum and Jeff Donley have proven themselves to be outstanding in the area of music and theology. We are blessed because these men are on our faculty.

I believe our college made the right move again in calling Mr. Dan Cravatt as our Christian Education Professor. Dan has an A.B. in Ministries from Midwest Christian College; M.A. in Religion (emphasis in Old Testament and World Religions) from Eastern New Mexico University; and an M.A. in Religious Education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. His experience includes Youth Ministry in three churches: Director of *His Place Ministry* in Dallas, Texas, and part-time Instructor at Dallas Christian College. His most recent work has been with the Muskogee, OK church where he has been Minister of Education and Youth.

I'm pleased that Dan is coming to NCC. He will continue to build on the fine reputation we have in the

area of Christian Education. I'm convinced that we are doing things right as we continue to offer the finest program of Christian Education available in our area.

— Ron McConkey



What is a Bible College?

One of our spiritual forebears indicated that a Bible College is in essence a teacher sitting on one end of a log and a pupil on the other. There is something to be said for that approach, for Jesus taught by leading His little band around the countryside drawing lessons from the work of farmers and shepherds, and the common things of life.

But our culture is more sophisticated, and Christian service and leadership training must go deeper. We are separated from Jesus and His followers by nineteen centuries of cultural and linguistic change. We face a society steeped in the pleasure orientation of the modern media, and its attention is not so easily commanded.

Nebraska Christian College offers an educational facility equipped and prepared, with library and classroom facilities that go far beyond the "teacher and pupil on a log" concept; and a trained and able faculty who, while aware of the simplicity of the Christian message, will utilize the varied teaching aids now available to convey it.

Whether you are 18 or 48, if you want to serve Christ, NCC will train and equip you for full-time paid ministry, or for voluntary service in your local congregation. Let NCC know your interests. Write or call for a catalog, financial aid brochure or other information, or just to discuss the possibility of training for Christian service.

"... But These Are Written"

Most of you know that Dave Burkum's musical by the above title, performed by NCC's *Enthusiastics* and recorded about a year ago, is available on tape or record. The record omits part of the narration, but includes all the musical portions.

We can now report that the *complete musical* has been accepted for publication by Lillenas Publishers, and will probably be available next spring. Just another accomplishment of one of our able alumni.

What's Up at NCC?

★ Applications are up!

- As of July 21, applications are up 9% over last year.

★ The quality of education remains up!

- Under the leadership of Academic Dean Loren T. Swedburg, the final stages of the accreditation process with the American Association of Bible Colleges go on.
- Course offerings and programs continue to expand.
- Dan Cravatt has been called as Professor of Christian Education. He comes with exceptional recommendations and will continue to build upon the fine program that Professor Melva Swedburg has developed.
- A co-op program with Wayne State College leading to elementary teacher certification is being developed. (Final confirmation of this program is pending.)

★ Faculty achievement is up!

- Professor Richard Brown, Chairman of the Pastoral Ministries Department, received his Doctor of Ministries degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago on June 10, 1983.
- Richard Wamsley, Student Dean, has completed over half of his doctoral studies at Trinity.
- Professors Harlan Sandell, Jeffrey Donley, and David Burkum continue their graduate studies at Mid-America Nazarene Seminary, Princeton Seminary, and the University of Nebraska, respectively.
- David Burkum, Professor of Church Music, has just signed contracts with Lillenas Publishing Company to publish his latest musical, "... But These Are Written," a musical walk through the book of John.

★ Interest in Missions is up!

- Six NCC graduates have gone into full-time missionary service in 1983.

★ Expenses are up!

- Our deficit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1983 is approximately \$83,000. Obviously this is an "up" that we'd like to bring down!

★ Finances are up!

- Contributions were up about 10% in the '81-'82 fiscal year. We rejoice in this, but we will need to increase our contributed income by about \$100,000 if we are to balance this year's budget.

★ Enthusiasm is up!

- A spirit of enthusiasm prevails at NCC. We hope that all of our alumni and friends will catch this spirit and join us wholeheartedly in prayer and financial support, and with special personal efforts.

—L.A. Burkum

Now that you know how "Up" things are at Nebraska Christian College, why not write and ask how you may ☐ become a member of Daily Dollars Fellowship, ☐ make a personal loan to NCC (\$500 or more at 10%), ☐ include NCC in your will, ☐ make a gift and receive a life income, ☐ arrange for a Wills Seminar/Estate Planning program for your congregation. Yes, you can help! Just check, clip and mail this little item for an immediate reply.

—H. Fox, Editor

"Invite Jesus In?"

I'm writing this short Bible Study to better inform people of what I consider to be one of the most prominent false teachings in the church today. I hear many people claim that they have *invited Jesus into their lives*, and that he has forgiven their sins. I know that many preach this doctrine and many more believe it. But I prayerfully ask that you consider what God's word has to say.

Romans 3:23 All have sinned.

Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death.

Ephesians 2:5 We are separated from God by sin.

Question: What then does away with sin?

Romans 4:25, 1 Cor. 15:17

Christ's death and resurrection.

Question: How do we have forgiveness?

Romans 3:24 By grace.

Question: How do we receive or encounter grace?

Ephesians 2:8, Romans 4:16 Through faith.

But—what is faith? Faith is not simply believing; faith is *acting*. Our sins are not forgiven by *asking* Jesus into our hearts. Our sins are forgiven through repentance and baptism. Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:1ff; 1 Peter 3:18ff; Acts 3:19; Acts 22:16; Mark 16:16; Luke 13:3.

The blessings of God cannot be earned; they are freely given; nevertheless the terms upon which the blessings are to be received must be God's terms, not our own.

Many people use Revelation 3:20 to justify their belief of inviting Jesus into their hearts. If you put that verse back into its context (starting with Revelation 2:1) you will find it is written to a church, and not to unsaved people.

I do not find scripture to justify the belief of "inviting Jesus into your heart."

I encourage you to study God's word, and feel free to contact me if you wish to comment on this article.

In Christian love,

Carl Brandt

221 West Florence

Pierce, NE 68767

Phone: 402/329-4872

Here and There

The National Federation of Decency is making a "Pornographer of the Month" award to advertisers in magazines such as *Playboy* and *Penthouse*. In response, many major companies are discontinuing their ads. Evidently it's not a coveted award!

"By the grace of God I've been around long enough to be grateful for prayers not granted."



Let us hear from you! Moving? Send old and new address. Newly married? New baby? New job? News of interest to other alumni? Ideas? Plans? Do yourself and others a favor and drop us a line. Others want to know about you!

"To Be Or Not To Be, That Is The Question."



Shakespeare said it first.

Now a lot of private colleges are saying it. They're caught in the double crunch of fewer students and falling finances.

Enrollment is down because fewer babies were born 18-20 years ago, and because college is costly.

Financial support is down because money is tight everywhere.

Nebraska Christian College, however, is still moving ahead, and you alumni can help us maintain high spiritual and academic standards while training quality Christian leaders. You can encourage your young people to consider a Christian leadership career. And you can back your college with your dollars. We pray you will do both! God bless you for your support.



Consider the Ostrich

No, ostriches don't *really* hide their heads in the sand But some *Christians* do! We want to see Christ's work prosper. Right? We want to recruit the cream of our young people to train at NCC, and

we want to offer them a program that will challenge their minds and capture their spirits with the saving message of the Son of God.

So let's get our heads out of the sand and face the facts.

- We have one of the most beautiful campuses anywhere. Let's keep it out in front, and let us promote it where we live.
- We have a wonderfully able and dedicated faculty. They don't come any better.
- Our accreditation is drawing ever nearer. Let's pray for it, work for it, and encourage our leadership toward that important milepost.
- Recruitment of students gets tougher every year as money gets tighter, student prospects are fewer, and more pressure is applied toward secular education. Ron is doing a great job and deserves our praise and encouragement.

As we look these facts in the face we see that we must use every opportunity to help encourage Nebraska Christian College in one or more of these areas. We all need to get more serious about the work of Christ. How will you help?

Alumnus In The Chaplaincy

Chaplain Lyle '77 and Donna (Prickett) '75 Swanson are serving at Yuma, Arizona. Their address is: LTJG Lyle W. Swanson, CHC, USNR
Office of the Chaplain
H & HS, Marine Corps Air Station
Yuma, AZ 85369

In a recent letter to the Chaplaincy Commission, he writes:

"I want to make the chaplaincy such a good thing for myself and my family that sometimes I believe I take things too seriously, and too personally.

"I thought that I would give you a closing year statement of my ministerial activities here at MCAS, Yuma. Along with the many special planned programs that we do at the chapel, I do the following: help operate a Coffee House on Friday and Saturday evenings, Contemporary Gospel services on Sunday evenings, teach adult Sunday School at the Base chapel, and I am in the pulpit in the morning about every sixth Sunday. My official title is the Assistant Protestant Chaplain. My office duties are as follows:

Custodian of non-appropriated chapel funds, administrator of appropriated funds, and the administrative OIC (officer in charge).

"Since I have come to Yuma, (up to 1 January) I have had 128 counseling sessions, 1 marriage, 1 funeral, 2 baptisms, 3 brig visits, 9 hospital visits, and 7 home pastoral calls. In the 3 months that this report includes, I have remained very busy. In the future my wife and I are hoping to begin some marriage and family enrichment programs." --Lyle Swanson.

Thanks, Lyle, for sharing. It's great to know that God has such men with the Armed Services, bringing counsel, hope and encouragement in times of need. You other alumni, how about sharing a bit about what you are doing? It may not seem exciting to *you*, but the rest of us may get a special lift out of it.

the editor

Who Gives a Hoot . . . About Nebraska Christian College?

You Alumni give a hoot!
You support the College with your Dollar\$. You send your church young people and your own kids. You talk up NCC in your churches and among your friends.

The Students give a hoot!
They come back year after year, and they make their school proud as they show the fruit of their learning.

The Supporters give a hoot! They put their money where their mouth is, and give in ever-increasing amounts to meet the growing costs of maintaining excellence in training a ministry for consecrated Christian service.

Don't be a dumb owl. *Give a hoot!*



What is the answer?

Bible Colleges and the Battle of the Budget

By LOWELL A. BURKUM

VIRTUALLY every Bible college is facing financially hard times. Contributions in recent months or years have not kept pace with rising expenses. In many cases, declining enrollments have meant less income from tuition. These circumstances have resulted not only in serious fiscal budget problems for the Bible colleges, but serious questions have also been generated in the local congregations that receive more frequent and urgent financial appeals from different Bible colleges, both near and far away.

Some of the questions being asked are: "Can we really afford so many Bible colleges?" "What is the function of a Bible college?" "Is every college fulfilling this function?" "Do we really need all of them?" "Wouldn't consolidation among some of our colleges be better stewardship and perhaps increase the quality of education being offered?"

Of course, these are controversial questions. They have been debated occasionally in *CHRISTIAN STANDARD* and other brotherhood publications, including college and church newspapers. A concern is growing at the grass roots level calling for a more candid recognition of the validity of these questions both by the colleges and the supporting churches.

One of the most cherished principles in the restoration movement has been the freedom from denominational structure and bureaucracy. Nonetheless, while we are not responsible to any denominational headquarters, we are responsible before the Lord as we honestly consider our stewardship in the light of these questions.

Can we afford so many colleges?—Too few congregations have considered the Bible college a high priority in their mission giving. We should not lose sight of the fact that the Bible college is an effective agency by which the church in our time has chosen to equip and send forth preachers and teachers of the Word (Romans 10:15; 2 Timothy 2:2).

Few can question that as a brotherhood of churches we could and should be giving more to the work of higher education through our Bible colleges and seminaries.

Nearly every local congregation and mission field around the world is indebted to Bible college graduates for their present and former leadership personnel.

We may not be able to afford adequate budgets for all of our colleges, but we certainly can and ought to be giving more than we are.

Do we need so many colleges?—Even if there were money enough "and to spare," do we really need all of the colleges we now have? Is every Bible college producing a sufficient number of leadership ministers to justify its cost of operation?

It should be emphasized that Bible colleges are actually an extension of the local church's ministry. Regular and open communication should exist between the supporting churches and the college administrators. Although not by design, the local congregations having policy input are often only those that have representatives on a college's board of trustees. Many discerning congregations are starting to require all mission works they regularly support (including colleges) to submit periodic reports with specific statistics of their cost of operation and results of their work. Some may view such requests as indicative of a lack of confidence. Most will recognize the wisdom of such a policy to insure responsible stewardship.

It may be that the real question is not whether we can afford so many colleges, but whether the productive results in every case justify the cost of operating a college.

Wouldn't consolidation help?—This question is the most controversial of all, of course. Every Bible college has contributed positively to the lives of many people. Great sacrifices have usually been made by particular faithful supporters as well as by faculty and administrative personnel in order to keep the school going. These people together with other loyal alumni and friends are often reluctant—even reticent—when any suggestion of consolidation is made. Usually, however, such reluctance is based on emotion rather

than upon an objective evaluation of the facts.

An apparently compelling argument for maintaining all of the Bible colleges is that they are necessary to provide an evangelistic thrust in their area. In many cases, however, church growth statistics do not substantiate this claim. In recent years, state and regional evangelistic associations have proven to be much more effective in new church planting. Further, the cost of operating these associations is considerably less than the budget of even a small Bible college.

This is not to say that the Bible college should not play a significant role in evangelism and church growth. But its primary function is education. If significant numbers of preachers, missionaries, and other leadership ministers are not being graduated and entering the work force on the field, we should recognize that fact and consider how the situation might be improved. Consolidation may be a good possible solution.

Others will insist that consolidation would result in some students not attending Bible college if the school nearest their home were to merge with one farther away. This seems unlikely for several reasons. First, many young people already travel past one or more schools to attend college. Second, today's transportation capabilities, both private and public, have eliminated any real problem in traveling several hundred miles to college. Students can frequently share transportation. Third, it is possible that with fewer (but strategically located) colleges, students would give more careful thought to their educational vocational goals before choosing a Bible college. Wouldn't this be a good result? Indeed, it is altogether possible that some young people would give more serious consideration to Bible college education if there were a quality regional school in their area that had the strong support of the churches in those states.

Such a school could surely offer more, with better facilities and a more adequately staffed faculty, at less expense to the churches than the combined costs of



operating the several schools that now operate within the same area. This stewardship consideration should be ignored.

But would consolidation really achieve a higher quality of education? Not automatically, but it would certainly increase the potential for it. Money saved from operating separate campuses would be available for improving areas that may presently be weak in the individual schools. Better facilities, as well as trained personnel for positions such as librarian, Christian service administrator, audiovisual technician, development officer, and alumni coordinator would be more attainable with these added funds.

Since most of the schools which could benefit from consolidation are small, the student-teacher ratio could still be kept at an excellent level with fewer faculty members than the combined total of those teaching in the present separate schools. The savings in salaries could be used to provide special learning resources for students, and funding assistance for faculty continuing education.

Who is most interested in Bible college consolidation? It would seem that there is a growing conviction among those who are "average church members" that the idea has definite merit. Faced with repeated financial appeals from so many directions, it seems only reasonable to those who pay the bills that the possibility should be thoroughly evaluated and attempted.

Who are the opponents of consolidation? For the most part, those who stand to lose the most—namely Bible college administrators, faculties, and staffs. This is understandable. While those who favor the merger concept would be willing to sacrifice their present positions, if necessary, to see it accomplished, not all are so inclined. Some, due to age or other special circumstances, have legitimate concerns. Special consideration may need to be given in these cases to show good faith and Christian responsibility.

This article appeared in *Christian Standard* for July 3, 1983. It is under copyright by *Standard Publishing* and is reprinted here by permission.

You might want to check also Gerald Gibson's article, "To Be or Not To Be?" in the same issue, for another point of view. May I suggest also, as long as we're talking about Bible Colleges, that you re-read *Standard's* editorial, "The Bible College and the Church" (June 19 issue) and a related item in the February 27 issue.

—H. Fox, Editor

There are unquestionably many issues to be resolved before a workable consolidation can take place between any of our Bible colleges.

But it can be done if the particular issues are defined and a definite process determined to resolve them in an equitable manner for the participating schools.

Possible guidelines for pursuing consolidation—

1. Determine the geographic area that could be effectively served by a consolidated college. This determination should be made by common agreement of the schools to be involved.

2. Form a committee to define and resolve the issues in the merger process. This committee might consist of the President and two faculty members as well as the board chairman and two board members from each participating school. These people would act as liaisons between the committee and the respective schools and constituents.

3. Set a schedule of regular meetings for the committee over a sufficient period of time, perhaps a year. Each meeting should have a specific agenda. These agendas should be prepared well in advance of the meetings. The representatives of each participating school should discuss them with their own personnel and constituents prior to the committee meeting.

4. Some of the issues to be defined and agreed upon might be:

- a. A *philosophy of Bible college education*. This philosophy must be one that the constituent churches as well as the college representatives can support.

- b. *Campus location for the consolidated school*. While an entirely new location might be necessary, the campus of one of the participating schools should not be ruled out if it offers more to the consolidation than a new site. If the campus of one of the schools is centrally located in the proposed region, has good facilities, room for expansion, and if that school has a well-established history and positive relationship in its community, it might be a

better choice for location than trying to start new somewhere else.

- c. A *new name for the consolidated college*. The name should reflect the whole region and not one school more than another.

- d. *Ways to preserve the heritage of each participating school*. Some ways to do this might be in the naming of buildings, scholarship foundations, special rooms, etc.

- e. A *new board should be formed*. This would have representatives from each of the school's existing boards plus new members from throughout the whole new region. This would provide for continuity and new input as well.

- f. A *method for determining the administrators and faculty members for the new college*. Not all personnel from the staffs of the participating schools may wish to be considered for positions in the consolidated college. Those who are interested should be given first consideration, realizing that not all would be hired. In some cases, such as with executive administrators, it may well be that these positions in the new college should be filled by persons not connected with any of the schools involved in the consolidation. This would help eliminate any feeling that one school had gained an advantage in the process.

- g. *The disposition of property and other assets of the participating schools*. Included would be a determination of each school's contribution to the new college.

Realizing full well the many questions that must be resolved in order to accomplish any consolidation among our Bible colleges, one need only read the monthly newsletters and special appeal letters from most of them to know that the time has come for a more serious consideration of this or some other solution to the dilemma we now face.

Like surgery, consolidation may be a traumatic experience accompanied by some acute pain. But if it is necessary to restore health and vitality to the ailing body, it is well worth it. ▲

Lowell A. Burkum is a member of the faculty of Nebraska Christian College, Norfolk, Nebr.



The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
December, 1983



The Thrill of Victory! The Agony of Defeat?

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!" Because of caring, generous and even sacrificial giving of hundreds of individuals and churches to our recent financial appeal the \$150,000 goal has been reached! This means that the accumulated deficits of the past two years have been erased. Many of our NCC alumni helped us achieve this first goal and I want to express my sincere appreciation to you. You deserve a share of "the thrill of victory."

But will we also experience "the agony of defeat" with our second, equally important, goal? In order to balance the fiscal budget we needed to realize an increase in support of \$9,000 per month. For the first five months of this fiscal year we did realize an increase of \$2,000 per month in regular contributed income, but that still left us \$35,000 short for those months. Fortunately, we received some special contributions beyond the \$150,000 and also managed to cut some spending for those months, making it possible for us to keep the current deficit to about \$24,000. If we can raise the additional \$7,000 per month for the rest of the year and perhaps cut some more corners, the budget can be balanced. Then we could experience "the thrill of victory" again instead of "the agony of defeat."

Let me suggest one of the greatest alumni projects we could ever undertake for NCC—and we easily have the ability to accomplish it. Just three hundred fifty individual alumni raising or starting a regular monthly commitment of \$20.00 per month would guarantee the additional \$7,000 per month! A few alumni and many other friends of NCC have already made really sacrificial offerings above their regular monthly contributions toward the \$150,000 goal. Others have started or raised their commitments to support our monthly goal. What about the rest of you out there? Wouldn't it be wonderful if the alumni would take up this challenge? We *can* do it—and God will give us "the thrill of victory" again!

If you are willing to commit yourself to regular support, please fill out the Daily Dollar Fellowship form in this issue of the *Alert* and return it to the college. We thank you!

Sincerely, Lowell Burkum, Director of Development

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Alumni Association

Box 919

Norfolk, NE 68701

Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA

Coming Events

Christmas Break . . Dec. 23-Jan. 8
Second Semester
Classes Begin Jan. 9, '84
Spiritual Emphasis . . . Feb. 13-15
Midwinter Break Feb. 23-24
NCC Bible Bowl
Tournament Mar. 9-10
Trustees Meeting March 13
Alumni Days April 3-4



So *THAT'S* why we never got
your letter!!

*Searching
the Scriptures
Daily...*



Let's Have Some Fellowship

I have a unique opportunity, living and serving right here in Norfolk. I'm out at the school two or three times a week. It's wonderful to be this close and to see the energy with which things are done. It's encouraging just to visit with the students and faculty about what they are doing. But the fact that stands out is that NCC radiates friendliness, just like when we were in school.

Do you sometimes miss that fellowship from years spent here at NCC? It's wonderful when you all come to Norfolk for a visit. I, too, would like to extend an invitation to come back any free time that you have. Especially plan for Alumni Days.

That is just one way to reunite with past students in fellowship. Many times I think back to my classmates and wonder about them. What are they doing now? This question and that come to mind. Do you ever do that? Why not strike up some fellowship on paper! Do you need an address? The college has a fairly complete mailing list of former students. If you would write the college or me, we would be sure to send you an address. Fellowship on paper draws us closer, even though separated by miles.

Another way to have fellowship without leaving your immediate area would be to host an alumni gathering. This, too, we could help you with. We would supply you with whatever you need, such as a list of names and addresses of alumni in your area, publicity in the Alert, even a program if notified enough in advance. In this new year of 1984 let's generate fellowship through the Alumni Association. Let's have a great year together!

In His Service; *Jim Hopkins, your Alumni President*

A Word of Appreciation

As you saw in the NCC News, Dean L.T. Swedburg is retiring next July 1. I must express my own appreciation for Professor Swedburg. I enrolled in NCC in 1953, the same year Mr. Swedburg came as a professor, and his active mind and keen wit have affected my life powerfully. More impressive than any actual classroom teaching, I remember an incident in one of Mr. Swedburg's classes.

When a student asked Mr. Swedburg's opinion on some point, he replied, "Yes, I have an opinion on the matter, but that's *all* it is—an opinion; and I am not here to teach my opinions. On your graduation night, when you hold your diploma in your hot little hand, I do not want you to go out as carbon copies of Loren T. Swedburg. If you have learned nothing else while at Nebraska Christian College, I would pray that you will have learned *to study the Bible for yourselves!*"

I trust that I—and many others—have done just that; and in Mr. Swedburg's presence or absence, that present and future students may do the same.

I'm sure that I speak for other alumni as well as for myself in wishing nothing but the best for "the Dean" in his retirement, after devoting such a great portion of his life and commitment to Nebraska Christian College.

—Harold Fox



Church Leadership

I didn't attend the 1983 North American Christian Convention, but I have a tape of one of the messages that has meant perhaps more to me than any single message I have ever heard. I've listened to it several times, and each time I find "nuggets" that I missed before.

The message is "God's Plan for Church Leadership," by Knofel Staton. Whether you are an elder, deacon, teacher, preacher, or member of any congregation, you'll get a blessing from hearing this tape and you'll gain greater insight than ever before into what leadership means. It will also show in your own personal ministry.

Knofel Staton has written a 150-page book by the same title, and you can order it from Standard Publishing or the NCC Bookstore. The book may cover a bit more ground, but, at least for me, the message came through more forcefully on the tape. The elders of FCC in Norfolk have listened to and discussed the tape, and are now engaged in a week-by-week study of Staton's book. FCC is also beginning a series of Sunday evening messages on this same theme.

You can get cassette copies of this or any other NACC message for \$4.50 each or six for \$25.00, plus \$1.00 for shipping, from NACC, 3533 Epley Road, Cincinnati, OH 45239. Why not order copies for your church board? You'll revolutionize the spiritual life and vitality of your church!

—Harold Fox, Editor

About that Spring Convention

Some have asked if we're having a Spring Convention. The answer is yes and no. No, we're not calling it a Spring Convention; but, Yes, we're having a *new and improved Alumni Days* on April 3-4. But *with a difference!* It will differ from conventions of the past in that it will be a beefed up program, geared more directly to the needs and interests of NCC Alumni. In short, it will have the best features of previous Alumni Days, such as spring business meeting, basketball game, alumni teaching classes, etc., along with a vital and dynamic program of addresses and workshops aimed at *you the alumni* of Nebraska Christian College. More details will be released as they become available. So why don't *you* start planning, now, to be on campus on April 3-4 for the new and improved NCC Alumni Days!

Alumni Association Membership

I want to be a paid-up member of the Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association, and to share in both its benefits and responsibilities.

- ☐ Please sign me up for a lifetime membership.
☐ Single, \$100 ☐ Couple, \$150
- ☐ I'm enclosing my dues for the current year.
☐ Single, \$7.50 ☐ Couple, \$10.00

My/our name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I graduated or left NCC in 19_____

No Graduation?

The Sunday School is the only school that has no graduation. Could it be that it has no goals? We heard of a man with a 20-year perfect attendance record. His attendance pins hung almost to his belt. He bragged about his perfect record. He complained that one day the regular teacher failed to show up, and they had to dismiss the class. Does it seem strange to you that the man who hadn't missed a Sunday in 20 years couldn't step in and lead the class?

Maybe, beyond about the Jr. or Jr. Hi Classes, classes ought to specialize in some field of practical Christian service or field work. The pupil could go with the youth minister, preacher, elder or his own teacher to visit the sick, call on backsliders, do yardwork or housework for the elderly, and perhaps fill in a Christian Service report, and present it to the teacher on a monthly or other basis.

We've become a "come-to-church" kind of people. We've convinced people that *the church building* is where you do "Christian" things, and we've not associated the work of the church with anything outside the church building.

The story is told of a fellow who visited a Quaker meeting. Everyone sat meditating or praying silently, and after a while the man whispered to a seat-mate, "When does the service start?" The reply, "When the meeting is over." By the way, when does *our* service start?

H. Fox

Letters . . .

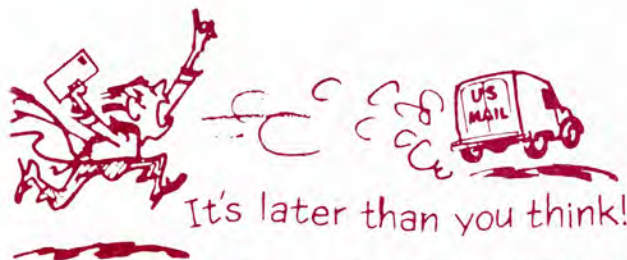
We had a letter recently from Loretta Sapp. She and Lloyd are in Horizon City, a suburb of El Paso, Texas. She brought up the subject of dues, and it will be mentioned elsewhere in this issue. Here is part of her letter:

I've looked over the last *Alert* for an indication about Alumni dues. I have a hunch ours are due! But I never remember how much they are. And I know the Alumni need a lot more than just our dues . . .

Mainly I'm writing to tell you thanks for doing such a good job on *the Alert*. Lloyd has talked about writing an article for you. He is Chairman of the Board for El Paso School of Missions . . .

Loretta also mentioned *The Homesteader*, an advertising paper she edits and publishes. She's also the choir director for their little church. She and Lloyd flew to Washington D.C. for vacation in September, and hope to come to Norfolk for a visit next spring.

You see how newsy a letter can be? It's *your* turn now. Other alumni *are* interested in what you are doing! You let us know, and we'll spread the good word.



Yes it is! But if you start now you can get your letter to us for the next *Alert*, to share your gripes, grins, groans or your new address, with your fellow Alumni. So do it **now**!

Advanced Education Seminar February 10-11

The 1984 Advanced Education Seminar will be held on NCC Campus on the theme, *Building a Bible School*. The seminar is provided in cooperation with Cincinnati Christian Seminary and will be conducted by Dr. Eleanor Daniel, Professor of Christian Education at CCS. Dr. Daniel says, "My objectives for this seminar will be:

1. The student will identify the components of an effective Bible School.
2. The student will evaluate his Bible School in the light of the components.
3. The student will devise a plan for improving his Bible School."

There will be about ten hours of classroom presentation. Enroll on an audit basis, or take the course for academic credit. In that case there will be outside assignments.

The seminar will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10 and conclude at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Costs for non-credit are \$20.00, graduate credit (one hour) \$77.00, or graduate credit (college senior) \$38.00. For further information write or call Dean L.T. Swedburg at the college.

Dr. Daniel has degrees from Lincoln Christian College and the University of Illinois. She has taken work also at Christian Theological Seminary, Oklahoma State University, and Central (Okla.) University. She has written several books on Christian Education topics and now writes regularly for the *Lookout*.

Pay Your Alumni Dues!

Do yourself (and NCC) a favor and pay your dues! Paying your dues shows the College and the Alumni Association that you are willing to help. It shows that you appreciate the time and expense the college and her friends have invested in you. If you patronize the College Bookstore, you'll save 10% on every purchase when you present your paid-up membership card.

Dues may be paid in two ways. You may pay *annually* (\$7.50 for a single; \$10.00 for a couple) or *by lifetime membership* (\$100 for a single; \$150 per couple). This is not a scheme to raise a lot of money now, after which the well would dry up with no money coming in. The idea is to invest that \$100 or \$150 so that the interest would pay approximately your regular dues. It would also save you the bother of wondering whether or not you've paid up for this year.

You'll find a handy coupon for your convenience, no matter which way you decide to pay. Your membership card will be sent to you immediately upon payment.

Post Rejects Tobacco Ads

Starting next March, the *Saturday Evening Post* will no longer accept tobacco advertising. Since January 1982 the *Post* has been under new ownership (The Benjamin Franklin Society, a nonprofit corporation), and carries medical, nutritional and conservative religious articles, as well as reprints of old *Post* fiction characterized by morality and humor. Religion editor Robert Silvers says, "We believe in placing Christianity in a positive and favorable light."

"The Church Continued to Grow . . ."

The *Christian Standard* for December 12, 1982 contained an article by Floyd Strater on the "Reflections" page entitled, "Let the Church Be the Church." It dealt with church growth. If you didn't read it, please look it up and do so. If you *did* see it, read it again. I'd reprint the whole article, but space would prohibit it. I'm giving you a summary, however, because I think that every Christian worker ought to take a good look at his own attitude toward what the church ought to be, and how the church ought to grow.

The Full Gospel Central Church in Seoul, Korea has 220,000 members, and six services a Sunday with 18,000 to 20,000 in each service. Every Friday 12,000 to 13,000 come and stay all night in prayer. There are 45 ordained pastors and 220 licensed pastors. These 265 staff leaders oversee and train 33,615 lay leaders. They've divided Seoul into 12 divisions with a head for each division. There are 186 section heads, 2,627 area leaders, 15,395 home group leaders, each with an assistant. They have over 7,000 home Bible study units. We *talk* about the priesthood of all believers, but they *practice* it.

How Big Should The Church Be?

We say the magic number is 200. We say this Korean group is wrong! They should be planting new churches! Yes! They *have* planted more than 100 new churches! In the meantime the home congregation has doubled in the last few years and is gearing up to double again. They're aiming for 500,000 (*half a million!*) members—one *congregation!* Of course we know that's too big, and it can't be *spiritual*. Do people flock by the hundreds of thousands to an unspiritual church?

Meanwhile here at home . . .

Brother Strater says, ". . . Our churches last year averaged less than two additions for the whole year. Just think—the average congregation had 12 board meetings, 47 committee meetings, 100 pot-luck dinners, 104 sermons, 52 prayer meetings, made building payments, bought air conditioning, gave 10% to missions, resurfaced the parking lot, *but* only won two people to the Lord Jesus Christ. God help us."

Floyd Strater serves the Knott Avenue Christian Church in Anaheim, CA. There are 560,000 people within a six mile radius, without another Christian Church. They had 112 additions during the first six months of 1982. Sounds good; but is it? Thousands are fleeing the cold winters of the midwest, to Texas, Arizona and California. These people visit Knott Avenue, they like the preacher, enjoy the service, but they feel that the church is too big. What are they looking for? Their answer is, "I want a church that is friendly, has great Bible preaching, a

super youth program, a strong Bible school with well-prepared teachers, is evangelistic, and *is small!*" Strater comments, "Bless your hearts, there is no way to create such a church!"

The Pattern in Acts

The theme of Acts is that the church continued to grow and multiply! It began with 3,000; and with no building, no elders or deacons, no Sunday school, no youth program, bus ministry, youth camps, microphones, mimeograph or printing press, it continued to grow and multiply, and had probably reached 10,000 in Acts chapter six. Strater observes, "Stephen was killed, but the church continued to grow and multiply. Ananias and Sapphira told lies in the assembly and dropped dead, but the church continued to grow and multiply. The agony of accepting Gentiles into the fellowship of the body festered, but the church continued to grow and multiply."

He says, "*Let the church be the church* and make our faith equal to the need . . . We are blessed with thirty eight Bible Colleges training young people . . . We have some great preachers and some beautiful, committed Christian people all across America. We have the truth and the truth will make us free . . ."

Ten Guidelines

Brother Strater offers ten suggestions to let your church grow:

1. Stop worrying about control and become concerned about outreach.
2. Accept the fact that you may not know every member by name.
3. Meet the needs of the people.
4. Be willing to take risks to grow.
5. Have perfect unity and harmony with the elders, deacons and staff (this is a *must*).
6. Dream big.
7. Make the body a center of love and concern.
8. Forget trivia and focus on the centrality of Christ.
9. Spend much time in prayer
10. Bleed, hemorrhage, and agonize for souls.

Fear and insecurity keep our churches from growing. We fear losing control and power. We fear the threat of new people. We fear the *change* that would have to come if our church grew to 1,000 or 2,000.

Let the church be the church. Christ is still its Head and Savior. He said, "Make disciples of all nations." He never once said the church should "hold its own."

Mr. Strater's article is under copyright by Standard Publishing, Cincinnati, OH, a Division of Standex International Corp. References and quotations are by permission.

Faith Commitment

Daily Dollars FELLOWSHIP

Yes, I want to help provide outstanding Christian Leadership education for men and women whom God calls to His ministry.

As God enables me, I purpose by faith to give \$ per month to the NCC operating budget.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE • BOX 919 • NORFOLK, NE 68701

The Sixth Annual Women's Retreat

"We Are Never Alone" is the theme for the 1984 NCC Women's Retreat which will be held on June 1-2. Our Speaker this year is Mrs. Jim (Kay) Price of Prescott, AZ. Please mark these dates on your calendars and make plans to attend.



The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
FEBRUARY, 1984

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Alumni Association

Box 919

Norfolk, NE 68701

Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA



Honor Dean Swedburg On Alumni Days!

Since Dean Swedburg announced his retirement, plans have been developing for a time of special recognition during Alumni Days, April 3-4. Robert Chitwood, a 1958 graduate, past chairman of the NCC Board of Trustees, and minister of Capitol City Christian Church, Lincoln, NE, will be the featured speaker. Bob will address the opening Alumni Days session at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday. He will speak again at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, and at a formal reception honoring Dean Swedburg at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday at the Villa Inn in Norfolk.

In addition, all Wednesday morning classes will be taught by former students of Dean Swedburg.

It is anticipated that all alumni who can possibly do so will want to share these occasions. Friends of the college, too, are cordially invited to come for this time of great preaching and fellowship, and for this special opportunity to congratulate and express appreciation to Dean Swedburg for his 31 years of dedicated service to Nebraska Christian College.

Dean Swedburg's announced time of retirement from full-time service to NCC will be June 30. President Milliken, also retiring, will be specially honored during graduation activities on May 11.

This year's registration for Alumni Days will require a \$10.00 tax-deductible fee. No offerings will be taken, however, and there will be no additional cost for the reception at the Villa Inn. Your *advance* registration will be appreciated!

Alumni Association Officers

President Jim Hopkins
Vice President Larry Fiscus
Secretary Maggie Steele
Treasurer Linda Lu Lloyd
Editor of *Alert* Harold Fox

Coming Events

Spiritual Emphasis Feb. 13-15
Midwinter break Feb. 23-24
NCC Bible Bowl Tourn. ... Mar. 9-10
Trustees Meeting March 13
Alumni Days April 3-4
Spring Banquet April 11
Spring Break April 19-23
VBS Clinic (On Campus) .. April 26
Senior Rehearsal Dinner May 7
Honors Convocation
and Commencement May 11

*"The hottest places in hell
are reserved for those who,
in times of great moral crisis,
maintain their neutrality."*

*Searching
the Scriptures
Daily...*



Brownstein's Better Bargain Books Bonanza!!!



Just one more reason why you won't want to miss the 1984 NCC Alumni Days will be Dr.

Brownstein's Bargain Book Bonanza!!

This is a Special Sale of **New Books** at discounts of 25% — 50% — 75% — and more!! You'll find lots of reference works — commentaries, dictionaries, etc., as

well as a plentiful supply of "How-To" books. You just might find that book you've been searching for!

DON'T MISS NCC ALUMNI DAYS—1984!

Changes at Norfolk college

Two retirements — of President Harold Milliken and Academic Dean Loren Swedburg — and the selection of a president-elect have been announced at Nebraska Christian College in Norfolk.

The board of trustees has appointed Richard Wamsley as president-elect.

Wamsley will succeed Milliken, who joined the faculty in 1948 and has held the office of president since 1952.

Wamsley, who came to NCC in 1976 as student dean and professor in the department of pastoral ministries, will assume his new office Aug. 1 of this year. A formal inauguration, with the public invited, will be conducted at NCC Alumni Hall on Sept. 3.



Wamsley

THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT received his bachelor of arts and



Milliken

Swedburg

master of divinity degrees from Lincoln Christian College and Seminary, Lincoln, Ill. He also holds a master's degree in counseling from Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Ill., and is presently completing work on the doctor of ministries degree at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.

He is president of a national professional fraternity, the Christian Academy for Pastoral Care and Counseling, past president of the Nebraska Christian Evangelizing Association

and a member of the Nebraska Student Financial Aid Association.

ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT Milliken will be retiring from full-time responsibilities when the president-elect takes office Aug. 1, he will continue to serve part-time on the college staff.

Loren T. Swedburg, who became a faculty member at NCC in 1953 and was appointed academic dean in 1957, has announced his retirement as of June 30. He, like President Milliken, will continue to offer part-time assistance to the college following his retirement.

The personnel committee of the NCC Board is presently interviewing candidates for the positions of academic dean and student dean, but no appointments to these positions have been made at this time.

The above article and the editorial "The Milliken Era" appeared just as you see them, in Norfolk Daily News for Jan. 19 and 21 respectively, and are reprinted by permission.

The Milliken era

Saturday, January 21, 1984

For more than 30 years, Harold Milliken has been president of Nebraska Christian College in Norfolk. That is unusual tenure in any type of institution in education, or any field, for that matter. He has overseen and been responsible for the steady growth of the college, from an institution occupying a small building in the center of the city to one which occupies an extensive, attractive campus on the north edge of the city.

A fund-raiser, recruiter of faculty and students, Christian educator and participant in a variety of community good works, Mr. Milliken's work has been of the highest order, his dedication to Christian education unsurpassed.

Now he is scheduled to retire from the office which he has held since 1952 in the institution which he first joined in 1948. Fortunately, he will continue to be associated with the institution.

If the Milliken era at Christian College is equalled by his successor, Richard Wamsley, that will prove to be a remarkable achievement, indeed.

We Learn By Imitation

We learn best by imitation. The old saw, "monkey see, monkey do" applies to people more than many realize. Paul Welter says, "We tend to do or not to do what a person we admire does or does not do. If children observe a warm, growing relationship between their parents and grandparents, they will have a clear pattern to follow as they grow older."

NCC Rates High in Norfolk!

Nebraska Christian College has always been held in high esteem by the city of Norfolk and its business community. The recent announcement of the coming retirement of President Milliken and Academic Dean Swedburg after so many years of faithful service, and the choice of Richard Wamsley as president elect, received page one publicity in the *Norfolk Daily News*, followed later by the accompanying editorial.

The retirement of the president and dean takes place under the most favorable circumstances, and friends of the college will want to wish them well in their retirement, and will be glad to know that both will still render service to the school on a limited schedule. We wish Richard Wamsley well, and look forward to a long and fruitful association with him as the new president of NCC.

These changes, plus the achieving of the \$150,000 goal during the recent fund drive, mark an exciting time in the life of NCC, even as we anticipate the gradual meeting of the increased monthly commitment goal to maintain a balanced budget.

Many of you have already responded to the special request from Lowell Burkum, Director of Development, to suggest names for a new Academic Dean and Dean of Students to fill the vacancies left by Mr. Swedburg's retirement and Mr. Wamsley's advancement to the presidency. If you have not done so, please consider responding. You may know someone who would qualify, or who may be able to do so by next summer. Your response will be appreciated.

YOU As A Recruiter

Greetings from the Recruiting Office of Nebraska Christian College! My name is Laurie Gillespie and I have been Ron McConkey's secretary for over nine months now. (Yes, believe it or not, I have retained some of my sanity!) As a graduate of NCC ('82), I am very proud to serve in this way.

The Recruiting Department is very important to NCC and *you* can be a very important help in this department. I greatly appreciate all the alumni who have helped Ron and me with recruiting by sending us names of prospects, encouraging students to come to NCC, and by bringing high school students to visit the campus.

Whether you are a minister, youth leader or an active member of your local congregation, *you* can make a difference in the future of NCC. We are proud of our college and she must have students to survive. "Talk up" NCC among the youth of your congregation; volunteer to bring a carload of kids to visit the campus for a day; send us the names, addresses, phone numbers and year of graduation of all the youth; encourage the youth to come to on-campus events (Career Days, Bible Bowl, Church Music Career Days, etc.).

Though your helping in this way may make a little more work for me, I love it! (And it keeps Ron out of my hair so I don't have to listen to his Montana jokes!)

—Laurie Gillespie

Another Retirement?

Dear Alumnus:

I was born August 27, 1956. I have served dutifully through 27 years; but of late I'm very tired. I've worked hard. I've lived a rugged life. I've been treated fairly most of my life but I can't keep going. Oh yes, I have new shoes, my heart ticks well and I've had a warm place to sleep, but the physical labor has ruined my arms and legs. I can't lift like I used to. I find it hard to make other parts of my body work well. I seem to be in constant need of a doctor, and thus I'm becoming very expensive. It's time for me to retire! I need to be replaced by someone better qualified. In fact someone quite smaller than I would fill the job well. Could you help NCC find a replacement for me?

In His service,
Mr. Ford Tractor

NCC needs a 35+ horsepower 4-wheel-drive tractor. Do you know of someone with a good used one or would you be the one who would help us purchase a new one? Contact Carl Brandt, Box 919, Norfolk, NE 68701 for more information.

About Those Alumni Dues

People still ask about alumni dues. Annual dues are \$7.50 per single and \$10.00 per couple. Lifetime dues are \$100 for a single and \$150 for a couple. At least a dozen alumni have paid lifetime dues. They won't have to worry any more about paying dues. These funds are invested so the interest will pay the annual dues.

Dues became due last September 1. Annual dues expire the following August 31. Lifetime dues expire when you do. You will receive a membership card when you pay and it will entitle you to 10% off on purchases at the NCC Bookstore. Use the accompanying coupon when you pay.

Witness

An old woman in Chicago, or maybe Los Angeles or your town, was robbed and killed by purse snatchers.

Three households saw the attack. A family of three saw it all, but Dad hated publicity, so they said nothing. A retired couple feared retaliation, and kept quiet. An elderly widow called the police and the culprits were caught and convicted.

How many witnesses were there to the crime? Don't start counting on your fingers. Six observed; one witnessed. The widow *reported* what she saw, and testified in court. There's no such thing as a silent witness.

Witness is from Gk. *martyrion*, meaning testimony. The verb means to testify, attest or affirm. Peter and John summed it up when they said, "We cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). The early Christians' compulsion to testify of Christ in the face of torture and death caused the ancient word to come over into English as *martyr*, one who suffers or dies for Christ.

Even the "cloud of witnesses" in Hebrews 12:1 fits this definition. We often see those heroes depicted as spectators of our own Christian walk, urging us on as we run the race. Though this may be true, the writer's real meaning is that their lives and deaths are a living testimony to their own fidelity to God; and without us their witness is unfinished. Beloved ones, your own witness, too, is incomplete, for "you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood in your striving against sin."

Brethren, we are engaged in a death struggle against a vicious enemy. Our weapons are not swords, guns or bombs. They are words and deeds. Jesus said, "You are my witnesses." Not mere observers, but proclaimers.

Proclaiming His sufferings,

—Harold Fox

Be Like The Oyster!

We've all heard the old saying, "If life deals you a lemon, make lemonade." The oyster makes no lemonade; but if an irritation gets under his shell, he knows just what to do. *He makes a pearl!* A hospital nurse, almost in tears, once commented to her pastor, "So much of this suffering is *wasted!*" What are you doing with your hurts and disappointments? Why not make a pearl?



Thrill of Victory!

No, it hasn't come in quite like this, but, yes, the response has been good. Contributions have well exceeded the \$150,000 needed to cancel the deficit. There's still a way to go, however, to reach the added monthly commitments needed to *stay* in the black. Maybe that's where *you* can help, in NCC's battle of the budget.

NCC Alumni Association Membership

Yes! I want to be a paid-up member. I enclose \$_____ for:

Lifetime membership: ☐ Single, \$100 ☐ Couple, \$150
Current year, to Aug. 31: ☐ Single, \$7.50 ☐ Couple, \$10.00

My/our name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I graduated or left NCC in 19 _____

Too Old for Bible College?

"I wish I'd gone to Bible College."

"Why don't you go now?"

"No way; I'm 35 years old, married, with a family. It would take me four years to get my degree!"

"How old will you be in four years if you go to Bible College?"

"I'll be 39 years old!"

"And how old will you be in four years if you *don't* go?"

"Thirty nine! How come the same?"

NCC has had many students in the above situation—in their thirties or forties, with wives and families. Sure, they've had to work on the side, and the wives often have to work, but, how old will they be in 4 years if they *don't* go? Actually, the added years and experience has often helped them get more out of their studies, and approach the task with an added sense of maturity, responsibility and urgency. If you are in such a situation, don't let those added years discourage you. The advantage may be all in your favor.

Harold Fox, editor

Pornography— an Economic and Political Force!

Pornography is now Big Business in America, and it poses a threat to every member of your family! According to the *National Decency Reporter*, however, "Pornography is no longer a threat just to the family. The pornography industry is now an economic and political force in this country. Pornographers influence public domestic policy, foreign policy, political leaders, entertainers, news reporters, and the media industry generally.

"A former president of this country and other prominent politicians have been interviewed in pornographic magazines. One prominent pornographer who has been convicted twice for crimes involving the distribution of his magazines is now running for the office of President of the United States

"Pornography, once sold in limited areas of large cities, is now sold everywhere—in drug stores, grocery stores, gas stations, newsstands, video cassette stores, over cable and subscription television, over the telephone, and in live sex shows. The pornography industry has now established a pervasive presence at every level of American Society and we are paying for its effects. . . ."

The *National Decency Reporter* also reports a statistical linkage between the crime of rape and the extent of readership of sex magazines in a given locality. It keeps its readers posted on court actions related to pornography. Its parent agency, *Citizens for Decency through Law* (CDL), has launched a campaign to reach certain target cities across America with the message of the illegality of, and harm caused by, obscenity. CDL is ready and willing to assist in enacting obscenity laws. If you are concerned about obscenity, write to: *Citizens for Decency through Law*, 2331 West Royal Palm Road, #104, Phoenix, AZ 85021-4949.

Six Steps to Growth

Bob Moorehead, minister to Overlake Christian Church, Kirkland, WA, probably the fastest growing church in the Pacific Northwest, has listed six reasons for that congregation's phenomenal growth. They were brought to our attention by the *Morningside Messenger*, Sioux City, where **Phil Olsen**, '63, ministers. Read them prayerfully.

1. A heavy focus on the great commission. We have two basic tasks that must always be clear: Evangelize the lost; and disciple the saved toward maturity.
2. A commitment to the equipping ministry. We must hold high the fact that our leaders, whether paid staff or otherwise, are not here just to *do* the work of ministry, but to train and coach the *body of Christ* to do the work of ministry.
3. Be not afraid of risk. Our eldership, staff and leaders must never be afraid to "go for broke" and step out on faith, even though the worldly odds are against us.
4. Be innovative. We must never believe the "seven last words of the church" which are, "*We Never Did It That Way Before.*" We must be innovative and unafraid of traditional approaches.
5. Integrity of staff. Our church leadership must *trust* our paid staff's judgment and allow them freedom to operate without "smothering" everything they do.
6. A live worship service. We must always seek to allow the element of impromptu in our public assemblies or worship services. Strong, alive, praiseful and heart-reaching music must prevail.

In a previous issue we considered a church growth article by Floyd Strater in which he listed ten guide-lines to *let* your church grow. If you will compare his list with the above, you'll see several points of overlapping. If you really *want* your church to grow, please read and consider these important steps on the way to church growth. If they worked for these men, they'll work for you.

Getting Your Own Way

Many of you who receive the *Alert* are involved in activities where the ability to persuade others is of critical importance. I'm talking about persuasion, remember, *not* manipulation. You're a minister, evangelist, teacher, or just trying to be more effective in personal calling etc.

Let me suggest that you read "Getting Your Own Way—The Easy Way," an article on page 201 of the November, 1983 *Reader's Digest*.

The writer, Morton Hunt, suggests six ways to be more persuasive: use home-turf advantage, look your best, identify with your listener, reflect listener's experiences, make a strong case, and use stories and examples. You'll not get the full impact and benefit of these ways, however, unless you read the interestingly-written article.

If you receive *Reader's Digest*, please look up that article if you missed it. If you don't have it, buy a copy, or find it in your public library. For practical effectiveness, you can't beat it.

—H. Fox, editor



Help! Help! I'm being held prisoner in the inkwell of the Nebraska Christian College press! Get me out of here!!!



The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
April, 1984

"Well Done... Faithful Servant"

a Salute to

**Loren T. Swedburg, Dean
Nebraska Christian College**



Alumni Days 1984 was memorable indeed! At 7:30 p.m. April 3, alumni talent provided special music for the opening service, and Robert Chitwood spoke, in his thought-provoking way, on "Motivation for Ministry."

Wednesday morning, alumni taught college classes. Those not so involved were privileged to breakfast at 8:00 a.m. with President-Elect Richard Wamsley who shared what he sees as the role of the President of Nebraska Christian College.

At 9:00 a.m. Dallas Shafer led a workshop on "The 20th Century Elijah Syndrome," in which he noted that God's people still hide in caves and say, in effect, "Lord, you've no one left but me."

At 10:00 a.m. Bob Chitwood's workshop topic was "Where Are We Going?" He advised not to copy other people's programs, but to learn the *principles* of those programs, and apply them to our own situations. He posed the question, "Is the Restoration Movement speaking to today's world?"

During a 2:00 p.m. service, Lowell Burkum, on the occasion of his 25th year with NCC, was awarded, with his wife Dixie, a trip to Europe to attend the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany.

Audrey McKean was honored as Distinguished Alumnus for her outstanding service in Puerto Rico the past eleven years. Her award was accepted in her absence by Linda Rivera, a student whom Audrey influenced to come to NCC.

Bob Chitwood spoke on the topic, "You, Your Church, Your College."

Officers were elected at the Alumni business meeting that followed the afternoon session. New terms will begin on September 1 for Carl Brandt, President; Dave Crane, Vice President; Maggie Steele, Secretary; Linda Lu Lloyd, Treasurer; and Harold Fox, editor of the *Alert*. The treasurer noted that we're in the red, and that payment of dues and contributions are welcome! Dues are \$7.50 each, or \$10.00 per couple.

The real Alumni Days highlight, however, was the 6:00 p.m. reception at the Villa Inn for Dean Swedburg who will retire in June after 31 years with Nebraska Christian College. Numerous associates, alumni and family members paid tribute to the Dean. We said our thanks, but not goodbyes, to Brother Swedburg, for he will continue to be associated with the College in various capacities, even in his retirement.

—Harold Fox, editor

NCC

Church Music Career Days

May 4-5, 1984

"God's Gift . . . My Call"

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA

Mailing Address Change

Due to the amount of mail received by the college and the students, it was necessary for us to close our box at the Post Office. All mail is now being delivered to the campus. The new address is 1800 Syracuse, Norfolk, Nebraska 68701.

Coming Events

VBS Clinic on Campus . . . April 26
VBS Clinic at Cozad, NE . . . May 1
Church Music
Career Days . . . May 4-5
"Thank You Norfolk"
Car Wash, Norfolk . . . May 5
Senior Rehearsal Dinner . . . May 7
Honors Convocation and
Commencement . . . May 11
Enthusiastics Tour . . . May 16-27
Pastoral Counseling
Seminar . . . May 21-24
Women's Retreat . . . June 1-2
New Way Singers . . . June 10-24
Trustees Meeting . . . June 12

The Elders and Their Missionaries

Boyce Mouton's article "On Oversight" on the "Reflections" page of *Christian Standard* for Nov. 13, 1983, would be well worth your re-reading. It was especially meaningful to me after hearing Knofel Staton's NACC message, "God's Plan for Church Leadership" (which I *again* highly recommend. Staton's message emphasized that "oversight" does not mean "being the boss," but being a shepherd, caring for, looking after, being concerned about).

Mouton had shared the usual Restoration concept that every missionary should be under the oversight of some eldership. That's okay if we remember what oversight is—and what it isn't. We often use Acts 13-14 to prove our point. But, as Mouton discovered, we can't even prove that the church in Antioch had elders! Then, Acts 14:26 indicates that Paul and Barnabas had been "commended to the grace of God" by the church in Antioch. What does that mean?

"Commended" is from *paradidomi* (literally, *give over*). It occurs about 120 times in the New Testament. Italianized words, following, stand for *paradidomi* in these selected examples: John the Baptist was *cast into prison*; the adversary shall *deliver* thee to the judge; the Son of Man shall *be betrayed*; Pilate *delivered* Jesus to be crucified, and washed his hands to show that he was no longer responsible for him. Clearly, when the church in Antioch *commended* the missionaries to the grace of God, it relinquished all control and responsibility for them.

This does not mean the missionary ought not to have a sponsoring congregation. He *needs* that contact, and *all* the brethren need to know that this congregation knows and approves this missionary, and recommends him to them for concern and support. The missionary will want to keep in touch with his sponsoring church or eldership, asking advice and encouragement, informing them of his progress and activities. But he should not be under their complete orders and domination.

Paul and Barnabas often made abrupt changes in plans, obviously without long-distance phone consultations with the elders at Antioch. They had been "delivered" to the grace of God.

I have served three years on an eldership overseeing a missionary family overseas. Some questioned the missionary writing for guidance in some matter, then acting otherwise than advised. But *he was on the field*, circumstances changed on short notice, and he followed the leading of the Spirit and made necessary decisions that couldn't wait, and made them wisely, I might add.

Brother Mouton's point is that God's man must be free to follow God's leading. Paul accomplished much that the Christians in Antioch had never dreamed of. He did it because he was free to be God's man in that place. Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters." A committed Christian needs the prayers and encouragement of his brethren; but he is *under the authority* of Him who said, "All authority has been given to me. . . ."

—Harold Fox



Let us hear from you! Moving? Send old and new address. Newly married? New baby? New job? News of interest to other alumni? Ideas? Plans? Suggestions? Drop us a line. Others want to know about you!

Dean Swedburg Says "Thank You!"

Dear Members of the Board, Faculty, Staff, Students, Alumni, Friends—You, too, Lowell—and all,

That gathering at the Villa Inn on April 4th was truly an awesome event! I was really overwhelmed. I wonder if I can blame my English teachers from years back, but words fail me to express my feelings. They did that evening and they do now.

Thank you *so much* for honoring me. Thanks for your gracious words. Thanks for being, in this wonderful way, a part of my life.

Working with you over the years has been a rewarding experience. I know that every real often I'll get off by myself and you will move across the screen of my consciousness—a very happy memory—a close remembrance of days and tasks we shared.

Thank you—*thanks times over*—for sharing and caring.

Dean Swedburg

The Burkums Say "Thanks!"

I knew my secretary was helping keep secrets from Dean Swedburg for me, but little did I know she was keeping secrets from me!

We simply cannot adequately express our appreciation to the Alumni for the wonderful trip to Oberammergau. Although we're not sure we know how to travel without a music group from NCC, we're excited to go and have begun already making preparations.

And what a wonderful surprise to have so many former Enthusiastics on hand at Alumni Days to help celebrate our 25th year with the college. Thank you so much for the wonderful cards and letters and for your great singing! Both were special blessings—more than you know.

Thank you all. We love you!

Lowell and Dixie Burkum

The Great Commandment

The rabbis counted 613 commandments—248 positive and 365 negative. In case of conflict, the greater took precedence over the lesser. When the lawyer asked Jesus, "Which is the great commandment?" what he meant was, "Which commandment takes precedence over all the others?" Jesus replied, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God . . . and thy neighbor as thyself." Jesus came not to destroy the law but to fulfill it, and that's how it's done. That's what Paul meant when he wrote, "Love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:10 and Galatians 5:14 in context). And that's what Augustine meant when he said "Love God and do as you please." If you *really* love God, and your neighbor who was created in His image, then you'll not knowingly do anything that would displease God or harm your neighbor.

How to Double Your Giving

Did you know the College has a list of 966 companies that will match, double, or even triple the gifts of their employees and retirees? Why not write NCC for the list? If you work for any of them, talk to them about it. They'll match (or better) whatever you give to NCC! Or if you know a friend of the college who works for such a company, pass along the good word. In effect you'll *multiply* your giving to Nebraska Christian College. During 1983 such corporate contributions added up to \$8,304!

Advertisers are convinced. They spend *millions* on commercials *designed* to just that—change behavior! Yet TV producers say “No!” They hold that violence, sex, profanity, etc., provide an emotional outlet rather than encourage immoral behavior.



What can you do about it? You have more influence on what appears on TV than you may realize. *Write letters.* Write your local studio; write the network; write the advertisers. They know that for every letter they receive, there are hundreds of people out there who feel the same way but don't bother to write. Express your objection to violence, immorality and profanity. Be explicit. Name shows and incidents. Be factual, but not over emotional.

TV networks claim their shows are true-to-life. If so, then Americans don't pray before meals or at bedtime, and they don't identify themselves as Christians. The occasional preacher on TV is often depicted as weak, ineffectual and ridiculous, or of doubtful morality.

What about the producers? According to a study of 104 TV writers, producers, network officials, etc., only 7% attend church (though 25% were raised Protestant, 12% Catholic and 59% Jewish). Only 5% strongly agree that homosexuality is wrong, 16% that adultery is wrong. They try to reshape society in their own image. They feel

AMERICAN WAR CASUALTIES

Revolutionary War	25,324	
Civil War	498,332	
World War I	116,708	
World War II	407,316	
Korean War	54,246	
Vietnam War	58,655	

that Christians should have minimal influence on society, ranking them only slightly above the military in their view.

Statistics used in this article are from the *National Federation for Decency*, Box 1434, Alexandria, VA 22313. If you feel strongly about these matters, write them for information. They can also give you names and addresses of network people, advertisers, etc., to whom to write.

Madalyn Murray O'Hair has never brought before the FCC a petition to remove religious broadcasting from radio or TV. Yet letters protesting the alleged action on her part pour in at the rate of 135,000 a month, adding up to nearly 22,000,000 pieces of protest mail since 1975.

Alumni, *please* come, and bring visitors, to NCC's graduation activities. It's extra special this year for these reasons:

Honors Convocation will be held in Alumni Hall at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 11. Is that so special? Read on:

Calvin Phillips is no ordinary Commencement speaker. He is now minister with Southside Christian Church in Munster, Indiana, and is President-Elect of Emmanuel School of Religion, Johnson City, Tennessee. He will bring the Commencement address at 3:00 p.m. in an open-air assembly in front of the NCC Administration Building (or in Alumni Hall in case of bad weather). NCC's 29 graduates will be honored as family and friends—and *alumni*—share in their joy of accomplishment for Christ, and His world-wide mission!

Now, *this is extra special!* As you know, President Milliken has announced his retirement, effective August 1, 1984. We congratulate him on his 36 years with Nebraska Christian College, 32 of them as President. He will be specially honored in two events. First, a reception in Alumni Hall following Commencement. Then, at 6:30 p.m., at a prime rib buffet dinner and program at King's Ballroom, 1000 Riverside, Norfolk. No reservations are needed for the afternoon reception, but we *must* have your *paid registration of \$6.00 per person* by May 8, for the evening buffet dinner. Write or call NCC to make your reservations.

The War on the Unborn since Abortion Was Legalized in 1973: 15,000,000.

Sobering Facts About The Muslim Faith*

Nearly a billion of earth's population are Muslim.

Thirty years ago one-seventh of the world was Muslim; today the figure is about one-fifth.

Europe may be predominantly Muslim in a few decades. The Muslims think so, and evidence points that way.

About 2,200,000 Americans are Muslim—up 400% in the last decade!

Islam is the majority religion in 35 nations; it's the second largest religious group in the world, and the third largest on the North American continent.

Egypt has the largest nominally Christian population (mostly Coptic and Roman Catholic) of any Arab country, yet 90% of Egypt's people are officially Muslim.

Churches of the restoration heritage have never established a congregation in Egypt, nor in most other Muslim countries. Isaac Errett, after visiting Egypt in 1877, wrote that Christian work in that country "must be done under very wise management, and mainly, we judge, through native preachers."

Christian Arabic Services, a Cincinnati based agency, is trying to follow Errett's advice. It is helping support Egyptian students at Cincinnati Christian Seminary. its goal is to equip Arabic-speaking workers who may in turn influence their countries for Christ.

* Most of the above statistics were gleaned from *Meeting the Muslim Challenge*, an editorial in *Christian Standard* for October 23, 1983

This Retirement Already Complete!

Thanks, Carl, for my retirement. When I said I was tired, worn out and ready for pasture, I wasn't aware that you would work so fast to replace me and let me live out the rest of my days in ease.

I'm a little jealous, though, of my replacement. I'm impressed with the \$5,000 anonymous gift (nearly half the price!), and with the \$50-a-month gift from yourself, that you were able to buy a brand new 1900 4-wheel-drive Ford tractor with loader, snow-blower and an honest-to-goodness, good looking factory-built cab. Just think, Carl, they have treated you so well that you probably won't even need a pay raise, will you?

I remember, though, in the time we've been together, how you've taught me that God's people will respond when there's a need. Aren't God's people great? I may be a bit jealous of my replacement, but I'm sure you agree with me about God's people responding!

Carl, please thank all the people who are helping towards the purchase of the new tractor.

In His service, A happily retired Ford tractor

"With the Economy As It Is . . ."

"So your boy is in Bible College. Is he going to be a preacher?"

"Hard to say. The big question now is, Is he going to be a sophomore!"

How to "Go Into All the World" Without Leaving America

One of the widest open doors to foreign evangelism may be through campus ministries. It would be interesting to know how many thousands of Muslims, Hindus, Shintoists, etc., are now studying in American colleges and universities. I don't have those statistics, and would welcome the figures if any reader has them, but the number must be huge! Our campus ministries have access to those people, and what an opportunity it is!

Have you thought of the advantages of doing our foreign mission work on American campuses? Aside from the convenience of remaining stateside, thus saving travel time and money, we might look at the following:

Accessibility. Many nations are closed to the gospel. Many others look upon evangelistic efforts with suspicion and disfavor, making evangelism difficult. How may these people be reached?

Native preachers. Native populations are more easily reached by their own nationals. These nationals abound on American campuses.

National leaders. Those who are intellectually and financially able to study in America will return as national leaders. They will be influential in government, in the professions, in business, in the arts and science, and in teaching. Turning these potential leaders to Christ, though they may *never* become career preachers, will be a far more effective effort toward changing their homeland than converting an equal number of average citizens there, most of whom are without money, position or influence.

It might be well to set up campus ministries specifically aimed toward these ethnic subcultures on our campuses.

—Harold Fox

"A Time for Giving"

The Lewistown, Montana church, where **Kerm Owen**, former NCC student, ministers, had a *giving* good time at their 1983 Christmas program. The classes' "gifts to Jesus" were:

2-5 year-olds a musical toy for the nursery
Grades 1 & 2 two beautiful pictures
Grades 3 & 4 kitchen towels and wash clothes
Jr. girls Kool-Aid and cups for Jr. Youth
Jr. boys \$5.00 each to two church-cleaning ladies
Jr. & Sr. Hi coat rack for fellowship hall
Adult class a can of coffee and clock batteries
Golden Circle wash cloths and towels for kitchen
Keystone class pan for kitchen, chair for nursery

The program theme, "Christmas—A Time For Giving", became a reality. You may see an idea here for future programs.

"Drunk Driving is the number one killer of teens. More than 4,000 young people die in alcohol-related accidents each year, another 20,000 crippled or disfigured for life."
—National Traffic Safety Administration

A Little Girl was opening her first savings account. As she filled out the application she saw a line that asked the name of her former bank. She wrote, "PIGGY".

Boost Nebraska Christian College!

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
Alumni Association
 1800 Syracuse
 Norfolk, NE 68701
 Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 182
 Council Bluffs, IA

Coming Events

Freshmen Registration .. Aug. 20
 General Registration Aug. 21
 Classes begin Aug. 22
 Opening Convocation ... Aug. 22
 New Pres. Inaugural Sept. 3
 Parents' Day Sept. 21

Parents:

A father gave his small son a globe for his birthday. One night the father, seeking some obscure spot mentioned on the late news, slipped into the boy's room to borrow the globe. The boy, rousing from sleep, asked, "Daddy, what are you doing with my world?" God might well ask us the same question.



NORTH AMERICAN CHRISTIAN CONVENTION
 JULY 10-13, 1984 ATLANTA, GEORGIA



The Alert

Published by
 Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
 June, 1984

Four Of Us Are Working Hard . . .

Eleven years ago I took the job of Recruiter for NCC. At that time I really felt we could have over 250 students within three to five years. Once we hit over 200, and to this day we're not real sure why. But I've been doing some strong thinking and trying to analyze why we can't reach that "magic" number of 250.



I often hear Bible college and church people say that there is no competition between the Bible colleges. The analogy is that there is no competition between light houses on the rocky sea coast. I'd like to think this but sometimes the hard cold facts are different.

Consider the fact that within my recruiting area there are five Bible colleges with four full-time recruiters. Nearly every prospective student is "recruited" by more than one, and usually three or four of the Bible colleges.

Recently a recruiter confronted me with the statement, "There's enough money and students for all of us." After talking with him a while I responded, "If there are enough students for all of us, why are we recruiters chasing the same prospective student around time after time?"

You see, God's people are hiring four dedicated, hard working recruiters and we have produced a total of about 300 students for the four Bible colleges. Someone must help us. I believe that you as an alumnus of Nebraska Christian College can "tip the scale" in our favor. If recruiting depends on personal contact, and I believe it does, you may be the person to make the difference. Your influence upon a prospect will probably determine where he will go to college, if he goes.

Because NCC has the largest number of alumni in the area, we should be having the greatest influence on the prospective students. I am excited about the future of NCC. God has given us great men to step into the leadership roles. These men have designed outstanding offerings in biblical studies. Our recent elementary education co-op program with Wayne State is going to open new areas for recruitment. I'm working harder and now I ask *you* to work harder to increase enrollment at Nebraska Christian College.

Here are some ways you can really help us work harder:

1. Speak positively about your college and its programs. If your comments are negative, voice them to the NCC administration.
2. Bring prospective students to our campus for a full day of classes.
3. Personally volunteer to help finance a young person's education. Anonymous gifts are good, but the student feels a personal responsibility and relationship when he knows who is backing him.
4. Start early to recruit the student for Bible college. Start at least during the Junior High years.

—Ron McConkey



A Word From The President-Elect

Richard Wamsley, President-Elect of Nebraska Christian College, addressed alumni at a breakfast at Alumni Days, April 4, 1984, on his decision to accept the office of President, and how he views that role. He has graciously consented to summarize those comments in a two-part article for publication in the Alert. Following is the first installment.

Part I: A Decision-Making Process

When one notes that by the end of this year, eleven of our Bible college presidents will be different than those listed in the 1982 *Directory of the Ministry*, and when one also realizes he is succeeding a president who has held that office for nearly 32 years and whose name is synonymous with Nebraska Christian College, the question might be asked, "Who would be foolhardy enough to say 'yes' to becoming the next president of NCC?"

I wondered about that myself when the possibility was first proposed to me, though not for those reasons. Questions came to mind such as:

"Would my gifts and abilities contribute to that position better than where I am now or in some other position?"

"Could I develop a commitment and a sense of mission to this calling?"

"Would there be support from faculty, staff, alumni, students and constituent churches for this 'easterner' transplant from Illinois?"

"Is there another candidate who is obviously more suited for the task and is available?"

So I embarked on a decision-making process that included several hours alone with God and His Word. I concentrated my study on the calling of Old Testament prophets and found that they struggled with some of the same sense of inadequacy that I was feeling, yet God encouraged them not to be afraid; that he would help them carry out the task he was calling them to do. (Ex. 3:6-12; Isa. 6:5-10; Dan. 10:15-19).

I also sought the prayers and input from three others whom I felt knew me and the situation at NCC. They were asked to pray specifically in certain areas relative to the needs of NCC at this time and where I might best serve in that ministry and to report to me in writing the conclusions they had drawn. Of course, I also had a series of talks with my wife, Dee. She has always been an insightful counselor to me, especially at times when I need an honest evaluation of my own strengths and weaknesses.

From a theological perspective, I profited greatly from reading the book, *Decision-Making and the Will of God* by Gary Friessen. Through his directed study of the Word, I was freed from the expectation of having to find God's "one and only will" for me in this decision. Rather, I saw my task as seeking his wisdom which allowed me to decide on the basis of God's moral laws, wise counsel from others, and my own assessment of the apparent needs of the college and my own gifts and abilities in relation to those needs. It was not essential to discover the *only* direction to take, but the wisest direction at this point.

I also found it helpful to set a deadline for the decision. Prolonging these types of decisions often results in more frustration than satisfaction.

Soon after the affirmative decision was made and the wheels had been set in motion, I was reading Dr. Lloyd Perry's book, *Getting the Church on Target*. An illustration

he used citing a manuscript written by William Sangster which was found after his death, seemed to set in words what I had been feeling throughout the decision making process and even until that time. It also affirmed for me the appropriateness of that decision:

This is the will of God for me. I did not choose it. I sought to escape it. But it has come.

Something else has come too. A sense of certainty that God does not want me only for a preacher. He wants me also for a leader—a leader in Methodism.

I feel a commission to work under God for the revival of this branch of His church—careless of my own reputation; indifferent to the comments of older and jealous men.

I am thirty-six. If I am to serve God in this way, I must no longer shrink from the task—but do it.

I have examined my heart for ambition. I am certain it is not there. I hate the criticism I shall evoke and the painful chatter of people. Obscurity, quiet browsing among books, and the service of simple people is my taste—but by the will of God, this is my task.

God help me. . . .

Bewildered and unbelieving, I heard the voice of God say to me, "I want to sound the note through you." O God, did ever an apostle shrink from his task more? I dare not say "No" but, like Jonah, I would fain run away.¹

Oh, and one more detail that clinched its application—I am thirty-six!

¹Lloyd Perry, *Getting The Church on Target* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1977), p. 80.

Why the Private Schools?

According to Paul Harvey's column (Norfolk Daily News, May 15, 1981, "There's a new private school in the United States every seven hours." Contrary to popular opinion, he said, the object is not a scheme to practice racial discrimination in the name of religion.

A Harvard grad student in Sociology researched the matter and concluded that these new schools "were created out of religious, not racial, convictions," convictions so strong that parents are willing to finance their own schools while supporting public schools with their taxes. *Why?*

- *Standardized tests* show private schools a full year ahead of public schools.
- *Humanistic public schools* teach that a man is an animal, inherently good; Bible centered schools teach that man needs God, to be good.
- *Every month* 5,200 Jr. and Sr. High teachers are attacked, 6,000 robbed; 282,000 students are assaulted and 112,000 robbed—quite a record!

A congressional study finds that "the prime concern of students and teachers in many public schools has become—not education—but self-preservation!"

And get this: "The largest professional group of parents sending their children to private schools—are public school teachers and principals," says Paul Harvey.

His final comment is, "Public schools, seeking to refine intellects without disciplining emotions, have accomplished neither."

Christian schools have been criticized as a refuge or shelter from "the real world." As it now stands, they are a refuge from violence and ignorance.

Jesus taught that a tree may be known by its fruit. Which of these trees bears the better, and which the bitter, fruit?

"The Church and The Bible College"

Christian Standard's editorial for February 27, 1983, was a perceptive look at the Bible College in its relation to the local church. It asks the question, "What is the proper relation of the local church to the Bible college?" and lists six steps that every congregation should take:

1. *Understand the school's purpose.*¹ Different schools have different aims. Check up on the school in your area. What is its avowed goal? How is it doing in accomplishing it? What can your church do to help?
2. *Appreciate the benefits your church has received from the Bible college.* Your staff member may have received training there; you may have had the benefit of seminars, guest speakers, conferences by faculty or staff. Church members may have benefited by books or articles written by Bible College personnel.
3. *Support the college financially.* Every church should regularly support one of our schools. Ask (and weigh) these questions: Which school is closest? Which school trained our minister? Which school do our young people attend? Which school serves our church with supply preachers, music groups, guest speakers? (*We would add, Is the college really providing quality education?*)
4. *Visit the college.* This is valuable, not only for prospective students, but for elders, deacons, teachers and other workers. Encourage groups to attend banquets, conferences, programs and other special on-campus events. Such fellowship helps the church and the college.
5. *Be fair to the college.* Don't judge the school by one student or one professor. Take the broader look. See the school's strengths rather than concentrating on possible weaknesses. Investigate rumors or criticisms. Understand impartially both sides of any issues that arise.
6. *Demonstrate interest in the school.* Read the school's paper. Ask for a financial statement if you don't receive one. Keep informed. Supporters need to know how funds are used. Good stewardship demands such communication.

The church and the Bible college are partners. They need each other's understanding, cooperation and support. What is your church doing for your Bible College?

Though these points were made 16 months ago, they are still relevant, and will help you to understand your Bible college better.

¹ The italicized headings are reprinted verbatim; the material following them is somewhat condensed.

Standard's editorial is under copyright by Standard Publishing, and its use here is by permission. —the editor



NCC Alumni Association Membership

Yes! I want to be a paid-up member. I enclose \$_____ for:

Lifetime membership: ☐ Single, \$100 ☐ Couple, \$150
Current year, to Aug. 31: ☐ Single, \$7.50 ☐ Couple, \$10.00

My/our name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I graduated or left NCC in 19 _____

More Older Students

Alumni: Friends of yours may be considering preparing for Christian ministry, but may feel that they are too old. It may interest them to know that, according to one recent study, seminary graduates over age 30 have increased drastically in the last ten years. This trend may be advantageous in that men and women of greater maturity and commitment may be choosing to give their lives to Christian service. If you know someone who may be facing this decision, please encourage him/her to prepare.



The Passion Play



Every ten years the little Bavarian village of Oberammergau takes on a new identity and attracts pilgrims and visitors from all Christendom, as its inhabitants dramatize again the Passion of our Lord, as they and their ancestors have been doing for centuries.

This year will mark a special performance, for it is its 350th anniversary; and the alumni of Nebraska Christian College are making it possible for Professor Lowell Burkum and his wife Dixie to go to Europe and experience the Passion Play, in celebration of Lowell's 25 years with Nebraska Christian College.

But the trip is expensive, and we alumni have about \$2500 to go in gathering the necessary funds. We believe that you who read this would like to have a part in making this event possible, and we're providing the coupon (below) for your convenience. (If you lose the coupon, or prefer not to mutilate your copy of the *Alert*, just make your check payable to NCC, with a note explaining that it's for the Burkum trip.

Yes, I want to help with the Burkums' trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play. My check to NCC, in the amount of \$ _____, is enclosed.

My name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

All TV is ETV!

"Hey, Do you watch Educational TV?"

"No, I can't be bothered with that. It's boring. I just watch stuff like "General Hospital," "Dallas," and—you know, the regular shows."



The above dialogue, or a similar one, could be re-enacted again and again.. But the fact is, if you watch TV at all, you *do* watch Educational TV. Nicholas Johnson, a former FCC member, has accurately said, "All TV is educational TV." No matter *what* you watch on TV, —news, comedy, police or hospital shows, you are being indoctrinated with the moral and ethical values of the producers. Some of these values may be positive; most of them are negative. Some are explicit; others are implicit. But when the show is over, your own values and viewpoint have been subtly shaded by what you've seen.

A CBS official testified that "Television reflects the standards and mores of society." It has been held that if a practice is an accepted part of contemporary social behavior the TV industry has an *obligation* to portray that acceptance on its shows, whether adultery, violence, rape, or any other behavior.

But the simple fact is that TV *really* functions as a role model for society, *not* as a mirror reflecting accepted practice.

So you're wondering what you ought to watch on TV, or what you ought to permit your children to watch. Here's an eight-point checklist—and it applies to other entertainment and activities as well:

Finally, brethren, whatever programs are true, . . . noble, . . . just, . . . pure, . . . lovely, . . . of good reputation, . . . if there is any virtue, and if there is anything praiseworthy, . . . let your mind dwell on these programs. Compare Phil. 4:8.

Did You Know . . . ?

Did you know that Martin Luther made it logically impossible for anyone to be a Lutheran? He said, "I pray you leave my name alone and not to call yourselves Lutherans, but Christians. Who is Luther? My doctrine is not mine. I have not been crucified for anyone . . . How then does it befit me, a miserable bag of dust and ashes, to give my name to the children of Christ? Cease, my dear friends, to cling to these party names and distinctions; away with them all; and let us call ourselves only Christians after Him from whom our doctrine comes."

—*Life of Luther*, by Michelet, p. 262

If a Lutheran is one who is a follower of Luther, and if Luther said not to call yourselves Lutherans, then if you call yourself a Lutheran, you have, by that very act, shown yourself *not* to be his follower. *Purely logical!*



Think!

"Though the proportion of those who think be extremely small, yet every individual flatters himself that he is one of the number."
—Caleb C. Colton

How Can You Help Nebraska Christian College?

A sad fact of life at a Bible college is the occasional sincere, dedicated and talented student who has to drop out because of lack of funds. He may plan to work and save for a semester or two, but sometimes he just doesn't make it back. The sad part is that the Lord has lost a potentially fine servant.

Why does this happen? A big factor is that college costs are high. It is no secret that student fees pay only about a third of the cost of education. Costs to students at NCC are not nearly as high as at many private schools; still, *all* college costs have increased greatly in recent years. **Did you know . . .**

- That the goods and services purchased by colleges have more than doubled in cost since 1970? (That's true of *all* colleges, not just NCC.)
- That, though most colleges receive tax support, colleges like NCC receive none?
- That, while many private colleges have sizeable endowments, NCC does not?

So you ask yourself, "*How can I help?*" I can think of three ways.

1. Through Matching Gifts.

Perhaps you already support NCC. Did you know that your gift could possible be doing double or triple duty? NCC can send you a brochure listing nearly 1000 companies who will match, double, or even triple their employees' or retirees' giving to NCC. Write for the brochure.

2. Through a Scholarship Fund.

NCC has several such funds, set up as memorials or otherwise, which provide financial help on the basis of need or scholarly excellence. Ask about setting up a fund.

3. Through a Program of Regular Giving.

You can begin or increase a program of regular giving to NCC, enabling the college to provide a greater portion of educational costs, thus keeping tuition and other student costs to a minimum.

And there is another way you can help. You can be a Nebraska Christian College booster. Talk up NCC among your friends. Be enthusiastic! We have a great school and it's getting better! We're proud to be a part of NCC. Send us the names of people who ought to receive our mailings. You'll be glad you did!

The First Amendment

The Supreme Court's recent finding that the Second Amendment is not a limitation on the powers of state or local governments—only Congress, ought to settle once and for all the same status of the *First* Amendment. It says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Yet, again and again, limitations have been placed on the free exercise of religion by that same court!

Boost Nebraska Christian College!

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA



From Our New Dean of Students

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I would like, first of all, to thank you for the opportunity to serve here at NCC. I know that, without the recommendations of many of you, this would not be possible for me to do. Secondly, I'd like to spend just a few moments talking about what I hope to accomplish as the new Dean of Students.

As Dr. Brown so illustriously put it, "your first goal should be to make it through this year." He is right on target with that statement. There is so much to do as far as planning, preparation and scheduling is concerned. I'm very thankful that President Wamsley has established such a fine program here at NCC. As you know, he was the first Dean of Students here, and the work he has accomplished has made it very easy for me to step in and pick up where he left off.

My major goal is to develop as strong a student body as possible. When the students are all united in Christ then great things can happen for the Lord.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank one of the greatest alumnae this school has ever produced, that being my wife, Dawn. It isn't easy being seven months pregnant and have your husband haul you across the state in a moving truck; but she has been super throughout this whole thing. Thank you, Dawn!

Well, that's all. I'm looking forward to meeting you all on campus or in your churches this year.

—Chris Lahm, Dean of Students

A Message from Harold Milliken

Greetings from the ex-president of NCC. I want to thank you, as alumni, for your loyal support of the College over the years. It is impossible for any institution to succeed without the active support of her most immediate friends. President Wamsley will need your continuing and giving support for the days ahead. I really believe that the best days for NCC are yet ahead. We have a great team of faculty, administration, and staff.

I will be working half-time with the College in wills and estate planning. I will want to hold wills seminars in your churches and be available to talk to people who need help on their estate planning. You can be a great help to me if you take the time to refer some of these people to me. The future stability of the College depends greatly on our progress in this area. We can help the College and help these families plan their financial future.

Keep praying for us and recommending the College to your people for support and attendance! "We are laborers together with God."

—Harold B. Milliken

Vacation Time?

Well, folks, it's vacation, and though this verse may be too late to help some of you this year, it accurately describes the Foxes' experience three or four years ago, and it may put you on your guard for the future.

Ode To A Motel

Noisy traffic, squeaky bed;
A/C blowing on my head;
Sinus headache, musty smell;
Walls like paper in this cell;
Doorless john, not even a curtain.
We'll not be back, that much is certain.

My stomach hurts; I cannot sleep.
It's enough to make a strong man weep.
At four a.m. I write this verse. Like this motel, it might be worse.
But by tonight we'll be at home
(And carefuller when next we roam).

To the Proprietor:

Hey, you could take this all in fun;
However, you could be the one
To make some changes for the good,
And so improve your livelihood.

To You, Dear Reader:

I wrote this out in my own hand
And left a copy on the stand
Beside the bed when we checked out.
If you should travel that same route,
I hope things are improved a bit.
Perhaps the owner had the wit
To renovate that cardboard shack
And lure the roving trav'ler back.
But I'll not name the place or city
Described in this poetic ditty.

A Word From the President: Part II

The last issue of the Alert carried Part I of President Wamsley's comments on his decision to accept the office of President of Nebraska Christian College, and how he views his role in that office. Following is his second installment.

How I View The Role of President of Nebraska Christian College

First, I would consider it a privilege and unenviable challenge to attempt to serve the college as faithfully as President Milliken has these past 36 years. I would certainly consider the model role he has set down as mandates for the future role of this college's president in these areas:



1. Continuing an attitude of respect for and service to the churches of our area and any others who seek ministry from us. The banner under which he has led us, "We are here to serve the churches," is one that needs to be unfurled often.

2. Maintaining the integrity of the college by delivering what we promise to deliver and staying true to our primary purpose as stated in our college catalog, "to educate Christians for leadership ministries, both in the church and to the world, who believe in and are supportive of the principles of the New Testament church."

3. Working to "be at peace with all men" by placing priority on the unity of the college body, her trustees, and her constituents, at times sacrificing one's own preferences or opinions.

4. Adopting the role of a servant in relationships with the faculty, staff, students, and all the "publics" of the college. To conduct oneself as a gentleman and a "gentle man" is an appropriate model for the position of college president.

5. Treating the college faculty and staff as *persons*, not as mere functions filling a position—persons with families that need the attention of fathers and mothers—persons with feelings that need some care when handling delicate personnel problems—persons who need encouragement when it appears that things are not going well.

6. Serving the community as well as the college—NCC is an integral part of the community of Norfolk.

Other potential roles the president of NCC might fill in addition to those outlined above are:

1. Enhancing lines of communication with the administration of Northeast College and other state and private colleges in Nebraska and the surrounding area. My experience in working with the state's institutional financial aid offices has taught me the value of this communication.

2. Being the initiator and director of efforts in long range planning; keeping faculty, staff, and trustees aware of the need for direction and dreams if NCC is to continue her fine record of training a qualified ministry for the churches.

3. Managing the day-to-day activities of the college in a professional yet comfortable manner; expecting the best from her staff, while allowing opportunity for growth of personal relationships and preserving the sense of "cam-radarie" that is already present.

4. Being the primary representative of NCC to the "brotherhood" at large, seeking opportunities for exposing more of its leadership and its churches to the excellent programs, faculty, and alumni NCC has to offer.

5. Working closely with others of the college's administrative staff, keeping abreast of what is happening in each of their areas and working with them in problem solving and planning.

6. Especially, working closely with the Director of Development and Business Manager in overseeing the financial needs and fiscal policies of the college, not only to keep in touch with the present financial status and control, but for purposes of continuous long-range planning.

Of course, there are a number of responsibilities mandated to the President in the college's by-laws. However, those cited above will provide the compass points for the role of this President of Nebraska Christian College.

—President Richard Wamsley



Help Me! Help Me!



I'm about to become president of the Alumni Association and along with that privilege (?) I'm also about to inherit an alumni debt of \$3,944. Now, I don't know which is worse, to inherit that debt, or to be in Jim Hopkins' shoes and the one who has to pass that debt along to me. Will you be one of the ones to help erase the alumni deficit and keep Jim from being embarrassed?

I'm sure that you're aware of the fact that NCC's general budget underwrites our alumni projects, but are you aware that, seeing what a poor job we do, they may no longer bail us out? To put it simply, if we alumni do not pay this bill we may very well have given our last trip, trophy, recognition dinner or gift to the college.

We owe \$2,982 for Mr. "B's" trip, President Milliken's and Dean Swedburg's dinners, and we are \$962 short of paying for alumni mailings, including past issues of the Alert.

—Carl Brandt

Dues Are Due!

I guess this is a good time to remind you that your alumni dues were due last September 1, and are payable any time thereafter. They're \$7.50 a year for singles or \$10.00 for couples. About seventeen of you have paid lifetime dues, which are \$100 for singles and \$150 for couples. Incidentally, that's a good way for a lot of you to go. You pay just once, the money is invested and the interest keeps you paid up, and we don't have to bug you about your dues. Annual dues expire August 31 and lifetime dues expire when you do. The *first* claim on your dues is to pay for the Alert and other alumni mailings, and as Carl's letter indicates, we seem to be falling woefully short of covering even that primary obligation!

Really, fellow alumni, our participation in the alumni program of Nebraska Christian College can and should be a powerful and effective ministry, both for NCC and for the Lord! Let's each do our part to make it so. —H. Fox

A "NEW" THEOLOGY OF MISSIONS

By ROBERT L. SMITH

(The following article was written by the first alumnus of Nebraska Christian College, and appeared in the Christian Standard for June 7, 1981. It is under copyright by Standard Publishing, and is reprinted here by permission. Brother Smith spent his life on the Mission Field, and knows whereof he speaks.)

THE popular interpretation of the parable of the sower (or of the soils) asks us to analyze the soil to see which is good—that which will produce. Then we are to concentrate on the hundred-fold yielding area.

My Bible says that the sower went out to sow—indiscriminately. He walked up and down the field distributing seed until there was no area left unsowed.

At the edge of the field was a path where sun, rain, and many feet had packed the soil as hard as cement. But the edge of the path was not well defined. It was softening gradually. In order not to neglect any part of the field that might produce, the sower broadcast prodigally. Better to let seed fall on the path where the birds would get it, than to leave an inch of soil unsowed.

In the rocky soil, it was difficult to judge exactly the depth of the humus. But this section received the same amount of seed as the rest of the field. Who knows? There might be enough rain to sustain it. The roots just might penetrate deeply enough to bring a crop.

The thorny ground was not neglected. That also received its share of seed.

Up and down the field, with a regularity that allowed for no part of the field to lack seed, the sower continued until the whole field had been covered.

The seed is the Word of God. The field is the world. The gospel is what brings fruit in the life of any man.

Jesus said that the gospel would be preached in all the world. His command was to go into all the world, to preach the gospel to all nations, to every creature.

Why be stingy about it? Why restrict it to the "responsive"? Why not fill the earth "with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea"? (Habakkuk 2:14).

We have the money, manpower, means, message, and motive to accomplish this. But as Jesus told the rich young ruler, "One thing is lacking yet." *Do it!* ▲

Robert L. Smith was a missionary serving with Belo Horizonte Christian Mission, Minas Gerais, Brazil, South America, until his terminal illness and death in late February, 1984.

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea..."

This ad appeared in a Christian publication:

"[Church name, address] accepts divorcees, alcoholics, gossipers, bigots, sex offenders, thieves, mixed marriages—God's acceptance of all people as His children. Come as you are!..."

Could *your* church run such an ad? If not, you'd better remove the name *Christ* or *Christian* from your signboard and rip "Just As I Am" from your hymnal, for those are the very people Jesus came to save. And if you see yourself as somehow "better" than these, then you'll have to acknowledge that the Pharisees are still with us.

In a student ministry some 30 years ago I told a woman of the church about a young man whom I had visited at the gas station. She gasped, and said, "Why, *he* used to be a bartender! I refrained from telling her that he was still one, for he pumped gas by day and moonlighted in one of the bars in the evenings. Needless to say, my optimism for "calling" was somewhat cooled, for I could see that if a "sinner" came to even one meeting, his chilly reception would surely discourage his return!

It was the Pharisees who, looking down their noses at Jesus, asked, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax-gatherers and sinners?" And Jesus reminded them that it is the sick, not the well, who need a doctor. We do not marvel that hospitals contain sick people; why should we be surprised to see sinners in church?

Christ died for that bartender. Yes, He died for the Pharisee, too. Whatever barrier exists to the redemption of either of them is in the heart of the candidate, not in the will of Christ who is "not willing that any should perish!"

Of course, it is lack of repentance, not the enormity of the sin, that bars one from salvation; yet if we were to arrange on a scale of one to ten the status of those invited by the church in paragraph one above, I suppose most of us would put the sex-offenders, thieves and drunks at the bottom of the list. But after meditating on what Jesus taught, I'd have to give the bigots and gossipers that place. I guess I'm a snob about snobs. I look down on people who look down on people. I'd rather appear in the judgment as a dried-out drunk than as one who looks down on drunks. I'd rather be a repentant adulterer on that day than one who feels superior to adulterers. I think a thief who has changed his ways will then fare better than one who despises a thief. If I'm to be a follower of Him who died for sinners, I *must* take that position, for it was to the hypocritical chief priests and elders that Jesus said, "The tax-gatherers and harlots will get into the kingdom of God before you," and it was a Pharisee who said, in effect, "Thank God I'm not like that tax-gatherer!"

Heaven's doors swing open to the harlot but close to the Pharisee because the Pharisee just can't conceive that anyone as holy or as virtuous as he might not be welcomed with open arms by the God of heaven, while the harlot and drunkard both know that they'll never make it on their own.

Certainly there are exceptions, on *both* sides; but it's easy to see which side the odds favor, and that's why we must all, in spirit, be able to sing,

"Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come!"

So, when you come to Jesus, you must, like the ad says, "Come as you are!"

H. Fox

More Older Ministerial Students

Alumni, friends of yours may be considering preparing for Christian ministry, but may feel that they've delayed too long. It may interest them to know that, a much larger percentage of seminary students are graduating at ages above thirty today than there were ten years ago. The trend seems to be toward making greater use of the maturity and increased commitment to the Lord that comes with those added years.

Civil Disobedience?

Probably there are circumstances that would require a committed Christian to disobey duly enacted laws of the land. However, to do so on the basis of Acts 5:29 ("We must obey God rather than men") is a misuse of scripture and a misunderstanding of the context.

Let's get the whole picture. Peter and other apostles were embarrassing the religious leaders with their preaching, so the temple guard arrested them and brought them before the Sanhedrin. The high priest then said, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." And Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

They didn't say, "... rather than law;" and I see no evidence here that Peter and the others disobeyed or claimed the right to disobey any duly constituted law. The restriction was imposed by the whim or caprice of the Sanhedrin (see Acts 4:17-18), upon a handful of Christians.

I realize that the Sanhedrin was a powerful body; but did it have power to legislate irrevocably for Jerusalem under Roman occupation? And if so, could it make such a "law" to apply to a mere handful of people rather than to the populace at large? I think not. I reject the use of *this scripture* to defend civil disobedience. Such use is either due to ignorance, or is a cop-out on the part of lawless people.

—H. Fox, editor



Borrowed Humor

A collector of rare books met an acquaintance who mentioned that he had discarded an old Bible his family had had for generations. He said that "Guten ... somebody" had printed it.

"Not Gutenberg?" gasped the collector.

"Why yes, I think that was the name."

"You fool, you've thrown away one of the first books ever printed! A copy sold recently for \$400,000!"

"Well, mine wouldn't have been worth a dime," the man replied, "Someone by the name of Luther had scribbled notes all over it!"

Are You "Fixin' To Go" To Norfolk?

Rube: Me an' Maw are repairin' to go on a trip.

Hube: You mean you're *preparing* to go, not *repairing*. To repair means to fix.

Rube: That's what I said. We're fixin' to go on a trip.

And we hope that *you* are "fixin' to go" to NCC for Parents' Day, September 21; the Dunning Lectureship with Scott Bartchy, October 3-4; or Career Days on October 25-26. We'll be looking for you!

Playing Church

Robert Meyers, writing for *Restoration Review*, commented on the shallowness of much adult Bible teaching. He had visited a Florida church where the lessons consisted of mimeographed questions, each with a scripture reference for the answer. Some of his comments follow:

I observed that each person got ready for his own reply by quickly checking the Biblical verse written down after the question. Each person then read off the verse, was praised by the teacher, and the person next in line was addressed.

The questions went like this: 'Who came to see Paul in Damascus?' The adult student answered, 'Ananias.' 'What did he tell Paul to do?' Answer: 'Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins.' When all the questions were answered, the teacher said we were finished for the day.

And so out we went, into the world of atomic weapons and nuclear power, of cancer, famine, hatred, and illiteracy. Spiritually, we all had on rompers that morning, and only juggled blocks in a playroom. We were totally unprepared by that study to apply Christian principles intelligently to the world we live in.

I, too, have seen classes almost like that. I've seen grown men—leaders in the church—arguing trivia and congratulating themselves on their grasp of scripture, while totally ignoring matters in the same context that are vital in coming to grips with crucial contemporary issues.

I wonder how some of us are going to answer when God calls us to give an accounting of our stewardship. I wonder when we who stand in leadership roles are going to take seriously our great commission. I don't believe God has promised to keep the world ignorant long enough for our petty game-playing to win the world for Him.

You who read these lines have the training—and, hopefully, the commitment—to be part of the solution, rather than be part of the problem. God has called us to a serious business. I pray we may measure up. —H. Fox

No Time To Read The Bible?

People often say, "I just have no time to read the Bible." The problem is not the *lack* of time, but the *use* of time. Did you know that the longest book in the New Testament can be read in less time than it takes to watch the average TV movie?

A fairly rapid reader can read the books of the New Testament in the indicated number of minutes:

Matthew	83	Ephesians	13	Hebrews	26
Mark	46	Philippians	8	James	8
Luke	85	Colossians	8	1 Peter	10
John	60	1 Thessalonians	7	2 Peter	7
Acts	80	2 Thessalonians	4	1 John	8
Romans	35	1 Timothy	10	2 John	1
1 Corinthians ..	28	2 Timothy	7	3 John	1
2 Corinthians ..	23	Titus	3	Jude	2
Galatians	13	Philemon	1	Revelation	41

Total minutes: 618

This comes to 10 hours and 18 minutes for the whole New Testament. A slower reader will take somewhat longer, and most of us will proceed at a slower pace for greater comprehension, but the fact remains that time is hardly the determining factor.

Now, what was that you were saying about not having time to read the Bible?

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 182
Council Bluffs, IA

Alumni Association Officers

President	Carl Brandt
Vice President	Dave Crane
Secretary	Maggie Steele
Treasurer	Linda Lu Lloyd
Editor, <i>Alert</i>	Harold Fox

Coming Events

Career Days	Oct 25-26
Mormon Lectures	
Harry Ropp	Nov. 15-16
Thanksgiving	
Break	Nov. 21-25
Living	
Christmas Tree	Dec. 4-7
End of Semester	Dec. 20
Christmas	
Break	Dec. 21-Jan. 10
Second Semester	
Registration	Jan. 11
Classes Begin	Jan. 14

Here and There . . .

The righteous divide the world into the righteous and the unrighteous; the unrighteous divide the world into the successful and the failures; while the failures divide the world into the lucky and the unlucky. (And none suspect that all these divisions are arbitrary.)

—Sidney Harris



The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
November, 1984

CATCH THE SPIRIT!

Be A Nebraska Christian College Booster!

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



The wonderful response of individuals and congregations to the urgent needs of NCC during the past year has served to underscore the partnership that exists between the college and the churches. We simply cannot provide excellence in Christian education without the regular and "extra" support of our "boosters" in the local churches. The faculty and students of NCC are very grateful for this support and want to underscore their willingness to be of service to the churches.

The development office has prepared a new program. NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BOOSTERS is the general theme of the new emphasis which explains not only how the churches can support NCC, but how NCC can support the churches. We are excited about this program and pray that it will make our partnership in the gospel even stronger. I think it will excite you also. A very attractive packet of materials, which explains the opportunities in detail, has been sent to the churches. Ask your preacher about it. Encourage your congregation to use it.

As we move toward the twenty-first century, the opportunities and challenges facing both Nebraska Christian College and the churches are greater than ever. Let's help each other to meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities!

If you'd like more information about the NCC Boosters program or if you have other ideas that we might wish to include, feel free to write or call the Development Office or President Wamsley.

Lowell Burkum,
Director of Development

BOOST NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

NCC Needs a Computer!

Want to help provide one, free? Do so by helping your church collect Fun-'N-Fitness seals found on every package of Post cereals.

How would we use it? It would find use in our business office, in bookkeeping and maintaining records. Also, students could become familiar with its operation, a valuable experience as computers become more and more common in church offices, businesses and homes. And looking forward toward obtaining a computer of greater capability, we can visualize such uses as keeping library records and inventory, and in keeping student records, which go back to 1945, and which now require much storage space. These and other uses make it almost mandatory that NCC move into the computer age.

Alumni, here's how you can help:

First: Select a project coordinator. Choose a well-organized, enthusiastic self-motivator who will promote the collection of Post Fun-'N-Fitness seals.

Second: Send the name of your coordinator to Dee Wamsley at Nebraska Christian College. You will want to keep Dee informed of your progress, and she may offer suggestions for more effectively doing the job.

Third: Your coordinator may want to establish some basic goals, and to set up a committee to collect and count the seals.

If we at NCC can assist in any way, please get in touch. Your cooperation will be appreciated!

You Are An Alumnus of NCC!

What is an alumnus? What is an Alumni Association? I'm not sure what the correct meaning of *alumnus* is but here at NCC it is anyone who has taken classes (one or more semesters) at NCC. An alumni association then is the congregate group of alumni who have attended NCC. That means YOU because you are receiving our bi-monthly paper, *The Alert*. This paper is yours and we need your input into how to make it more beneficial to you. The Alumni Association is also yours; you and only you are responsible for how effectively or ineffectively it may function. In years past the Association has paid for various improvements on campus and has also paid for recognition gifts to various faculty members but this has all ceased because you have not done your part by giving input into the Association. We need your help. By the time you receive this copy of *The Alert* the officers will have met (October 4) to discuss some ways of getting the Association active once again.

You can do several things right now to help.

1. Pay your dues. \$7.50 a year for singles, \$10 for couples. \$100 and \$150 for lifetime membership. We need those dues to erase a deficit that the Association has, and we also need to pay for *The Alert*.
2. You can sponsor an area Alumni Association Rally.
3. Attend *Alumni Days*, April 9 and 10, 1985.
4. Send us ideas for *The Alert* and for the good of your Association.

You are an important part of the Alumni Association and we need your help. We are in our 40th year of training men and women to better equip themselves as we strive for Excellence In Christian Leadership Education, and as we work for Christ's cause. May we count on your response to service?

Carl Brandt, NCC Alumni President

The Cost of College Education

When I was graduated from college 44 years ago, board, room and tuition cost \$230 for one year at school. A student attending NCC today will pay about \$3500 a year. When I was in college, the going wage for a ten-hour day was \$1.00. Today the minimum wage for a ten-hour day would be \$33.50. Forty-four years ago, one would have had to work 230 ten-hour days to pay for one year of college. Today, one would have to work only 104 ten-hour days. Relatively speaking, in "the good old days", a college education cost 121% more than it does now. That's more than double!

—Ralph Johnson

Ron McConkey adds this post script:

Besides this, today we have Government grants, Work Study Programs, Academic and Departmental Scholarships and Student Loans. In reality, finances are very seldom a *good* reason for not going to college. —Ron

How Much Do You Care?

A recent NCC Daily Announcement sheet closed with the observation, "*They Don't Care How Much You Know Until They Know How Much You Care!*" I don't know who originated that gem, but it certainly hits the nail on the thumb!

The man who led me to Christ kept coming back. All the Scripture he quoted didn't impress me, for I then had no great regard for the Bible. *But he kept coming back!!* Then one day I saw a glint in his eye that looked suspiciously like a tear. This guy *cared*. About *me*! And I began to wonder why. Whatever it was this man had, I wanted it. It was his *caring* that finally convinced me, not his knowledge of the Bible or the correctness of his doctrine.

The scriptures proclaiming the wisdom and knowledge of God are many; but it's the one that tells of His *love* that we call the Golden Text of the Bible. And though knowing His Word is important, it is our *caring* that will not only win others to Christ, but will conform us to that Christ-like image ourselves.

—Harold Fox



"Ministers of Hospitality"

One church dropped the word "usher" and called those people *Ministers of Hospitality*, in order to make that ministry more personal and friendly. They enlisted people by families—men, women and children—to serve. Their duties:

1. Be present 20 minutes before service starts.
2. Make it a point to meet one person he/she didn't know.
3. Introduce at least one person to at least one other person.
4. Invite people to sit toward the front.

One way to accomplish Number 4 is to hand the person his bulletin only as you indicate a seat or pew. If he *does* take a seat farther back, go back, of course, and hand him a bulletin.

According to the report (see *Christian Standard* editorial, Nov. 1, 1981 for complete article) the program was a success, and there were more people interested in getting involved than there were services to accommodate them! Some of these ideas may not work for you, and you may be already using some, but others may be worth a try. So try them!

Any "Future New Way Singers"?

We'll send a "Future New Way Singer" T-shirt to your baby if you are an alumnus/alumna, and send us a birth announcement. Just send us the good news and we'll do the rest. Here's a note from **Dave and Connie Jo Hardy** thanking us for the shirt we sent to their newest arrival. ConnieJo(Myers)Hardy was my secretary several years ago. —Ron

Dear Mr. McConkey,

Please express to everyone our thanks for the "Future New Way Singer" T-shirt for Rachel. Joel has worn his a lot and it gets lots of comments. It's given us lots of opportunities to talk about NCC.

We're praying for a good year at NCC this year. We're so thankful for NCC and for all she has done for us. We learned so much there and have very fond memories of our years there.

God's blessing on all of you there.

In Christ,

David, Connie Jo, Joel and Rachel Hardy

To Pledge or Not to Pledge . . .

Some of us are allergic to making pledges. *Or are we?* "I pledge allegiance to the flag . . ." We pledge our troth "till death do us part." We pledge our lives to Christ.

Or is it just "money matters" that bring on that allergic reaction? Well, we know that our citizenship, our marriage, our church, all involve money.

"But I don't like to promise a certain amount per week or month . . ." Oh, yes you do! When you had your phone, electricity, and water connected, you pledged to pay a certain minimum amount regularly. And how about when you bought your car, furniture or TV? To be honest, we are involved with pledges all the time.

Perhaps our reluctance to pledge toward the Lord's work is because we feel that His work is somehow optional—that to support it is a sign of our generosity rather than an obligation, and ought not to be imposed upon. Or perhaps we put a higher value on our lights and telephone than on what Christ has done for us. *Can this be true?*

A pledge is not to extort money from those unwilling to give; it is to determine approximately how much will be available to budget for the ensuing term. It is not a promissory note; it is an intention to pay, as God blesses. It is an expression of love for Christ, a concern for those for whom He died, and an acknowledgement of an obligation to Christ and His cause. I'm not ashamed of that obligation. "I am a debtor . . ."

— H. Fox



I simply argue that the cross be raised again at the center of the marketplace as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles, but on a cross between two thieves; on the town garbage heap; at a crossroads so cosmopolitan that they had to write his title in Hebrew and in Latin and in Greek. . . at the kind of place where cynics talk smut, and thieves curse, and soldiers gamble. Because that is where he died. And that is what he died about. And that is where churchmen ought to be, and what churchmen should be about.

—George McCleod

You Alumni Can Help Me Get Names

About a month ago I sent a letter to 1400 churches asking them for the names and addresses of their High School/Junior High youth. I enclosed a form and a return envelope along with the letter telling how important it is that I have those names as soon as possible.

To date only about 25 have returned the information to me. Most of these are churches not served by our alumni.

Alumni: ask your preacher if he's returned the information. "Lean on him" just a little. Last month we wrote about 1700 letters to seniors asking them to come to Career Days (October 25-26). If the youth in your church don't know about us, it may be because your church leaders haven't given us their name, address, telephone number, city, state, zip, and year they are to graduate. One way you can help is to get that information to us. —Ron

Alcoholism: Sin or Sickness?

People have approached me with the idea that alcoholism is a sin, not a disease, and that we ought not to pamper this weakness or perversity. Knowing that many share this view. I've given the matter serious thought, and will try to answer by first defining two crucial terms, *alcoholism*, and *sin*.

Alcoholism: No universal definition exists. Here's my working definition, and I won't insist that you agree with me. I see an alcoholic as one whose use of alcohol is interfering with any important phase or function of his life, including his social, physical, emotional, marital, or economic functioning.

Sin: The New Testament writers adopted for "sin" a word that the ancient Greeks used for a deep, universal inner flaw which they saw prevailing in human character. Alcoholics themselves acknowledge this underlying flaw or defect. One of the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) states, "*We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.*" So, in using this definition, we identify alcoholism as sin, and alcoholics as sinners. *And we recognize that the whole human race fits the definition. We all have defects of character.*

But what about sickness? Though alcoholism is a consequence of our common defects of character, anyone who has observed an alcoholic in action must admit, whether he views him with compassion or contempt, that he is a sick man. He is sick spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Most of us would never turn our backs on a victim of ulcers, lung cancer or heart disease, even if we thought he had brought it on himself. We ought to have the same concern for the alcoholic.

I have compassion for people who are sick. I visit them at home or in the hospital. I try to ease their discomfort and anxiety. I pray for them. And though I abhor the causes of human sickness, I do not allow them to block my concern for the victims.

But even if my only concern were economic, I would still want to do something about alcoholism. To say nothing of the miseries of family discord and social upheaval stemming from uncontrolled drinking, its dollar cost in lost time, efficiency, life and property, higher insurance rates and taxes, is beyond calculation. I would like to see greater concern on the part of every citizen, and a greater willingness to do something concrete about this serious problem.

And, of course, the best thing that any of us can do is to demonstrate the loving concern and acceptance of Christ.

—Harold Fox

“How Do I Love Thee? . . .”

Last March the elders of a Church of Christ in Oklahoma publicly exposed as an adultress a widow of their congregation, a charge which she did not deny.

The elders had helped her buy a car and find a job, and continued to help her even after they knew of her wrongdoing, and really felt that they were doing the right thing in publicly advertising her guilt and in warning the church to have nothing to do with her.

The woman asked the elders not to make her a public spectacle, but they persisted. She then gave them a letter of resignation of membership, and threatened them with a lawsuit if they kept on. They kept on. She moved away; but the elders, acting in Christian love, refused to drop the issue. (One lawyer said, “They loved her so much they loved her plumb out of town!”) She sued the elders and won a settlement of \$390,000 (the case has since been appealed). And we understand Hollywood offered her \$200,000 to \$300,000 for her story. If she accepts, she and her four children will be drawn even deeper into the quagmire of degradation.

The real issue in the lawsuit was not whether the woman had done wrong; it was whether an eldership can administer discipline to one who has withdrawn from its oversight. The elders held that she had no right to resign from the congregation during a disciplinary procedure, and would not accept her resignation. She could not withdraw from them but they could withdraw from her. Wow!!

Could it be that the real issue, *spiritually*, was how the elders saw themselves? Are they shepherds or judges? Were they concerned for the welfare of the sheep or their own public image? Were they responsive to their carnal nature or to Christ?

I do not question the good intentions of the elders. But as I read about the case, I remembered a similar one. The scribes and Pharisees rather than the Church of Christ made the accusation. The case was tried before Jesus, not an Oklahoma jury. Jesus didn’t argue the woman’s guilt or innocence (neither did the Oklahoma court). He simply offered opportunity for any accuser with no sin of his own to cast the first stone. No one did—or could.

And though that woman got no \$390,000 settlement and no Hollywood offer, she *did* get to hear Jesus say, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

Which of these women, suppose ye, was the more likely henceforth to stick to the strait and narrow?

I first read about the above case in the April 1984 *Restoration Review*, Denton, Texas. It was also discussed in a June 10 editorial in *Christian Standard*.

Again I urge readers (and this is pertinent to the matter) to buy, hear and circulate Knofel Staton’s 1983 NACC message on “God’s Plan for Church Leadership.” Get the cassette for \$4.50 from NACC, 3533 Epley Road, Cincinnati, OH 45239, or write me at NCC and I’ll get you a copy, same price.

Please note: The above article, and any others bearing my name, express my personal views, and not necessarily those of Nebraska Christian College. —Harold Fox

How Can I Help NCC?

Jesus said, “Go into all the world . . .” To which someone has added, “If you can’t go, *send* someone.” And one way you can *send someone* is to help him or her get the necessary training.

Friends and supporters of Nebraska Christian College have established scholarship funds to help needy and deserving students. Perhaps you, your class or your church might be moved by God to establish, or contribute to, such a fund in honor of some faithful Christian, or in memory of one who has died.

You might also check with your employer. Nearly 1,000 companies will match your charitable gifts. Some will give double or triple what you give, up to certain limits. In this way your gift of, say, \$100 to NCC may increase your support to \$200 or \$300. Recent matching gifts were from Campbell Soup, Missouri Public Service Co., Northern Telecom, Inc., J.C. Penney, Prudential Foundation, and Suburban Propane Gas Corp. Write NCC for our free brochure listing many such companies.

Marriage

“A wife is God’s gift—a rare and precious offering to her husband. She conveys the Lord’s love and care for that man. In this day of pressure, demand and expectation, we need to realize that marriage is more than just one human living with another. It’s something sacred. I bring a bit of God into my husband’s life. This elevates me from my position as family-car controller, chore keeper, detailing computer, vacuum pusher and laundry sorter. I am something holy, given to a specific man.”

—Karen Mains

“Exemplary Procedure for the Church”

“Every Salvation Army officer and soldier pledges his heart to God and proves it by offering his hand to man.” Thus reads a S.A. ad telling of its ministry to needy and suffering humanity. An exemplary procedure, indeed, for the church of God. Let us love Him pre-eminently and man secondarily, giving ourselves in effective service to God by ministering to our needy fellows in Christ’s name.

—The Banner of Truth, April, 1984

Prayer Time

It was a long dry spell and the little church met to pray for rain. As the minister opened the meeting, he said, “I have one question before we begin. How many of you brought your umbrella?”

A church family was in desperate need, and the church met to pray for them. As the prayer time began there was a knock at the door. It was a farmer’s son. He said, “Pa couldn’t come, so he sent his prayers. They’re out in the wagon. Could you help me carry them in?” His prayers consisted of flour, beef, a bushel of apples, a sack of potatoes and some home-canned vegetables.

When Jesus said, “Pray the Lord of the harvest that he send forth laborers into the harvest,” did you notice that it was those who prayed who were also sent? When you pray, be sure you mean business!



1984-85 Theme: I Peter 1:13

“Prepare Your Minds for Action”





The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association
January, 1985

A Note From The President On "Consolidation" Talks



In our travels around the country, we have heard many of you ask about the so-called "consolidation talks" going on among five Bible colleges in the upper midwest region, Dakota Bible College, Iowa Christian College, Minnesota Bible College, Nebraska Christian College and Platte Valley Bible College. Since NCC is one of those colleges, you certainly have a right to be updated on the progress of those talks.

First, it should be emphasized that the talks are being carried on by an "ad hoc committee" of Bible colleges and their constituents, not by a committee officially appointed to discuss consolidation. They were initiated to discuss corporately how we might more effectively provide Christian leadership education for the churches of our region with the available resources at our disposal. If there are some areas where cooperation will result in higher quality without sapping those resources, then we certainly need to examine the possibilities.

Second, these talks are not NCC's special project. Certainly we support the need for them, and have carried out our part in helping them come about, but they represent a mutual concern expressed by churches and Bible college personnel for the duplication of ministry that may not be necessary.

Third, we are not for "consolidation at any cost." The primary motivation for our getting involved in the first place was a conviction that a consolidation of our efforts in Christian higher education would result in better use of the kingdom's resources to provide a higher quality of education. Lowell Burkum dealt quite adequately with these potential gains in his article, "Bible Colleges and The Battle of the Budget," which appeared in *Christian Standard* last year (July 3, 1983). However, if a proposal for consolidation does not seem to give promise of providing a better quality of education at a reasonable cost, then we would *not* support such a proposal. Of course, such a proposal is not even close to becoming a reality at this point, as I will explain later, but I thought you should know what our basic presuppositions are at this point.

Concerning the meetings themselves, there have been three to this point (October, '83; March, September, '84).

Continued on page 2



Alumni Association Officers

President	Carl Brandt
Vice President	Dave Crane
Secretary	Maggie Steele
Treasurer	Linda Lu Lloyd
Editor, <i>Alert</i>	Harold Fox

Alumni Dues

Annual, Single	\$ 7.50
Annual, Couple	10.00
Lifetime, Single	100.00
Lifetime, Couple	150.00
Annual dues expire	Aug. 31

"The Salt Of The Earth"

Jesus says his disciples are "the salt of the earth." We all know that salt adds flavor, preserves from decay or putrefaction, and makes one thirsty. And of course that's what Christians are to do in this decaying society. But how is it to be accomplished?

Think about this for a moment: Salt accomplishes nothing as salt. *It has to be dissolved.* When you sprinkle salt on your food, if it were not dissolved, it would be as gritty as so much sand, and just as lacking in flavor or preserving quality. It is only *when it is dissolved* that it performs its function!

Jesus also said, "Whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake shall find it."

Wouldn't it be sad if we ended up with a lost world and a saved salt shaker?

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 6
Norfolk, NE

from page 1

Forty-one attend the first meeting with eleven of those coming from the Bible college staffs and the remainder from local churches (ministers, elders, etc.). That meeting was taken up largely with the raising of questions relative to the goals of Christian higher education and how we are presently attempting to meet those goals. Out of that meeting came a proposal to form an ad hoc committee consisting of the president of each of the five institutions represented, one other member of the college staff, and two constituents of each college. These were to meet by March, 1984 and report back to the larger group. Following the meeting, the presidents agreed to have a questionnaire prepared to be sent to each college's constituents so that some idea of the opinions of the "grass roots" in our churches could be compiled. Many of you alumni participated in that survey.

At the March meeting, the purposes of meeting were set down and results of the opinion questionnaires were shared by each college. Four colleges had participated in the survey. No conclusions were drawn since only four schools had circulated the survey. Areas of concern identified for future discussion were: (1) finances; (2) student recruitment; (3) cost efficiency; (4) improved educational resources and practices; and (5) centers of evangelism.

Though I did not attend the first two meetings, after hearing verbal reports and reading unofficial minutes, I concluded that these were primarily "feeling out" sessions that tested the waters for future more substantive discussions. This seemed to take place at the third meeting, which was held last September.

Four colleges were represented at this meeting with nine present (DBC was not represented; Iowa Christian and Nebraska Christian had constituents represented). Reference was made to the five areas of concern identified at the last meeting, with three added; location, size, and philosophy of education. The subject of finances was first discussed and then location. The concerns issued on these subjects seemed to demonstrate that some indication is needed from our respective boards and college staffs that they were all of one mind in respect to the need for consolidation. It was also suggested that if they are of one mind, then the talks should continue and perhaps an outside consultant could be retained who is familiar with our colleges and who could evaluate the feasibility of consolidation. If we are not of one mind, then talks concerning consolidation should cease and we should get on with our respective ministries.

This is where we stand at this point. Each of the presidents is to survey his board and college staff and bring back a report to the general Bible college presidents' meeting to be held here in January. It will be determined at that time whether a future meeting will need to be scheduled.

If you have any additional input on this issue, please let me know. We certainly want to represent the general consensus of our alumni as well as administration, faculty and board. I hope this "note" has sufficiently briefed you on the issues and the present status of the talks.

Sincerely,
President Wamsley

Did A

Scholarship Help You?

Many students receive financial help from scholarships. I remember a little lady who lived in Alta, IA, who wanted to help a young man go to Bible College. I was the recipient of her generosity. My own children received financial aid from memorial scholarships. When my mother passed away a few months ago, my dad took the money that came in the envelopes and gave it to Mr. Milliken to "help the college." Mr. Milliken suggested a memorial scholarship in my mother's name. Today, Mr. Lahm informed me that the first of that money is being used to help one of our students with their financial load. It makes a person feel good to help someone.

Many times in the years I've been here at NCC I've encouraged students to seek financial aid. Often they have said they didn't feel right about having someone pay their way through school. I admire that spirit and I have commended them on the honorableness of "paying your own way." But let's be honest; it's very difficult always to have money on hand to pay your own way.

Also, many times I have encouraged those who have received scholarship aid to replace that money when times are better and the Lord is blessing in a material way. It is more blessed to give than to receive. My dad (and, I'm sure, my mother) are happy for the gift that was given that someone in NCC might receive sound Christian teaching. Did you attend NCC with the benefit of someone's gift? Have you ever thought of giving now that someone else might be blessed? It is more blessed to give than to receive. I know because I have experienced it.

—Ron McConkey



APPEALS—GIFTS—PRAYERS—WASTEBASKET

by Don Earl Boatman

(We believe that brother Boatman's words in the accompanying item reflect the sentiments of a great many of us, and are worth repeating. The article appeared originally in the OBC Compass, and is reprinted by permission.)

Are you offended by so many appeals? Be ashamed of it! Rejoice in them. Appeals represent life, expansion, growth, Christianity on the move. The dead make no appeals.

If I were offended I would be mad all the time. We graduate new missionaries every year and they appeal to us for help. I am on the mailing list of the Bible colleges, the missionaries and the benevolent homes. Appeals from organizations within the city and national organizations, in which have no interest, come to my desk. I rejoice in many appeals to which I will not respond, because I am glad that someone is doing something that I will not do.

I am looking forward to the day when 5,000 missionary appeals come to my home or desk. May there be another 500 benevolent homes; that will be a sign that the church is alive!

You cannot insult me, nor offend me, by placing my name on your mailing list. You may shame me. I promised that if I do not respond with money, your brochure will go into the missionary benevolent file or into the waste basket with a prayer.

Boost Nebraska Christian College!

Coach Boelter Hits Century Mark!



The night was November 30, 1984. The place was Alumni Hall on the campus of NCC. The event was a men's basketball game between NCC and Manhattan Christian College. On that night our own Allen Boelter joined such coaching immortals as John Wooden of UCLA, Ray Meyer of DePaul and Tom Osborne of Nebraska, by recording his 100th coaching victory as NCC defeated Manhattan by the score of 80 - 59.

You might be wondering how long it took him to get those 100 victories. Let's take a look back through time to see that first victory. The night was November 24, 1975. The place was Manhattan, Kansas. The event was a men's basketball game between NCC and Manhattan Christian College (sound familiar?). Such greats as Mark Chaplin (24 pts.), Rick Ferguson (20 pts.), Jerry Allen (18 pts.), Kerry Jech (11 pts.), Lyle Swanson (5 pts.), Randy Steele (2 pts.), and Dave Hazlett (1 pt.) played in that first victory. The final score was NCC 81 and Manhattan 69.

A reception was held following Coach Boelter's 100th win. A basketball was signed by all the players, and Brian Chitwood made a beautiful stand for the ball to be retired on. The players also chipped in and purchased him a cassette player with headphones so he can listen to that on road trips instead of his country western music. Former player Kirk Greenstreet also presented him with the 'ugliest' necktie in the world, with the number 100 printed on it. Congratulations, Coach Boelter.

Chris Lahm, Dean of Students

The Body of Christ

"Over the history of the church the question has been asked in all kinds of ways, 'What happens to the elements on the table?' The arguments have been, 'In what way do they become the body of Christ?' . . . I mean no disrespect; but I think that question is a question, the source of which has been Satan himself. As long as Satan can keep us arguing about whether what is on the table really is the body of Christ, . . . the attention is taken off the main issue, namely, when *we* come together in worship, . . . are *we* ready to be transubstantiated? Are *we* ready to become the body of Christ? *That is the question!!*"

—Dr. S. Scott Bartchy

It Just Had To Happen!

A.Q. Morton, a Church of Scotland minister, once ran Paul's letters through a computer and "proved", in a scientific and unimpeachable manner, that only five of the thirteen were written by Paul.

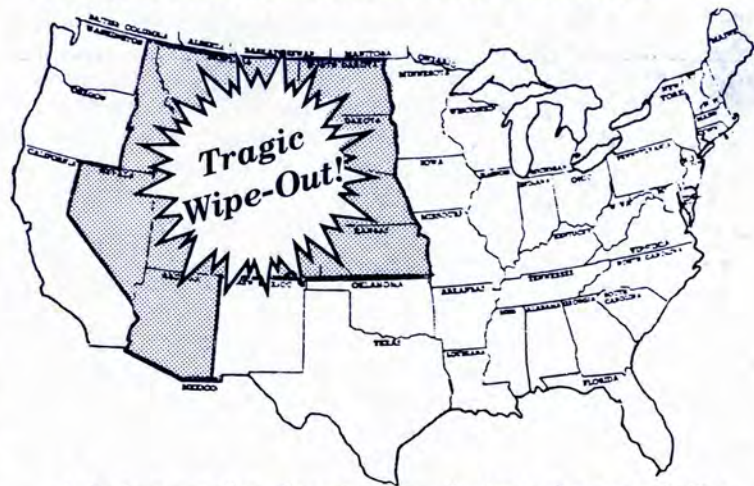
Now, of course, a computer can't "prove" anything. It can only analyze what is fed into it, by rules also programmed into it. And of course, Mr. Morton programmed his computer to assume that a man's vocabulary, style, sentence length and structure never change.

His conclusions seemed quite impressive. His methods could also "prove", for example, that your preacher's sermon, his letter to a son or daughter, or his article prepared for a magazine, were written by at least three different people!

But there's a sequel to the story. It just had to happen! Dr. Ellison, an Episcopal minister, subjected Mr. Morton's own writings to the same kind of computer test, based on frequency and pattern of certain basic words, and—guess what?—he "proved" that Morton's own articles might have been written by three or four different writers! His "style" varied from article to article, just as Paul's did.



Vast Population Wipe-Out! Death Toll Still Mounting! Body Count Reaches 16,000,000!!



A holocaust-like disaster has destroyed a population equivalent to that of the eleven states of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Arizona!

This disaster is the body count of aborted babies in the United States since abortion was legalized in 1973.

It was legalized by no act of congress, presidential proclamation or constitutional amendment. No old law was repealed; no new law was written. It was a decision of no elected officials.

With no change whatever in the law of the land, that which had been illegal became legal. It was accomplished by a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, which seems to have power to over-rule at will the intent of our country's founders and that of the writers of our constitution.

Yet it would take a constitutional amendment to undo the evil perpetrated by a single decision of those nine men.

A*L*U*M*N*I

A*S*S*O*C*I*A*T*I*O*N Update

An exciting year is in progress here at Nebraska Christian College, and I want to share that excitement with you.

Let me start by saying I'm excited about the opportunities that are going to be available to you as alumni to become even more involved in the activities of NCC.

Usually we think of alumni as people we can rely on to be among the strongest supporters of the school, not only in finances, but in recruitment and promotion.

Mr. Burkum's desire, though, is for you to have more opportunities to be a part of your alma mater. Contact him here at NCC concerning our new "Booster" program.

Nowhere as alumni can you be more recognized than at Alumni Days. Several of you will be teaching classes, and maybe this is the year that we ought to try to institute some class reunions.

In April we alumni have the opportunity to gather together and share in the life of the school, and to share memories with fellow alumni. At this time we will recognize the "Friend of NCC" and also a "Distinguished Alumnus". Join us on April 9-10 for this activity.

†††

Would Christ Be Crucified Again?

Plato, the Greek philosopher, in his *Republic*, outlined the fate of true goodness in a wicked world. He asks us to imagine a truly righteous person treated by all the world as a fiend of wickedness, for such goodness this evil world cannot tolerate. So we visualize perfect virtue, bound, tortured, and finally impaled, the old Persian equivalent of crucifixion.

Plato was probably thinking of the relative virtue of Socrates, his mentor, who accepted the cup of hemlock rather than deny his principles. He could not have known that real example of perfect goodness would ever appear upon the earth. But when Christ lived just such a righteous life, he suffered the kind of fate Plato had foreseen.

The columnist Sidney Harris once wrote a column entitled, "A Second Crucifixion?" Its opening sentence was, "If there should be, on Christmas night, a second coming—would there not be soon a second crucifixion?" His theme was that, not Romans or Jews, but Christians, would once more crucify this man of strange, frightening and impractical doctrines. We would assail him as a pacifist because he urged non-resistance; or as a dangerous internationalist because he taught that we are all one. We would call him a dreamy, impractical vagabond because he said to take no thought of tomorrow. We would denounce him for making love for God and man superior to ritual or church attendance. Some would say he makes the way of salvation too narrow. Some would reject him for preferring the company of winebibbers and harlots to us "respectable church members;" and others, for neglecting his own bodily needs for forty days in the desert. We



Another way to promote your alma mater is to help sponsor or attend an alumni association gathering in your area. This is a great way for you to share with fellow alumni as you continue to keep in touch with NCC. Contact me for names of alumni in your area.

Some of our alumni are already involved in a new program begun by Ron McConkey. They will be field representatives for the college, and when we have a student prospect in their area they will make a personal contact for the college.

Support like this is so very important for several reasons. (1) It lets people know that others besides faculty and staff care about them. (2) It is a great financial help for the school, and (3) It opens the door for more personal contact.

Others of you will be contacted to help in this program. If you would like to participate, contact Ron McConkey or his secretary for more details.

Continuing with great enthusiasm from students and ministers is our "Minister on Campus" program. We invite a minister and his wife to visit campus for two or three days, preach in chapel, attend classes and visit with the students.

Inviting ministers is so very important because it gives our students opportunities to visit with someone active in the field, and it also helps ministers better understand what we are trying to accomplish.

Accreditation is progressing at a positive pace for us. Our self-study has been completed and submitted, and received good reviews. In fact, our self-study book was selected by the AABC as a model for other colleges.

The AABC Evaluation team will be on campus in April to examine our program. Our prayers are that we will be ready for this visit, and that they will recommend NCC for full membership in the Association.

Interested in being a part of this team? We hope you are. Contact us for ways that you can serve your alma mater and at the same time be a servant of Christ as you contact students who will become preachers of the gospel.

Opportunities abound for Christ, NCC, and for you. We need your prayers, your physical help, and we continue to need your dues to support the association, and your financial help for the growth of the kingdom.

Nebraska Christian College, a College of the Bible, providing "Excellence In Christian Education." Our purpose and goal is to educate and train a consecrated and qualified ministry to serve Him.

—Carl Brandt, Alumni Association President



who are proud would sneer as he says that the greatest must be the servant of all; and we, the worldly wise, would be shocked to hear him say to become as little children. We would criticize him for being a lover, not a lawyer, for don't we all know that "religion" is a matter of keeping the rules? (But who said that Jesus came to start a religion?)

Would not each of us find so much in this man to make uncomfortable, so much at odds with our cherished ideas, that we could no longer tolerate him? Would true righteousness survive any longer today than in the age of Plato—or of Pilate? We wonder.

—H. Fox

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
Alumni Association
 1800 Syracuse
 Norfolk, NE 68701
 Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 6
 Norfolk, NE



The Alert

Published by
Nebraska Christian College Alumni Association

February, 1985

Bible College Presidents at NCC

I thought you as alumni would be interested in knowing that the annual winter meeting of the Bible College presidents of our sister colleges was held January 17-19 on the campus of your alma mater, NCC.

Fifteen presidents, some with their wives, came for a time of fellowship, learning, and mutual encouragement. They came from as far as Kentucky and Tennessee in the east, and Mississippi and Texas in the south to the northland, where many were pleasantly surprised.

First, we welcomed them with forty degree weather in January! Then we fed them some of Romaine Daniel's fabulous banquets and famous homemade rolls. In between, we invited some of our community leaders to speak to them on the theme, "The Bible College and Its Relationship to the Community". Several commented that they knew of no other Bible College that enjoyed the kind of relationship and support we enjoy here in Norfolk. They left with some ideas on possibilities in their own communities.

We were honored to have them and rolled out the "Big Red" carpet while they were here. There is a positive sense of camaraderie among these presidents and a sincere willingness to encourage and upbuild each other. That's good for the Bible College ministry in particular and the kingdom in general.

—President Wamsley



Alumni Association Officers

President	Carl Brandt
Vice President	Dave Crane
Secretary	Maggie Steele
Treasurer	Linda Lu Lloyd
Editor, Alert	Harold Fox

Alumni Dues

Annual, Single	\$ 7.50
Annual, Couple	10.00
Lifetime, Single	100.00
Lifetime, Couple	150.00
Annual dues expire	Aug. 31

13th Annual Bible Bowl Tournament March 15-16, 1985

The Text for the 1985 Tournament will be all of I Samuel as well as II Samuel, Chapters 1-12 (King James Version). Please note that the date has been moved to one week later than last year's Tournament.



I PETER 1:13



President Wamsley sharing with Presidents Pelfrey and Parriott



Bill Christian leading a session



Presidents and wives at Friday banquet in Student Centre



Paul McIntosh speaking at banquet

H.E.L.P. Can Help You



H.E.L.P. includes (l. to r.) Ron Wymer, Becky Arbaugh, Lance Hardy, Karen Rumbeck, Chris Carpenter (captain), and Penny Brooks (not pictured are Randy Luchtenburg and Lisa Castillo)

H.E.L.P. stands for Hospitable Enthusiastic Leaders Performing. Some months ago Ron McConkey got the great idea that a select group of students could be of real service to visitors on campus for special events. He enlisted the help of Maxine Brandt as a co-leader, and H.E.L.P. soon came into being.

When you are on campus for Alumni Days (April 9-10) or for any of the other exciting activities on the school calendar, watch for these students in their royal blue blazers. If you have questions about campus facilities, how to find a certain room, etc., feel free to ask one of the NCC HELPers for information.



JESUS and JEHOVAH

Jesus is Redeemer

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law. Gal. 3:13 (see Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14, Rev. 5:9).

Jesus is Savior

Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus. Titus 2:13, NAS. (See Titus 3:6; 2 Pe. 1:11, 3:18.)

Jesus, the First and the Last

I am the first and the last, and the living one; and I was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore. . . Rev. 1:17-18 (see also Rev. 22:13; Jesus is speaking: see Rev. 22:16)

Jesus is Jehovah

This is he that was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Matt. 3:3.

John the Baptist, preparing the way for Jesus, applies to Him this scripture, in which Jesus is identified as Jehovah and as God.

The above is a study I did several years ago, and it occurred to me that it might be helpful to others. Except where noted, the scripture is the American Standard Version of 1901.

—Harold Fox

Jehovah is Redeemer

Thus saith Jehovah, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. Isa. 43:14 (see Isa. 44:6, 24:47:4).

Jehovah is Savior

I, even I, am Jehovah; and beside me there is no Savior. Isa. 43:11 (see also Isa. 45:21, 49:26, 60:16; Hosea 13:4 . . .)

Jehovah, the First and the Last

Thus saith Jehovah, the King of Israel, and [Jacob's] redeemer, Jehovah of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; and besides me there is no God. Isa. 44:6 (see Isa. 48:12)

Jehovah is Jesus

The voice of one that crieth, Prepare ye in the wilderness the way of Jehovah; make level in the desert a highway for our God. Isa. 40:3.

Looking Back—Looking Forward

JANUARY is named for Janus, the ancient Roman god of gates and beginnings, represented as having two faces, and looking both ways. On January 7 the NCC faculty and staff took a good look, both backward and forward, to see just where we stand. Following is a brief summary of what that examination revealed.



Looking Back—Thanking God

Received a "clean" audit

Transition in leadership was smooth

Report from AABC was very positive

Good Freshman class

Student minister doing a good job at Ewing

New degree programs instituted

Co-op program with Wayne State College

Faculty cooperation on grades very good

Cooperation given to Student Dean in his first semester

Basketball record of 5-3 and school support is up

Economic recovery—though still much to be done

Women's volleyball support is very good

Ron Ritchey great as Missions Professor

Richard Hathaway called as Librarian

Student Newspaper off to a good start

Looking Forward—Praying For His Help

Positive experience with the AABC team in April

Red carpet for Presidents' Meeting in January [see p. 1]

Balanced budget—primary importance

First student in Wayne State Co-op program registering at Wayne

Search for Pastoral Ministries professor to result in a call Church Music—opportunity for practical experience in two rural schools

More opportunities for community-campus exposure

Growing library services

Library to be computerized

Consolidation talks will continue on a positive note

Increased student enrollment for fall semester

Retain present students—continued good academic advisement will help in that area



WOMEN'S RETREAT

May 31-June 1, 1985

Speaker: Judy Fraley

Countryside Christian Church

Wichita, Kansas

Theme: "Pressing On to Know The Lord"

To be held on the NCC Campus

*"Every party always skims off its brains, and ends up in mediocrity; because it's the man who *thinks* who's put out. The man who doesn't think is always welcome."*

—W. Carl Ketcherside

ALUMNI DAYS

April 9 & 10

Guest Speaker: Bruce Metzger, Professor of New Testament Language and Literature, Princeton Theological Seminary

Distinguished Alumnus: ?????????

Tuesday, April 9

1:30-4:00 Fun, Fellowship and Fatigue (basketball, ping-pong, etc., in Alumni Hall)

7:30 Preaching Session

Wednesday, April 10

Classes taught by Alumni during 8, 9, 10, & 11 o'clock hours

9:00 Alumni Session with President Wamsley speaking on Accreditation

10:00 Unconfirmed speaker speaking on Counseling

12:00 Alumni Meeting at Becker's Steak House
Order from menu; pay your own

1:30 Choir

2:30 Preaching Session

4:00 Free Time

7:30 Preaching Session

Free! Free! Free!!!

That's right! You teach the class, and we don't pay you; but on the other hand there is no registration fee. So it's free salaries for NCC and free Alumni Days for you. Basketball, ping-pong, fellowship and visiting are also free on Tuesday afternoon. An Alumni Session for those not teaching will occur on Wednesday morning, and will be led by President Wamsley and _____(??). These are also free.

Great fellowship is in store as we have tried to invite alumni from 5-10-15-20-25 years ago graduating classes to be our teachers (How about it, class of '75? It's been 10 years! That's the year your Alumni Association president was finally deported from the classroom.).

But not all is free. Dinner is on your own at Becker's Steak House on Wednesday noon, at which time we'll hold our annual business meeting. We'll also have a free will offering to help pay air fare for a special alumnus.

We do need your help in one matter: Let us know how many are coming. Drop us a card or call us at least a couple of days in advance so Beckers can plan on some extras for dinner. See you April 9 & 10 at Alumni Days!

—Carl Brandt, Alumni Association President



"I have accepted unconditionally the trenchant dictum of Samuel Taylor Coleridge: 'He who begins by loving Christianity better than Truth, will proceed by loving his own Sect or Church better than Christianity, and end in loving himself better than all.' " *Elton Trueblood, in the preface to The Company of the Committed.*

NCC Looks Good to Me

For the second time since I have been at NCC, we have more students the second semester than we had the first semester. Last fall we started with 140 students and this semester we have 144. That means that we picked up more than we lost. I'm hoping that indicates a "turn-around" in enrollment.



Applications are coming in nearly every day for next fall. Our student body is excited about the growth and I'm thinking that good days are just around the corner for NCC.

Yesterday I accompanied Dr. Brown and a student to Wayne State College where we talked about our co-op program in education. I was impressed with the way we were received by the Wayne State people. They like us and they want to work with our students. As a recruiter, I'm pleased to be able to recommend the new Elementary Education co-op program to prospective NCC students.

Recently I was charged with making a study of why students chose NCC as their college. Our application form has a question that asks the student to relate why they chose NCC. Using our present student body for the sampling, I found the following facts:

No. of students	Reasons for choosing NCC
30	Christian fellowship; Christian atmosphere
29	Christian growth; Get a Christian background
20	The reputation of the College
15	Christian education; Increase Bible knowledge
12	Offer course of study being sought
12	Close to home
4	Relatives at, or have been to, NCC
3	Recommended by Minister
2	The Lord led me
2	Seek God's will
2	Home church supports NCC
1	Enthusiastics
1 each:	Cost / Co-op program / Academic scholarship

Presently our students are telephoning prospective students asking them to consider NCC. G.O.R.F., a Weekend Career Days for 7th, 8th and 9th graders, will be February 15-16; the Music Department will have Church Music Career Days on March 29-30; and Bible Bowl will be on our campus March 15-16.

All of these events are great opportunities for recruiting. Will you help us by encouraging high school prospects you know to participate in these programs? —Ron McConkey



Why Doesn't Someone Clean Her Up?

A young woman, seeing a little girl playing in the gutter, said, "If her mother loved her, she would clean her up." The response: "Miss, her mother probably loves her, but doesn't hate dirt. You hate dirt, but you don't love the little girl enough to go down there and clean her up." Until hate for dirt and love for the child exist in the same person, the little girl will remain as she is.

So it is with evangelism. Until hate for the sin and love for the sinner exist in the same person, the sinner will remain in his sin.

Wondering About Your Dues?

You're probably aware that most of you are not paying your Alumni Association dues. Some of you want to do so, but can't remember whether you've done so. We've had alumni ask us whether their dues are paid, and if there is any way they can know whether they've been paid. Some have even suggested that we initiate a billing system, or even publish in the *Alert* a list of those who have paid. Or a list of those who have *not* paid!

Well, a billing system would be expensive and we'd rather not do that. To list those who have paid (or who have *not* paid) might be embarrassing; and though it has not been ruled out, we'd rather avoid that route.

You could, of course, pay by check, and then examine your checkbook to see if you've paid. Or we could make sure we mail out your annual membership card, showing your paid-up membership. And if you have a lifetime membership, your card would so indicate.

We'd like to hear from you on this. How would you prefer we handle it? Your Alumni Association could be a great asset, both to NCC and to the over-all mission of Christ. We've done much good and could be doing a lot more. We believe the *Alert* is a great little paper, worthy of your support and contributions, both in money and news. You know that the *first* use of your dues is to pay for the *Alert* and any other alumni mailings. Then we can consider other projects.

What about your present status? Well, if you've not paid since September 1, you're behind (*and so am I!*). Dues become due each year on September 1, and expire the following August 31. The cost is \$7.50 for a single and \$10 for a couple. Several have paid lifetime dues of \$100 for a single or \$150 for a couple.

But, however you decide, *please, we implore you*, do become active in the NCC Alumni Association. We'll welcome your dues, your contributions, your suggestions for improvement!

How about your letters?

We'd like to run a "Letters" column. Just a short note from you with a bit of news, or a word of encouragement. Address it to the *Alert* editor. If it's for publication, we'll try to fit it in. Thanks!

—the editor

"Rabbi, how do you know that Jesus is *not* the Messiah?" The questioner was Harold A. Sevener, President of the American Board of Missions to the Jews, Inc., 100 Hunt Road, Orangeburg, NY 10962.

The gentle rabbi responded, uneasily, but openly and honestly, "I really don't know. All I do know is that Jesus was not the Messiah we were expecting."

Society has *always* tried to create God in its own image; likewise, its Messiah. Jesus can never fit this world's mold. Yet, Jesus, who caters to none of earth's carnal desires, still fulfills all of our spiritual needs. He may not be the Messiah most people are expecting; but He's the Messiah we need!

Why do people quote so freely the account of the thief on the cross, but not that of the rich young ruler?

Whither the Church?

Last week 7% of Americans attended church. Don't the other 93% care about Christ? Don't they believe He's their only hope, or the hope of the world?

According to an article by Gerald Paden of Lubbock, Texas, Christianity is declining. Two percent of the British go regularly to church, 5% of Italians, 10% of Russians—What? Ten percent of Russians? But isn't Russia an atheistic nation? Aren't committed Christians persecuted in Russia? Aren't their leaders exiled to Siberia? Aren't their children cross-examined about religion in the home? Isn't a Christian's job or education imperiled? Yet, 10% of Russians defy these threats to worship God, while only 7% of Americans, in spite of freedom—even official encouragement—to worship God, go to church on a given Lord's Day. And of those who *do* attend, many have no compelling commitment to serve the Lord.

What would happen if suddenly the church were persecuted in America? If it became a punishable offense to enter a place of worship or evangelize door-to-door, even to evangelize your own children? Imagine that one could be imprisoned for conducting a baptism or serving communion. What would happen to that 7%?

It would probably drop immediately to maybe 1%. Those to whom church is a prestige item would immediately drop out. On the other hand, some who now see in the church no challenge, no battle plan and no desire to win, would then enlist in God's army. One could soon tell the sheep from the goats. Christ's Body, slim and trim, rid of its fat and shortness of breath, would get into its fighting armor. It would discover that it can no longer afford the doubtful luxury of using the Sword of the Spirit to slay family members, or of using its time and energy arguing trivia. It would get on with its stated purpose of increasing the body through love.

I once prayed for persecution of the church. I didn't mean to. I hadn't planned to. In the midst of the Sunday morning pastoral prayer I heard the words coming out of my mouth, and it sounded like my voice, and I couldn't believe I was saying it! But in my heart of hearts I knew it was our only hope: "Lord, send persecution upon your church! Cause us to stand up against evil until evil sees us as a threat! Give us victory over Satan's forces! Grant us this blessing and make us holy!"

My own feeling, however, is that the church in America will not be persecuted, and thus will miss Christ's promised blessing of Matthew 5:10. What chance of persecution when the church so comfortably coexists with man's inhumanity, with so-called "adult" entertainment, drunkenness, pornography, drug pushing, abortion and assorted violence in the same community, and seldom raises its voice in either compassion or protest?

It amazes me that we have so conditioned ourselves that we can read the military language of so much of the New Testament and not realize that to become a Christian is to enlist in God's army! The church is not a parade ground where we strut about and display our medals; it's a boot camp for training recruits. It's a spiritual hospital where we gather to lick our wounds (*but most of us have none, never having been in battle*), and build up and encourage one another. It's a service station for filling our tanks and charging our spiritual batteries for another foray into battle with the enemy.

As it now stands, the church in Russia is far more fit for God's blessing than the church in America. God will bless His own, whoever and wherever they may be. Let us pray to God that we may qualify.

—Harold Fox

Tim: My mom says I can't have a dog.

Jim: Ask her for a baby brother; she'll ask if you'd like a dog instead.

Boost Nebraska Christian College!

Alumni Association Officers

President Carl Brandt
Vice President Dave Crane
Secretary Alana Moorhead
Treasurer Linda Lu Lloyd
Editor, *Alert*, Harold Fox

Alumni Dues

Annual, Single \$ 7.50
Annual, Couple 10.00
Lifetime, Single 100.00
Lifetime, Couple 150.00
Annual dues expire Aug. 31
Lifetime dues expire when you do.

The Alert

NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Alumni Association

1800 Syracuse
Norfolk, NE 68701



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 6
Norfolk, NE

Address Correction Requested

WHAT'S INSIDE . . .

President Expresses Appreciation

Cost Is Affordable! — Dean Lahm

Fall Enrollment Is Up!!

Dunning Lectureship Oct. 2 & 3

Alumni News

Encouraging Words From Alumni



I have been saving in a file the past few months, notes from alumni that were especially encouraging to me, hoping for a means to communicate to all of you what valuable contributions you alumni can make to Nebraska Christian College. Harold Fox's urging me to write an article has prompted me to do so now.

I received this note from an alumni couple last February.

We sure have appreciated the college. I liked seeing in the last College News about not raising the cost of education—that's great—as it is so expensive. So we have decided to give a little more than usual this year to help you and the students out.

Alumni understand what's involved in the cost of operating a Bible College. Tuition and fees from students provided only 24% of what it cost for the general operating expenses of the college last year. After subtracting tuition scholarships awarded to students by the college, that figure is even lower. Some feel our tuition costs are already too high, but very few private colleges are making it on only 24% of expenses coming from student fees. The understanding and encouragement of this couple lifts us up.

This brief note from an alumna came to our business office in April.

If possible, I would like to return the scholarship made available for my use in 19____. Would you please let me know how much was involved?

Later, she sent a check for the amount of the scholarship she had received. Though we certainly do not expect alumni who receive college sponsored scholarships to later pay them back, it was encouraging to receive this unsolicited offer from someone who appreciated what the college did for her over fifteen years ago.

Last school year, a student sold a car he had recently purchased to fix up and resell. He and his wife decided to give the college the profits realized on the resale. Another student couple gave their second car to a foreign student who had no means of transportation. She was then able to sell the car upon graduation and apply the selling price toward the purchase of her plane ticket home. These demonstrations of unselfish Christian concern for one another among our students far outweigh the occasional story one might hear of students who cast a shadow on the glory of Christ and the name of the college through their actions. One of the joys of this ministry is working with some of the finest young men and women in the church, who often serve as examples for us of the Christ-like life.

Finally, let me share a note I received just this week from alumni with a contribution to the college.

Hope things are going well for the school. It's been a while since we have written because we moved from _____ to _____. Sorry we can't send more but we'll try to send something when we can. Would you please send us an up-to-date catalog of the college? We will pray for you that God might continue to bless the school in all ways.

From my perspective, this encouraging note sets down a game plan for all our alumni to follow—one that would make a tremendous

contribution to continued "Excellence In Christian Leadership Education".

1. First, keep in touch with your alma mater. We like to know where you are and what you are doing. Other alumni also appreciate hearing of your whereabouts and areas of service, through the *Alert* and the *College News*..
2. Support the college financially as you are able. Alumni form a foundation of support for any college, and Nebraska Christian College is no exception.
3. Let others know about what NCC has to offer in Christian Leadership education. When young people see that alumni are excited about *their* alma mater, then they are inclined to give it some consideration. Of course, if alumni are negative, then potential students get turned off as well.
4. Pray for NCC. The college is here because prayer warriors in years past have kept her needs before the Father who provides every good and perfect gift in His good time. We need you to keep those prayer lines busy.

Thanks for being an encourager. — *Richard Wamsley, President*

We're Not Just Any Private College!

I recently heard and read a report concerning the cost of attending a private college. Perhaps you heard the same. The report stated that it would cost over \$30,000 to attend private college. It went on to say that financial aid would pay for only one-third to one-half of the expenses depending on whether you are low income or middle income. As we talk to students and especially their parents we need to inform them that we're not just *any* private college.

Notice how NCC compares for cost:

Present cost for one year:	\$ 3,200
Multiply by four years:	<u> x 4 </u>
	\$12,800



Even with miscellaneous expenses and travel it wouldn't cost more than \$15,000 for a four-year education at Nebraska Christian College. What about financial aid?

Let's take a look at what a student could get for aid at NCC. Any student could be eligible for a Pell Grant up to \$2100/year. In addition NCC also has academic and program scholarships, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, College Work-Study, and Guaranteed Student Loan. So you see that there are all sorts of helps available to pay for an education besides individual savings accounts.

From now on when you hear those reports about the high cost of attending private college, let people know that NCC is a different kind of private college.

—*Chris Lahm, Dean of Students*

North American Christian Convention

Harold and Greta Milliken report that Nebraska Christian College was well represented at the NACC in Anaheim, CA, with perhaps 200 attending NCC Reception, including alumni, faculty and friends. Professor William Miller was the evening organist for the NACC.

New Trends in Bible College Enrollment

As we go to press (Aug. 5) our applications are running 52% ahead of the same time last year. If this trend holds up we should show an increase in enrollment for the third semester in a row.

Dean Lahm feels that we have a greater than normal number of students *returning* this fall. In fact he has had to "shuffle" the housing to accommodate the expected returning students.

Of the 60 applications we had as of July 29, 29 are boys and 31 are girls. In past years we have seen as much as a 2-to-1 or greater ratio of girls over boys making up the incoming student report.



Although I don't have figures at hand, it appears to me that we are seeing a larger number of students coming who are older, married and have children. We would like to see more of these coming to our campus. I am designing a program of recruitment which is directed to finding and recruiting students from these areas of life. I'm sure there are prospects we don't know about who could be encouraged to consider Bible College. Some very nice financial aid packages can be provided for the young married couple seeking a college education.

Some former students will remember the name tags that had the letters E I C L E across the bottom. President Wamsley has sort of "revived" that slogan. The letters stand for Excellence In Christian Leadership Education. Recently Mr. "B" and I were comparing notes about our summer travels and we were surprised when we told each other how many times different people have expressed their appreciation to NCC for the "excellent" qualities that are being exhibited in our educational programs. One preacher said, "If there is anything that NCC has always done, it is striving for excellence in all its programs."

I feel good about the future of NCC. I've oversimplified the solution to our problems in the minds of some people but I still think I'm on the right track. Many times I have said, "All NCC needs to succeed is more students and more money." This year we are going to have more students for the third semester in a row. Will you help us with the money? When you send students and/or money, you are working with a college that is striving after excellence. —Ron McConkey

Say it Simple

"We respectfully petition, request and entreat, that due and adequate provisions be made, this day and the date hereinafter subscribed, for the satisfying of these petitioners' nutritional requirements, and for the organizing of such methods as may be deemed necessary and proper to assure the reception by and for said petitioners of such quantities of baked cereal products as shall, in the judgment of the aforesaid petitioners, constitute a sufficient supply thereof."

Translation: "Give us this day our daily bread."

We're fortunate indeed that a lawyer didn't write the Lord's Prayer!

Transcript Request Procedures: Alumni Please Note.

The Registrar's Office receives many requests for transcripts from former students. Certain procedures will expedite the transcript sending process.

1. Requests for a transcript to be sent to yourself or another college **MUST** be received in writing. Telephone requests cannot be honored even though we know you.
2. The first transcript is free. After that a charge of \$1.00 per transcript is made. Transcripts cannot be sent until the fee is received. Therefore, include the fee with your written request.
3. "Official" transcripts may be sent only between institutions. When you request a copy for yourself, it will be stamped, "Student Copy: For Examination Only".
4. Women, when you request a transcript, please give us your name as it was when you were in college, if different from present name.

—Office of the Academic Dean

Dunning Lectureship October 2 & 3

The 1985 Dunning Lectureship, on campus October 2 & 3, will feature Editor-Teacher-Preacher-Thinker Leroy Garrett of Denton, Texas. Brother Garrett is a delightful writer and speaker, and you will really do yourself a favor by attending this Lectureship.

In the June issue of *Restoration Review* of which he is editor, Leroy is referred to by a correspondent as "the Paul Harvey of our movement." Leroy asked his wife, Ouida, what that might mean, and she said that it must be because he gives "the rest of the story." He said he would accept that as a compliment provided we realized that "the whole story" of our struggle for self-criticism and self-improvement, so crucial to our spiritual growth, has not yet been told.

Brother Garrett has written a history of the fellowship of which we are a part, under the title, "*The Stone Campbell Movement*", which you can buy for \$21.95. Write him or the NCC Bookstore for this gem, which is now recommended reading in Restoration History classes at NCC. You will also find some eye-opening articles in his little 20-page journal, *Restoration Review*, to which you can subscribe for \$5.00 a year. Write him at 1201 Windsor Drive, Denton, TX 76201. You won't regret it.

In the Dec. 1984 *Restoration Review*, brother Garrett reported that he had sent his wife a bouquet with this note:

I goofed, I am sorry, I love you.

He added, "There is a little story behind those words. It is not that I have erred of late more than usual, but that I have often told Ouida that if those three statements were universally accepted and practiced, they would work a moral revolution in our world. Those simple words, appropriately spoken, would reduce the divorce rate, mend broken homes and broken hearts, foster friendship, build confidence, dispel suspicion, overcome hate, and work for international peace. They might even reduce the deficit and balance the national budget!"

Certainly they would relieve a lot of stress and ease tension between brothers and sisters in Christ, and help the church to seem a whole lot more like that living, laboring, loving organism, the body of Christ, as He intended. Surely it's worth a try!

—H. Fox

ALUMNI NEWS

In a recent letter, Ila Henning, long-time secretary to NCC's president, and now executive secretary in Mount Healthy Christian Home in Cincinnati, pointed out that the *Alert* needs *more news about NCC Alumni*. She said, "It seems more and more that there is less and less news about alumni of NCC. NCC now has a great number of alumni and I am sure there are many things being accomplished for our Lord through them. It would be very interesting to me to hear what others are doing and where they serve." She has talked to other alumni and they agree. So does your editor.

So what can we do? I reminded Ila that I have asked repeatedly in the *Alert* for information about what is happening. When your *Alert* arrives I'm sure you scan it eagerly to see what your fellow alumni are doing, and you find nothing. Do you know that others look just as avidly for news of what *you* are doing? Why not sit down right now and write me (as Ian Blacker did—you saw his letter in the June *Alert*). I want to print news of your activities, but I can't unless I know about them!

Ila also "practiced what she preached" and sent the very kind of news you want to see in the *Alert*. Her "column" follows:

News From Cincinnati (Thanks, Ila)

Mike and Delores Hines recently moved to Cincinnati. Mike is Associate Minister with Westwood Cheviot Church of Christ, in charge of Administration and Education.

Alan and Jean Weber will soon move to Cincinnati. Alan will be a professor of Christian Education at Cincinnati Bible College.

Alumni in the Cincinnati area—grad students, ministers, etc.—are planning a get-together, perhaps on Labor Day. Plans are still in the making.

Mount Healthy Christian Home has purchased 63 acres at Mason, Ohio, on which to build Mason Christian Village. Plans are for cluster houses, apartments, rest home and nursing care, to be ready for occupancy next summer. (You "more mature" alumni may want to get your names on the list!)

Other Alumni News

A recent letter from Al and Rhonda Juve expresses enthusiasm for their continuing missionary work in Japan. They moved a short time ago to Sueyoshi, an agricultural town of 20,000 (about the size of Norfolk) and are getting off to a good start with Bible studies, meeting town officials and other community leaders. Al began full-time preaching there on July 21. They thank all who write and/or support their work. Their new address is:

Box 9, Sueyoshi Cho

So Gun, Kagoshima 899-86, JAPAN

Steve Burkum, Washington, KS, writes: "The *Alert* is a good publication. You have done well with it. Since [we] cannot get to many of the events at NCC . . . the *Alert* is a great source of information. We are always glad to learn about other alumni.

I'm pleased, too, that it is not *just* a "news" letter. The editorials and other items of interest are always good, and carefully read . . . I hope more alumni will respond and write some articles and editorials.