



Christmas Greeting from PCCE

The PCCE staff wishes you all a wonderful Christmas season and prays that this Christmas, together we will celebrate the birth of Jesus and the beautiful truth that we are all part of God's unfolding story of love, hope and redemption.

NOTES:

- In case you missed the [announcement](#) last week, PCCE is excited to announce that Matthew Bekkering will be the next Executive Director for PCCE.
- PCCE Board Openings: The PCCE Board is looking for three new Board members to begin their term in the spring of 2026. We need two Teacher representatives and one representative from our Leadership Cohort. If you are interested or would like to know more about this opportunity to serve, please contact [Board Chair Monica Loewen](#) or [Executive Director Gayle Monsma](#).
- This is the last Page for 2025. "See you" again on January 5, 2026.

Living

*"Emmanuel" is a declaration about the kind of God we follow. A God who doesn't wait for us to climb out of our circumstances but steps directly into them. A God who moves toward the ache, the boredom, the beauty, and the places we'd rather hide.*

*Advent announces that the nearness of God is not dependent on our mood, our faith level, or how well life is going. It's anchored in His character. The God who spoke galaxies into existence chose to be held, to be hungry, to be human. The infant become an infant.*

*If that's true, then none of our stories are too small or too chaotic to be met by His presence. Emmanuel means your ordinary moments matter. Your hidden battles matter. Your quiet heartbreaks matter. God is not vaguely aware of you. He is not politely sympathetic. He is here.*

*Advent doesn't ask us to pretend everything is fine. It invites us to remember that we are not alone in any of it.*

*That is the beauty of Emmanuel. That is the hope we carry."*  
*(Ian Simkins)*

Learning

Prioritizing Formational Pedagogy in Schools

In a recent article in "[The Link](#)," Darren Spyksma (SCSBC Associate Executive Director) reflected on the impact that our daily choices make in a classroom and how those decisions can "become small but powerful acts of discipleship that teach belonging, responsibility, grace, and community." We're continuing to share Darren's reflection questions in each of [the areas he focuses on](#) and adding more questions connected to [TFT practices](#):

- The Way We Handle Mistakes:
  1. How does the way I handle mistakes reflect the character of Christ?
  2. How do discipline processes in my class show grace and empathy to the developing brains of the students in my classroom?
  3. TFT - How do the Habits of Learning help us curate classroom norms that encourage students to embrace a growth mindset (i.e., learn from failure)?
  4. TFT - How can the structure of "Opening Circles" foster belonging - creating spaces where learners feel safe making mistakes and taking responsibility for their actions?

Advent 2025

In the last week of school, and as we head towards a break, you can continue to celebrate and remember the arrival of Jesus on Earth by checking out The Bible Project's [4-part video series](#) that focuses on each of the advent themes or their video on [The Dirth of Jesus](#) based on Luke 1 & 2 or their article, "[The Dirth of Jesus: Making the Impossible Possible](#)."

Leading

Professional Leave

From December 3-24, Gayle Monsma (PCCE's Executive Director) will be taking three weeks of professional leave that is part of her contract. During the time Gayle is on leave, please send your requests or questions to Ruth ([office@pcce.ca](mailto:office@pcce.ca)), Jeremy ([jhorlings@pcce.ca](mailto:jhorlings@pcce.ca)) or Hugo ([hvanderhoek@pcce.ca](mailto:hvanderhoek@pcce.ca)). Gayle will be periodically checking her email, so if you need to contact her, please send an email but be aware that there may be a bit of delay in responding.

A Non-Anxious Presence Book Club

Our next meeting will be on January 19, from 11:00-12:00 MT when we will be discussing Part 2 of the book. All are welcome to join!

Upcoming Event for Leaders & Boards

- PCCE Governance & Leadership Conference - for boards and school leaders. March 7 in Calgary
- Leadership Cohort @ Entheos - for school-based leaders. May 7-8 at the [Entheos Retreat Centre](#) near Calgary.
- [Christian Schools Canada Leadership Conference](#) - for school-based leaders. October 5-7 in Whistler BC.

PD for Finance & Development

- Our BC sister organization is holding their annual [Navigate Conference](#) for people working in finance and advancement. Dates: April 13-14 in Delta BC. If your school has not received a bursary to attend recently (2023-24 or 2024-25), PCCE will reimburse up to two registrations per society.
- Closer to home, the [Faith, Fundraising and Communication Symposium](#) will be held in Three Hills on May 25-26.

Looking Ahead

January 19, 2026:	Non-Anxious Presence Book Club
March 7, 2026:	PCCE Leadership & Governance Conference and AGM
April 13-14, 2026:	SCSBC Navigate Conference
May 7-8, 2026:	Leadership Cohort gathering at Entheos
October 5-7, 2026:	Christian Schools Canada Leadership Conference
October 22 - 23, 2026:	PCCE Teachers' Convention

Contact Us

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