



# THE FRIDGE DOOR

January 6, 2021  
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## Nota Bene

- William Groot (with a special contribution from David Hagen)

Welcome to 2021!

As a staff, over 40 of us met by Zoom on Monday. Our hope and prayer is that even in lockdown, God will provide a positive way forward as we endeavour to end Quad 2 well. To encourage you I share parts of math teacher David Hagen's thoughtful and hopeful devotions, "New Beginnings."

"In early December, as I knew my turn on staff devotions was approaching, I was mulling over the idea of new beginnings. First of all, it is fitting since it is now a New Year.

Well, new beginnings are fantastic. They provide a clean slate, a do over, a way to move on or improve. They allow us to forget and forge something new. We mark the changing in years typically with big celebrations; we live in hope that, "This will be the year!" However, we have many beginnings throughout the year: start of the school year, start of a new semester (or quadmester), start of summer, and, even, the start of a new day.

God is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. When I think about that, I imagine God before creation and after he comes again. And when he does, we will begin a new earth. God is timeless and forever. God is at the "endpoints."

But, what if we add the letter "s" to both words? God is BeginningS and EndS. Each beginning, whether it is the start of a new year, the start of a new course, the beginning of a new life, a new relationship, a new lockdown, a new day, a new hour, or even a new minute, God is there. In a similar way God is at the "ends" – the moments, the days, every part of our lives.

At the start of 2021, I wish to highlight 'beginnings' that come from God's Word.

"Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." *Ephesians 4:22-24 (ESV)*

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." *Lamentations 3:22-23 (KJV)*

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." *Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)*

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." *Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV)*

We are so blessed to have a God that not only gives us new beginnings, but he looks at us now and what we are and will be in the future, not the past or our former selves. Amazing. Let us give thanks to him for He is good!"

## A Special Note re: Financial Relief from the Ontario Government

As sent in an Edsby message earlier this week, the Ontario Government is providing financial relief for families of students who are in elementary and secondary schools. Apply by Feb. 8, 2021 at [ontario.ca/page/get-support-learners](http://ontario.ca/page/get-support-learners).

## What's Upcoming?

1. **Quad 2 Work Day** is Fri., Jan. 15.
2. **Winter Open House & Celebrations of Learning** on Thursday, January 21 (Please NOTE the date change.)
3. **Quad 2 ends** on Thurs., Jan. 28.
4. **Quad 3 begins** on Tues., Feb. 2 and March break will likely begin on Mar. 13 instead of Mar. 12.

## Admissions

- P. Schuurman

We invite you to our **Winter Open House and Celebrations of Learning**, a live-streamed event that begins at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 21. Find out more about TDChristian High School and celebrate students' learning specifically in STEM, Math, English, Science, World Cultures, and Photography. To receive more information or get a link to attend, RSVP to [schuurman@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schuurman@tdchristian.ca). This is for prospective, as well as current families.

We are accepting applications now for the 2021-22 school year. If you have a child in grades 8 to 11 (or know someone who does) and you wish to begin the application process, go to [www.tdchristian.ca/studentadmissions](http://www.tdchristian.ca/studentadmissions).

If you have any further questions, please email me at [schuurman@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schuurman@tdchristian.ca).

## Praise & Petition

- E. Dengerink/M. Laswick

Please pray for our students as they adjust to remote learning. For many of them, it is a challenge to stay focussed and motivated. Pray that we will be able to be back together again soon and safely!

University and College applications are due in the upcoming few weeks. Please pray for the Lord's guidance, direction, and patience for students as they complete their applications and await offers of acceptance.

We are thankful to learn that health care workers and residents of Holland Christian Homes, where many of our students' grandparents live, will be vaccinated next week! Thanks be to God for this positive development.

## School Culture

- J. Dykxhoorn

Hopefully, students and their families had a restful break. I hope that everyone could reflect on and wonder anew about Christmas and the hope that our Saviour's birth gives to each of us and our world. Just prior to the break, we presented our Christmas Concert on our YouTube channel, TDCHWoodbridge (it has over 1,100 views). I was once again extremely impressed by the display of students' and staff members' talents.

As we begin this new three-week block of remote learning, I want to remind you of the following opportunities:

1. Homework club/extra help/tutoring is available in the learning commons. Check the daily announcements for the times and Zoom links.
2. I will be available to host "Drop-in, Hang-out on Zoom" times starting next week. These are times to reconnect with other students from your grade in an informal way and will start at 2 p.m. Each grade will be designated a day. Send Mr. Dykxhoorn an Edsby message if you are interested so that I can plan accordingly, as well as send you a link. If you have questions, send me an Edsby message.
3. Edsby message me if you have other ideas on ways to stay connected e.g. online chess, board games during this time. I will happily facilitate it!

## Transportation

- J. Dykxhoorn

Hopefully, you have logged on to Bus Tracker using the new Log-in procedure sent out in a December Edsby message. If you have not, follow the instructions found on the TDChristian Splash! Page under Transportation.

## Fundraising Opportunity and Volunteer Hours

- L. Fernhout

Join FlipGive now at [flipgive.app.link/teams/join?joincode=6KGYX6](https://flipgive.app.link/teams/join?joincode=6KGYX6).

Questions? Send an Edsby message to the contact person in your area Johanna DeGier in Brampton, Sondra Burton in Orangeville, Mary Fantilli in Toronto, or Susan VanDenHoek in Halton.

Not on Edsby? Contact Leanne Fernhout at [fernhout@tdchristian.ca](mailto:fernhout@tdchristian.ca) if you'd like more information or to become a FlipGive contact for one of the following areas and earn one to two parent/guardian volunteer hours per month: Richmond Hill, Mississauga/Oakville, Woodbridge/Kleinburg/Bolton, and Bradford/Springdale/Holland Marsh.

## From the Finance Office

- M. Rosie

The 2020 tax receipts will be mailed by the end of February 2021.

## Board Matters

- Peggy Raspa, TDChristian Board Secretary

Happy New Year!

As I reflect on TDChristian's focus verse for 2020-21 from Matthew's Gospel, I hear an age-old chorus that brings me hope, peace, and encouragement, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning (new every morning), Great is your faithfulness (O Lord, Great is your faithfulness)." *Lamentations 3:22-23*

As a board and community, we are thankful to God for his faithfulness in bringing Project 20/20 to completion. We ask the Lord's blessings on the activities and teaching that will spring forth from that work.

And now, in 2021, we commit to directing our attention to forming new strategies, seeking out new opportunities, and pursuing more ways to share God's love with others – through the conduit of learning at TDChristian.

Let us corporately determine to 'remain in Him,' so that we can confidently and boldly speak the following over 2021, "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." *Lamentations 3:24*

## The Learning Commons

- M. Jaworski

As outlined in Edsby messages to families, our Learning Commons will be open during remote learning to support students who work better at school. Throughout this period, all students may come in-person to work on their online courses from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please note that families must provide their own transportation to and from school as school buses are not running during this time. Parents, guardians, or home stay parents of students who are interested in coming to school, must email [feedback@tdchristian.ca](mailto:feedback@tdchristian.ca) to take advantage of this option.

Additional online support will also be available to ALL students. Drop-in Zoom hours are Monday to Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Students attend by using the Zoom meeting link posted in Edsby's announcements each day. Copy and paste the link to receive help from our Learning Commons staff.

Whether in-person or virtually, we look forward to helping you learn!

## Music Notes

- K. Hayward

As we move into a new year, we want to take a moment to thank all of those who shared their gifts and talents at the Christmas Concert. The event was observed by over 1,100 viewers and is still posted on the TDChristian Youtube channel, TDCHWoodbridge, for those who missed it. Incorporating recorded material from the past and combining it with material recorded in the new atrium proved to be a novel experience. A special thanks to Mr. Buwalda and Mr. Kim for their behind-the-scenes contributions to bring together many of the technical elements.

For student and staff performers who did not have the courage to perform this time, we hope that you will consider participating at future concerts or assemblies. Contact me at [hayward@tdchristian.ca](mailto:hayward@tdchristian.ca) if you want to learn more.

## Grade 11 Mentorship

- S. Van Eerden

Students currently in Grade 11 English and Perspectives classes should complete their Mentorship placements and assignments, if they have not yet done so. Mentorship will continue to be part of these classes for Quads 3 and 4.

## Falcon's Perch

- C. Hoving

As we have moved back to remote learning, being active does not have to stop! It is vitally important to take breaks and step away from the screens. Even just going outside for a quick walk can make a huge difference.

There are many options, including on YouTube, of home workouts or other exercise programs that use little or no equipment. Set goals for yourself and work to achieve them as you balance your school work and being at home again. It will help in all areas of your life.

### University and Community College Information

- **University Applications** are due Jan. 15 by midnight. Students should check e-mail regularly for information from the universities to which they applied. They should fill out required supplementary applications well and on time; missing the deadline will result in losing the opportunity to be admitted to the program.
- **Community College Applications** made by February 1 will receive equal consideration from colleges.
- **Students applying outside of Ontario or to Christian Universities or Colleges** need to fill out separate applications. Students should notify their guidance counselor if they are applying to a private university or Bible college or if they are applying to colleges or universities outside Ontario.
- **Students applying to post-secondary programs that need a portfolio** should check the appropriate websites carefully for portfolio deadlines to ensure that they submit their portfolios on time.
- **ACT Five:** Grade 12 (or recently graduated) students interested in a gap year program for next year should look at Redeemer's gap year program. Four past TDChristian students have attended this exciting program that combines faith development, community, adventure, career mentorship, and university courses. It helps prepare students for what's next and where God may be calling them. Check the program's blog at [active.redeemer.ca](http://active.redeemer.ca). For a free application and maximum consideration apply by January 15 at [apply.redeemer.ca/apply/](http://apply.redeemer.ca/apply/). The first 25 students who complete an application receive a free Act Five t-shirt! Students who have questions about the program should contact Act Five admissions counsellor, Sarah Bittel at [sbittel@redeemer.ca](mailto:sbittel@redeemer.ca). *This program was established through the work of Redeemer University and five Christian high schools including TDChristian, which remains a supporter of this great program.*

**Skills to Succeed at University** (brought to you by Trent University): In a recent Globe and Mail editorial, a professor wrote that university is not a harder version of high school. At university, students are challenged in more ways than assignments and exams. They can also learn a lot from those experiences by practicing a few key skills.

Here are FIVE qualities that help students navigate and overcome common challenges, besides studying hard:

1. **Time Management:** University students spend less time in class but do more work than in high school. Students need to learn to juggle 20 hours of class time, 15 hours of assignments and reading, and in some cases, a part-time job or extracurriculars.
2. **Personal Responsibility:** University students are in full control of their education and need to learn to act in their own best interest, an important life skill in decision making.
3. **Self-direction:** A university education should be the result of students' choices, abilities, and desires. When students set the path of their education, they are more invested and committed to learn.
4. **Persistence:** Challenges and obstacles are common and can take different forms. Students need to learn to keep trying, learning, and asking questions to find the rewards that come from hard work and dedication.
5. **Resilience:** University is a place where students shouldn't be afraid of making errors. Focusing on doing their best work and learning from mistakes prepares students to face new challenges and obstacles throughout life.

### Summer Options

**Explore!** Live the Canadian experience! Students in Grades 11 or 12 should consider taking Explore. This five-week intensive immersion program is adapted to all skill levels. It is an opportunity to travel, learn and practise French while discovering a new culture. The \$2,800 bursary (available to all applicants) pays for most of the cost. Students can also apply to **Languages at Work**, which provides opportunities to work in your host community following the **Explore** program. To find out more, students can go to [myexplore.ca](http://myexplore.ca) and [languagesatwork.ca/en](http://languagesatwork.ca/en).

**Youth Explore** is a three week intensive immersion program for youth aged 13 to 15. The \$2,000 bursary pays for most of the cost. Students work at improving their French, meeting new people, and exploring Canada! More information can be found at [myexplore.ca](http://myexplore.ca).

## Centre Stage

- R. Peters

Rehearsals for "The 39 Steps," this year's drama production may have shifted online, but preparations are still ongoing. As of this week, we are moving forward in faith with "official" dates: March 24 to 27! While we will ALWAYS err on the side of safety for our students and audiences, the current plan is for our ensemble to form a "show bubble" just prior to the March Break and perform the week after. This way, we will not require masks while performing. Audiences, if permitted and safe, will be able to see it live but most will likely watch from the comfort of their own homes. We are praying that by late March we will be able to offer a small and well-distanced audience a great live experience.

Speaking of prayer ... we covet all words offered up in petition as this production is in many ways the most challenging adventure on which the drama department has ever embarked! In addition, we are looking for a home close to the school for the cast and crew of six students and Mr. Peters and his wife to live for two weeks prior to the show. If you have any ideas or leads, please contact Mr. Peters at [peters@tdchristian.ca](mailto:peters@tdchristian.ca). Parent/Guardian Volunteer hours may apply.

## TDChristian Marketplace: Cards, Cards, Cards!

- C. Sanita

Get your Christmas cards for next year, all made by students in our art classes!

So far, \$440 has been raised from the sale of Christmas cards. The art department is trying to raise \$1,070 to be able to purchase one seat in the presentation centre for Kristina's Wish.

Christmas cards have been arranged into thematic collections. A box contains 16 cards that are 5×7 inches each, along with 16 envelopes. The price is only \$20 but we invite you to contribute a little extra, as you like, for Kristina's Wish.

Christmas Card orders will be processed within seven days from the date of purchase and should be picked up at the school. To shop and order, go to [splash.tdchristian.ca/store/product-category/marketplace/christmas-cards/](https://splash.tdchristian.ca/store/product-category/marketplace/christmas-cards/).

## Library Shelf

- J. Knibbe

Since students are now learning remotely (until at least Jan. 25), they should check their Edsby messages from the librarian and respond to her by asking to renew their books. The books can then be renewed with the student receiving a message back indicating the new due date.

**Outstanding Textbooks and Library Books:** Please return all TDChristian library books and textbooks by the end of Quad 2.

## TDChristian Archives

- J. Knibbe

**Photos and Videos:** Anyone who has photos or videos of past TDChristian events is encouraged to send them our way. We would be happy to scan and return them.

**@TD Newsletter:** We love to keep in contact with all of our alumni and send them the @TDChristian quarterlies! We encourage you to send us your email address via [alumni@tdchristian.ca](mailto:alumni@tdchristian.ca).

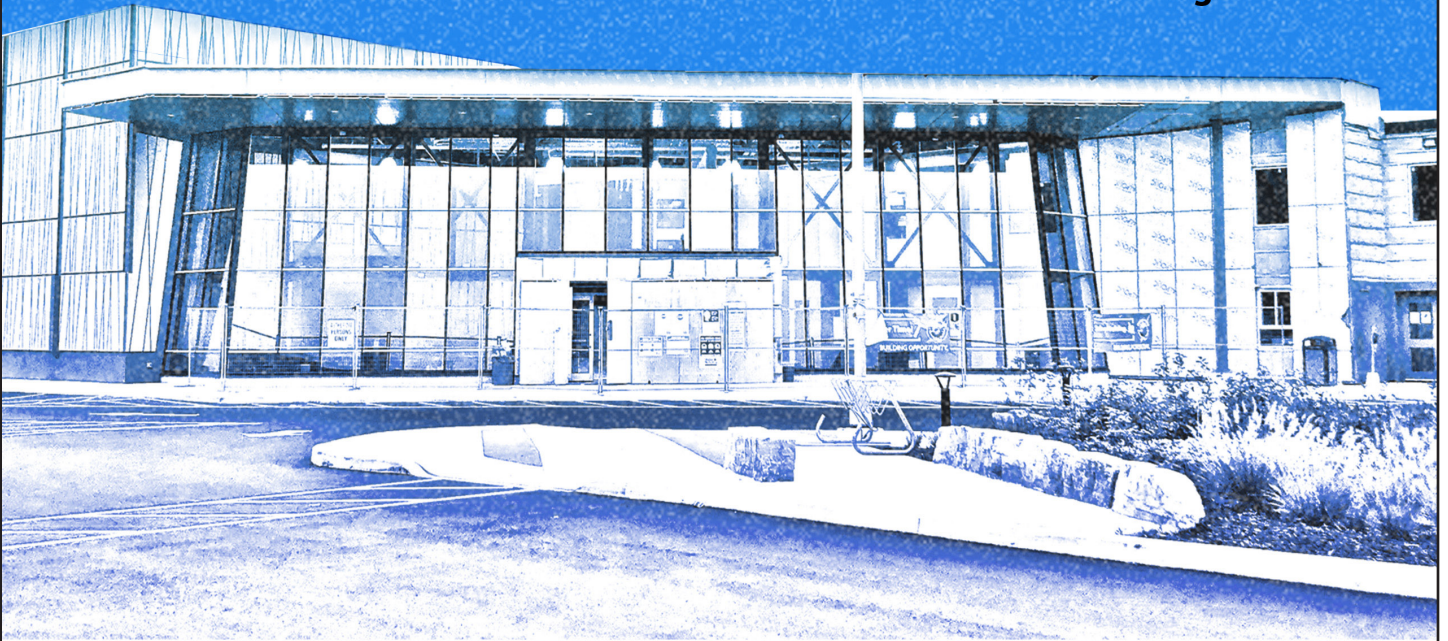
**Everything else:** If, while reorganizing and cleaning up you come across anything from TDChristian including Newsletters, play programs, graduation programs, posters, school clothing, that we could add to the archives, email me at [knibbe@tdchristian.ca](mailto:knibbe@tdchristian.ca).

### Volunteer Opportunities:

1. We are looking for people who can help create Graduation Composites for TDChristian classes prior to 1990. This involves scanning photos and placing them in a digital file so that the composites can be displayed on a screen and/or printed. If you can do either of these tasks, email me at [knibbe@tdchristian.ca](mailto:knibbe@tdchristian.ca).
2. We are looking for someone who can help with the process of scanning TDChristian yearbooks so that they can be accessed digitally. If you are able to assist with this process or know how this can be done efficiently and inexpensively, email me at [knibbe@tdchristian.ca](mailto:knibbe@tdchristian.ca).



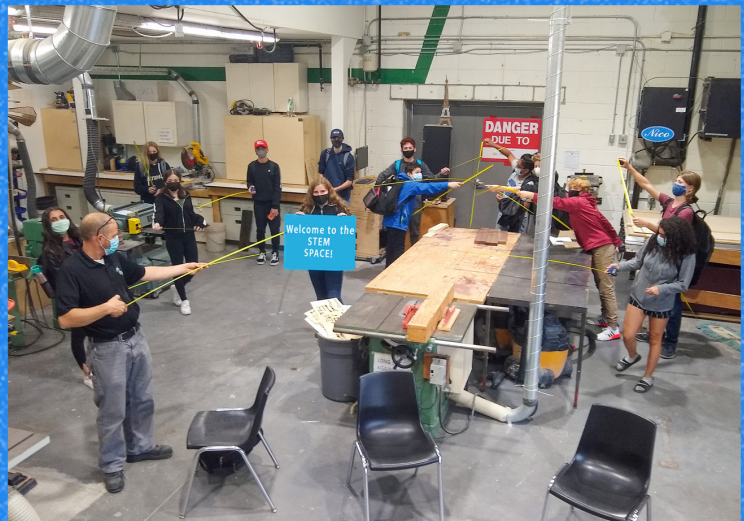
# TDChristian High School's **WINTER OPEN HOUSE.** and Celebration of Learning



## THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 6:30 PM

**Discover why YOU  
belong here!**

Join us on January 21 to hear from students and teachers, see presentations of learning, explore our brand new building expansion and see why this is the school for YOU!



**Join us live  
via Zoom** 

To RSVP and to receive your Zoom link, email VP Admissions Patty Schuurman at [schuurman@tdchristian.ca](mailto:schuurman@tdchristian.ca) today.

# TDCHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL AUCTION

We are **NOW** accepting donations for  
our **FIRST VIRTUAL AUCTION** this Spring

Have a service or experience to give?  
Please provide a certificate outlining the details.

We are also in need of items, gift cards  
and monetary donations.

Please direct questions to [dinnertheatre@tdchristian.ca](mailto:dinnertheatre@tdchristian.ca)

## THE 39 STEPS

*In association with TDChristian's  
murder mystery production  
of*

