

Dear Alumni,

Let me wish you each a belated Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! I hope you've all thoroughly enjoyed your holidays and were able to spend them with loved ones. More importantly, I hope you were able to take some time to reflect on the amazing gift given to us by our awesome God!

Over Christmas, I was privy to many thoughts surrounding the role of Joseph in the Christmas story. Although not much is known about Joseph after Jesus' early years, one can't help but imagine that he and Mary must have been quite an amazing couple for God to have entrusted His son to them. Joseph would've taken Jesus as his own son, and taught him what it was to be a wise, productive, God-fearing man. I can only imagine the great amount of faith and humility he must have had in raising the Son of God as his own. It's my hope that similarly, we can humbly strive to be men and women of great faith and meekness [absolute power under absolute control].

I want to sincerely thank everyone who came out to Alumni Weekend in November. God has blessed NBC with such an amazing, diverse, and encouraging alumni body! It never ceases to amaze me how many connections we all share. No matter what years you attended, where you live, or what stage of life you are in, there always seems to be a common thread that you can find with other fellow alumni. I had never met our speaker (Gary Sawatzky) before the Weekend, yet as I sat down and spoke with him and wife Joyce there, before I knew it he was sharing all sorts of [interesting] stories about my dad when he was at NBC! I now have enough material on my father to know that 'Perfect Herb' had a bit of a not-so-perfect side as well!

Some highlights from the weekend included the alumni winning the soccer tournament, and a combined alumni/school team winning the (very low scoring) hockey game. Our Obah Nite was filled with 'Minute To Win It' excitement, a fantastic pie challenge, and delicious food. Just a quick note on the Presidential Pie Challenge: I have not won a single time in the past 3 years, so seeing as this is my final year as your Alumni President, I expect ALL of you to vote for my dessert at Alumni Weekend 2014 to fulfill my dream of taking first place!! (And thanks to the precedent set by Charlotte Thiessen this past year, we are now taking phone and text-in votes, so nobody has an excuse!) ☺

Over the weekend, through the generosity of the alumni body, we were able to raise \$11,000 to be used by the school for the purchase of a much-needed vehicle! Praise God! And thank you to all who took part!

In all honesty, the weekend was such an encouragement for myself (as an alumnus) to see how the school is in a constant state of renewal and growth. The student body is on fire for God, and their passion for reaching the people around them as well as seeing their own relationships deepened is inspiring. I am so honored that, through prayer and encouragement, I can play a small part of what God is doing at NBC.

Thank you all for being a part of God's work at NBC.

In Christ,



Ryan Jansen, Alumni Executive President

*"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."*

- Philippians 4:8