

HERE I STAND

Love: Genuine or Counterfeit?

By Pastor Bud

In June of 1967, at the height of the Cold War, the BBC organized the first-ever live global television broadcast, *Our World*. An estimated 400 million people across 25 countries tuned in. Representing the United Kingdom were four young musicians from Liverpool. The Beatles debuted a new song written for the occasion, its message intentionally universal and straightforward: “*All you need is love.*” In a world fractured by ideology, war, and suspicion, the song struck a chord. For a moment, it felt as if love—undefined, unquestioned, and assumed to be self-evident—might be enough to heal the world.

Nearly sixty years later, we still feel the pull of that idea. Especially in February, when much of the world celebrates “*love*,” we are surrounded by messages that insist love is the highest good, the ultimate solution, and the final authority. But rarely are we asked a more important question: *What kind of love are we talking about?*

The Bible is not silent on this question. In fact, 1 Corinthians 13 may be the most careful, honest, and extensive description of love ever written. And it is striking that the apostle Paul writes it not to a culture lacking romance, but to a church confused about spirituality.

Corinth was a city intoxicated with status, success, pleasure, and power. The church reflected its culture more than it realized. They prized eloquence over faithfulness, giftedness

over godliness, and visibility over maturity. Into that context, Paul does not merely praise love; he defines it—and, by implication, exposes its counterfeits.

Paul begins by telling us what love is *not*. Counterfeit love can be impressive. It can speak eloquently, sacrifice dramatically, and even appear heroic. “*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels...but have not love, I am a noisy gong*” (vs. 1). In other words, love is not noise, performance, or self-expression for its own sake. Much of what passes for love today is loud, public, and emotionally charged—but thin. It draws attention to itself. Genuine love does not.

Counterfeit love is also transactional. It gives to get. It serves as long as it is seen, appreciated, or returned. Paul cuts through this by saying love “*does not seek its own*” (vs. 5). Biblical love is not driven by leverage. It is not fragile, easily offended, or perpetually keeping score.

Paul also describes what genuine love is.



“*Love is patient and kind*” (vs. 4).

That alone confronts many modern assumptions. Patience is not passive; it is strength under control. Kindness is not weakness; it is deliberate goodwill toward another. Genuine love is not hurried, harsh, or demanding.

See **Genuine or Counterfeit**, page 3

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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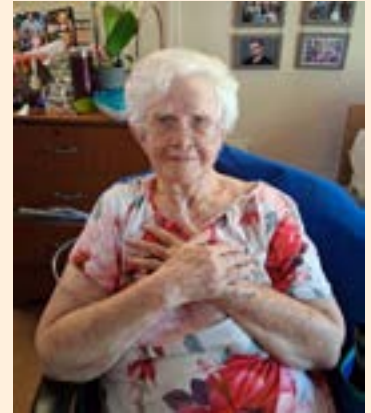
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Photo on page 1 by Tom Mossholder
on Unsplash.

Remembering Jeraldine Fitzgerald (February 27, 1932-January 4, 2026)

By Ellyn Roe

This month Page 2 is dedicated to the amazing life of **Jeraldine “Jerry” Fitzgerald**, a global worker well-known and loved at BPC. Jerry served with New Tribes (Ethnos 360) in Papua New Guinea for 49 years, and even after retiring to Florida remained engaged in gospel work until her passing to Glory on January 4, 2026. Jerry’s daughter is BPC global worker Sharon Simmonds, who with her husband Tim and children, also served with New Tribes in PNG until directed by God to serve with Radius in California, and now currently with Ethnos 360 in Florida and Missouri. Jerry’s adult granddaughter S.S*. has also been a BPC global worker.



Jerry’s fascinating and at times heart-breaking but victorious story and some wonderful photos can be found in a beautiful tribute posted at [Jeraldine Fitzgerald Obituary January 4, 2026 - Newcomer Orlando](#). Memorial donation information is at the end of the tribute. Jerry’s Celebration of Life Service will be in Sanford, FL and livestreamed on February 7, 2026, 11:45 PST (service starts at noon PST). Use this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88420182987?pwd=Vla67xTSf6ebCEFMuxtuaUm0s9wbKN.1> Meeting ID: 884 2018 2987 Passcode: 474987

Please keep the family in your prayers, as they grieve, plan the memorial service, and celebrate a life lived for Christ. The Simmonds family mailing address is 3258 Eastgrove Terrace, Sanford FL 32771.

Loving on Babies You’ve Never Met!

By Ellyn Roe

The moms and babies served at Care Net of Puget Sound are treated to free baby items purchased or made lovingly by SEVERAL of you here at BPC. Last month the Federal Way Center received from you many darling hand-made clothing and novelty items, as well as beautiful blankets and adorable burp cloths. **Thank you to all of you who knit, crochet, quilt, stitch and purchase for Care Net** so that moms get a tangible reminder that babies are precious and that people like YOU care!



Photos: Courtesy of the Simmonds family

♥ Love “is not jealous or bragging...is not puffed up or [does not] act unbecomingly” (vv. 4-5). Counterfeit love often disguises pride as passion. It says, “I care deeply,” when it really means, “I must be affirmed.” Genuine love is humble. It is more concerned with faithfulness than with being noticed.

♥ Love “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (vs. 7). This does not mean love is naïve or enabling. Instead, it means love is resilient. It does not give up easily. It stays when it would be simpler to walk away. In a culture that treats love as a feeling to be followed, Scripture presents love as a commitment to be lived.

♥ “And then Paul makes one of his most astonishing claims: “Love never fails” (vs. 8).

Why does this matter—especially in a month devoted to romance, affection, and sentiment?

Because much of what the world celebrates as love is actually a counterfeit: love without truth, without sacrifice, without endurance, and centered on self. It promises fulfillment but often leaves behind disappointment.

The love Paul describes is not abstract. It is embodied supremely in Jesus Christ. The cross is not a symbol of emotional intensity, but of patient, kind, self-giving love that sought our good at infinite cost.

So this month, let’s think rightly about love. Not merely how we feel, but how we live. Not simply what we receive, but what we give. Not the loud, fleeting love of slogans and songs—but the quiet, durable love that reflects Jesus. Because when love is genuine, it does far more than make us feel good—it makes us holy.

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Bud

Before sharing this poem, a word about why it matters so deeply to me. Don DeWelt was my professor for homiletics, and he did not merely teach us how to preach—he modeled a life stirred by God. One of his requirements was that every student memorize this poem. At the time it felt demanding; in retrospect it was formative. Before each class, Don would kneel and pray, and woven into those prayers he would recite different portions of this poem from memory. Hearing its lines rise out of genuine, reverent prayer impressed them permanently on my heart. What began as an assignment became a lifelong summons: a prayer for holy restlessness, for love that compels, and for a ministry continually “stirred” by God.

– Pastor Bud

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord

— Don DeWelt

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, I care not how,
But stir my heart in passion for the world;
Stir me to give, to go, but most to pray;
Stir till the blood-red banner be unfurled
O'er lands that still in heathen darkness lie,
O'er deserts where no cross is lifted high.

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, till all my heart
Is filled with strong compassion for these souls;
Till Thy compelling *must* drives me to prayer;
Till Thy constraining love reach to the poles,
Far north and south, in burning deep desire,
Till east and west are caught in love's great fire.

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, till prayer is pain,
Till prayer is joy, till prayer turns into praise;
Stir me, till heart and will and mind, yea, all
Is wholly Thine to use through all the days.
Stir, till I learn to pray exceedingly;
Stir, till I learn to wait expectantly.

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, Thy heart was stirred
By love's intensest fire, till Thou didst give
Thine only Son, Thy best-beloved One,
E'en to the dreadful Cross that I might live;
Stir me to give myself so back to Thee
That Thou can'st give Thyself again through me.

Stir me, oh, stir me, Lord, for I can see
Thy glorious triumph-day begin to break;
The dawn already gilds the eastern sky;
Oh, Church of Christ, arise, awake, awake;
Oh! stir us, Lord, as heralds of that day;
For night is past, our King is on His way!

Milestones

Deaths

Jerry Fitzgerald
January 4, 2026
(see Page 2)

Important Info

Giving Statements

With BPC's transition of its financial system to Planning Center, end-of-year giving statements will now be sent by email for you to download your own statement. This year, printed copies also are available to be picked up at church; they will be mailed if not retrieved.

An email was sent on January 26 providing details of the two-phase transition process to Planning Center. Notifications of electronic donations currently are done automatically in Phase 1. Once Phase 2 is fully operational this year, receipts for donations by check and cash (which are recorded manually) will be sent by email.



2026 New Year ~ New Healing

**BEGINS: Monday, February 16,
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

"The LORD is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

–Psalm 34:18

We are holding a space for healing and support during a critical season of grief over the loss of a loved one. . . This 13-week series includes insights from experts in the field and testimonies of those who have walked through their own valleys. The topical video-assisted program is grounded in biblical truth, revealing through scripture that God loves and cares for those who mourn.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- **"Is this normal?"** – The many ways grief affects us
- **"Loneliness & Sadness"** – The emotional roller-coaster of grief
- **"Self-care"** – Tools to strengthen you inside and out
- **"Anger & Regrets"** – Coming to terms with difficult emotions
- **"Hope & Resilience"** – Moving forward with God's help

WE INVITE YOU TO:

- ✓ Attend or invite others dealing with grief
- ✓ Come join the Grief Share Team
- ✓ Pray for the group participants

INFO: Register via website: www.griefshare.org

Contacts: Lynda Eck 206.351.3462 OR

Katy Lynch 206.371.0554

Pleasant Pro-Life Actions Are Available to You:

If you would like to ACT on your commitment to the sanctity of human life, please consider two upcoming Care net opportunities. To find out if there's a way to synchronize your realistic time and talents with Care Net's needs, sign up for the February 10 Care Net 101 webinar.

CARE NET 101 INTRODUCTORY WEBINAR

February 10, 2026

6:30-8:00 PM

Wherever you are.

Scan the code or go online at
supportcnps.org/events



Need Strength and a Biblical Perspective on Suffering??

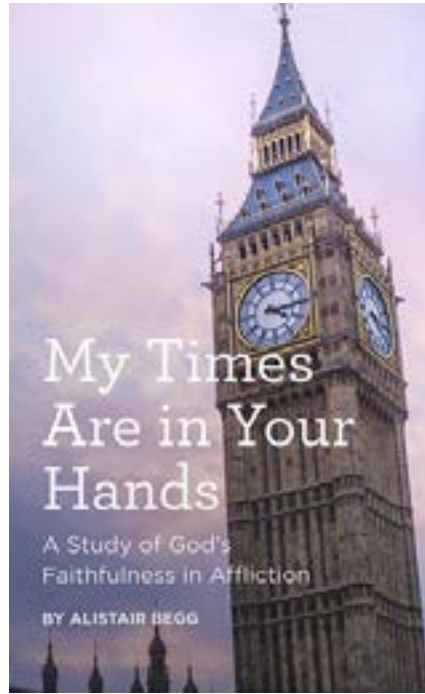
Come to a new Bible study for women, **February 4-April 22, 10 a.m.-noon** at church. Led by Ellyn Roe and Mary Cox, we will worship in song, share prayer concerns, and discuss audio and print material from pastor Alistair Begg in his series, *My Times Are In Your Hands*. Optional short homework is available for a deeper study. Study guides are \$4 and will be available at the first class.

From the publisher:

Despite what some might have us believe, pain and disappointment are not unusual experiences to the Christian. The issue is not whether we will face difficulties but how we will respond when they come.

Psalm 31:15 reads, "My times are in your hand." These six words are the affirmation of David, who—despite disasters and difficulties—knew himself to be under the care of Almighty God. It is this same certainty that will bring stability in the midst of circumstances that could potentially inflate our egos or crush our souls.

When we realize our times are in God's hands, we discover many incredible truths. In *My Times Are in Your Hands*, Alistair Begg helps us understand the many riches that can be found in such a simple phrase and what it truly means to know the Lord's care.



More Sidebar Notes

Cookie Volunteers

The Deaconesses are refreshing their list of cookie volunteers for memorial receptions. Please message Alice Hammond (206-841-8851) if you are willing to provide cookies, homemade or purchased, no nuts.

Transform Burien

BPC is scheduled to serve the afternoon meal at Transform Burien on **Sunday, February 1**. If you are available to help with this ministry, please contact Wayne Eickert.

Bringing Hope

Once a month our church presents a worship service at Heritage Behavior Behavioral Hospital where we sing, pray, share testimonies, and proclaim a clear, Christ-centered message to patients. Contact Pastor Bud if you would like to serve on **Saturday, February 7, at 2:45 p.m.**

To enjoy a free lunch or dinner with a gripping presentation from America's Pro Life Doc, bring a carload to the March 14, Light and Life Banquet. Both events are FREE! Contact Ellyn Roe for more information.

CareNet
OF PUGET SOUND
Pregnancy & Family Services

Featuring
Dr. William Lile
theprolifedoc.org

Light & Life
FUNDRAISER
LUNCH or DINNER
Saturday, March 14, 2026

Register today at supportcnps.org/light-and-life or scan the QR code.
Questions? 253-383-6033

Children's Ministry

Calendar Events

FEBRUARY 2026

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00A Adult Sunday School
9:15A KIDS & Youth Sunday School
10:30A KIDS Church
10:30A Worship In Person and Live Stream

Sunday February 1

9:00A Prayer Meeting
10:30A Communion
2:00P Transform Burien

Monday, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23

6:00P Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, February 3, 17

6:30P Ladies Tuesday Night Bible Study

Wed., Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

10:00A Ladies Bible Study
6:00P Wednesday Night Dinner
6:30P Youth Group
6:30P KIDS Adventure Club
6:30P Adult Bible Study

Saturday, February 7

2:45P Worship Service Ministry at Heritage Behavior Health

Monday, February 9

11:00A Ladies Circle

Tuesday, February 10, 24

9:30A MOMLife

Wednesday, February 11

1:30P Care Partners

Monday, February 16

Presidents' Day
Church Office Closed

Monday, Feb. 16, 23

7:00P Grief Share

Saturday, February 21

8:00A Men's Breakfast/
Pancake Chef

Exciting News: Sports Camp 2026 Dates Are Set

By Jedidiah Thangthat

SPORTS CAMP

After prayerful discussion, the Sports Camp Leadership Committee has agreed to move forward with running our **Summer Sports Camp independently this year**, using the Base Ministry curriculum and materials. This means that for Sports Camp 2026, we will not be utilizing Base coaches. We have been hosting **Sports Camp** for many years, and we truly believe we are ready to run the camp fully in-house. While this is an exciting step forward, it also means we will need increased prayer, commitment, and continued support from our church family. We trust that God will provide the right people at the right time, just as He always does! When it comes to volunteers, we have always been incredibly encouraged by the willingness and dedication of our church community. We have never had difficulty finding volunteers, and we pray and hope this will continue to be true for Sports Camp 2026.

VOLUNTEER STATS

Currently, we have **48 active volunteers serving in our Children's Ministry** across **Sunday Mornings, KidLife** (Tuesdays), and **Adventure Club** (Wednesdays). We are grateful for each of you and look forward to what God will do through Sports Camp 2026!

SPECIAL SHOUTOUT AND HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO:

🌸 **Ellie R. and Peggie R.** for leading our Children's Christmas Program. Your leadership, creativity, and dedication truly blessed our church family.

🌸 **All the parents and kids** who came early for practices and rehearsals. Your commitment and support made a big difference.

🌸 **The Sports Camp Leadership Committee** for the extra time, effort, meetings, planning, and willingness to make difficult decisions (**Kelly S., Katie T., Kari B., Peggie R., Erika R., Rachel W., Susan R., Jed T., & Lisa S.**).

PRAYER REQUEST

Praise God for always providing the right people and dedicated and faithful volunteers for all our children's programs and for everyone involved in our Children's Ministry to serve with wisdom, love, humility, patience, and a deep passion for discipling children.

**Save the Dates:
July 20-23, 2026
Monday-Thursday
(4 days instead of 5)**



Standing on the Word of God Is Not Enough

By Doug Barton, Elder

Sola Scriptura was one of the cries of the Reformation. The reformers were announcing that they stood on scripture alone as their authority and truth. Our church has always stood firm on the Word of God. We have been committed to the truth and authority of scripture since the church began (and that was a long time ago). When the denomination we were a part of, Presbyterian Church of America (PCUSA), started allowing culture to dictate their behavior and began straying from scripture, our church held its ground, leaving the denomination. This forced us to have to buy the building from them a second time but it was well worth it in order for us to stay true to the Bible.

We provide Bible reading plans every year because we know the value of reading and studying God's Word. We know everyone should be in the Word on a daily basis growing in the knowledge of God. In Colossians 1:9, Paul says that he never ceases to pray for the church, "asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." We gain this wisdom and understanding by reading and studying the Bible.

But is it enough to just read and study the Word? Don't get me wrong, that is a very important Christian discipline and can't be understated. But to what end do we read and study? Is it just to mark the box on the reading list to say we did it?

In Romans, Paul gives us a great theological work in the first 11 chapters; some call it his magnum opus. Then

in chapter 12, he shifts gears away from theology and begins to talk about application. Romans 12:2 says, "*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*" Our minds are renewed by God's Word which teaches us God's will.

Paul goes on in Colossians 1 to explain why he prays for the church to be "*filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,*" (vs. 10) "*so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.*"

It's not just about getting head knowledge. Gaining spiritual wisdom and knowledge go hand in hand with our lives being changed. Knowledge and walking in a worthy manner should go together. We shouldn't study God's Word just for the sake of knowledge. We shouldn't study God's Word just to win Bible contests or look more spiritual at church. As we learn and grow in knowledge we should be bearing fruit. If we are bearing fruit, it is because we are growing in the knowledge of God.

Spiritual wisdom and understanding come from the study of God's Word and the purpose or end goal, is not only to know God better, but to walk—that is, live life in a manner worthy of the Lord—pleasing him.

So this year as you read and study the scriptures, pray that God would give you wisdom and understanding that would change the way you live so as to please God and bear fruit in every good work.

Celebrations!

February Birthdays

- 1 Anita Coffman
Donald Ellefson
- 4 Debbie Bryce
- 7 Sherry Clemons
- 8 Elijah Wagner
- 12 Donna Lightfoot
- 15 Daphne (McBreen) George
- 16 Emelita Moore
Carol Roenicke
- 19 Mara Oldroyd
- 21 Wilder Faulkner
Marybeth Nordtvedt
Lindsay Werle
- 24 Stan Noble
- 26 Sharon Brown
- 28 Brenna Arnesen

Early March BDs

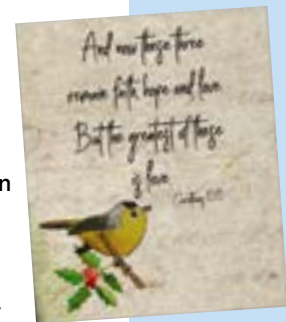
- 2 Don Jones
Kathi Nagy
- 6 Teresa Diener
Michelle Harder
- 8 Joanne Mackey
- 10 Lisa Martinez
- 11 Roger Gillihan
- 14 Mark Parish

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

Cards to be Collected

By Joanne Mackey

SAVE the fronts of your greeting cards: Christmas, birthday, or whatever. **We collect card fronts with nothing written on the back side.** We send them to Uganda where missionaries use the cards in children's ministries and to distract children during medical procedures. **There is a box on the lower right shelf just inside the church library where cards can be placed for collection.** We will collect cards through Easter time.





BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

1822 S 128th Street
Burien WA 98168-2903

*Reaching Our
World for Christ*



Care

CarePartners is our group for those who are in a season of caregiving for a loved one.

We will now meet once a month, on Wednesdays, from 1:30-3:00 p.m. in Room 435.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

February 11

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Bowen at 206.354.0339 or by email at lisa.bowen@bpcburien.

Women's Ministry

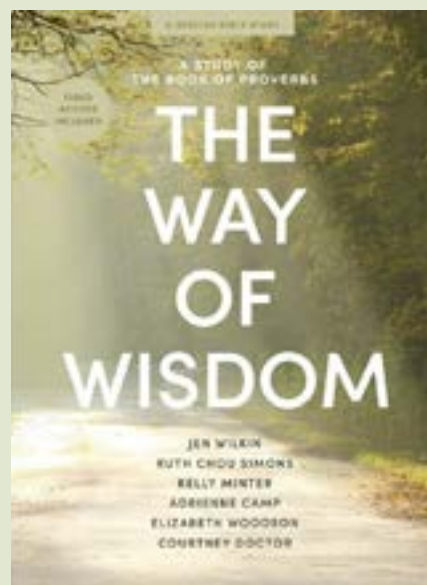
“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”

Proverbs 9:10

Do we approach Scripture as relevant and applicable to the situations we face at home, at work and in our communities? In ***The Way of Wisdom***, we join six Bible teachers and walk with them through the book of Proverbs.

As you consider wisdom principles on everyday topics like words, work, friendship, marriage, parenting, neighborliness, money management, leadership influence and more, you'll discover the wisdom found in the book of Proverbs as an invitation to steadily walk in God's way, and in His world.

Ladies, you are invited to join us for this 8-session study, continuing through Tuesday, March 10



Tuesdays, in Room 435 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Study books will be available the first evening.
Suggested donation is \$20.