

KEYNOTER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
FALL/WINTER 2017-18

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WRITING
ACROSS THE
CURRICULUM



DELAWARE COUNTY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

KEYNOTER

FALL/WINTER 2017-18

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The Delaware County Christian School (DC) *Keynoter* is published bi-annually to communicate our school vision and news to alumni, friends, family, and prayer partners of the school. DC was established in 1950. Today, the school serves 650 students in Pre-K-12 on campuses in Newtown Square and Devon, PA. DC is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Association of Christian Schools International. DC admits students of any race, color, and national/ethnic origin to all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs. In addition, DC is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.

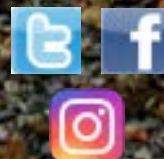


MISSION:
 Our mission is to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

2017-18 SCHOOL VERSE:
"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline." 2 Timothy 1:7

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With Dr. Tim Wiens' transition to a new season of ministry at Mt. Paran Christian School, I was asked by the Board of Trustees to become Interim Head of School. Having always held this role and the individuals who held this title in very high regard, I am excited to serve DC in this way. I am grateful to be supported by a wonderful group of leaders and a giving and caring DC community and am encouraged by the many ways students and parents have been blessed by this school.

Students and faculty alike are benefiting this school year through our focus on "Writing Across the Curriculum". Regular professional development



sessions are equipping faculty as they implement this initiative and students are learning new ways to write and process information from a biblical perspective. We believe writing to convey a relevant and effective tone is equally as important as content. Like our living God, who communicated the message of salvation through his Son, we all desire to communicate with others in a way that is effective and compelling.

As I walk about our campuses, I am greatly blessed to witness the many ways our students are being mentored and

shaped by our loving and caring faculty. Times of prayer, one on one sessions between faculty and students, coaches with athletes, co-curricular leaders with students, and the advisor/advisee program on the Upper Campus, all reveal some of the opportunities students have to see God revealed through the life of a faculty member. These relationships are a long standing part of a DC education and it is encouraging to see this tradition continue to thrive.

In this sixty-eighth year of DC's existence, I am reminded of God's wonderful faithfulness of providing and caring for this school. The core of this place remains the same: "To educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action." Through all of this, we desire that our Lord Jesus Christ will be honored through lives around the globe.

George McFarland
 Interim Head of School

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE PATH FORWARD

**DR. GEORGE K. MCFARLAND
NAMED INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL**

The Delaware County Christian School Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. George McFarland to the role of Interim Head of School effective January 1, 2018. Former head Dr. Timothy P. Wiens announced his appointment as Head of School at Mount Paran Christian School in Kennesaw, GA in October of this past year. Dr. Wiens will assume his new role in July 2018.

Dr. McFarland, or “Doc” as he is known to many in our community, has served in teaching and administrative capacities at DC for over 40 years. His deep commitment to Christian education has impacted many since he joined the DC faculty as a history teacher in 1977. Since that time, Dr. McFarland served as History Department Chair, Dean of Faculty, Assistant Principal, Head of the Middle and Upper Schools, and most recently as Assistant Head of School. Beyond these administrative responsibilities, he has impacted hundreds of students in the classroom through his courses in World History, U.S. History, AP U.S. History, AP American Government, AP European History, and countless electives. Equally impressive and impactful is his role of coach. Between cross country, indoor track, and track & field, he has coached 82 seasons in 38 years!

Dr. McFarland holds a B.S.Ed. from Taylor University, an M.A. in history from both Temple University and Bryn Mawr College, and a Ph.D. in history from Bryn Mawr College. From 1992-2014, he served as an AP U.S. History Reader, Table Leader, and Exam Leader. He is a Ruling Elder and Sunday School Teacher at Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, PA and is currently serving as Clerk of Session. He and his wife Crys have three children, Kirstin, Dora, and Russell, all of whom attended DC from kindergarten through twelfth grade. The McFarland's are also proud grandparents of Anna and Nathaniel.

As “Doc” begins his Head of School responsibilities he notes “The Lord has given unusual motivation and strength to enter this new role at DC. Though it is somewhat different from my

previous roles at the school, I look forward with the Lord's blessing to partner with so many to see how the Lord will flourish this ministry to young people. I am very excited and humbled to serve a community that I have loved and served for over forty years. At the same time, I have not lost my passion to see students grow in their respective talents and gifts, whether on the athletic field, participating in the arts, or in the classroom (Col. 3:23).”

Having served under every Head of School in DC's history, Dr. McFarland has a unique perspective on his new role, “Roy Lowrie, DC's first Headmaster, once commented to me that as we assume greater responsibilities in life, it gives us the wonderful privilege to trust the Lord more. That's the way I look at this new role; it is a major responsibility of many portions, but it also puts me on my knees to trust the Lord to guide and strengthen me along the way.” (Joshua 1:8-9). I am grateful to stand on the shoulders of some mighty and godly men of Christian Education: Roy Lowrie, Ken Tanis, Steve Dill, and Tim Wiens. Additionally, the Lord has provided outstanding men and women with whom I can serve as I begin this new role.”

As we begin a new chapter in our school's history, we are grateful for Dr. McFarland's leadership, his life calling to Christian education, and his genuine love for the Lord and the students and families of Delaware County Christian School. Reflecting on DC's sixty-eight year history, we see the work and provision of a faithful God. This perspective gives us hope and encouragement. Today, we remain steadfast in our mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action. All of this leads us to the path forward—an opportunity to develop the hearts and minds of the next generation shaped by Delaware County Christian School's core values of scholarship, excellence, community, servanthood, and being rooted in Christ.

Please join us in thanking the Lord for his ongoing provision to our school through the leadership of Dr. George McFarland.



THE POWER OF THE WRITTEN WORD

SCHOOL WIDE
INITIATIVE AIMS
TO STRENGTHEN
STUDENT WRITING

Today's students have a world of information at their disposal. Ask Siri. Ask Alexa. Ask Google. While the ability to easily access information 24/7 has benefits, moving students beyond the noise created by the Information Age is a formidable challenge. The ability to communicate effectively is more important than ever. DC's Writing Across the Curriculum initiative aims to strengthen student communication skills through the power of the written word.

The decision to launch the Writing Across the Curriculum initiative is rooted in our belief that the need for effective communication—based on sound critical thinking—is vital in preparing our students to impact the world for Christ. We hope to take this initiative even further in the 2018-19 academic year with an increased emphasis on spoken communication skills.

Writing across the curriculum (WAC) is defined as writing in classes outside of English, language arts, composition, and literature. There are many compelling reasons for writing across the curriculum. Originally, WAC was designed to primarily boost students' critical thinking skills. Beyond these skills, there are many compelling reasons for writing across the curriculum.

Consider the following:

1. Writing transforms students from passive to active learners.
2. Writing helps students create meaning, clarify thinking, and synthesize information.
3. Writing is a means through which students can demonstrate understanding.
4. Writing is a tool through which students can impact the world for Christ.

Author and educator Mike Schmoker notes, "The value of writing becomes clear only when we understand how it enables students to connect the dots in their knowledge. A deeper look at writing reveals its impact on our ability to learn and think at the highest levels, across the disciplines. Writing literally makes students smarter." *Schmoker, M. (2006). Results Now, p. 62.*

Writing across the curriculum is generally divided into two categories: Writing to Learn and Writing in the Discipline. In all our classes we are emphasizing the importance and benefits of both.

Writing to Learn is often ungraded and formative, informal in style, not subject-specific, and generally brief. The goal is learning rather than a finished formal writing product. In keeping with that aim, the student, not the teacher, is often the audience.

Writing in the Discipline has a different focus. It is characterized by discipline-specific conventions, formats, and structures. Lab reports are an example of writing in the discipline. Discipline-specific writing serves two primary goals/purposes: 1) helping students to write in the structures and formats of the given discipline; and 2) helping students to think like an historian, mathematician, scientist, or other practitioner. Writing in the discipline increases a student's depth of knowledge on a subject and helps students master any specialized vocabulary or terminology related to the topic. This type of writing tends to be more formal and has an audience outside of the writer.



*Recognizing that effective
written communication
across all disciplines is vital,
we are giving expanded
attention to writing.
A growing number of colleges
and professions are making
writing a priority, reflecting the
understanding that effective
written communication is a
critical foundational skill.*



As a result of our work in the area of writing across the curriculum, we expect to see a number of measures of success: students growing in writing fluency and facility, clarity and cohesion; increased student engagement, reflection, understanding, and critical thinking; increased grit as students productively struggle with revisions, edits, and rewrites; and a rise in scores on standardized tests measuring writing and critical thinking.

Early fruit is visible in a number of ways. Upper school band students are becoming reflective practitioners writing about their practice sessions and next steps; middle school Spanish students are using interactive journals; AP Physics students have been analyzing scenarios in order to write about and explain possible outcomes.

“Whether it’s about a Bible passage or an article online about climate change...not only are we being given an opportunity to write well, but an opportunity to eloquently express our perspective, which is an extremely important skill to have. I’ve learned to write objectively and logically about things I observe in science class. Even in math, I’ve been asked to explain on tests mathematical concepts and why they are necessary.” – Senior Katy Tanis



Academic success is very important, but as Christian educators interested in the whole student, we also expect to see them well equipped “to serve God and impact the world” - as our mission states - through their writing.

Writer and former pastor, John Piper, noted in an interview about his writing: “I think the way you love people is by influencing them, persuading them, winning them, awakening them to delight in God above all things...So whether you are writing fiction or whether you are writing a blog or a poem or a book, or a theological treatise, it seems to me that love and the glory of God dictate that you cannot be indifferent to whether you want people to be affected by your writing. You want them to think true thoughts about God and life, and you want them to feel appropriate affections for God and about sin and life. And therefore, writing is simply an extension of living, and all of life is to be lived in love for people and for the glory of God. (<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/how-important-is-a-christian-writers-influence>)

May we be faithful in cultivating this extension of living in DC students!
 – Robin Bronkema, Assistant Head of School, Academics

The following is a condensed recap of Rob Atkin's devotional during the August 2017 faculty development week which focused on the Writing Across the Curriculum initiative. Rob's thoughts and insights are a great example of viewing all of life and learning through the lense of Scripture, the essence of Christian education at Delaware County Christian School.

MARKING THE WORLD WITH OUR PRESENCE

God is relational. We see a perfect demonstration of his relational nature in the love and “glory-giving” amongst the persons of the Godhead. Because God is perfectly relational, he is the perfect communicative being. He has “marked the world with his presence” through creation (Psalm 19) and more specifically in special revelation through his Word.

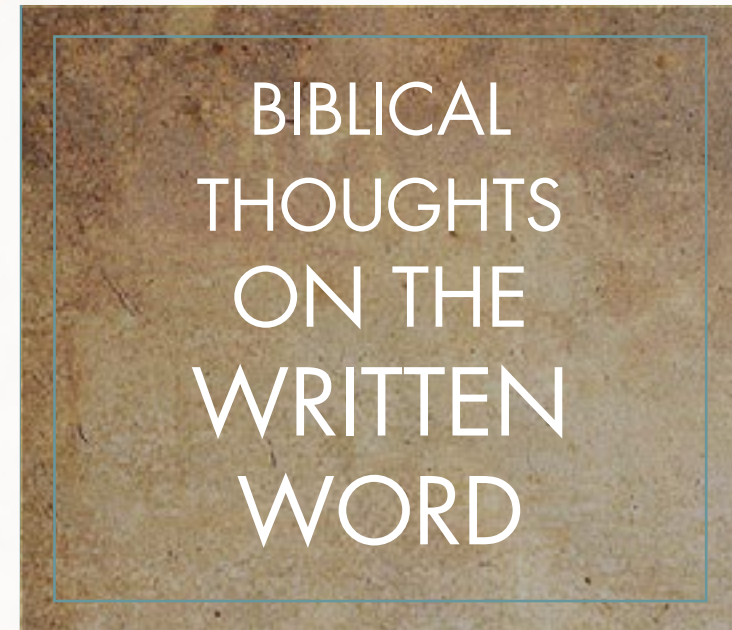
God is central to relational communication. Think about these truths:

God created with words... The first central task he gave to his first image bearer and vice regent, Adam, involved words... Adam used reason and rational abilities to name animals according to their kind...In his naming Adam discovered his own inadequacies. This led to the special creation of a suitable helper in which Adam “names” her- Eve... The Ten commandments and the Covenant with his people were made with clearly articulated words....His Word became flesh in Jesus Christ (John 1)... The scriptures are God's very breath for our instruction (2 Timothy 3:16-17)...Through the New Covenant, God writes his law on the tablet of our hearts. (Jeremiah 31)

All of humanity bears God's image. Regardless of race, creed, or societal level, there is an indelible mark of God's image on us all. We are image bearing in our relational capacity. We are image bearing as communicative beings. We are image bearing in our ability to mark the world with our presence through the written word.

IMAGING THE TRIUNE GOD THROUGH WRITING

Many theologians throughout Church history have noted the centrality of speech to God's nature within the trinity. The father exerts his Lordship through speech, the Son is the very discourse/speech of the Father, and the Spirit is the powerful breath that carries the purpose and plan to the audience. Writing involves taking an idea that germinates in our hearts



and minds (Father), carefully crafted into words that convey the depth of the idea (Son), anticipating an effect on the audience (Spirit). What is extraordinary is that any piece of clearly written prose, beautiful sonnet, historical analysis, iambic pentameter, or any other form of writing is a behavior that reflects the image of God.

Or think about it this way – When asked to develop a thesis, we are encouraging students to craft a crystal clear idea. In doing this they are imaging the Father. Once that idea has been forged in the mind, they are encouraged to

hammer it out into words that manifest the idea clearly. Their idea becomes incarnational. We see and understand the idea through their written words. This images the Son. Finally, the effects the writing has on a reader are in a way imaging the Spirit. Great writing includes all three of the above. An idea, manifest in words, resulting in imparted effects.

As we lead our students in writing, let us draw near to the divine Writer whose image we bear. Encourage writing not just as an academic endeavor but as a way to more fully image God. Let us help our students to know the Living Word found in the written Word. And when they commune with the Word made Flesh, let's guide them to mark the world with their presence, a presence that has been utterly shaped and molded into the image of the very Word of God - the discourse of God, His Son, Jesus Christ.

– Rob Atkins, Bible Department Chair

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLASS TIA GAINES, ADJUNCT SAIL INSTRUCTOR

When I first announced I was going to teach a SAIL class on Human Trafficking, I was pleasantly surprised to see how eager students were to register for the class. This is certainly a mature subject matter for our students and we have never offered anything like it before. However, response to this course demonstrates DC students and families have a deep passion for issues of justice in our world.

Every week before class, I remind students they need to come ready to “think deeply, critically, and biblically” –and they do just that! Early in the semester I invited alumni parent Susan Ingram to speak to our students about her important work around this issue. Susan is a recent recipient of the Eva Murillo Unsung Hero Award, a Congressional honor for people who’ve suffered a personal tragedy and go on to help others. After being assaulted at a local spa, Susan was compelled to create the Walk Her

Home 5K event to raise awareness and money for human trafficking victims. Susan’s presentation was so impactful, a number of students decided to do more than just “think deeply” and opted to participate in the October 7 Walk Her Home event held at Westtown School in West Chester. Students participated in a Q&A with William Walker (U.S. Department of Homeland Security Special-Agent-In-Charge), Mary Claire Peditto (FBI Victim Specialist), Tom Hogan, (Chester County District Attorney), and Mary DeFusco (Advisor, Villanova Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation). They also walked in the 5K and participated in a meet & greet with community advocates, social service agencies, law enforcement, and with representatives from Dawn’s Place and the Salvation Army, two agencies who offer residential programs for survivors.



(L-R) Janae Johns, Mrs. Tia Gaines, Susan Ingram - event organizer and Alumni parent, Elena Broyles, Maddie Vavala, Asha Davis

I am extremely grateful to have experienced the “Walk Her Home” event and was touched to see so many people joining together to help in the fight against human trafficking. Before taking this SAIL course, I was uneducated on all things [pertaining to] human trafficking. Now, not only has my perspective broadened, but I have also developed a new level of sympathy for human trafficking victims. This experience has inspired me to partner and work alongside an anti-human trafficking organization.

Asha Davis '18

“I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the “Walk Her Home” event. It was amazing to see many people supporting this cause. The speakers were all very compelling and opened my eyes to the ways teenagers are lured into human trafficking situations through social media. I encourage everyone to learn more about this issue and to recognize human trafficking is happening locally, not just overseas.”

Elena Broyles '21

Learn more at www.walkherhome.org.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AT DC’S LOWER SCHOOL

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Recognizing that learning is deepened when accompanied by experience, DC’s Lower School is intentional about building experiential learning into its history and science curriculums. When students step back in time to become “part of the story” or have the opportunity to conduct a scientific field study, history and science become living, lively, and engaging disciplines. Additionally, these types of experiential learning provide rich experiences in critical thinking as students apply what they have learned from classroom instruction.

History field experiences foster the understanding of living during a different time period. Understanding the people, their communities, their challenges and successes, and how this historical story unfolded brings history alive for students. Whether walking through a historical building, reading primary documents from long ago, or looking at a landscape to imagine a time gone by, students are encouraged to experience a historical event across the sweep of time, from its beginning to the present day.

Scientific inquiry and exploration of the natural world provides an opportunity for students to authentically experience life and earth sciences. Through firsthand experiences and hands on learning, students are encouraged to make predications, observations, problem solve, experiment, collect data, and gather research as they critically think about science and how it relates to other areas of learning. Students are encouraged to grow in their understanding of environmental science and stewardship of the natural world.

To support these efforts, former fifth grade teacher Scott Bateman is now serving as the Lower School’s Teacher of Experiential Learning. In this role, Scott works in collaboration with classroom teacher to guide students through field experiences designed to complement history and science instruction. Through authentic, interactive field experiences, students participate in scientific inquiry, and experience historical events as living history. Topics of study include: the seashore ecosystem, water and weather, the water cycle and weather forecasting, geology, animals and their habitats, ancient Rome, exploration of North America, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War and westward expansion.

A SYSTEMATIC LOOK AT EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN THE LOWER SCHOOL

SCIENTIFIC
FIELD STUDIES

EACH GRADE LEVEL DIVES DEEPER TO FULLY EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION



PRE-K: A CLOSE UP LOOK AT OWLS

Our experiences for Pre-K focus on creating an awareness and appreciation for the sights, sounds, scents, and textures of nature. Pre-K students take part in a presentation where they meet non-releasable owls. They learn about these animals-their habitats and diet and perform an owl pellet dissection.

KINDERGARTEN: POND PONDERING WITH AMPHIBIANS

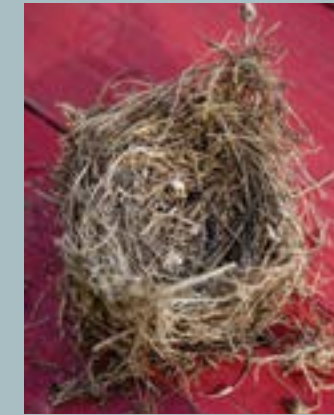
Kindergarten students visit a nearby nature center to explore woodlands and ponds. Students collect live pond organisms and learn about the life cycles of the frogs, toads, and salamanders.

FIRST GRADE: MAPLE SUGARING

Students learn the history of making maple syrup from sap and use their senses to identify maple trees. They practice tapping a tree to experience how early Americans made maple syrup and search for wildlife that are dependent on maple trees for surviving the winter. Students observe maple syrup production and enjoy tasting the finished product.

SECOND GRADE: SOIL – DIGGING DEEPER

Second grade students get their hands dirty as they explore soil types and investigate nutrients that cycle through soil and into plants. Students identify soil layers and observe the unique characteristics of worms and their positive and negative impact on soil layers. This unit culminates in a class project in which students share their scientific observations and communicate steps people can take to steward God-given natural resources.



THIRD GRADE: EVALUATING A LANDSCAPE & MONARCHS

Using the Lower Campus stream, maps, and hands-on experiments, third graders evaluate soil to determine where to build foundations. Students use model augers to look at soil layers and textures in different landscapes. They also discover how a river's speed and curves are a factor in determining the best locations for bridges.

Third graders also learn about the life cycle and migration patterns of the monarch butterfly. Two campus butterfly beds support our local monarch butterfly population as students identify, tag, and release butterflies into the wild. The students participate in a monarch watch program and identify ways to promote the butterfly population.

FOURTH GRADE: BLUEBIRD MONITORING

In cooperation with the PA Bluebird Association, fourth graders monitor eight nest boxes located along the Lower Campus bluebird trail. Students collect and record bluebird activity and report findings to the PA Bluebird Association. They also write persuasive essays about their learning to win a nest box of their own.

FIFTH GRADE: SEASHORE ECOSYSTEM

Students visit Cape May, NJ to conduct a field study of the seashore ecosystem. The tidal basin, rocky shore, and seashore ecosystems are investigated. Students learn about the community of life found along the sandy shore including mollusks, birds, and plants. Up close investigations of lobsters, crabs, mollusks, and a squid dissection lab are additional highlights of this unit.





MATT HUMMEL PRESENTS AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

DC faculty member and alumnus Matt Hummel '08 recently presented his paper, *The Path to 9/11: From the Cold War to Sep-*

tember 10, 2001, at the biennial Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society convention in New Orleans. Matt's paper was one of four submissions to be selected from West Chester University's Phi Alpha Theta chapter. His paper focused on important American foreign policy events and decisions that laid the groundwork for September 11, 2001. It chronologically synthesized events and highlighted their implications for the eventual attacks. Matt notes, "This is an area that I view as lacking in current secondary American education - the connections are rarely made; 9/11 is typically viewed as an isolated incident."

OUT AND ABOUT

Recognizing the benefits of visiting other schools to broaden perspectives on teaching and learning, Upper School teachers fanned out to a variety of schools - Christian, independent, and public - on their October professional development day. Upon returning to DC, faculty members shared key observations, ideas, and reflections gleaned from their visits. In some cases, teachers returned to DC feeling affirmed in their instructional techniques. One teacher wrote, "Visiting this school...significantly renewed my appreciation for all that our students have at DC! We are so blessed to have an amazingly qualified faculty and abundant resources, with a focus on providing an excellent educational experience while approaching each student as an individual." In other cases, teachers came back with new ideas, excited to recreate for our context something they saw on their visit. One teacher noted, "After reflection, it is even clearer to me that the day of observing at [this public school] was time well spent. I bring back fresh ideas and strategies that help form my vision for the program at DC." And in still other cases, teachers wrestled with questions about the pace of instruction or schedules. One reflected, "The visit leads me to wonder how the difference might impact student understanding and memory." Robin Bronkema oversees DC's professional development initiatives. She believes the visits and the resulting dialogue aids in broadening the perspective DC teachers bring to their teaching and is grateful to the warm welcome area schools provided to our faculty members during their visits.



NEW FACULTY & STAFF FOR 2017-18

DC welcomed a total of seven new faculty members this year. We are grateful for these men and women who model their faith and love of learning to our students in the classroom and beyond. (Pictured L-R): Emily Ashworth - Upper School Phys. Ed. & Varsity Field Hockey Coach; Conner Power - Lower School Phys. Ed.; Liz Turner '13 - Middle School Math; Leslie Meeder - Middle School Spanish; Meagan Miller - Upper School Physics; Frank Dodd - Middle and Upper School Band Director. Not Pictured: Katie Rokoske - Lower School Fifth Grade.

ACSI BLOG FEATURES POST WRITTEN BY JOEL GAINES

The Association of Christian Schools International recently published a blog post written by Joel Gaines, Assistant Head of the Upper School. Joel's post entitled



Marked Urgent: Unity within Diversity in our Christian Schools, discussed the importance of being "brave enough to engage in conversations around race, ethnicity, and culture with urgent action." Joel

outlined three action steps for Christian schools with diverse populations to consider as they seek to foster unity within their student bodies. "The fact that we are made in the image of God should impact the way we teach, equip, counsel, encourage, and ultimately lead. God created each person in your school community in His image and with purpose. As Christian school leaders, we have an opportunity to press into the uncomfortable, being motivated by the love of Christ to love others as He has loved us." Visit www.acsi.org/publications to read more.

STEPHEN PULLIAM SELECTED FOR NEW AP CHEMISTRY ROLE

Science Department Chair Stephen Pulliam has been appointed by the College Board as an Advanced Placement Consultant. In this role, Stephen will be leading AP Chemistry workshops for teachers during the coming spring and summer months.



1



2



3



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Across our campuses, in classrooms, on the court, field, and stage, DC faculty members continue to impact student lives in positive and meaningful ways.

- 1. Mr. Hill & Mr. Ridewood - Middle School Math & History, Football Coaches
- 2. Mr. Skaer - Upper School History
- 3. Mrs. Kamm - Upper School English
- 4. Mrs. Batluck - Kindergarten Aide

FOCUS ON

THE ARTS





KNIGHT TONES SET FOR UK TOUR

The Knight Tones Select Choir will travel to England this March for a week-long tour where they will perform several concerts highlighting the music of English composers from the Renaissance through modern day. The group's repertoire includes their rendition of "Born on a New Day", a signature piece of the famed King's Singers who are a well known a capella group celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year. Performance venues for the Knight Tones include Magdalen College - University of Oxford, Abbey Road Baptist Church—London, St. George's of Bloomsbury—London, and St. Paul's Covent Church—London.

ABBY CHUNG ADVANCES TO PMEA REGIONAL FESTIVAL

Sophomore Abby Chung was named first chair oboe for the District 12 PMEA Band Festival held at Marple Newtown High School on January 11 -13. Abby advanced to regionals in the band division, where she was named second chair oboe.

Abby also qualified as first chair oboe for the District 12 Orchestra, which held their festival from February 8-10 at Kennett High School. She has now been designated first chair oboe in the Regional Orchestra.

Abby, a second year member of the Delaware County Youth Orchestra and a member of DC's Concert Band, has enjoyed participating in the annual festivals sponsored by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association. Comprised of Philadelphia, Delaware, and Chester Counties, PMEA District 12 is one of the most competitive regions in the entire state of Pennsylvania.



Abby Chung



COMMUNITY BAND BUILDS SCHOOL SPIRIT

Thanks to first year Band Director Frank Dodd, the stands at several home football games this fall were bursting with enthusiasm. Frank recruited members of the middle and upper school concert bands to form a community band. Their rendtions of the "Rocky" theme and DC's newly adopted fight song rallied the fans, players, and cheerleaders alike. Check out our October 21 facebook post to see and hear the band in action!

FOCUS ON THE ARTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS *THE SNOW WHITE VARIETY SHOW*

The Middle School Theatre Department presented *The Snow White Variety Show* to delighted audiences in November. Every television show genre imaginable was jam-packed into this wild and fast-paced comedy. Members of the audience became the live studio audience on a talk show, "Real Talk with Fairytale Legends," where the seven dwarves told the story of Snow White with the Fairy Tale Players bringing the narrative to life. The show took hilarious turns as the dwarves retold the famous story from their vantage point. Their stories switched genres at any given moment – romance, comedy, home improvement show, suspense, Western, epic poetry, and MORE! The show culminated in a mad dash ending of fast-changing genres that set the record straight on Snow White's happily ever after.



Maggie Iott, Katy Schuster, Cherith Garner



Iyanna Parks, Kaitlyn Butts



Eowyn Oh, Josh Allen



Director, Mrs. Molly Cortright, Jordan Deane



Coletta Cook

DC PLAYERS

The DC Players took to the stage on November 17 and 18 to present two one act student directed plays. In *Crazytown*, audience members received a comedic glimpse into the world "of the most messed up town in America." *Crazytown* was directed by junior Josiah Halstead. Fellow junior John Cai was Assistant Director. Seniors Terry Wang and Faith Warmhold teamed together to bring *After Math* to the stage. *After Math* centers on the story of Emmett, a student who is removed from math class by a man and woman in suits. As his classmates each share their purported reasons for Emmett's removal, it becomes apparent that no one knew or paid attention to Emmett until he was gone, leaving the audience to reflect on the importance of knowing and valuing others.

COMING SOON! MARCH 2-3 & 9-10

DC's award winning theatre department is thrilled to bring the music adaptation of *Little Women* to the stage this March. Based on the well-loved novel by Louisa May Alcott, the musical highlights the major points of the book with help from beautiful music and a thoughtful script.

The cast of twenty-nine students features junior Lauren Hackett as Jo, and junior Jordan Thompson (2017 Cappy Award Winner Best Female Vocalist) as Marmee. Senior Hannah Oh, sophomore Lilly Fischer, and junior Johanna Fitzgerald play Jo's beloved March sisters. Male leads include junior Jacob Halladay as Laurie, junior Ryan Schaafsma as Laurie's tutor John Brooke, and senior Cole Serfass as Professor Bhaer.

Theatre teacher Molly Courtright describes her cast as "talented and hardworking students who each have a special God-given gift that serves the ensemble well."

Little Women promises to be a DC production that will not soon be forgotten.

Visit dcs.org for more information on tickets and times.

DC
DELAWARE COUNTY
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
UPPER SCHOOL
ARTS DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

Little Women

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL | BASED ON THE NOVEL BY LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

BOOK BY
ALLAN KNEE

MUSIC BY
JASON HOWLAND

LYRICS BY
MINDI DICKSTEIN

MARCH 2ND & 9TH, 7:30 | MARCH 3RD, 1:30 & 7:30 | MARCH 10TH, 4:00
TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT WWW.DCCS.ORG OR AT THE DOOR.

TICKETS: ADULTS-\$15,\$13 | STUDENTS-\$13, \$11

LITTLE WOMEN IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSICAL THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI). ALL AUTHORIZED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI. WWW.MTIshows.com



HONOR CODE

DC unveiled a new Honor Code this fall. By design, the Honor Code provides clear expectations of student conduct in broad terms with the express goal of shaping our school community around positive, aspirational goals. The Honor Code supports existing behavior and academic standards and provides a foundation that shapes our school community and reinforces DC's core values of Scholarship, Excellence, Servanthood, Community, Impact, and being Rooted in Christ. The Honor Code concept was first developed by a committee of eighth through twelfth grade students and was further refined by a faculty committee. Each academic division is applying this code in developmentally appropriate ways to reinforce a positive school culture. Middle and upper school students participated in a chapel explaining the Honor Code which was followed by a signing ceremony. Each student, along with their faculty advisor, entered their signature in a permanently bound book to formalize their individual and corporate commitment to upholding the Honor Code before the Lord and for the common good of our school community.

HONOR CODE

As a student at Delaware County Christian School, I commit to pursuing a life of honor and integrity that is characterized by honesty, respect for all people and property, gratitude toward my parents, teachers, and peers, and responsibility for my actions. My commitment to this code reflects my respect for the mission and core values of Delaware County Christian School, and the calling of the Christian to glorify God in all things.

CELEBRATING 68 YEARS OF CHRIST CENTERED EDUCATION

Members of the DC Community gathered on Friday, September 8 to celebrate, pray and dedicate DC's 68th year of exemplary Christian education at the DC Family Picnic and Dedication Service.

This annual event continues to be a highlight of the school year for all members of our school community.



Lori Chung and daughter Emily, 8th grade



(L-R) Seniors Braedyn Thompson, Isabelle Brewster, Alison Levis



Lower School Phys Ed teacher Mr. Connor Power and DC mom Arlene Pine



(L-R) 8th graders Micah Dill, Peter DeWall, Jordyn Rosenberger, Titus Ahlborn, Max Cardone



Lily Rose Spicer celebrates Texas

STATE DAY & HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Fourth grade students enjoyed hosting their own State Day Fair which included displays and oral presentations on a state of their choosing. Sixth graders celebrated Heritage Week in February where they researched and presented information on their family lineage and culture. They also visited Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, and learned about immigration.

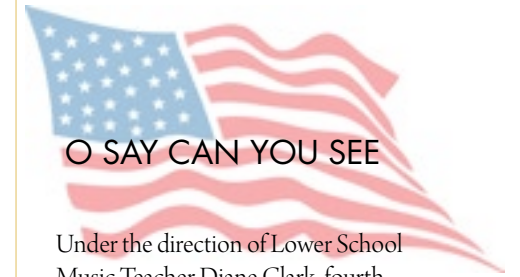


Anthony Denece shares about his family history



STARTING THE YEAR STRONG

Eighth grade students enjoyed some time together at the start of the school year at Camp Men-O-Lan. Building friendships, making memories, and deepening faith is at the heart of this DC tradition.



O SAY CAN YOU SEE

Under the direction of Lower School Music Teacher Diane Clark, fourth and fifth graders performed the national anthem at the Wilmington Blue Rocks minor league baseball game on August 30.

Following their performance, the students enjoyed a few innings of America's favorite pastime before heading home to rest up for their second day of the school year.



CHANGING LIVES ONE SHOEBOX AT A TIME



Katy Schuster, Molly Nichols, Kaitlyn Butts, Emily Daniel, Sky Corcigmilia, Emily Chung with Mrs. Pacitto

Middle and upper school students partnered with Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child in October to fill shoeboxes with hygiene items, school supplies, and gifts for children in need. Together, DC students helped to change lives - one shoebox at a time. Special thanks to the Middle School Parent Volunteer Organization who organized a packing party complete with Christmas music and cookies. Middle school students and their faculty advisors enjoyed the festive atmosphere while packing nearly 200 shoeboxes that were distributed internationally through the Samaritan's Purse organization.

GRANDPARENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL

It was tough to tell which generation had the most fun when middle and upper school students welcomed their grandparents to the Upper Campus on October 19. Grandparents enjoyed a special program and lunch and optional campus tours. This year's Grandparents Day was part of the 2017 Homecoming festivities; grandparents enjoyed cheering on their grandchildren in the many athletic contests scheduled throughout the weekend.



Corrine Creeden and grandparents



Hannah, Mary and James Schaefer with grandmother

LOWER SCHOOL STUDENTS DONATE OVER 200 CHRISTMAS GIFTS

DC lower school students provided over 200 Christmas gifts for children participating in Philadelphia based bible clubs. This long standing DC service project supports the work of Bible Club Ministries who minister in several Philadelphia neighborhoods. Each DC student is given the name of a child they can pray for and encourage with a small Christmas gift. The service project is a highly anticipated event in the Lower School every year and is a tangible way for students to experience the joy in giving and serving others.



WEST CHESTER CHRISTMAS

DC enjoyed participating in the 2017 West Chester Christmas Parade and festivities. Sponsored by QVC and the West Chester Chamber of Commerce, this event brings between 30,000 and 40,000 people to West Chester Borough each year. The Knight Tones Select Choir performed Christmas choral music at the Wells Fargo Bank and DC hosted a free photo booth in the Holiday Village.

Following their performance the Knight Tones dropped by DC's photo booth for some holiday fun.



THE SCHOOL THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Members of this year's eighth grade, sophomore, and junior class are participating in monthly guys and girls bible studies organized by their parents. It's been encouraging to see the class-bonding that's taking place as the students enjoy food, fellowship, and time together in God's word. Several grade level parents are organizing parent prayer times in addition to the standing Moms in Prayers groups that meet weekly on both the Lower and Upper Campuses. Strengthening DC Dads, a fellowship for current and alumni fathers, takes place monthly.



DC HI-Q SEASON IN FULL SWING

DC's HI-Q team fell just shy of posting a perfect regular-season record as the result of a tightly contested encounter on Tuesday, February 5, versus host Penncrest and the 2017 National Champion squad from Haverford High School. Despite leading Haverford and the hosts at halftime, 33-32- 19, the Knights could not hold the lead, yielding it to the Fords early in the second half. In the end, DC still managed to put up an impressive 49 points, just three points behind Haverford but five points ahead of the Lions. Final score: Haverford, 52; DC, 49; Penncrest, 44. The team scored 56 points in their January 12 meet defeating host Upper Darby High School and Cardinal O'Hara High School, who scored 42 points and 8 points respectively. The team also won their season opener with a dramatic come from behind victory to beat Marple Newtown and Ridley before an enthusiastic home crowd.

As of press time, DC was third among the twenty-one Delaware County based teams participating in this year's H-Q program, giving the team a home match advantage in the first round of play-offs. Members of this year's Hi-Q team include (Front Row L-R:) Abby Chung, Hannah Master, John Cai, Daniel Woodruff. (Back Row L-R) Mr. Thom Houghton - Faculty Advisor, Rachel Yeung, Danielle Strafford -Captain, Caleb Chung, and AJ Gerrow.



CLASS OF 2018 RECEIVES EARLY DECISION COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES



DC's comprehensive, four year college and career counseling program and college preparatory curriculum has a proven track record. With this year's college acceptance season now underway, over ten percent of the Class of 2018 received Early Decision acceptances at their top college choice.

Early Decision/Action acceptances for the 72 member senior class include Swarthmore College (ED), Virginia Tech (ED-2), University of Pennsylvania (ED), NYU (ED), Wheaton College (ED-3), and Georgetown University (EA). Typically, over 98% of DC graduates matriculate to a wide variety of four

year colleges and universities. With a long term focus that goes beyond assistance with the college selection and application process, DC's college and career counselors encourage and foster a commitment to a wise and faithful life of career stewardship.

THE TECH-WISE FAMILY WITH ANDY CROUCH



DC welcomed author Andy Crouch to campus on Thursday, January 25. Andy hosted a seminar based on his latest book, *The Tech Wise Family*. Parents and students who attended were encouraged to make conscientious choices about technology usages that go beyond internet filters and screen time limits. Instead, families learned developing wisdom, character, and courage is key to successfully managing digital media rather than accepting technology's promises of ease and instant gratification.

DISCOVERING THE WONDERS OF WATER

Lower school students were riding a wave of excitement at their January 11 "Wonders of Water" science assembly. Pre-K through fifth grade students learned the importance of clean water, conservation, and even the role the Darby Creek, which runs through the Lower Campus, plays in the larger Brandywine watershed. The Wonders of Water assembly is just one of many special learning opportunities for lower school students this year. Lower School Head Joy Ludwig explains "These learning opportunities help students gain a greater understanding of the awe-inspiring characteristics of God as they study and steward His creation. By learning about the importance of clean water, and the Darby Creek, students can connect what they are learning in school with a local body of water they see every day."



(L-R) Rebecca Morgan, Lucy DeVault, McKenzie Chichester

SEVENTH GRADE DEMONSTRATES COMPOSTING SKILLS

Learning to be good stewards of God's created world, seventh grade students created compost containers this fall to determine which factors make compost break down faster.



Kaitlyn Pulliam, Candace Wang





Fifth grade boys "Around Campus": (L-R) Beau Lyren, Jackson Barton, Nathan DeWall, Joshua Yuen, Matthew Levis, C.J. Thompson, David Korchevsky, T.J. Walker (hiding), Nate Pearson, Porter Roberts.



FAITHFUL DC LEGEND

DC's Facebook post captioned "TBT - from the archives ... name this long term DC employee" reached over 3,000 people. We think the #faithful and #dclgend hashtags included with this picture of Peter Keelan are spot on!



UPPER SCHOOL PREVIEW NIGHT

It's not too early for our eighth grade class to start preparing for the next step! The November Upper School Preview Night was a great start for students and parents alike. A panel of student ambassadors along with Doc, Mr. Joel Gaines, and Ms. Brook Pauley did a great job answering questions and explaining how to best prepare for ninth grade at DC and beyond.

FRESHMAN LAUNCH

Members of the The Class of 2021 took time for a selfie with Mr. Hoch before leaving for their Freshman Launch at Caledonia State Park in August. This trip fostered friendships and class unity prior to the start of the new school year.



Janae Johns

STUDENTS MARK MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE

To commemorate Martin Luther King's birthday, Upper School students recently participated in a day of service organized by St. Paul's Baptist Church in West Chester, PA. With over 500 volunteers in total, DC was the largest student group represented at the event. Students enjoyed visiting residents at Brandywine Hall Nursing Home and packing meals for Rise Against Hunger. A number of students also helped with maintenance and clerical tasks at The Arc of Chester County, a leading provider of services to people with developmental and cognitive disabilities and their families.



(L-R) Tylan Thornton, Dante Felice, Rick Lee, Nigel Ray



Jason Motley



FOCUS ON **ATHLETICS**



Merritt Campbell, Jillian Orlandini, Ryan Schaafsma, Brendan Tuttle, Charlie Schaefer, Abby Chung, Braedyn Thompson

Hannah Metricarti, Katie Powala, Kaelyn Cooper, David Miller, Luke Gutowski, Daniel Deger, Dante Felice, Jalen Mitchell

**FALL
ATHLETIC
AWARDS**

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Charlie Schaefer: MVR
Ryan Schaafsma: Coach's Award

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Kaelyn Cooper: MVR
Katie Powala: Coach's Award

GIRLS TENNIS

Cela Clark: MVP
Daphne Neal: Coach's Award

CHEER

Hannah Metricarti: Coach's Award
Tianti Good: Most Valuable Cheerleader

VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY

Merritt Campbell: Coach's Award
Elizabeth Eppright: Defensive MVP
Jillian Orlandini: Offensive MVP

GOLF

Grant Kempf: Coach's Award
David Miller: MVP

JV FIELD HOCKEY AWARDS

Mikayla Schuster: Coach's Award
Abigail Chung: Most Improved Player

GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

Alison Levis & Carly Moore: Coach's Awards
Braedyn Thompson: Defensive MVP
Tori McManus: Offensive MVP

**FALL
BAL
AWARDS**

VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

Dante Felice & Timothy Fitzgerald: Coach's Award
Daniel Deger: Offensive MVP
Brody Veleber: Defensive MVP

JV SOCCER

Brendan Tuttle: Coach's Award
Josiah Bronkema: Most Improved

BOYS SOCCER

1st Team: Brody Veleber & Daniel Deger
HM: Tim Fitzgerald & Micah Metricarti

GIRLS SOCCER

1st team: Victoria McManus
HM: Madison Vavala

CROSS COUNTRY

1st team: Charlie Schaefer

FIELD HOCKEY

1st Team: Rachel Yeung
2nd Team Jillian Orlandini
HM: Emily Carroll & Ele Eppright

GOLF

2nd team: David Miller

FOCUS ON ATHLETICS

FIELD HOCKEY

Head Coaches Emily Ashworth and Joel Schuster led this year's field hockey team through a rebuilding season. The girls grew together and showed much improvement as the season progressed. Despite some tough losses early on, the girls continued to battle through with perseverance and grit. Sophomore goal keeper Rachel Yeung was named First Team All BAL. Senior Jillian Orlandini received Second Team All BAL honors. Seniors Emily Carroll and Ele Eppright received All BAL Honorable Mention.



Linda Hansen, Merritt Campbell, Jillian Orlandini



Brody Veleber

BOYS SOCCER

Head Coach Rob Atkins and the members of the boys varsity soccer team went 11-8-2 on the season and 9-6 in conference play. This team exhibited tenacity and determination on the field and were rewarded with big wins over New Hope Solebury, Lower Moreland, and Devon Prep. Their season ended in a tough game against Church Farm School in the first round of district play. Seniors Brody Veleber and Dano Deger were named First Team All BAL. Senior Tim Fitzgerald and sophomore Micah Metricarti received Second Team All BAL honors.



Ryan Schaafsma, Charlie Schaefer, Coach "Doc" McFarland



Kaelyn Cooper, Hellen Sun, Ginny Johnson, Katie Powala, Hannah Schaefer, Abby Simbiri

CROSS COUNTRY

George McFarland and Tim Sanville coached this year's twenty member cross country team, the largest in DC's history. The girls and boys teams both finished sixth in the BAL. Senior Charlie Schaefer qualified for states; he is the only cross country runner in DC history to compete two or more times at this level. Charlie also received First Team BAL honors.



GIRLS SOCCER

The varsity girls soccer team was led by six seniors, all of whom were key contributors on and off the field. Senior mid-fielder Tori McManus was named First Team All BAL and freshman Madison Vavala earned Second Team All BAL honors. An exciting 4-3 win over league rival TCA was a highlight of the season.



Jialing Jiang, Linda Ma, Cela Clarke, Coach Hughes, Coach Harkin, Caitlin Harvey, Samantha Schoenlank, Rachel Phillips

GIRLS TENNIS

The girls tennis team exhibited great team unity again this year. With a tradition of annual team retreats and dedicated service initiatives, this program is known for its strong team culture. Head Coaches Olivia Hughes and Dawn Harkins create an atmosphere that encourages both physical and spiritual growth. Key victories for this year's team included wins over Penn Wood and Plumstead Christian. Four players competed in the BAL doubles tournament and two players competed in the BAL singles tournament.



ALL DELCO

2nd Team: Linebacker, Luke Gutowski
 HM: Running Back, Jalen Mitchell
 HM: Offensive Line, Tyler VanEerden

EASTERN PA FOOTBALL

HM: Linebacker, Luke Gutowski

PA FOOTBALL NEWS ALL STATE

2nd Team: Linebacker, Luke Gutowski
 2nd Team: Offensive Line, Tyler Smith

Luke Gutowski

FOOTBALL - BAL AWARDS

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR:
 Luke Gutowski

OFFENSE:

1st Team: Tight End,
 Nigel Ray, Junior

1st Team: Offensive Tackle,
 Tyler Smith, Senior

1st Team: Running Back,
 Jalen Mitchell, Senior

2nd Team: Quarterback,
 Luke Gutowski, Senior

2nd Team: Offensive Guard,
 Tyler VanEerden, Senior

HM: Running Back,
 Jared Nesbitt, Sophomore

DEFENSE:

1st Team: Linebacker,
 Luke Gutowski, Senior

2nd Team: Defensive End,
 Nigel Ray, Junior

2nd Team: Defensive Tackle,
 Obinna Nwobodo, Junior

2nd Team: Linebacker,
 Jalen Mitchell, Senior

2nd Team: Kicker,
 Jacob Bronkema, Junior

HM: Defensive Tackle,
 Tyler VanEerden, Senior

HM: Defensive End,
 Abby East, Sophomore



Coach Drew Pearson

GOLF

This year's varsity golf team included nine players coached by school parent Tom Corcimiglia. Tom brings a tremendous amount of golf knowledge to the team and creates a fun, but competitive team environment. Key victories this year included wins over Jenkintown, Glen Mills, and Sun Valley. Junior David Miller was a strong contributor on the team. He advanced to districts and earned Second Team All BAL honors.

FOOTBALL – DISTRICT 1-A CHAMPS

Coming off a slow start to the season, the varsity football team finished with a 6-6 overall record and went 3-3 in league competition. Peaking later in the season proved to boost the team, who fought their way to the PIAA District 1-A final where they defeated rival Jenkintown 46-36. Coaching staff Drew Pearson, Chad Fenley, Lloyd Hill, and Chip Ridewood continue to build a strong team culture. Seniors Luke Gutowski and Tyler Smith received second team all-state honors by the PA Football News Association, with a number of other key contributors recognized with All BAL, All Delco, and Eastern PA Football honors.



Golfer David Miller, Coach Tom Corcimiglia

CHEER

DC's cheer team had a great season supporting our fall athletes. First year coach Megan Udinski led her squad through a focused and intentional pre-season that included more emphasis on physical training and team building activities. Team members point to Megan's leadership as a key factor in the positive team culture and deep relationships they developed over their season. This translated into the team demonstrating wonderful school spirit and improved technical skills.



Autumn Rochester-Chasten

ANNUAL DC 5K AND 1 MILE WALK/RUN

Thank you to the 125 plus DC 5K participants and volunteers who braved the cold temperatures on November 11 to raise just over \$3,000 for DC Athletics. Despite the chilly weather, all enjoyed the friendly competition and the warm food and beverages provided by the Friends of the Arts after the race. Finally, a very special thank you to the corporate sponsors for this year's DC 5K: Diversified Search, Tanis Painting, New Direction Partners, and Beatty Lumber.



53rd INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT THE TRADITION CONTINUES

The varsity boys and girls basketball teams kicked off their seasons on Friday, December 8 as DC hosted its 53rd Invitational Tournament. This event continues as the longest running Christian school tournament in the country. In addition to DC, participating schools this year included Atlantic Christian (Egg Harbor Township, NJ), Christian Heritage School (Trumbull, CT), and The Christian Academy (Brookhaven, PA).

Congratulations to the varsity boys and girls basketball teams on their first and second place finishes in this year's tournament. A total of four DC players were named to the all-tournament team: Monica Lebaudy, Shirley Piotrowski, Tyler Penley and Tyler Smith, who was named the Boys Tournament MVP.



SENIOR CHARLIE SCHAEFER RETURNS TO STATE XC MEET

For the second year in a row, senior Charlie Schaefer qualified for Pennsylvania Cross Country State Meet held each November in Hershey, PA. He advanced to states after finishing sixth among 100 plus runners in District 1-A competition at Lehigh University on October 27, finishing the 5,000 meter course in 17:35.

Charlie is the fourth male runner from DC to advance to states, along with two girls, since DC's track and cross country program began in 1981. He is the only DC student to compete in the state meet twice. The captain of this year's team, Charlie ran over 500 miles last summer to prepare for his senior season.

NEW LOOK FOR THE DC KNIGHTS

To reflect its long-standing tradition of athletic excellence and commitment to developing Christ-like character through the pursuit of competitive greatness, DC's Athletic Department recently updated its DC Knights athletic logos to provide a stronger and clearer presence in both the DC and larger communities. The new logos are used across a variety of applications including athletic uniforms, school spirit-wear, and all school, league, and PIAA marketing and promotional efforts. As a result, the school's athletic program and its athletes will benefit from an updated identity and greater brand consistency. The new logos were received with great enthusiasm by our student athletes who are sporting the images on new team gear.

For the fans, the Athletic Department is partnering with vendor BSN and their Sideline Store to offer a full line of DC spirit wear. Order your new DC gear through the Sideline store link found on DC's homepage, dcs.org.



On the road with Hoch...

Ron Hoch, Director of Student Life and Alumni Coordinator

One of my greatest joys as Alumni Coordinator is spending time with former students. This is now my eleventh year at DC, and much of that time was spent in the classroom. With former students spread around the world who are engaged in various vocations and at different stages of life, it is truly a blessing to catch up with these alumni and hear what the Lord is doing in their lives.



Every fall I host "Study Breaks" for DC graduates at a number of college campuses. This is a unique opportunity to connect with former students, to remind them they are loved by the DC community, and to discuss the highs and lows they have experienced in college. This past November I connected with twenty-three alumni on eight different college campuses. I am happy to report that the vast majority of these young men and women are walking with the Lord, even on college campuses that make that difficult to do so. Many of them are engaged in serving their neighbors with acts of compassion and kindness. Each and every one of them is learning a lot - about the world and about themselves.

Here are some highlights from my journeys this fall...

At Messiah College, I connected briefly with an alumnus who was celebrating his birthday that very day. He had not received the message that I was going to be on campus, so he was surprised to see me. I could tell it meant a lot to him to get a birthday greeting from a familiar face. He was excited to tell me he was nearing the end of his teacher education program and was looking forward to stepping into the classroom soon. It made this teacher very proud to see his enthusiasm for teaching.

I caught up with an alumna at Drexel University who is pursuing a degree in the music industry. She is actively involved in the Philadelphia music scene—organizing shows and hosting a weekly radio program on 91.7 WKDU. She is also a resident assistant and it was encouraging to hear about her love for the students in her dorm.

Several alums joined me for coffee and donuts at the University of Pittsburgh. One alumna there is majoring in biology and international studies with a concentration in global health. She is currently co-president of a student led organization called FORGE "Facilitating Opportunities for Refugee Growth and Empowerment." In this capacity, she is leading a steering committee comprised of refugees in order to foster more input and ownership from the population they are serving. She also started attending a Qur'an study so that she can begin developing relationships with Muslims in the community with an eye toward sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them.

I also met with a couple of alums who are struggling with homesickness, difficult school environments, and questions about their future. In these cases, I had the privilege of being a much needed sounding board. I listened carefully, I offered what insight I could, and I prayed for them. This, too, is a vital part of the college study breaks. While it is incredibly encouraging to hear the ways that our alumni are thriving, it is such an honor to walk with alumni (and former students of mine) through trying times. I am happy to remind them of the foundation that was laid at DC and to point them to Christ in their time of need. I can think of few things more worthwhile.

I look forward to building on the momentum that is gaining with Study Breaks by adding even more colleges to the mix in the year ahead. Keep an eye out for more information on future Study Breaks, and spread the word to your friends and family.

I'll see you around! —Ron

'71

Rodney Harris '71 entered the loving presence of the Lord Jesus Christ on June 21, 2017 after suffering a hemorrhagic stroke. Rodney was born on March 4, 1953 in Bryn Mawr, PA to the late Bob and Jane Harris. He was a master cabinetmaker and craftsman of wood, metal, and ceramic. In recent years he created lathe-turned bowls. He was an avid gardener and is remembered by many for his wonderful sense of humor. He was a loving husband and father and is survived by his wife Judy, sons Jeremy and Nathan, and daughter Michelle. Condolences may be sent to: The Harris Family, 245 700 Road, New Oxford, PA 17350



Rodney Harris

UPCOMING RENUNIONS

THE CLASS OF 1968 will hold their **50TH REUNION** on June 1-2, 2018. A committee has been formed to plan the festivities and work is currently under way to determine the details. Please email Donna Cline Reams (dreams@brmemc.net) for more info.

THE CLASS OF 2008 will hold their **10 YEAR REUNION** on May 26th, 2018. Jake Godino is working with the alumni office to formalize the details. Please contact Jake (jgodino@dccs.org) if you have any questions or would like to help plan the event.

'95

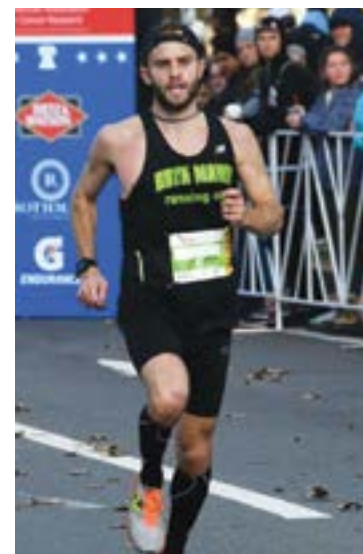
Amanda Stier Ponzar '95 and her husband live in Alexandria, VA with their two sons. Amanda recently became the Chief Marketing Officer for Community Health Charities, the second largest workplace federation in the U.S. that is focused on raising awareness and resources for health and wellness. Amanda holds a bachelor degree from Penn State, a master's degree from Webster University, and completed an Executive Education in Corporate Social Responsibility at Harvard Business School.



Amanda Ponzar

'02

Zach Miller '02 is an underwriter at USLI, an insurance carrier in Wayne. He ran cross country and track at Widener University from 2002-2007. Zach recently ran the Philadelphia Marathon, placing 22nd overall with a time of 2:33.



Zach Miller

'07

Natalie Habbershon Holmes '07, **Abbey Ellsworth Leaman '07**, and **Samantha Freeman McGuire '07** gathered together in November 2017 to celebrate the birth of their daughters: Maeve Holmes (May, 2017), Olivia Leaman (July, 2017), and Violet McGuire (April, 2017). Also joining in the celebration were their husbands: **Josh Holmes '03**, **Ben Leaman '07**, and **Josh McGuire '04**.



Holmes / Leaman / McGuire Babies

'10

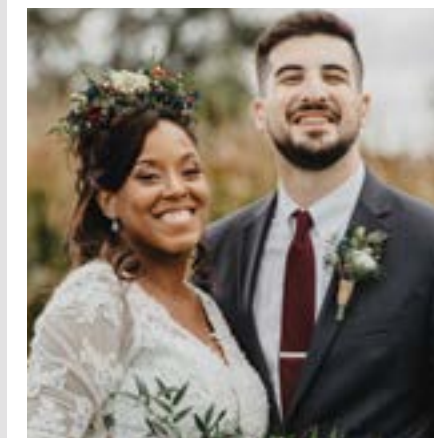
Victoria Morra Deyton '10 is pleased to announce the birth of her first child, Lydia Evangeline, born on October 3, 2017. Victoria works at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and lives in Pittsburgh, PA with her husband Jonathan.



Morra / Dayton Baby

'11

Caleb Olshefsky '11 was married on September 30, 2017 in Fleetwood, PA. He met his wife, Kaylah, through DiscipleMakers Christian Fellowship while attending Kutztown University. Caleb and Kaylah now work at DiscipleMakers headquarters in State College, PA. They would appreciate everyone's prayers as they begin raising support for their work with this ministry.



Olshefsky Wedding

Bob Hegman '11 and **Emily Burns '11** were married on October 29, 2017 in Lancaster, PA, at The Farm at Eagles Ridge. The happy couple now reside in Mount Joy, PA. **Becca Hegman '15** and **Kelsey Rhodes '11** served as bridesmaids.



Hegman / Burns Wedding

'12

Sam MacArthur '12 married Doug Smith on August 6, 2017 at Brandywine Manor House in Honeybrook, PA. The two met at a West Chester University Cru Bible study during their freshman year of college. Sam is currently working as an ER nurse at Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware.



McArthur Wedding

'15

Yangzi Jiang '15 is studying abroad this semester at The University of Cambridge's Pembroke College through an exchange program offered through Davidson College. Yangzi is in his junior year at Davidson where he is double majoring in economics and computer programming.



Yangzi Jiang at Cambridge

Katherine Nichols '15 is currently enrolled as an associate member of Keble College at the University of Oxford through an exchange program organized by the University of Georgia. During this term abroad she will complete her international affairs degree with tutorials taught by Oxford dons focused on international conflict, British politics, and comparative healthcare systems. In the fall she will return to the University of Georgia to complete her secondary focuses in Disaster Management, German, and Arabic.



Katherine Nichols at Oxford

Class of 1977 Reunion

The Class of 1977 celebrated their 40th class reunion on October 20-21, 2017 during Homecoming Weekend. Class members enjoyed participating in the Homecoming festivities and connecting with the broader DC community. On Friday evening, the class hosted a social and invited the graduating classes from 1972-1982 to join them. The gathering was packed and a great time was had by all. On Saturday, class members attended the Homecoming games and then enjoyed a formal dinner held in Lowrie Hall. Joining the class for dinner that evening were a number of former teachers including: Bud Gray, Steve Dill, Crystal Schwartz McFarland, Alex Szucs, Bill Calderwood, and Mary Ellen Bough Briscoe. Classmates enjoyed singing together, swapping stories, and expressing their gratitude for their teachers. It was a wonderful and uplifting evening for everyone. Many thanks to reunion organizers Dawn Specht, Dean Specht, Sara Gray Ashworth, Linda Lownes Hytha, and Mary Ball Diller.



'13

Julia Perez '13 is excited to announce her engagement to Dan Madison, whom she met at Cru at West Chester University. Julia and Dan started dating two and a half years ago and are overjoyed to begin the adventure of marriage together. They look forward to seeing where the Lord will lead them and desire to serve Him through their marriage.



Perez Engagement



Hegman and students

Becca Hegman '15 spent three weeks in Malang, and Bali, Indonesia as part of Messiah College's 2018 January Term. She taught English to children in twelve different schools (Muslim, Balinese and ACSI). Trip destinations included an orphanage, an Indonesian church, and Mahasaraswati University.



Barr / Daniel work in Haiti

Jackie Barr '15 and **Nathan Daniel '16** traveled to Haiti this past summer where they learned more about the ministry of Kelly Crowdis who works with Christian Veterinary Mission. Kelly is currently building a house out of used plastic bottles to teach people how to recycle in a new way. Jackie and Nathan helped with the construction while in Haiti and are now helping Kelly to finish this project through a GoFundMe campaign. Jackie and Nathan are both students at Messiah College.



Back Row, L-R: Jay Mancini, Carol Webb Benge, Marilyn Martin Darity, Wilma Alessi Anders, Bill Pennington, George Cochran, Mr. David Boorse, Russell Kent, Jim Winters. Seated, L-R: Ruth Ann Hofmann Anderson, Mary Evelyn Stott Magner, Lucy Bartkow Malmberg, Jim Shade, JK Williams.

Class of 1967 Reunion

The Class of 1967 celebrated their 50th reunion on June 23-24, 2017. The celebration began with a meet and greet on Friday evening to help everyone get reacquainted. On Saturday, the group toured the Upper Campus with Director of Enrollment and Marketing, Joel Schuster '96. While on the tour they met with Dr. Tim Wiens (former Head of School) in the Great Hall and presented DC with a financial gift in honor of their 50th reunion. The class then sang two songs together before continuing their tour. Class members enjoyed a formal dinner on Saturday evening at The Concordville Inn. While enjoying superb food, they enjoyed even greater fellowship. Class members were given an opportunity to share how their classmates and teachers had impacted their lives. The class was joined with former teachers David Boorse, Bud Gray, Alex Szucs, and Jim DeVries. Many thanks to the volunteers that planned this reunion: JK Williams, Lucy Bartkow Malmberg, Bill Pennington, Ruth Ann Hoffman Anderson, and Marilyn Martin Darity.



HOMECOMING



Food Trucks were a huge success



A beautiful weekend for football



The Lower School joined in the fun at the pep rally

2017 HOMECOMING

Members of the DC community past and present gathered to show their school spirit at our 2017 Homecoming Celebration. With a full line-up of exciting activities including the all school pep rally, athletic contests, alumni gatherings, food trucks, and powderpuff football under the lights, this homecoming was our best yet!



Friends and classmates reconnect during Alumni events



The DC Knight stirs up school spirit at the Pep Rally



Powder Puff Football



Nellie Paulson 6th grade, cheers on the Varsity soccer game

The Margaret and Stephen Dill Psalm 78 Alumni Scholarship

2018 RECIPIENT:
Shannon (Angelos) '02 & Mark Schreiber



In examining the landscape of educational options for our three children, we were reminded that our foremost responsibility as parents is to help our children know Christ. Our decision to enroll our children at DC this past fall has been confirmed to us many times. We are excited their time in the classroom actively engages their faith. A DC education reinforces our desire for them to experience Christ in all of their life and learning, not just a segment or portion of what they experience. Our prayer is that through the solid foundation of Christian education, we are equipping our children, even at a young age, to be prepared to engage the world in godly ways.

One of the delights of the DC experience has been to see our children's prayer lives blossom. Not only do they have a sense of excitement and urgency to pray for their teachers and classmates, but also for global topics they have engaged with in their learning. Prayers have been offered up for victims of natural disasters, the homeless, and children who don't have Bibles.

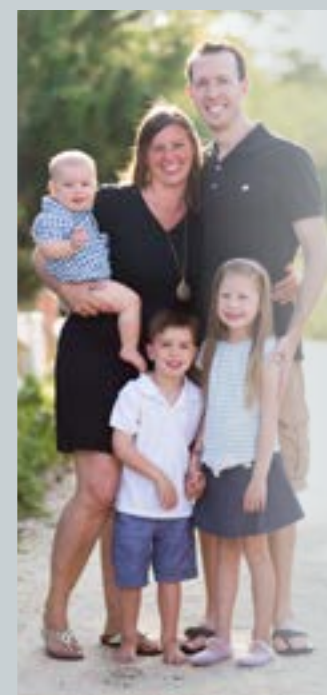
In the few months our children have attended DC, our family has appreciated the open and welcoming embrace of the DC community, faculty, and parents. This warm welcome has allowed our children to thrive during our family's transition from life in Washington, DC. Opportunities to be involved in the classroom, attend chapel, and see the tangible benefits of the lower school's outdoor learning initiative - from planting sunflower seeds to building snowmen - makes DC feel like home already.

We are so grateful for God's provision in leading us to DC and are pleased to be a part of this community.

2018 RECIPIENT:
Nikki (Pullia) '00 and Jeff DeVault '00

After moving to West Chester in 2007, we always told ourselves that we would send our children to public school. Our school district had a great reputation and the task of affording private education always seemed impossible to us. So, the decision appeared to be clear, and for nearly a decade, we did not give DC any consideration. It was not until Nikki came home from registering Lucy for Kindergarten at our local public school that there was some doubt. She felt unsettled about the public school decision; clearly, the Spirit was at work.

Around the same time, we heard Tedd Tripp speak about his book, *Shepherding a Child's Heart*. In his talk, Tripp described the way a child's words and actions flow from the heart (Luke 6:45). Upon reflecting on the immense investment of shepherding our children's hearts, we wanted to ensure that their school would be working alongside us with consistent Christ-centered values. After attending a tour of DC and speaking to the staff, we had no doubt in our minds we wanted



DC for our children. We recalled the godly role models we had as students at DC as well as the Christian friendships we had (and still have today).

DC played a key role in forming the foundation of our faith, and we want the same for our children. In the end, the decision was clear, and we are so happy we made it!

Psalm 78: 4-7

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord... He commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God....

The Margaret and Stephen Dill Psalm 78 Alumni Scholarship was established in 2013 to honor the Dills' 40 years of dedicated service to Delaware County Christian School. Steve and Marge committed their lives to telling the next generation of the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. Passing the baton of faith defined their mission as Christian educators. Keeping such a mission in view, this scholarship will honor their legacy by awarding tuition funds to the children of DC alumni.

ALUMNI – CONTINUE YOUR DC LEGACY!

CONSIDER ENROLLING YOUR CHILDREN FOR THE 2018-19 ACADEMIC YEAR.

"We understand offering a Christian education comes at a significant sacrifice and cost. Our aim is to make a DC education as accessible as possible. That commitment is even stronger when we consider welcoming the students of alumni into the DC family."

To support your family, we will be waiving the enrollment fee for children of alumni who apply for the 2018-19 academic year and we commit to help your family based on your individual financial profile.

Please call DC's Admissions Office at 610.353.6522x2285 to schedule a personal tour of our campuses. Come see why a DC education is an investment that will influence the course of your child's entire life."

DR. GEORGE MCFARLAND, INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING
DISCOVERY DAY

LOWER SCHOOL: TUESDAY, APRIL 10th 9am-11am
UPPER SCHOOL: THURSDAY, APRIL 12th 9am-11am

YOUR GIFT AFFIRMS OUR MISSION,
HONORS YOUR OWN UNIQUE

DC *Story*

AND IMPACTS CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION.

EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Your contribution to The Annual Fund enables our story to continue and supports the faculty and programs at DC. Stay tuned for details on how you can participate and make a difference as we rally together to be a community of giving.

RALLY FOR PARENT PARTICIPATION

MARCH 1-13

ALUMNI GIVE DAY - MARCH 20

THE *Annual* FUND

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Saturday, April 7

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2018 DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Annual Fund Dinner & Auction

Saturday, April 7



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LIVING & LEAVING A

LEGACY

HONORING ATHALIA MCDONALD

Athalia B. McDonald was born on June 24, 1916 in Philadelphia, PA where she attended Germantown Friends School. After graduating from Vassar College, she married Dr. P. Robb McDonald in 1940. As a young housewife, Athalia entered numerous essay contests sponsored by The Philadelphia Inquirer, and in June, 1941 won a grand prize of \$10,000. Following her brother's advice, she invested her winnings in the stock market. Earnings from those investments would later provide support for a number of different missionaries and ministries – including Delaware County Christian School.

Over the next twenty years, Athalia raised four active boys. In the early 1960s her life changed dramatically when she and Robb divorced. During this difficult time she attended a Billy Graham Crusade with a dear friend. There she found her Savior, Jesus Christ, the one who would see her through the difficult challenges of life. It was then that she committed to a life time of supporting the Lord's work financially. Athalia and her children moved from Bala Cynwyd to Paoli where several friends were living. These friends had children enrolled at DC and they encouraged Athalia to send her youngest son Dave to DC as well. Dave entered as a second grader in 1962 and graduated in 1972.

Through the years, Athalia saw the impact of caring teachers on Dave's life as they taught God's Word and applied it to all of learning. God used the ministry of DC to build in both Athalia and Dave a commitment to Christian education. After graduating from Wheaton College and grad school, Dave returned to DC to teach - a career that spanned 39 years. Dave recalls his mother's heart for children and their spiritual needs. "She taught Good News Clubs in her neighborhood, was a faithful Sunday School teacher and maintained a deep commitment to the ministry of DC through the years."

Athalia included DC in her estate planning, designating a portion of her estate to DC's Financial Aid Endowment. Her gift and the gifts of others have enabled many wonderful students to attend DC over the years.



I am honored and blessed to write about my mother and her support of DC. She represents those who have gone before us who faithfully supported DC through their giving of time, prayer, and financial support. As a student, the ministry of the school changed my life as faithful and caring teachers provided a Christ-centered education. The ministry of DC also helped shape the lives of my daughters Rachel '00 and Sarah '02. My mother saw the blessing DC's ministry had on her family, and wanted to help make it possible for other families to



experience that same blessing. Her example has encouraged my wife Gwen and me to include DC in our own estate planning.

– Dave McDonald '72