

# Your gifts make it possible...



Dear Friends,

I am happy to be writing this letter from my desk at the Anne Carlsen Center. Staff and students have returned home following a nearly three-month-long evacuation of our campus due to persistent flood conditions. With the ordeal now behind us, we are reflecting on the experiences and emotions of our time away.

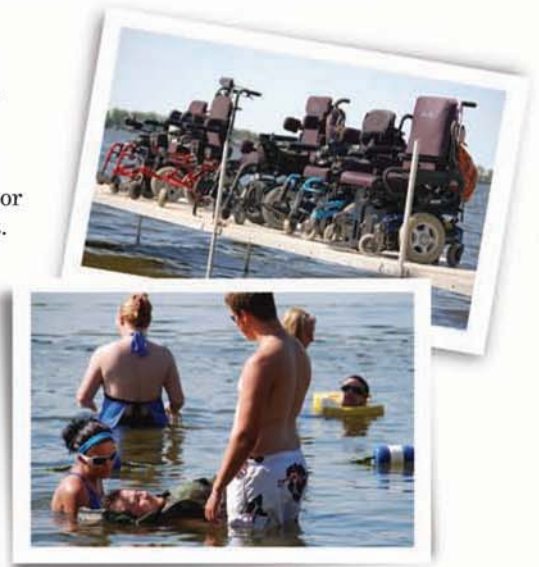
The ACC family was on the receiving end of many acts of kindness during our displacement. The spring flooding reminded us all that disasters often reveal the beauty and strength in individuals. Community members, emergency personnel, our host organizations, and ACC staff worked overtime to keep our students and our campus safe.

The loving support the Anne Carlsen Center enjoys was also evident this summer during ACC week at Elks Camp Grassick near Dawson, N.D. Gifts from donors help cover the costs of this incredible week filled with hayrides, swimming in the lake, adaptive art projects, bonfires and friendships.

Images captured by ACC Marketing and Communications Specialist Kalen Ost are on the first two pages of this issue. ACC Assistive Technology Director Mark Coppin also had his camera handy and snapped the photo to the right. This powerful image of empty wheelchairs lined up on the dock ... while children joyfully splash in the water under the guidance of skilled staff... represents what your gifts can make possible. You help us provide fun, freedom and life-changing experiences for young people determined to live life to the fullest.

With sincere thanks on behalf of some wet and happy campers,

Dan Kunzman  
ACC Foundation  
Executive Director



Ashley Felton is congratulated on her graduation by teacher Jackie Loepp and COO Marcia Gums.

## ACC CLASS OF 2009

*Congratulations to the Anne Carlsen Center's 2009 graduates: Ashley Jane Felton, Stuart James Baker and Amber Nicole Roerick.*

The graduation ceremony was held May 21 at Trinity Lutheran Church and Fellowship Hall in Jamestown, N.D. Graduation is traditionally held at the Anne Carlsen Center auditorium, but the location was changed this year, due to the flood-related evacuation of the campus from late March until early June.

"We wish them well on their way," said Michele Well, the Center's Education Director. "They will do wonderful things. They have the

resources needed to succeed, and we are excited for them."

The graduation speaker was Calvin Rolfson, a retired attorney who serves as ACC's legislative lobbyist.

"You have had excellent, highly competent teachers and caregivers during your classes at the Anne Carlsen Center—they have taught each of you many valuable lessons," Rolfson told the graduates. "However, I believe each of you can also teach the rest of us many valuable lessons because of your persistent and tireless work getting to this point in your lives."

Amber Roerick smiles as she poses for a photo with teacher Tom Kenna.



Stuart Baker receives warm wishes from his teachers and direct care staff.

