

What Reason?

By Marlee Dubnow

What caused the God of heaven
To leave his celestial home?
To be born a bloody babe
Composed of flesh and bone?

What force within Himself
What compulsion moved Him so?
What propelled Him through the stars
To land on earth below?

It was because of sin He came
This we cannot deny!
His detestation for this flaw
Is why Christ came to die

Yet sin was not the motivation
That sent Him to this place
It was and is because
Of His unfailing love and grace!

For God so loved this fallen world
(Love that spurred Him on)
That He gave us His beloved
Only begotten Son!

And this is why I can sing
Amazing love, how can it be?
For how can I help but love
This God who first loved me!



PAGE 2: YOU AND YOUR GLOBAL WORKERS Twosomes Partnering with God around the World

This monthly PAGE 2 column reminds us that a partnership takes two. We should all be active, on-going SENDERS partnering with the SENT.

Compiled and edited by Ellyn Roe

*Because the Press is published online, some of our global workers must guard their identities. If you need email addresses, contact ellynroe@comcast.net



**Boulevard Park Press
March 2020**

Published Monthly by
Boulevard Park Church

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and 10:30 a.m.

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The Press is available in color on
the church website.

April Deadline: March 15

Phone 206-988-3918

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Photo credit on page 1:
Aaron Burden on unsplash.com



Our Fine Feathered Friends

By Naya Martinez, Age 12

I drew this picture for our two birds Lucy and Nugget who died a few months ago. I found a picture of two of the same kind of birds as Lucy and Nugget, and drew it to be more young-looking and fluffy like ours were.

These birds are called pygmy parrots. Here in Papua New Guinea they are called Nisnis. From what I have read about them, pygmy parrots are the smallest parrots, only about two to three inches tall. Scientists have observed that they eat a type of moss on trees called lichen. It is nearly impossible to tell what gender they are by looking at them.



Naya Martinez with an injured bird of another variety found near her PNG home last November.

They make great friends as well as great school buddies. Our first pygmy parrot was Oliver, and during homeschool we would put a finished school paper in the center of the school table and put a biscuit softened with water, or some fruit on the paper, and he would eat right there. When he was finished, he would climb up on my shoulder and go to sleep. When he was on his perch on the porch and saw my dad working in his office, he would jump down, slip under the door and go sit with him.

Did You Know?

Our missionaries have told us how much they enjoy keeping up with the BPC news via the Press on the church website. Visit www.bpcburien.org — the Boulevard Park Press is found under Resources. You can check out Naya's art work in color!

Want to Experience a Little of Chadian Culture?

By Karen*

Come for dinner and an evening of learning new tastes, more about Chad, life in that land, and how to eat rice with your hands!

Here are three options:

- 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 7 (Boyd's house),
- 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10 (Henry's house), or
- 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 12 (Roe's house).

Please RSVP to Karen at karen.doerr@aimint.org or 206-453-8477. Hope to see you then!

Photo Credit: Ellyn Roe

God's Glory: *magnificans Deum per confessionem*

By Pastor Bud

When we acquiesce to sinful passions, we displace God as our Sovereign and do homage to self. God is never glorified by our sin itself. It is for this reason that John writes to the church urging them not to sin (1 Jn. 2:1). If sin brought God glory, then it would make sense for us to sin boldly. Instead, God's command to us is unambiguous: be holy as I am holy (Lev. 19:2; 1 Pet. 1:16).

However, when we do sin, there remains an avenue through which God may yet get glory. Sin is never the right choice, but when you do sin you may still *magnificans Deum per confessionem* (glorify God by confession).

As I think about confession and its link to glorifying God, three questions come to mind. What does confession mean? What does it look like? How does confession glorify God? Let's consider them in turn.

What Does Confession Mean?

In the NT, the original word (*homologeō*) most commonly translated confession is a mash-up of two words. *Homo* means the same, and *logeō* means to say or speak. As a whole, the word means to say the same thing, to admit, or to agree with a proposition or assertion. It is most frequently used in the legal and religious context. In a legal sense, it usually refers to a binding public declaration, which settles a relationship with legal force, much like a verbal version of signing a contract. When used in the religious sense, it has two possible connotations: (1) confession of sin, which means to speak agreement with what God has already said about us, and (2) proclamation, which is to say the same things about God as He has said about Himself. For the purpose of this article, we will focus on the first religious sense of the word.

What Does Confession Look Like?

Joshua 7:19-26 records an excellent illustration of confession. When Israel defeated Jericho, God prohibited anyone from taking spoils for themselves. Achan disobeyed and took some of the silver and gold. He dug a hole in the ground and hid it. Israel's next military campaign was aimed at the city of Ai. The city was smaller and weaker than the

armies of Israel, and after their convincing victory over Jericho, confidence was high. Surprisingly, Israel lost the battle. Joshua cried out to God, and in the course of time, God revealed the culprit. "Then Joshua said to Achan, 'My son, I implore you, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and give praise to Him; and tell me now what you have done. Do not hide it from me'" (Josh. 7:19). Since Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, people have always tried to hide their sin. Achan was no different. His confession was to agree verbally with that which God had already revealed to Joshua. Achan's confession was not contrived or calculated. It was a clear, simple statement of fact; he sinned against God, he lusted after the beauty of the silver and gold and concealed it. The same simplicity must be so with our confession of sin. Just tell it like it is, no embellishment, no skirting the issue, and no redefining of terms. Anything other than contrite agreement with God's assessment of both our action and our depravity is not confession.

How Does Confession Glorify God?

Confession glorifies God because:

- *It recognizes God's superior knowledge of human depravity.* If we deny that we sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth of God is not in us; if we say we have not sinned, we declare God to be a liar (1 Jn. 1:8, 10). Calling God a liar does not bring Him glory, but calling on His name does.
- *It implies respect and acquiescence to His holy standards.* Confession agrees that God is holy and we are not. The first-century Jews missed this point. They miscalculated God's holiness and over-estimated their own (Rom. 10:1-8). God's holiness is the overarching characteristic of His glory (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8). Confession of sin humbly admits that we fall short of God's glory (Rom. 3:23). The first step on the journey of conforming to God's holy character is to admit that our current condition falls short of it.
- *It facilitates His grace and cleansing.* Grace, by definition, is unearned. Facilitation of grace begins with an admission of our inability. In his confession of sin, David

See *Glory*, page 4

Milestones

Bridal Shower

A shower for **Jessalyn Henry** will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020, at 10 a.m. in Room 151.

Births

Asha Grace Hall

January 24, 2020

daughter of Craig and Abi Hall

Christabelle Hall

January 24, 2020

daughter of Craig and Abi Hall

Deaths

Jean Thornber

January 30, 2020

longtime member of BPC

Bob Bigelow

January 22, 2020

longtime member of BPC

Asha Grace Hall

January 24, 2020

infant daughter of Craig and Abi Hall, and twin sister of Christabelle Graci Hall

Arlene Richardson

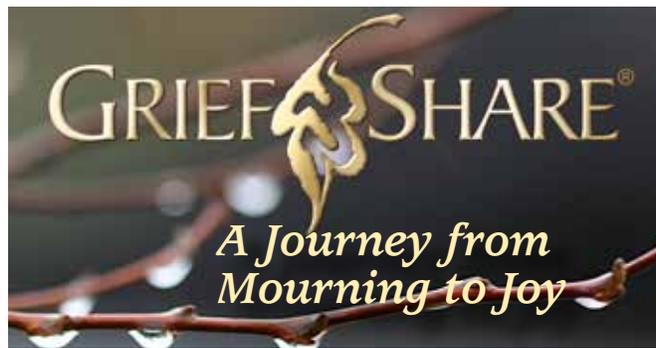
February 16, 2020

aunt of Joyce Symons

Barbara Jones

February 7, 2020

mother of Don Jones



A SUPPORT GROUP FOR ANYONE WHO HAS EXPERIENCED THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE

**Monday Evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
February 24 to May 18, 2020**

Grief Share is a place to learn how grief impacts our lives and discover how God and His Word can bring understanding and healing. Each week a video presentation with experts in the field, and also those who have gone through this journey, share valuable truths, tools and strategies for navigating the landscape of grief. A workbook gives a chance for personal reflection and application between sessions.

GriefShare Topics Include:

- Is This Normal?
- Challenges of Grief
- Grief and Your Relationships
- Why?
- Guilt and Anger
- Complications of Grief

Open to All Church Members and Beyond

Tell others! This is an excellent opportunity to share God’s comfort with those you know who have experienced a loss. We have been able to minister to dozens of folks referred by hospice organizations, chaplains and hospital social workers. For more info check out: www.griefshare.org or contact: Lynda Eck: 206-351-3462 or Katy Lynch: 206-371-0554.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

**Sunday, March 15
2 to 4 p.m. at Grace Church
10323 - 28th Ave SW, Seattle WA**

The Boulevard Park Grief Share program will be co-facilitating with Grace Church this special event for widows and widowers. It will focus on the particular challenges of those who are dealing with the death of a loved one. A video assisted presentation and small group discussion will provide participants with tools for understanding how to navigate this journey through grief.

You may register online at GriefShare.org, or contact Katy Lynch at 206.371.0554

Looking for a place to serve?
We would love to have you join the GriefShare Team!! Prayer Team, Administration or Hospitality — volunteers welcome!

Glory, from page 4

understood his inherent wickedness and pleaded for God’s grace (Ps. 51:1-11). The apostle John sums it up nicely, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 Jn. 1:9). He cleanses us because we are unable to do it ourselves (Job 14:4; Jer. 13:23). That is grace.

- *It restores our commitment to and relationship with God.*

James encourages confession because it heals (Jas. 5:16). When we allow sin to flourish in our lives, it kills motivation, discourages, saps our spiritual vitality, and

distances us from invigorating fellowship with God. By virtue of everything God did to have fellowship with us, restoration of that fellowship places us in a position to be God-glorifying testimonies of His grace.

So now what? I’ll let David answer. *When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away throughout my groaning all day long...I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found”* (Ps. 32:3, 5-6).

A Warning about Wealth

By Jon Recker, Elder

“Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” — Mark 10:24-25

Recently our Sunday School class viewed a documentary entitled *American Gospel: Christ Alone*. The title is ironic, of course, since there is nothing uniquely American about the Gospel. But as we learned from this film, many churches in our country have embellished the Gospel with false teachings often labeled “prosperity theology.”

Proponents of prosperity theology claim that God intends for all Christians to enjoy good health and material prosperity, and that we are guaranteed to do so if we just act, think, or pray in a particular manner. Now even a cursory examination of Scripture reveals problems with this theory. In John 15 Jesus warned His followers to expect persecution and alienation, not a life of ease. This was certainly the experience of many New Testament believers – just consider the martyrdom of Peter (John 21:19), Stephen (Acts 7:59), James (Acts 12:2), and Paul (II Tim. 4:6).

In fact, Jesus taught that material wealth can actually be an *obstacle* to saving faith and Christian growth. He repeated this warning in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 6:19-21), in the parable of the rich fool (Luke 12:13-21), and of course in His dialogue with the rich young ruler (Mark 10:17-27).

Although this young man was zealous for the Mosaic Law (v. 20) and wisely sought eternal life from the One who could provide it (v. 17), he ultimately rejected Christ in favor of worldly possessions (v. 22). Like many first-century Jews, the disciples assumed that wealthy, pious people were the *most* likely to be accepted by God. They were therefore astonished when Jesus declared that it is actually hard for a rich man to enter God’s kingdom (v. 23).

So what is the lesson for us? Is Jesus saying that the only way to enter His kingdom is to give away all that we own? Clearly He is not. Jesus encouraged generosity (Matt.

5:42) but gave no universal command for His followers to sell everything. And scripture elsewhere praises honest labor, so that we can support ourselves and each other (II Thes. 3:6-12).

Instead, I believe this passage warns us that those with material wealth will face especially strong temptations to prioritize possessions over God. We cannot serve both God and money (Matt. 6:24), and the

decision of which to serve is more challenging for the rich than for the poor. Jesus even states that it is flat-out

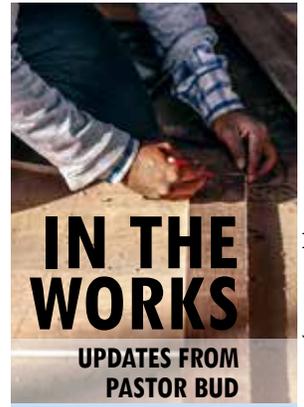
impossible for a wealthy person, left to his own devices, to choose God (Mark 10:25-27).

Of course it is impossible for any of us to choose God, unless God has first chosen us and granted us the gift of faith (Eph. 2:8-9). But when God draws a rich person to a point of saving faith (John 6:44), the process might involve a particularly dramatic adjustment in his *attitude* or *circumstances*. Jesus commanded the rich young ruler to sell all his possessions because the idol of wealth was keeping him from eternal life. It was strong medicine but given out of love, for nothing less potent would suffice.

And while most of us may not feel especially wealthy, let us not too quickly dismiss the relevance of this passage. The “American Gospel” heresy thrives here because we live in a country of unprecedented comfort and prosperity. Most Americans enjoy a material quality of life superior to that in any other nation, past or present. The temptation to prioritize our earthly blessings over eternal treasures is therefore strong.

So we will do well to acknowledge this challenge and to pray daily for the Holy Spirit to help us love Christ more, and the things of this world less. By His grace, may we not be among those who, “for the love of money... have pierced themselves with many griefs.” (I Tim. 6:10) Rather let us seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33) and trust God to meet our material needs in the manner that brings Him the greatest glory.

We will do well to...pray daily for the Holy Spirit to help us love Christ more, and the things of this world less.



Over the past few months, we have been waiting for the construction company to complete their inspection of all spaces to be remodeled in Phase 1. They have completed the inspections and gotten the costs from specific subcontractors. The final cost is above our budget so we are in the process of negotiating with Moon Construction for a Phase 1 plan that will be consistent with the budget approved by the congregation in June 2019.

**All Church Prayer
Saturday, Mar. 14, 9-10 a.m.**

March 2020

Photo by Toksa Zak at Unplash.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:45AM Worship Service Christian Ed Classes 10:30AM Worship Service	2 6:30PM Worship Rehearsal 7:00PM Grief Share	3 6:00AM Men's Huddle 1:00PM MOPS Steering 6:00PM Business Committee	4 9:00AM Heart to Heart/WOW 6:30PM Awana Youth Group	5 6:30PM Men's Ministry Mtg.	6	7
8 8:45AM Worship Service Christian Ed Classes 10:30AM Worship Service 12:30PM Meet & Greet at Sizzler 2:00PM Outriggers	9 11:00AM Ladies Fellowship Cir 7:00PM Grief Share	10 6:00AM Men's Huddle 9:00AM MOPS/MOMSnext 6:00PM Board of Elders 6:30PM Heart to Heart study/ "Open Your Bible"	11 9:00AM Heart to Heart/WOW 6:30PM Awana Youth Group H2H Wed. Bible Study	12	13 12:00PM Clipper Club	14 9:00AM All Church Prayer
15 PRESS ARTICLES DUE 8:45AM Worship Service Christian Ed Classes 10:30AM Worship Service 2:00PM Loss of a Spouse @ Grace Church 5:00PM Family Skate Night	16 6:00PM Trustees 7:00PM Grief Share	17 6:00AM Men's Huddle 6:30PM H2H Bible Study	18 9:00AM Heart to Heart/WOW 6:30PM Awana Youth Group	19	20	21
22 8:45AM Worship Service Christian Ed Classes 10:30AM Worship Service	23 7:00PM Grief Share	24 6:00AM Men's Huddle 9:00AM MOPS/MOMSnext 6:30PM H2H Bible Study	25 9:00AM Heart to Heart/WOW 6:30PM Awana Youth Group H2H Wed. Bible Study	26	27	28 Awana Super Section Saturday
29 8:45AM Worship Service Christian Ed Classes 10:30AM Worship Service 7:00PM Worship Night	30 7:00PM Grief Share	31 6:00AM Men's Huddle 6:30PM H2H Bible Study				NOTE: To schedule an event on the church calendar, please check with Teresa or Kathy in the church office.

Worship Night

Sunday, March 29, 7-8 p.m.

Come as we gather for an extended time of worship through song, reading, meditation, and prayer.

Celebrations!

March Birthdays

- 1 Maddie Borer
- 2 Tim Bryce
Harry Burlingame
Kinsley Carvo
- 6 LaVera Cowin
Teresa Diener
Roger Gillihan
- 8 David Gonzalez
- 10 Michelle Harder
Randall Harvey
- 11 Jessalyn Henry
- 14 Don Jones
Mary Jordan
- 15 Sean Kent
- 17 Callum Kowallis
- 18 Declan Kowallis
- 19 Michael Lowrie
Joanne Mackey
- 20 Lisa Martinez
- 21 Chris McAllister
Jeremy Mitchell
Gary Moseley
- 24 Iris Mutuc
Kathi Nagy
- 26 Lori Neumann
Mark Parish
- 27 Roxanne Parr
Janette Ravander
- 29 Kristina Schaefer
Kara Siedenbug
- 30 Pam Stariha
Robert Turner
- 31 Dina Vogel

Early April Birthdays

- 2 Miles Arnold
Betty Bennedsen
- 3 Jerry Bingham
- 4 Nancy Burlingame
Madison Burt
- 6 Max Burt
Molly Burt
- 8 Marlene Burton
- 9 Maria Carter
Josh Carvo

If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office.

15 MARCH | FAMILY SKATE NIGHT | 5-7 PM

HOSTED BY BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

Kids & Youth skate free!
\$5 for adult skaters (includes skate rental).
Spectators get in free.
Reserve your spot today!
Register on our website at bpcburien.org
Or contact us at children@bppc.org
or 206-243-2600.

9646 17TH AVE SW,
SEATTLE

**SOUTHGATE
ROLLER
RINK**



ALL AGES & STAGES WELCOME



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Care Net of Puget Sound's Light & Life Celebration Dinner this year features Rebekah Hagan, a young woman who began a medical abortion but had a change of heart. Her story will be riveting.

Registration is FREE: you may host a table for 10 or register just yourself at LL2020.givesmart.com. There will be a no-pressure financial ask during the evening. For more information, please go to carenetsps.org and click on "Light & Life" in the menu bar or contact Natalie Sujka at nsujka@carenetsps.org.

Thank you, Boulevard family, for supporting Care Net's Gospel-based, life-affirming work in our own communities.

— Ellyn Roe, Liaison

