



Celebrating 55 years of education-based ministry

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Dear RCS Family,

November 2018

Serving the Lord at RCS is a noble calling and wonderful honor. I delight in connecting with staff, students, parents, and Board members. If I miss seeing you at one of our campuses, a welcome mat and my open-door policy makes room for everyone.

Please join me in welcoming our new athletic director, Tim Bryant. Tim has served as the RCHS assistant football coach for five years and enjoys a long arc leading youth ministry. We are thrilled to have him aboard! Tim's eagerness to shore up our immediate and long-term need for RCS athletics is contagious. Tim assumes the helm as AD effective November 1.

This November, I am praying and preparing for the Lord's favor to cascade across three ambitious initiatives. Consider each initiative as an invitation.

1. **High School Retool**—via interest and gift pathways. There are town-hall style meetings scheduled for Monday, December 3, and Tuesday, December 4, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. The format offers a look at the latest revision and an extended Q&A session. Location: RCHS on Dec 3, and RCMS on Dec 4. The December 3 and 4 meetings are identical presentations.
2. **Multipurpose Gymnasium or Multipurpose Event Center, MEC.** Presentation by Carolyn Lemay and Michael Davis from Bassetti Architects. Location: KVE on Tuesday, November 27, 6:10 – 6:40pm.
2. **RCS website makeover.** Send an email if you are interested in editing draft revisions. The goal is improving service and communication for current and prospective families.

By faith, it is possible to celebrate God's goodness and provision before it comes to pass. Think about the difference between looking to the Provider versus the provision. One reminder that stirs my spirit comes from words from Isaiah, "The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."

Accomplishing anything for God's Kingdom most often folds in prayer. Interestingly, there is no record of Jesus' disciples asking Him to teach them how to preach. Their request to learn zeroed in on how to pray. From Lk. 11:1, "*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples.'*" Jesus recites the Lord's Prayer and then weaves together illustrations about the audacity to ask and the goodness of our heavenly Father.

"Educating and Developing the Whole Person for the Glory of God"

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Even though prayer is likely misunderstood more than other spiritual disciplines, I am asking our community to pray boldly. Those familiar with my reading interests know I devour books on prayer. Along a pilgrimage of study and practice, a few discoveries helped nourish a prayer life better aligned to God's Word. The selected ideas and accompanying resources may translate into curling wafts from the golden bowl of incense—which are the prayers of the saints, Rev. 5:8.

- Prayer is not so much a transaction, but rather a relationship and friendship with God. Every friendship has a misty side. If unanswered prayer was felt by Jesus, Mt. 26:39, then unanswered prayer is a reality. There are clear and hidden reasons for unanswered prayer.
Prayer Does it Really Make a Difference? Philip Yancey
- Prayer does not have to “work” in order for the Spirit to work on me. I shouldn't seek answers as much as I seek God.
The Circle Maker, Mark Batterson
- There is a big difference between praying for and praying through. Praying through happens when God manifests himself, or God's power manifests itself.
What it Means to Pray Through, Mother Elizabeth Dabney
- Prayer is the root and strength of all other work.
With Christ in the School of Prayer, Andrew Murray
- Prayer can do what God can do. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
Mark 11:24, Jesus

I want to acknowledge and thank our prayer teams who pray on behalf of RCS students, staff, and families. Prayer is one way Christian education distinguishes itself. Against that backdrop, there is an old story with fresh implications for RCS—The Boiler Room.

The Boiler Room

Five young college students were spending a Sunday in London, so they went to hear the famed C.H. Spurgeon preach. While waiting for the doors to open, the students were greeted by a man who asked, "Gentlemen, let me show you around. Would you like to see the heating plant of this church?" They were not particularly interested, for it was a hot day in July. But they didn't want to offend the stranger, so they consented. The young men were taken down a stairway, a door was quietly opened, and their guide whispered, "This is our heating plant." Surprised, the students saw 700 people bowed in prayer, seeking a blessing on the service that was soon to begin in the auditorium above. Softly closing the door, the gentleman then introduced himself. It was none other than Charles Spurgeon.

Our Daily Bread, April 24

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By proxy, the Boiler Room story heralds a new feature to my letters, the president's prayer list. It is a call to action. I ask each RCS family to pray for specific requests. Pray together at dinner time or go it alone in a prayer closet. When the Lord answers, a subsequent praise report will follow. Thank you in advance for your support and commitment to pray.

The president's November prayer list.

- Grow RCS ministry to 440 students this year
- A letter of support from the city of Auburn for the Multipurpose Event Center, (gymnasium)
- A community grant partner to supplement our Norcliffe Foundation grant application

A Look Back

As we celebrate our 55th year of ministry, I wondered about the history of Rainier Christian Schools' logos. Thumbing through musty files, the earliest logo for RCS appeared on a document dated July 1, 2003. After July 2003, the mountain-and-cross design emblazoned all district-level letterhead. Note the two design variations.



How did it start? A big clue jumped out in front me from two pages stapled together. The first page only showed an email dated June 29, 2001. A meeting agenda attached to the first page contained a specific line item. It read: "Project Definition in all operations and communication Graphic – need for school emblem."

From the paper trail, a team developed/designed RCS' first logo during 2002 and early 2003. The mountain and cross logo remained active for 12 years. In 2014, another team coordinated with Global Village Concerns to create a suite of new logos. The newer designs appeared on RCS letterhead and brochures beginning in 2015. Shown on next page.

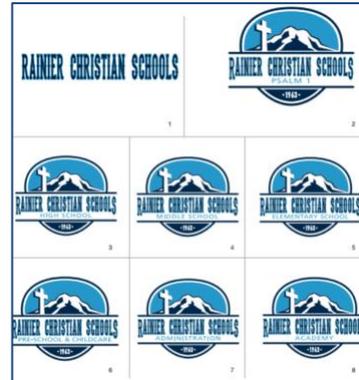
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Our fabulous 55th anniversary logo, designed for the auction, carries an expiration date. Circling back to website redesign, refreshing the 2014 logo seems appropriate. Note the design at the far right. The wording removed for Psalm 1 and the deeper shade of blue.



Those individuals gifted in design, or others with ideas please send suggestions. Mid-December is the target launch window for our new website.

Finally, November is in front us. It is appropriate to mention and honor our veterans. This year, each campus commemorates Veterans' Day by hosting a special assembly. Parents, grandparents, and relatives who served in our armed forces are invited. Our students are thrilled to honor you. Please contact the appropriate school office if you plan to attend.

Later in the month, we celebrate Thanksgiving. As believers, we have much to be thankful for in this life and life eternal. Enjoy the blessed holiday with family and friends.

My best,

Bruce Kelly

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President, Rainier Christian Schools

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