

Dear Alumni,

Let me begin by prefacing this letter with both a beginning and an end! It's my pleasure to announce that Pam and I have become parents for the second time! Our son, Fynn Palmer Jansen, was born August 22nd and both he and Pam are doing well. I have been blessed with the opportunity to take some parental leave to help out around home and try my hand at being Mr. Mom, however, I definitely notice that both my culinary and cleaning skills are quite lacking!

And now for the ending, this year marks the end of my four-year term of serving as your Alumni President. In some ways this day seems to have been a long time coming, and yet at the same time it's appeared all too quickly. It's been an absolute pleasure to get to know so many of you, and to become more involved with the school. I'm so thankful that God has allowed me this time to serve you!

Over the past four years, I've had the pleasure of getting to know the school and its constituents in a new and exciting way. I'm always impressed by the quality of people the God chooses to bring to NBC and the effect that they have on the people around them as they go out into the world. I'd like to thank each one of you for supporting the school and keeping the students and the staff/faculty and their families in your prayers. We are so fortunate to have such a loyal and broad alumni base. In that same seam, I know that over the years there have been alumni that have moved and the school no longer has mailing addresses for them. Jason Elford has a list of the people we no longer have mailing addresses for and you'd be surprised how many there are even in the last 10 years or so. In today's world with Facebook, I'm sure that many of you have kept in contact with your classmates, so I'd encourage you to ask Jason for the list and see if there are any alumni that you're still in contact with. If so, perhaps you'd like to drop them a line and ask if they'd mind giving the school their updated address so they can keep tabs on what's happening at the school... and now would be the perfect time to start getting updates since they'll no longer have to read my yammering letters! ☺

It seems fitting that my last day as Alumni President should take place on my favorite NBC event of the year: Alumni Weekend! Please mark your calendars for Alumni Weekend this year which will be taking place on November 21 - 23. We're excited to announce that this year's speaker will be Kevin.....[years at NBC, what's he doing, etc]

An Alumni Weekend poster will be sent in a subsequent mailing with all the specific details about the weekend. We're hoping to refresh the weekend a little bit (as always), but rest assured that there will still be the soccer tournament, Obah night, silent auction, the 4th annual Presidential Pie Challenge, and lots of time for catching up with old friends and meeting new ones! Please try to register for the weekend ahead of time by either calling the school, mailing in the registration form included with the poster that will be following in the next few weeks, or by registering online at <http://nipawin.org/> and clicking on the 'Alumni' tab (more info will be provided in the poster). As well, if you'd like to bring an item(s) for the silent auction, or even do some canvassing in your own communities for auction items, it is always greatly appreciated.

This year's theme is *Pursue God Above All Else*, and is based on Matthew 7:7-8:

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

Christianity and a right relationship with God is not a destination... it's a continual process and a lifetime pursuit. We are called to constantly be asking, seeking, and knocking to ensure that we continue growing and keep God paramount in our lives, above all the other distractions and circumstances that this world throws at us. And in that time and place where God is solely in our sights, that is where we find true joy in Him.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to serve you these past four years. May God bless you fully.

Farewell,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Jansen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Ryan Jansen