



# Covenant

CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE

JULY 2019

*"...tell the next generation..."* PSALM 78:4



CCRTC NEWS

## SUMMER 2019

[www.covenantteacherscollege.com](http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com)



### from the PRINCIPAL CHRISTINE VAN HALEN-FABER

**It is really true: Another year of teaching and learning has passed at CCRTC!**

Time flies, and yet we can look back with thankfulness on two semesters filled with the regular activities one associates with an institution of higher learning. Nine students have graduated and are preparing for a new task, all of our students have written exams and completed final papers, and most of them have started summer jobs.

Faculty members have completed marking exams and assignments, reviewing courses, and are now engaged in summer course activities, graduate studies, and preparing for a new academic

year. Office staff members are looking forward to things slowing down a little, allowing them to find time for "all those other things." Yet we know that before long everything will be in full swing again

We often take the ebb and flow of the academic year for granted, assuming that the daily hustle and bustle of academic life is just normal. Yet we know that during the past year we depended on the good gifts the LORD gave to each one of us with an open hand. In this light we may also look forward to the start of a new year on September 3, knowing that the beautiful task of "...telling the next generation" is not yet completed.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!







## GRADUATION 2019 JENNIFER LOF

“Stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.” — 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

On May 24, 2019, nine graduating students of Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College along with staff, board, family, and friends met together at Cornerstone Canadian Reformed Church for the Graduation Ceremony of the Class of 2019. The theme text for the occasion was 1 Corinthians 15:58, “...stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.” This was a very fitting text as these nine graduates set off to embark on a new chapter in their lives.

The Chairman of the Board, Richard Feenstra, welcomed all present and began with reading Deuteronomy 6 and 7. He gave a short meditation on how we are God’s chosen people. We did not choose God, but rather he chose us. As these nine young ladies begin their teaching careers, he prayed that the fruit of their labours be a blessing to those they teach and ultimately bring glory to God.

Rev. R. J. den Hollander then gave the graduation address entitled *Horton Hears a Whose*, inspired by the well-known children’s book by Dr. Seuss. However, his message had a slight twist, particularly in the title

as he changed the word *Who* to *Whose*. The story is of an elephant who hears a noise, however, due to the very small size of the creature, he cannot see it. He goes on to say that a *person’s a person, no matter how small*. There is a message in this. It is not only a story about a village of *Whos* but this book is dedicated to the equality of all men. It is about loving without distinction, just the way God determined it to be. Created in the image of God, to be image bearers of God, whether tall or short, dark or light, old or young, we are all fearfully and wonderfully made, woven together by the Master Creator. Rev. den Hollander went on to say how that would be the proper way to look at a classroom full of kids. Each child is created by God, wonderfully unique and the Lord’s treasured gift.

But there is more to it than that. It is found in the name of the school these nine young ladies are graduating from: “Covenant”. He went on to explain that we should not think of *who* we are, but *whose* we are. These new teachers are about to enter into a classroom full of covenant children. What makes them unique is *whose* they are. God said to each of them *you belong to me* and that makes all the difference in how you will teach them. As a teacher, you get to impress that truth into the heads and hearts and hands of those little ones so that that may come to understand that special place of *whose* they are. Yes, *I belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ* and thereby Rev. den Hollander encouraged these new teachers to transform their classrooms into *Whoseville*.

The principal, Dr. C. van Halen-Faber, then gave her address, assuring each graduate that they were indeed ready! After 3 years of

activities, discussions, theories, and practice teaching, all their hard work was about to lead them into a classroom, where they would be assisting parents in teaching God’s covenant children. What a gift! She encouraged them to stand firm in the one thing they all have in common, the path of faith. At this point, the Diploma of Teaching was presented to Alanna Folkerts, Morgan Jonker, Brianna Lof, Nadine Tenhage, Anita VanderLoo, Debra Van Eerde, Victoria Van Raalte, Rachelle VanLuik and Michaela Vis. With thankfulness to the Lord, it could be noted that each graduate has received a teaching position for the 2019/2020 school year. The valedictory address was then presented by Morgan Jonker and Debra Van Eerde, giving a small glimpse into the lives of the students at the college.

There was a presentation from W.A.T.C.H., the ladies who raise funds for items that are not on the budget. These include the beautiful CCRTC banner and table runner featured that evening. This year CCRTC was presented with a cheque for \$8000. Some milestones were remembered, including recognition of Mrs. Martha De Gelder’s 25 years of volunteer service on the board and committees, Mme Teresa Boisvert’s retirement after over 20 years of teaching French, and lastly, but certainly not least, saying good bye to Miss Judy Kingma who is formally leaving her role as adjunct faculty member and who has been in the teaching profession for more than 50 years.

Indeed, it was a beautiful evening where we could give thanks to our Father in Heaven for his continued blessings at CCRTC. “We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.” Soli Deo Gloria!

# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

At times it seems fitting to use a public event such as a graduation evening to mark milestones of a different nature. Each one in its own unique way attests to God's faithfulness as experienced by the college community.

This past March we could pause and take note that Mrs. Martha DeGelder attended her 25th Annual General Meeting! Martha has been involved with the college for many years and in different capacities. For many years she served as chairman of the Board of Governors, and even after retiring from that position she continued to do much work in the area of CCRTC governance. Martha has been instrumental in ensuring that the CCRTC governance documents not only are representative of the vision and objectives of the college, but also are carefully and responsibly crafted. **We thank Martha DeGelder for her many years of faithful service.**

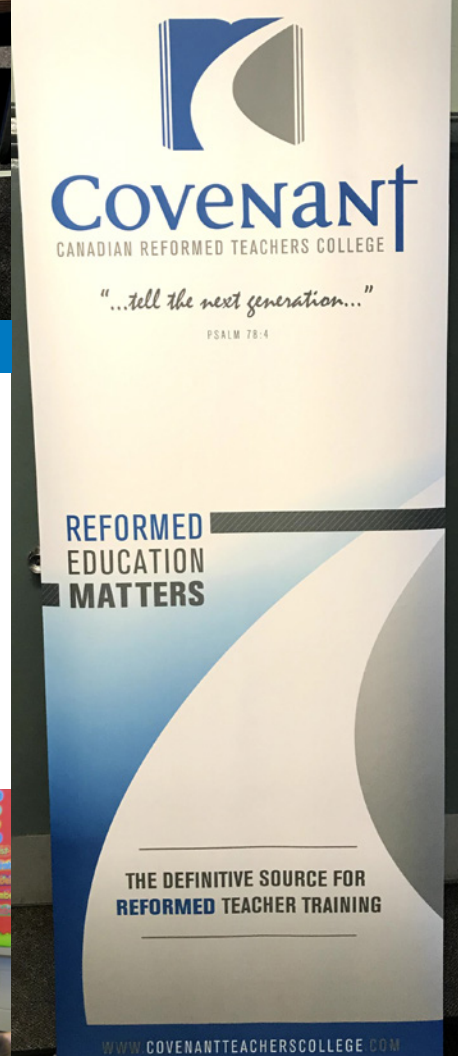
**Faithful service was also rendered for many years by Mme Teresa Boisvert** who creatively, resourcefully, and persistently helped CCRTC students develop their French language skills - no matter what level a student was at when entering her course. Personally, I will always think back fondly at the beautiful singing, en français naturellement, that came from her classroom on a regular basis. We thank Teresa for introducing the students to the AIM French program, and for establishing such a superb laboratory language approach by having students go to Timothy Christian School to practise their skills on real students.

Lastly, and in our heart of hearts we knew this day would come some day, we marked a third milestone by bidding farewell to Miss Judy Kingma. Judy has served the college for many years, first as a part-time instructor, then as a full-time lecturer, and during the past years as an adjunct faculty member. For many years we have benefited from Judy's knowledge and her wisdom. There are numerous CCRTC alumni who will fondly recall classes in Church History studies complete with illustrative stories

told in dramatic fashion. Or the Language Arts courses in which Judy encouraged the students to develop their writing and reading skills, so they in turn can shape a future generation of writers and readers. And who would ever forget the passion with which Miss Kingma introduced the different genres in Children's Literature?! I think it is correct to say that as a Reformed Christian educational community we also owe Miss Judy Kingma much gratitude for her tireless efforts in the area of curriculum development. In addition to teaching several curriculum theory courses at the college, Judy also developed curriculum resources, including twelve binders containing invaluable material for teachers who teach Church History in Grades 1-4. When we acknowledge her involvement in Reformed Christian education for more than fifty years, **we can truly thank the LORD for the gift he gave us in the person of Miss Judy Kingma. May her tireless efforts in educating the covenant youth of Christ's Church stand to the praise of his glory. Judy, we thank you!**







# W·A·T·C·H· REPORT

WOMEN ASSISTING THE TEACHERS COLLEGE IN HAMILTON

Greetings from W.A.T.C.H.! In the blink of an eye, another fundraising season has come and gone. We would like to take this opportunity to send out a word of appreciation to our ladies far and wide who have once again taken the time to hold a local fundraiser. With much gratitude to God for blessing our efforts, we have been able to present a cheque for \$8000.00 to the college at this year's graduation ceremony. We thank you all for your continued support!

The W.A.T.C.H. committee,

Beth Stel (Convener)

Chandra Vanderboom (Treasurer)

JoAnn VanIperen (Secretary)

Eleanor Boeringa (CCRTC Liaison)



## from the treasurer DAN WITTEN

Entering the last quarter of our fiscal year, we would like to express our thankfulness for the generosity from the community - far and wide - that enables the college to continue operating. The revenues received through donations still need to continue to ensure that we finish the fiscal year with a positive balance. Please prayerfully consider if you

are able to support CCRTC financially at this time. We encourage the use of PAPs since they generate consistent revenue throughout the year. Even though activity at the college may wind down during the summer months, regular expenses still need to be met and PAPs provide a way to do this. To close, we would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and safe summer!

Please detach and mail to: CCRTC • 410 Crerar Drive • Hamilton, ON • L9A 5K3

### Yes! I would like to support CCRTC!

- One-Time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (cheque enclosed)
- Monthly by pre-authorized automatic withdrawal

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### Pre-Authorized Direct Withdrawal Form

I want to be a regular donor to Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College and allow automatic donations from my bank account as indicated below. I agree with the conditions in the application and can terminate this agreement at any time.

**\$40/Month** - Withdrawn on the:  
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**\$480/Year** - Withdrawn on \_\_\_\_\_ each year

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 15th of the month  30th of the month

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Please ATTACH a blank cheque marked "VOID" to this form.