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 PK–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 athletics and other school-administered programs. In addition, DC is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.
Dear DC Families and Friends,

This has been both a fantastic and memorable year at DC! Through God’s gracious leading, we developed a fresh vision and strategic plan for DC. While March 13 was our last day of on-campus instruction due to COVID-19, God’s leading was evident as we worked to ensure our students did not miss a single day of learning. DC’s Distance Learning instruction surpassed many schools in our area. Our teachers successfully optimized delivery of instruction in meaningful ways while continuing to demonstrate care for their students. Along this unanticipated journey, our community found creative ways to celebrate and support one another.

The prophet Jeremiah faced similar challenges to the landscape we are navigating today. Jeremiah often found himself isolated in a world full of uncertainty and fear - sound familiar? Yet God called Jeremiah to step out in faith and trust that God is sovereign over all. He would demonstrate his trust, in fact, by purchasing a field. The field was symbolic for the promise of a future and to turn people’s attention to God’s promised covenant, “I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.” (Jeremiah 32:41). We will carry this theme forward into the new school year as we step out in faith as a school community in fresh and bold ways.

Recent events in our country have compelled us to take responsibility as Christians and educators in partnership with parents to educate and inform students around the issues of racism and social justice. We follow Christ’s example, who bestowed the highest level of dignity and respect on everyone, so we also believe that dignity is truly, without reservation, for everyone. We stand with the Black community, mourning and grieving, seeking to understand, listening and learning. We are committed to strengthening our diverse school community in ways that will bring understanding, compassion, and change as we seek to model Christ’s deep and abiding love for all individuals.

I invite you to celebrate and participate in the work that God is doing at DC even now, as we press on in a spirit of hope rather than fear. The stories and photos in this issue of the Keynoter remind us that we serve a faithful God. May the content on these pages inspire us to continue our support of the fundamental work of DC – to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.

In a world that is becoming more complex and interconnected, our mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action is vital, more now than ever.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Daniel Steinfield,
Head of School
CLASS OF 2020,

What a year! On the long road to a milestone of this magnitude, there have been many points of triumph and success; accordingly, there have also been moments, days, and weeks of pressure, worry, and toil. In addition to the common stresses that accompany the journey to earning a diploma, your class was forced to wrap up your senior year amidst a global pandemic, foiling our collective vision of how the 2019-20 school year would end. Nonetheless, my prayer for you today is that you can say with the apostle Paul that “we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that our suffering produces endurance and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.”

As we began Distance Learning in March, I challenged your class to consider how God might use this season of your lives to shape the people you become. I asked, “What is God inviting you to in this season? What can the Spirit cultivate in you at this time?” Frankly, this is ever a timely question in the life of the Christ-follower, in times of rejoicing and in times of sorrow.
Though certain things were lost, many things were gained. You have learned that waiting on the Lord involves an act of one’s will as we lean on the Spirit’s strength. As you wait, you are learning to trust as Job did: “...when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.”

Class of 2020, you have come out as gold! You are a class marked by humble leadership and devoted service to the DC community. This mettle has been forged in finishing well despite the circumstances. May you commit yourselves to pursuing lives of impact for Christ’s kingdom, in your hearts, in your relationships, and in your future endeavors. Keep your eyes on the Good Shepherd!

Blessings,
Mr. Dixon
Head of Upper School
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

Emily Brown
University of Pittsburgh

Sam Bushra
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Will Campbell
Undecided

Cavin Chen
Rutgers Univ. Camden

Iris Chen
Boston University

Abigail Chung
Northeastern University

Kendall Clarke
High Point University

Linus Cook
Drexel University

Jaaziel Cooper
Drexel University

Nathan Corcimiglia
Liberty University

Katelyn Donohue
Liberty University

Abby East
Widener University

Alexa Elder
High Point University
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

Belle Evans  
American University

Dante Falasco  
Gap Year

John Finnell  
University of Pittsburgh

Lilly Fischer  
Cairn University

Zachary Fox  
Gordon College

Justin Gao  
Emlyon Business School

Daniel Granger  
Undecided

Sarah Green  
Bethel University

Noelle Griest  
West Chester University

Bethany Henry  
Liberty University

Cole Hines  
Northeastern University

Zane Hobaugh  
Drexel University

Ben Iott  
Clemson University
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

Ginny Johnson
Penn State University

Maggie Kim
Georgetown University

Anna Korchefsky
Penn State-Brandywine

Kamryn Lassiter
Kutztown University

Hannah Lee
Furman University

Chloe Lin
Boston University

Lizzy Mathews
University of Scranton

Avery McKeaney
Wheaton College

Micah Metricarti
Reading Area Community College

Mikayla Molfetto
University of Pittsburgh

Erin Mulholland
Grove City College

Obinna Nwobodo
Villanova University

Alexa O’Bryan
Lee University

Mikaela Oh
Villanova University

Sydney Penley
Messiah College
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

Jackson Piotrowski
The Phelps School

Maggie Rong
School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Hannah Schaefer
Liberty University

Catherine Serfass
Wheaton College

Sydney Shaw
Temple University

Robin Tan
Cal State University-Long Beach

Brett Tanis
Lee University

Lily Tucker
High Point University

Brendan Tuttle
Gordon College

Lexi Wang
Penn State University

Jack Xiao
University of Cal-San Diego

Phoebe Yan
University of Pittsburgh

Rachel Yeung
Penn State University

James Zhao
University of Mass-Lowell

Stephen Zimmerman
Eastern University
EARNED SCHOLARSHIP AT COLLEGE OF CHOICE  $2,322,940

Samuel Joseph Bushra...........................................Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
William Benjamin Campbell................................Eastern University or Gordon College
Chengyong (Cavin) Chen......................................Rutgers University, Camden
Abigail Elizabeth Chung..........................................Northeastern University
Linus Xavier Cook..................................................Drexel University
Nathan Joseph Corcimiglia.....................................Liberty University
Katelyn Joy Donohue................................................Liberty University
Abdul Rennard East..................................................Widener University
Alexa Anastasia Elder...........................................Highpoint University
Annabelle Rose Evans............................................American University
John Philip Finnell....................................................University of Pittsburgh
Zachary David Fox..................................................Gordon College
Sarah Estelle Green.............................................Bethel College
Cole Maurice Hines..................................................Northeastern University
Zane Zacharias Hobaugh........................................Drexel University
Kamryn Chanel Lassiter........................................Kutztown University
Hannah Casey Lee.....................................................Clemson University
Elizabeth Marie Matthews.....................................University of Scranton
Avery Lane Morken McKeaney.............................Wheaton College
Mikaela Sarahng Oh................................................Villanova University
Jackson Mark Piotrowski......................................The Phelps School
Hannah Margaret Schaefer.....................................Liberty University
Catherine Elizabeth Serfass....................................Wheaton College
Lily Jane Tucker.....................................................High Point University
Brendan Joseph Tuttle.............................................Gordon College
Rachel Faith Yeung..................................................Penn State University
Stephen Francis Zimmerman..................................Eastern University

STUDENT LEADERS

Head Prefect: Margaret Sung Hi Kim
Admissions Prefect: Avery Lane Morken McKeaney
Arts Prefect: Brendan Joseph Tuttle
Athletic Prefect: Nathan Joseph Corcimiglia
Development Prefect: Jackson Mark Piotrowski
International Prefect: Yacheng (Jack) Xiao
Student Life Prefect: Jaaziel Ariah Cooper

Class President: Cole Maurice Hines
Class Board Member: Elizabeth Marie Matthews
Class Board Member: Mikaela Sarahng Oh
Class Board Member: Catherine Elizabeth Serfass

2nd GENERATION GRADUATES

William Benjamin Campbell
Linus Xavier Cook
Bethany Grace Henry
Benjamin Calvin Iott
Virginia Rose Johnson
Alexa Lauren O’Bryan
Brett Carlson Tanis
Lily Jane Tucker

VALEDICTORIAN
Abby Chung

SALUTATORIAN
Mikaela Oh
GRADUATING SENIORS WHO HAVE ATTENDED DC SINCE PK, KINDERGARTEN, OR FIRST GRADE

William Benjamin Campbell
Abigail Elizabeth Chung
Linus Xavier Cook
Katelyn Joy Donohue
Dante Edward Falasco
John Philip Finnell
Lilly Anne Fischer
Noelle Christian Griest
Cole Maurice Hines
Benjamin Calvin Iott
Virginia Rose Johnson
Margaret Sung Hi Kim
Anna Jennifer Korchevsky
Kamryn Chanel Lassiter
Erin Elisabeth Mulholland
Alexa Lauren O’Bryan
Jackson Mark Piotrowski
Brett Carlson Tanis
Brendan Joseph Tuttle
Rachel Faith Yeung

Head Prefect: Margaret Sung Hi Kim
Admissions Prefect: Avery Lane Morken McKeaney
Arts Prefect: Brendan Joseph Tuttle
Athletic Prefect: Nathan Joseph Corcimiglia
Development Prefect: Jackson Mark Piotrowski
International Prefect: Yacheng (Jack) Xiao
Student Life Prefect: Jaaziel Ariah Cooper
Class President: Cole Maurice Hines
Class Board Member: Elizabeth Marie Matthews
Class Board Member: Mikaela Sarahng Oh
Class Board Member: Catherine Elizabeth Serfass
This year our community worked collectively throughout the fall to identify who we are, what we deliver (the DC Promise) and where we are going (our Strategic Plan). God, in His perfect timing, used the completion of these important exercises to prepare us for the unprecedented circumstances we faced this spring and enabled us to quickly initiate an entirely new instructional platform in a matter of days.

While our switch to Distance Learning was not without some bumps along the way, our promise to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ compelled us to pursue excellence in both the content and care we delivered to students.

As we look to the 2020-21 school year, I am confident our initiatives focusing on Innovation, Sustainability, and Community Engagement are even more relevant to our mission accomplishment. Our team of highly dedicated educational and support professionals stand ready to engage the challenges of the year ahead and to flourish as we educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

– Dan Steinfeld, Head of School
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.

1. CORE AGILITY. DC will clearly define the liberal arts core curriculum (PK3-12) which delivers a proven college prep curriculum of excellence while providing opportunities for creative freedom and integration of engaging educational experiences.

2. DEEPER LEARNING. Deeper learning includes mastery of essential academic content: thinking critically and solving complex problems, working collaboratively and communicating effectively, having an academic mindset, and being empowered through self-directed learning. Students become a part of God’s story as they engage in real work that forms self and shapes the world.
This initiative will ensure DC’s mission continues into the future. Fulfillment of this initiative may mean the school looks very different from the past or today. DC will develop a long-term sustainability plan designed to cultivate a flourishing Christian school.

1. **HUMAN RESOURCES.** Recruit and retain high quality 21st Century educators, coaches, liberal arts instructors, and support staff and provide them space to do their best work and the tools needed to mentor and nurture the leaders of tomorrow.

2. **MARKETING AND ADMISSIONS.** Strategically tell the DC narrative resulting in increased enrollment PK3–12.

3. **STRATEGIC FINANCIAL PLANNING.** Increased faculty and staff salaries, resources and materials for teaching, capital funding for ongoing campus renewal, a strategic financial plan and master facilities plan, increased endowment, and board financial planning.

4. **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS.** Explore strategic partnerships for community engagement and long term sustainability.

5. **STEWARDSHIP.** Commitment to sustainable sources and stewardship of God’s creation.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DC will cultivate community engagement reflected in awareness and action resulting in engagement within and beyond the DC community.

1. INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT.
DC will cultivate a culture of grace in which community members "lean in" to support one another and grow together (Eph 2:8-9; Romans 12:2; Romans 8; Romans 12: 9-13). DC will foster spiritual vitality, biblical relationships, and leadership and character development among students and families.

2. EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT.
DC will develop ministry partners who will have a presence on our campus as we similarly have a presence serving in their communities. DC will seek to cultivate reciprocal relationships with area churches and engage the local community and access community resources, including networking and resource sharing with other schools. DC will develop a sense of self and appreciation of cultural diversity, affirmation of social justice and human rights through a biblical worldview. Global education will promote positive values and assist students to take responsibility for their actions and to see themselves as global citizens who can impact the world for Jesus Christ.
On Thursday, March 12 Head of School Dan Steinfield announced DC would pivot to a Distance Learning Platform at the start of the following week. Cases of COVID-19 were on the rise and neighboring Montgomery County had just announced a mandatory quarantine for residents. Delaware, Chester, and Philadelphia counties were sure to follow suit in the coming days and many area schools were announcing temporary closures.

Students, faculty, and staff arrived at school the following morning never anticipating they would not return for the duration of the school year. While this sudden change could have left our community scrambling, DC was blessed to have leaders who had already anticipated and planned for this scenario. DC’s COVID-19 Task Force began meeting in late January to monitor the impacts and spread of the disease abroad. By mid-February, planning began in earnest in the event cases would reach our community. Extra cleaning measures initiated due to a local flu outbreak were continued. Distance Learning became part of our planning vernacular.

DC’s impressive switch to Distance Learning is in large part to this planning, but being a small community also means there is a degree of nimbleness that had direct ramifications on our ability to change instruction over the course of a single weekend. Even though it was difficult to keep ahead of the rapid-fire news cycle and government directives, DC’s COVID-19 Task Force, along with our amazing faculty and staff responded in a huge way. As a result, DC students successfully transitioned to a Distance Learning model without losing a single day of instruction.

Distance Learning was not without its challenges. Faculty members who were more comfortable with the platform mentored those who were not as proficient. We all learned to “Zoom.” Students struggling with on-line learning were identified and were provided additional support. Most importantly, the newly formed Distance Learning Committee quickly gathered weekly feedback to make adjustments and optimize instruction.

Along the way, all of our school community members were keenly feeling the loss of those in-person interactions, moments, and instruction that embody DC. When it became likely we would not return to campus, faculty initiated ways to demonstrate “care over content.” This adjustment did not negate the importance of quality instruction; however, it did cause faculty and staff to reflect and consider how they could best maintain those mentor relationships vital to the fulfillment of DC’s mission. As a result, a plethora of touchpoints emerged, demonstrating that once again a school rooted in Christ can stand firmly and flourish amidst trials and tribulations.
Distance Learning in the Lower School required a strong partnership between home and school. As many parents juggled closer management of their children’s daily schedules, teachers stepped up to ensure they could best support student learning. This extra support included weekly one on one virtual check-ins with students and parents. This individualized touchpoint was one vital way our teachers demonstrated ongoing care for students normally provided through in-person instruction. Students joined together virtually for morning announcements and devotions with Lower School Head, Joy Ludwig. Classmates connected with their teacher for morning meetings. Keeping these familiar parts of the traditional school day helped bring a degree of normalcy to students. Google Classroom became the "go-to" platform for delivering a robust level of grade-specific instruction with clear expectations for students, parents, and faculty documented in the Lower School Distance Learning Plan. The administrators and faculty also went above and beyond to recreate many of the students’ cherished year-end events and celebrations including Grandparents Day, Field Day, week-long EXPLORE activities, and a virtual Fifth Grade Recognition and Wave Parade.

In middle school, students followed a daily schedule on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays that were a mix of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Wednesdays were designated as student and faculty workdays. Many students took advantage of optional SAIL modules on these days. These pre-recorded modules were a welcome source of enrichment for students. The middle school faculty worked extremely hard to overcome some technical challenges early on in the quarantine. Once these issues were addressed, teachers were able to optimize their instruction. Middle school parent Dawn Schmitt was impressed with how quickly DC acclimated to Distant Learning to meet the needs of both of her children. Eighth-grader Griffin Schmitt says, "I found distance learning hard at times but a fun way to change up learning. The teachers came up with creative activities to keep us engaged." Dawn also reflects, "Listening to my children pray and teachers guide them in prayer in such an unknown time was very comforting."

Most upper school students made the shift to Distance Learning without too much difficulty. Junior Declan Thompson noted, "Transitioning to Distance Learning was difficult at first. I struggled with creating a schedule and managing my work. As the weeks progressed, however, I was able to make a schedule and plan out my week, making it easier to learn." Students also missed the ample in-person interactions with their teachers. This hurdle was addressed when teachers adopted standing virtual office hours so students could “drop-in” with questions or for a quick check-in. Above all, students appreciated the level of understanding demonstrated by their teachers as everyone adjusted to new ways of learning. Freshman Sky Corcimiglia appreciated this flexibility. "Sometimes there were technology issues or misunderstandings about an assignment. Teachers were always willing to work out the situation with students. Distance Learning has made me appreciate my teachers more and see how much they care for all of us and the work they put in so that we are all able to have a great education, even though we are at home." Junior Meg Worthington agrees, "What I have appreciated most about my teachers during this challenging time is how understanding they have been as we have all been going through this together. They constantly tell us that they are praying for us and I am truly grateful for that."
VIRTUAL ALL-SCHOOL EASTER CHAPEL

When it became apparent school would not be in session in April, members of DC’s faculty and administration began planning a virtual All School Easter Chapel. The worship service was broadcast on Facebook and was a mix of live events and pre-recorded segments. Dave Walker ’04, Worship Pastor of Willowdale Chapel in Kennett Square led worship, and to keep tradition going, individual students recited Matthew 28:1-7. Head of School Dan Steinfield was our chapel speaker. The worship service has been viewed online by over 2,9 individuals.

DC DOOR DASH HONORS HOST FAMILIES

In April, Mrs. Arlene Warmhold and her host student, junior Yewon Jeong delivered care packages of encouragement to the families who host our 35 international students. The care package included sweet treats and gift cards to Chick-fil-a and Rize Pizza.

ADMISSIONS TEAM KEEPS PACE

To meet the challenges of quarantine, our amazing Admissions Team adeptly created webinars to host Lower and Upper Campus Open Houses and a special Early Childhood Coffee to introduce new ECC Director Becky Zaro. The team also organized virtual campus tours. In all, over 80 families participated in these events this spring.

WORKOUTS ON-LINE

Strength and Conditioning Coach Mike Pinelli and his wife Kelsey created a series of at home workouts for students. Students enjoyed having family members join in the workouts as well.

COOKING WITH SAIL

DC’s SAIL Program was adapted this spring to an instructional video format. Each stand-alone module was an enrichment activity that could be completed individually, together as a family, or with friends in a virtual environment. Bread making was a popular module enjoyed by numerous students in the Middle and Upper Schools.
SENIOR CELEBRATION

The DC Community formed a celebration car parade to honor the Class of 2020 on May 29 – the day that would have been their official Commencement Ceremony. The well organized event was held at the Lower Campus in Devon. Seniors donned caps, gowns, and masks and stood at 10 feet apart. Each student held a large “fathead” photo of themselves so they might be easily recognized. Family, friends, faculty, and staff traveled in their decorated cars and arrived at the Lower Campus bringing a cacophony of celebratory noise. A brief downpour did occur early on, but our graduates didn't let it dampen their spirits. The Alumni Office pitched in with Chick-fil-a takeaway dinners for our graduates. DC is especially grateful to the Easttown Township police department for their help in planning and guiding the dozens of DC cars as they traveled through the Lower Campus.

STAYING CONNECTED THROUGH ADVISORY GROUPS

Weekly advisory groups in the middle and upper schools continued meeting virtually each Wednesday. This was an important way for faculty members and peers to stay connected through encouragement and prayer.

LOWER SCHOOL EXPLORE!

When the much anticipated EXPLORE! Night was cancelled, lower school faculty and staff reimagined a beautiful way to celebrate the Arts, Humanities and STEM with students. EXPLORE! was expanded to a weeklong celebration of activities led by teachers and student presenters. From learning about famous Americans like Clara Barton to origami lessons, and students sharing their own “museum” collections from home, EXPLORE! Week was a blast!

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY

The Senior Class Bible Study continued to meet weekly during Distance Learning. On May 1 – National Decision Day, the seniors met together on Zoom wearing their college tees and sweat shirts to celebrate their college choices.
The DC Community is appreciative of all those serving on the front lines during this pandemic. This composite photograph was posted on DC’s Facebook and Instagram accounts on April 15. Members of the DC community also demonstrated their support by cheering on workers at Paoli Memorial Hospital and the Broomall Rehabilitation Center.
While the usual school year bustle on the Upper Campus was nonexistent this spring, there has been quite a bit of activity down by the barn and farmhouse in recent weeks.

On Monday, May 4, Head of School Dan Steinfield and Director of Development Carter Skeel gathered with DC’s Director and Assistant Director of Athletics, Reggie Parks, and Mike Pinelli, with shovels in hand. Together, the foursome officially broke ground on an exciting campus improvement which will benefit both DC athletes and the larger school community; construction of a new multi-sport turf field is underway!

The new field, made possible by the generosity of several donors, will be constructed on the site of the existing grass athletic field on the lower portion of the school’s 16-acre Upper Campus.

Anchor Management Company in Conshohocken, PA is serving as the field engineer and installation contractor. Mike Pinelli is serving as the school’s project manager. Completion of the project is slated for August 1, 2020.

Dan Steinfield notes “This new field will be a significant enhancement to support DC’s athletic program and marketing efforts...and will present a high yield for our current school programs.”

“I think this turf field is really exciting for players who will reap the benefit of playing on this surface. Also, the new field is good for the school in general. I think our community as a whole has been pushing for this for a long time and it’s encouraging to see the project is being accomplished.”
– Maddy Vavala, Varsity Girls Soccer & Athletic Prefect

“I am very excited about the turf field. It will allow us to play regardless of weather conditions and also supports our pursuit of excellence. Last year we had a fantastic season, this year we could do even better. I can’t wait for our team to perform with excellence on this new top-class field.”
– Joseph Collins, Varsity Boys Soccer

“I’m excited about the field because in bible study with some of the soccer guys we were praying for what we called a “God sized task” and that was the field. The new field is a huge answer to prayer. It will also be nice to not have cancellations and games moved to the Lower Campus field because of rain.”
– Cole Levis, Varsity Boys Soccer

“The new turf field is another of the many blessings that I have seen during my ten years at DC. It adds to the long legacy of God’s provision for our school throughout our 70-year history. I am grateful for the generosity of all those who contributed and eager to continue to coach young men to see all of life as worship as we train, work, and compete on this new addition to our athletic facility.”
– Rob Atkins, Varsity Boys Soccer Head Coach & Bible Department Chair

“We are so very blessed to be able to move forward with the project to upgrade our field and having turf will be such a great benefit for the DC community. Having our athletes be able to perform consistently on campus will create such an energy that cannot be replicated elsewhere. The weather has been so unpredictably challenging over the past few years limiting how often games and events could be hosted here. I can’t wait to see the excitement of our athletes once they step foot on this new field!”
– Reggie Parks, Director of Athletics

Assistant Director of Athletics Mike Pinelli and Director Reggie Parks turn over the first shovelfuls of dirt.
CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY FOR NEW MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD

DC first installed an athletic field in this location for the 1981-82 school year. Students from that era and earlier will remember the gentle slopes leading down from the track field to the small pond and springhouse that sat adjacent to the farmhouse. Since the field sits at the lowest portion of campus, proper drainage of the field has been problematic for decades. The new field design incorporates a state of the art drainage system combined with an environmentally-friendly cork fill that will address this chronic issue. Our athletes can expect a safer playing field and fewer game cancellations in the years to come.

Work on this exciting project is being documented via a link at dccs.org/athletics. Be sure to visit this site in the coming weeks to track the progress of the new field.
January 2020 marked the start of a new decade and a new chapter in DC’s history. After several months of careful planning, Head of School Dan Steinfield announced DC’s new strategic initiatives and the DC Promise to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.

The Innovative Design Challenge was launched in late January to kick-start this new season of growth. Challenge participants were tasked with designing a space on campus to enhance learning or improve student life with DC designating $10,000 to the winning entries for both the Lower and Upper Campuses.

Members of the DC community jumped on board with great enthusiasm. Parents, students, and faculty members teamed up to brainstorm ideas and begin working on proposals based on a $10,000 budget. This creative process yielded a number of compelling ideas including a dedicated ceramics studio, construction of a greenhouse to support outdoor education initiatives, and creation of a student lounge. All entries were reviewed by a special IDC committee that selected the top two design plans for each campus. In total, over twelve designs were submitted.

The level of competition ramped up once the top finalists were announced. The design team finalists launched into preparations for the remaining component of the challenge – a “shark tank” style event that was included as part of this year’s Annual Society Meeting on March 10. The finalists took to the stage with three minute presentations designed to win over the “sharks.” Presenters answered questions posed by the panel and members of the audience weighed in through real-time voting. At the close of the evening, the “sharks” announced the two winning projects.

On the Upper Campus, a portion of Lowrie Hall is being redesigned to include improved lounge seating and the installation of a movable refreshment/coffee cart. The cart will be managed and staffed primarily by students allowing them to gain valuable retail marketing and supervisory experience. This redesigned space will improve community interactions on the Upper Campus and the portability of the refreshment/coffee cart is also a plus as it can be moved around the campus for different events.

The winning design for the Lower Campus aims to reduce the amount of plastic utensils used in the Knights Table lunchroom with an expanded emphasis on recycling and the addition of a new composting system for food scraps. Start-up costs include the purchase of a commercial-grade dishwasher and silverware, installation of recycling stations, and other measures to reduce food waste and encourage care for God’s whole creation. A refresh on the King’s Table lunchroom is included in this project as well.

Work on the winning design proposals will take place over the summer.
Preparations for DC’s new Early Childhood Center (ECC) are nearing completion. The center will serve early learners in PK3, PK4, and Kindergarten classes to serve a need for families who are eager for a quality Christian education for their young children. The ECC will be housed in a dedicated space on DC’s 30 acre Lower Campus in Devon. With a variety of half and full-day enrollment options, Head of School Dan Steinfield explains this new center is just one way DC is innovating to serve parents who desire flexibility, excellence, and a Christ-centered curriculum. He notes, “This strategic expansion is a perfect example of DC’s promise to parents to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.”

Mrs. Rebecca Zaro has been appointed Director of this new academic program. Most recently, Rebecca served as a lead pre-kindergarten teacher at The Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr and was previously a lead teacher at Ashley Hall School in Charleston, SC. She holds a B.A. in Early Childhood Education from Clemson University and an M.Ed. in Teaching, Learning, and Advocacy from the College of Charleston. She is also in the process of completing a Project-Based Learning Certificate Program from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. Rebecca is excited for the opportunity to incorporate her faith in serving young children and helping them to grow to their full potential. She notes “My goal is to create a nurturing environment where teachers and children are inspired to explore and make discoveries together.” She is also eager to lead the development of a dynamic program for young learners that will leave a lasting impact on the students, their families, and our faculty. The delivery of this program for DC’s youngest students will build their faith, knowledge, and confidence in preparation for their next step in DC’s Lower School which encompasses grades 1-5.

Mrs. Zaro is passionate about early childhood education. She shares, “Children are naturally curious and eager to learn. They have a joy for life and are full of questions. An early childhood classroom is always buzzing with inquiry, creativity, and exploration. I cannot think of a better job than to help foster that learning and build a strong foundation they can build on for the rest of their lives.” To parents who are considering enrolling their children in DC’s new Early Childhood Center, Rebecca explains, “this [Early Childhood Center] will be a place full of joy, learning, and love. Their children will be cared for and provided a learning environment that will foster their natural curiosity while encouraging exploration and independence. We will work collaboratively alongside you to create individualized learning through hands-on experiences while fostering a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Families wishing to learn more about DC’s Early Childhood Center are encouraged to contact DC’s Admissions Team at admissions@dccs.org. More information on this program is also available on DC’s website, dccs.org.
FOCUS ON THE ARTS

Hana Yaguchi
ENGAGEMENT YIELDS NEW LEVELS OF CREATIVITY

“Art is something that makes you breathe with a different kind of happiness.” - Ann Albers

The ability to create and express oneself took on a new sense of joy in recent months as DC’s art teachers worked collaboratively to ensure the best possible Distance Learning scenarios for their students.

LOWER SCHOOL

Lower school art teacher Carla Becker reflects “As teachers, the internet became our resource for motivation and helping students acclimate into the lesson. Lessons were planned to conform to the master plan with rigorous learning, yet have aspects of fun and intrigue. We saw students produce artworks of amazing quality. They used materials they had from home, honed in on talents and skills, and had fun in the process. Distance Learning stretched all of us, but in the end, we relied closely on the Lord and watched as HE brought in the blessings.”

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle school art teacher Kim Williams successfully engaged students through a variety of methods including an online "Work of the Week" (WOW) art gallery. “This ended up being highly anticipated each week and showcased a variety of student work.” Mrs. Williams also issued several student challenges including a forced perspective photography contest. Even though the challenges were optional, she was encouraged to see very high levels of participation from her students. Students explored art as a respite from ‘Zoom fatigue.” Mrs. Williams observed, “I witnessed more fully the value of visual art through Distance Learning as it shifted students off screens to explore and create through the lens of a camera or the point of a pencil.”

UPPER SCHOOL

Upper school teachers Mrs. Linda Unger, Mr. Christian Taber, and Mrs. Liz Coats jumped right into online teaching, spending countless hours learning how to reformat the “normal” classroom into a tech-savvy atmosphere that met the needs of the students to the best of their abilities.

Mrs. Coats describes the experience this way; “It hasn’t been easy and we miss our students more than words can express. However, we have been thrilled to see how they have taken creative leaps in their work. Students were forced to think ‘outside the box’... we are thankful for the extra time that was allotted to sending personal art critiques to students, corresponding back-and-forth with students who wanted to push further in their projects, and for the time as a faculty to gather daily on Zoom to pray over our students.”

The DC art teachers worked together to produce digital art shows for each academic division. They are looking forward with great anticipation to having students return to their art rooms this fall.

Artwork: Doris Hou
FOCUS ON THE ARTS

CHOIR SINGING A NEW SONG

COVID-19 dashed the plans of DC’s Concert Choir who were slated to travel to Orlando March 19-22 to participate in a national choral competition and adjudication sponsored by the Disney Youth Programs. Choral Director Mrs. Bussey shares she was impressed by her student’s resilience and ability to adapt despite this disappointment. For example, one student whose voice transitioned during this time requested an extension to re-learn a song in a different voice part. Another student completed Distance Learning from his homeland of China, attending choir and Knight Tones rehearsals in the middle of the night. Other students overcame struggles with technology or finding a quiet place to record in a busy home. Above all, Mrs. Bussey shares, “My prayer is that they [middle and upper school choir members] find a way to keep singing, not allowing this pandemic to define them as a singer, not even for a short time. I have faith that they will.”

BAND CHALLENGES MET WITH CARE

Faced with the limitations of online rehearsals, Middle School and Concert Band Director Mrs. Mandy Limpert adjusted the focus of her band instruction to demonstrate care for her students and to keep them engaged positively.

Middle school band members participated in private lessons for the remainder of the school year and performed individual recitals as a capstone project. Mrs. Limpert points out that this preparation was “in many ways, a more challenging assignment than simply playing one’s part in an ensemble. The students learned independence and how to prepare for a solo performance.”

Connecting with Concert Band members required a different approach. Again considering the limitations of online rehearsals, Mrs. Limpert focused on helping students see music as a means of processing the various emotions they were experiencing. She explains, “One assignment was inspired by a student who sent me a recording of a piece he was listening to that reminded him of some of the beautiful music we had shared in band. I started a document with some of my favorite pieces for inspiration listening, and invited students to share a piece with me and with other students. At school, band served as a respite from everything else for most of my students. This made shifting to a non-ensemble based approach very challenging for most.”

Mrs. Limpert’s care over content approach enabled her to best meet the needs of students during challenging circumstances.
Lower School Music Teacher Diane Clark is a gifted musician, story-teller, and writer. Here, in her own words, is a recap of her experience teaching instrumental music to her students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It seems like something was in the air as early as Wednesday, March 11, so we made sure the students took their instruments home after Band that day. On Friday, March 13, we sent the 3rd Graders’ recorders home with them and a copy of When I Survey the Wondrous Cross so they could still practice for All-School Easter Chapel. As the days wore on, however, we started to realize we weren’t coming back!

Through Google Classroom, I was able to post general music class material for each grade level using video, project ideas, and YouTube music lessons. I was delighted with the student videos submitted in return!

I was also able to post recorder tutorials and music. Instrument lesson videos were posted for each 4th and 5th-grade lesson group, and individual lessons via FaceTime, Loom, or Skype were also offered. These sessions were not ideal but despite iPad doggie attacks, baby brother attacks, phone connection attacks, mouthpieces that jammed as students dropped trumpets while trying to manage iPads-trumpets-music all at the same time, fingers caught in French horn tubing while I could do nothing but watch in dismay through my phone, and me losing my voice after yelling into my phone for hours at a time, some students made wonderful progress! The private lessons worked well for many students. In this version of school, parents seemed glad to schedule regular practice time into their child’s day, too. Congratulations to all the 4th and 5th graders who used their 8 weeks at home to improve their instrument skills!

Thanks to those of you who persevered, who changed your face to a shark playing a baritone horn, who changed MY face to a hamster, who set your iPad on a drum while you hit your crash cymbal right above it, who gave me a wonderful view of the inside of your trumpet...or your nose. You made teaching from home so much fun and you made progress! And to the doggie who sang along for 20 minutes at a time every week...you get an A for tone but you could use some work on pitch.”
Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Prince is Giving a Ball!
AUDIENCES APPLAUD DC’S PRODUCTION OF CINDERELLA

This year’s Upper School Musical was a delightful production of the 2013 Broadway version of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s classic Cinderella. With updated characters, and a plot with a few more twists and turns, DC’s cast delivered captivating performances and exceptional vocals in this revised version of the beloved French fairytale.

The roots of this version of Cinderella go back to 1957 when Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein were tasked with writing a musical for TV broadcast following NBC’s wild success with Peter Pan in 1955. The duo’s adaptation with lead Julie Andrews was viewed by over 100 million people. Since then, the production has been adapted for film, TV, and stage, with the latest version premiering on Broadway in 2013.

One particular update in the revival was giving added depth to the sometimes “one-note” characters from the versions of the past. Cinderella and Prince Topher (performed by senior Lilly Fischer and Brendan Tuttle), in particular, seek more than just fairytale love. Each goes on their journey of betterment throughout the production, hoping to transform their own lives, as well as care for those around them.

While the story of Cinderella is not intended to be biblical in its storytelling, the cast was able to perceive many of the musical’s key themes through that lens. As a result, the performers experienced a renewed call to seek justice, pursue kindness, and care for the well-being of those around them, just as Christ did during his ministry, and urges us to do today.

Each member of the ensemble, from cast to tech crew, Red Team, and orchestra, worked hard to bring this classic Broadway show to life on the DC stage!
In Praise of Cinderella

DC welcomed over thirty members of the Greater Philadelphia Cappies Association to their March 6 performance. Here’s what some of the student reviewers said about the production:

“Delaware County Christian School’s production of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella was carried by the small but mighty ensemble, whose energetic facial expressions brought the backdrop of the fairy tale to life, painting a picture of the poor and determined villagers and the eager and flirtatious ball guests. Their soft singing and harmonies brought depth to Rodgers and Hammerstein’s classic songs, helping support the voices of the lead actors.”

“The show had several very strong voices, but Brendan Tuttle, who played Prince Topher, stood out among the actors. His powerful voice filled the room with ease, and he carried himself with grace and poise befitting a prince.”

“Lilly Fischer played the part of Ella with a sweet voice and unique portrayal of the timeless character...Jazmine Scotton displayed her impressive vocals and confidence in her role as the fairy godmother, Marie.”

“The supporting cast of the production was incredible, showcasing their acting and singing abilities within their smaller roles. Emily Chung, who played Gabrielle, beautifully brought a soft side to the classically rough character, as well as an incredible voice and emotional acting. Emma Carrington gave a lively and comical performance of Charlotte, and even when technical difficulties got in the way of her performance, she carried on with ease and professionalism.”

“Jeremy Mitchell’s (Lord Pinkleton) jaw-dropping high notes in ‘The Prince is Giving a Ball’ seemed effortless.”

“Jordan Deane’s (Jean-Michel) progression from the woeful townsman to the optimistic Prime Minister displayed his laudable acting chops and the depth of his character.”

“The production was tied together by swift and seamless scene changes, helping the show transition from palaces to pumpkins with effortless ease. The costume team handled having many difficult and onstage quick changes with skill, adding to the magic of the story with their well thought out transitions.”

“Even as the clock struck midnight and the ball ended, the magic of Delaware County Christian School’s production of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella left you believing in the possibilities of your dreams, and the ‘music in you.’”
Congratulations to our senior athletes who will be competing at the collegiate level next year!

OBINNA NWOBODO - VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY (FOOTBALL)
AVERY MCKEANEY - WHEATON COLLEGE (SWIMMING)
ZACH FOX - GORDON COLLEGE (TRACK)
ERIN MULHOLLAND - GROVE CITY COLLEGE (SOFTBALL)

BASKETBALL RECAPS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP PAVES THE WAY FOR A WINNING SEASON

The varsity boys basketball team went 17-9 on the year. The Knights’ season ended earlier than anticipated in a PIAA District match-up against Church Farm School. The loss to the Churchmen dashed the team’s pursuit of a third consecutive district title and the opportunity to advance in PIAA State Tournament play. The Knights were led by seniors Jack Piotrowski (Avg. 17.8 points/8.2 rebounds) and Obinna Nwobodo (Avg. 13.2 points/10.0 rebounds). Fellow senior Sam Bushra saw increased playing time this year. His strong work ethic and passion for the game was inspiring, making him a fan favorite. In addition to League MVP Jackson Piotrowski, Obinna Nwobodo was named First Team All BAL and sophomore Josh Parks was Honorable Mention. Nwobodo, junior Jordan Mitchell, Parks, and fellow sophomore Earle Greer were named to the All Delco Second Team. The Knights are looking forward to a return to the court next year.

GIRLS BASKETBALL BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

First-year Coach Steven Poyser used this season as a building block for the future. His squad of young, but determined players displayed encouraging improvement despite their 5-19 record. There were no seniors on the team this year, so junior Emily Smith and sophomores Caitlyn Goneau and Freshman Sarah Stahl stepped up to lead the way. All three players received All BAL honors this season. Coach Poyser looks to continue this trajectory of improvement next year as a strong group of rising freshman joins the team. He notes, "Already this offseason, most of our players have committed to workouts. I’m excited for next year and the future of the girls basketball program."
SENIOR JACKSON PIOTROWSKI IS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF DC’s 1000 POINT CLUB

Jackson finished his DC playing career with a remarkable 1,333 points, making him the fifth-highest scorer in school history. Jack reached his 1,000 point milestone at the December 28th Tournament held at Marple Newtown.

On the season, he averaged 17.8 points and 8.2 rebounds per game and was selected as the team’s MVP.

A four-year starter for the Knights, Jack racked up an impressive number of accolades along the way including league, county, and all-state honors.

Next year he will transition to a fifth-year program at the nearby Phelps School and hopes to continue his basketball career in college.

CAREER AWARDS INCLUDE:

Sophomore Year: All Delco Honorable Mention, First Team All BAL, Team MVP

Junior Year: All Delco - Second Team, PA All-State – Second Team, First Team All BAL, Team MVP, DC Invitational All-Tournament Team

Senior Year: All Delco - Second Team, PA All-State - Third Team, BAL President’s Division MVP, Team MVP, DC Invitational All-Tournament Team, DC 1000 Point Club Team.
FOCUS ON ATHLETICS

GEORGE HUSMANN Award

The George Husmann Award was initiated in 1983 by the Chester County Officials Association in honor of DC’s first Athletic Director and is given to one female and one male in the junior or senior class who demonstrate leadership, sportsmanship, and commitment to their sport. The recipients are consistently respectful, responsible, and diligent. They set the tone for their respective teams and compete at a high level placing winning secondary to sportsmanship.

THE GEORGE HUSMANN AWARD FOR SPORTSMANSHIP

KATELYN DONOHUE

SENIOR KATELYN DONOHUE has played field hockey since middle school and finished with a very strong season during her senior year. Katelyn represents everything that the Husmann award intends to celebrate; she is kind, caring, and helpful both on and off the field. Varsity Field Hockey Coach Emily Ashworth reflects, “Katelyn embodies the word consistency both in her play on the field and with her character.” Katelyn will be attending Liberty University this fall.

JORDAN MITCHELL

JUNIOR JORDAN MITCHELL is a multi-sport athlete who excelled in football and basketball this past year. Despite his immense talent, Jordan is extremely humble and steady, showing consistency with his work ethic and in how he treats others. One coach stated, “Jordan goes about his work in a way that seems to inspire his teammates to give their best effort. I’ve never seen him exhibit anything other than a respectful attitude as he made major contributions in multiple sports.” Another coach stated that Jordan is, “a total team player with an above reproach Christian Character.” With his senior year in front of him, we look forward to watching Jordan continue to grow both on and off the field and court.
This special award is given in honor and memory of Carl Bowen ’73. This recipient is a multi-sport athlete who has made significant contributions to DC’s athletic program through ability, leadership, and Christian character. Recipients have received a minimum of six varsity letters and either team, league, county or state recognitions. This award is named after DC athletic standout and student leader Carl Bowen ’73 who passed away from cancer in 1974.

THE CARL BOWEN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS

OBINNA NWOBODO

SENIOR OBINNA NWOBODO is the winner of the 2020 Carl Bowen Award. Obinna had an awesome athletic career at DC as a three-year varsity starter in football and a four-year starter in basketball. He effectively transitioned to 8-man football this past season amassing 45 tackles (12 for loss) and 4 sacks in 7 games. He also was a force on the Knight’s offensive line. As a result of his impressive performance, Obinna was named Keystone State Football League (KSFL) Defensive MVP. In his final basketball season at DC, Obinna averaged 13.2 points and 10.0 rebounds per game and was named to the All BAL first team.

Most importantly, Obinna grew in his faith and became a great leader over his journey in varsity athletics. Head Football Coach Lloyd Hill states, “Obinna is an effective leader. He set a great example for the freshmen this year. They respected him because of his strong leadership.” Obinna received an athletic scholarship to play football at Villanova University this coming fall. He is the first DC athlete to receive a Division One football scholarship since the inception of the school’s program in 2010.
WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO WORK AT DC?
I began substitute teaching in 1988 and then started full-time in the Guidance/Discovery Center office in 2002.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR EARLIEST MEMORIES FROM YOUR DC EXPERIENCE?
I have so many great memories. One of my earliest would have to be getting early morning calls from Peggy Bell or Steve Dill to substitute in the elementary or middle school. Later I would also hear from Betsy Sautter for the high school.

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME HERE?
I loved getting to know the students, but I also enjoyed serving side by side with teachers, staff, administrators, and board members who love the Lord and want to provide an excellent Christian education for our students. We are a family here. I will miss everyone so much.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL STEP INTO YOUR ROLE?
Enjoy each day, you never know what it will hold. Serve the Lord with gladness. (Psalm 100:2). Thank Him for the privilege of working with your sisters and brothers in ministry to the Lord.

THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR MARKS THE END OF DC CAREERS FOR FOUR IMPORTANT INDIVIDUALS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

PEGGY BELL, CHUCK PATTERSON, JANET SMYTH, LINDA UNGER

THESE BELOVED MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY EMBODY A DEEP LOVE OF THEIR WORK, A COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, AND A LOVE FOR STUDENTS.

WE ARE GRATEFUL THEY FOUND A HOME AT DC AND FOR THEIR MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OVER THE YEARS.

JANET SMYTH – Assistant to the Head of School, Guidance Office

“I had the joy of working with Janet in the Academic Office for several years. She is a person about whom we say, ‘What are we going to do without Janet?!’ Top-notch at what she does, Janet is first and foremost trustworthy and godly. She keeps confidences, is prayerful, and speaks words of grace. Additionally, she is professional, faithful, efficient, knowledgeable, proactive, fun, and kind, and she embodies a can-do spirit. I will miss Janet in so many ways and am thankful that I had the privilege to work with her.”

–Robin Bronkema, Head of School, Academics

FOCUS ON FACULTY
WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO WORK AT DC?
I first learned of DC through Dr. Lowrie in my early teaching days on Cape Cod. He was frequently a keynote speaker at various Christian school conferences, and when I sensed it was time to move on from my ministry on Cape Cod, I was led to apply for a teaching position at DC. The Lord brought me here in 1985 when Jan Chace was the elementary principal and Ken Tanis was the Headmaster. Both played an important role in expanding my understanding and love of Christian education.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR EARLIEST MEMORIES FROM YOUR DC EXPERIENCE?
One of my earliest memories - only days into my DC career - was when Suzanne Sink, a co-teacher in third grade, introduced me to the first of many monarch caterpillars! I knew very little of the life cycle of the monarch butterfly at the time, and out of a need to keep the caterpillar alive, I began reading and researching that very day! That experience led to a lifelong love of introducing children to the miracle of the monarch butterfly. I was encouraged by a fellow teacher to expand the program by learning about tagging monarchs in order to track their migration route to Mexico. We have now tagged hundreds of monarchs, and even received a certificate that one of our tagged monarchs found his way to Mexico!

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME HERE?
I can't name only one thing that I have enjoyed most! Being free to share biblical insight into all of our learning in the classroom is definitely at the top of my list. In addition, I loved spending my days with third graders who come in the room each day with a smile and a readiness to learn! I have been blessed to minister alongside families who have chosen Christian education for their children, and who brought great encouragement and friendship throughout the years. Finally, I have immense love and respect for my colleagues, who have become my family and closest friends.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL STEP INTO YOUR ROLE?
Strive to be a lifelong learner! As I said above, that was part of my introduction to DC. Now as I complete my ministry, I can say that I have also ended in a similar manner - having completed 9 weeks of Distance Learning! It was definitely a challenge for me, but God walked me through it step by step, one day at a time.
“Throughout his 24 years of serving in Student Support, Chuck has invested time, energy, compassion, and concern in the lives of every student with whom he has worked. He has consistently provided support to meet each student’s individual needs amidst an ever-expanding curriculum and increasing course offerings. Chuck’s passion for ensuring that each student feels valued is a legacy that will remain in the hearts of the hundreds of students whose lives he has impacted.”

– Jody Puckett, Director of Student Support Services

**WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO WORK AT DC?**
I came to DC in 1990. I had been an administrator at a Christian school in New Jersey, but wanted to return to teaching and coaching.

**WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR EARLIEST MEMORIES FROM YOUR DC EXPERIENCE?**
My earliest memories were living in the barn [on the Upper Campus], with Ken and Willie Tanis living in the farmhouse and the Leach family living in the carriage house that is no longer on the lower fields. My two sons were very young, as were the Leach children, and it was like our own little community.

**WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME HERE?**
What I enjoyed the most over the years was working in the resource room, coaching cross country, and assisting George McFarland in coaching track.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL STEP INTO YOUR ROLE?**
I don’t like to give advice because every teacher brings his/her set of gifts and talents and views, but I would say that as a resource room teacher, stay flexible, work with other teachers, and love the kids.
LINDA UNGER – Upper School Art

“For 35+ years, Linda has proven to be an outstanding teacher, a generous mentor, and a valuable advocate for the Arts at DC. We are so grateful for her ability to deliver an art program that challenges students to see the world around them in a new and creative way and to translate that to their work. Her love for students is evident and her impact on the DC community is immeasurable. She will be sorely missed for her talent, dedication, and servant leadership. From the art students to the Tech crew - from the Red Team to the many hundreds of alumni who’ve gone on to careers in the arts, Linda has been a tremendous influence in our lives. God bless you for your service to the Arts at DC.”

– Jeannie Leaman, Art Department Colleague

WHEN DID YOU FIRST COME TO WORK AT DC?
I arrived at DC 35 1/2 years ago. I came as a temporary teacher with the intention of only staying for a half year, finally telling Miss Chase I would finish the school year if she stopped asking me!

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR EARLIEST MEMORIES FROM YOUR DC EXPERIENCE?
One of my earliest memories would have to be Scott Bateman. When I started teaching my classes, this unusual young man came into my classroom. Unlike the other teachers, Scott Bateman stayed to work and join in with the students - as if he were a student himself! He did this everytime he brought his class to the art room. He didn't leave and he didn't separate himself. He was funny and had a great sense of humor! He was my “welcome to DC” person! I loved it and he was helpful!

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME HERE?
Oh the students! They are my children!

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL STEP INTO YOUR ROLE?
This one is more difficult. I hope this makes sense: Remember that these are children and not yet adults. They are in the process of changing and we are very instrumental in ensuring that that change is impactful. Students listen and observe how we interact with them. They need to feel good about themselves and good about what they do. Sometimes it’s hard for children to find success and here [in the Art room], I make sure that they find it!
After numerous state-to-state moves, the Calderwood family settled in Newtown Square when Bruce was beginning high school. His parents, who were deeply committed to the Lord and dedicated to raising their children in Christian Education, enrolled Bruce and his siblings – brother Bill and sisters Marge (Dill) and Joan (Walker) at nearby Delaware County Christian School. DC was a new school at the time and the family dove in and supported the school in every capacity.

During his DC years, Bruce was heavily involved in all aspects of school life especially athletics and student government. He was named Student Body President and Captain of the Soccer team in his senior year. Bruce remembers the impact DC had on his future work, beginning with Spanish teacher Ms. Linder. She organized a ministry of delivering Christmas gifts to underprivileged families in the inner city of Philadelphia. "It was then, passing through bleak neighborhoods that my eyes were first opened to homelessness. I saw broken lives and the grip of hopelessness in the cycle of poverty, the plague of poverty."
During the summers of his high school years Bruce also served under Dr. Roy Lowrie, DC’s first Headmaster, at Camp Sankanac, ministering to boys from underprivileged homes. Of this experience Bruce says, “God was preparing my heart for working with inner city hurting people. Prov 16:9 reminds us, ‘the heart of a man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps’.”

The education he received at DC created in him a desire to work with young people and so after graduation he headed off to Taylor University where he majored in education. His studies continued at Ball State University where he received a Master of Arts in Education.

While in Indiana he began his teaching career serving under-privileged students. After several years as a sixth-grade classroom teacher and multi-sport coach at Southfield Christian School in Southfield, Michigan, Bruce sensed God’s calling to work at the Detroit City Rescue Mission Ministries, one of the oldest and largest rescue missions in the United States.

Now, forty years later, Bruce has served faithfully in several key roles including Executive Director of Wildwood Ranch, a camp ministry of the Rescue Mission that serves children and teens from Detroit and Flint, Michigan.

Currently Bruce serves as the mission’s Facilities Services Director, a role in which he supervises facilities for the entire range of mission operations across the city of Detroit. He also directs the Mission’s community food pantry, Lighthouse Food Bank, which serves over 350 people a day.

In addition to his role at the Detroit Rescue Mission, Bruce has been heavily involved in nonprofit leadership and church ministry in the Detroit metro area. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board at Motown Soup, a nonprofit organization that donates proceeds from its products to soup kitchens, homeless shelters, food banks, and clinics in the metro area.

Bruce and his wife Sue are actively involved in their home church, Dunning Park Bible Chapel. Bruce was an Elder for many years and currently serves as the President of the Trustees. He preaches regularly at Dunning Park, and other churches in the Detroit metro area and Ontario, Canada.

On the home front Bruce and Sue kept busy raising a family of their own. They are the proud parents of Becky and Dan, who between them have blessed Bruce and Sue with five grandchildren. Bruce is also close to the extended Calderwood family.

Of late, Bruce has been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis in Detroit. The city’s Health Department came to the Mission asking for help in distancing the homeless population as part of mitigation techniques. One strategy they’ve implemented is to use former YMCA buildings that offer individual rooms to those in need of shelter.

Our plans to honor Bruce at this Year’s Annual Fund Dinner and Benefit on April 17 were postponed due to the pandemic. We look forward honoring Bruce in person at a later date. Please continue to remember Bruce in prayer as he continues this work under very extenuating circumstances.
The legacy of Rodney Sisco ’80 continues through the Rodney Sisco Symposium for Transformational Leadership, Diversity, and Equity Practices. The inaugural event featuring Dr. Bernice King was held at Wheaton College in February. The symposium’s goal to bring young men and women “from every tribe, tongue, nation and people” (Rev 5:9) together before they embark on various careers to impact the world for Christ and His kingdom was near and dear to Rodney’s heart. Rodney’s wife Hasana would love to connect with members of the Class of 1980, as well as alumni from other classes who knew Rodney. Email the Alumni Office at alumni@dccs.org and we’ll put you in touch with Hasana. More information on the symposium is available at rodneysiscosymposium.org

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REv. Gary Taylor ’72 has been serving as the Intentional Interim Pastor at Seymour Evangelical Baptist Church in Seymour, CT for the past year. He and his wife Suzy reside in Massachusetts.

1980

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Carolyn Landman ’88 is continuing her twenty-two year career as an occupational therapist serving K-12 students. She helps students with a variety of diagnoses to improve their skills and find success within their academic settings. Carolyn’s work has had its challenges in the last quarter of the 2019-2020 school year as she has had to provide occupational therapy remotely. She has persevered to maintain continuity of care as much as possible and to provide encouragement to her students. In the summer, Carolyn can often be found serving on the mission field in various locations around the globe.

1988

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1989

Kim Tanis O’Bryan ’89 and daughters Elena O’Bryan ’18, and Alexa O’Bryan ’20 recently issued a 14 day challenge to members of their Havertown neighborhood to support the Ardmore Food Pantry. They used their home as an easy drop-off site for food donations. Together the trio collected and donated over 400 grocery items to help feed those in need in the Ardmore area.

2000, 2002

Mike Casey ’00 and Katie Dilullo Casey ’02 are busy raising their family while serving as foster parents. Mike was inspired to become a foster parent in part by his experience as a middle school basketball coach at DC; one of Mike’s players was being fostered by a DC family. As husband and wife, Mike and Katie joined in this commitment together to make foster care part of their family dynamic. Their family has been blessed with eight foster children over the years, as well as three of their own biological children.

2003

Liz Steele Coats ’03 hosted a mini-class reunion in January with classmates who recently returned to the East Coast. This was a great opportunity for these friends and their families to reconnect with each other.

Pictured (L-R): Philip Homan ’03 and his wife Steph, Chrissy Neef, Kylie Young, Liz Steele Coats ’03, Chuck Young, Jr. ’03, CG Coats, Bill Neef ’03.
Kenneth Coppola Jr. ’04 has served with the Aldan, PA Police Department since 2005. Members of the Coppola family were on hand to celebrate Ken’s promotion to Sergeant in October, 2019. Ken is often visible around Aldan as he is part of the borough’s Police Mountain Bike Patrol Unit.

Kate Terjanian Richard ’06 is working as a Family Nurse Practitioner and is grateful to be able to treat patients during the COVID crisis. “Trusting in the Lord for His continued provision and plan through this unpredictable time.” Kate lives in Norfolk, Virginia with her husband David and their one year old son Judah.

Rachel Ammon Quigley ’07 has been named the Executive Director of the Myrtle Beach Bowl after serving for five years as a marketing professional with Visit Myrtle Beach where she managed partnerships for both college and professional sports. Her prior work experience has included positions with the Philadelphia Eagles and the Boston Red Sox.

Amy Thomas ’09 recently earned her MBA at Villanova University with concentrations in Real Estate and Finance. Amy notes she embarked on a career in finance in part because of a career day held at DC during her high school years.

Brittany Attard Bennett ’09 married Doug Bennett at Terrain Gardens at Devon Yard on August 23, 2019. DC alums were well represented at the wedding. The groom’s father is Stephen Bennett ’67. Supporting Brittany on her special day were attendants Lauren Goebel Crilly ’09, Katherine Semple Madonna ’09, Valerie Wright Smith ’09, and Elizabeth Wright Altieri ’04. Martha Wright Harris ’02 contributed a scripture reading and Abigail Semple ’15 served as the florist. Brittany says, “It is really neat to see the way God connected Doug and me through a shared connection to DC, DC shaped me into the woman I am today. Since Doug’s father received the same education, my husband and I both wear/display DC roots.” The couple works in the mental health field. Doug is a clinical counselor and Brittany works for the Chester County Intermediate in advanced clinical services.
HANNAH ELLSWORTH SARNA ’11, is working as a nurse at Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas.

BOB HEGMAN ’11 chose to make an impact on the next generation of DC students as a coach for varsity girl’s lacrosse. While the team’s season was cut short this spring, they did have a few weeks to work together during pre-season. We’re thankful to alumni like Bob who give back and make a difference in the lives of our youth.

HAYLEY NEWMAN MICHAEL ’12 has been doing her part during the pandemic by sewing face masks for hospitals in need. Haley works as a “satellite seamstress” for Christine Shirley Sewing & Design Studio, in Wayne, PA. It’s a labor (of love) intensive process to make these individual masks as each is hand cut, ironed, pinned, and sewn.

NATALIE MARZIANI ’16 graduated from Temple University Fox School of Business on May 7. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish with the distinction of magna cum laude. Natalie’s professional interests include customer data analytics as well as a range of marketing specialties including influencer and social media marketing. She hopes to work in a company with international offices to enable her to build global relationships and connections. In addition to her academic workload, Natalie served on our Alumni Council for the past two years.

THOMAS CHUNG ’16 graduated from Wheaton College this May and will return to DC this fall as a Middle and Upper School Math Teacher. “I’m looking forward to working with the students of DC and being a part of the community! Learning about math has taught me a lot about God and the world around me. I always thought I wanted to teach, and God made this calling clear to me after taking my first education class at college.”

JHANNA FITZGERALD ’19 is living out Galatians 6:2, “Bear one another’s burdens.” This spring Johanna has been volunteering with Shop4Seniors. The group provides free grocery delivery for older adults in the Philadelphia area who are not able to shop for themselves during the COVID-19 quarantine.
**CONNECTING ALUMNI PARENTS**

In the past year we’ve heard from alumni parents about an interest in staying better connected to DC after their young-est students graduate. Parents from the Class of 2019 initiated this conversation and coincidentally several alumni parents from other classes began to bring up this same subject to the Alumni Office throughout this year. As a result, the Alumni Office is now engaging this segment of our school community in new ways: an alumni parent survey is now in place to determine levels of on-going interest, alumni parents are receiving dedicated email communications, and planning for an Alumni Parent Social at the Upper Campus this fall is underway.

**UPCOMING REUNIONS**

**THE CLASS OF 1960** has had to postpone their 60th reunion originally scheduled for May, 2020. Plans are now in the works to host the celebration in October at the Upper Campus. Stay tuned for more details.

**THE CLASS OF 1970** is scheduled to host their 50th reunion on July 24th and 25th. The schedule of events is as follows:
Friday, July 24th, 4:00-9:00 pm at the home of Glenn and Connie Kraftson McDowell, Conshohocken, PA. Saturday, July 25th, 10:00 am, tour of DC’s Upper and Lower Campuses with guide Marge Calderwood Dill, starting at Lowrie Hall on the Upper Campus. Saturday, July 25th, 4:00pm-9:00 pm at the home of Curt and Darla Eldredge, Coatesville, PA. Please RSVP by July 4th to one of these classmates: mcdowell.fam@verizon.net, margedilten@gmail.com, curteldredge52@gmail.com. There is no cost to attend this special reunion.

**THE CLASS OF 1982** We’d like to hear from you about your interest in a 40th reunion. Jim Morris and other organizers are trying to plan the best time for this celebration, so your response is important. We also need contact information for a number of you. Email us at alumni@dccs.org or call 610-353-6522 X 2381 to update your contact information, share your input, or help with the planning.

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The Alumni News & Notes section continues with updates and announcements for alumni and their families. It includes updates on reunions, recent alumni news, and obituaries of former students and faculty who have passed away.

**In Memorium**

**RAYMOND KRAFTSON ’58**, one of DC’s first graduates, passed away on February 21, 2020. After high school graduation Randy went on to live a life of impact through his family, church, and career as an attorney. He was a skilled mechanic and race car driver and enjoyed working on cars, motorcycles, and boats in preparation for his next adventure. A service celebrating his life was held at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Wayne, PA.

**NANCY JACOBSON, 1933-2020**

Longtime DC Librarian Nancy Jacobson entered eternal life on February 21, 2020. Nancy grew up in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. She was a graduate of Taylor University and joined the faculty at DC in 1957; she served our school faithfully for 41 years before retiring to Garden Spot Village in New Holland, PA. Nancy was originally hired as a sixth grade teacher. In true DC fashion, she jumped in wherever she was needed – coaching field hockey and ultimately transitioning to the role of school librarian where her passion and gifting shined. She went on to earn an advanced degree from Villanova University in Library Science. In 1973, she traveled to LaPaz, Bolivia to set up a library at a Bible school. She was also an active volunteer with Arab World Ministries and World Impact. Nancy served in a variety of volunteer roles during her years at Garden Spot. Her interest in art painting flourished as well; her watercolor paintings were featured in the community’s art show in the fall of 2019. Miss Jacobson is fondly remembered by many DC students; she embodied DC’s core values of servanthood and being rooted in Christ.

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**THINK YOUR CONTACT INFO MAY NEED TO BE UPDATED? EMAIL US AT ALUMNI@DCCS.ORG, OR CALL 610-353-6522 EXT 2381**

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We are pleased to announce the appointment of an alumni parent Dr. Suzanne Fitzgerald to the Alumni Council. Suzanne is a professor and chair of the Department of Public Relations & Advertising at Rowan University. She is also the proud mother of DC alumni James ’17 and Johanna ’19.
A CONFIRMATION OF CALLING AND GOD’S PERFECT TIMING

Cindy Hayes Williamson ’88 began her career as a missionary to Latin America in 2003. Life in the nearly twenty-year period since leaving the U.S. has not always been easy. Weathering many a storm, scarcity of necessities, and living through political unrest has been challenging. Yet Cindy’s commitment to reach the people of Honduras for Christ remains strong.

Cindy’s eventual path to Honduras began at DC during her high school Spanish class. She distinctly remembers the sense that God was calling her to serve Him in Latin America. Cindy felt like DC prepared her well academically for the college experience and for the future God had in store for her. She says, “At DC I learned to love those who were different from me.”

Cindy attended Taylor University in Urbana, Indiana. A short-term mission trip during her sophomore year confirmed her calling. She changed her major from math education to one she wrote herself, combining Christian education and psychology. She met her husband Wes at this time, who shared her call to missions. After seeking God’s direction with the help of a group of prayer partners, the couple attended missionary language school in Costa Rica. Following graduation, they arrived in Pinalejo, Honduras in January 2005 with their four young children.

Cindy and Wes reside in Colón, Honduras. Their work includes training church leaders, hosting community Bible studies, and ministering to and connecting with the local people. This spring brought additional challenges for the Williamsons. Local authorities imposed severe quarantine restrictions in their surrounding area. Restrictions and shortages often left Cindy unsure of where her family’s next meal was coming from. God faithfully provided again and again for the couple, against what looked like impossible odds. Cindy is grateful to the many DC alums who have responded to the urgent prayer requests shared on DC’s alumni social media accounts. This level of support and God’s continued faithfulness in times of need confirm she is right where God wants her to be; she continues to impact others for Christ through biblical thought and action.

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE T-SHIRT AT A TIME

Ben Rowe ’16 was this year’s winner of the Gordon College Social Venture Challenge, an annual nonprofit and business pitch competition. Competing against 14 other teams and assessed by a panel of judges from around the country, Ben claimed first prize and earned a $5,000 investment in his company, Jawn Supply. Jawn Supply is a second-hand, online and pop-up vintage clothing store that offers unique, affordable, and sustainable clothing with a dual purpose to spread awareness about clothing waste. Ben started Jawn Supply as a way to combine his passion for vintage clothing and photography with a goal of “Saving the world, one t-shirt at a time.” While many second-hand resellers disregard damaged clothing, Ben upcycles these previously unwearable items into store products while at the same time making a positive impact on the environment by cutting down on clothing waste. Ben plans to use the $5,000 prize towards higher-quality inventory and a new company website. His inspiration for the term “Jawn” in the company name comes from Philadelphia slang as a general term for any sort of noun.

This is a busy time in Ben’s life as he and fiancée Emma Ellsworth ’16 recently graduated from Gordon College and are planning to be married in July. Emma will begin work with The Vanguard Group in the fall while partnering with Ben as he transitions to operating Jawn Supply full-time. Congratulations on all these milestones Ben and Emma!
CAREER ASPIRATIONS LEAD GRAD TO YALE PUBLIC SCHOOL OF HEALTH

Mei Yi Li ’16 is taking a major step in fulfilling her career aspirations. Mei is a recent graduate of the University of Pittsburgh where she double majored in biology and chemistry and will begin a master’s program in public health this fall. She was admitted to multiple graduate programs at top universities including Yale, Columbia, Harvard, and the University of Michigan. In the end, she decided to enroll in Yale’s Public School of Health.

Mei is a native of Qingdao, China. She attended DC from 9th–12th grades after looking at several schools in the United States. One key factor in her decision was her initial observations about DC’s school culture and the school’s strong co-curricular programs.

In addition to academics, Mei pursued several of her passions including tennis, flute, art, and theatre. She tells us, "DC is very supportive. It’s clear the faculty care about you. This support gives you more motivation to learn and grow.

Mei was drawn to the field of public health in part because it encompasses so many facets or healthcare, including economics, law, the social sciences, epidemiology, and business. Her graduate school decision had to be made during the COVID-19 outbreak which drove home to her the great need in this field today. Her passion for public health also has deep family roots. Looking for a way to help during the outbreak in the U.S., her parents donated 8,000 masks to DC for school use and also to share with groups who were in need.

Though Mei has many accolades to her name including salutatorian and summa cum laude, her DC host family and many who knew her as part of the Class of 2016 describe her as a humble and kind person. Now that’s something of which to be proud!

INSPIRING HOPE IN THE BATTLE AGAINST CANCER

Jamie Barr Pendell ’14 is telling the world that Christ is Greater than Cancer! That’s the name and message of a ministry started by alumni parents, Greg and Jane Pendell, and now carried on by Jamie with the support of her husband Scott Pendell ’14. Through this ministry, the Pendells seek to share the Gospel and support Christian families as they face a battle with cancer, including families in the DC community.

Christ is Greater than Cancer (C>c) is very personal for Jamie and the extended Pendell family. During Jamie and Scott’s senior year, Scott’s father Greg was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. As a means of helping others walk through a cancer diagnosis, Jane Pendell began the C>c ministry. It continued to operate with Jane at the helm and with a team of volunteers. About a year ago, Jane asked Jamie to consider taking on the role of CEO. Jamie wasn’t sure she could juggle leadership of the ministry with her “day job” as an elementary school teacher. But Jamie says, “I was feeling led to take on a larger role, so that the Lord would make His will evident to me.’ As time went on, both Jamie and Scott were committed to seeing Jamie take on a larger role. Since that time Jamie created a website and communication plan for the ministry and an expansion to include bill pay campaigns and care package support. As a result of Jamie and Scott’s strong ties to their alma mater, a number of those served by the C>c ministry are part of the DC community. For more information on this ministry, check out their website at www.christisgreaterthancancer.com.
Our March 12 Alumni Give Day raised nearly $33,000 to support the ongoing work and mission of Delaware County Christian School. Gifts of all sizes made up this year’s Give Day. Many donors made gifts in the amount of their graduation year; some to honor beloved teachers or administrators like Miss Nancy Jacobson and Headmaster Emeritus Ken Tanis.

The strong level of participation from our graduates was a very positive aspect of this year’s Alumni Give Day. We were especially encouraged to receive gifts from a total of 152 FIRST TIME alumni donors. This amazing support from our alumni demonstrates the impact of our mission on the lives of our graduates and inspires others to support DC as well. We want to express our deepest gratitude to all who participated in this year’s Alumni Give Day and pray that God will multiply these gifts to further DC’s efforts to prepare students for a life of impact through an innovative and exemplary education rooted in Christ.

You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11
PART-TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY
DC is currently in need of bus drivers for the 2020-2021 school year. If you or someone you know is looking for a part-time/flexible opportunity, visit dccs.org/employment for more information.

Host Families Needed FOR 2020-21
DC’s International Student Program office is in need of families to host students for the 2020-2021 school year. Through our Homestay Program, students from around the world have the opportunity to study at DC, learn about American culture, and live with a Christian family. The goal for the Homestay Program is to promote cross-cultural learning and a Kingdom mindset for all students and staff at Delaware County Christian School. Our host families are a critical component of this program. For some students, living with a host family is the most impactful part of their experience here in the United States. Host families have the unique opportunity to live out their faith in front of students on a daily basis and to develop lifelong relationships with them. They are partners in the international students’ education, serving as integral team members along with biological parents, teachers, administrators, and church families.

For more information on becoming a Host Family, contact Arlene Warmhold, Director of International Student Program at awarmhold@dccs.org.

WE ARE OPEN!
DC SUMMER PROGRAMS IS BACK!
DON’T MISS THE FUN
6 FULL WEEKS OF EXCITING OFFERINGS
FOR STUDENTS GRADES K–8

DAY CAMPS & ENRICHMENT COURSES
FOR ALL DETAILS, DATES, TIMES & REGISTRATION GO TO
DCCS.ORG/SUMMER
905 S. WATERLOO RD. DEVON, PA 19333  484-654-2425
Carter Skeel assumed the role of Director of Development at DC on March 16. He joined our school community at a time of great uncertainty externally but also one of great promise internally—a promise that he will have a central role in helping DC realize. His addition provides vital support for the many Advancement initiatives that are integral to the execution of The DC Promise and ultimately to the fulfillment of our mission to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

Prior to assuming the Director of Development seat at DC, Carter served as a consultant with American Philanthropic for four years, most recently as a Senior Consultant working with executive and senior development leadership at a variety of nonprofits both locally and nationally to shape and implement fundraising strategies. He has served on the Development Committees of The City School and the Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission. Carter is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and of the John Jay Institute fellowship program.

In his new role, Carter will work with the Head of School and provide oversight for donor activities, including The Fund for DC, the Upper Campus Field Project, the EITC program, The Benefit for DC, and the upcoming endowment matching campaign. He bolsters DC’s growing Development Office, which also includes Development Assistant Trisha Tuttle, Events Coordinator Darlene Ceffaratti, and Alumni Coordinator Missy Freiling. Please join us in offering Carter a warm welcome to the DC community.

In 2001, Pennsylvania became the first state to pass an education tax credit aimed at corporations with the enactment of the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC). Since that time, the program has expanded significantly in both size and scope, with more total tax credits available and with individual Pennsylvania citizens now eligible to procure them.

Today, DC’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) opportunities are supporting the school’s financial aid program in a transformational way. By early May of this year, approximately $700,000 was raised through these tax credit vehicles with potential for an additional $100,000 by June 30.

Thank you to those who have participated in the program this year. You have played a pivotal role in providing significant funding for families who desire a Christian education at DC. For those of you who are less familiar with Pennsylvania’s tax credit opportunities, participation in this program is simple and offers up to a 90% refund against your state income tax liability. To qualify, you’ll need:

- A state tax liability of at least $3,500; and
- Stock in, ownership of, or employment at a PA business.

If you do not qualify under this second criterion, purchasing a single stock in a PA business will satisfy the requirement. If you are a PA business owner, you can also participate through your business.

TO LEARN MORE OR TO INITIATE YOUR EITC/OSTC DONATION TO DC, PLEASE CONTACT CARTER SKEEL, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, AT CSKEEL@DCCS.ORG.
The legacy of Kenneth H. Tanis is tangibly felt at Delaware County Christian School. During his 21 years of stewardship as Headmaster, DC’s enrollment expanded to over 1,000 students and completed two successful capital campaigns that resulted in (among other things): the purchase of the former Alice Grim Elementary School to house DC’s growing elementary student body, construction of the Lowrie Annex art building and construction of The DeMoss Center for Worship and the Arts.

Ken gave his heart and soul to our school, and it is accurate to say that DC would not be where it is today without his steady leadership.

Those families who struggled to afford DC’s tuition held a special place in Ken’s heart. He was committed to a vision of DC that welcomed students and families of all socioeconomic backgrounds, especially those places in the surrounding area from which DC did not typically draw students. Ken made great strides to accomplish this goal during his tenure at DC, and it remains a priority of our current enrollment and financial aid efforts at the school.

An important part of DC’s Annual Society Meeting on March 12 was the announcement of the Kenneth H. Tanis Endowment. The endowment is made possible by a $200,000 lead gift from the Tanis children spearheaded by daughter Leslie ’85 and her husband, Jeff Pott ’83.

As envisioned by its founders, the fund will have an annual draw of 5% to provide a minimum of $10,000 in scholarship funds to qualified students each year. With additional donations and sound investment, the principle will continue to grow, unlocking additional funds for scholarship aid.

DC is grateful to the Tanis family for their thoughtful and generous gift to launch the Kenneth H. Tanis Endowment. If anything, DC’s recognition of the need for a fund designated for this purpose has only grown in the last few months, as the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted us to remember that there is no certainty in this world aside from God. Finances change, and we do not take lightly the financial commitment that DC requires of its families. This fund will not eliminate this uncertainty, but it will help to ensure that financial circumstances will not prevent talented Christian students from attending our school.

Looking to God as our true foundation in this and in all things, we look forward to glorifying his name as we minister to families across the socioeconomic spectrum through the Kenneth H. Tanis Endowment at DC.

To inquire about this Endowment please contact Director of Development Carter Skeel at cskeel@dccs.org.

"My father believed that every act of kindness and service has a significant impact on someone’s life, no matter how small, and far beyond what you might imagine. His model was Jesus who demonstrated compassion so many times in the gospels."

"We are confident that the endowment will grow over the next few years through the many contributions from all who loved, respected, and cared for Ken Tanis, and we will rely on the Advancement Office to help raise additional funds based on this initial gift and its designation. We hope and pray that this endowment honors the work that my father started but can no longer deliver here on earth."

–Leslie Tanis Pott ’89

KENNETH H. TANIS ENDOWMENT
UPPER CAMPUS
462 Malin Road
Newtown Square, PA 19073

LOWER CAMPUS
905 S. Waterloo Road
Devon, PA 19333

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Wednesday, September 2
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES K-12

Thursday, September 3
DC DEDICATION SERVICE

Tuesday, September 8
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES PK3-PK4

Thursday, October 8
UPPER CAMPUS GRANDPARENTS DAY

Tuesday, November 24
ALL SCHOOL THANKSGIVING CHAPEL

Tuesday, December 22
ALL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHAPEL

DCCS.ORG