



Rochester Christian School Foundation



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM The Board of Directors

... I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.
~ 3 John 1:4

As I wrote the RCS Foundation Board of Directors' update last year, I could never have imagined what the next 12 months would look like. Our world sure has changed. We have all experienced these changes in our own way and have different thoughts and emotions as we look ahead.

Turning to the state of RCS and the RCS Foundation, I can't help but be filled with thankfulness and joy that God has once again been working in people to dutifully direct and watch over the school. The outlook for both the school and the foundation is full of promise.

As the 2020 pandemic took hold in our nation, the public wondered how education could adapt to this ever-changing operational environment. The foundation had concerns about how the situation would impact RCS. We've worked very closely with the school throughout this time, forming an even deeper bond.

Fortunately, with a lot of effort, RCS has been able to maintain in-person classes five days a week and hold its own with enrollment. For students that did not come back, new students came and helped sustain the numbers. Thanks to the steadfast donors to the foundation, we were able to continue our level of support to RCS, increase our fund balances and even added a new scholarship.

As I consider the last year, I am reminded of the stories in the Bible and even circumstances in our times where God placed ordinary people in situations that required extraordinary foresight and actions to achieve outcomes that allowed his will to come to fruition. These kinds of people were exactly where they needed to be last year as the world experienced challenges of historic proportions. We thank God for RCS staff members, families and supporters who brought us to our current situation. We are happy to report that RCS is in a good position to close out the 2020-21 school year.

As we developed this report, we thought it might be interesting to share an article with you of another time when there were challenges to RCS. We often tend to focus on the problem of the moment and forget that there were many other



times that RCS faced difficulties and had concerns for the future. Through it all the school has flourished and continues to celebrate the effect the RCS experience has had on the lives of students who have passed through its doors. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

For the RCSF Board,
Greg Chambery

Board of Directors: Greg Chambery, President | Ronald Van Harken, Vice-President & Secretary
Kurt Schumacher, Treasurer | Gail Barbour | Linda Hovey | Jeff Machiele | Hans Porte



Faith Throughout RCS History

"Rochester Christian School was fighting for its life. Two men, Phil Dys and John Kouwe, went around to people of the neighborhood and collected a dime a week. With that, the school debt was paid off years later."

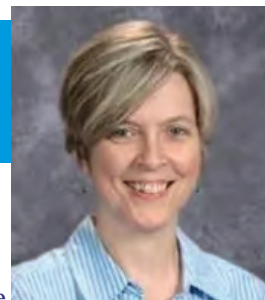
"I was paid my salary in bits."

"I was teaching several levels at once with no books available. There were several battered books with lost pages. I matched enough loose pages out of the mess and sewed them together on a sewing machine to have books for the 3rd and 4th graders. Some money from my small salary was used to buy teachers manuals and school magazines, which provided stories. The print was quite small and we had only 4 light bulbs hanging from the ceiling. I took down the curtains to let in more light."

"These were the depression years; only a few people had cars and they used them only if they could pay for gas and repairs."

It was the 1920s and early 1930s. These are some excerpts from Johanna Chambery's journal, a teacher at RCS at the time.

These are just a few of many difficult situations the school has faced over the past century. It hasn't been easy, but through faith in God and a commitment to Christian education, the school has found a way to persevere every time.



A MESSAGE FROM Michelle Selvaggio, RCS Principal

Isaiah 46:4 says, "Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." I cannot think of a better verse to encapsulate the 2020-2021 school year at Rochester Christian School. We are so thankful for the ways the RCS Foundation has come alongside to help us. Through their support, we feel God's sustaining hand. I have been struck more than once this year with the fact that this is RCS' second pandemic, having just opened when the 1918 Flu Pandemic hit. God was faithful then, and 100 years later we are here to testify to God's faithfulness through generations of carrying His people. With the help of the Foundation, we are confident that RCS will continue to stand as a beacon of God's sustaining hand for another century and beyond.

Financial Summary

As of December 31, 2020

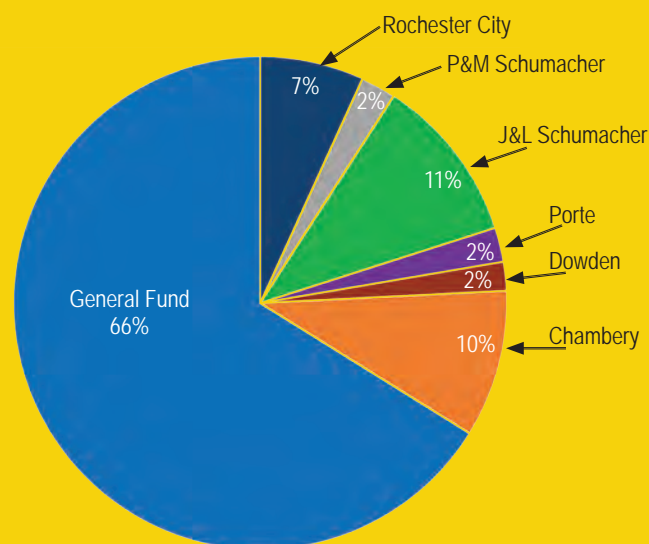


RCSF General Fund.....	\$638,786
Total RCSF Restricted Scholarship Accounts.....	\$326,983
Total RCSF Assets.....	\$965,769

RCSF Scholarship Accounts (Detail)

James & Judy Chambery Scholarship	\$93,244
George & Ethel Dowden Scholarship	\$18,231
Taeke & Grada Porte Scholarship Fund	\$21,732
John & Loraine Schumacher Scholarship.....	\$105,699
Peter & Myra Schumacher Scholarship	\$22,414
Rochester City Scholarship Fund	\$65,663

Total RCSF Scholarship Accounts \$326,983



NOTE: Balances reflect contribution distribution and changes in market value over the past year.

Meet the Chambery Family

The Chambery family's bond with RCS goes back nearly 100 years and spans five generations. It all began when Johanna Ten Cate came to Rochester to teach at the new Christian school, later serving as principal. Johanna married Thomas Chambery and they had three sons, including James Chambery, who all graduated from RCS. James married Judy, a second-generation graduate of RCS.

James and Judy had four children, Greg, Keith, Scott and Johanna, who all attended RCS along with their cousins. Scott and Johanna moved away after college. Greg and Keith remained in the area, married, and had five children between them, all of whom graduated from RCS. Today, the grandson of Greg and his wife, Sue, attends RCS. In addition, Greg serves as president of the Foundation Board of Directors.

The Chambery's have always been involved in supporting the school, both by serving in leadership roles and lending steadfast support. Judy recalls early days of yearly fundraisers to benefit the school stating, "A paper drive was the major one. Many bundles of papers were brought to the school and stored in the basement in anticipation of the price per pound going up. I'm sure that wouldn't fly today!"

Last year, the family wanted to honor their parents by creating a legacy that would help support RCS families for generations to come. They formed the James and Judy Chambery Scholarship. Scott Chambery explained, "A scholarship

fund in their name recognizes James and Judy's strong belief in the importance of the school and Christian education. The fund will allow more students to attend the school and not have financial

challenges stop them from participating. Our hope is that the fund will eventually reach a level where it can indefinitely finance tuition grants from the investment earnings."

When asked about the scholarship, Judy said, "RCS has always been an important part of our lives as a family. Many changes have taken place over the years, but the education has always been high quality and based on the Word of God."

Judy also shared, "My years at RCS took place in the school on Jersey Street. Three grades to a room. No gym or cafeteria. If you lived close enough, you walked home for lunch. If not, you brought a sandwich and ate in the classroom. By the time our children were in school, the campus on Embury Road had become a reality. To see how things have evolved to the RCS as we know it today speaks to the blessing of God and the faithfulness of loyal supports."



James and Judy Chambery

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Every Contribution Makes a Difference for Every RCS Family Today and for Generations to Come.

Annual Campaign Donors

2 Anonymous Donors
Armbruster Capital Management
Ms. Gail Barbour
Ms. Rebecca Bivone
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Braband
Mr. & Mrs. Brook Chambery
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Chambery
Ms. Judith Chambery
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Chambery
Mr. Nicholas Chambery
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Chambery
Mr. & Mrs. Kornelijus Cieminis
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Cok
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cornelison
Mr. Joshua De Jong
Mr. & Mrs. Richard DiMarco
Mr. & Mrs. John Dobbenga
Ms. Janet Duemmel
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dykstra
Mr. Donald Frelier
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Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frelier
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Ms. Gay Greene
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Ms. Sandra Peterham
Mr. & Mrs. Johannes Porte
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Mr. & Mrs. Mario Sbrocco
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Selvaggio
Ms. Lorraine Selvaggio
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Steensma
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Ms. Hermien Terpstra
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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Veenje
Mr. & Mrs. Auke Verbree
Mr. & Mrs. George Vonnhof
Mr. James Wassenaar
Mrs. Johanna Zandstra

Scholarships

James & Judy Chambery Scholarship Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Chambery
Ms. Judith Chambery

Rochester City Scholarship Fund

Ms. Jean Haines
Ms. Ruth Machiele

Peter & Myra Schumacher Scholarship Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Schumacher

In Memory of

Olive Chambery

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Chambery
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Wierenga

In Memory of

James Chambery

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cornelison
Ms. JoAnne Frelier
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gable
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Getz
Ms. Janice Giardino
Ms. Ruth Machiele
Mr. & Mrs. David Senise
Mr. James Wassenaar

In Memory of

Alice Huussen

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Frelier
Ms. Jean Haines
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Harris
Mr. Bernard H. Huussen
Ms. Gloria Huussen
Mr. & Mrs. Jan R. Huussen
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Huussen
Ms. Ruth Machiele
Mr. & Mrs. Jan Nienhuis
Mr. & Mrs. Hendrik Porte

In Memory of

Marcia Kouwe

Browncroft Community Church
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Chambery
Ms. Judith Chambery
Ms. Suzanne Muench

In Memory of

Jeannine Milne

Mr. Raymond Milne

In Memory of

Jack Otto

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Chambery

In Memory of

Charles Tisa

Ms. Marilyn Tisa

In Memory of

Marilyn Van Harken

Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Maldoon

In Memory of

Cornelis Verbree

Ms. Ruth Machiele



Rochester Christian School
Foundation

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