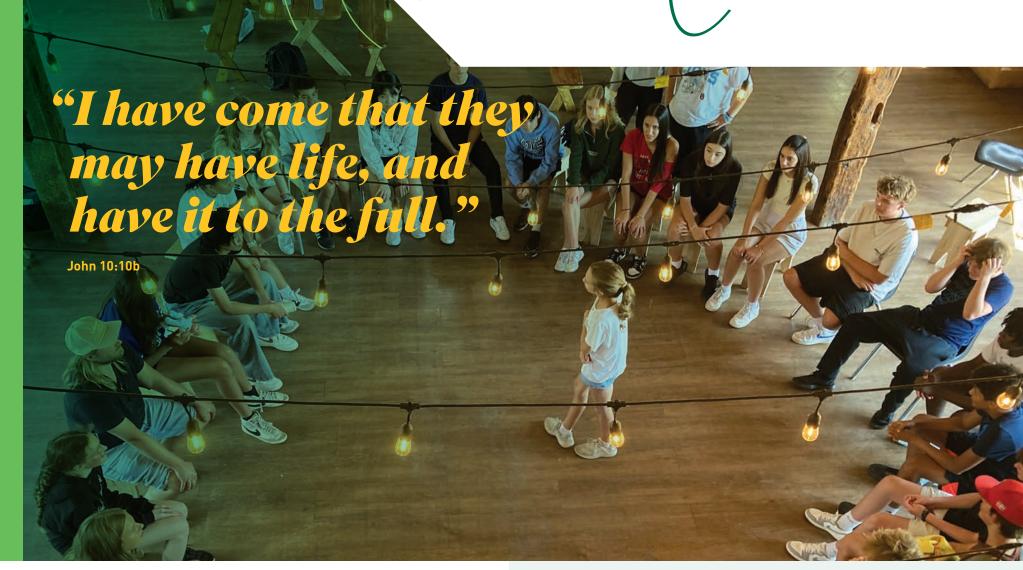
# FALL ISSUE | 2025

CONNECTING TDCHRISTIAN WITH OUR SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

IN OUR **63**<sup>RD</sup> YEAR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION





# WHAT DO YOU THINK JESUS MEANS THAT HE WANTS US TO

"Live Life to the Full"?



## **OLIVIA VANDER KOOI, GRADE 9:**

To live for Jesus and not get distracted by things that aren't important. To live for others more than just yourself.



## JONATHAN LOPEZ, GRADE 10:

To live our life to Christ, devoted to him and helping people to find a relationship with him and get closer to him.



## MICAH FREEMAN, GRADE 11:

That you have a deep sense of purpose. That you live your life through and for Jesus. That you are able to help others to live a full life as well. A full life also represents authenticity: that you are living your life as a genuine person.



# Sarah L'Heureux, Grade 12:

Live like Jesus will come back tomorrow so that you will do the right things today.

# **Embracing Life to the Full at TDChristian**

Dear Friends of TDChristian,

s I step fully into the role of Principal, I'm deeply grateful for the support of this community throughout the leadership transition, and to the board of TDChristian for their investment of time and resources in my development. With humility and excitement, I now look forward to leading TDChristian into the next chapter of its incredible story—a story made possible



only through God's faithfulness and the support of generations of families committed to *learning for service in the light of God's word*.

Our theme for the 2025–26 school year, "Life to the Full", is rooted in Jesus' words in John 10:10b, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Life in its fullness is not found in busyness or achievement alone, but in walking daily with our Good Shepherd. At TDChristian, we want this truth to shape the way students learn, the way staff teach, and the way we interact with one another.

A full life in Christ can be experienced in so many ways: in classrooms where curiosity is encouraged, in service opportunities that stretch our perspective, in friendships that point us towards grace, and in moments of worship where we lift our hearts to God together. My hope is that each member of our community—students, staff, families, and supporters—will experience the richness of this abundant life throughout the year. Let's walk forward together in faith, expectation, and joy.

With gratitude, Joel Dykxhoorn PRINCIPAL



f you walk the halls of TDChristian, you may find yourself pausing to wonder what is different. The shine of porcelain tiles in the corridors, the warmth of new vinyl plank flooring in classrooms, the crisp lines of freshly painted walls—together, these give our school a fresh, welcoming feel. But behind every tile, brushstroke, and plank lies a deeper story: the generosity of our community.

Over the summer, the Commons, classrooms, offices, and washrooms were renovated. The updates are more than cosmetic. They speak of a school that is alive with learning, a place where students feel proud to belong and where excellence in education is matched by an environment that inspires. Even our Nook space has been refreshed. Now there is a showcase for student creativity, especially the work of students in photography classes.

None of this would have been possible without donors. Every gift, large or small, helped create spaces where students will gather, learn, and grow in faith. We want to thank the Foundation that shared our vision for refreshing our building in this way and made it possible to make all of these changes at once. To all our donors: you don't just fund renovations; you help shape daily experiences. A new floor means a brighter place for

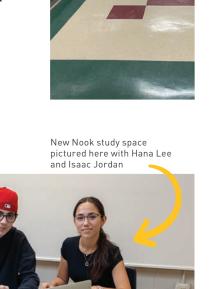
friendships to form. A freshly painted Commons is a more hospitable and inviting hub for community. A revitalized Nook creates a platform to celebrate student gifts.

So, as the doors open each day, know this: your generosity has left a lasting mark. You've helped make TDChristian not only a place of learning, but a place that feels like home.

Want to help students soar into the school year? Make a tax-deductible donation anytime online OR e-transfer to donations@tdchristian.ca









Renovated washrooms



**BEFORE** 

School hallways





Firehall Experiential Learning Centre

New classroom flooring in David Kim's Biology class



# Hands-On Learning, Real-World Impact

usiness is booming at TDChristian right now. Our Business *program*, that is! This September, we hand a brand-new Business course for Grade 10 students, and it is filled to capacity. In last, TDChristian is offering no fewer than 7 courses in the field of business and entrepreneurship this year! Persistence, purpose, and people are three principles of entrepreneurship; they're also principles that we desire all students to engage with as they grow the skills needed to succeed both now and after high school.

Along with this growing Business program, TDChristian is preparing for a renewed partnership with the The Fire Hall Experiential Learning Centre, anticipating that it will become a vibrant extension of our classrooms. The Fire Hall board has recently updated their mission statement, noting that "The Fire Hall Experiential Learning Centre provides students and volunteers with real world experience by working and learning in a thrift store that promotes environmental responsibility through repurposing quality donated materials. The revenue generated supports TDChristian High School and other local charities."

The store will offer students an authentic, hands-on experience in areas like business operations, customer service, environmental stewardship, marketing, and more. This initiative beautifully reflects our vision of learning for service in the light of God's word. Students will not only apply what they're learning in school; they'll also contribute meaningfully to a working retail environment that gives back. It is our hope and prayer that students will continue to apply these lessons to create culture, serve others, and make an impact as they live life to the full.





The program is built around three streams that give students meaningful ways to grow and lead. Peer Counselling equips students to support classmates through active listening, empathy, and encouragement.

Student Life empowers students to plan events, build school spirit, and create a welcoming environment where everyone belongs. Thirdly, trips invite students to step beyond the classroom through service, outdoor, and cultural experiences that build teamwork, responsibility, and spiritual reflection.

Ms. Rachel Petrusma, Vice Principal of Student life, notes, "We believe God has called us to invest in young people by developing their leadership skills and providing opportunities to reflect his love and grace in service. We are grateful for how our student leaders have already welcomed the Grade 9 class and other new students into our community."

This program aims to provide a foundation for leadership that prioritizes serving others and living out our faith in tangible ways.

We are eager to see how God will work through this first group of Servant Student Leaders to bless TDChristian and beyond.





# **NEW TO THE TEAM**



**BRIAN BERGSMA '08** 

Mr. Bergsma brings his experience to the table through his teaching in the Business and Science departments.



RACHEL DYKXHOORN

Ms. Dykxhoorn joins us as an EA (Education Assistant), working as part of the Learning Commons team. She's excited specifically about working with some of our Grade 9 students.



**JADE HOEKSTRA '18** 

A jill-of-all-trades, Ms. Hoekstra is teaching Drama, Tech, Business, Geography, and Graphic Design this year (But her superpassion is drama!)



**HOLLIE HOLLANDER '04** 

Ms. Hollander helps support the smooth running of TDChristian from the Finance office.



**ERIN VOORTMAN** 

Ms. Voortman joins the supportive team in the Learning Commons. (Ask her about her coaching endorsement!)



**VADYM YAKUBA** 

Mr. Yakuba has previously volunteered his time and expertise to TDChristian. He is teaching Bible, Civics, and Geography this semester.



# Our Town Highlight

*Our Town* is a play about everyday life in the small town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Through the stories of ordinary people, it highlights the beauty of simple moments and the fleeting nature of life. The play ultimately invites audiences to reflect on the preciousness of life.

#### TDCHRISTIAN PRESENTS: Our Town by Thornton Wilder

Directed by Richard Peters with all-star TDChristian original cast

December 10–13, 7pm Matinee December 13, 2pm

Adults \$20, Students \$15

Produced in association with Concord Theatricals



Scan the QR code to secure your seat to see the play *Our Town* — you won't want to miss this. tdchristian.ca/events

# **EVENTS**



## **FALL ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE**

OCTOBER 16, 6:30PM

**EFFECTIVE GIVING ONLINE SESSION** 

NOVEMBER 11, 7PM

TALENT SHOW

NOVEMBER 13, 6PM

**ALUMNI VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT** 

NOVEMBER 15

**GRADE 7 & 8 DAY** 

NOVEMBER 21

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 27, 7PM

• Renew your membership before the meeting at tdchristian.ca/splash/membership/

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

DECEMBER 4, 7PM

DRAMA PRODUCTION "OUR TOWN"

DECEMBER 10-13

See above for more information



Tickets and details for all of our events are available now at tdchristian.ca/events

# **CONTACT INFO**



For further information on TDChristian, please contact the school.

## **TDCHRISTIAN**

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