



THE NEWSLETTER OF BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

Food and Fellowship at BPC

by TJ Werle

Food can be a great vehicle for getting people together. Throughout the ages, God's people regularly were instructed to gather together for times of fasting, feasting, and just sharing regular meals together. As Christians, we realize that this act of sharing a meal together in fellowship enhances and enriches the experience far more than the sum of the ingredients we are actually eating (Proverbs 15:17). Here at Boulevard Park Church we have been striving to model gathering together for meals in our regular rhythms as a way to strengthen our relationships with one another and strengthen our relationship with God, too. Two ways in particular that we have been doing this are Dinners for Eight and Wednesday Family Dinners.

Dinners for Eight (or Nine)

Each quarter we have been asking people to sign up to meet together one time for a meal with eight people – sometimes more, sometimes less. This is a great way to spend the evening getting to know each other, meeting new friends, and reconnecting with old ones. In particular, we also want it to be welcoming for people who are newer to our church to make or create connections with the people they may see on Sunday but don't particularly know yet. In short, it's for everybody!

How it works: the church will send out an email and sign-up sheet about one month before the week that meals are held. You then respond to let us know which of the days that week you would be available for dinner, then we will assign you to a random group on one of those days. After that, just show up and enjoy dinner. It's as simple as that! Usually the host will provide the main dish and then some, so don't worry if cooking is not a skill you possess.

This is a one-time meal. Next quarter we will send out a new sign-up and will put people in all new groups. There's no ongoing commitment. We will email a new announcement and sign-up link each quarter, and also post sign-up sheets in the foyer. You should have seen this email already for our February event, so keep an eye out in April for the May meal week.

Those of us who have participated so far have had an incredible time meeting and reconnecting and fellowshiping with those in our church. It has made Sundays in church a richer experience when seeing those we have shared a meal with and being able to relate on a deeper level. I highly encourage everyone to participate in the next round. Keep an eye out for the sign-ups.

Wednesday Family Dinners

Most every week, we as a church body have been meeting together to share a simple meal. It's a tasty time of fellowship across all ages just before we split off into our respective groups for Kids Talent Zone, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Study (just like the early Church in

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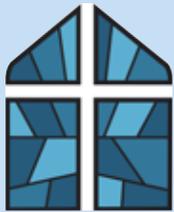


PAGE 2: YOU AND YOUR GLOBAL WORKERS Twosomes Partnering with God around the World

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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the church website.

March Deadline: February 15

E-mail: bpcpress@bpcburien.org



Pray and Prepare to FINISH!

By T. and S. S.*

Over the next 4 months as our 54 Radius students finish up their training, we are anticipating significant growth in their understanding of Spanish language and Mexican culture, as well as in their readiness to walk with God and face the challenges ahead, as they plan to take the gospel to unreached language groups. Pray for them as they face many decisions regarding sending agencies, teammates, and an unreached language group to target. Pray too, for us and our Radius team



Above: Sunrise In Mexico

to equip them with the crucial mindset, tools, and trust in God they will need to FINISH the task.

Photo Credit: Scott M.

Sharing the Best Christmas Gift in Chad

By K.D.*

For our final English Club gathering last term, we had a Christmas-themed party where we were able to share more of the Christmas story and why we celebrate this holiday. I'm also thankful for other chances I had to share about Christmas with neighbors and others during the holiday season. And whether celebrating or sharing with friends, colleagues, brothers and sisters at my local church, or neighbors, I'm grateful for a variety of ways I had to remember our Savior's birth and enjoy meaningful celebrations with those around me.



Photographer: K.D.

A chance to share about why we celebrate Christmas with the ladies at the English Club at our house.

Car Needed!

K.D.* needs to buy an inexpensive car, or better, borrow one during her Home Assignment March 24-September 24, 2023.

She needs to visit supporters in Oregon & Idaho, as well as get around the Puget Sound area.

If you can help, please contact Randy Boyd: randyboyd@hotmail.com or the Church Office.



When the Body Hurts You

By Pastor Bud

The body of Christ is supposed to be a life-giving, encouraging assembly of blood-bought believers who have been called out of darkness into the marvelous light of God's kingdom. However, the theological reality of regeneration does not always translate to mutually encouraging relationships in the church.

We learn from Romans 7 that sanctification is a process that is, at times, three steps forward and two steps back. Paul's frustration at his degree of sanctification is evident in Romans 7:15, 18, 24, *"For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate... For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of good is not... Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?"*

The result of unfinished sanctification is that sometimes, those who are redeemed don't act like it, and people get hurt. No one is immune, not even the apostle Paul. In 2 Corinthians, we learn that offensive insults about Paul were circulating among the believers. They said that Paul's "personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible" (2 Cor. 10:10). Paul pastored the church for a long time, but shortly after his departure, false teachers sought to undo what he worked hard to establish. He revisited the church, hoping to correct the false teaching. During his second visit, Paul was opposed and insulted. The believers into whom Paul invested eighteen months of his life did not support him, resulting in his departure. Traumatized by what happened, Paul sent a letter to the church at the hands of Titus. The plan was to meet Titus in Troas to receive a report about how the church responded to the letter. Paul describes himself as having no rest in his spirit to the point that he could not engage in ministry even though there was an open door for the gospel (2 Cor. 2:12-13). Later, in 2 Corinthians 7:6, Paul described himself as depressed.

The truth is all of us have been hurt by other believers in the body of Christ. They were harsh and judgmental when they should have been gentle and forgiving. When they

should have been supportive, they were critical. They were more concerned about themselves when you needed them to be present for you. If we are being honest, we have most likely been on both sides of this painful experience. The hurt and trauma experienced are real. When the wound is most painful, it often interrupts ministry and relationships, as it did for Paul. But I am thankful for Paul's resilience and courage to persevere, so he could say, *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith"* (2 Tim. 4:7).

If you are like me (and Paul), having been hurt by imperfect people in the church, Paul has some hopeful, healing, and instructive words for us to consider.

Focus on the eternal instead of the temporal.

In 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, Paul said, "Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal." It is tempting to dwell on the visible, emotional, devastating temporary condition. That is not where healing is found. Instead, healing and renewal are found in our unseen but very real permanent relationship with Jesus. Invest your energy in finding Christ, and you will reap the benefit of being renewed daily.

Christ loves His bride (the church) even when she behaves poorly.

No one can hurt another believer more than sinful believers can hurt Christ. No matter how horrible a believer sins against or fails another believer, their sinful behavior hurts Christ more. The Bible tells us that Jesus purchased the church with His own blood (Acts 20:28). We learn from Acts 9:4 that what we do to Christians, we do to Christ. It is helpful to remember that Christ knows the feeling of betrayal; He knows what it feels like for those closest to Him to

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Milestones

Births

Emrys Sorrel Kowallis

January 15, 2023

Parents: Nate & Erryn Kowallis

Emilia Lou Siedenburg

December 21, 2022

Parents: Trent and Ali Siedenburg

Grandparents: David and Kelly Siedenburg

Great-grandparents: Harvey and Diane Siedenburg

Special Reception

On Sunday, February 19, following the worship service, everyone is invited to a reception in the Multipurpose Room to celebrate Pastor Bud receiving his Doctorate in Theology from Columbia Seminary (Bud Diener, Th.D.). This is a major accomplishment for Bud and his family. Several years of study went into his receiving his doctorate.

Press Info

The Press now is sent out by email each month. If you would like to receive a printed copy, please send an email to info@bpc.org or call the church office (206-243-2600). You also may pick up a copy at one of the magazine racks located in the office wing or in the lower entryway outside the MPR. If you are receiving The Press and live out of the area, please send your email to the church so you can be put on the email list. Thank you, Kathy Rainey

Celebrations!

February Birthdays

- 1 Anita Coffman
Donald Ellefson
- 3 Aidan Conroy
- 4 Debbie Bryce
- 5 Scott Boone
Jim Buck
- 6 Karen Shickley
- 7 Sherry Clemons
- 8 Elijah Wagner
- 12 Donna Lightfoot
- 15 Daphne McBreen
Anthony Rice
- 16 Emelita Moore
Carol Roenicke
- 17 Kathy Erdahl
- 19 Mara Oldroyd
- 21 Wilder Faulkner
- 24 Stan Noble
- 25 Phillip Schaefer
- 26 Sharon Brown

Early March Birthdays

- 2 Don Jones
Kathi Nagy
- 6 Michelle Harder
- 8 Joanne Mackey
- 10 Lisa Martinez
- 11 Roger Gillihan

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



The demolition of the Multi-purpose Room sound panels has started as of January 27! A company has been hired for this project due to the height of the panels. Because of safety concerns, the MPR will be closed or have limited use for at least two weeks.

Men's Retreat

Theme: Slaying the Giants in Your Life

Videos by Dr. David Jeremiah

Friday evening, March 10

Snacks: 6:30 p.m.

Session 1: Temptation

Leader: Dave Will

Ice cream social

Optional video

"The Woodcarver"

Saturday Morning, March 11

Breakfast: 8 a.m.

Session 2: Anger

Leader: George Brown

Session 3: Guilt

Leader: Jon Recker

Lunch: 12:30 p.m.

Famous Dave's BBQ

Save the dates & join us to learn how to deal with some major problems

Hurts You, continued from page 3

make claims of undying commitment and then run away at the sight of danger. Jesus went to the cross, entrusting Himself to the One who judges righteously (1 Pet. 2:23), setting an example for us to follow.

Don't give up on His bride because Christ won't give up on her.

When we get hurt by the "church," which really means we've been hurt by believers who make up the church, it is natural for us to push back and retreat. It is helpful to remember that Christ will never give up on His bride (the church), so neither should we. Paul reminds us that even when we are faithless, He remains faithful because

He cannot deny Himself (2 Tim. 2:13). Imagine if Christ retreated from us when we failed Him. I am thankful that Christ gives me grace and mercy instead of what I deserve.

Often, the body of Christ comes through when we need it most, loves us well, exhorts us kindly, and encourages us gently. But when this doesn't happen, remember that our (mine as well as other believers') sanctification won't be finished until we are revealed with Christ at His coming (1 Jn. 3:2). Until then, extra grace is needed!

God bless,
Pastor Bud

We Shall Be Changed

By Jon Recker, Elder

Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed (I Corinthians 15:51-52).

The cover story in the January 2023 issue of *National Geographic* reviews exciting medical research aimed at helping humans live longer, healthier lives. As an engineer I am fascinated by these projects, and as an occasional consumer of medical care, I am grateful for their progress.

Conspicuous by its absence, though, is any discussion of “then what?” The researchers acknowledge that the most they can do is to slow the decline of our physical bodies; they may delay death but they cannot defeat it. And science is silent on what, if anything, comes next.

For that information we must turn to scripture. And the news here is phenomenal. Jesus and the apostles teach that our frail, imperfect bodies will be replaced with durable, perfect ones. In I Corinthians 15 Paul sums it up with, “we shall all be changed.” Let’s review a few characteristics of this change.

Change Will Be Universal

While it is true that even the unsaved will be resurrected (for eternal punishment – e.g. Daniel 12:2, John 5:29, Rev. 20:15), in I Corinthians 15 Paul addresses those destined to “inherit the kingdom of God” (v. 50) – in other words, Christians. And he emphasizes that “all” of us will be changed (v. 51). Nobody who has been saved through faith in Christ will be forgotten (John 10:27-29).

Change Will Be Instantaneous

The change happens “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye” (v. 52). While our current bodies decay gradually, our resurrection into perfect, glorified bodies will occur in an instant. This takes place “at the last trumpet,” the event commonly called the Rapture. Paul provides additional details

in I Thessalonians 4:13-18, explaining that “the dead in Christ will rise first” (v. 16) followed immediately by “we who are alive, who are left” (v. 17).

Change Will Be Permanent

When the last trumpet sounds, we will be raised at once into the bodies which we will possess forever (v. 52). After this there will be no need for further changes. Scripture excludes any concept of reincarnation, taught in some Eastern religions, in which humans are “reborn” repeatedly into different mortal bodies. This is a critical point because only permanent, glorified bodies are fit for eternal life in God’s presence. Paul continues in verse 53, “*For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.*”

So how should we respond to this wonderful news? I propose three straightforward applications. First, rejoice that your eternal future is secure and glorious, regardless of current circumstances. “*But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself*” (Phil. 3:20-21).

Second, pursue spiritual growth despite any physical challenges, knowing that God’s power far transcends the limitations of our bodies. As Paul encouraged the Corinthians, “*So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day*” (II Cor. 4:16).

Finally, share the good news of eternal life with others. We have the answer to the question everyone must eventually ask: What happens when this body of mine wears out? Eternal life is available to all who accept Christ as savior (John 3:16). Therefore let us preach His Gospel boldly, so that everyone has the opportunity to **hear** and to **believe** (Rom. 10:14).

Calendar Events

Sunday, February 5

9:00A Prayer Meeting (in place of Adult Sunday School)
9:15A Youth and KIDS Sunday School
10:30A Children’s Church
10:30A Worship in Person and Livestream

SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

February 12, 19, 26

9:00A Adult Sunday School
9:15A Youth and KIDS Sunday School
10:30A Children’s Church
10:30A Worship Service in Person and Online

Wed., February 1, 8, 15, 22

10:00A Ladies Bible Study
6:00P Dinner
6:30P KIDS Zone (No meeting on the 22)
6:30P Youth Group
6:30P Adult Bible Study

Monday, February 6 & 20

7:00P GriefShare Support Group

Tuesday, February 7 & 21

6:30P Ladies Bible Study

Monday, February 13

11:00A Ladies Fellowship Circle

Tuesday, February 14 & 28

9:30A MomLife

Wednesday, February 15

Press Articles Due

Sunday, February 19

12:00P Reception for Pastor Bud (See Milestones on page 3)

Monday, February 20

Church Office Closed

Saturday, February 25

10:00A Women’s Event

An After-Holiday Recap from the Trustees

By Donna Lightfoot, for the Trustees

Hearty congratulations to each person here at BPC who has discovered most, if not all, of the 14 different exits (incorporating 19 doors) from the church! The Trustees remind you that their concern for your safety is paramount. Here are several points worth remembering.

- Most of the rooms in the church have one doorway which opens either into a hallway or a larger room. (Only two classrooms in the whole of the church have a door leading directly to the outside.)
- Knowing, before an emergency, where each hallway leads can most certainly help with a safe, quiet, efficient, and quick exit.
- If you've explored the different exit

routes, you can help people with physical limitations to the appropriate exit.

- Your willingness to go to the nearest exit in an emergency will be a boon to any visitor who is familiar with only the door they entered.
- There is at least one exit and at least two additional exit routes from each floor making it possible for all to exit safely. Therefore, there's no need for any of us to go seeking friends or children. Leaders in Sunday School or Children's Church will escort children out safely.
- During emergencies, elevators may not be reliable and may even refuse to work – so it is best to plan not to use them.

Please be sure to tune in to the March Press for the next chapter from our Trustees.

Pick a Door, the Nearest Door



Learn how you can promote life.

CARE NET 101 INTRODUCTORY SEMINAR

Saturday, February 11, 2023 • 10:00–11:30AM
Evangelical Reformed Church, Tacoma, WA

OR

Saturday, February 18, 2023 • 10:00–11:30AM
Crossroads Bible Church, Bellevue, WA




Scan for more info.



CN126 (12-2022)

Care Net 101 Introductory Seminar

A free, no-pressure look at how Care Net's needs and your time (a little or a lot) could match up.

Register to attend at carenets.org/care-net-101.

- Find out about:
- Abortion laws
- What the Bible says about life
- What services Care Net offers
- How & where you can volunteer
- Upcoming events
- And more...

Questions?

Text/Call 253-383-6033

Email: getinvolved@carenets.org



Register by March 5!
supportcnps.org/events
or scan the QR code.

Questions? 253-383-6033



SHARE
Grace

2023 LIGHT & LIFE FUNDRAISING DINNER

March 18, 2023 | Greater Tacoma Convention Center

Light & Life Share Grace Banquet

A free, lavish dinner with an inspiring guest speaker Amy Ford of Embrace Grace.

Join us Saturday, March 18
5:15 p.m. Check in & Reception
6-8 p.m. Dinner & Program

Register by March 5:
supportcnps.org/events or
253-383-6033



Ellyn Roe, BPC's Care Net Liaison, shared in the Worship Service on Sunday, January 22, honoring the Sanctity of Human Life.



BOULEVARD
PARK CHURCH

Reaching Our World for Christ

1822 S 128th Street
Burien, Washington 98168-2903

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Acts 2:42). This meal is a simple way to help serve individuals and families in our church by making a space for fellowship with each other as well as making time for fellowship with God and His Word (John 6:27). Check your Sunday Bulletin for the Wednesday night schedule.

We know lots of people are coming from school, work, or other activities on Wednesday night. Worrying about getting dinner shouldn't be an obstacle for you or your family feeling free to come and participate. So come as you are able, make a friend, share about your week, and then learn about God and His Word.

Whether it be Dinners for Eight or a Wednesday family meal, we hope in the future you'll be able to join us and that you enjoy and savor being able to take part in fellowship with God's family.



TJ and Lindsay Werle prepare meals for the Wednesday Family Dinners at BPC.