



# Boulevard Park Press

MARCH 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

## Transform Burien Update

# New Director and Location = Opportunities

By Nate Kowallis

The past couple of times we've served at Transform weighed heavy on my heart. With the restriction against interior dining minimizing intentional conversation, and weary reports from the daily workers, it just seemed like the ministry wasn't really *transforming* anyone.

On February 7, however, we had the opportunity to meet the ministry's new director, Gary Vanderhoff. The regular volunteers had some extra spring in their step, and they reported about Gary and his workings in the previous couple of weeks very favorably. He hasn't been on the job long, but he's already connected with the city and the school district and is forming relationships with other ministries to increase the scope of what Transform Burien can provide. I hope in the next issue of *The Press* to have a clearer sense of his vision for the ministry, but I, too, am excited for what the Lord has in store through this new leadership.

My philosophy remains the same: the Youth Group being BPC's connection to Transform was a strategic move to connect youth with other adults in our church body and with the needy in the community. This is *not* the youth's service opportunity; our church supports this ministry as a means of care for and engagement of our neighborhood. We want to see lives changed spiritually and pragmatically, and doing this work *together*

helps to mature our youth in the faith and deepen their roots in the church.

Therefore, when it comes to volunteers, the more the merrier! We regularly need about ten people for food service and food/clothing bank support (when they need it), but there's more we could be doing. One of the most important roles is the Lingerer. Huge shout-out to Daphne McBreen who faithfully has been showing up to talk with, listen to, and pray for the recipients of Transform Burien's services.

For those of you who remember serving at the "old location," the pace is far less hurried than it used to be. We're serving between 70-90 meals, which provides us a lot of space to be together with one another and to check in with the guests. All the standard social distancing practices are in place, and the food servers even have a screen separating them from the guests. The previous admin even admitted that the ministry "exceeds the state's safety requirements," and the guests are usually compliant and always grateful for our service.

If you're interested, shoot me an email ([nate.kowallis@bpcburien.org](mailto:nate.kowallis@bpcburien.org)). We serve on the first Sunday of even months from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. at the old Sunnydale Elementary School on Des Moines Memorial Drive. See you in April!

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](mailto:ellynroe@comcast.net)

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



### Continue to Pray

It has been a ROUGH race lately for Global Workers Tom Horton and Debbie Wood. Months-long battles with illness (and in Debbie's case with insurance authorizations) have been hard on both families.

Let's remember to plead with God for their health, material needs, and peace as they persevere in the race God gave them.

### Martinez News:

By Ellyn Roe

The Martinez family is rejoicing that a recent telephone call with Tigak church leader Paska in Papua New Guinea indicates the Tigak church is doing well. Paska reports the church meets regularly and several Tigak Believers continue to gather for Bible study and spiritual encouragement. Apart from preventing Noe's hoped-for visit to them in February, COVID-19 has not had a huge effect on the tribe, thankfully. Noe, Lisa, Naya and Jocie hope for a return to their Tigak home and family at the end of their current home assignment in early July.

### Living on M\*\* (Part 5)

An ongoing series by C.H.\*

## Skipping and Smiling on Gospel Bridges

Submitted to us during the February 7th sermon was the concept of 'gospel bridges'. Gospel bridges are simple phrases, questions or ideas which can catapult normal conversation into a place where you begin to get that 'walking on water' feeling (or at least what I imagine Peter was feeling). Using a gospel bridge, we transition from simple conversational patter to intentional truth talking.

In 2 Corinthians 5, Paul urged the Corinthian church (and by extension, all believers) to maintain their motivation and embrace the reconciling authority that God has entrusted to all believers. Therefore, assuming that our community heeds the promises of Scripture regarding our responsibility in this age and our reward in the age to come, (and assuming we are communicating true doctrine), I think it may be beneficial to think through another practical way that we can steer our conversations heavenward.

Transitioning the conversation toward Gospel truth can feel awkward, because our daily conversations usually remain in the safe-zone. Yet stepping out of our comfort zone doesn't have to give us a bad feeling. In fact, we should remind ourselves that taking a step of faith in the path of evangelistic obedience is actually something that honors our Father and increases our investment in the Kingdom. We should cross the conversational Gospel bridges with a true smile and a skip in our step.

### Mr. Hope and Mr. Lost

Here is one additional Gospel bridge that I wish could have been shared. Please try it the next time you get a chance. It is called the "heaven bridge." I'm going to leave it as an imaginary conversation between Mr. Hope and Mr. Lost, but please feel free to take it and make it your own:

Mr. Hope worked up the courage to ask his old friend, Mr. Lost, out to lunch. After they had finished eating and the conversation hit a lull, Mr. Hope remembered a prominent celebrity who had recently passed. "Sad to hear of \_\_\_\_\_'s passing," said Mr. Hope as he fidgeted with his knife.

"Yeah, hopefully he's in a better place," responded Mr. Lost.

Mr. Hope then decided to take a step 'out of the boat' and initiate a gospel bridge. "So, with all this talk of \_\_\_\_\_'s passing, I've been thinking a lot about what's next for all of us. Say, Mr. Lost, do you believe in heaven?"

"Well, I suppose so, yes."

"Do you believe it is a perfect place, with no problems and no bad things?" continued Mr. Hope.

"Yeah, but I sure hope we're not simply little babies strumming harps," responded Mr. Lost.

Mr. Hope laughed, "Me too. And yet, I'm curious, Mr. Lost. Do you think that you are a person without faults or problems?"

Mr. Lost looked inquisitively at Mr. Hope, "Well, of course not. I have my fair share of issues."

Mr. Hope heartily agreed, "Amen, me too... And yet, if you rightly understand yourself to be imperfect—just as I am—and rightly imagine heaven to be perfect, well then why would God let you into heaven—wouldn't that ruin heaven's perfect record?"

Mr. Lost paused and rubbed his chin. He hadn't thought this spiritually deep since a college professor had challenged his world view years ago. "I guess I've never thought about it like that. Maybe I wouldn't be a good fit for heaven after all."

Mr. Hope interjected, "Perhaps—but I think you're hitting the nail on the head. I've been studying my Bible and I think I found the answer for how we, imperfect people, can go to live in heaven forever with a perfect God. Let me explain, would you?"

Mr. Lost looked at his watch but then remembered that he was retired and had the day free.

"Sure, but nothing about babies and harps, I hope..."

Mr. Hope smiled, and shared the Gospel...

\*\*Global Work, whether on the field or home assignment



### Boulevard Park Press March 2021

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1822 S 128th Street  
Burien, Washington 98168-2903

Phone: 206-243-2600  
E-mail: [Info@bppc.org](mailto:Info@bppc.org)  
Website: [www.bpcburien.org](http://www.bpcburien.org)

Pastor: Bud Diener

Worship  
Services: Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

### Press Staff

Editor: Eva Lee Henderson  
Reporters: Sue Redhed  
Ellyn Roe  
Photographer: Jessica Barton  
Proofreaders: Peggie & Ernie Recker

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Phone 206-988-3918  
E-mail: [bpcpress@bpcburien.org](mailto:bpcpress@bpcburien.org)

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# Here Comes the Judge...

By Pastor Bud

Have you ever tried to confront someone gently on an unbiblical characteristic of their life only to hear, *“The Bible says, ‘Do not judge.’”*? That seems to be the go-to response for those who want people to mind their own business. But, is that the right way this verse should be understood? Is Jesus telling us to mind our own business? Is there ever a time when it is right to judge? Okay, all good questions that I will attempt to answer in this article. But first, let’s see what the passage actually says, *“Do not judge so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you”* (Mt. 7:1-2). The meaning of this passage comes to light when we consider the following points.

### Contextual Trajectory

The context of the Sermon on the Mount finds Jesus contrasting the hypocrisy of the Pharisees (and those like them) with the character of a true citizen in God’s kingdom. Citizenship in Christ’s kingdom required righteousness that surpassed the scribes and the Pharisees (Mt. 5:20). The contrast between true righteousness and hypocrisy continued in chapter 6 with the imperative to avoid practicing your righteousness to be noticed by men (Mt. 6:1-8). Rather, seek first the kingdom and you will be free from the worry that plagues those who do not know God (Mt. 6:19-34). Now, in chapter 7, Jesus continues the same trajectory with instruction about judgment. The contextual trajectory leads us to think in terms of avoiding hypocritical judgment.

### Doctrinal Congruity

Our interpretation of this passage must be congruous to the larger body of biblical doctrine. In other words, our interpretation of what Jesus is commanding us to do or avoid must be consistent with what the rest of the Bible teaches in this regard. There are two basic interpretive options: (1) Jesus is telling us to judge no one because if we do, God is going to judge us based on the standard we use. (2) Jesus is speaking about the hypocritical judging of others from an

unrighteous heart. Consideration of a few points will give us much needed direction.

- If verse 1 is a universal prohibition against judging, then Jesus’ command in verses 15-20 is logically fallacious. The latter command calls for discernment. Logically, discernment is inextricably linked to judgment. If we are to obey Jesus’ command, then we must inspect the fruit of a teacher and make a judgment about its validity.
- Many other passages of Scripture overtly teach or indirectly imply judgment. *“Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them”* (Rom. 16:17). Think about it; how are the believers to know who is causing dissension contrary to Paul’s teaching if they never make judgments? Obviously, they can’t. The need to judge is unmistakable in 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22, *“But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.”*
- The correct interpretation of Matthew 7:1-2 becomes clear when one considers these words of Jesus, *“Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment”* (Jn. 7:24). Jesus uses the same word for judge that He used in Matthew 7, and the word is an imperative, which is the mood of command. Jesus is commanding the Pharisees not to judge by externals. However, He is not prohibiting all judgment. They are permitted to judge but only from a stance of righteousness.

All too often, we judge based on personal preferences and limited information. Avoid such judgments for they elicit reciprocation of the same. We must avoid the contemporary tendency to embrace a distorted definition of tolerance. We must exercise discernment, and discernment leads to judgment. Just be careful of your motive and standard. Our motive must always be God’s glory and our standard His holiness. Let us always be zealous for promoting the righteousness of God more than promoting personal preferences.

## Milestones

### Deaths

**Bob Sparks**

February 5, 2021

brother-in-law of Daphne McBreen

**Teresa Hopkins**

February 6, 2021

Teresa attended BPC a few years ago and recently was living in Walla Walla, WA.

**Eugene Prince**

February 8, 2021

husband of Gloria Prince

**Roxanne Parr**

February 8, 2021

mother of Russ Parr and long-time BPC member

**Annette Garner**

February 15, 2021

Annette used to attend BPC and will be remembered by her friends here.

**Julie Sparks**

February 15, 2021

sister of Daphne McBreen

## VBS 2021 Sports Camp – July 12-16, 2021!

### Sports Camp Prayer Requests

Pray that:

- God will prepare the hearts of the children who come to Sports Camp to respond in faith to the Gospel.
- We will continue to have a good relationship with the city of SeaTac in working out some special details regarding the renting of the soccer field across the street for soccer and cheer.
- Good progress will be made on the MPR remodel and that it will be able to be used for basketball at Sports Camp (The remodel doesn't have to be done, just be in a place where it can safely be used that week.)
- God will prepare people's hearts to respond as we start recruiting workers for Sports Camp.
- Despite the unknowns with COVID, God will give us courage to proceed forward with plans in faith, trusting that He will work the details out for His glory and that we will be flexible and adapt to changes as needed.
- God will be growing the faith and love for the Lord of the collegiate athletes from Base Sports who will be leading the Bible, music and sports training.

## Ready.Set.Go!

By Kelly Siedenburg

As we look at the life of Abraham, we will be sharing with kids how God's story includes each of them, too. Our memory verse for the week is Romans 4:20-21:

*"No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised."*

Abraham persevered in faith, and our kids will be challenged to:

**Step forward!** Set your feet on God's path.

**Stand firm!** Set your strength on God's truth.

**Stay focused!** Set your eyes on God's promises.

**Rely faithfully!** Set your heart on God's provision.

**Build for the future!** Set your mind on God's mission.

How about you?! Are you focusing on God's promises and persevering in faith? We would love to have you join us to reach many kids in our community with the Good News that JESUS alone is the Way, the Truth and the Life! Here are a few details and then we'll tell you how you can be a part of *Ready.Set.Go!*

- Camp will run 8:45 a.m. – Noon, July 12-16.
- We will be using both our church and the soccer field directly across the street from the church.
- 1st-5th grade campers will get to choose one sport for the week – soccer, cheer or basketball.
- 4 yr. olds - Kindergarten will be a part of the Kickstart program (mixed sports).
- Four collegiate athletes from Base Sports (Youth Missions International) will lead the Bible, music and sports instruction while BPC provides the small group leaders, snack, safety, and welcome teams.

Join us for one or any of the 5 P's below!

- **Prayer** – join our prayer team and/or pray on your own (see sidebar for some ideas)
- **Participate** – lead a group of 10 kids and share how God is using you in His story, join the hospitality team and welcome parents, be a part of the safety team to get kids across the street and back safely...
- **Prepare** – help with set up and/or any behind the scenes work that is needed.
- **Provide** – We would love to borrow 3 portable basketball hoops that can adjust in height.
- **Publicity** – know any children? Invite them to come! Flyers and yard signs will be available in the coming months.

To volunteer, contact Kelly at 206-349-2095 or [Kelly@dehneng.com](mailto:Kelly@dehneng.com) or Lisa at 206-334-6775 or [children@bppc.org](mailto:children@bppc.org).



*“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted” – Matthew 5:4*

## GriefShare ~ A Ministry of Hope

By Katy Lynch

*Do you know someone who is dealing with  
the loss of a loved one?*

Even in the midst of this COVID crisis, the Fall BPPC sponsored Grief Share program was able to find a way to help over a dozen people navigate the challenges of loss after their loved one had passed. No matter how sure our footing before our family member or friend leaves this world, the landscape of the grief journey can be full of unexpected hills and valleys. Our role is to help participants connect in a new way with Jesus, the Good Shepherd who can lead them through the valley of the shadow of death.

Grief Share provides a biblically-based approach to processing loss. Grief can affect us mentally, physically and spiritually. The video presentation each week helps us learn about the process, and gain tools and strategies to work through our grief. The experts featured in the videos and workbook give valuable insight, helping us understand that the confusing emotional ebb and flow of

the journey is to be expected. The real-life testimonials of those who have been through grief give participants assurance that there is hope on the other side of our pain.

Grief Share gives an open invitation to anyone experiencing loss to come and meet the God of all comfort in a new and meaningful way. The 13-week program will be offered again starting on **March 1, 2021**, within the CDC guidelines for church meetings. Please pray:

- For those that the Lord will direct to BPC for comfort and healing.
- For God to increase our Grief Share team.
- For the Holy Spirit to lead and guide for healing and salvation.
- For prayer partners willing to walk alongside participants, through the grief journey.

Questions? Call Katy Lynch 206-371-054 or Lynda Eck 206-351-3462; or go to: [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org).

**Spring Session  
begins March 1,  
Monday Nights  
7–8:30 p.m.**



## Resource Room/Nursery Closet

### Closet Clear Outs!

By Lisa Siedenburg

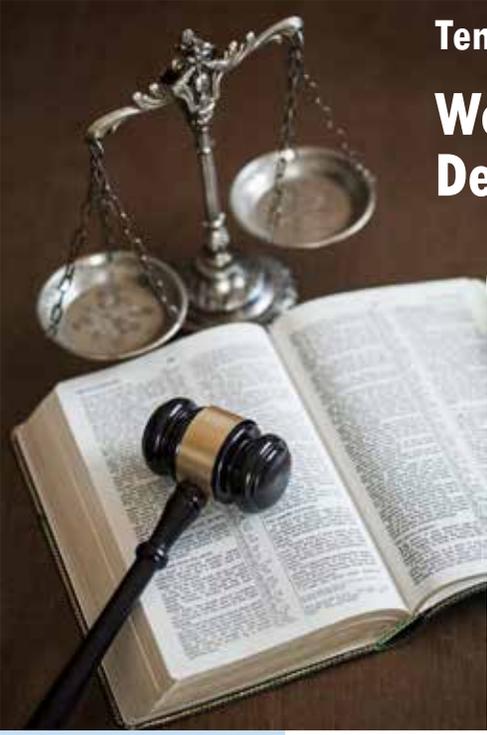
Are you preparing for your ministry and find that you need some paper, a map, markers, popsicle sticks, pipe cleaner, hot glue gun, extension cord...? We recently reorganized

our Resource Room and would love to share our resources with all ministries. We are not looking for donations, but there is a bucket if you happen to be getting rid of anything. But please—no crayons or colored pencils!

All toys, games, puzzles, etc. have been moved to the closet just across the hall and to the east. Contact [children@bppc.org](mailto:children@bppc.org) for an inventory of items in either room.



Photo Credit: Lisa Siedenburg



## Tending the Flock

# Weighing the Evidence – Determining the Course

### Summary of BPC Position Paper:

## Women Teaching Men in the Church

#### **Rationale:**

*The BPC elders recognize the need for the church to be biblically accurate in reaching the world with the life-changing message of Jesus. In matters of faith and practice, where Scripture speaks with clear principles, mandates, and doctrines, we purpose to follow the instruction of scripture, leading without compromise.*

*The Boulevard Park Church Elders are in the process of discerning biblical responses to certain societal and cultural matters which impact the church. Selected summary documents will be published in the Press, and completed Position Papers will be made available to all online.*

#### **BPC Position:**

The Board of Elders interprets Scripture as mandating that women may not have actual or perceived scriptural authority over men in the church. This mandate applies primarily to positions of pastor, elder and teacher in various settings where males over high school age would be among the audience. Women are both free and encouraged to exercise their God-given gifts within the church outside of these positions.

#### **Scriptural Basis Excerpt:**

The passage offering the most clarity is 1 Timothy 2:9-14 in which Paul states: “*I do not allow a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man.*” In this section of scripture, Paul was not isolating his comment to a single instance in a specific church, but rather, he was giving authoritative and general pastoral instruction following the logical guidance of other scripture, including the order of creation (see Genesis 2:18 and 1 Timothy 2:13), and Genesis 3:6-17, when sin entered humanity after man abdicated his role as leader.

#### **Anecdotal Comment:**

Society’s evolution to Post-Modernism, particularly in Western culture, occurred in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. With it, emergent thought has led to a call by “progressives” to welcome women into authoritative roles of pastor, elder, and teacher within the church. This trend is not biblically defensible.

In 1980, Boulevard Park Presbyterian Church separated from the United Presbyterian Church over matters of biblical compromise. In 2015 the church’s name was changed to Boulevard Park Church to further separate from the PC-USA over escalating areas of deviation from clear biblical instruction. Among these issues was the role of female leadership within the church.

#### **For More Information:**

A Source Position Paper on this subject is being finalized, titled: “Women Teaching Men in the Church.” It will ultimately be posted to the church’s website. If you’d like to discuss this matter, you are welcome and encouraged to arrange a discussion with an elder by contacting the church office.

[info@bpcburien.com](mailto:info@bpcburien.com)  
206-243-2600



## March 13 FREE Virtual Banquet Countdown

By Ellyn Roe, Care Net Liaison

- 1** Register by March 12 at <https://carenets.org/light-and-life-virtual/>. You can watch from home or attend the screened event with a free dinner donated by Chick-fil-A at Calvary Chapel, Kent, or Christ's Church, Federal Way.
- 2** Invite other households (colleagues, friends and family) to also register. (See sample below.)
- 3** If you are watching from home, plan your menu and wardrobe. (See the February Press for ideas)
- 4** On March 13: Set your table, cook or pick up your favorite take-out foods to support your local restaurants, light your candles, and tune in. (Or if you are attending in person at a host church, get there on time!)

Here's a sample invitation you could text or email to others:

Hi \_\_\_\_\_,

I'd like to invite you to a very special virtual banquet in support of one of my favorite organizations: Care Net of Puget Sound, the area's most well known faith-based pregnancy resource center, serving women and families who are experiencing unplanned or under-supported pregnancies. At 6:00pm on Saturday, March 13, Care Net will provide an online hour of worship, information and inspiration. Register by March 12 at <https://carenets.org/light-and-life-virtual/>. Hope to see you there!

\_\_\_\_\_(your name)

Being a part of the CareNet Virtual Banquet is a safe and fun way to put your pro-life beliefs into ACTION!



## Celebrations!

### March Birthdays

- 1 Robert Turner
- 2 Kinsley Carvo  
Don Jones  
Kathi Nagy
- 6 Michelle Harder
- 8 Joanne Mackey
- 10 Sean Kent  
Lisa Martinez
- 11 Roger Gillihan
- 14 Mark Parish  
Jessalyn Welch
- 17 Janette Ravander
- 18 Yinita Silva-Jones
- 19 Callum Kowallis
- 20 Anthony Moore
- 21 Maddie Borer  
Gary Maseley  
Kristina Schaefer
- 24 Mary Jordan  
Lori Neumann
- 26 Chris McAllister  
Pam Stariha
- 27 David Gonzalez  
Dina Vogel
- 29 Tim Bryce  
Declan Kowallis
- 30 Harry Burlingame  
Kara Siedenburg
- 31 LaVera Cowin

### Early April Birthdays

- 2 Betty Bennedsen  
Marlene Burton
- 3 Dave Huck
- 4 Tyler Siedenburg
- 6 Madison Burt  
Ellen Jackson
- 8 Anita Dakin
- 9 Penny Clifton
- 11 Maxine Desimone  
Thomas Wood
- 12 Tom Horton

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



# BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

*Reaching Our World for Christ*

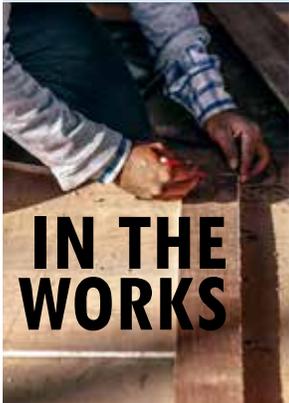
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## Restroom Project Update

By Todd Neumann, BPC Phase 1 Liaison

The floor and wall tile installation in the MPR men's, women's, and ADA family restrooms continues...and by the time you read this report will likely be complete. Next on the list is installation of the toilets, partitions and accessories, and then counters, sinks and light fixtures. Stay tuned! Next month's Press could contain a photo spread of the completed (or nearly completed) restrooms!



Tile for the MPR bathrooms will use multiple colors and styles including Gray 12x24 tiles on the floor, Arctic White and Suede Gray 4x12 tiles on the wall, and a vertical stripe of mosaic blend behind each counter.

fancyrave on unsplash.com

Photo Credit: Todd Neumann