



"...tell the next generation..."

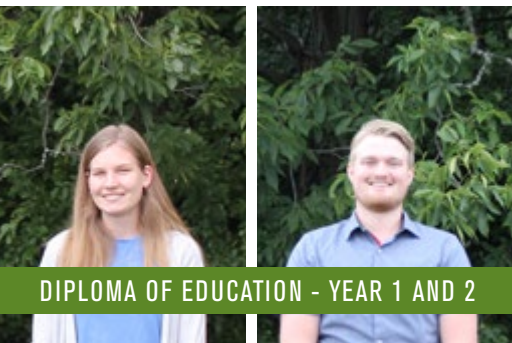
PSALM 78:4



**CCRTC NEWS
FALL 2022**



from the PRINCIPAL **CHRISTINE VAN HALEN-FABER**



DIPLOMA OF EDUCATION - YEAR 1 AND 2



DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 1



DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 2



DIPLOMA OF TEACHING - YEAR 3

One of the extra-special moments of any given day at Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC) is when students, staff, and faculty are together in the library, eager and ready to begin a new day of learning and teaching. Opening devotions are characterized by the reading from God's Word, singing praises to his great Name, and bringing our adoration, joys, and requests before his throne. The first day of the 2022-2023 academic year formed no exception. Together we considered the words of Psalm 145 as they apply to the education of God's covenant children. It is a text that brings home the importance of training future teachers to be faithful in their calling of telling the next generation of God's work and Word. We paid attention to the beautiful task of teaching as speaking of, meditating on, celebrating, and telling of God's awesome works. And we saw the comfort in doing so while seeking the blessings of our God who is faithful, loving, and righteous and who upholds, lifts up, listens, and watches. It was a privilege to begin the new year in this way and it enabled returning and new students, staff, and faculty members to focus on our shared God-given task.

Psalm 145:4 is the theme text chosen for the year: *One generation will commend the LORD's works to another; they will tell of his mighty acts.* This text points out the importance of keeping the generational chain intact. The analogy of a chain is a powerful one. Just think back to one of the learning activities from your own

Kindergarten class, making paper chains by gluing single strips of paper. Patiently adding a link at a time made your chain grow longer and longer. Yet, all it took was for one link to come apart and the chain was broken!

Staying with the analogy of a chain, we are thankful for each link in the operational chain of the College. In addition to ten new students, we welcome some new faces in our various offices. Mr. Mark den Hollander enthusiastically embraced his teaching responsibilities in the areas of Foundations (Church History and Foundations of Reformed Education) and Curriculum and Instruction (Teaching Studies - Unit Development). Mrs. Debbie Vandersluis took up her new task as a sessional instructor teaching the music course. In addition, we welcome back Mrs. Catherine Vanderpol who is teaching the Language Arts-Reading course, our librarian, Mrs. Eleanor Boeringa, our custodian, Mrs. Emma Vandervelde, and the full-time faculty, Dr. Jack Huizenga, Mr. Menco Wieske, and Dr. Christine van Halen. However, the classrooms, library, and hallways are not the only places where the action is: The "front office" also plays a major role in ensuring the smooth operation of the College. Elsewhere in this issue you will read about some significant changes that took place during the summer. We are very grateful for the diligence and dedication shown by our past and present administrative teams.

We would be remiss in not mentioning the work done behind the scenes by the



ATTENTION! ANYONE INTERESTED IN POSTSECONDARY TEACHER EDUCATION:

During the past 40+ years, Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College has enjoyed a steady supply of qualified and highly committed full-time and sessional faculty members.

To help us plan for the future, we are looking to contact anyone who might be interested in pursuing a vocation at a postsecondary institution and who is a communicant member of a Canadian Reformed Church, or of a church with which the federation of Canadian Reformed Churches maintains ecclesiastical fellowship, to contact us.

Currently we are looking for expressions of interest in full-time and sessional positions.

Board of Governors and its various committees. Many volunteers give of their time, energy, and expertise in promoting the vision of the College and realizing the goals determined by the Board through its strategic planning process. Further on you will find a list of Governors whose task it is to represent member schools at the CCRTC Board table and CCRTC back in one's school community. This dual representation is another important link in maintaining the integrity of Reformed Christian teacher education and the relationships that exist between the schools and the College.

I want to conclude this introduction to the new academic year with mentioning one more link in our chain - the one involving our alumni community. In addition to regular contact with many of our alumni, it is especially the contact with the most recent graduates that affirms the teaching and learning at CCRTC. During opening devotions in September, incoming emails and words of encouragement from recent graduates are read on a regular basis. In the words of one first year teacher, "After my first week in my own classroom with my own 24 kids, I have absolutely 0 regrets... it's an amazing job... having wonderful covenant children before you, eager to please you and just waiting to show them all they can wonder about and learn!" Indeed, becoming and being a teacher in a Reformed Christian school is an amazing vocation.

INTRIGUED, INTERESTED, OR SIMPLY WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Learn about CCRTC's programs at www.covenantteacherscollege.com

Contact Dr. Christine van Halen-Faber PRINCIPAL
cvanhalen@covenantteacherscollege.com

ARE YOU A "FRIEND OF CCRTC"?

Do you want others to know? Do you want to show it by wearing a unique CCRTC item?



Visit our "CCRTC Store" at: ccrtc.entripyshops.com or scan the QR Code.





from the CHAIRMAN **BERT POORT**

As we start into the new academic year, I once again had the privilege to be in attendance at the orientation day at Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC). There were twenty students present representing all the academic years of both the Two- and the Three-year Programs. It is such a blessing to see the students at the College and the excitement they all have in learning to become teachers of the next generation of covenant children, teaching the children how God has created and continues to sustain us, and what it means to be a child of God. (Psalm 145: 15, 16 - *The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.*)

In this day and age of supply shortages and staffing shortages, I am thankful to report that God has once again provided the faculty and staff needed for the good and orderly continued operation of the College. This academic year we welcome Mark den Hollander as the newest full-time faculty member. Also new to the College are Alisha Ravensbergen who has been appointed to the role of Administrative Assistant in the office, and Michelle Temple who has been appointed to the position of Financial Administrator. We thank God for his providence and care of the College as it relates to attracting and retaining the faculty

and staff needed to continue to operate this year again.

The attention of the College as well as other Reformed schools and organizations has been turned toward encouraging high school students to consider Christian school teaching as their profession. We seem to be in an era where the shortages of staff are beginning to impact our Christian schools. This was evident in the spring when I noted that in the Clarion there were approximately thirty-five teaching vacancies across Canada and Washington State. The number of students graduating from the College this past spring was six. We clearly need to be active in encouraging our youth to consider a career in teaching, assisting us as parents in meeting our baptismal promises. What a wonderful opportunity teachers have to assist parents in raising the children to grow up in the knowledge of the fear of the Lord! To that end, please speak to your children about how enriching and rewarding a career in Christian education can be and consider what the College has to offer in that regard.

Moving on to the work done by the Board of Governors and committees over the past year, the Property Committee has been busy with coordinating an interior refresh during the past two summers. The flooring, painting, and lighting have been updated in most of the facility and it looks amazing again.

The College has a few new committees

which were formed at the encouragement of the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB) during their review in 2020. The Program and Personnel Committee (PPC) has been divided into two separate functions. We now have the Program Committee separated from the Personnel Committee now known as the "PPC - Program" and "PPC - Human Resources" committees.

Work has continued on Governance policies and procedures in answer to PEQAB recommendations and in anticipation of the next step toward accreditation, which is the review by the Ontario College of Teachers.

Lastly, the College has had several vacancies on the Board and committees during the past few years. We have been encouraged by those who have been willing to serve and would encourage you to offer your time and talents for this very worthy cause of training teachers to educate the next generation of covenant children. We are in search of a Vice Chairman, Assistant Treasurer, Board Secretary, and have openings on several of the committees.

Let me close off by saying how thankful we are that God continues to sustain the College with all that is needed for the operation into a new school year. Please pray that the College would be provided for with faculty, staff, and students with God's blessing for the generations to come.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

For the Two-Year Diploma of Education Program: a suitable university degree

For the Three-Year Diploma of Teaching Program: a grade 12 diploma with university entrance equivalence

ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2023

The Board of Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College in Hamilton, Ontario, invites applications from prospective students for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Prospective candidates are invited to contact the College for more information and/or follow the Admission Procedures listed on the CCRTC website.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Those who plan to seek admission in the year 2024-2025 are also encouraged to contact the College as soon as possible.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

COVENANT CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE
410 Crerar Drive Hamilton, ON L9A 5K3
905.385.0634 Fax: 905.385.8409

www.covenantteacherscollege.com

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WASHINGTON:

MRS. STEPHANIE BAREMAN
Cornerstone Christian School, Lynden, WA



LANGUAGE ARTS AT CCRTC

CATHERINE VANDERPOL

Language is one of God's great gifts to his people. It is through written language, his Word, that he reveals himself to us and teaches us how we are to live for him. We are able to read his Word and learn how we are to test the spirits in the world around us.

How is Language Arts taught at Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC)? Language Arts is taught through two courses, writing and reading, which are offered in alternate years. You may think that separating the two is like separating bacon and eggs, mac and cheese or peanut butter and jam! Even though the two go hand in hand, they are taught as separate courses at the College in order to delve deeply enough into them so as to learn how to teach those subjects.

Through analyzing journal articles, presenting teaching ideas to classmates, and working through lessons in practicum placements, students at CCRTC discover how to teach their younger brothers and sisters the beauty of the written word. The

"6 + 1 Traits of Writing" textbook forms the foundation for the writing course. Ideas, sentence fluency, organization, word choice, voice, conventions, and presentation are used to teach various genres of writing. Have you tried your hand at a personal memoir or a fictional narrative? What about a procedural task or a persuasive piece of writing? How about an acrostic poem or haiku? Maybe a diamante poem? All these and more are some of the types of writing that students practice in the Writing Methods course. Learning how to assess writing as a teacher as well as guiding students to critique their work is also practised. The pictures painted by the use of God's gift of words are many and varied. Each lesson contains reminders of the need to choose words carefully so they reflect God's love and grace as we interact with each other and those whom we meet each day.

The Reading Methods course delves into phonemic awareness which involves recognizing rhymes and syllables, segmenting words, or breaking them down into sounds as well as blending or putting sounds together. How do we foster a love of reading in students, especially a love for his Word? How important is reading

fluency? What are some beneficial ways to teach vocabulary? How do you address reading comprehension? Since textbooks can be challenging to read, do you teach students how to read expository text? Media literacy needs to be addressed as we are influenced by it through all aspects of the world in which we live. Learning how to assess the components of reading is a detailed discussion in class. Students at CCRTC address all these topics through presentations, discussions, summarizing journal articles, gathering teaching ideas, and practicum assignments.

God's Word is the lens through which the Reading Methods and Writing Methods courses are taught. Both courses examine the Ontario Language Curriculum for grades 1 - 8. The gift of words, either written or read, must be used to His glory!





2022-2023 CCRTC PERSONNEL:

FULL-TIME FACULTY

C. van Halen-Faber, PRINCIPAL, BA; M.Ed.; PhD

M. den Hollander, BA; B.Ed.; M.Ed.; OCT

J. Huizenga, B.Sc.; B.Ed.; M.Ed.; PhD; OCT

M. Wieske, DIPED; MA; EdD (CANDIDATE)

ADJUNCT FACULTY

D. G. J. Agema, M. Div.

SESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS

C. Vanderpol, BA.Sc. (HONS); M.Ed.

D. Vandersluis, BA

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

E. Boeringa, LIBRARIAN

A. Ravensbergen, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

M. Temple, FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

J. van Leeuwen, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



CCRTC FALL

CALL CAMPAIGN

We can't wait to get in touch with some of you!

Have a look at the information in your church mail slot or your inbox and then wait for our call sometime between October 24 - November 11.

If you don't get a call this time around, no worries. We'll catch you later.

Looking forward to our conversation!





from the treasurer

DAN WITTEN

With thankfulness to our Lord, Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College (CCRTC) has once again experienced continued financial support from our community. Currently, our year-end financial statements are being prepared, and they show how the strong support from the community has enabled the College to meet and exceed its financial commitments. CCRTC receives its funds through multiple revenue streams including tuition, personal donations, corporate donations, school memberships, bequests, and funds received

from the Harvest Foundation. Through these revenue streams we once again see the Lord's continued work in providing for CCRTC.

There are some new faces within the Finance Committee and the office staff. We had to say goodbye to our long-time Financial Administrator, Karen VanVeen. Karen, thank you for your work producing financial statements and assisting in future financial planning. You will be missed and we pray that the Lord blesses your future endeavours. Michelle Temple will be taking on the role of Financial Administrator. She has an abundance of experience within our community in this role and will no doubt quickly get her legs underneath her in the

coming year. Dan Huizinga was found willing to join the Finance Committee and will no doubt be a valuable member with his previous experience as Treasurer of John Calvin School in Smithville. Welcome to the team, Dan.

The Finance Committee is still looking for a few more members so please contact me at treasurer@covenantteacherscollege.com if you would like to volunteer to help support CCRTC in the training of Reformed teachers.

We continue to pray for the well-being of CCRTC and are grateful for receiving the ongoing support of the community.

Yours in Christ, Dan Witten



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NOTE: All photos included in this issue are used with permission.

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 - 15th of the month 30th of the month
- \$480/Year** - Withdrawn on _____ each year
- \$_____/Month** - Withdrawn on the:
 - 15th of the month 30th of the month

SIGNATURE

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