

Dear RCS Family,

December 2019

Like holiday lights that glint off tinsel, our acts of giving twinkle with the true meaning of Christmas. Springing from God's greatest gift, His one and only son, Jesus Christ, RCS



*RCHS students at Vine Maple Place*

Rainier Christian's elementary and middle-school students contributed 74 gift boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

I am thrilled to see our students and staff model Christ-like

giving in partnership with local and global ministries. Their efforts reach beyond the holidays and marshal support for Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Northwest Harvest, Black Diamond Camps, and neighborhood food banks. Well done, RCS students, staff, and families!



*Operation Christmas Child*

Against the backdrop of giving, I trust the subject of giving Christmas gifts to our kids fits nicely here. My wife, Gerry, and I sorted through this topic while our girls were toddlers, now 19 and 21. Gerry deserves credit for discovering the wise men's model we chased for 15 consecutive years. Technically, the concept is an imaginative stretch lifted from the Mt. 2:11 account of gold, (Jesus' royalty) frankincense, (Jesus' divinity) and myrrh, (Jesus' suffering). Our creative and contemporary translation emerged as three Christmas gifts: something they need, something they want, and a surprise. We treasured the wise men's design for its simplicity, sanity, and savings. At that time, my monthly paycheck as a schoolteacher, and Gerry, a stay-at-home mom, required sound financial discipline and gobs of creativity. We understood the Lord fashioned our girls uniquely, and their differences inspired rich conversations to select personalized, budget-friendly gifts. The entire process of figuring out what to give, sequencing the gifts as described above, and listening to the girls' guesses what each gift might be on Christmas morning cascades with fond memories.

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

Rainier Christian Schools- Elementary to High School, Preschool & Childcare - Serving South King County since 1963!



**RAINIER**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

If you're looking for a personalized RCS gift, then consider Spirit Store's Black-Friday special. The deal is valid until **midnight on Thursday, December 5**. Click on the following link, <https://spiritstore.olinesports.com>, and then use the code, HLDY25, to save 25% on all RCS spirit wear. The 25% discount is the best deal of the year. Again, the sale ends on December 5.

The screenshot shows the Spirit Store website for Rainier Christian School. The header includes the school's name and logo. A navigation menu on the left lists categories: Home, Athletic Gear, Men's Wear, Ladies Wear, Youth Wear, and Fan Gear. The main content area features a 'CUSTOMIZE YOUR GEAR!' banner with the tagline 'SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE'. Below this is a 'Featured Items' section displaying various apparel items like hats, shirts, and shorts. A 'CHECK ORDER STATUS' section is located at the bottom left, providing contact information for order assistance.

One of the best ways to reveal how RCS equips students for their God-inspired futures is through a feature known as Student Spotlight. This month, I'd like to introduce you to Antonio Fernandez-Morales.



Antonio, a very excited RCHS 11<sup>th</sup> grader, rides the first wave of student internships. Student interns are new for the 2019-20 school year, and coordinated through our work-based learning coordinator, Mr. Conrod. Technology Director, Michael Ahlen, supports Antonio's internship experience in IT Computer Hardware. I asked Antonio to explain the process to become an intern and what he likes about the internship.

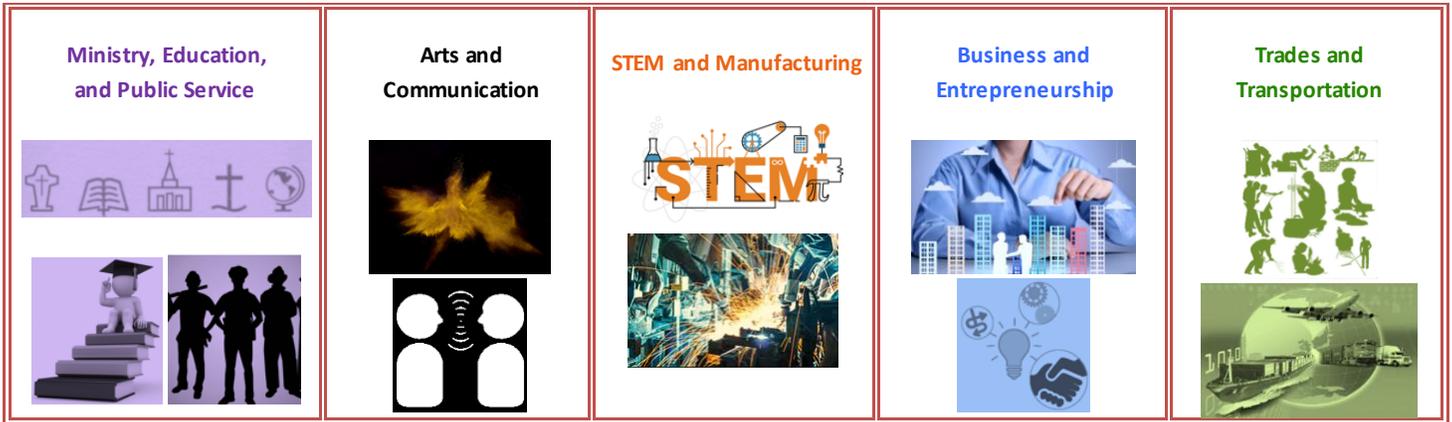
"I talked with Ms. Thomas, completed the [Comprehensive Profile](#), and shared that I had built my own PC." Mr. Conrod followed up and took notice that I really liked building stuff and working with my hands. He suggested I explore the hardware side. "One of the most satisfying things about the internship is, it reinforces what I really enjoy doing. Recently, one of the high-school computers had a bad power supply. I removed a working one from another computer and replaced it with the non-working unit. Getting the computer working again felt really good! On another occasion I rewired the broken ends of a network cable. The wiring sequence must be perfectly color-coded as WO-O-WG-B-WB-G-WBr and Br. When Mr. Ahlen tested the repaired cable with a meter, the lights were synchronized, meaning it worked on my first try! That felt so good when it happened." During his internship, Antonio is completing his A+ certification to further his post-secondary plans as a certified general IT. Bravo, Antonio!

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Supporting students' Interest and Gift Pathways, aligns with our aim to nurture and develop God-given interests and talents for His glory. For more information about student internships, or if you are interested in sponsoring an internship for any pathway, please contact Mr. Phil Conrod, [Phil.conrod@rainierchristian.org](mailto:Phil.conrod@rainierchristian.org)

**Rainier Christian High School—Interest and Gift Pathways**



Rainier Christian Schools recognizes *Giving Tuesday*, a global generosity movement. This year, Giving Tuesday rings in on December 3. If you desire to make a year-end contribution to RCS, any amount can be personally directed toward a project, passion, or purpose. Our current need for a new classroom-heating unit delivered a surprise estimate of \$16K. Click on the Give RCS star shown at right to make a one-time donation. Thank you for your joyful consideration.



In closing, December 1st heralds as the first day of Advent. Excitedly, the countdown to Christmas officially begins. On the Christian calendar, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, trumpets a high note for celebration and worship. May God's greatest gift, Immanuel, and His favor richly bless you and your family throughout the entire Christmas season.

My best,



Bruce Kelly  
President, Rainier Christian Schools

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