



CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL FOUNDATION

Spring 2020 | Impact Report



WHO DO YOU HELP?

This year you helped 650 students attend a Christian school with a Christian School Foundation bursary. Here's the difference you made:

The Wellinga* family has supported and paid tuition at Christian schools for many years. Their four children are spread out over 15 years, and this active family is deeply appreciative of the way Christian education has helped shape their children, nurturing their faith. When one of the self-employed parents became sick last year and couldn't work for a time, they were in a real pinch. They had one more year of paying two Christian school tuitions. Being able to offer them support through the Christian School Foundation's Bursary program was an immeasurable blessing. **It enabled them to get through this tough time.** Next year they are down to one tuition, and with both parents back to work, they will no longer need that help. **THANK YOU** to the donors who provided a hand to the Wellingas! It is deeply appreciated! †

—Linda Delean,
Principal Redeemer Christian High School, Ottawa

Marian* was left as a single mother of three young children after her husband died. Their financial situation was already stretched, but they both desperately wanted Christian education for their children. They were very engaged in their local school, with Marian's husband serving on the board until his cancer came out of remission. Their church community was a huge support and individuals also came alongside financially. Nonetheless, Marian's children are in Christian school today because of the support our school received through the Foundation. I hope your donors see that when they express the love of Christ by supporting your bursaries, **they are making a very real difference in the lives of very real people.** †

—A Christian school principal in Ontario

**The names in these stories have been changed.*

THE BELONGING BURSARY

As with many students in our Grade Four class, William is curious and friendly. William is also vision-impaired and has specific learning challenges. This past year, William's school benefitted from the Belonging Bursary awarded by the Christian School Foundation. William enjoys school and knows he belongs with his class. But what has it been like for his classmates? To help us answer that question, we asked a classmate, her mother, and the classroom's educational assistant.

OLIVIA: William is easy to be friends with because he has certain things that he really loves, and he gets very excited about them. For instance, everyone knows that William loves John Deere tractors,



and we have lots of those at our house. I invited him over to check out all our farm equipment, and he was very happy!

OLIVIA'S MOM: I think all the parents of William's classmates learned from their kids how to engage in conversation with William in ways that spark his interest. It has been fascinating to watch how his classmates have changed and grown by sharing their class with William. He is a real snuggler, and the kids in his class just get that – and are fine with it. They are still willing to hold his hand, give him a hug, and have him rest his head on their shoulder during a story.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT: William's classmates see him as one of the students in our classroom. He is never the last one picked for partnering up in class or gym. Students love new seating

Continued on next page.

SUPPORTING THE WORK OF BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING

When you hear or read stories about Christian schools becoming Communities of Belonging, does it stir up a desire to be part of this powerful initiative?

Some of us remember classmates that eventually changed schools because our schools weren't really able to meet their needs.

Some of us see the recent move to online learning and we wonder if students with disabilities might get lost in the shuffle.

Some of us think of a relative or a grandchild with a disability – physical, emotional, intellectual – and we know that everyone's need to feel a sense of love and belonging is universal and powerful.

If you want to help create Communities of Belonging in our Christian schools, you can. Contact Tony Kamphuis or simply respond using the enclosed reply card.
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arrangements that involve having him in their “pod”. And what’s really special for me to see is that William gets lots of invitations to parties. Those take place outside of school, so no one in the school is forcing that to happen. Perhaps some parents had to encourage that in earlier years, but now he gets invited because he is just part of the group. Additionally, we welcomed two new students into our class this past September. I feel like they have really accepted William for who he is so quickly because of the relationships the rest of the students have with him.

OLIVIA'S MOM: It has been neat to see Olivia and her classmates see William as part of their community. I think it has helped the whole class be more aware of each others’ needs. If they see someone struggling, they are willing to step up and help. That heightened sensitivity has spread beyond just interactions with William, and as parents, we couldn’t be happier.

OLIVIA: If we are outside, and we see that William needs some help or something, we just pitch in. I know he got to go to another friend’s house too, to see their farm animals and to swim. He loved that.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT: We had one experience last year that I just need to share. Our class was running the 800m for track and field. It was the first year I didn’t physically go with him around the track. William’s first lap went great, but on the second lap, he started to struggle. Most of the boys from his class were done the race already, but they ran back onto the track. They finished a whole other lap, running with William and encouraging him to finish. That had many parents and teachers in tears. It was so awesome to see his friends step in without being asked in order to help him out!

OLIVIA'S MOM: There is no doubt William has brought something unique to the class and to the school community. The whole place is richer because he is there. †



THEY DIDN'T JUST LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND, THEY SENT SOMETHING FORWARD.

Cynthia Bremmer-Slagter

It has been more than ten years since my parents passed away. What has become clearer with the passage of time are the ways they have remained with us; the ways they influenced us, the memories that were created, the values and beliefs they fostered within us. That is what we see as their legacy.



Daniel and Tina Bremmer

A unique part of my parents' legacy, which has come to mean a great deal to us, is the gift they left in their will to provide tuition support at our two local Christian schools. Our parents were firm believers in the impact Christian education could have for the good of our society. As a professor at Calvin University I have had the opportunity to see first-hand the difference an education with a Kingdom focus can have!

My parents wanted to help those who might miss out on a Christian education experience because of the costs involved. That was why they left a gift that has since impacted dozens of students and their families.

How many lives have been touched through the students who were blessed through this legacy gift? We can't even begin to make that calculation! I do know that my parents would have a deep sense of satisfaction that their faithful action has been able to have an exponential impact; and when I think about how this part of their legacy has borne fruit it only strengthens my belief that, in this way too, they continue to be part of our lives and part of the great work of the Kingdom! †

YOUR LEGACY CAN LIVE ON

Leaving a gift for Christian education in your will is the most common way of participating in this Kingdom work of enduring value.

We will make this a straightforward process for you.

Others have found that they do not need to wait until their passing to put some of their gift to work. These people prefer to give some of their legacy gift “with a warm hand”!

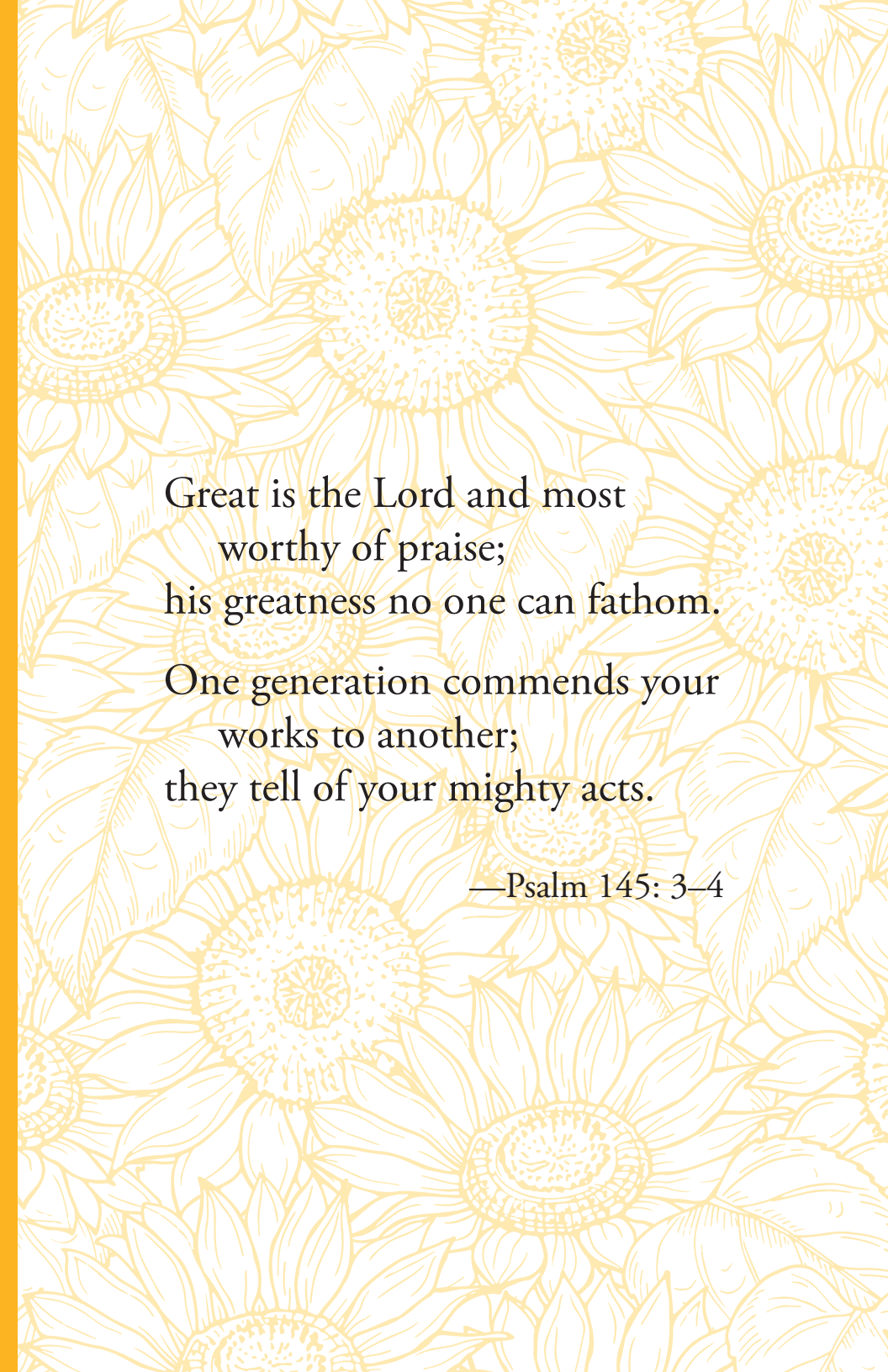
People who do this delight in seeing the impact of their gift in action, whether that is supporting the general needs of a school, or enabling more young people to experience Christian education, or supporting the work of effectively including students with a disability in their Christian learning community.

It can also be good tax planning!

Connect with Henry Koornneef and he will help you accomplish that which God is laying on your heart.

905.769.0798 | hkoornneef@christianschoofoundation.ca





Great is the Lord and most
worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.

One generation commends your
works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.

—Psalm 145: 3–4

Impacting the Next Generation

A REQUEST

In the end, we hope you can see that the Christian School Foundation is working hard to keep the excellent things happening in our member schools front and center. That's why we saved this message for the last page.

We want to enable even greater things to take place in Christian schools across Canada.

For that to happen, we need you to partner with us as we develop and sustain the kinds of programs you have read about in this Impact Report. We need people to directly support our tuition assistance bursaries. We need people to directly support our Belonging Bursary. We need people to leave gifts for Christian schools so they can approach the future with a confidence in God's provision.

But we also need people to support the Christian School Foundation directly so that we can make programs like this happen. If you recognize that need, and you are in a position to help Christian schools in your area, and also right across Canada, I invite you to give a "General Donation" of any size that we can direct to the area of greatest need.

God bless you as you help us expand the influence of Christ in our culture.



Tony Kamphuis



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*We draw Christian schools and
donors together to expand the
influence of Christ in our culture.*