



# Boulevard Park Press

NOVEMBER 2025

THE NEWSLETTER OF BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

*Be Thankful  
Always!*

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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](mailto:ellynroe@comcast.net)

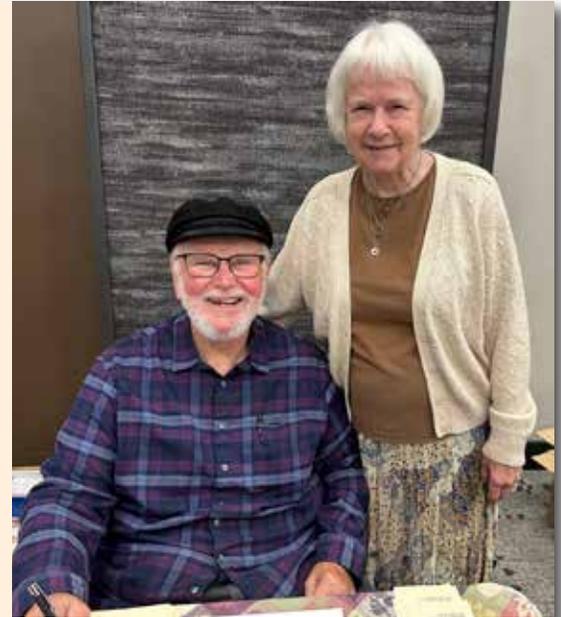
### A Toolbox Celebration

By Ellyn Roe

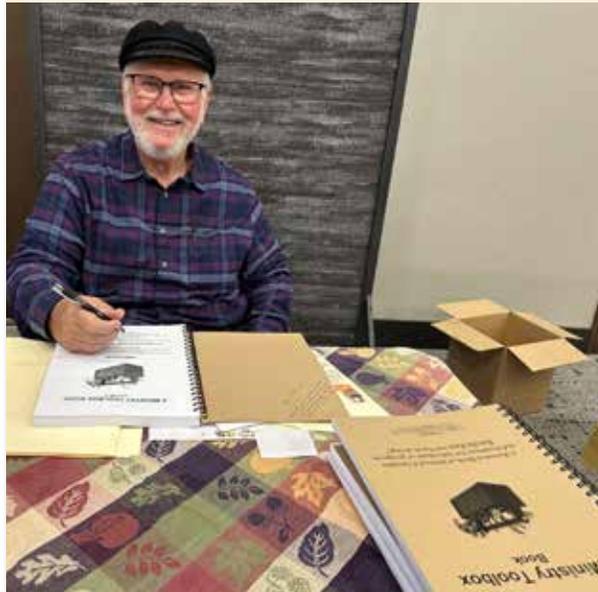
Last month nearly 100 people gathered at a reception to celebrate the completion of one of Tom Horton's many labors of love for Christ: the Ministry Toolbox. At this event, Tom signed Ministry Toolbox books, and guests enjoyed a continental breakfast, workshop music and testimonies.

On the BPC website under resources, you can access the September 2024 Press for details and images about the Toolbox, a beautifully organized and illustrated "resource book of biblical principles and scriptures for individuals or groups to Run the Race and finish strong." ~Tom Horton

As always, Tom gives glory to God for strengthening him to run THIS race to completion. If you would like to own your own Ministry Toolbox, you are invited to talk with Tom or Judy.



Tom and Judy Horton



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1822 S 128th Street  
Burien, Washington 98168-2903

Phone: 206-243-2600

E-mail: [Info@bppc.org](mailto:Info@bppc.org)

Website: [www.bpcburien.org](http://www.bpcburien.org)

Pastor: Bud Diener

Worship

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#### Press Staff

Editor: Eva Lee Henderson

Asst. Editor: Peggie Recker

Reporter: Ellyn Roe

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E-mail: [bpcpress@bpcburien.org](mailto:bpcpress@bpcburien.org)

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on Unsplash.

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# The Biblical Benefits of Thankfulness

By Pastor Bud

Paul's command in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 is short but profound: *"In everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* Note that the phrase says *"in everything"*—not just for everything. Paul isn't suggesting that believers should be thankful for evil, pain, or loss, but rather that they should maintain a posture of gratitude amid every situation and in every circumstance. This subtle difference is deeply theological. It acknowledges that while the world is fallen, God remains sovereign, good, and redemptive in all things. The phrase, *"for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus"* connects thanksgiving directly to God's purpose in the believer's life. Gratitude is not optional; it is part of God's sanctifying work in the believer. Through thankfulness, we align with God's perspective, acknowledging His providence and trusting His plan even when understanding fails. Thanksgiving becomes an act of faith—an expression of confidence in God's goodness that transcends circumstances. When Paul wrote these words to the Thessalonian church, they were experiencing persecution and hardship. Yet he still exhorted them to rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all things (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). This triad of commands reflects a life rooted in spiritual resilience—a life centered not on comfort, but on communion with Christ. True thankfulness flows from the heart of one who knows that no circumstance can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:39). In the remainder of this article, I want to mention several benefits of having a thankful heart.

### Thankfulness Honors and Glorifies God

Gratitude is first and foremost theological—it begins with recognizing who God is. Psalm 100:4 calls

believers to *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name."* Thankfulness directs glory where it belongs: to the Creator and Sustainer of life. When we give thanks, we confess that we are not self-sufficient but dependent on God's grace. James 1:17 affirms this reality: *"Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow."* Gratitude acknowledges that every blessing—material or spiritual—is evidence of God's faithful provision. The more we understand His character, the more natural it becomes to give thanks.

### Thankfulness Strengthens Faith Through Trials

In seasons of hardship, gratitude becomes a spiritual weapon. Paul himself wrote Philippians 4:6 from prison: *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."* Thanksgiving in the midst of suffering is not denial; it's defiance against despair. By thanking God in adversity, we declare our trust in His sovereignty and His ability to redeem even the darkest situations. This attitude of faith transforms trials into opportunities for spiritual growth. As Romans 5:3-4 reminds us, *"affliction brings about perseverance and perseverance, proven character."* Gratitude helps us hold fast to that hope.

### Thankfulness Cultivates Joy and Peace

Gratitude and joy are inseparable companions. Paul's exhortation in Colossians 3:15 links them directly: *"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... and be thankful."* When we focus on God's blessings rather than our burdens, His peace governs our emotions. Psychologically and spiritually, gratitude reorients our

perspective. We celebrate what God has already done instead of fixating on what we lack. This posture leads to contentment and an enduring joy that can coexist with sorrow (2 Corinthians 6:10). The thankful heart is not naive—it's anchored in God's unchanging goodness.

### Thankfulness Nurtures Contentment

In a culture driven by dissatisfaction, gratitude is countercultural. Paul's testimony in Philippians 4:11-13 reveals the secret of contentment: *"I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am in...I can do all things through him who strengthens me."* Thankfulness teaches us to see God's sufficiency rather than our scarcity. By focusing on what we've received rather than what we're missing, we learn to rest in Christ's provision. Gratitude breaks the cycle of comparison and covetousness, producing freedom and simplicity of spirit.

### A Daily Discipline of Gratitude

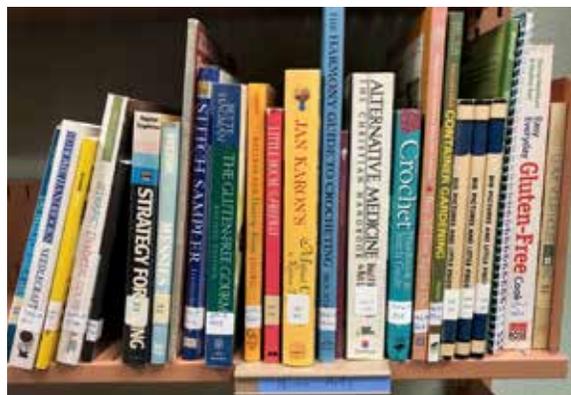
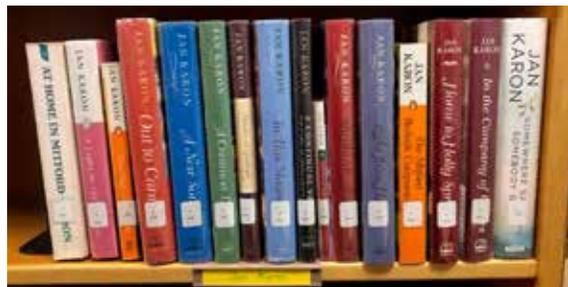
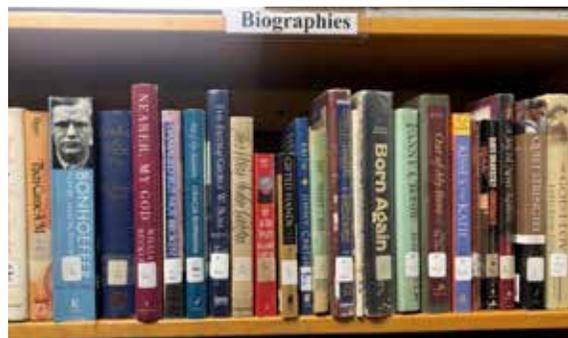
Psalm 92:1 declares, *"It is good to give thanks to Yahweh."* Thankfulness is not just seasonal; it's spiritual health. It reminds us of God's sovereignty, nurtures peace and contentment. Most importantly, it glorifies God by reflecting trust in His unchanging character. As we practice gratitude—especially in difficult seasons—we embody the truth of 1 Thessalonians 5:18: God's will for us in Christ Jesus is not circumstantial happiness, but abiding thankfulness that draws us ever nearer to Him. So let us, as a church family, make gratitude a rhythm of our lives, echoing the psalmist's words: *"I will give thanks to Yahweh with my heart; I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds"* (Psalm 9:1).

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Pastor Bud

# Church Library Update

By Press Staff

The library is welcome to all readers, of any age and ability. There is a special corner for children's books with room to browse. The shelves that line the walls are organized by specific categories, so you can browse to find what interests you, such as devotional books, spiritual growth or parenting helps. In the center shelves, fiction is organized by author's name; if more than six books are by the same author they are grouped separately by the author's name. Check out a book by writing your name on the card inside the book cover and place it where indicated on the desk. There's lots of reading to do – for pleasure and digging deeper into God's truths.



## Milestones

### Death

**Bob Henderson**

October 2, 2025

father of Ally Henderson

## Plan to Attend Congregational Meeting on Nov. 9

We will hold a brief congregational meeting on Sunday, November 9, immediately following the morning service.

### Purpose of the meeting:

- To elect church officers: elders, deacons, deaconesses, and trustees
- To confirm doctrinal amendments recommended by the leadership

### Logistics

- Members are encouraged to attend; everyone is welcome to observe.
- We'll start about 10 minutes after the benediction to allow parents to retrieve children.
- Childcare (nursery and preschool) will remain available during the meeting.

If you have questions ahead of time, please contact the church office.

Thank you for your faithful participation in the life of our church!

## Wednesday Night Activities

### 6:00 p.m. Wed. Night Dinner

All are invited to share a simple, family-style meal prior to activities. If interested in preparing a meal or helping out, contact the church office.

### 6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Junior and Senior high students continue their weekly meetings with group activities and small group Lifeboats.

### 6:30 p.m. KIDS Adventure Club



Wednesday night kids' program **Adventure Club** is a fun and interactive way to teach core biblical truths through **worship, Bible lessons, memory verses, and games.** Elementary school age children are welcome! Whether you have experience or are simply willing to serve as a volunteer, **there's a place for you!** Your time and presence can make a lasting impact in the lives of children. **Interested?** Contact **Jed** at **206-432-7140** or [jedidiah.thangthat@bpcburien.org](mailto:jedidiah.thangthat@bpcburien.org).

### 6:40 p.m. Adult Bible Study

We are studying Matthew 24-25, "The Olivet Discourse." In it, Jesus answers questions about when the end of the world will happen.

# Electronic Giving

## Please Switch To Our New Processor – and BPC Saves!

By John Siedenburgh

In October 2015 I authored an article explaining to the congregation that, in addition to cash and check collections, we had begun to accept electronic donations through donors' bank accounts, debit cards, and credit cards. Since that time, electronic giving has trended up significantly with donor's now providing 52% of their donations electronically.

Meanwhile, BPC has begun to use a system over the last few years called Planning Center for people management, communications, church service scheduling, and Children's Ministry check-ins. Recently, we have enabled the ability to accept electronic donations in the same system as well.

On Sunday, August 3, I made a pitch to the congregation requesting that you consider changing your giving practices from checks to electronic giving and for those of you giving electronically already, to make the switch from our old processor to Planning Center (branded "Church Center") as soon as possible. Thank you to those that made the change so swiftly! For those of you still using the old processor, please switch to Church Center by the end of this month. To do that, please navigate to the same giving page you have always used (<https://www.bpcburien.com/giving>) and follow the instructions there to switch from "old giving" to "new giving". In the process you will use your bank account credentials to log in and select the appropriate account you would like debited. If you need assistance, Maria Carter, Brenda Partridge, Pete Wagner, or I would be happy to assist.

### Why are we asking you to do this?

First, this allows us to turn off Breeze, our former financial system of record, where we have been performing data entry for years. Planning Center now *automatically records the electronic giving to the giving records of the donor, eliminating that data entry*. We can also reduce expenses by discontinuing any fees paid to Breeze.

*Second, the processing costs to the church can be quite low.* If you choose to have your bank account debited, the cost to the church is a flat 30 cents per transaction. If instead you choose to use a credit or debit card, the cost rises to 30 cents + 2.15%, which is still lower than our current processor's fees. Last year we spent over \$6,000 on credit and debit card processing fees, so choosing a bank account can save a lot of money.

Third, for those of you currently giving in person via check, switching to electronic giving allows you to decouple your giving from your attendance (where you may have missed a donation due to illness, vacation, or forgetfulness) and *make giving a consistent financial discipline and regular part of your worship*. (In addition to one-time contributions, Church Center allows you to establish recurring giving on a weekly, biweekly, semi-monthly, or monthly basis.) This, in turn, benefits the church both in terms of *accelerating cash inflows as well as smoothing seasonality in the giving pattern which is extremely helpful for planning purposes*.

Thank you all who are currently giving to BPC. For those of you who are not, would you prayerfully consider to begin doing so as an act of worship?

## Electronic Giving Saves Time and Expense

## Calendar Events

### NOVEMBER 2025

#### 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, November 2

9:00A Prayer Meeting  
10:30A Worship/Communion

#### Sunday, November 16

12:00P Reception for Luke Diener

#### Sunday, November 30

First Sunday in Advent

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#### Monday, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24

6:00P Men's Bible Study  
7:00P GriefShare

#### Wednesday, Nov. 5, 12, 19

9:30A Ladies Bible Study  
Outreach Class  
10A Women's Bible Study  
6:00P Wednesday Night Dinner  
6:00P Youth Group  
6:30P Adventure Club  
6:40P Adult Bible Study

#### Monday, November 10

11:00A Ladies Fellowship Circle

#### Tuesday, November 11

9:30A MomLife

#### Thursday -November 13

3:30P CarePartners

#### Saturday, November 15

Press Articles Due  
8:00A Men's Breakfast (Shelley's)

#### Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day

#### November 27 & 28

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

# Up On the Roof!

By Press Staff

Work is underway to replace the entire roof of the church complex. The office wing was completed before the big rain and wind event on October 18, followed by the sanctuary roof during the week of October 27. Work will continue one section at a time, weather permitting, until the job is finished.

We are grateful for the professional team handling this precarious undertaking. Thank you to our Trustees for their careful oversight of the BPC facility.



## Tending the Flock

# Are You Thankful?

By Ken Carter, Elder

### Are you thankful for what the Lord has done?

*“While Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a village, ten men with leprosy who stood at a distance met Him; and they raised their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When He saw them, He said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they were going, they were cleansed. Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. But Jesus responded and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?” And He said to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has made you well” (Luke 17: 11-19).*

Too often I am blessed by the Lord and yet don't think to pause to thank Him. I am blessed by many seemingly little things and the occasional big things. Am I tuned in to recognize that these blessings are not a result of my efforts but His? The ten lepers

were blessed but nine of them went on their way for the ritual cleansing by priests without a thought to thank the one who healed them. Would that I should be like the Samaritan!

I was reflecting on Psalm 145 this morning. *“Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever (v.2)... The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth (v. 18).”* Am I thankful when my circumstances are troubling? Isn't it amazing the He listens and empathizes with our wants and needs? He comforts us and guides our steps.

I pray that we may be like the Samaritan.

Each November we celebrate our traditional Thanksgiving Holiday. It is amazing to consider that in the middle of the Civil War, when thousands were dying, more were maimed, destruction was great and neither side was winning, President Lincoln proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving and prayer to be celebrated on Thursday, November 26, 1863. Only from God's perspective could this be considered a time for a celebration of thanks.



## Celebrations!

### November Birthdays

- 1 John Clifton  
Ally Henderson  
Joyce Symons
- 2 Jocellyn Martinez  
Lois Nordblad
- 3 Joshua Henry  
Serena Owens
- 4 John McGill
- 5 Candis Bingham  
Caleb Wagner
- 6 Lauren Recker
- 12 Sarah Struble
- 19 Pam Brown  
Mary Cox  
Diane Eickert  
John Welch
- 20 Jodi Dunning  
Doug Wichelt
- 21 Wayne Eickert
- 22 Sheri Noble
- 23 Linda Huck  
Ellie Roenicke
- 24 Dianne Rose
- 25 TJ Werle
- 26 Dave Will
- 27 Jedidiah Thangthat
- 28 Joan Dehn Whidden
- 30 Tatum Arnesen  
Paul Clements

### Early December BDs

- 5 Randy Sneesby
- 6 Jo Ann Peterson
- 8 Micah Harder
- 11 George Brown  
Sharon Nickells  
Carmel Walder
- 12 Miesha Hartley
- 13 Julia Barton  
Roma Erdahl

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



BOULEVARD  
PARK CHURCH

1822 S 128th Street  
Burien WA 98168-2903

*Reaching Our  
World for Christ*



*Carols,  
Cookies  
& Cocoa*



## CHRISTMAS CAROL-SING

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

FROM 2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

AT BOULEVARD PARK CHURCH

*W*elcome the Christmas season with a very special afternoon of joyous Christmas carols, cookies, cocoa and fellowship.

Be sure to invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members. This is a great event for families to attend together. **Kids are most welcome to come to this event,**

**sing alongside their parents, and enjoy the cookies and cocoa.**

Several of our youth will provide background music during the reception.

If you could provide Christmas cookies and/or help to serve, please contact Peggie Recker: [peg\\_recker@comcast.net](mailto:peg_recker@comcast.net) or call/text 206-919-2292.