



Boulevard Park Press

JULY/AUGUST 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

Youth Ministry Update

By Nate Kowallis

Neck-deep in our summer activities may be one of the best times to stop and ask ourselves—why? The hikes, the daytime activities, and the change to Youth Group being around the lake are all intentional changes capitalizing on summer's opportunities.

This last year has been *hard*. We've all been aware that our kids haven't been okay. Virtual learning was stressful and isolating, their perpetual presence on social media had them processing serious sociological subjects, and the times that we have been together have been cramped by frustrating restrictions. In the Youth Group, we've encouraged dialogue about the condition of our heart and soul; facing our weakness and pain can also feel suffocating in its own ways.

With the return of light and warmth, we come "out of the dark" to embrace God's beautiful creations: people, nature, activity. The ways we've learned to have vulnerable conversations ought to move us into a greater embrace of what comes with these more simple and natural activities; instead of sitting in gloom with our committed persons, we can check in with new friends and guests in more casual and "easy" ways.

Hikes provide long periods of time both in activity and in transit, and this year we're scheduling in a post-hike meal. There's space for conversation, adoration of God's creation, and those coveted endorphins. Additionally, we'll meet new friends from Redeemer Church in Newcastle, who will be joining us on several of our hikes.

The Thursday activities in July, the fishing trip, and prayer retreat provide extra opportunities to connect with our community. The new sports fields have been well used since their completion, so there's a natural location for engaging our immediate neighbors. Fishing and praying are peaceful, low-key activities whereby we breakdown the formality of organized church and exist together with God and others.

Youth Group at the lake is an awesome opportunity to change our rhythms and be in the homes of families in the church. Not only do we get to play in a lake, but

God Bless Our 2021 Grads

- **Justin Bingham** graduated from Summit Atlas High School
- **Malachi Clifton** from Shelton High School. He will be going to a trade school in the fall. He is the grandson of John and Penny Clifton.
- **Kian Conroy**, from the UW with a degree in Comprehensive Physics. Kian received a research fellowship from WSU to study for his PhD in Space Engineering in fall. He is the son of Alan and Annette Conroy
- **Elijah Rainey Gibson** from Hanford High School. He will be attending the UW in the honors program in the fall to study biology. Elijah is the son of Eric and Jenny Gibson and the grandson of Wayne and Kathy Rainey.
- **Nate Hartley** from Rogers High School with his high school diploma and AA degree from Pierce Community College. His plans for the fall are pending. He is the son of Tom and Megan Hartley and the grandson of Don and Shirley Hartley.
- **Andrew Neumann**, summa cum laude from George Fox University with a BS in molecular biology and a minor in chemistry. He was presented the Outstanding Biology Student Award. In the fall he will be attending the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus for a PhD in molecular biology. Andrew is the son of Todd and Lori Neumann.
- **Jacob Pope** from Gonzaga University, Cum Laude. Majoring in Economics and minoring in Philosophy and Finance. **Colton Fleming** from Kings School and he will attend the UW in the fall. They are the grandsons of Tom and Marilyn Fleming.
- **Robert Turner**, AA Degree from Highline College. Robert will enter WSU as a Junior to study Criminology and Psychology in the fall. He is the son of Bill and Kris Turner
- **Kyndal Wiebe** graduated from Tyee High School

the youth, their families, and the people they invite get connected with trusted adults within the church.

Summer provides unique opportunities to be among fellow Christians and our neighboring non-Christians. As we proceed with our events, we hold them with open hands to the Lord for Him to use them (and us) to be winsome to His family and encouraging for His family.

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 Elyn 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
July/August 2021

Published Monthly by
Boulevard Park Church

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The Press is available in color on
the church website.

September Deadline: August 15
(there will be no Press in August)

Phone 206-988-3918
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Photo credit on page 1 banner:
Vernon Raineil Cenzone on Unsplash.com

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

BPC's Youngest GWK** Heads to the Field

By C. and A.*

As you read this, we will be doing our final packing and goodbye-ing so that in the next few days we should be back at our foreign post. Only after much prayer and waiting were we able to secure plane tickets and visas. Upon arrival in that country, we will need to quarantine 6 days in a simple hotel room. I am quick to complain about this last requirement, but when I think back historically to the travels of international workers—many of whom traveled months on small wooden ships—I am humbled. I have to keep reminding myself these sorts of inconveniences are simply part of the journey of faith. Overall we are grateful.

We hope to write more as soon as we are properly settled. In the meantime, thank you again for your prayers and support. May we all continue to train our eyes on our King and live in light of his imminent return.

Grace and Peace, C&A

**Global Worker Kid



Miss C.H. is almost ready to go.

Photo Credit Papa C.H.*



Martinez Elder Prayer June 6, 2021

Tigak Time

By Lisa Martinez

In mid-July we will (Lord-willing) travel back to Papua New Guinea to continue ministry with the Tigak people. While the pandemic made our 2020-21 home assignment weird and challenging, God blessed us in many ways. Jocie and Naya got to spend time with family members, deepen friendships, and enjoy some first-world opportunities. The girls just finished their first year in public school and will move on to 8th and 6th grades (homeschool). Lisa enjoyed working on more Tigak Bible translation and Biblical resources throughout the year. Noe finished several projects and occasionally was able to provide encouragement via phone with Paska (Tigak church elder). We would appreciate your prayers for our upcoming goodbyes to family and friends, health and safety during our travels, and our ability to quickly readjust to Tigak culture and ministry. Thank you sharing your lives with us. **Please stay in touch—it is really appreciated.**

See More Page 2, page 7

A Letter from ME to YOU!

Dear BPC,

Your support has just been tremendous! Thanks a ton. God led me to a great 2003 Toyota Camry with low miles, thanks to your giving. And the latest batch of 1,500 gospel recordings on micro SD cards has just been distributed in Chad. Since I came home April 2, I've had some encouraging news from Chad:

- Stephen found a job! He's the one that I met and led to Christ 10 years ago, and who also broke both femurs.
- Zander has formed three groups of believers (124 people) whom he's seen come to Christ. He sent me a list of 10 leaders to be praying for in these groups.
- It's also good to hear that calm has returned to Chad since the president was killed on April 19.

I finally finished putting together a Power-Point presentation, in spite of lots of technical challenges. It's mostly amazing stories of how God worked these past two years in Chad. What a privilege to have been involved. Let me know if you or a group would like to see it.

With love, Marlene Etter
253-366-1607 (new phone number)



Photo Credit Elyn Roe

The State of the Church 2020-2021

By Pastor Bud

Excerpts from the Senior Pastor's Annual Report, presented at the Annual Meeting on June 4 and recorded in the corporate minutes.

With each passing year at BPC, my love and appreciation for you all continues to grow. I am grateful to the Board of Elders and the congregation for your ongoing prayers and support.

Challenges like the ones we've faced this past year can either demonstrate spiritual stability or exploit spiritual immaturity.

This year our church has functioned as an in-person and an online community. While online worship is not ideal, it has been necessary and helpful. With Covid-19 restrictions, racial tensions, and political divisions, the church has faced challenges on many fronts. Like God said through the prophet Isaiah, "Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction" (Isa. 48:10). This year's testing in the furnace of affliction crystallized strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats which emerged as the heat has risen. God has given me the responsibility to shepherd you and keep watch over your souls (Heb. 13:17). This responsibility involves rejoicing in our strengths, being honest about our weaknesses, urging us to take advantage of our opportunities, and warning us to be aware of threats that follow:

Strengths

Even amid unique circumstances, BPC consistently displays some major strengths:

- We continue to be a body of believers that hold to a high view of the Scriptures. The desire to hear the clear Word of God preached from the pulpit is not normal across the globe.
- BPC also continues to desire to study God's Word. It is not possible to become spiritually mature by just listening to weekly sermons. Continued study during the week and regular Bible reading is essential.
- BPC continues to be a blessing by the way you care for one another. BPC demonstrates real love for those who are hurting, and there have been a lot of hurting people this year.

Weaknesses

It is important to remember that there is no such thing as a perfect church on this side of heaven. Nevertheless, we never want to be satisfied with our weaknesses. Instead, like Paul urged the Philippian church, we must "abound still more" (Phil. 1:9). Here are two specific weaknesses, which may have never manifested themselves outside of the particular context of this past year.

- Too many of us allow our reactions to governing authorities to inform our behavior rather than living life *coram deo* (before God and for His glory). Various restrictions brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic should not control our decisions. We must be willing to submit ourselves to the governing authorities, according to scripture. We must be willing to follow Paul's guidance as stated in 1 Cor. 10:31 "So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the Glory of God".
- The priority of gathering for worship has been devalued for convenience, which is contributing to spiritual isolation. If there is no good reason to not attend church service in person, and you feel guilty, then by all means, feel guilty. Scripture implores us to not forsake the assembling together.

Opportunities

More than anytime in the recent past, people are hurting physically, financially and emotionally. As a result, we have an incredible opportunity to reach into our community with help in the name of Jesus. Our neighbors are more open to practical and spiritual help than ever before. There are many ways you can get involved to take advantage of the opportunities God has provided such as:

- Summer Sports Camp
- Transform Burien
- Summer Block Party
- Trunk-or-Treat

Threats

The greatest threat to BPC continues to be the temptation to do nothing about our weaknesses. Let us all examine our hearts, press on toward spiritual growth, and encourage one another for the glory of God.

Milestones

Baptism

Kian Conroy
May 30, 2021

50th Anniversary

Peggie and Ernie Recker
married at BPPC on July 16, 1971

Deaths

Russ Pritchard Sr.
May 20, 2021
father of Penny Clifton

Robert Stougard
May 28, 2021
brother of Larry Stougard

Judi Kennedy
June 8, 2021

Paul Henry
June 14, 2021
father of Mark Henry

Reminder

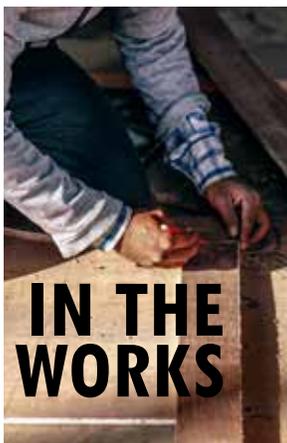
The Press is taking a vacation break in August. September items should be submitted to bpcpress@bpcburien.org by August 15.

Page 2 Prayer Addendum...

...from the Bryce family

Our precious daughter, Rebekah Blankers has just found out she has breast cancer. A shock to our whole family. She is a picture of health but the biopsy revealed she has malignant cells in her milk ducts. We will be in Lynden on June 23 to care for her 3 girls while she and Greg meet her surgeon in Seattle. We ask for you to hold her family up to the Lord for wisdom about treatment.

Resting in Him,
Debbie Bryce



Renovation Committee Update

By Pastor Bud

Phase 1 – We’ve been keeping you updated with the progress of the MPR bathrooms, which are now finished and functioning—if you haven’t had a chance to see them, I encourage you to do so on Sunday. Remaining work in Phase 1 includes:

- Multipurpose Room wall repair
- Ceiling and lighting work
- Conduits and upgrade of audio/visual capabilities
- Replacing the carpet

Due to scheduling, the remaining work will not begin before the end of July.

We are thankful for **Todd Neumann**, who has done an excellent job of working with the Renovation Committee and Moon Construction.

Phase 2 – This phase will include:

- 300-level (office wing) restroom remodel consistent with MPR restroom finishes
- Office remodel – offices to accommodate current staff
- Flooring in office wing, upper and lower foyers

We are currently getting a detailed quotation on the costs of this phase. When we get the budget, we will:

- Publish proposed plans and budget.
- Obtain congregational input through a series of public meetings.
- After all feedback has been received, revised plans will go to Trustees and Elders before going to the congregation for final approval.

Green Thumb Needed

Do you like to garden? BPC has some containers that need to be refreshed with new plantings.

Please contact Kathy in the church office if you’d like to do this one-time project.

Boulevard Park Church Men’s Golf Tournament



Enjoy fun and fellowship with other men

Saturday, August 7th

9 AM

**Foster Golf Course
Tukwila**

Best Ball Format

Cost: \$46

(Cart not included)

**Prizes for long drive, low team score,
closest to the hole**

***Sign-up after church
beginning July 1st***

or

Contact George Brown

george157@msn.com

425-228-3879 (H)

425-351-0155 (C)



Nov. 5-7, 2021

Women’s Retreat!

at **Rainbow Lodge** in North Bend

Cost per person will be \$175 and will cover all meals and lodging. More details to come so stay tuned.



Transform Burien Update

By Nate Kowallis

Several months ago I shared how I've been more encouraged about events at Transform Burien. At our service in June, there were a handful of additional volunteers who were exclusively connected to Transform. The director, Gary Vanderhoff, is leading some men in the Alpha Project, an evangelistic program, and he continues to adapt the building and its ample spaces to more intentional ministry.

In terms of BPC's service, I keep saying "the more the merrier!" First, this is a prime opportunity for our youth to connect with other adults in our church, in addition to growing in compassionate forms of ministry. There has been enough space to allow for casual conversations among our servers, whereby we could let our youth know that we see them, listen to them, and encourage them in their growth in God. Second, there's plenty more we could be doing while we're there. Here are some ideas:

FOOD SERVICE—This is the bare minimum commitment to the ministry, and it involves preparing a meal for about 120 persons and distributing it from a "food line." Service takes about 4-5 people to do well, but food prep can be done from anywhere.

CLOTHING BANK—We're regularly asked

to provide a person (though it's good to travel in pairs!) to help process the distribution of clothing to those in need.

FOOD BANK AND CLOTHING/FOOD INTAKE—We haven't been asked to help in this for a while now, but it would be good to be able to offer assistance to the regular volunteers in these ministries.

TABLE HOSTS—Many guests come back to the line for a second (or third...or fourth) meal. We can care for them in small ways by doing that for them and paving the way for an attentive ear, a wise voice, and prayer while at the table.

SCRIPTURE READING—Many are unchurched and would be blessed to simply hear the words of the Lord.

CLEANING—When's the last time you scrubbed the walls in your house? There's always something more to cleanse!

The next time we serve is **Sunday, August 1**, the time is usually about 2:45-5:15 p.m. I'd be happy to have you help in any capacity. If you're interested in participating or want to know more, feel free to reach out: nate.kowallis@bpccburien.org. Also, the ministry runs *every* Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday, if you'd like to volunteer outside of BPC's formal involvement.

Anchored Holds Fast

By Conor Malis

We have about 16 young adults who regularly attend Anchored, plus an additional five or so who aren't able to come as often. We gather on Mondays from 6:30-9 p.m. on a bi-weekly basis and will continue with this schedule through August 23. (Our fall calendar is TBD.) Currently, we're meeting at BPC in Room 151, but we may transition to the Malis' home in July. When we get together, we'll typically spend some time just hanging out and chatting and then we'll play a game. Then we'll transition to our study time and watch a video as a part of what we're working through at the time. We're currently going through a 6-part video series on Psalm 23 by pastor Matt Chandler. Afterward, we'll have a time of discussion and then the guys and girls will split up for accountability and prayer. Relationships continue to develop and consistent fellowship often takes place after our "formal" gatherings!

Adult Sunday School Class

Why does God permit suffering? It's a question all of us have asked, and the book of Job points us toward the answer. Job's questions are our questions, and we can identify with his frustration, disappointment, and confusion in the midst of trials. Starting June 27 and ending September 12, we invite you to join us in Room 431 at 9 a.m. on Sundays as we go through the video "The Book of Job" by Derek W.H. Thomas. In this course, Thomas walks us through the book of Job and considers what the Bible says about our darkest moments. He addresses the difficult question of the relationship between God's sovereignty and the existence of evil, sin, and suffering. In the end, it's in our trials that we learn to trust God and say with Job, "Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Hope to see you there!

David Siedenburg

P.S. from Jean Rose, "Look for a Women's Sunday School class to start in the Fall!"

Celebrations!

July Birthdays

- 1 Jacob Barton
Makin Yee
- 2 Marilyn Papini
Harvey Siedenburg
- 3 Kris Turner
- 5 Jonathan Schaefer
- 7 Jan Deda
- 8 Gene Erdahl
Jayce Graham
Addison Partridge
Brooklyn Partridge
- 9 Illa Pomeroy
Ernie Recker
Ron Weller
- 10 Annette Lowen
- 11 Rue-Ann Larson
- 14 Rachel Arnold
- 18 Max Acob
Nikkii Recker
- 20 Hannah Collier
Jon Hartley
Bruce Lindquist
- 21 Jon Mogren
Katie Struble
- 25 Becky Burton
Shari Hall
- 27 Erryn Kowallis
Roger Smith
Stephen Smith
- 29 Don Hale
Cliff Reynolds
- 30 Antoine Yousef
Yousef Yousef
- 31 Bob Burton
Gail James

If your birthday is not listed, and you would like it to be, please contact the church office.

Tending the Flock

Put in Your Reps!

By George Graham, Elder

Celebrations!

August Birthdays

- 1 Ruth Sievert
- 3 Tim Harder
Peggie Recker
Jannette Welch
- 4 Jeannie Buck
- 7 Mark Henry
Mitchell Henry
Sherri Henry
- 8 Lynn Edgar
Steve Nickells
- 10 Katy Lynch
- 14 Luke Diener
Nate Kowallis
Sharon Simmonds
- 15 Penny Ellefson
Alvin Rene
- 18 Allen Bowen
- 19 Noelle Jones
Ariana McCormack
Gary Parish
- 20 Fletcher Kowallis
- 22 Mary Miller
Bob Steiner
- 23 Moaed Hammo
- 24 Titus Hartley
Ethel Kristiansen
Mark Mackey
- 26 Jill Boyd
- 27 Marlee Dubnow
Marlene Etter
- 28 Howard Browne
Erika Richardson
- 29 Kathy McFayden
Talia Nagy
- 31 Kari Burt

Early September BDs

- 1 Linda Rice
- 4 Paul Kido
- 6 Ron Brown
John Gilleland
Pauline Kulle
Jeff Nagy
- 8 Tracy Johnson
- 9 Celeste Christensen
Naya Martinez

If your birthday is not listed, and you would like it to be, please contact the church office.

I am currently listening (via Audible) to a great book “Atomic Habits” by James Clear. In this book, the author breaks down the science behind habit formation. He outlines how to formulate habits that are beneficial to your life, and how to rid yourself of habits that are harmful. As I have been listening, I began to reflect on the formulation of the habit of reading the Bible as regular discipline.

This habit for me, has taken a while to implement in my life. I too commonly would sit down to read the Bible, only to be surprised how much time had elapsed since the last time I had journaled from my previous study. There is no denying that I always benefited from the time spend reading God’s Word, however creating the daily habit did not come easily for me. I doubt that anyone reading this would dispute the benefits, and many great men have written about the effects of this daily practice in their lives...

“Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years.”
– Charles Spurgeon

“A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.”
– Theodore Roosevelt

“The very practice of reading [the Bible] will have a purifying effect upon your mind and heart. Let nothing take the place of this daily exercise.”
– Billy Graham

A common question that comes up around this topic is, “How long does it take to formulate a habit?” The author states that habits are formed based on frequency. What matters most in establishing a new habit is the rate that you repeat the habit over a course of time. The amount of time you performed one repetition of the habit is not as important as the number of times you

perform it. In other words, if you want to master a habit, the key is to start with regular repetition, even if just for a few minutes a day. The author explains it this way: “If you want to master a habit the key is to start with repetition, not perfection. You do not need to map out every feature of the new habit, you just need to practice it, you just need to get your ‘reps in.’ Habit formation is the process by which a behavior becomes progressively more automatic through repetition.”

As a second tip the author coined the term “habit stacking.” When formulating a new habit, attach it to one that you currently have established in your life. Fit your daily Bible study among other habits that are already routine for you. For example, I plan to read one chapter of the Bible per day, directly after I eat breakfast. By attaching the new habit within your existing routine, you are much more likely to have success in having it become a part of your life!

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”
– Psalm 119:105

“For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”
– Hebrews 4:12

“Desire God’s pure Word as newborn babies desire milk. Then you will grow in your salvation. Certainly you have tasted that the Lord is good!”
– 1 Peter 2:2-3

I pray these few tips will fall into the hands of those who need some encouragement in this area!

LIFE at ZBS!

By Joanne Mackey

At a recent chapel service at Zaporozhye Bible Seminary in Ukraine, here is a ZBS grad who gave birth shortly before graduation!



May 29 Graduation Exercises at ZBS. The new mother and baby have a seat on the far right, front row, but were out for a walk when the photo was taken

Photos: Courtesy of Mark and Joanne Mackey

God Never Loses Control!

By T. & S. S.*

By the time you read this, our time in Seattle will have come and gone (June 19-29). We so much appreciate your continued support and prayers. We are thankful to our gracious God that 59 more Radius students have graduated from our training program (Commencement was on June 18th). Despite some quarantines and temporary shutdowns, we were able to complete most of our objectives for the school year! Language Learning via WhatsApp/Zoom is not ideal of course, but all of our students made steady progress in Spanish, and some excelled beyond expectations, even in the challenging circumstances. We praise God that he does not lose control when we feel no control! What seemed on the surface to be an awful scenario for training pioneer, cross-cultural church planters, ended up being a highly profitable experience in perseverance, and making progress in language and culture and relationships in the local community—likely quite similar to the many obstacles they will face in taking



Photo Credit Papa Sandra C.

We had a great visit with Mom in Florida back in April! We are thankful that she's doing well!

the message of the Gospel to an Unreached Language Group!

Pray for the 65+ students scheduled to join us in August for the new school year, including some student couples from India and Africa, who are planning to be a part of developing cross-cultural training programs—to equip believers on those continents to plant churches among Unreached Language Groups!!

Chad Gets Bibles!

By K.D.*

After about 25 years of translation work, the complete Bible has recently been finished in Chadian Arabic. In May we celebrated and launched these brand-new Bibles at two dedications, and they've started being delivered to a variety of locations. This is the first complete Bible in one of the "northern" languages which is one of the most widely spoken trade languages in the country. **Please pray for the Holy Spirit's work as both believers and unbelievers read the Word. Please also pray for our team as we are in transition, with changes in leadership and saying goodbye to teammates.**



Photo Credit: K.D.*

The brand-new Chadian Arabic Bibles available in both Arabic and Roman scripts.

Faith Promise – A Continual Gift from God to Practice Faith

By Randy Boyd

Faith Promise is the name for a supplemental offering given by the people of BPC in support of various global workers. This is in addition to the general budget funds (~\$170,000) which are allocated to Global Work. The Faith Promise budget is around \$60,000 and is a little varied in how it is allocated. We support a couple of global workers exclusively from Faith Promise (Mackeys, Horton). For a couple of others (Martinez, Simmonds) we supplement the funds from the general budget. In addition, we fund a major project for the poor each year. For several years we've been focusing on clean water wells and strive to spend around 5-7% of the overall sum on this effort (which is \$13,000-\$14,000).

In addition, we budget \$10,000 each year for emergency needs of our global workers. Over the years these funds have purchased emergency

airfare home, a car transmission, dental needs, medical needs, some specialized computing equipment, etc.

So, basically, every month sees a need for \$5000 in giving to cover this supplemental Faith Promise offering.

How are We Doing?

Well, this is where the practice of faith comes in. In general, we average around \$1,300-\$1,500 per month in giving. Does that sound concerning to you? It does to us every month it happens, which is frequently. But God is a mighty God, and over the last few years we have had 2-3 large donations each year, which cover much of the budget, so much so that our balance has trickled up and we're striving to get it back down (we'd like to keep it around \$15,000).

This year at Christmas, Faith Promise received a gift in the \$20-\$30,000 range. We promptly gave away half of that to cover some needs we were aware of in our global worker community.

Then in April it was a gift in the \$40,000's. We gave 100% of it away, giving each of our global workers a nice "bonus" and doubling our funded clean water wells. (Large gifts are anonymous to us. The funds just appear.)

Our goal with Faith Promise is to budget and give as funding permits, but obviously (if you're paying attention) there are four global worker families who also depend on this for part of their monthly funds, which makes some months a little anxious.

Okay, there you go, that's a little window into Faith Promise.

Staff News

Lisa Bowen, BPC's Director of Women's Ministries, completed her counseling certification with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors. I've asked Lisa to share what she's learned through this experience.

— Pastor Bud

Biblical Counseling

An Unexpected Gift

By Lisa Bowen

Ever had an opportunity come up in your life that you thought, “Hey! That sounds like something that I’d really like to pursue!” and once you fully dove into it, found that it stretched and grew you in ways you never imagined? Caused you to think harder than you ever have? Demanded you dig deeper into your relationship with the Lord? Made you realize why you go to college when you are YOUNG?

Two years ago, I began my journey toward being a certified Biblical Counselor. Little did I realize how my desire to walk alongside and work with others, pointing them to Jesus in the midst of some very difficult scenarios in their lives, would transform my own relationship with Him.

Biblical counseling is so very different than what secular counseling offers, in that it is not focused directly on a specific behavior, but the transforming power of God on the heart of an individual. When the heart is changed, only then can the behaviors be effectively dealt with. Biblical counseling invites the person to filter their unique situation and all that it may entail, through the truth of God’s Word and His promises for those who are His. The heart is the core of who we are...the very place that God dwells in us.

One of the elements of my program requirements that I was so incredibly grateful for (now I say that, but while I was in the middle of it, not so much!) was that I was required to explain in detail, my very specific beliefs and my relationship with Jesus, my understanding of Scripture, God’s sovereignty as well as several other theological issues. Granted, I have been in relationship with Jesus since I was 7, have been saturated

with the Word and blessed with solid teaching throughout my life, I found the act of having to explain it on paper caused me to have to stop and look at MY heart and MY relationship with our incredible Savior. What DID I believe? Over the months that it took to research and respond to the “required” questions, I was given an unexpected gift of seeing God in new ways, with new eyes, thinking about issues we face with new understanding about His sovereignty over every detail of our lives, as well as the undeserved, precious grace He pours out on us. I found myself in awe. My guess is that if we’ve been believers for a while, we sometimes lose the “awe” of the AWESOMENESS of what God has done, is doing, and can do. When we catch even a glimpse of that, it will transform our hearts and minds. The more we understand about Him, the bigger the “awe” factor.

I share this with you, not to say, “Look! I learned all these things and I’m a Biblical Counselor now!” but to let you know, that through something I thought I was doing to help others, God worked in unexpected ways on MY heart and MY relationship with Him. He changed me, revealed things about Himself that I’d not given much thought to, showed me where my thinking was a bit off track, gave me new hope and new understanding about his grace...and I was continually reminded of how deep His love is for His people.

Every day we have an opportunity to discover new things about our God and live in the hope only He can give... and you don’t have to sign up to become a counselor! Just go and find ways to dig deep and rediscover YOUR “awe” of Jesus.

If you or someone you know are in need of Biblical Counseling, you can contact Lisa Bowen at lisa.bowen@bpccburien.org or at 206-354-0339.

Want to Be Part of a Driving Ministry? →

We’ve got the perfect opportunity for you if you are ready to be involved in an incredible ministry!

We have several in our amazing BPC family who sometimes need a ride to the doctor, to pick up groceries, or other important errands. Not only would you be helping them, but you’d be getting the blessing of spending time with a new friend!

If you would like to be part of a team of people who would be able to bless some of our sweetest BPC family every once in a while by offering your time, your car, and your friendship, please contact Lisa Bowen at lisa.bowen@bpccburien.org or at 206-354-0339. What a blessing you will be!



Children's Ministry

Planning and Praying

*The mind of man plans his way,
But the Lord directs his steps.*

– Proverbs 16:9

We are busy planning and praying for our fall programs! Would you pray with us to see how the Lord might be leading you to share Jesus with children!?

Here are some opportunities we are expecting to need help with:

- Sunday mornings: Nursery, Preschool and Elementary Teachers and Helpers
- KIDLIFE (AKA Moppets): 1st-5th Grade Leader and Helper
- Wednesday nights (The Talent Zone): Preschool and Elementary Leaders and those with a talent or skill to share

Contact Lisa Siedenbug for more information or to get involved, 206-334-6775 or children@bppc.org.

Coming this Fall!



5 weeks of Frisbee Fun & Artworks

Begins Wednesday, Sept 15

6:30-8 p.m.

Sign up at www.bpcburien.org

VBS Redeux

By Lisa Siedenbug

As my mother always said, "Waste not, want not!" Our *The Amazing Race* VBS leftovers from 2019 are going to two different programs this summer!

Iglesia Bautista Jordan (AKA Jordan Baptist Church), a bilingual church in Whittier, CA, is hosting a weekly VBS program and thrilled with all the materials that have been sent their way. Merry Romero, the sister of Lisa Siedenbug, is leading her church in sharing the gospel with the community kids and she has expressed her appreciation. Please keep them in your prayers as they still have four more weeks to invite kids to know

Jesus through this program!

Larry and Sandy Rice are heading up Awana's Pacific Northwest Camp and also using some of the leftovers for their Amazing Race theme. They have a big job ahead of them as they have changed locations this year due to the pandemic. Camp will be July 31-August 7. Please pray for the Rices and their team and the campers that will be coming with the expectation of focusing on God's Word!

Thank you once again, Boulevard Park Church, for your generosity!





BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

Reaching Our World for Christ

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Kids! Don't forget to invite your friends and neighbors to sign up for this summer's SportsCamp! You can use the QR code or go to the church website to register!

HIGH POWER SPORTSCAMP 2021

**BASKETBALL
KICKSTART
SOCCER
CHEER**

July 12-16
Age 4-5th Grade
(2021-2022 school year)

...an exciting, high energy VBS-style sports camp for kids age 4 through 5th grade!

We'll learn about God through Bible stories, sports, songs, and fun! Collegiate athletes will be coaching our kids in soccer, basketball and cheer, and kids will develop character and sportsmanship through fun, competitive games.

Registration begins May 1st.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & REGISTER AT
WWW.BPCBURIEN.ORG

READY.SET.GO!

Remember to pray for the leaders, volunteers and participants as they play together and learn about God.