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. The school serves 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.

KEYNOTER
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Rooted & Growing

Take a look back through our last seven decades and look forward to the future with the unveiling of the DC Promise and new Strategic Plan.

FOCUS ON THE ARTS

Lower school students “Meet the Masters.” Concerts, off-Broadway performances, art shows, and more.
“Unless the LORD builds the house, the laborers labor in vain.”
Dear DC Families and Friends,

It has been 70 years since DC opened its doors in 1950. This issue of the Keynoter celebrates seven decades of innovative and exemplary Christ-centered education with the theme of Rooted and Growing. Psalm 127 reminds us that DC is God’s ministry, a flourishing ministry He has cultivated over generations.

DC is rooted in Christ and in the remarkable story of God’s faithfulness. Along the way, He has used exceptional faculty and staff, parents, and students for His purposes. The growth from this root system is demonstrated in the thousands of stories of lives impacted and transformed as DC fulfills its mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action. Throughout the following pages of this magazine, the themes of impact, innovation, excellence, and rooted in Christ echo time and again.

As we step into 2020, our roots will nourish us as we grow in new directions. We confidently embrace the future as we commit to develop a bold and innovative plan to ensure the viability of DC’s mission as we move forward. Our mission to educate students who will impact the world is as strong as it has ever been. We will only change the manner in which we deliver on this mission, from a way that was applicable for a previous generation, to an approach that will be more effective today.

As we grow, three distinctives will serve as our anchors. DC will educate the whole student - academic, spiritual, physical, and social - preparing students to make a redemptive impact beyond the classroom. DC will provide a rigorous and comprehensive college preparatory education that equips students for 21st century challenges. As the world changes at an ever-increasing rate, DC will not waver in its commitment to teach the truths of God’s Word.

DC is well positioned to prepare our students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ. In 2020 and beyond, DC will be rooted and growing.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Daniel Steinfeld
Head of School

“Unless the LORD builds the house, the laborers labor in vain.”
Former Head of School, Dr. Steve Dill ’68 recounts milestones, challenges, and prayers answered during DC’s seven decade history. Steve completed forty years of service to DC in 2013 and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Association of Christian Schools International Education Foundation. He and his wife Marge ’70 are the parents of three DC graduates and grandparents to one graduate and six current students.
IN THE BEGINNING: THE 1950s

The group of parents who came together in 1949 to discuss the opening of a Christian school in Delaware County were viewed by many of their fellow believers as extreme. In post-war America, the Bible was still read in public schools, teachers were given some room to express their faith, and most schools began the day with prayer. Why sacrifice dollars, time, and energy to create a Christian school? But the couples who met in the home of Connie and Ellis Curley in Springfield believed there should be no dichotomy between what is taught at home, at church, and at school. While there was an appearance of Christianity in the public schools at that time, teachers were not free to teach the Bible, salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, or to integrate biblical truth throughout the formal curriculum. These parents felt the best education for their children should recognize spiritual truth, not just academic truth.

The first school year (1950) began in the basement of the Springfield Presbyterian Church with 4 teachers and 58 students in grades K-5. The school moved the following year to Grace Chapel in Havertown. Sheets hung from the ceiling separated the classrooms; when Roy Lowrie was hired as a classroom teacher in 1952, he also served as the school janitor to supplement his meager teacher salary. He was appointed Principal in 1954.

A significant event for DC in this decade was the purchase of the former estate of George Strawbridge, Jr. in Newtown Square. The mansion and eleven acre estate was purchased for $60,000. This was a tremendous sum for the small school community. A Christian realtor who handled the transaction helped supply the needed down payment to secure the property.

In June of 1958, the first graduating class of eight students celebrated an outdoor commencement in the formal garden that stood behind the mansion near the present site of the upper school building. Valedictorian Dan Hussar went on to become a nationally known professor of pharmacy and Dean of the Faculty at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. In later years, Dan served as the President of DC’s Board of Trustees for several terms.

The parents who sent their children to DC in the 1950’s were committed to the biblical mission of the school. Academic elective courses were very limited; interscholastic sports were just getting started. Facilities included a greenhouse turned into a science lab, and basketball was played outdoors in the parking lot. First time visitors to DC today see a very different campus than the pioneering parents of the 1950s.

1955 was an outstanding year for teacher recruitment. The “Faculty Fab Four” that came to DC that year all stayed on for 28 years or more: Bud Gray, Alex Szucs, Lucy Johnston, and Frank Roberts.

THROUGH THE DECADES 1950-2019

Faculty at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. In later years, Dan served as the President of DC’s Board of Trustees for several terms.

1955 was an outstanding year for teacher recruitment. The “Faculty Fab Four” that came to DC that year all stayed on for 28 years or more: Bud Gray, Alex Szucs, Lucy Johnston, and Frank Roberts.
During this decade, Roy Lowrie led DC through several groundbreaking initiatives. The Lord used Dr. Lowrie in many ways to establish strong foundations for the school. He believed no child should take an academic penalty to receive a Christian education, thus he pushed faculty and the board to seek accreditation from the Middle States Association – which was achieved in 1960. DC was the first Christian school in Pennsylvania to seek regional accreditation. Many other schools eventually followed this example. Dr. Lowrie also pushed hard to support DC teachers. Teacher salaries were quite low in those early years. Lucy Johnston traded her $6,200 annual public school salary in 1955 for a $2,600 annual salary from DC. So he pushed for a stronger benefit program – something unheard of in the Christian school world of the 1960s. The board established a retirement plan for faculty and staff in 1965. After Dr. Lowrie had paid his own way to complete his doctoral program at Temple University, he pushed the board to add payment of 75% of graduate school tuition for DC teachers who wanted to grow professionally through graduate work.

The Board of Trustees took a huge step of faith in 1964. After committing to the construction of the first gymnasium (now known affectionately as the upper gym), an adjacent property of 5 acres with a farmhouse and barn became available. It appeared to be an impossible task to find funding to make this purchase concurrently with the construction of the gym. Most of the board members pledged their own homes as collateral on the loan that was received to make the purchase.

The athletic program grew substantially when the school finally had locker rooms and a gymnasium. History teacher Roy Parmalee became the first DC basketball coach, and the success of his teams gave DC greater exposure in the area. In those days, the Delaware County Daily Times had extensive high school sports coverage, and after DC lost to the Marple-Newtown Tigers in 1967, the paper predicted in 1968 that “The Christians would be fed to the Tigers.” When a strong 1967-68 team (30-1) won the home game vs. Marple-Newtown, the paper came out and did a full page spread on this little school in Newtown Square.

The Supreme Court decision of 1963 that outlawed prayer in public schools resulted in enrollment growth at DC and for Christian schools throughout the country. By the late 1960s DC enrolled 320 students with waiting lists in most classes. Expansion would come during the next decade.
The DC Board of Trustees approved the construction of the school’s first new academic building in the early 1970s, and the current high school building opened in 1972. During difficult budget discussions, school leadership was determined to provide excellent facilities including a large library and multiple science labs.

As enrollment continued to grow, additional elementary facilities were needed. A dedicated elementary academic building (now the middle school) and lower gym were added in 1976. These construction projects were primarily funded through bank financing, which did create some difficulty in the operating budget of the school. In the late 1970’s, about 14% of the operating budget was needed to carry debt obligations. Increased classroom space provided for enrollment growth and by the end of the decade DC enrolled 700 students in grades K-12 on one campus. Classroom space was so tight, sections of the barn were converted into kindergarten classrooms. (Over the years the debt was retired, and currently less than 5% of the DC operating budget is used to carry remaining debt from the purchase and construction at the Lower Campus in 2009.)

Christian school enrollments nationwide grew dramatically in the 1970’s, as many churches decided to start Christian schools as a component of their overall church ministry. The bulk of the growth, however, was in white middle class suburban communities. DC followed a different path as committed African American Christian families enrolled at DC in the late 1970s. At the beginning of the decade, the minority student population at DC was about 1%. By 1980, minority students made up 11% of the student body.

DC was not exempt from leadership and personnel challenges in any decade. Dr. Lowrie kept a journal during the 1978-79 year, his 25th year as Headmaster, published in book form a year later. This personal journal captures the joys and the challenges of leadership. It included the pain of a faculty death at the end of the school year, as well as a related theological issue that led the board to remove one of its members. Highlights of school histories do not often mention some of the very difficult days – but there were many times when school leadership spent hours in prayer over very difficult matters.
TRANSITIONS IN LEADERSHIP & CONTINUED GROWTH: 

THE 1980s

In January of 1980, Dr. Lowrie announced that he would be leaving DC at the end of the school year to become the President of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). He had been influential in the founding of ACSI in 1978, and the Christian school movement was growing by leaps and bounds. Throughout the 1970s he traveled the country speaking to teacher conventions, Christian school boards, and meetings of Christian school associations. However, it was increasingly difficult to lead a school while doing so much for the national movement. The Board of Trustees did something they had never done before – enter into a search for a new head of school. The Lord clearly led the Board of Trustees, and Ken and Willie Tanis, in naming Ken as the next Headmaster.

The 1980s was also a decade of significant enrollment growth for DC and for Christian Schools across the country. It was estimated at the time that in the United States, two new Christian schools opened every day. At DC, this meant additional facilities were needed – and the campus was very crowded again with waiting lists.

God miraculously opened the door for DC to purchase the former Alice Grim Elementary School on Bishop Hollow Road in Newtown Square from the Marple Newtown School District. The District utilized a sealed bid process; when it came time for opening bids, DC was the only qualified offer. The 1983-84 school year became the first year for DC to operate on two different campuses, as grades K-5 moved to a dedicated elementary campus. The former elementary school building was changed into a middle school for grades 6-8. As there was now room for additional students in all grades, total school enrollment immediately rose from 725 to 800. This brought the beginning years of DC’s efforts to serve broader student academic needs with the start of the DC Discovery Center, enabling students with learning differences to be better served at DC.

The late 1980s also provided the first significant gift to DC to start an endowment fund. The original gift of $100,000 was to be used for innovative programs. Donor directions allowed the school to use $10,000 each year for those programs. Ten years later the school had utilized $100,000 but the strong stock market grew the original gift to $157,000. (This was the beginning of the DC endowment fund that has grown to exceed $6,000,000 this year, and Lord willing, if the current matching gift opportunity is met, could grow to $20,000,000 in a few years.) This was another special blessing to DC. Few Christian schools at that time, or even today, have been blessed with significant endowment funds.

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE: 
THE 1990s

The decade of the 1990s brought additional enrollment growth, faculty additions, and curricular and co-curricular growth. Several AP classes were added, DC joined the Delaware County Hi-Q competition, girls’ soccer was added, and additional facilities were built.

The early 1990s included a special $2,000,000 capital campaign entitled “The Challenge for Excellence.” This campaign included a special endowment fund to supplement faculty salaries, as well as funds to eliminate all property debt, and complete several facility upgrades at both campuses. In 1991 the mansion building was named Lowrie Hall. In 1994 the school completed the construction of “Lowrie Annex,” four classrooms including two art rooms, which was attached to Lowrie Hall. The end of the decade brought the largest campaign DC had ever attempted – an $8,000,000 goal to build the DeMoss Center for Worship and the Arts, a new track and athletic field, a bus loop, and additional parking. The Lord graciously provided for both of these campaigns and goals were exceeded.
A NEW CENTURY: 
THE 2000s

The DeMoss Center opened in 2001, providing exceptional facilities for the arts programs at DC, as well as an auditorium for chapel services, special programs, and concerts. When Ken Tanis completed his 22nd year as Headmaster in 2002, Steve Dill was appointed Head of School and Ken moved to take over the admissions function. During this decade, Ken led the development of the International Student Program, which has become an integral part of DC.

The high water mark for DC enrollment occurred in 2002-03, with over 1000 students enrolled. For several years the graduating classes exceeded 100 students. However, Christian school growth changed dramatically in this decade – both at DC and at Christian schools around the country, as home schooling, charter schools, and online options began to attract Christian families.

During this decade, the school continued to expand academic, athletic, and arts programs. Football and lacrosse were added, and AP courses increased to 12 different options. A middle school teacher named Dan Steinfield initiated a new summer program, originally known as Camp Teekna. Dan also became Director of Student Ministries and Outreach. Who knew then that he would return as DC’s Head of School in 2019?

In 2002 DC joined the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and became eligible for state play-offs. Multiple athletic teams have achieved district championships since then and several teams have moved on to the final eight or final four teams in the state. Several individuals in track and tennis have become state champions.

There were years of leadership discussions debating whether or not to invest millions of dollars in remodeling and upgrading the Elementary Campus, where some of the classrooms were originally built in 1925. Plans were made, but in 2008 the Lord brought an opportunity to negotiate the purchase of Episcopal Academy’s Waterloo Road Campus in Devon. This was another chapter in God’s miraculous provision for DC. The school launched a $24,000,000 capital campaign, which included funding to purchase and renovate the new campus, make major renovations in the upper school building, add to the endowment, and eliminate debt from prior construction projects. Although the final campaign tally came in at $22M, God provided all that was needed to expand the DC’s facilities once again, and the new “Lower Campus” housed DC’s Pre-K to 5th grade classes beginning in September of 2009.
The Lower Campus has proved to be a wonderful location for the education of DC’s lower school students. Initiatives have expanded our outdoor education, making the most of the beautiful 30 acre campus that contains fields, woods, a stream, and specimen plantings. DC Summer Programs are based on this campus, and a growing number of students from the community are being exposed to biblical truth each summer.

The decade that just ended did not bring major facility changes to the school, but there were significant leadership changes. Steve Dill left DC in 2013 to take a senior role with ACSI. Tim Wiens served as Head of School from 2013 through 2017, and veteran DC faculty member George McFarland served as Interim Head of School in 2018 through June 2019. Dan Steinfield returned to DC in 2019 and became DC’s fifth head of school.

The Christian school movement continued to grow in quality and maturity during this decade, but enrollment in Christian schools in the United States declined, as did enrollment at DC. Christian schools are growing rapidly in other parts of the world – in particular many countries in Africa, Latin America, India, and in China. The challenging enrollment landscape has not hindered DC’s desire to pursue excellence in all areas of education.

DC is blessed with exceptional faculty and staff members who make significant contributions to DC’s academic and co-curricular offerings. In addition to outdoor education, lower school students benefit from weekly STEM instruction. The institution of responsive classroom techniques has strengthened the learning landscape. The robotics, mock trial, and Hi-Q co-curricular teams are competing with significant success regionally and in the case of robotics, internationally. Teaching pedagogy continues to evolve to include increased opportunities for problem solving, collaboration, and service learning. Expanded college and career planning services coupled with an exemplary DC education are opening doors for graduates at top colleges and universities. Graduates are well prepared academically, grounded in a Christian world view, and stand ready to fulfill DC’s mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

“Ah, sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.”
– Jeremiah 32:17

The story of DC through the decades is one of God’s faithfulness to parents who desired to “bring their children up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:4 by enlisting the Christian school to assist them in that task.

The mission and doctrine of DC has been consistent through these seven decades; God has provided funds and facilities along with outstanding men and women of faith to serve on the faculty. The Lord is the one who has built the “DC House” and all of the parents, teachers, students, and board members have certainly not “laboried in vain.” Psalm 127:1.
What is the role of the DC Board of Trustees? Does it hire faculty and staff? Does it discipline students? Does it set curriculum? It might be surprising to learn that the Board of Trustees is not directly responsible for the daily decisions and management of the school. Instead, the Board plays a broader, supportive role in the life of DC.

“The Board is principally the keeper of the school’s mission and has been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that it is properly fulfilled,” said Chuck Berwick, President of the DC Board. “We do this by setting the broad strategic direction of the school, overseeing school finances, and hiring and evaluating the Head of School.”

The Board does not get directly involved in the day-to-day operations or executive decisions made by the Head of School and administration. Rather, the Board focuses on overseeing DC’s strategic priorities and giving feedback to the Head of School. It entrusts the execution of the mission to the Head who is responsible for operating the school within guidelines set by the Board.

Currently, the Board is made up of 15 men and women, all but one of whom are current DC parents. The Board meets monthly during the school year. Meetings begin with a devotional and cover a variety of topics, including updates on enrollment, finances, fundraising, and facilities. The Board looks for a variety of skills among its Trustees. “We want our board to reflect our diverse community in terms of both backgrounds and skills,” Mr. Berwick said. “We want people with financial expertise because there is a large budget to oversee. We want people with fundraising expertise because there is a growing endowment and annual fund goals to meet. Those with legal, investment, marketing, communications, and academic backgrounds also contribute well. But we also need those who embrace the challenges and privileges of raising boys and girls in light of the good news of God’s grace in the gospel.” For this reason, says Mr. Berwick, spiritual maturity is by far the number one requirement for serving on the Board. This helps to ensure that DC preserves its identity as a Christian school that increasingly fosters a biblical world-and-life view.

The Board is currently involved in a number of projects. A major priority this year is the development of a multi-year strategic plan. In partnership with Head of School Dan Steinfield and his leadership team, the Board has been seeking the input of parents, teachers, staff, alumni, and students on the future of the school and will present a multi-year plan this spring. “The strategic planning process is an exciting opportunity that energizes and focuses the DC community on the priorities that matter most for our future,” said Megan King, Vice President of the DC Board. “A key benefit of a strategic plan is that it provides a clear direction, produces measurable goals, and serves as a blueprint for guiding daily decisions within the school.”

Mr. Steinfield praised the support he has received from the Board in his first year as Head of School. “We are blessed to have 15 highly gifted and dedicated individuals on our Board, who generously volunteer their time, resources, and expertise,” he said. “It is clear that every one of our Trustees loves the Lord and cares deeply about DC. Their support and commitment have been an inspiration to me as Head of School.”

Learn more the Board’s role on the About DC top navigation menu on the school’s website, dccs.org.
ROOTED and Growing
The year 2020 will long be remembered as a pivotal time in DC’s history. Under the leadership of new Head of School Dan Steinfield, DC is set to embark on a new chapter. Remaining firmly rooted in Christ, we trust the Lord for new growth for a new decade and beyond.

Dan Steinfield’s appointment as DC’s Head of School came at a time when DC found itself standing at a crossroads. Being a mature Christian school brings present day challenges; to meet these challenges we must draw the best from our past history and we must also find a path forward. One of Dan’s top priorities in recent months has been to guide our community through a collaborative exercise to identify our school’s distinctives. These distinctives are the characteristics that best define and drive our mission. In turn, these distinctives will shape our future vision and the initiatives necessary for sustainability and growth.

Now five months into this important process, Dan reflects “We have worked collectively to listen, gather input, and discern a future vision for DC. This process has required much time and effort. I am deeply thankful for the many parents, students, alumni, faculty, and staff who have actively participated in this journey.”

The Board of Trustees and Administration are excited to share the resulting vision for Delaware County Christian School as we prepare students to fulfill our mission through this new decade and beyond.
THE DC PROMISE

BOLD VISION IS CAPTURED IN THE DC PROMISE

We prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.

1. DC will educate the whole student - academic, spiritual, physical, and social - preparing students to make a redemptive impact beyond the classroom.

2. DC will provide a rigorous and comprehensive college preparatory education that equips students for 21st century challenges.

3. As the world changes at an ever-increasing rate, DC is rooted, unwavering in its commitment to teach the truths of God's Word.

THE DC PROMISE...

- Articulates the school community’s espoused values
- Identifies what makes DC distinct from other educational opportunities
- Identifies for our families a value to be delivered, communicated, and acknowledged
- Identifies a belief by our families about how value will be delivered, experienced, and acquired
- Is "evergreen" - it demonstrates commitment to continuous improvement and innovation and is large enough to transcend the next 70 years of Christian education
- Captures multiple inputs gathered through our internal strategic planning process and by external inputs - including the latest Barna research on the future of Christian education and groundbreaking research from the Flourishing Schools Culture Instrument (ACSI 2019) of which DC was a founding partner

AS WE PREPARE FOR FUTURE GROWTH, THE THREE COMPONENTS OF THE DC PROMISE SERVE AS PILLARS WHICH CONNECT OUR MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES.
STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 1: EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

Innovation defined is creating, finding, and implementing new ideas that add value to the organization in the long-term. DC will create a culture of adaptability, continuous learning, and applied and innovative learning which inspires deeper learning, risk taking, and community engagement. All we do, teach and learn is rooted in Christ; we prepare students for the next level of education and for life. DC was an innovative leader in Christian education in past decades. Once again, we will lead in innovation.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 2: SUSTAINABILITY

This initiative will ensure DC’s mission continues into the future. Fulfillment of this initiative may mean our school looks very different from the past or today. DC will develop a long-term sustainability plan designed to cultivate a flourishing Christian school. The cultivation of multiple revenue sources will provide the financial resources to operate the ministry effectively and position it for future years. Strategic resource planning will include: increased faculty and staff salaries, resources and materials for teaching, capital funding for ongoing campus renewal, a strategic financial plan and master facilities plan, and board financial planning.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DC will cultivate a grace-filled community. By grace we are saved through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9), transformed by renewing our minds (Romans 12:2) to a wonderful will and work of God. By grace we are saved through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) and are forever found in the uncondemning love of God (Romans 8, 12:9-13).

DC will cultivate community engagement both internally and externally to the greater community.

DETAILS ON THESE INITIATIVES WILL BE FULLY UNVEILED IN MARCH 2020.

TRUSTING GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED PROVISION, WE BELIEVE FULFILLMENT OF THE DC PROMISE AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES WILL ENSURE DC IS WELL POSITIONED TO FULFILL ITS MISSION TO EDUCATE STUDENTS WHO WILL SERVE GOD AND IMPACT THE WORLD THROUGH BIBLICAL THOUGHT AND ACTION.
#PIEFORPANS

7th grader Kiley Schmitt springboards physical struggles to success in funding research for little known medical syndrome.

The “Pie for PANS” challenge raised $50K

For seventh grade student Kiley Schmitt and family, answered prayers came on February 6, 2019, the date she was diagnosed with PANS.

PANS is the acronym for Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome. According to the Stanford Medicine PANS Program, “the cause of PANS is unknown in most cases but is thought to be triggered by infections, metabolic disturbances, and other inflammatory reactions.” PANDAS, short for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections, is a subgroup of PANS and is believed to occur when strep triggers a misdirected immune response attacking the child’s brain. Children with PANS/PANDAS can experience a range in mental health symptoms including: anxiety, intrusive thoughts, rage, Sensory Processing Disorder, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder and more.

A number of nationally recognized healthcare institutions like A.I. Dupont/Nemours, Stanford, and Massachusetts General have doctors who research and treat PANS/PANDAS, but they are not universally accepted diagnoses and often not covered by insurance. The medical community has a difficult time acknowledging PANS due to its complexity in nature.

Every child’s experience is different and it presents as a psychological disorder when it is actually neurological. Kiley’s sensory issues began when she was two or three years old. The start of her sixth grade year brought more challenges that peaked in January after a bad cold. In the midst of this very difficult period, Kiley’s mom Dawn began an extensive search to find answers to what was causing Kiley’s condition. After round after round of visits and discussions with medical professionals, counselors, and online forums, the potential of a PANS diagnosis emerged. Dawn recounts “Although it was scary getting a diagnosis of something so controversial, it was a relief to know there were answers and help for her.”

In February 2019, Kiley’s new doctor prescribed a high dose, five day course of an anti-inflammatory drug along with an antibiotic, and Kiley quickly felt the difference. At that time, Dawn was working in DC’s Development Office as the Family Events Coordinator. Looking back she shares “There was not a better place I could have worked at the time of the height of Kiley’s symptoms. The prayers, grace, and support our family received is what helped keep us going. The middle school faculty, student support team, and my co-workers rallied around us and gave my family the support they needed in the middle of this crisis.
We didn’t know what we were dealing with or understand what was happening to our daughter. The DC family did not judge or question us, they just wanted to know how they could pray for us and help us. I was granted a leave of absence, sought answers, doctors, and support in the PANS community. One scripture verse that became a powerful anchor for the Schmitt family was 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV). "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me." Dawn shares "Our family has had to humble ourselves in this unknown journey of PANS, but how grateful we are to God that we have had the unconditional love and support of our DC family."

With Dawn’s encouragement, Kiley teamed up with another local family struggling with PANS last fall to launch a social media challenge which they aptly named #pieforPANS.

October 9 was PANS Awareness Day and the two families felt they needed to do something to spread awareness and raise money for ongoing research. Kiley said, "I wanted to do this so other kids don’t have to suffer like I did. So it doesn’t take so long for doctors to believe this is real so kids can get help."

The "Pie for PANS" challenge raised $50K in one month for the PANDAS Network which is dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of children with PANDAS and PANS. Although the challenge didn’t catch the attention of Ellen DeGeneres as the kids hoped, it did catch the attention of local media ABC news, and the families were featured in a news segment in November. The funds raised from their efforts are being funneled to Georgetown University to help underwrite research for tonsil adenoid immune marker analysis. Researchers there believe infected tonsil tissue can sometimes trigger inflammation in the brain. They hope to better identify children who would benefit from surgery, more targeted antibiotics, or immunotherapy.

Since her diagnosis and subsequent treatment, Kiley has experienced significant improvement and she is about 85-90% recovered. Dawn shares "watching Kiley shine her light and smile and her ability to just be a kid again is the biggest answered prayer." The Schmitt family, friends, and members of the school community continue to pray for her full healing.
The Arts

JURIED SHOWS RECOGNIZE DC STUDENT ARTISTS

Congratulations to sophomore Charlotte Clark, who was selected for The 9th Annual Malvern Art Show, held each year at The Malvern Retreat Center. Juried and chosen from among hundreds of applicants, Charlotte is showing four of her oil paintings. The show was held from January 29 through February 2 at The Malvern Retreat Center.

Congratulations to junior Tyler Toms and senior Emily Brown for placing first and fourth respectively in a recent juried art show sponsored by the Lansdowne Economic Development Corporation. The students’ winning entries were copper sculptures created in their “Found Objects Metal Sculpture” SAIL Class.
THE ARTS IN THE LOWER SCHOOL

MEET THE MASTERS

Music

In music, each grade has “adopted” a master composer. Students are learning biographical information about each composer and the city and area of the world from which the composer hails. Ms. Clark notes, “Students are beginning to be possessive over their grade’s composer!” Instruction includes listening to various pieces the composer’s wrote, and learning a song by that composer for their Grandparents’ Day concert. Ms. Clark chose the composer for each grade level based on literature already embedded in the students’ classroom curriculum.

1st Grade: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
2nd Grade: Ludwig van Beethoven
3rd Grade: George Frederick Handel
4th Grade: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
5th Grade: Felix Mendelssohn and African-American masters of the American Spiritual.

Art

Instruction in Carla Becker’s art room is focusing on master artists from the Middle Ages to artists of today. Students are learning about the fascinating and intriguing lives of the artists, how their art styles influenced the world, and how to use different materials and styles to create art of their own. Mrs. Becker has transformed her classroom to allow for multi-faceted instruction including use of puppets, slide shows, art renditions, and hands on studio time.

The fifth grade began the school year choosing a master artist to identify with. They created a linoleum print self-portrait with an identifying characteristic of that artist. Michelangelo, Albrecht Durer, and Andy Warhol were all artists who used the self-portrait in printmaking.

The second grade learned the genius of Michelangelo as they painted their rendition of the Sistine Chapel—painting on the under sides of their desks to get the full experience! Leonardo Da Vinci, Rembrandt Van Rijn, Rosa Bonheur, Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, Faith Ringgold, and Pablo Picasso are other artists who they studied.

The fourth grade are currently working collaboratively on a series called “Days of Creation Banners.” The inspiration for this project comes from Marc Chagall, an artist of Russian descent who created the ‘Jerusalem Windows” of the Hadas-sah Hospital in Jerusalem. The twelve stain glass windows are about the twelve tribes of Israel and created in a dream like, surrealistic style.

Ultimately both teachers want the students to learn that God is the Master Designer and it is He who created the world that artists depict. As students look to God as the Master Designer, they will achieve a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction for all of creation.

The students are looking forward to showcasing their studies at the

April 16, Explore! Night

Join us as the Lower School transforms into “A Night at the Museum.” The evening will feature interactive workshops, a student art show, and band concert highlighting their year-long studies.
MIDDLE SCHOOL & UPPER SCHOOL ON STAGE!

It was truly The Best Christmas Pageant Ever! Led by Director Molly Courtright, middle and upper school theatre students joined together to bring this iconic children's story to the stage in November. Based on the novel written by Barbara Robinson in 1971, the play tells the story of six misfit children who volunteer to star in their town's Sunday School Christmas Pageant and end up teaching the town the true meaning of Christmas.

MAKING THEIR OFF-BROADWAY DEBUT

Freshmen Maya Collins and Stephanie Moorhatch made their off-Broadway debut in the December, 2019 production of The Little Dancer. This holiday musical was written by Steven Fisher, the co-founder of Commonwealth Youthchoirs (CY). Both Maya and Stephanie are members of the Philadelphia Girlschoir, which is a part of CY. This affiliation led to the opportunity for the girls to audition for the musical last spring and both were cast in the ensemble. Weekly rehearsals started locally in September and the full ensemble gathered in NYC a few times to rehearse in professional Broadway studios with the cast of five professional principle actors. This exciting production made for a busy December for Maya and Stephanie, but they made some lasting memories along the way.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER!

EMILY BROWN  LUKE ANDERSON  EMMA CARRINGTON

MAGGIE IOTT  REBEKAH HALLADAY  CALEB HICKLIN

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA

FEBRUARY 28, 7:30 P.M.  FEBRUARY 29, 1:30 & 7:30 P.M.
MARCH 6, 7:30 P.M.  MARCH 7, 4:00 P.M.
TICKETS & MORE INFO AT WWW.DCCS.ORG/ARTS/TICKETS OR AT THE DOOR.
ALL WE LIKE SHEEP
Lower school music teacher Diane Clark wrote and directed this year's Lower School Christmas Program entitled "All We Like Sheep." Her clever dialogue and original music combined for a sweet re-telling of Christ's birth from a cast of memorable characters. The evening also included performances by the Fourth and Fifth Grade Bands.

USHERING IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IN SONG
This year’s Middle and Upper School Christmas Choral Concert was held at Proclamation Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr. Under the direction of Mrs. Renee Bussey, the choirs enjoyed singing in Proclamation's sanctuary which is known for its outstanding acoustics.

Mrs. Mandy Limpert and members of the Middle School and Concert Bands brought a fresh perspective to their holiday concert this year with a special theme of "Christmas Presence." Selections for the evening included an enjoyable mix of lively and reflective arrangements and compositions. Attendees enjoyed an atmospheric pre-concert fellowship in the DeMoss Lobby and theme related door prizes were awarded at the close of the concert.
A PLACE FOR CHILDREN TO LEARN, PLAY, CREATE, AND GROW

COMING SEPTEMBER 2020

A NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER FOR CHILDREN 3 YEARS OF AGE THROUGH KINDERGARTEN WILL LAUNCH NEXT FALL

The decision to expand DC’s current early childhood education program follows a comprehensive feasibility study. Head of School Dan Steinfeld explains “This expansion will feature the excellence in programming, facilities, safety, and exemplary education provided to all our students; transferring these elements to a dedicated Early Childhood Center meets a need for families who are hungering for a quality Christian education for their young children. This decision is a win for those families and a win for DC as we look towards ways to innovate and grow our school.” This new academic program will become a separate academic division in the school and will be housed in a dedicated wing in the Lower School.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS FOUNDATIONAL TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Young children are naturally inquisitive and love to learn. They love to play, move, and engage the world around them. DC’s Early Childhood Center will provide the space, environment, and learning community where young learners will develop a sense of awe and wonder for God’s created world. This in turn fosters a lifelong love of learning. The ability to teach scriptural truth through a developmentally appropriate and comprehensive curriculum is at the heart of this endeavor. This approach allows teachers to focus on the whole child; helping young learners understand they are created, known, and loved by God is the cornerstone of our curriculum. DC’s Early Childhood Center will provide a comprehensive foundation for future academic success.

DC is committed to providing an innovative and exemplary education to prepare young learners for the next step in their academic journey.
EXPERIENCE COUNTS

Combined, our current early childhood faculty members have over 70 years of experience in teaching early learners. This extensive knowledge inspires them to ensure teaching and programmatic choices are developmentally appropriate. Since children grow and learn on their own unique timetable, teachers use differentiated instruction to meet individual student needs.

AT A GLANCE:

FLEXIBLE ENROLLMENT OPTIONS
2, 3, and 5 half and full day options

CERTIFIED AND EXPERIENCED FACULTY
Teachers committed to their faith who know and nurture students

SPACE TO LEARN AND EXPLORE
Spacious classrooms, full-size gymnasium, a 30 acre campus

FIELD TRIPS & SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES
Opportunities for enriched learning abound

EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD
Spiritual formation is foundational in all we do

CONTENT RICH CURRICULUM
Recognizes the importance of play

LEARN MORE:
Families desiring information on enrollment for PK-3/PK-4/Kindergarten for the Fall of 2020 should contact DC Admissions at 610.353.6522 X2285 or admissions@dccs.org.

We are excited to report that a strong number of families are already seeking admission to our new program options.
Congrats to senior OBINNA NWOBODO on his recent signing with Division 1 Villanova University. Obinna will be the first player in the history of the DC’s football program to receive a Division I scholarship!
**VARSITY FOOTBALL**

September 14, 2019 marked the start of a new era of DC football as the team returned after a one year hiatus in a new, exciting, and sustainable format. DC joined Perkiomen School, Valley Forge Military Academy, and Mercersburg Academy to form the Keystone State Football League, the first 8 man football league in Pennsylvania. The team finished 3-4 on the season. Highlights included a 30-6 season opener victory over Valley Forge Military Academy and an exciting 50-38 Homecoming win over Mercersburg Academy. Despite a valiant and physically taxing effort, the Knights fell to Mercersburg 36-44 in the playoffs ending a very successful return to the gridiron for the Knights.

Season standouts include senior Obinna Nwobodo, who was named KSFL Defensive MVP and junior Jordan Mitchell, who was named KSFL Offensive MVP. Jordan Mitchell's offensive productivity was historic with his final season stats including 823 rushing yards, 9 rushing TDS, 711 receiving yards, and 7 receiving TDs.
VARSITY GIRLS TENNIS

The sixteen member girls tennis team enjoyed a successful season for the second year in a row. In team play, the Knights finished with an 8-1 record and second in the PIAA District 1-AA tournament. In singles, sophomore Brette Foutch carried over her excellent play from 2018 and once again established herself as one of the best tennis players in the region. Brette finished second in the District 1-AA tournament, losing in the finals to last year’s state champion.

Brette also partnered with freshman Sarah Stahl in doubles and earned a district bid. They were dominant in the first two rounds of districts, defeating both opponents while only accumulating 4 losses in 28 games. In the finals, Sarah and Brette were able to beat the doubles team from Lower Moreland in an epic match, to win the District 1-AA Championship. This dynamic duo continued their magical run by showing poise and steady play in the PIAA State Tournament. Hitting their stride at the right time, they advanced three rounds and made it all the way to the PIAA State Finals before falling to Villa Maria Academy. What a great season for these fantastic athletes!
VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY
DC’s cross country team continues to attract a healthy number of participants each year. Several seasoned long distance runners help anchor the team including seniors Hannah Schaefer and Ginny Johnson and sophomores Ella Hines and Bethany Jacox on the girls’ squad. Seniors Sam Bushra and Jack Xiao and junior Jude Metricarti led the way for the guys. The team performed consistently over the season in both league and invitational races. In the BAL Championships at Tyler State Park, the DC boys finished 5th overall in the Constitutional Division. The DC girls finished fourth overall at Districts and were led by Ella Hines who was closely followed by Bethany Jacox, Doris Hou, Zoe Yu and Hannah Schaefer. With her finish, Ella earned a slot to run at the PIAA State Cross Country Championship in Hershey, where she finished 76 out of 209 runners with a time of 21:41.40. Congratulations Ella and all our runners on a great season!
VARSITY BOYS SOCCER
The varsity boys soccer team started the season with an 8-1 win over Phil-Mont Christian Academy. That game kicked off a rollercoaster ride of a regular season, with the squad flirting with a .500 record throughout as they continued to tweak and perfect the new style of play implemented in the pre-season. As the season progressed, the team developed a mental stamina that would serve them well as they moved into post season play. Playoff positioning was set when the Knights defeated Division 1-AA top seed New Hope 3-1 in front of a supportive home crowd. In round one of district play, the Knights defeated Calvary Christian 5-0.

VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY
If asked to choose one word to describe the DC field hockey team it would have to be resilient. After graduating a number of key players, the girls ramped up in pre-season to maximize their young talent. Joining Emily Ashworth on the coaching staff this year were former DC standouts and former Messiah College players, Anne Pieters Goneau ’92 and Jackie Barr ’15 who helped give instruction and encouragement that energized the team. The Lady Knights started the season off strong winning two of three games with shutouts against Morrisville and Academy Park before running into a buzzsaw at New Hope. Throughout the season, the team rarely seemed overmatched and competed well. The Knights were very strong defensively, giving up no more than 1 goal in 8 contests. Despite finishing the season with four losses, DC accumulated enough ranking points throughout the year to earn a playoff spot for the first time in several seasons. This achievement, however, came with a price. This year’s penalty of finishing in the 8th and final playoff spot was a first round contest against New Hope, who had finished the season 18-0 without giving up a goal the entire season. In the playoff contest against New Hope, the Knights fought hard. They defended well and used everything they had to hold New Hope to only two goals in the first half. Unfortunately, the effort and energy expended in the first half was not sustainable and DC ultimately was defeated by New Hope.
The district semi-final game pitted the Knights against PIAA District 1 powerhouse and top seed Faith Christian Academy. In a contest that would come to define the heart of this DC squad, the Knights scrapped and fought for two halves and two overtime periods and sat with the game still tied at 1-1. DC finally prevailed on a goal in the 2nd shootout round, defeating Faith 2-1. What a win! The next game would prove to be just as tough, with DC playing in the finals against a skilled and confident squad from Dock Mennonite. In a game that went to the wire, DC was poised to head to overtime when Dock scored a goal with 17 seconds left to play, defeating the Knights 2-1 leaving the team as the second place finishers in District 1-A.

VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

From the very start, this year’s team was devoted to each other. They were determined to play hard and demonstrated character and a pursuit of excellence throughout their season. The Knights started off their season with wins against Renaissance Academy and TCA, while also losing tough, close contests against Faith Christian Academy and Marple Newtown. The “win one/lose one” rollercoaster continued the next couple weeks with two tough losses against TCA and Shipley, and an impressive win against Collegium Charter. Then the injury bug struck the team hard during the toughest stretch of the season, kicking off a streak of several losses in a row. Despite the challenges, the team gave their best effort throughout, always battling hard no matter who the opponent or what the circumstance. The team ended their season with a 4-12 record.
FALL 2019
All League Honors

VARITY FOOTBALL
KSFL Offensive MVP – Jordan Mitchell
KSFL Defensive MVP – Obinna Nwobodo

VARITY BOYS SOCCER
First Team – Jack Dill, Cole Levis, Jason Woo

Second Team - Titus Ahlborn, Alexander Nekoumond, Declan Thompson

VARITY GIRLS SOCCER
First Team – Adelia Elliott, Maggie Kim

Second Team – Emma Chung, Ellissa Lee

VARITY FIELD HOCKEY
First Team – Rachel Yeung

Second Team – Brooke VanEerden

HM – Hannah Lee

VARITY GOLF
HM – Zane Hobaugh

With only three returning players, this year’s young and inexperienced team demonstrated notable improvement by the end of the season. Early match losses were difficult for the Knights, but encouraging signs could be seen as each golfer improved their scores match by match. The team shot a respectable score of 278 in their match vs. Devon Prep. Their first victory of the year came in a match against Collegium on September 19th. The Knights’ best match of the year came in a loss against Jenkintown, where three DC golfers shot in the 40s, a best for the year!

VARITY CHEERLEADING

A season of change was initiated for Varsity Cheer when coaches Tara Phillips Eisenhart ’06 and Catherine Barbee ’07 agreed to join the program in early August 2019. This dynamic duo has an infectious joy and passion for cheerleading and the team fed off of that positive energy throughout the fall season. The cheer squad added energy and excitement to the returning football program and attended several other fall contests as well. An additional highlight of the season was hosting a lower school cheer clinic on Homecoming weekend. Together, the participants and the squad demonstrated great school spirit and helped make the Homecoming football game a special event for all.
5K RAISES $20K FOR DC ATHLETICS

The DC Athletic Department and the Athletic Boosters Association thank all who supported the November 9, 2019 Scarecrow Shuffle 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk. This year’s race raised $20,000 to support DC’s middle and upper school athletics, several club sports, our lower school feeder program and a dedicated strength and conditioning program for all athletes. The funds raised through this event will be used to purchase items that will support our players and coaches. These expenditures generally entail items that are outside of the department’s normal operating budget. Over the past year, the Boosters have funded three such items.

- A Hi-Pod camera was purchased to enable film study for team improvement and recruiting purposes for college.
- Branded sideline chairs were purchased for use in gymnasiums. All of our basketball teams are putting the chairs to good use this season.
- An indoor motorized batting cage was purchased and installed in the lower gym ceiling in January. The indoor batting cage will benefit our middle school and varsity softball and baseball teams.

The Boosters are grateful to all of their supporters including the volunteers who help throughout the year. Whether it is working the concession stand, serving as a door guard, or lending a hand on seasonal sports days, the DC community is very supportive of our student athletes.
ALUMNI
FACULTY & STAFF
Sharing their stories and doing their part to grow the next generation of DC students.

DC prepared me to excel in college and I enjoy helping current students academically. More importantly, DC prepared me to turn to God in the darkest times, to enjoy His blessings every day, and seek after Him with my whole heart.

~ Brittany See Andraka ’12, Upper School History, Varsity Girls Soccer and Varsity Track Coach

My DC education taught me how to apply scriptural principles to everyday life decisions and the understanding that my God given abilities are to be used for His glory and to bless His people. So while it is a responsibility, it is also a wonderful privilege to work with students: to help them be the best students they can be, to learn life-lessons about putting God first in everything, and to use their talents for Him.

~ Jody Dempsey Puckett ’74 – Director of Student Support Services

I am increasingly thankful for the foundation that was built during my time at DC and I love being able to help my students discover the profound nature of God through the study of mathematics.

~ Liz Turner Shackelton ’13 – Middle School Mathematics, Varsity Girls Tennis Coach
My roots at DC are deep and I learned early on the value of a Christian education. God has truly blessed me in my current role as I work with students doing individual and small group reading intervention. It’s such a joy to be a part of a student’s growth, knowing God will equip them with all that they need to fulfill His purposes in their life.

-- Susan Critchlow Kanaley '73 - Student Support Services

At the end of a K-12 journey, I left DC with a solid understanding of who God is, the world around me, and the importance of a growing relationship with the Lord. As a teacher of second graders, I want to pass on the same joy in serving Jesus, the awe of His creation, and the recognition of His work in their lives.

-- Kristen Dill Levis '92 - Second Grade Teacher

DC impressed upon me the importance of Christ’s lordship in all areas of one’s life. My character was chiseled and sanded down in relationship with like-minded peers and mentors, opening my eyes to “the good life” of virtue and faithfulness to my Savior. I love shepherding young people during a critical stage of development, knowing that the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit can multiply our meager efforts exponentially and eternally.

-- Mark Dixon '99 - Head of Upper School

My DC education rooted me to take ownership of my faith. Now I have the opportunity to help current students on their journeys. To me, this opportunity is priceless.

-- Mike Militello '04 - Upper School Math

At DC I learned how to look at the world with a biblical perspective. As I interact with current students and colleagues now, I am able to offer them the same Christ-centered kindness that I experienced here as a student.

-- Lauren Coppola Cavanagh '08 Business Office

I’ve come to appreciate the fact that DC taught me to view the world objectively. In the midst of a massive cultural shift, new moral standards, and increased divisiveness, I have benefitted from knowing and having the tools to vocalize that God is unchanging and that He loves us. There are many different influences clamoring for our attention today; my time at DC equipped me to filter everything through scriptural truth and to be able to give an answer for what I believe.

-- Bob Hegman '11 - Facilities
At DC, I was led to discover the gifts and talents God uniquely designed in me so that I could pursue His purposes. My favorite thing about teaching here is seeing my students’ joy when they discover their own gifts and talents.

– Madison Moore ‘15, Lower School Resource Room Teacher

DC taught me the biblical background needed to help ground my faith and prepare me for the “real world” questions that would arise as I progressed in my academic and artistic career. As a teacher, I love to weave faith, character, and godly wisdom into Art education.

– Liz Steele Coats ’03 – Upper School Art & SAIL

DC rooted me in my vertical relationship with the Lord, equipped me with knowledge, and instilled a Christian worldview that fostered my love for Christ. All of this permeated my athletic and arts experiences, and discussions in the classroom. That vertical relationship prepared me for the horizontal. All of that plays out daily in my work as I seek to introduce more families to DC, a school that is rooted in Christ.

– Betty Price Ellsworth ‘83 – Director of Enrollment and Marketing

The years I spent at DC shaped my Christian worldview, deepened my faith, and cultivated a strong desire to further the work of Christian education – specifically, the ministry and mission of DC. I arrived back at DC as a parent in 2001 and was hired in 2012 in the Advancement Office. I love helping communicate the many ways DC continues to prepare students’ hearts and minds for a lifetime of impact.

– Lisa Stephey Campbell ’82, Director of Communications

In my years at DC I learned that becoming “rooted” is a process. It takes time for roots to dig deep, find water, and to grow. Likewise, a student’s journey takes time as God writes each one’s story. HE alone is doing this great work through us as faculty and staff to impact children and their families.

– Anne Pieters Goneau ’92, Admissions Associate, Student Support Services Assistant, Assistant Coach Varsity Field Hockey and Girls Basketball.
As a DC teacher, I get to be an encourager, role model, and prayer partner in the lives of my students.

-- Shannon Dodds ’10, Second Grade Teacher

In my years at DC I was never in doubt that my teachers cared about me as a whole person. I am honored to be a part of that tradition now and I hope in my own way to have a similar influence on my students.

-- Jeff Wisnewski ’95, Upper School History, Varsity Baseball Coach

My DC education helped develop a foundation of critical thinking and the ability to see the world through a biblical lens. I grappled with social and political issues, current events, and many other things but felt prepared to make sense of it all through a worldview that is rooted in God’s word. Now, as a teacher I want to empower students to feel confident that, even in an ever-changing world, they have the tools to make sense of what’s around them and to make a difference.

-- Matt Hummel ’09, Upper School History, Varsity Boys Basketball Assistant Coach & JV Boys Basketball Head Coach

I attended DC from kindergarten through 12th grade and I can remember each and every one of my teachers. They loved their students, loved their particular class of study— their passion was evident. I love teaching at DC for the same reasons. Academics have always been taught from a biblical perspective, with the Bible kept as the guide to all that DC does. As I teach I am able to share with students the joys of being a Christian, loving the Lord, and serving Him daily.

-- Scott Bateman ’73, Fifth Grade Teacher
70 YEARS WORSHIPING TOGETHER

All School Thanksgiving and Christmas Chapels are a testimony of the LORD’s continued provision and blessing in our lives and in the history of DC.

STEM STARTS YOUNG

Lower school students enjoy participating in weekly STEM problem solving and exploration sessions. In December, kindergarten students designed and built their own Nativities. We love fostering the creativity and ingenuity of our youngest learners!
MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS
LOCALLY & AROUND THE GLOBE

HELPING TO FEED THE HUNGRY
DC’s recent food drive yielded an estimated 1,600 items for the food pantry at Christ Presbyterian Church in South Philadelphia. This schoolwide effort was organized and promoted by the sophomore class “Girls 2 Women” Bible Study as part of the school’s service learning initiative. Fourth grade students assisted in packing the donations and delivered the donations to Christ Presbyterian where they learned how the food pantry helps families in the local community. The items donated by the DC Community will provide a 5-6 month inventory for the food pantry.

SWEET SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Middle and upper school Spanish students raised nearly $1,000 at their annual bake sale held on the morning of All School Thanksgiving Chapel. Proceeds from the sale are used to underwrite DC’s sponsorship of three students at The Fountain of Life Christian School in the Dominican Republic. Thanks to all who baked and purchased, the tuition costs for all three of the sponsored students have been covered for this year.

GIFT GIVING SUPPORTS BIBLE CLUB MISSIONS
Lower school students provided over 200 gifts to children in underserved neighborhoods in Philadelphia through the ministry of Miss Lorraine Stirneman and Bible Club Missions.

HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF
Our schoolwide community helped minister to the people of the Bahama Islands in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. Donations of toiletries and school supplies were collected along with cash gifts. This support was funneled to the Bahamas via Island Outreach who have a longstanding presence working with the churches there.
STATE DAY - Research your assigned state, organize your data, and tell your story visually and through oral presentations. There are always a lot of state related snacks to supplement this memorable learning experience as well.

VALLEY FORGE - Our prime geographic location helps bring the study of the American Revolution to life. On a chilly November day, fourth graders experienced Valley Forge first hand. Students learned about the importance of this difficult encampment during the winter of 1777 and how, despite the many hardships, the Continental Army emerged from the winter stronger in their quest for liberty and independence.

ALL WE LIKE SHEEP - Fourth grade students take to the stage each year with lead roles in the lower school Christmas program under the direction of lower school music teacher Miss Diane Clark.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
Organized by class parents, fourth graders collected supplies and assembled 130 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Parents, students, and younger siblings look forward to this annual tradition that started when the students were in first grade.
SUPPORTING PASTORS
It was our privilege to host area pastors on October 24 for our Annual Pastor Prayer Breakfast. Members of the senior class joined with the attendees to hear from Michael Oh and to pray for the worldwide church. Michael is a school parent, board member, and Executive Director of the Lausanne Movement.

LUNAR NEW YEAR
The Year of the Rat!

Over 200 members of the DC community gathered on January 20 to participate in a Lunar New Year Celebration for our school’s 39 international students. This event was planned by Arlene Warmhold, Director of International Student Programs, Senior Prefect Jack Xiao, and students in the Mandarin classes. Included in this fun evening were dinner and a program. A spoof on “The Masked Singer” television show was a highlight of the evening with audience members voting to identify the performers. Head of School Dan Steinfield (dressed as a rat) performed his version of “Life is a Highway” much to the delight of all in attendance.

NEW AED DONATED TO DC
We are extremely grateful to the folks from www.simonsheart.org and Experience Chiropractic in Wayne for donating a brand new AED this fall. This device will be kept on hand by our Athletic Department for use in treating sudden cardiac arrest.

UPPER CAMPUS GRANDPARENTS DAY
There were smiling faces all around during our October 10 Upper Campus Grandparents Day. This event marked the start of our Homecoming Weekend. Beyond the day’s program, lunch, and campus tours, a number of grandparents extended their visit and enjoyed the Homecoming festivities as well.

MAKING MEMORIES
Students and moms enjoyed making a Christmas craft together at a special afterschool workshop organized by lower school art teacher Mrs. Carla Becker.
Homecoming 2019
Perfect weather provided the perfect backdrop for all to enjoy times to connect, cheer, and celebrate all that we love about DC.

This three day event was jam packed with the best of homecomings past with some new twists that energized our entire school community.

Eight is Great – We celebrated the return of football with an exciting eight man format and a 50-38 win over Mercersburg Academy.

S’mores and More – This new Homecoming event transformed the upper campus courtyard into a magical nighttime venue. Students of all ages and alumni too gathered around the fire pits for s’mores and the gazebo for student musical performances and our favorite line dances.

CHEERIFIC! – The varsity cheer squad led by alumni coaches Tara Phillips Eisenhart ’06 and Catherine Barbee ’07 hosted a Saturday morning clinic for lower school students. Our future cheerleaders helped welcome the football team to the field.

The All School Tailgate was the place to be prior to kick-off at Saturday’s varsity football game.
Upcoming Reunions

CLASS OF 1960
Sheila Cook Wheatley and Walter Bowman are working to organize a 60th reunion for the class of 1960. Plans are to host the event on a date in May, including a school tour at the Upper Campus in Newtown Square. Contact the Alumni Office if you’re interested in more information or getting in touch with the organizers.

CLASS OF 1970
The Class of 1970 has scheduled a number of events for the weekend of July 24-25 to celebrate their 50th reunion. On Friday evening, the class will gather at the home of Connie and Glenn McDowell in Conshohocken. Class members will tour the Upper Campus on Saturday morning followed by a gathering later in the day at the home of Darla and Curt Eldredge in Coatesville. If you haven’t received your invitation or would like more information, please contact the Alumni Office.

THINK YOUR CONTACT INFO MAY NEED TO BE UPDATED?
EMAIL US AT ALUMNI@DCCS.ORG, CALL US AT 610-353-6522 EXT 2381, OR USE THE HANDY ALUMNI UPDATE FORM FOUND AT WWW.DCCS.ORG/ALUMNI/ALUMNI-UPDATE-FORM.
The Bards reside in West Chester. Two of their children attend DC. Katie Murphy Burdumy '09 was profiled in the regional industry magazine Curbed Atlanta. Her most recent project is the new construction and renovation projects as an Architectural Specialization Designer. Her most recent project was profiled in the regional industry magazine Curbed Atlanta.

Robert Hontz '96 is currently deployed to Singapore as a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy Medical Corps serving as a research microbiologist.

Kristen Rasmussen '97 is living in North Carolina with her family where she homeschools her children and works as a registered nurse at Duke Regional Hospital.

Rachel Hopkins Thompson '04 is now making her mark in the real estate and home design industry in Atlanta. Following graduation from Savannah College of Art and Design, Annagrace is working as the Lead Home Buyer Specialist of The Wieloch Group at Compass and has opened her own design business, Annagrace Interiors. She specializes in new construction and renovation projects as an Architectural Specialization Designer. Her most recent project was profiled in the regional industry magazine Curbed Atlanta.

Sean Ellsworth, Jr. ’09 has been serving on active duty since 2013 and is currently an Army Captain and Armor Officer. He is the Assistant S-3 Plans and Operations Officer for the 6-9 Cavalry Squadron, 3d Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Fort Hood, TX and is currently deployed to the Republic of South Korea. Sean is married to seventh and eighth grade students on Veterans Day. He was joined in the classroom by two other generations of veterans, his father Sean Sr. and his grandfather Phil Ellsworth. The trio shared about their roles in the army and participated in an impressive Q&A session. The students were particularly impressed with Sean’s knowledge of tanks and the fact he was awake at midnight Korean time in uniform to be ready to speak with them.

Fiona Eichinger '15 was named a 2019 Fulbright Scholar following graduation from the University of Pittsburgh. As a Fulbrighter, Fiona will be working as an English teaching assistant in the public schools on the smaller Maltese island of Gozo. She’s also contributing to refugee support efforts including founding the Gozo English Club, the only free-of-charge English classes for migrants, and assisting Malta’s Ministry for Health in creating information materials to support migrant victims of violence.

Katie Bard '01 is married to fellow DC alum Jonathan Bard '01. The Bards reside in West Chester. Two of their children attend DC. Katie is working as a nurse practitioner.

Kristen Murphy Burdumy ’09 is putting her fine arts education to work as a design artisan for Terrain. Her work was on display during this past Christmas season at the Center City Philadelphia Ritz Carlton in the form of a stunning wreath ornamenting the hotel's front door.

Lindsay Good ’12 married Andrew Mudalal at the Cork Factory Hotel on Sunday, August 4 in New Holland, PA. Their wedding was part DC reunion with a number of alumni friends & family of the bride in attendance. Helping make this a special day were Bekah Good ’16 and Sammi MacArthur Smith ’12 who served as bridesmaids, while photographer Amy Eiching Anstatt ’12 captured the event on film, and Parker O’Leary ’12 read scripture during the ceremony. The newlyweds are making their home in West Chester and keeping busy with their careers. Lindsey is working as an occupational therapist and Andrew as an accountant. The couple is also actively involved in mentoring and discipling students from West Chester University.

Cassidy Foxhoven-Gamble ’15 married Alex Linton ’15 on July 27 in Houston. The couple has been busy settling into their new home in Dallas and starting graduate school. Cassidy is pursuing a Masters in Counseling and Alex is pursuing a Doctor of Chiropractic at Parker University. A number of DC alumni were in attendance at the ceremony including John Linton ’09, Mike Monaghan ’12, John Reese ’15, Josh Ellsworth ’15, Carly Guaglione ’15, Lydia Erickson ’15, Natalie Marziani ’16, Adam Wehr ’15, Annette Kempf ’15, Tyler Donohue ’15, Rose Favino ’15, and Maggie Linton ’17. The Pendell clan also joined in with Scott ’14, Jamie (Barr) ’14, Emily ’15, and Megan ’11.
CLASS OF 1969
It was great to see many from the Class of 1969 around town during Homecoming weekend. Classmates spent time at Friday’s festivities on the Upper Campus, attended the football game on Saturday and then gathered for dinner at Charlotte’s Restaurant in Newtown Square. Pictured Back(L-R): Dave Strange, Steve Smyth, Jon Stott, Front(L-R): Sharon Harper Peterson, Anne Fowler Patton, William (Bill) Mell, Dave Pennington.

CLASS OF 1989
The Class of 1989 also celebrated during Homecoming Weekend. Class members gathered Saturday, October 12 at La Cabra in Berwyn to celebrate their 30th reunion. It was a special get-together that included a guest who came all the way from California to surprise old friends. Pictured: Scott Tyson, Fran Radano, Christy Durante Kramer, Susan Founds Taylor, Jon Spahr, John Wilkens III, Sean Farley, Ahna Landin Economidis, Tom DeVries, Anne Robinson Albrecht, Todd Sorzano, Kim Tanis O’Bryan, Pam Wilson Wenger, Jeff Martin, Matthew Smith, Allison Franks Crowe, Adam Sacks, Holly Creveling Hardin, Clifton Henderson.

CLASS OF 1994
The Class of 1994 marked a significant milestone this summer with their 25th reunion celebration. Attendees gathered at La Cabra in Berwyn and had a wonderful time reminiscing and getting reacquainted. Those who attended included Sarah Cooper Seiler, Chrissy Amoroso Cuozzo, Nate Laing, Adam Sharp, Marty Watts, Todd Curyto, Nicole Weston Ford, Dave Campbell, Bill Wentzheimer, Brian Anderson, Karen Brandt Anderson, Lisa Carlson Johnson. Many alumni brought guests to add to the fun.
CLASS OF 1999


CLASS OF 2009

It was quite a crowd that came out for the 10th reunion of the Class of 2009 at Barnaby’s of West Chester on Saturday, Dec. 28th. 39 alumni and their guests gathered together to celebrate their shared history and life updates. Front (L-R): Mario Mascioli, Zach King, John Linton, Laura Briggs, PJ Crisanti, Matt Jordan, Ben Pruette, Stephen Siu, Will Ressler. Middle (L-R): Stephen Langford, Julia Baratta, Laurel McLaughlin, Jenn Anusky, Kristen Murphy Burdumy, Sharon Limpert, Jenna Yesner, Leah LaPalomba, Lauren Gobel Crilly, Megan Brokenborough, Amy Thomas, Kelsey Miller, Kristen Vogel, Maria Visser. Back (L-R): Jack Newman, Wes O’Brien, Matt Hummel, Isaac Williams, Kathryn Chovanes, Martha Mingle May, Megan Wallin, Jimmy Peterkin, James Glass, Brandon Cahill, Julia Bohn.

CLASS OF 2014

Adding to the 2019 Homecoming Weekend festivities around town was the Class of 2014’s 5th reunion. These alumni gathered at La Cabra in Berwyn on Saturday, October 12th to reconnect and celebrate. Front (L-R): DL Brown, Ashlyn Griest, Rachel Wilkinson, Kirsten Rasmussen, Emily Bronkema, Jacob Dockery, Katie Ressler, Maggie McManus, Jessie Edelstein. Back (L-R): Tabitha Mulholland, Stephanie Meell Fales, DeVicka Cheston, Danielle Kaufman, Jacqueline Hawkins, Rachel Pope, Drew Darby, Trevor Stephens, Aaron Elcock, Daniel Yeung, Mia Jasinski, Alex Payne.
In Memorium

ALUMNI

ROBERT BEISEL '67 passed away on September 5, 2019 at his home. Robert served in the U.S. Navy and later worked as an electrician. He and his family made their home in Chillicothe, Ohio. He is survived by his wife Carrie and sons Nick and Jesse. He is remembered by his DC classmates as being well-liked and having a great sense of humor.

MARNIE SHEA PANETTI '82 passed away on September 22, 2019 following a long battle with breast cancer. During her lifetime she lived out DC’s mission to impact the world through biblical thought and action in her work as a teacher and speech therapist, ministering to many children throughout Chester and Delaware Counties for over 30 years. Marnie is survived by her husband James and children Joshua, Samuel, Grace, and Emma.

CHRIS RADANO '92 went home to be with the Lord on November 28, 2019. Memorial services were held at Covenant Fellowship Church in Glen Mills to remember Chris and his impact on the lives of many. He is survived by his wife Erin and their daughters Sophia, Claire, and Penny.

JANELLE WILSON NEMETH '01 passed away on October 4, 2019. Janelle served the community for many years as a clinical counselor. A celebration of her life was held at Church of the Saviour. She is survived by her husband Alexander and their daughter Charlotte.

ALUMNI PARENT

JOSEPHINE TEMPLETON, M.D.
Alumni parent and school grandparent Josephine “Pina” Templeton entered into eternal life on October 25, 2019 and is predeceased by her husband, Dr. John Templeton (1940-2015). She is survived by daughters Heather Templeton Dill ’94 and Jennifer Templeton Simpson ’96 and sons-in-law Jeff Dill ’94 and Scott Simpson ’96; six grandchildren, four of whom are current students at DC (Jack Dill-11th Grade, Micah Dill-10th Grade, Cody Dill-8th Grade, Carter Dill-5th grade) and two sisters.

We are grateful for Dr. Templeton’s affiliation with Delaware County Christian School over many years. This school has been impacted greatly by her faithful support.
ALUMNI HELPING OUT ON CAMPUS

1. Brown Vincent ’00 returned to campus earlier this year as a middle school chapel speaker.

2. Tara Phillips Eisenhart ’06 and Catherine Barbee ’07 are reliving their cheerleading days by coaching at DC. Tara and Catherine began back in August getting the varsity girls cheer team ready for the first home football game. Their season was a success as the squad increased their skills and kept the fans pumped up game after game.

3. Doug Walker ’06, Courtney Haskins Bauer ’06, and Dave Walker ’04 visited with us in August and January to lead worship nights for the Upper School. Not Pictured: Jared Pennington ’05

4. Alex Linton ’15 spent some time with the freshman football players during pre-season workouts, helping to get them motivated with some inspirational words.

5. Jude Gerhart ’19, Colin Campbell ’15, Madison Rhine ’16, Faith Warmhold ’18, Caleb Chung ’19, and Ben Tyson ’17 helped welcome new international students to DC. They helped run a pool party and picnic as part of a week long English as a Second Language Camp.
WE NEED YOU!
ALUMNI GIVE DAY / MARCH 12
EVERY GIFT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!
LOTS OF FUN IS PLANNED FOR THIS SPECIAL DAY SO STAY TUNED AND STAY IN TOUCH.

Save the Date
THE DC ANNUAL FUND DINNER AND BENEFIT
FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 17
Join us for a special evening to support the work and mission of our school.
- Performing: David Kim, Concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra
- Honoring: The 2020 Alumnus of the Year

DC GOLF CLASSIC
TUESDAY, MAY 26
DCCS.ORG/GOLF for more information
Applebrook Golf Club, Malvern, Pennsylvania
PROCEEDS BENEFIT DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
INNOVATIVE LEARNING
We prepare students for the challenges and opportunities in a rapidly changing world and ultimately to serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

FACULTY MENTORS
We value our faculty mentors who are called to know, care for, and grow our students. Compensation and benefits for our committed faculty and staff are the biggest investment we make each year.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS
We steward the physical learning spaces with which we have been blessed. Maintaining and improving our campuses demonstrates our commitment to excellence, all to the Glory of God.

TUITION ASSISTANCE
We support families who desire a Christian education for their children. Annual giving funds tuition assistance which makes that education possible.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION
We believe an education rooted in Christ informs all of life and learning. Education within the context of a biblical world view helps students define their purpose, shape who they become, and ultimately influences the course of their entire life.

WHAT’S IN THE SOIL MATTERS
Planted in the soil of Truth, watered by the generosity of our donors, and warmed by the Son –

This is the soil where the seeds of a DC education take hold,

This is why we believe that what’s in the soil matters.

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