

Affordable  
Education

Highlights From  
NCU Chapel

Career Services  
& Placement

Missional Church  
Conference

# NCU Magazine

Spring 2009

## JUST PLAIN SMART

A look at NCU's academic progress  
and what it means for the future

### NCU **ATHLETICS**

Men's and Women's  
Basketball, Cross Country,  
& Soccer

### **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Looks to strengthen  
networks

YLOM

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**The words ‘economic downturn’ may be the most used phrase so far this year, and with negative reports abounding in the news and in conversation, it is important that we not allow them to drown out the good reports of what God is doing all around us.**

As this issue of the NCU Magazine goes to print, the class of 2009 is just a few days away from graduation. Like all of the many graduating classes before them, this year’s class is a group of young men and women ready to make an impact.

These young men and women will be the pastors, business leaders, teachers, social workers and musicians who continue to take the love of Christ to people all around the world. Their graduation marks the beginning of continued good reports for years to come. Not only that, but they are about to experience firsthand that the value of completing your degree has only grown as a result of this more competitive job market. Now, with the addition of the CareerWire network offered through the Student Success Center, NCU is even better prepared to help them and all of our alumni find employment in their field of study.

Another good report we are excited to share with you is the continued progress North Central has made in the area of academic excellence. Our recent accreditation review required a thorough analysis of our progress over the past ten years, and the resulting report was truly remarkable. From strategic new program offerings to improved facilities and a truly amazing faculty, it is wonderful not only to reflect on the progress made, but to gain inspiration for continued progress in these areas. I trust you’ll enjoy the snapshot from this report included in this issue.

Finally, I want to share a good report about something you may find an unlikely source of positive news: the opportunity for an affordable college education. Without question, even the most reasonably priced college education represents a substantial investment, and I certainly do not intend to diminish that fact. Costs for attending college have risen almost across the board in recent years, but at NCU we’ve been intentional about keeping those increases to a necessary minimum. As a result, you’ll find that we are one of the most affordable college options anywhere - and that’s not just among private Christian colleges. Our annual cost of attendance is around \$10,000 less than many of our competitors, and in fact is nearly as low as

the nearby University of Minnesota, a leading public institution. An education is a sizeable investment, but at North Central your money goes further than you might expect.

I trust you will enjoy the good reports you’re about to read, and that you will be encouraged to share with us a good report of your own very soon.



**Dr. Gordon Anderson** is the sixth president of North Central University.

612.343.4741 • [president@northcentral.edu](mailto:president@northcentral.edu)



SPRING 09

# Just Plain Smart

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At North Central, a new focus has emerged, centering around the idea of providing resources and opportunities to our alumni across decades of graduating classes.

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## THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

"Making bricks without straw" is what many people feel they are being asked to do in the American workplace these days. Downsizing and budget trimming have resulted in extra work being demanded of those who are still fortunate to have a job. This is a frightening new experience for many, especially younger generations, since most of the under-thirty generation have never experienced an economic season like this. However, veteran saints will tell you, this is not a new phenomenon, it just requires perseverance and hard work to make it through.

The marketing team responsible to produce this magazine, website and all communications here at NCU is no exception to hard work. Ryan Decker (Marketing Director) is the only full-time employee. He and his team of Danette Matty (Writer) and Mike Norman (Designer) have rolled their sleeves up to crank out a very nice brick (magazine) along with the myriad of other projects produced through their department. I'm proud of their hard work and excellent attitudes during seasons like these. The stories told through the pictures and narrative in this issue are the result of Ryan, Danette and Mike's efforts. Bravo!



Nate Ruch, Executive Director of University Relations  
nate.ruch@northcentral.edu



The NCU Magazine Team (L-R): Ryan Decker, Danette Matty and Mike Norman discuss this issue during production.



### On the Cover

Ali Schulz, pictured with Dr. Daniel Nelson, Chair of the Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences, recently had the honor of presenting her Senior Project at the Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference. Also presenting at the conference were fellow seniors Charlene Haapala and Stephanie Slater

#### NCU Magazine

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Ephesians 4:11-12

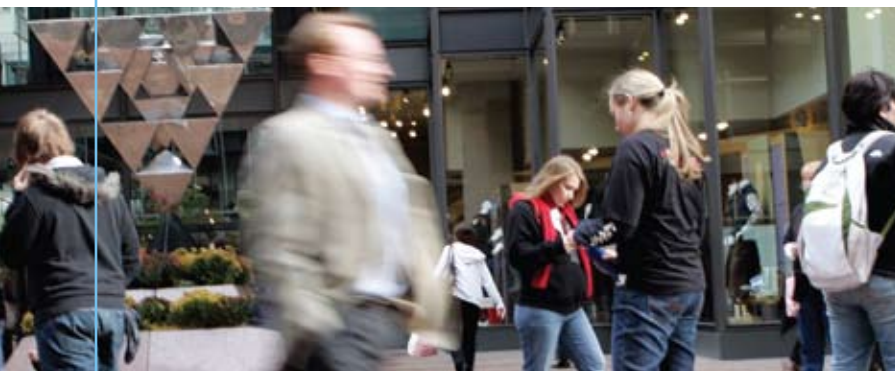
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## "5 Minute Freeze" raises awareness about homelessness

North Central students partnered with the Salvation Army on November 6, 2008 to raise awareness about poverty, hunger and homelessness in the Twin Cities. Over 100 students gathered in downtown Minneapolis where they participated in a five-minute freeze. From 12:40-12:45 p.m. students stood frozen in position and were silent as pedestrians passed along, looking a bit curious and confused. Each student wore a noticeable sticker or tee shirt that spoke their message loud and clear: "Ignore No More." The event intended to capture the attention of those who choose to ignore and pass by people they see in need. Local newspapers and media outlets picked up the story as well, increasing the visibility of the event. For more information on the Salvation Army's "Ignore No More" Campaign visit [www.ignorenomore.org](http://www.ignorenomore.org). 



# 5th Annual Missional Church Conference

The 2009 Missional Church Conference "A Message for Everyone" took place February 23-25, 2009 at North Central University. The Missional Church Conference is an opportunity for pastors to gain knowledge from speakers, as well as other pastors in attendance. "A Message for Everyone" focused on effectively ministering to everyone in

our communities, without leaving behind certain cultural, age, and social demographics. Featured speakers included Peter Haas, Nathan Grams, and Denny Curran.

Peter Haas (below right), Senior Pastor at Substance Church in Fridley, MN, kicked off the first day of the conference, speaking to pastors and students.

Peter's focus during his sessions was how to effectively reach the 18-40 year old demographic.

Nathan Grams (below left), International Pastor at Emmanuel Christian Center in Spring Lake Park, MN, spoke on the second day of the conference with an emphasis on reaching internationals. In his two sessions, Nathan

talked about the need for reaching the ever-growing population of immigrants.

Denny Curran (below center), Senior Pastor at River of Life Assembly of God in Cold Spring, MN, capped off the conference with an emphasis on planting churches and reaching people who live in rural communities. 



MP3 audio of sessions from the conference is available on the web @ [www.northcentral.edu/mcc](http://www.northcentral.edu/mcc)



# Working to Help Make Education Affordable

The current economic crisis has made many families wonder how they'll be able to afford college. High attendance costs have received much public attention and scrutiny; but not all news about the cost of education is bad news.

As the NCU Administration continues to focus on how to best fulfill the mission of preparing leaders, these issues take on great significance. The process of evaluating NCU's cost of attendance has been heavily influenced by concerns surrounding the ability of our students to finance their education, recognizing that the less debt students incur while enrolled, the greater opportunity they will have for success after graduation. As a result, increases have been minimal to keep the cost of attendance far lower



Rebecca Gonzalez, Financial Counselor, assists a student with financial questions.

than many competitors—in some cases as much as \$10,000 a year less.

NCU has also evaluated and adapted the financial aid awarding process to ensure those most in need of assistance are able to obtain as much help as possible. In addition, the newly created First Choice Scholarship Program will provide

qualifying students up to \$2,000/year above and beyond their regular financial aid package. To qualify for First Choice Scholarships, students must be accepted to NCU and complete their housing registration by a specific deadline. Academic qualifications also apply.

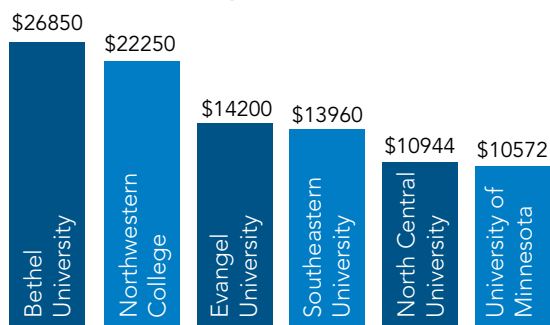
As one might expect, North Central has not been

exempt from the weight of these economic challenges. We appreciate your prayers and continue to trust God for his provision, both as an institution and in the lives of our students. If you would like to contribute to help NCU students in need of financial support, please contact: [advancement@northcentral.edu](mailto:advancement@northcentral.edu).

**LINK** To see how affordable NCU could be for you or a student you know, visit us online at: [www.northcentral.edu/firstchoice](http://www.northcentral.edu/firstchoice).

You'll be able to find out how much aid you can expect to receive—based on your high school GPA and your family's level of need, as well as more details about the First Choice Scholarship.

## 2008-09 Cost Comparison (Annual Tuition)



## First Choice Scholarship Info:

Scholarship Level	Number Available	GPA (4.0 scale)	ACT or SAT Composite	Award amount per year
Gold	30	3.5	24/1100	\$2000
Silver	40	3.25	22/1050	\$1500
Bronze	50	3.0	21/1000	\$1000

**First-year Freshman** (transfer students do not qualify)  
Must live in NCU residence hall

Must be a full-time student (at least 12 credits)

Renewable for up to 8 semesters. (Must maintain the following cumulative GPA according to scholarship level: Gold - 3.5 GPA, Silver - 3.25 GPA, Bronze - 3.0 GPA)

ACT score does not include the writing portion of the test

SAT score only includes math and critical reading

## GET WIRED

As Career Placement Coordinator at NCU, Jake Kuiper is happy to have the opportunity to facilitate NCU's use of CareerWire. CareerWire reinforces NCU's "Your life. Our mission." philosophy by going beyond graduation and helping connect students and alumni with the best positions available in their fields.

Jake is available to help set up CareerWire accounts and provide notifications regarding workshops and career fairs, as well as resumé and interview training.

Go to [www.northcentral.edu/careerwire](http://www.northcentral.edu/careerwire) or scroll to the bottom of our home page and click "CareerWire" to create your free online profile. Questions, comments and feedback can be directed to Jake Kuiper at [jdkuiper@northcentral.edu](mailto:jdkuiper@northcentral.edu).

## CareerWire Stats

CareerWire has been up and running for just over two months now! In that time period, we have seen consistent growth in our student and employer database.

- 240 students registered
- 140 employers
- Currently 86 possible job opportunities specific to NCU's network for our students and alumni.
- We continue to actively market our service and network with employers nationwide

# Perfect Timing: 'CareerWire' service offers cutting-edge employment resources for students & alumni

When it comes to career opportunities, NCU students and alumni are getting connected. CareerWire, an online career services portal partnering with the NACELink Network, currently connects to over 4.5 million jobs posted on dozens of national job boards.

With the launch of CareerWire, NCU joins other top institutions across the nation in providing this service, which is designed to serve as a bridge between



Jake Kuiper  
Career Placement  
Coordinator

members of the North Central University community and the job market. Mike Nosser, Vice President of Student Development, believes this service is extremely timely, especially in difficult economic times. "It will enable our students to network across the country, giving them a multitude of options and open doors that we have not had before," he said.

Dr. Thomas Burkman, Vice President of Academic Affairs, couldn't be more pleased that NCU is now able to offer a state-of-the-art career placement



Dr. Thomas  
Burkman  
V.P. Academic Affairs

program like CareerWire. "With our recent national and local recognitions regarding the strong academic quality at North Central," he said, "this ability

to provide quality assistance to our graduates only increases the educational value of North Central. We are committed to serving our students and alumni the very best way we can."

In addition to those looking for new career opportunities, NCU invites alumni who are employers to create a profile for their company, no matter how small. "CareerWire is a community-wide service," said Todd Monger, Director, Student Success Center, "and it will take a community-wide effort to really make this (network) a success." Employers can provide their company logo, key statistics, and postings within their company on the easy-to-use interface as they seek out the most qualified people to fill their positions, receiving possible matches from NCU as well as other schools in the NACELink network.



## CareerWire Services:

**For Students and Alumni:** 24/7 access to career resources online; part-time, full-time, seasonal, volunteer, and internship programs; ability to upload resumé, cover letters, and samples of work; customized local and national job search.

**For Employers:** Find highly qualified candidates for jobs in any field, including ministry positions, schedule on-campus interviews and events, network with other professionals.



## A Banner Year for NCU Athletics

### Men's & Women's Basketball Teams Claim NCCAA Regional Championship *Leak & Sanon Most Outstanding Players*

NCU played host to this year's regional tournament February 27th & 28th, and wasted little time sending the competition home for the season.

On the men's side, the Rams continued a trend of balanced scoring, getting double figures from five players. They defeated Trinity Bible College by a score of 103-75 to win the Regional Championship.



All-American Ryan Leak

The NCU men were well represented on the All-Region awards list, as Senior Ryan Leak was named the 2009 Regional Most Outstanding Player. Joining him on the All-Region 1st Team was Daniel Young. Chris Hickox was named as a 2nd team selection, and Head Coach Jon High was named the Regional Coach of the Year.

The women's team defeated

Trinity Bible College for the championship as well, defeating the Lions 56-41. The Lady Rams jumped out to a 10-0 lead to start the game and would never trail on the way to claiming NCU's second championship banner of the weekend.

Joining Naomi Sanon, 2009 Regional Most Outstanding Player, on the All-Region awards



All-American Naomi Sanon

list were Caitlin Juscak and Andrea Grandstrand. Juscak received 1st Team All-Region honors and Grandstrand was named as an Honorable Mention.

Both the men's and women's teams were defeated in the first round of the national tournament, but the losses didn't prevent Leak, Young, and Sanon from receiving All-American honors. 

#### NCU'S 2008-2009 ALL-AMERICANS:

##### Men's XC:



Daniel Bare

##### Women's XC:

Stephanie Christensen  
(4-time All-American)  
Jamie Legendre  
Catherine Mead

##### Women's Soccer:

Casey Lattu (1st Team)  
Emmie McMullin (2nd)  
Jennifer Cline (2nd)

##### Volleyball:



Amanda Matson (2nd)  
Emily Matson (HM)

##### MBKB:

Ryan Leak (1st)  
Daniel Young (Honorable  
Mention)

##### WBKB:

Naomi Sanon (2nd)





(L-R) Stephanie Christensen, Catherine Mead, Jamie Legendre

## Women Run Away With 4th Consecutive NCCAA National Championship

*Men's team takes third place*

The North Central Women's Cross Country team would not be denied in pursuit of their fourth straight NCCAA National Championship as the Rams placed all five of their scoring runners in the top ten, including claiming the top three spots, to win the 2008 national title.

Senior Stephanie Christensen capped off what is the best individual career in NCU history, claiming the individual national championship with a time of 20:47. Freshman Jamie

Legendre and sophomore Catherine Mead followed in second and third place, respectively.

The North Central Men's Cross Country team overcame injuries and tough weather to earn a third place finish at the 2008 NCCAA Cross Country National Championship meet. The Rams were led by junior captain Daniel Bare, who claimed his third straight NCCAA All-American honor with his second place overall finish. 

## Women's Soccer Team Reaches National Tournament

The fall season in athletics was highlighted by the Lady Rams Soccer team winning their first ever Regional Championship with a thrilling 1-0 win over Providence College, securing their advancement and first ever berth in the NCCAA DII National Women's Soccer Championship Tournament held November 14-17, 2008 in Kissimmee, Florida.


Seniors Kalyn Zimmer and Tonya Johnson, sophomore Emily McMullin and freshman Jennifer Cline were named to the NCCAA All-Region team and Goalkeeper Casey Lattu, also a senior, was chosen as the Region's Most Valuable Player. Head Coach Jake Smith was selected Regional Coach of the Year for women's soccer.



The win over Providence was the culmination of the best season in program history. Smith credits the efforts of the entire team for their success. "I have five all-region players," he said. "They deserve their

awards, but they wouldn't have them without the support of the rest of the team. Casey is a great goalie, but we also have an outstanding defense."

In spite of suffering some

tough losses at the National Tournament, Casey Lattu was named All American—another first for NCU Women's soccer—and All Tournament. 

ninedays 09

## Servants' Hearts Sets Ninedays Teams Apart

"Most team leaders want to be like Jesus by how they preach to the multitudes; Stephanie (Utah Team leader Stephanie Palser) seemed to model Jesus in how she picked up a basin and towel and washed peoples' feet," said David Nicholson, host missionary in Utah along with his wife, Melissa, after the NCU Ninedays team served there this spring. Nicholson added that the entire team "did a lot of serving while they were here—setting up, cleaning, handing out flyers," never once complaining or displaying friction with other team members.

The event the Utah Ninedays team organized and funded jumpstarted that church's youth ministry. Nicholson also emphasized the sensitivity to the Mormon culture that



Members of the ninedays '09 trip to Ghana made friends quickly

seemed to come naturally to team members, enabling them to share Jesus' message in a way that was well received.

David Teran of Veracruz, Mexico, said the Ninedays

Mexico team made a huge contribution in terms of significant relationships forged. "They were outgoing in the community, both those who spoke Spanish and those who didn't," Teran said many


opportunities arose, including strengthening a relationship with a family from a nearby dump, as a result of the Mexico team's impact. According to Teran, servant attitudes on the part of Ninedays team members played a key role. He added, "The offering they left for that family at the dump will go a long way in helping the family go forward. The family joined us at church on Sunday night and plans to keep coming."

In Ghana, Africa, the missionary family of Garret, Kelly, and Seth Nichols, took their Ninedays team to "an area that is considered unreached," and saw the Ninedays team "set a very positive tone to future ministry there. They don't realize the impact they made." 

## KNOF Studio Completed

In the fall 2008 issue of NCU Magazine, we told you about the construction of a new studio for KNOF-FM on the NCU Campus. KNOF is the Christian radio station donated to North Central in 2007 by alumnae Fred and Grace Adam ('51).



In November, KNOF officially became Praise FM, a praise and worship format. Construction of the new studio is complete and is fully functioning. There have already been several guests and live interviews in the new facility, including Bridging the Gap's Carol Lund and singer/songwriter Joel Hanson. You can tune in to Praise FM in the Twin Cities at 95.3 or listen online at [www.praisefm.org](http://www.praisefm.org). 



Alex Whitworth, Operations Administrator, in the KNOF Studio with Nick Foulks, Assistant Pastor at Substance Church (Fridley, Minn.)



Chapel has always been at the heart of the NCU experience. While chapel speakers may be from our own faculty and staff or from leaders around the world, the common thread of experiencing God runs through every service. Here are some highlights from chapel during the 08-09 school year:



Pastors Peter Haas (pictured), Nathan Grams and Denny Curran all presented at NCU's 5th annual Missional Church Conference in February. Read more about this year's conference on page 5.



Dr. George Wood

General Superintendent of the A/G



Jay Mooney,  
National Youth  
Director for the  
A / G



R.T. Rybak,  
mayor of  
Minneapolis



Dr. Bob Cook,  
Exec. Vice President  
of The Alliance for  
Assemblies of God  
Higher Education

Randal Ross  
Senior Pastor of  
Calvary Church,  
Naperville, IL



Pete Drake, Lead Pastor  
of Real Life Church in  
Roseville, Minnesota,  
was the fall '08 Moen  
Preaching Chair speaker.



You can listen to these and many other chapel speakers online! To access the archives, go to [www.northcentral.edu](http://www.northcentral.edu), scroll to the bottom left of the home page, and click the box that says, "Listen to Chapel Sermons Online"

Brad Trask, senior pastor of  
Brighton Assembly of God  
in Brighton, Michigan;  
Moen Preaching Chair for  
the spring 2009 semester.

## The Ernest J. Moen Chair of Pentecostal Preaching.

An endowed fund named in honor of former NCU Board Member and Illinois District Superintendent, the Moen Chair allows well-known pastors and evangelists to preach regularly in chapel, interact with the students in homiletics classes and in other ways, and to meet with faculty.





# Alumni Association Looks to Strengthen Networks, Provide Resources

**T**he North Central Alumni Association has worked for years to keep alumni connected with each other and with what's happening at North Central. With thousands of NCU alumni around the world, it's not a simple matter of getting together to catch up over coffee. For those taking the lead in developing more active networks among alumni, it's extremely important that membership in the NCU community doesn't end at graduation. Being a resource for our alumni is a significant part of what "Your life. Our mission." truly means, and we hope that our alumni join us in that approach by making a difference both in the lives of students and of their fellow alumni.

In the past, Alumni Associations at most institutions have connected people

primarily by graduating class via reunions. At North Central, a new focus has emerged, centering around the idea of providing resources and opportunities to our alumni across decades of graduating classes. This includes practical, ongoing services like resume and cover letter review, discounts at the NCU bookstore, significantly reduced rates to use conference rooms and other North Central facilities and free downtown parking. NCU has also recently launched a job search site for alumni, students, and employers, called CareerWire. Beyond these practical benefits, this revised focus also includes the development of alumni networks that are oriented towards career- and interest-oriented groups, such as graduates of the Business Administration Department. These networks are

able to provide more targeted services, create a link between graduates from different eras, and empower alumni to participate in ways they find meaningful.


One of the new ways these groups have caught on has been the formation of online networks on the social networking website, Facebook. Several of these groups are already in place, and the Alumni Association has made a concentrated effort to empower these networks and communicate with them about news and events related to their particular field or interest. To date, over a dozen alumni groups have emerged (see list on opposite page) with Facebook as the primary means of

communication, and more are expected to join them.

Simon Trautmann ('03 TEFL), Alumni Association Representative for Minnesota, has provided significant leadership in further developing the strategy for tapping into these online networks, along with Mary Jo White ('06 Music) and Wes Book, who serve the Alumni As-



Rev. John Goodman

sociation as members of the Advancement Office, and Alumni Association President John Goodman. Simon's hope is that by creating a central [online] location, "we can just draw everyone with a common purpose—like business or missions for example—together in one place, and then, for little or no cost, everybody benefits." 



type your name here.

type your email here.

type your preferred password here.

(make sure you remember it when you come back!)

## If you're NEW to Facebook:

If you'd like to reconnect with one of the many alumni networks on Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) using your web browser. If you aren't already a member, you will need to create a free account using a valid e-mail address and a password of your choosing. Once you join, you can get started right away searching for friends or classmates, or look for some of the NCU-related group pages.

## Making Facebook Connections

### Join a Community Group:

Here are just a few groups with North Central ties already going strong on Facebook:

North Central University/Bible College Alumni  
 North Central Bible College/University Athletics Alumni  
 North Central University/Bible College Fine Arts/Music Alumni  
 North Central University Intercultural Studies Alumni Association  
 North Central University Diversity Alumni Association  
 North Central University TEFL Alumni  
 North Central University Business Alumni Group  
 North Central University Chorale Alumni  
 North Central University English Alumni Association  
 NCU Psychology, Alcohol & Drug Counseling, and Social Work Alumni Association  
 North Central University Biblical Studies Department and Friends

### You're also likely to find these and other groups related to recent NCU Magazine stories:

Venture Expeditions  
 Coast to Coast for a Cause (Ride:Well Tour '09)  
 In Loving Memory of Amanda Renee Evans  
 The Center for Youth and Leadership

### And for Students considering enrolling at NCU:

I want to be a North Central Freshman! (unofficial)  
 NCU Inside (Admissions and other info from students and admissions counselors)  
 North Central University Class of 2013 (unofficial)



# Just Plain Smart

Throughout the past decade, North Central University has invested heavily in its commitment to academic excellence. Just over a year ago, NCU hosted a team of reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), our accrediting organization, for the purpose of evaluating and renewing our accreditation as a university. The review was highly favorable, and the result was a ten-year extension of NCU's accreditation – the longest extension possible. The documentation and information prepared for this review tells the story of NCU in the ten years since our accreditation was last reviewed. We're excited to share these various snapshots from that report with you, so you can continue to take pride in the ongoing achievements of YOUR North Central University.

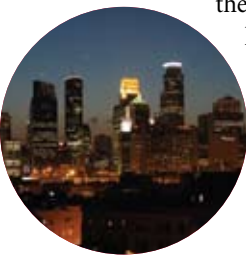




faculty-  
student ratio  
is now 1:19

## Embracing the Urban Environment

One of the unique strengths of NCU is that the academic learning environment extends beyond the traditional campus and curricular boundaries. North Central takes many of its educational experiences into the city and world around us.



The Twin Cities is full of learning opportunities that are highly utilized by the curriculum at NCU. The urban context is itself considered a laboratory. Faculty members and students take advantage of drama, music, cross cultural experiences,

relationships with people groups of varied economics and needs, libraries, and sports events.

Special programs like WOVEN (With One Voice Energizing Neighborhoods) involve students in the diversity of the community. For ten weeks each semester, NCU student teachers give private piano and other music lessons free of charge to children of the Minneapolis community. The program has grown and developed over the years to better meet the needs of the children in the community as well as the NCU students.

The Ubah School program serves the local Somali community through English classes. NCU students and faculty in the TEFL Program have served the school as teachers

and tutors.

Each semester students volunteer and/or intern at many of the non-profit organizations in the neighborhood. Students connect with neighborhood non-profits through an annual

Volunteer Fair Day and the Community Outreach Day, thereby allowing for helpful interrelationships and communication. These events have partnered with non-profit organizations including the Children's Hospitals and

Clinics of Minnesota, various neighborhood churches, Minnesota Teen Challenge, National Kidney Foundation, Salvation Army, Union Gospel Missions, Urban Ventures, Bridge for Runaway Youth, World Relief, Somali Education Center and People



## INDICATORS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:

» 1 Presently, 60% of our full-time faculty members have terminal degrees, as contrasted to 39% ten years ago. The NCU faculty averages eleven years of teaching experience.

» 2 The faculty-student ratio is now 1:19, lower than it was a decade ago when it was 1:21.

» 3 94% of NCU classes have less than fifty students. For freshmen level classes, 88% have less than 50 students.

» 4 76% of our faculty members have been published recently. These works include training manuals, books, poems, journal articles and screenplays.

» 5 NCU has been named by the Princeton Review as being one of the best colleges in the Midwest. In 2008, NCU was also honored as one of US News & World Report's *Best Baccalaureate Colleges*.

## »»»» Diane Warren 2008 Intercultural Studies



Diane Warren, 2008 NCU Salutatorian, teaches English in a restricted access

country, having earned an Intercultural Studies (ICS) degree (with an Islamic Studies track) and a TEFL certificate. Warren requested we not include her current location.

Before Warren came to North Central she sensed God call her to this coun-

try. Through the ICS department, she grew personally and spiritually. "I can see how well North Central prepared me for working cross-culturally," she said. "I have been able to apply many of the methods we learned." Warren's English pupils include local doctors,

security guards, and students. One of the greatest rewards for her is observing her students' desire to change their country that is being reconstructed. "I am able to impact their lives knowing they will impact their country."

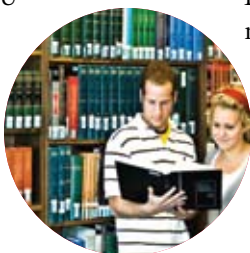
## >> Adjunct Professors: Strong Players on the Academic Team.

When hiring adjunct professors, NCU first looks for the most qualified individual who “loves the Lord, supports our mission, agrees with our Assembly of God and Pentecostal tradition, and can totally embrace our lifestyle statement,” says Dr. Thomas Burkman, Vice President of Academic Affairs. At NCU most adjunct professors have their masters, and many hold terminal degrees in their field. NCU “does not lower its standards or its commit-

ment when we hire part-time professors. All institutions of higher education have to utilize part-time teachers to be able to offer the number of courses needed to best serve the students,” Burkman says. He stresses that NCU works hard to keep the percent of adjuncts at one-third of total courses taught, whereas many state schools use as many as two-thirds part-time teachers.

### Serving People.

Diversity at NCU has increased considerably in the last decade. NCU has a 14% student diversity rate, higher than is typical of most other Minnesota colleges and universities. Additionally, at 17.5%, the faculty diversity is higher than the national norm.



measures.

Thirteen new majors have been added since 1998, and new tracks have been added under several existing majors. North Central now has 32 majors as compared to 19 a decade ago. A Music Business major was established to combine the areas of the recording studio and business practices. Additionally Worship Arts majors were added or revamped in a variety of fields such as Recording Arts, Music Pastor and Theater.

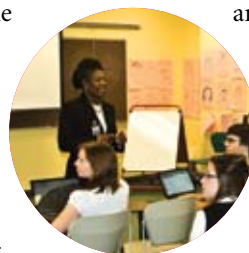
The establishment of the Center for Youth and Leadership (CYL) and the expansion of the Youth

Ministries Department to a second major in Youth Development, has led to the current enrollment of over 200 students. The CYL also connects the majors to former students and leaders of the community who come to the center for meetings, seminars and classes. Recently a Children & Family Ministries major was added to the curriculum.

Ongoing progress has also been made with the State of Minnesota to establish a Secondary Education Degree in Math, English, Social Studies and Music, which will require the addition of several new majors in areas such as history and math. This will

qualify NCU for full membership in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities which consists of liberal arts Christian schools and with whom we have only been able to have affiliate status because of our lack of math and science majors. In addition, majors in Social Work, Sports Management, and Alcohol and Drug Counseling have been added within the last year.

In keeping with NCU's mission statement, the curriculum and co-curriculum allow for a great deal of travel throughout the world. The majority of students now graduate having experienced at least one international



### Curriculum updates reflect progress, global focus

North Central has made continuous revisions, improvements, and updates of its curriculum in all departments a priority, and curriculum is continuously evaluated through a broad range of



## >>>> Matt Gryniowski 2004 Psychology



Matt Gryniowski says “accepting the world in its inconceivable complexity,” is one of the biggest lessons he took away from NCU. “God works within this complexity to somehow bring His marvelous reign to the world in exceedingly powerful ways that are simply beyond

our ability to understand.”

That lesson no doubt shapes his work at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders, one of the largest organizations of its kind.

Gryniowski is working toward his PhD in clinical psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary.

### FAST FACT

About 50% of NCU's Social and Behavioral Sciences Alumni go on to graduate school. The typical rate for U.S. Undergraduate programs in the field is around 20%.

## >> Facilities: Increased Form and Function.

Facilities at NCU have significantly expanded, and this has improved our learning environments in a number of ways. Numerous new buildings and other property have been purchased or donated. In addition, over \$14 million has gone into facilities improvement, and significantly more learning labs have been developed at NCU during the last decade.



The lab facilities available on campus include the following specialties: General Computer Lab, Homiletics, Biology, American Sign Language, Music, Children's Ministries, Education, Journalism, The McPherson Recording Studio, Music Practice Rooms and Performance Area, the Sanctuary Media Center and the secondary chapel in the Trask Word and Worship Center.

trip, and many have been part of two or three. Typically 16-18% of the student body and 50% of the faculty go overseas each year, and numerous courses have been devised with global and diversity issues in mind.

Several new language courses have been added to the catalog, with the list now including Mandarin, Arabic, Language Acquisition, American Sign Language, and a minor in Spanish. NCU is also one of the only undergraduate schools left in the country which offer four years of both Hebrew and Greek.

The development of leadership skills and training has also been strengthened in light of our mission. A leadership minor has been



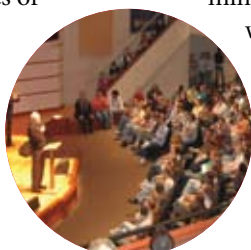
developed, and leadership is developed in the curriculum, as well as through over 200 Student Leadership positions on campus.

### Focus on spiritual development and experience remains

The demographics of the church world are rapidly changing, and North Central is playing a key role in preparing and educating leaders for this new environment.

North Central, while retaining its strong missional emphasis on serving the church, has expanded its majors into more areas of the liberal arts.

Majors have been added which no longer



have a strong attachment to the church vocation alone, as it is our philosophy that many students are called to serve in careers outside of the church. Business, teaching, counseling, and other professions should be viewed as opportunities to minister to others,

while at the same time remaining involved in service to the local church.

During this time, as North Central's programs have expanded to offerings beyond the preparation of clergy, remaining true to the heritage and tradition of our Bible college foundation has remained central. The Bible core classes have been retained as part of a strong commitment for all of our majors. This foundation

is supporting a rapidly developing University, and our mission of preparing ministers for all walks of life—both academically and spiritually—is secure.

Students consistently relate that one of the main reasons they choose to attend NCU is the spiritual climate of the school. They value the opportunity to experience God in chapel, as well as study Bible and theology along with their other courses of study. Students at NCU also have a desire to serve God and the people around them through whatever they do – a trait that extends into their chosen field following graduation.



## >>>> Kerri Nazarenus 1992 Elementary Education

Education wasn't on the radar for Kerri Nazarenus Nelson while she was a student at, then, North Central Bible College. In fact, she didn't declare a major during her first two years. Knowing she needed a major in order to graduate, she

chose to declare elementary education. Twenty-five years later, she oversees an entire school district.

For a dozen years prior to accepting the superintendent position in Tama, Iowa, Nelson was the

director of the English Language Learner Program in Grand Island, Nebraska. Her professional accomplishments earned her the 2006-2007 Grand Island Public Schools Administrator of the Year award.

Nelson's time at NCU afforded her first student teaching experience in Minneapolis inner-city schools. She completed all of her practicums there. "I loved it," she said, noting that the experiences opened her up to the full scope of education.



## Because your calling can't wait 4 years

Your purpose in life isn't just a degree,  
it's far bigger. The experience that  
comes with a North Central degree  
is all about helping you get there.

leadership development

big city opportunity

small campus community

intentional spirituality

academic excellence

extraordinary value

purposeful service


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Your life. Our  
**mission.**

A portrait of Kristi Northup, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a black top and a grey and white striped scarf. She is sitting on a red couch and smiling at the camera.

**KRISTI NORTHUP**  
Husband: Wayne ('98)

**Latest CD**  
*Things Unseen*

**North Central University '00**  
Music

**Currently** The Northups are founders of the evangelistic ministry *Answering the Cries*

**"Give me a voice and not a name"**

is a line from one of her songs, but it is also the cry of her heart. Being faithful in the places God has positioned her and using the gifts He has given her to make a difference in the world is her *modus operandi*.

A graduate of the class of 2000, Kristi (Shields) Northup, is using that voice to encourage worship and worshippers throughout the US, Canada, and Latin America. She has determined to be part of a revolution that keeps music focused on ministry instead of business as usual. She is accomplishing that by releasing her records independently and giving her music away. Kristi's music is available to download for donation instead of a set fee. If

listeners can't afford a donation, they can still download.

Northup believes that other people who are able to help will come alongside to support her ministry.

Northup has now recorded and produced two CDs at NCU's McPherson Studios.

The latest release, *Things Unseen*, is a poignant reflection of God's desire to rescue the lost, heal the broken, and awaken the apathetic. "Recording at North Central was an amazing experience," Kristi said, "because I could walk into chapel before a session and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in the same way that I did as a student.

I was surrounded by a holy place where I had met with God on many occasions, and I think that comes through in the recording."



Eight-hour shifts felt more like 48-hour weeks to Army National Guard Specialist Jodi Krause ('07). She'd been assigned as a supervisor in the chow hall at Joint Base Balad in Iraq until her degree in Global Mass Communications and Journalism from North Central University came to the attention of the Task Force Commander. He assigned her to the Public Affairs office of "Task 34," where she is a staff writer and photographer for The Flightline, the base newsletter, and video editor for various publicity projects.

Care packages are obvious pick-me-ups for any service personnel, and Krause admits to opening gifts designated for Christmas as soon as she received them. "I see who it is from, get out my scissors, and have at it," she

said. "It is a morale boost that I usually am in great need of." But the best "care package" Krause enjoyed actually came before leaving her training base at Fort Sill, Oklahoma to make the 24-hour flight to Kuwait. About half way through her training, Krause's father, Major David Freberg, arrived to be a part of Headquarters 34th Combat Aviation Brigade, also a part of Task Force 34. "It was so nice to have him there," Krause said. They were able to eat lunch together most days.

Much of Krause's work is featured in The Flightline, but you can also find her articles on TaskForce34.org, under the Photos and Newsletter links on the left side of the home page. She has been stationed in Iraq since August 2008 and is scheduled to return to the U.S. this June.



**JODI (FREBERG) KRAUSE**  
Married to Zach Krause ('07)

**North Central University '07**  
Global Mass Communications,  
Journalism

**Currently:** Army National Guard  
Specialist stationed in Balad, Iraq



Jodi Krause with her father,  
Major David Freberg




## Passion for people and community

Connecting people and building community is a subject Simon Trautmann is passionate about. Simon graduated from North Central in 2003 with a TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) degree. The next stop on his journey took him to China's Hubei Province for two years teaching English. His efforts helped increase the enrollment at the International school at which he taught from 7 students to 40 during his time there. Today there are 100 students enrolled.

On his return to Minnesota, Simon found himself back in the classroom as a student, earning his law degree from the University of St. Thomas. While in law school, Trautmann was able to reconnect with the NCU community, working part-time at NCU as a grant writer.

Trautmann is currently practicing business law and civil litigation at the Law Office of David L. Shulman. He represents a number of small businesses.

Simon currently serves as the Alumni Association Representative for Minnesota, and his vocational interests and experiences have meshed with his desire to help build communities and networks that bring together NCU Alumni from the Intercultural Studies and Business Departments. For more info on these and other NCU Alumni Networks, see the feature story on page 12. 

**SIMON TRAUTMANN**  
Wife: Jenn

**St. Thomas '08**  
JD, Law

**North Central University '03**  
Teaching English as a Foreign  
Language/International

**Currently** works at the Law  
Office of David L. Shulman

## Faculty Updates

### Reuben David Publishes Articles.

This spring Reuben David, Assistant Professor of Journalism, published a piece in the Associated Content. His editorial titled “Flying Shoes in Democracy” refers to the incident that took place on December 14th when Iraqi journalist Muntader al-Zaidi threw his shoes at President George W. Bush at a press conference.

In a recent Relevant Magazine article Professor David critiqued the book *The Third Jesus: The Christ We Cannot Ignore* by Deepak Chopra. If you would like to read either of these works, you can find a link to them at [www.northcentral.edu/magazine](http://www.northcentral.edu/magazine)

### Dr. Amy Anderson Presides Over a Session at the Society of Biblical Literature.

In mid-November, Amy Anderson, professor of Greek and New Testament at NCU, was one of several professors who represented NCU at the annual international meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. She sat on the Steering Committee of the New Testament Textual Criticism Section and the International Greek New Testament Project. Her most

memorable experience at this prestigious event was presiding over the session which reviewed “An Introduction to the New Testament Manuscripts and their Texts.”

Dr. Anderson also published an article on The Network: A Called Community of Women, the Assemblies of God website for women in ministry. A link to the article is available by visiting [www.northcentral.edu/magazine](http://www.northcentral.edu/magazine)

### Dr. Phil Mayo Receives Research Grant.

Congratulations to Dr. Phil Mayo for being awarded the first Faculty-Student Research program grant. Dr. Mayo will be working with and mentoring Josh Dorman as they research and address the topic *Toward a Pentecostal Ecclesiology: From Biblical Evidence to Contemporary Model*. They will work on this project through the end of spring 2009. In the future they will have opportunity to present their findings to the North Central community.

## Jason Santos 1996 Christian Studies

A few years before Dr. Gordon Anderson was named President of North Central, he was Jason Santos' professor for an Introduction to Philosophy course. In addition to providing an overview of the history of philosophical thought, Santos says, “he challenged me to think critically, quite possibly for the first time in my life. Through his teaching I realized that academia was more than just ‘banking’ knowledge, but rather critically assessing knowledge in relationship to my own beliefs, and how I understand reality. To this day I credit Dr. Anderson as the person who awoke my love for learning.”



After earning a M.A. in systematic theology from Wheaton College, Santos began an M.Div. at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is currently studying in the Ph.D. program at Princeton Seminary in the field of Practical Theology, focusing on the formation and discipleship of youth and

young adults.

In August 2005, as part of his Masters of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary, Santos embarked on an independent study journey of Southern France's monastic community, Taizé (pronounced Tay\*zey). While he found the nature of the multi-national community remarkable in its own right, Santos said, “the fact that the community draws over 100,000 young people a year is truly amazing.” He and his wife Shannon, have traveled back several times since that first visit, and his

book, *A Community Called Taizé: A Story of Prayer, Worship and Reconciliation*, tells the story of his research, but more importantly, “it tells the story of an incredible community that is faithfully living out the gospel through its very existence.”

## 1969

**Bonnie (Kinard) Nelson ('69)** and her husband Rich, who attended NCBC 1965-67, have been full time RVers the last ten years with U.S. MAPS volunteers, building churches and Teen Challenge Centers throughout the U.S. Rich is a retired Electronics Engineer and Bonnie retired from Human Resources Management before entering MAPS ministry. They have been married 40 years.

## 1970

**John Tishim ('70)** recently accepted the position of Director of Finance for Vineyard Community Church in Greenwood, IN. He met and married his wife, Brenda, in Indianapolis.

## 1971

**Steve Callery ('71)** is married to Carolyn Callery. They have four children. He has worked in churches as an evangelist and pastor and a Registered Representative with the New York Life Insurance Company for the past 34 years. Steve is currently involved at James River Assembly in Ozark, MO.

**Dr. Larry D. Hunt ('71)** is married to Shirley Lynn Kvasnica. Their son Tracy and daughter, Dr. Heidi L. Lopez, both live in San Antonio. Larry and Shirley have two grandsons. Dr. Hunt is currently Executive Pastor for Tree of Life Church, New Braunfels, TX.

## 1973

**Rocky & Sherry Grams ('73)** are currently missionaries in Buenos Aires, Argentina. They celebrated the marriage of their son Ben ('06) to Belu on July 11, 2008.

## 1978

**Randell Turner ('78)**, father of seven children, is an award-winning writer, workshop presenter and lecturer. He has served the mental health community for thirty years in the areas of mental health outpatient, group therapy, community mental/emotional health program development, training and assessment. He serves as a Child and Family Therapist for Pennsylvania Counseling Services working with men/fathers and Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) children and their families.

## 1986

**Michael Heilman ('86)** has been married over 23 years to NCU graduate **Cheryl (Brazil) Heilman ('91)**. They have two adult daughters. Michael is president of the Minnesota Association of Christian Songwriters. He has three albums of original Christian Contemporary Music and other published works ([www.maxinfinity.com](http://www.maxinfinity.com)).

## 1987

**William (Bill) West ('87)** and wife Brenda have four adult children, Stephanie

(Patrick) Moore (26), Shannon (25), Benjamin (20), and Daniel (18). Bill has been in law enforcement for twenty years, the past 17 years as a police officer for the Lake Zurich Police Department in Lake Zurich, IL.

**Tom Scarrella ('87)** and wife Susie are evangelists who travel nationwide and internationally. They host a television show called "All for the Kingdom" ([www.scarrella.com](http://www.scarrella.com)).

**Michael Morrow ('87)** is married to Julie and they have five children. They own Morrow Financial Network ([www.morrow-network.com](http://www.morrow-network.com)).

## 1988

**Daniel Thompson ('88) and wife Terri ('88)** are senior pastors of Columbia Heights (MN) Assembly of God. They have three sons: Joshua (18), Josiah (15) and Jared (13). Daniel graduated from Luther Seminary in Spring 2008 with an M.A. in Christian History.

**Pete Drake ('88)** has been married to Diane for



over 20 years. They have two children, Jessica (15) and Taylor (13). Pete was the Dean of Men at NCU

*continued on pg 24*

## Reconnecting is simple and easy

We can be together or apart, but reconnecting with each other is a great feeling. It's like getting an unexpected phone call from an old friend, or getting together with family you haven't seen in years. These are the stories that we share with each other. Please share yours with your extended North Central family. Send us a letter about your latest personal milestone, family addition or blessing from God. And send us pictures! We'd love to see them. Fill out the form on page 20 and mail it to us, or fill out the online form at [www.northcentral.edu/alumni/update](http://www.northcentral.edu/alumni/update).

(Please send us copies of photos. Submitted photos will not be returned.)



from 1991-96. He has been the lead pastor at Real Life Church in Roseville, MN since 1997. He held the Ernie Moen Preaching Chair for the Fall 2008 semester at NCU.

(www.reallifechurch.net)

**Curt Cook ('88)** serves as the Sr. Associate Pastor at James River Assembly in Ozark, MO. Cook and wife



Deb (Strom) have been married over 20 years and have three sons—Brad (17), Brandon (14), and Brodey (11).

## 1989

**Kurt Koeshall ('89)** recently moved to Wisconsin where he works as an Enrollment Counselor for the University of Phoenix in the Milwaukee area. Kurt has been married for 18 years and has four children.

**Tracy (Skroch) Lester ('89)** married **Rob Lester (attended 1987)** in July 1992. They have adopted four children: Mackenzie (born 2001), Mark (2001), Alex (2002), Paul (2003) and are in process to adopt a foster daughter (2007). Tracy is a homemaker and Rob attends the University of Arizona College of Education.

## 1990

**Lies (Garner) Geerdes ('90)** met her husband while working at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and has been married for 7 1/2 years. Together they attend Edinbrook Church in Brooklyn Park, MN.

**Michael Tennyson ('90)** married **Stephanie (Abbott, '90)** in 1989. They have two boys, Drew (17) and Brett (15). Michael is the Guidance Director and Varsity Baseball Coach at Christian Life High School in Kenosha, WI.

## 1991

**Stacey Elsasser ('91)** became a professor at Defiance College in Education after earning her Ed.D in Curriculum and Instruction from Oklahoma State University.

**Joie Pirkey (Levknecht, '91)** and husband Doug-



las founded Shouts of Joy (<http://shoutsofjoyministries.com/>), a ministry to the orphans of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, Africa. They have three children—Zeb, born in the couple's last year at NCU and now considering his college career at NCU, Sophie (13), and Elias (10).

**John ('91) and Jennifer ('94) Dahlager** have been living in San José, Costa Rica with their children Jonathan (11), Joshua (8), and Julia (6) since 2000. They lead the national ministry to the children of pastors (HIMAD in Spanish), pastor a church and teach in the national Bible College.

**Kurt Cullison ('91)** currently serves as the director of Youth Alive ministries for



the state of Michigan. He has served in youth ministry for the past 16 years and has traveled to several countries around the world.

## 1992

**Nicki (Hardine) Bradshaw ('92)** and husband Chris have two children, Brayden (6) and Gavin (5). In 2006 the Bradshaws planted a church in a Royal Oak, MI theatre downtown, where they are reaching unchurched people in Metro Detroit. (www.theoakschurch.net)

## 1993

**Shawn ('93) and Deborah ('94) Galyen** are missionaries in Madrid, Spain with their children, Luke (10), Ruth (8), and Claire (5). Shawn and Deborah have been in intensive language studies at the University of Alcalá.

## 1994

**Tammy (Madison) Metcalf ('94)** is married to Larry and works for Bank of America as a Teller Operation Specialist. She is also part of a church plant in Evans, GA.

**David ('94) and Melissa Nicholson** are church planting missionaries in



Eagle Mountain, UT, a city almost entirely Mormon within a county only 1.8% Christian. They have three children: Nathan (8), Zachary (6), and Naomi (5).

## 1995

**Steve Schweitzer ('95)** taught at NCU as an adjunct professor between completing his Master's and PhD programs. Recently, Bethany Theological Seminary selected him as their new Academic Dean. Dr. Schweitzer and his wife Jill, a postdoctoral research scientist in a biology lab at Notre Dame, have been married for 14 years. They have three children, Luke (6), Anna and Benjamin (4 year-old twins).

## 1996

**Lieutenant Wesley (Wes) J Modder ('96)**, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy, is the Supervisory Chaplain for the Navy

Special Warfare Command, Navy SEALs and BUDS at the Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, CA. He is currently deployed with the Navy SEALs in Afghanistan. Chaplain Modder was married in 1994 to the former Beth Ann Griebbe of San Marino, CA. They have three children: James (8), Julia (6), and Joy (4).

**Charles ('96) & Tahnya ('97) Porter** lead an urban, multi-ethnic emerging generation church in a theatre in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. They have been married nearly 12 years and have two children, Joshua (6), adopted from Kenya, and Alana, almost one year.

## 1997

**Jonathan Hall ('97)** has been happily married for nine years and has two children, ages 4 and 1. He manages a large captive insurance company for the largest professional employer organization in Hawaii.

## 1998

**Aimee (Perrin) Robertson ('98)** and her husband Jordan have been married for 10 years this May. Aimee works at NCU as the Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and is also the PSEO Coordinator.



Jordan is a carpenter with Covert Construction. They have two children, Madeline (6) and Jack (3).

## 1999

**Melissa Kinsella (Eisen-schenk, '99)** has been married over a year to Timothy, a chiropractor in Litchfield, MN. She works in a financial advisory practice. They are expecting their first child in Summer 2009.

**Troy Morken ('99)** and his family moved with the Army to Fort Richardson, Alaska, near Anchorage. He is a chaplain with 3/509 Parachute Infantry Regiment in the 4th Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division.

**Jill Ryder ('99)** works full time at a medical billing company and serves her local church in the prayer ministry.

## 2000

**Randall Stocksedale ('00)** is senior pastor of Morgan Assembly of God in Gresham, WI. He and wife Pam ('00) have been married for over ten years and home school their two daughters, Samantha (6) and Bethany (4).

**Angela Johnson ('00)** is a restaurant manager in Green Bay, WI while she pursues a paralegal degree.

**Phil and Katja (Tiainen) Zarns ('00)** celebrated their 10th anniversary in 2008. After four years as

youth pastors, they are now the first ever A/G missionaries to Sweden. The Zarns are pioneering Students for Christ Ministries and planting a church there. They have three children, Benjamin born in '01, Matilda in '03, and Maximus born in '08.

**Travis and Heidi (Heas-ton) Hewuse ('00)** have been married since April 26, 2002. Their son Josiah Ray-Owen was born August 18, 2005. In 2002, Travis and Heidi moved to Tulsa, OK, where Heidi is the music pastor. Travis is the Music and Drama Instructor for Lincoln Christian School.

## 2001

**Paul Stewart ('01)**, who majored in church planting, is the lead pastor of a new church community forming in downtown Des Moines. He is married to Jessica, and they have three children: Sophia, George, and Evelyn.

## 2003

**Brittany (Schreiber) Schommer ('03)** married Martin in 2005 and says she gained two wonderful step-sons, Tyler (7) and Brandon (5). In 2006, they were blessed with a beautiful daughter, Abigail (2). Martin works for UPS and Walser Auto, while Brittany is caretaker of their town-home complex in Burnsville, MN.

## >>>> Bill Svoboda 2006 Business Administration

In the winter of 2003 when Bill Svoboda was placed in charge of ordering intramural basketball t-shirts for his dorm floor, he wasn't expecting it to be a career path.

When the shirts arrived, and the product was less than he had hoped for, Svoboda thought he could do a better job himself. After starting a company out of his dorm room his Junior year, orders began to roll in from colleges around the state of Minnesota: t-shirts for their dorm floors, campus organizations and other events. The following year, Bill served as Student Body President while serving clients around the country between classes and meetings.

Svoboda graduated with a Business Administration degree in 2006, and in 2008, his company Coedmonkey.com expanded to ministries around the country with the launch of Ministry-monkey.com. Svoboda's company remains based in the Twin Cities, and he is an active member of the NCU Business Alumni Association.

[www.ministrymonkey.com](http://www.ministrymonkey.com)

*continued on pg. 26*

## Alumni Awards

The Alumni Association wishes to honor those people who add something extraordinary to their ministries, jobs and relationships. You can nominate an alumnus to receive the Young Alumnus Award, Lifetime Achievement Award or Distinguished Service Award. Nominations can be completed online at [www.northcentral.edu/alumni/award](http://www.northcentral.edu/alumni/award) or by calling 612.343.4743.

*continued from pg. 25*

## 2004

**Adam Posegate ('04)** and wife Lisa have two children—Harmon and Oliver. Adam is Director of Student Ministries at Christ's Church of the Valley in Appleton, WI. He travels as a speaker at camps and churches in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

## 2005

**Christ ('05) and Lori (Miska, '03) VanWinkle** live in Circle Pines, MN, where they operate a painting business. The VanWinkles have a daughter, Alexis (1).

## 2006

**Ijeoma ("Joma") Okwumabua ('06)**, moved to Saint Paul, MN, where she was the interim youth pastor at her church for a year. She is now coaching volleyball at NCU.

**Erica Warner ('06)** is Missions Director of Global Youth Net, a Texas-based missions organization.

**Joshua Ott ('06)** along with his wife, Elin, and their four children, live in Minnesota and serve Established Heart Community Church in St. Paul.

## 2008

**Jessica (Williams) Wilson ('08)** married Kyle Wilson on August 17, 2007. She recently accepted a position as a Foster Care Worker for the Michigan Department of Human Services in Big Rapids.

**Brad ('07) and Emilee (Clair) Linger ('08)** live in Kansas City, MO. Brad works with a web design company, and Emilee works with the University of Phoenix.



### NCU TO YOU

Bring NCU to you by scheduling one of our faculty members for your next conference, service or seminar. Please call 612.343.4747 to find a relevant speaker, or visit [www.northcentral.edu/pastorschurches](http://www.northcentral.edu/pastorschurches) and click on 'Speakers Bureau' for a list of speakers and topics.

## RECONNECT

[www.northcentral.edu/alumnifriends/update](http://www.northcentral.edu/alumnifriends/update)

Please return to: Alumni Office, 910 Elliot Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Children (include ages) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Information \_\_\_\_\_

Years attended North Central: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Further Education: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes this information may be published in NCU Magazine

\_\_\_\_\_





## › This summer NCU is coming to a youth camp near you - and bringing the WORSHIP!!

June 15-19; Nebraska AG Camp  
 June 15-19; South Dakota Jr. High Camp  
 June 22-26; Michigan Jr. High Camp (Grass Lake)  
 June 22-26; South Dakota Sr. High Camp  
 June 28-July 2; Michigan Family Camp (Grass Lake)  
 June 29-July 3; Northern Missouri Camp  
 July 6-10; Michigan Sr. High Camp (Grass Lake)  
 July 6-10; Wisconsin Sr. High Camp (Spencer Lake)  
 July 13-17; Michigan Jr./Sr. High Camp (Lost Valley)  
 July 13-17; Wisconsin Jr./Sr. High Camp (Spencer Lake)  
 July 20-24; Minnesota Sr. High Camp I  
 July 20-24; Wisconsin Jr. High Camp (Assembly Park)  
 July 27-31; Minnesota Sr. High Camp II  
 July 27-31; Wisconsin Sr. High Camp (Assembly Park)

(schedule subject to change)



## › NCU Open Monday, June 8

Participate in our four-person, best-ball golf tournament benefiting the North Central University Scholarship fund.

**Time:** Registration & brunch at 10 a.m.  
 Shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** Brackett's Crossing Country Club, Lakeville, MN

[www.northcentral.edu/ncuopen](http://www.northcentral.edu/ncuopen)

## › NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Students accepted to North Central for the Fall 2009 are invited to attend one of the following New Student Registration events. These events are designed to help students with important next steps before arriving for classes.

- \* May 29, 2009
- \* June 12, 2009
- \* June 26, 2009
- \* July 17, 2009

More info and detailed schedule at:  
<http://www.northcentral.edu/futurestudents/admitted>



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