December 2023

The Grapevine

I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.
John 15:5

God's Purpose and Plan

By Brad Miller
School Board President

There is value in pausing and reflecting on one's life to refresh one's perspective, especially that which is of greatest import, ***God's purpose and plan***. Recently, while cleaning out old files, I happened to discover a black binder containing records of meetings from 1992, pre-dating the official opening of Bradshaw Christian School, involving a small group of believers, who were moved by God from a place of testing and refining (Prov. 17:3), to search their hearts more deeply in His calling of them to His purpose in Christ. Meeting in the homes of Carl and Maureen Eastvold or Dan and Doreen Nishimi, my wife Liz and I became involved and hence committed to the nascent expression of God's grand plan for a very particular mission in Christian education. Despite its official name being adopted months later, thus began the history of Bradshaw Christian School (BCS).

Within that same binder, I found my first article in the Grapevine from thirty years ago, that was based upon Psalm 127, entitled The Master Builder, which, from the wisdom of Solomon, succinctly provides the "secret" of the success and prosperity of BCS both then and now: God's absolute sovereignty and providence over all, (particularly seen in three realms, i.e., building a house, family or school), protecting a city (or our community), and especially our precious children, who are declared a gift and blessing to us and a reward to parents.

> ***"God's absolute sovereignty and providence over all..."***

"Unless the LORD builds a house, they who build it labor in vain; Unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain...Behold, children are a gift (blessing) of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward." The continued building of BCS over thirty years has obviously not been in vain. That small group of us back then did not yet realize what Carl Eastvold often reminds us of today—we were not first building a school, but God planned the school to build us up in Christ. We call ourselves "founders", yet we know who the true Founder is, Jesus Christ, the Founder and very Foundation of His church and all its ministries. "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11) "So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing with gratitude." (Colossians 2:6-7).

We were and are today bound together---determined, resolved, obligated---to His life of Christ in us, while we covet that life for all others, as the Lord pleases, especially within the Bradshaw community. And, if Christ be not our life, all is in vain. Over the past 30 years, and for as long as God has determined, may we continue to witness and hear BCS students, staff, and parents declare with the Psalmist: "Come and hear, all who fear (revere) God, And I will tell of what He has done for my soul." Psalm 66:16

School Founder Highlight: Liz Miller

- Raised in a Christian pastor's home
- Personal faith commitment grew in high school
- In early life for 10 seasons, traveled with family performing concerts (A 'Capella sacred music)
- Led children's choir and taught music at Gloria Dei Lutheran School
- Married Brad Miller and have four children and one grandchild
- Chapel leader and Christmas program director in early BCS years
- Served BCS as high school receptionist, Librarian, Transcript assistant, and International student assistant
- Daughter, Joanna graduated from BCS 2012
- Currently serves as Staff Travel Program Coordinator

Did you know the school motto is..."Christ our Life?"

Our **divine calling** and **vision** are most aptly and cogently summarized in the BCS Motto: **CHRIST OUR LIFE**.

"Therefore, if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is OUR LIFE, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory." Colossians 3:1-4

Thank you!

End of the Year Giving

Your support is crucial to the success of our school. Join the Club Pride Annual Fund and make a difference!

Contribute to the Annual Fund today and help enhance the educational experience for every student. Your tax-deductible donation directly impacts students, staff, facilities, resources, and financial aid. Let's continue to build a vibrant future for Bradshaw Christian School.

Thank you for your generosity!

Learn more here!

Bradshaw Family Reflections: The Schuh Family

Keaton, Dave, Monica, and Conner Schuh

Reflecting back on the first time I saw Bradshaw Christian School, it was just starting up and we did not have children yet. I remember driving by and praying about our future children attending there. God was faithful and answered that prayer. Both our boys were "lifers" at BCS. It was our desire that they receive a great education along with biblical truths and the same Christian values we were giving them at home.

Throughout their years at BCS we consistently saw the faithfulness of the teachers and staff. We saw their heart to love each student, to come alongside and show the love of Jesus. We appreciated the vision that God called them to and they carried out.

Conner and Keaton both have great memories of their teachers, events, and friendships that were made. They were both involved in sports during their High School years, playing baseball and golf. The coaches had a huge impact on their lives and they both appreciate the values that were instilled in being part of each team.

My experience with BCS has come full circle! Watching BCS grow from the beginning, as a parent, and now subbing, it is amazing to see the inner workings and heart of those who keep BCS running every day. Our family is thankful for BCS and God's faithfulness as they serve Him and continue to seek His will.

Love and blessings, The Schuh Family, Dave, Monica, Conner 2014, and Keaton 2021

Alumni Feature: Looking Forward Looking Back

Class of 2011
Lauren Beyer

"Lifer" – The honorable term given to those who attend Bradshaw Christian School pre-school through 12th grade. I was enrolled in Bradshaw when I was 4 years old and continued there all through high school, earning me that "lifer" badge.

Although it's been a few years since I graduated, I can look back and truly appreciate what a gift it was to attend BCS. The love and care the teachers and coaches had for me made a lasting impression and it is something that I have cherished to this day. Who wouldn't want to be part of a community where teachers constantly pray for and want the very best for you? I am grateful for many aspects of my time at BCS, but the ability to play an array of sports was something I appreciated. I was among those who pioneered our soccer and basketball program. While I have many memories from this time, being a player on our first athletic team that played in a state competition was such a highlight. Through the years, my love for sports intensified and I had desires to play either soccer or basketball for a division 1 college. Acquaintances had encouraged me to transfer to a larger and more competitive school because they felt I would have better opportunities to obtain this goal and to be seen by college recruiters. To me, leaving the place where I called home wasn't an option though. With God's grace I was offered a full ride basketball scholarship for UC Davis where I was able to play college basketball and even earn a Master's in Accounting. This education led to my hiring and where I currently work at Deloitte. To this day, I still think back on the opportunities I was awarded while attending Bradshaw Christian.

So while "lifer" was originally given to those who attended Bradshaw up until 12th grade, the term can really be applied to everyone – the family atmosphere, connections you build with teachers and coaches, the friendships you create, the lessons you learn, the opportunities that are presented to you, and the relationship you develop with God, go far beyond your time at Bradshaw. The experience we have at Bradshaw truly is a lifetime.

We're still growing! A look to the future.

You can now see the construction happening on the north side of our Bradshaw Road campus. Pride Way is being completed in order to internally connect our campuses. Connecting to public water and a signal light at Bradshaw Road is also included in the $3.5 million-dollar project. With the bulldozers, earth movers and contractors busily working, it should be 3 months to completion. This major development was necessary in order to meet County requirements for campus expansion by making it possible for the construction of classrooms at the middle school-high school. Traffic flow and drop off/pick up times should also see a benefit. We are grateful this project is finally coming to fruition!

REMINDER! Advent Season

As we enter this season of Advent and Christmas, we pray all are "overflowing with gratitude" for the Incarnation of Christ into this world, and the incarnation of Christ within us (Galatians 2:20). And most certainly there is no mistaking this truth: the very existence and the thriving of Bradshaw Christian School wholly depended, and has continued to depend upon, the utter reality of the shared life of Christ found in that small group of friends, that cadre of Christians who have by God's grace alone remained the very nucleus and core of leadership which God has gladly added to over time.