



## **Our History**

In 1977, two ladies at Calvary Baptist Church in Bethlehem, PA felt the Lord leading them to begin organizing a Christian school in the Bethlehem area. They made this known to others in their church first, and then to others in like-minded churches in the area to see if the Lord was preparing hearts elsewhere for such a school. People from four other churches, Ebenezer Bible Fellowship, First Baptist, Grace Brethren and Olivet Evangelical Congregational showed sufficient interest to warrant holding a meeting of those concerned and willing to participate in the implementation of such a school.

The first meeting was held in December of 1977 and had twenty-four people in attendance. These twenty-four people formed the nucleus of those the Lord would use to create the school. In February of 1978 Dr. Roy Lowrie, Jr. met with the planning committee and provided key insight and advice based on his expert experience regarding the timing for opening the school.

One of the original four churches, Ebenezer Bible Fellowship voted to allow the school to use several rooms in their building and on August 17, 1979, the church building passed inspection just in time for school opening in September. The school quickly grew and required additional space, which was graciously provided by Calvary Baptist Church. Two years after opening, the school expanded to two campuses. Although now consolidated to two campuses, BCS was blessed to have partnered with Steel City Mennonite, Bethel Memorial Baptist and Bethany Wesleyan Churches as former campus hosts.

Over the next 30 years, the school ministered to thousands of students and established itself as a quality Christian option for preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade education. During the 2010 school year, Calvary Baptist Church completed a building project on a new property and BCS had the opportunity to participate in the facilities planning and the facility was designed with the operations of BCS in mind. This campus became the upper campus and has housed our upper elementary and middle school students over the years.

Due to demand from the families of BCS, the school was expanded to include a high school starting with the 2021-2022 school year. BCS held its first high school graduation in May of 2022. Bethlehem Christian School is proud to service families with children as young as 3 years old through those in the 12th grade.

Bethlehem Christian School is led by a board of trustees elected from the BCS association of the school and is independent of the host church leadership.