

Boulevard Park Press

OCTOBER 2022

THE NEWSLETTER OF BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

RAINBOW LODGE NORTH BEND WASHINGTON

JOIN US FOR

revealed

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

DISCOVERING WHO JESUS SAYS HE IS

NOVEMBER 4-6

COME GET AWAY WITH US FOR A TIME OF RELAXATION AND CONNECTION WITH EACH OTHER AND JESUS!

REGISTRATION BEGINS ON OCTOBER 2ND-23RD
COST: \$190 PER PERSON (INCLUDES MEALS AND LODGING)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT LISA BOWEN AT
LISA.BOWEN@BPCBURIEN.ORG OR AT 206.354.0339

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



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1822 S 128th Street
Burien, Washington 98168-2903

Phone: 206-243-2600
E-mail: Info@bppc.org
Website: www.bpcburien.org

Pastor: Bud Diener

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

Press Staff

Editor: Eva Lee Henderson
Reporters: Ellyn Roe
Photographer: Jessica Sneesby
Proofreaders: Peggie & Ernie Recker

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Phone 206-988-3918
E-mail: bpcpress@bpcburien.org

Great News and Some Big Challenges

By C.H.*

Dear Boulevard Park:

Our most recent and exciting event is that we have had another guy in our Bible study become a believer and get baptized. This young man is from Afghanistan and has now come to surrender his life to Jesus Christ as his Lord, God, and Savior. He has been studying in our men's group for about a year now.

Meanwhile, in our little family, Bella is precocious and wonderfully outgoing. She loves adventuring as far away from us as we will let her go. To our chagrin, she has discovered that if she asks politely, she can get almost any food or drink she wants (even things being sold) from local neighbors. Lilly is growing big and healthy — already learning to grab and eat foods on her own. People often ask us if Lilly is wearing colored contact lenses because she has such rare, beautiful blue eyes. Lilly's giggles and gentle spirit are a calming force in our hectic lives.

In other news, next week we are planning to move to a village 8 hours away because it is even "less reached" (believe it or not) than our current city. We don't like the thought of moving even farther away from modern civilization, but because the One True God has told His people to go teach the Good News about Jesus Christ to every corner of the planet, we are doing our best to obey.

Many say the people group we plan to live among are 100 percent Mu*lim. During our time there last week our new neighbors affirmed this claim. One reason this people group is unique is not only because of their spiritual lostness, but also because many of them are more fluent in their local native language than they are in the national language. Therefore, as far as we can see, their chances of hearing the message of hope, forgiveness, and salvation that God offers is extremely low.

Thank you to so many of you who are partnering with us to make this long-term m*ssion possible.

It is easy to feel overwhelmed with these two energizer bunnies, but they are our most precious earthly joy, and we are learning to savor every minute with them.



"A" being baptized by two other recent believers who are all a part of our men's Bible study group.



Fixing up our potential future house.



All photos: Courtesy of H. Family.

Walk with God; Do What You Want!

By Pastor Bud

What job should I take? Who should I marry? Where should I go to college? For those who genuinely want to know God's will, these questions (and many more like them) vex believers daily. Does God have a specific will for us to find and follow for every given situation? Is navigating our life for the glory of God like a high-stake game of hide-and-go-seek?

Considering that God has gone to great lengths to provide us with an inspired, sufficient, authoritative, infallible, and clear revelation of the truth in Scripture, why would He make His will so hidden? I suggest that this may be the wrong question. It is not a matter of God hiding His will; it is a question of us understanding the scope and purpose of His will. In other words, what is the will of God?

First, I believe God's omniscience and decretive sovereignty preclude separate wills. Instead, God has one will, purpose, and aim—His glory. We may characterize the outworking of His will to aid our understanding of it.

The three characteristics of God's will are:

• God's Sovereign Will

One aspect of God's will is His ordaining of everything that comes to pass (Isa. 46:10). It is often unknown to us (Dt. 29:29; Rom. 11:33). It is also unstoppable (Job 42:2; Ps. 103:19; Eccl. 7:13).

• God's Dispositional Will

Let me be clear; when I use the word disposition here, I am not saying that God is an emotion-driven being like most human beings. I am simply referring to the rational function of disposition and desire. God finds no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezk. 18:23; 33:11). God even expresses His anguished heart over the plight of Israel's condition

and their impending punishment (Hos. 11:8). 1 Timothy 2:3-4 is clear, *"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth."* My finite mind cannot understand how an omnipotent God can desire all to be saved, be displeased by the death of the wicked, and yet not do everything possible to save everyone. But that is what the Bible teaches about God. Maybe, in some small way, this puzzle finds human expression when I discipline my children. While I realize that discipline is required, I don't get any pleasure in doing what I know is needed. We learn some lessons only through failure and discipline. So, I do not do everything within my power to prevent my children from making mistakes. As an explanation, I know the illustration is woefully inadequate. Still, it hints at this aspect of God's will.

• God's Moral Will

God's communication of morality manifests the final aspect of God's will. He has not left us in the dark regarding His moral precepts and expectations. God's word reveals His moral standards without equivocation or ambiguity. If one ignores or violates the moral aspect of God's will, he is falling short, missing the mark, or committing sin.

So, what does all this mean?

God's sovereign will is efficacious; it will happen with or without our cooperation. God's dispositional will resides in His mind, and we cannot know more than what He chooses to reveal. However, God has revealed the moral aspect of His will. The Bible equates adherence to His moral will with love for God (Jn. 14:15). Obedience to the moral will of God is abiding in God (Jn. 15:10); it is friendship with God (Jn. 15:14). One

might even say that obeying the Lord is loving, abiding, and delighting in the Lord (Ps. 40:8; 119:35).

You may ask, "What does this have to do with God's will?" Consider the words of David, *"Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart"* (Ps. 37:4). Let's connect some dots:

- The Hebrew word translated *give* means to put or place with the idea of establishing or putting an object in the possession or control of another. It speaks of putting an awl through the earlobe of a servant (Dt. 15:17).
- To delight in the Lord is to love Him by obeying His commands (i.e., the moral and revealed aspect of His will).
- If we delight in the Lord, He will place or put in us desires consistent with our delight. Said another way, delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you what to desire. The Holy Spirit, whom the Lord has made to dwell in us, will govern our hearts (Eph. 5:18).

Sorry, but there will be times when we will get it wrong. We sometimes don't walk with God perfectly. Sometimes we are selfish, self-deceived, and sinful. God's providential adjustments of our steps (Prov. 16:9; 19:21) often teach us where our desires were amiss. When we realize our error, we confess it and repent, going instead in a God-glorifying direction.

So what's the bottom line? You don't have to stress about what job to take or whom you should marry. Instead, love God and keep His commandments, for that is walking with God. And when you walk with (or delight in) God, do what you want because He is the One giving you what to want.

God bless,
Pastor Bud

Trustee-Sponsored MPR Renovation Projects

By **Todd Neumann**,
Renovation Liaison, Board of Trustees

Over the summer months we've made progress on many pieces of the renovation project:

- Carpet research is complete and will be ordered soon, but has a long lead time.
- Design specifications were received from an engineering company on how to hang our new sound system speakers. Installation of speaker support brackets will likely be complete before you read this.
- New speaker wires were run from the MPR sound closet to the new speaker locations.

- An LED ceiling light retrofit kit was installed and is undergoing testing.
- The north wall acoustic panels were upholstered and hung.

In October we should see the following:

- Testing of the LED ceiling light retrofit kit, decision, and placement of the order for all 28 ceiling lights (another long lead time item).
- Completion of the sound system speaker installation.
- Decision on a new projection screen and additional progress on installing the new sound system.



Child Discipleship Forum October 7-8, 2022

By **Lisa Siedenburg**

Have you ever asked questions like, “How do we teach the truth of the Bible in a way that transforms the child to live counterculturally? How deep can a child go in their spiritual journey? Are the methods I’m using prioritizing authentic discipleship?”

The Church has a child formational crisis. Entertainment, relevance and moralism have proven insufficient to form lasting faith in

our children. Jesus and the Gospel, as well as recent research are clear: the most effective way to impart faith to our children is child discipleship. But how? Parents, grandparents and interested adults are welcome, and all BPC Children’s volunteers are encouraged to come for any or all of the sessions. Meals will be provided by the church.

Friday, October 7

3:30-4:45 p.m. – Session One
5:00-6:15 p.m. – Session Two
6:30 p.m. – Dinner
7:15-8:30 p.m. – Session Three

Saturday, October 8

8:00 a.m. – Session Four
9:00 a.m. – Breakfast
9:30 a.m. – Session Five
11:00 a.m. – Session Six
12:15 p.m. – Lunch
1:00 p.m. – Session Seven
3:00 p.m. – End of Day 2



Use the QR code to sign up or contact Lisa at children@bppc.org or 206-334-6775 for more information.

Tending the Flock

Good Measure

By David Siedenburg, Elder

A few years ago, I was talking with a member of our congregation about a remodeling project. When I started talking about measuring and cutting some material to fit, he stopped me with this emphatic statement, “Never measure.” He went on to explain that eyeballing the tape measure marks, remembering that information, and accurately transferring that information to the material to be cut, are all prone to error.

Rather, he stressed marking the material directly against the gap or area to be addressed – if it is a board, then mark it by physically putting the board against the gap to be spanned and mark that directly. Or if it is flooring material – run the material along the floor and up the wall and cut it in place exactly where you should before it starts to turn up the wall. This is going to the origin, the source (that actual space you are trying to support or fill or cover), to figure out what dimensions are true, because the source is by its very nature true.

And here is the other thing: what if your tape measure was manufactured incorrectly?

You probably have figured out where I am going with this. As we journey through this world, we need to be careful with the culture’s claims, its “measurements,” that introduce error at the expense of what God tells us is true. God’s Word tells us there are forces in this world that actively want to distract and deceive us. These are the “fortresses...the speculations and...lofty things raised up against the knowledge of God” that Paul talks about in II Corinthians 10:4-5. They manufacture a buffet of false “tape measures” for us and we can be fooled into using them. Doing so positions us under pressure to adopt unbiblical understandings of what is true, moral, just, compassionate,

and of ultimate importance.

These pressures stem from man-made religions and ideologies and are promoted throughout our culture - in the workplace, academia, politics, evangelical circles, and churches. The New Testament warns us repeatedly of false doctrine and false teachers. In fact, this very topic is addressed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, I Thessalonians, I & II Timothy, Titus, Hebrews, James, II Peter, I & II John, Jude, and Revelation. The NT writers are loud and clear on the subject that we clearly see in our culture.

These man-made religions and ideologies claim to provide a set of beliefs that are so critical that they must bind our conscience. We must be careful not to submit. This is why the first enumerated belief in Boulevard Park Church’s Statement of Faith states that we believe “the Bible is God’s word to all mankind, inspired by God, completely inerrant in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the supreme and final authority in faith and life (Psalms 119; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).” The Bible claims, and to that we submit, that all situations are to be brought to God’s word, and truth and error are determined in its light.

So, I urge you to be thoughtful and courageous when you sense the culture’s attempt to bind your conscience on a matter – like a moral claim made by a social media post, a politician, a preacher in the pulpit, or a guy like me in the Press. Be like the Bereans in Acts 17:11, who examined “the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.”

Milestones

Baptism

Annette Lowen
September 18, 2022

Deaths

Forrest Lemke
August 6, 2022
father of Brian Lemke

Mel Kimmel

September 17, 2022

Church Library Update

After serving for many years, **Jo Ann Peterson**, has resigned her position as Church Librarian. Jo Ann was so appreciated for the time she spent taking care of all the library needs. She also went through the process of moving the library from the 2nd floor to the room off the Multipurpose Room. She made that space work very well and ordered new furniture to encourage people to sit and enjoy a book or a magazine. Thank you, Jo Ann!!

Now a new librarian is needed to carry on the work of maintaining the library. If you are interested in this ministry, please call the church office (206-243-2600).



SHOUT OUT TO YOU!!!!

Care Net of Puget Sound has informed me that YOU, dear BPC Family, donated an incredible \$3,113.34 to the 2022 Spring Baby Bottle Campaign. \$3,113.34!! Care Net and I are overwhelmed at your contribution, the highest ever from our church. God is using your pennies, dollars and checks to save the preborn and introduce women to the Lord Jesus Christ. I am speechless (almost) with gratitude. AND... thank you to several families who also make regular financial donations to Care Net every month or year, and others who routinely provide material goods to support moms and their babies.

~Ellyn Roe, Care Net Liaison

Youth Ministry Update

Faithfulness as a Church Family

By Nate Kowallis

Calendar Events

SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

October 2,9,16,23,30

9:00A Adult Sunday School

10:30A KIDS Church

10:30A Worship in Person and Live Stream

Saturday, October 1

10:00A Membership Class

Sunday, October 2

Communion

Monday, Oct. 3,10,17,24,31

7:00P GriefShare

Tuesday, October 4 & 18

6:30P Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Oct. 5,12,19,26

6:30P Kids Talent Zone,

Youth Group,

Adult Bible Study

Friday, October 7 and

3:30P Child Discipleship Forum

Saturday, October 8

8:00A Child Discipleship Forum

Monday, October 10

11:00A Ladies Fellowship Circle

Tuesday, October 11 & 25

9:30A MOM Life & KIDLIFE

Saturday, October 15

Press Articles Due

Saturday, October 22

Women's Ministry Event

Monday, October 31

6:00P Trunk or Treat

Over the last few months, I've been rather impressed with the fruit of faithfulness that has grown in the lives of the students in the Youth Ministry. A child's guardians are the most influential people in his life, and their living out their own faith before their children has paid significant dividends into the lives of these teens. Event after event this summer, I've been grateful to shepherd these kids, and I look forward to drop-off and pick-up times not because I'm just so done with them, but because I look forward to connecting with their parents.

This sounds like church to me. When our parts are functioning rightly, this body should build itself up in love (Eph 4:16), and that love should be a powerful testimony of God's reality in our midst (Jn 13:35). Before moving here in 2019, my family was told that this church has very strong ties among its families, and halfway through summer 2022 I found myself craving those ties and increasing in gratitude that my kids should develop those kinds of connections.

As we've moved into the fall and embraced the school rhythm again, I've

been encouraged anew with the students' willingness to engage with our Sunday School class in the *New City Catechism*. Even more, a handful of parents have joined in on the scripture memorization, saying they want to come alongside their kids in the class. As an officiant of this experience, I'm awed by this enthusiasm, but beyond that, I'm so excited that it is a blessing to the *family*. Your faithfulness together is the most powerful factor in your children's perseverance (second, of course, to that irrevocable gift of the Spirit!) in the faith, and your presence with them adds efficacy to our study beyond what I can simply teach.

So, dear church, encourage our families. For all the fights when we're at home, the sins that come out of us in our unsanctified places, and shame in not being as "good at this" as we'd like to be, the Lord has been at work in and through you in reaching your kids and raising them up in Him. May He continue to use our feeble means to accomplish His desires, and may He give us all wisdom and words to further His work in each one of us.



Generational Cookbook – Contributions Needed

By Jessica Sneesby

As you may have read in the September Press, I am putting together a church cookbook but I need your help. We are taking recipes of all kinds: anything from beverages, to sides, to entrees, appetizers, BBQ, and more. If there are any recipes you would like to share, please send them to me or give them to me by October 31. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Sneesby or Lisa Bowen.

A Team of Hundreds

By Mary Miller

I will be traveling with the Vista Missions Dental & Vision Team to minister in Mazatlan, Mexico, from October 8-17, 2022. We ask that you accompany us in prayer for our team, becoming a "Team of Hundreds." You will be there with us as you pray for:

- Team and individual preparation prior to departure
- Unity with the team
- Wisdom in all areas and especially with extra health and safety protocols
- Safety and good connections in travel
- Clear passage in customs for equipment
- That all equipment will function without problems
- Preparation of the people who come to the clinic to sense God's love and desire to know Him in a personal way and for openness to the gospel message
- Preparation of the church as they present the gospel and the church programs to their community
- Bonding between our team and volunteers from the church we will work with

Thank you for your prayers – they are vital!

The Talent Zone

By Lisa Siedenburg

Our Wednesday evening Talent Zone sessions have begun! We're learning about Jesus' life and ministry as we improve our skills at Net Sports. It's been a joy to welcome some new kids from our summer programs as well as our regular and returning kids. Here's our schedule for the year:

- Session 1: **Sept 21-Oct 19** **Net Sports** (Tennis, Beach Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton)
- Session 2: **Nov 2-Dec 7** **Christmas Caroling & Crafts** followed by Caroling at a Retirement Home
- Session 3: **Jan 11-Feb 8** **Music & Movement** (Zumba, Lip Sync, Pillow People, Spoons?..)
- Session 4: **Mar 1-29** **Drama & Puppetry**
- Session 5: **Apr 19-May 17** **Variety Acts** (Hula Hoop, Yo-Yo, Juggling, Jump Rope...) followed by a Talent Show in the Spring

Do you have any of these talents or skills...or others not listed? We'd love to have you come and share your expertise with us!

Contact Lisa at children@bppc.org or 206-334-6775 to share your talents.



Use the QR code to sign up or contact Lisa at children@bppc.org or 206-334-6775 for more information.

Celebrations!

October Birthdays

- 1 Lisa Barton
- 2 Krista Chapman
Lisa Finnsson
- 4 Nick Papini
- 5 Vicki Gray
- 7 Gladys Baxter
- 8 Brian Hudson
Miki Vercammen
- 9 Amelia Harder
Violet Nyholm
Glen Rose
- 10 Lois Esser
- 11 Alexis Wiebe
- 12 Sandy Rice
Debbie Wood
- 14 Alan Conroy
- 15 Karen Gilleland
- 16 Gerardo Gonzalez
- 17 Jean Bakken
Fay Barton
Mary Payne
- 22 Vince Partridge
Sally Sisley
- 23 Thomas Cross
Chris Donar
Maria Faulkner
- 24 Randy Boyd
- 26 Don Bowie
Marilyn Mades
Penelope Neff
Collin Whalen
- 27 Wesley Mattson
Suzanne Sneesby
- 29 Conor Malis
- 30 Jessica Sneesby
- 31 Kathy Rainey
Rick Rose

Early November BDs

- 1 John Clifton
Joyce Symons
- 2 Jocellyn Martinez
Lois Nordblad
- 3 Joshua Henry
Serena Owens
- 4 John McGill
- 5 Candis Bingham
Caleb Wagner
- 6 Lauren Recker

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

Operation Christmas Child

By Lisa Siedenburg

Our children's families are invited to fill an Operation Christmas Child box for a child. If you, your family, your small group, etc. would like to participate, you can pick up a box at the children's Check-In Station on the 100 level and **return it to us by Sunday, November 13.**

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of all nations.

In more than 100 receiving countries, shoebox gifts are used by local Christians as a strategy for evangelism, discipleship, and the multiplication of believers and churches in their communities. Operation Christmas Child provides a tool, training, and resources that these believers would otherwise not have. More important than the items inside the shoebox, the gifts are an opportunity to



share God's love—and the Good News of Jesus Christ—with children in need. Local Christians who know the culture and language best are given effective resources in their own language and a solid Biblical foundation so that they can communicate the Gospel within their own communities through shoebox outreach events and The Greatest Journey discipleship program. (from the Operation Christmas Child website)

“Make disciples of all the nations.” Matt. 28:19

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” Matt. 24:14



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Trunk or Treat

is on for Monday, October 31! 6-8 p.m.

We're expecting 300-400 folks.
How can you help?

#1 - Pray for the event!

the attendees!
the workers!
that God draws our neighbors to
desire to know Him and all of us to
know Him better as we serve Him
through this event.

#2 - Host a trunk! Guidelines for trunks
are as follows:

- Kid Friendly. Our target age is 3-10 with the median age being five.
- Make it a simple game. Kids love a little interaction such as throwing or moving an object.
- Show 'em some love. Plan on greeting the children and making much of their costumes.
- No Halloween, Harry Potter, rock band,



or edgy themes. We are doing it for the glory of God and in service to our community.

#3 - Donate! If you want to help by donating candy, stay tuned for instructions in the church bulletin or email. We'll probably be asking for \$\$ donations, rather than having you shop and deliver to the church.

Sign up to host a trunk by contacting Randy Boyd (randyboyd@hotmail.com) for more information!