



**February 2, 2009**

Dear Alumni,



We had a great week of HEART Conference. As always, it was packed with sessions and the time just goes by so incredibly fast. It was a good week with the pastors and Christian workers. Those I spoke to were blessed, challenged and encouraged.

It was a blessing to see many of our graduates here for the conference. The Alumni Reception was a brief



time on Wednesday afternoon but the reacquaintance with the alumni who are away is a challenging reminder of those who have given their lives for the cause of Christ.

I will add a couple of other highlights below but thank you for praying for this ministry last week.

**Tonight** is the big Maranatha game! ☺ Go NBBC!

Have a great week!

In Christ,

Dr. Wynne Kimbrough

### ***Looking For...***

We would like to locate alumni with whom we have lost contact. If you have an address – mail or email of any of the following graduates, we would love to try to contact them.

#### **Class of 1980**

- Cindy Boehm
- Jame Dorf
- Patrick and Kristen Griffiths
- James and Mary Hawkins

#### **Class of 1981**

- Debbie Adermann
- Kathy Morrell
- Todd and Patti Rutkowski

If you have any information, please contact Jennifer Keith at [alumni@nbbc.edu](mailto:alumni@nbbc.edu). Thank you!

### ***Verse of the Week***

“A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.” – Proverbs 29:33

### ***Name of God***

Elohenu Ozer Li – God My Helper (Ps. 54:4)

### ***Quote of the Week***

“To talk in public, to think in solitude, to read and to hear, to inquire and answer inquiries, is the business of the scholar.” – Samuel Johnson

## ***This Week At Northland***

February 2 – Men and women’s basketball teams play against Maranatha.



## **Celebrating 25 Years!**

Several months of planning, preparing, and praying went into last Thursday’s tribute to the Ollilas. It began with an idea to create a new student scholarship named for the Ollilas. Then we made plans to announce it during Heart Conference which Dr. Ollila began when he came to Northland. Our alumni, donor database, family, and friends were made aware of our intentions. It all culminated with our tribute last week.

The evening was a great success. All of his immediate family members were in attendance (except John David whose travel was delayed a few hours). In addition several other family members and friends came. They were joined by 200 pastors attending Heart Conference along with the entire Northland student body and staff. The Ollilas were completely surprised. The program included a video of their lives from birth through present ministry. Testimonies were given by Neal Cushman (from their Michigan youth group), Bob Rhodes (pastor when Doc O was a youth pastor), Jim Tillotson (former Northland student), and Seth Hoffman (current student). Mrs. Ollila received a bouquet of flowers and they were presented with a scrapbook of testimonies from alumni and friends. Following the service a reception was held in the gym for all of the guests.



This night was used to announce to the Ollilas the establishment of the Les and Charlene Scholarship. After our original goal of \$75,000 was met we set a new goal of \$100,000. As of this morning we have roughly \$97,500! We are praying for the extra to reach this milestone.

We are rejoicing in both the opportunity to honor these selfless servants of the Lord as well as the benefit this scholarship will be to our Northland students.

### ***If you missed the HEART Conference...***

If you missed the HEART Conference and are interested in a message or session taught last week, go to this address: <http://www.northlandstore.org/index.html> for more information. If you would like to listen to messages given in chapel during the school year, please go to this address: <http://www.nbbc.edu/ministries/podcast.html>

### ***Travel Schedules:***

Dr. Ollila - February 7-8 – Calvary Baptist Church in Quincy, MI

### ***Alumni Updates:***

#### **Curt ('03) and Sarah ('03 Green) Gwin:**

We're excited to announce a new arrival in our home. Cadence Joy Gwin was born January 15, 2009, at 1:00 a.m. She was 9 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 22 in. long. Her excited big sisters are Megan and Hannah.

Thank you for rejoicing with us.

[weirdoheads@hotmail.com](mailto:weirdoheads@hotmail.com)

## ***Alumni Prayer Requests:***

**Larry Pieri ('88):**

"Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf" (2 Cor. 1:11).

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings from Aprilia, Italy. We pray that the Lord has shown Himself mighty in your midst. He has been working things out for His eternal purposes in answer to prayer. We thank the Lord for His graciousness to us during these past two months. Thank you for being helpers with us in reaching souls in this land of spiritual confusion and traditions of men.

We thank the Lord for Melkijor, a new convert, who followed the Lord in believer's baptism on January 11. Fifty-two people attended this step of obedience by this Albanian cook, who works for the World Food Program in Rome. He was raised in godless Albania. His saved wife had prayed 14 years for him to be saved.

We praise the Lord for the two Italian nationals and their families who have been helping in the ministry. Amleto, Domenico, and I meet every week for prayer and to make plans for the group of believers in the work here. We are seeking to build up the local body with the Word of God and fellowship.

The Lord has answered the prayer for more laborers with the arrival of Marcelo, an Argentinian who has been living in Spain with his wife. They both were saved out of Romanism, Mary worship, Jesuit connections, and spiritual wanderings last August in a fundamental Baptist church in Spain. Marcelo is planning to apply for Italian citizenship on the basis of his ancestry. He is here alone at this time and is following legal steps to obtain Italian nationality. God has used him to speak to hearts about salvation and to encourage believers during his stay here. He has also helped with the youth ministry, especially with a Peruvian teen (Edinson) who started attending again and is very open to the Gospel.

The Lord opened a door to distribute 2009 Scripture calendars to inmates in a high-security prison near us. There are Mafia and Camorra prisoners there who need the Lord. The local chief of police is the brother of a friend and has agreed to distribute the calendars. Pray that the Word of God will reach these captives and save some.

In addition to Wednesday evening Bible studies, we are meeting for home Bible studies with a group of about 10 on Friday evenings. On Saturdays, we have had opportunity to evangelize and pass out tracts through a gospel book table in downtown Aprilia. Some of the ladies in the church have started meeting to read the Word of God, pray, and fellowship.

The Pieri family is doing well. We thank the Lord for His many blessings and care for us as we continue the work here. Joseph is finishing up his last semester of home schooling. Both he and Faith plan to attend Northland Baptist Bible College this August. They both are a great help with the church music and children's work. Faith has been a tremendous blessing as she helps on the home front as well.

Lord willing, we return as family for furlough at the end of May to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where our sending church is located. I am planning to return to Italy in September. Please pray for God's will to be done in my future ministry in Italy.

Please continue to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send laborers forth into His harvest.

We thank you for the cards, gifts, and love you have shown to us after the death of Marilyn. The Lord bless you greatly as we look for His return.


Grace be with you and our love to you all.

Larry, Faith, and Joseph

[pierifamily@gmail.com](mailto:pierifamily@gmail.com)

***Thought of the Week:***

“God hath but three things dear unto Him in this world, His saints, His worship, and His truth.” - Thomas Goodwin



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