

DISCIPLE DIGEST

Highline Christian Church, 14859 1st Avenue South, Burien

Offering Envelopes 2020

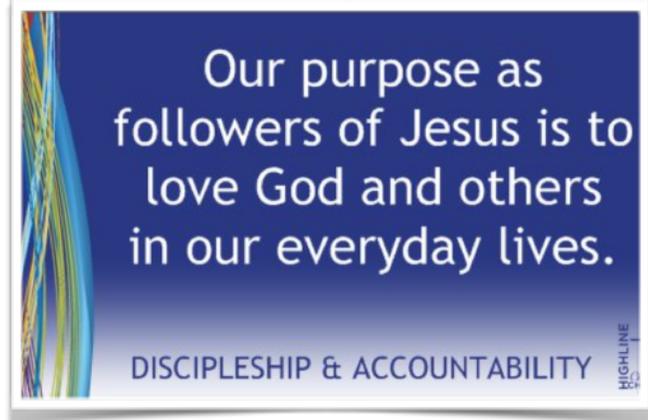
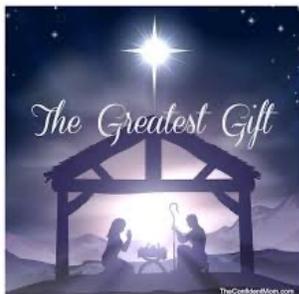
Giving Envelopes for 2020 will be available to pick up at the Atrium table the weekend of December 28 & 29 for all those who have been receiving them in 2019.



If you plan to use online giving this year instead of using the Giving Envelopes, please let me know and I will not issue you a box.

If you would like Giving Envelopes and are not currently receiving them, please let me know and I will provide them for you. You can email me through the HUB or leave a message on my home phone.

Thanks for you help,
Carol Marshall
Financial Secretary



Reformed Reflections

The Most **Misused** Verses in The Bible

An eye for an eye ...”

“Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them ...”

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged ...”

These common phrases—derived from the bestselling book of all time, the Bible—have often been misunderstood and misused. But when interpreted and applied properly, these and other God-inspired truths have shaped cultures and countless generations of people throughout history.

The 2012 book by Eric Bargerhuff, PhD, published by Bethany House is one I’d read through and put on my shelf. Yet, I thought it was time that it should be dusted off... maybe re-examine it’s content and use his own words to look at this topic. The second part of his title says it all: “*Surprising Way’s God’s Word is Misunderstood.*”

I won’t have time to fully unpack each of the three chapters I’ve

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Third Saturday Church Work Party



December 21, 8:30-Noon

All are invited to join us for the Third Saturday Work Party. We will be doing general grounds maintenance & fix-its and could use your help. Meet us here in the HCC Parking lot. For any questions, contact Gregg.

Every Pop Can Counts!

As a fundraiser in support of missions such as Transform Burien Resource Center and Bread of Life Downtown Seattle Mission, we are collecting aluminum cans for recycling. Collection bins are located in the South Building Community Room and are picked up weekly.

Any Questions?

Contact Mary or Alice Webb
206-243-4333



Transform Burien HCC Outreach Dinner Sunday, December 22nd



Serve a meal and provide food and clothing services to those in need in our community.

The 4th Sunday of each month:

2:30 to 3:30 PM - Set Up and Serve

3:30 to 5:00 PM - Serve

4:45 to 5:45 PM - Clean Up

Opportunities:

Set Up

Kitchen-Cook/Prep

Meal Server

Food Bank

Clothing Bank

Hall Monitor

Prayer and Conversation with Attendees

Clean Up

Location:

Burien Annex

144th and 4th Ave

Burien, WA

Contact

Don Berg

206-243-4333

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Reformed Reflections...

selected, but I'd strongly encourage you read his book for further study if this piques your interest, as it did mine. It's a fun read and you'll learn something or be challenged.

By way of introduction, we may well ask, Why Is Biblical Interpretation Important? While this may seem a silly question for those of us who've been in and around the church for any length of time, it's an important question to start with. If Biblical Interpretation *is not* important, then what? Is the Bible open to interpretation by anybody and who gets to say what's right or not? Are there any absolutes?

Professor Robert Plummer offers some helpful advice from his work, *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible*. As Pastor Tim has preached and taught in his midweek class this year, asking question is...kind of important. Plummer states, "To interpret a document is to express its meaning through speaking or writing. To engage in interpretation assumes that there is, in fact, a proper and improper meaning of a text and that care must be taken to not misrepresent the meaning. When dealing with the Scriptures, to properly interpret a text is to faithfully convey the inspired human author's meaning of the text, while not neglecting divine intent".

The Scriptures themselves show the need for Biblical interpretation. He continues, "Numerous texts in the Bible clearly demonstrate that there is both a correct and incorrect way to understand the Scriptures." For brevity sake, I'll offer up one that we'll refer to later:

2 Timothy 2:15: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." In this verse, Paul exhorts Timothy to "correctly handle," or "rightly interpret" (*orthotomounta*), the word of truth, that

is, the Scriptures. Such a warning implies that the Scriptures might be wrongly handled or wrongly interpreted."

With that, let's jump to our matter at hand, and Part One of Three:

"Plans to Prosper You and Not To Harm you"

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.'

Maybe you have a life verse? If I had to give mine, I'd go back quite a few years to when I was a newer believer, having just come to truly know and understand who I was in Christ, and I'd say, Gal. 2:20. *'I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.'* (NKJV). That's a seeming very straight forward, Christ-centered verse and all that. It'd be pretty hard to misinterpret, wouldn't it?

But, what if you took any verse that had special meaning to you and attempted built your life upon it? Would there be any potential problems or pitfalls? What if you chose the verse captioned above, as Eric Bargerhuff did? Now what?

As Bargerhuff humorously notes, "What a great verse to pull out of the Bible and use as my own! It was easy to memorize. Not too difficult to understand. A powerful message. A great promise. What's not to like about it? Prosperity. Protection. Hope for a great future. These are all things that any Christian would want to see become a reality in his or her life. It seemed to echo the American

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Reformed Reflections...

Dream, with God's endorsement behind it."

What he observes is, "It quickly and conveniently became not only my life verse, but my subconscious expectation for how I thought God intended to bless my life *right here and now*, just as long as I did what he wanted, as long as I committed myself to seek after him "with all my heart."

So, there's the scenario. Now we come to examine those potential pitfalls. As he then states, "But the question is: Is this an appropriate use of this verse, to put God on the hook for a life of prosperity and blessing that fits my timeline and my definition? The answer lies in a closer look at the context of Jeremiah 29."

Now, admittedly we do not have time to examine the entire context we're dealing with, nor is it my intent to do so, but I'd again commend you to take time and read through this chapter if you feel so inclined. Without getting into a full-blown discourse on Biblical interpretation, ask yourself these basic questions:

Who's speaking;

What's being spoken about;

Who's being spoken to

In summary, I could say, we need to understand the context of the book of Jeremiah, who the author is, who he's writing to and what's happening in chapter 29 and how verses 11-13 relate within the chapter to arrive at its proper interpretation and application! Simple, right?

Here's a couple brief hints we should note in doing so: "With this context, there are a few things we should notice right away. First, God is speaking to the Israelite nation of Judah here. This is his plan for the nation, not necessarily a personal promise that is directed to any one person per se. It is a "corporate" promise.

Therefore, we should be cautious about grabbing it out of its context and inappropriately applying it to individual believers in the twenty-first century."

"Second, this is a promise for God's people who *will exist seventy years from now*. The majority of people who hear this promise from Jeremiah's lips will never see it fulfilled in their lifetime. They will likely perish in exile before it comes to fruition."

Bargerhuff then wisely notes, "All this means the prophecy of prosperity and hope was directed toward a future people—those who would be born in exile and emerge from that place much later, the children and grandchildren of the present-day exiles."

If this is your life verse or how you've interpreted it, I hope I'm not crushing your American Dream, even while noting it simply can't be biblically substantiated by these verses. Instead, as believers in New Testament Christianity, we can still use Jeremiah 29 (and the OT for that matter), but we just need to make sure we are interpreting it properly - as we should with all Scripture.

Keep in mind, we have a heavenly hope, and that our spiritual blessings are "in Christ, as Eph. 1:3 tells us, "*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.*" So, in reality our blessings are not the here and now, we're not truly blessed here on earth with all the material blessings we may have, our blessings are spiritual and eternal, in Christ! Like Eph. 1:7 says, "...*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.*" Nothing material in this life will get us this! Because of this, our citizenship is in heaven, as Paul tells us in Phil. 3:20, and "...from it, we

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Retirees Breakfast

Thursday, December 12, 8:30AM
Pancake Chef



Seniors, come
join us for fellowship and
breakfast.

Transformational Topics With Pastor Tim

Join Pastor Tim Wednesday nights
at 6:00pm for Transformational
Topics



Sermon Discussion Study

Wednesday's
9:30AM
Room S-201



Come fellowship,
learn and grow with us Wed's,
9:30AM as we discuss the sermon
from the previous Sunday.

Reformed Reflections...

await a Savior..."

Bargerhuff wisely and correctly warns us in regards to Jer. 29:11-13, "But if we make the mistake of redefining the phrase "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" with our own preconceived notion of what that ought to look like for our lives today in the material sense, then we've overlooked and hijacked the context to suit our own human needs and desires."

However, we should keep in mind, "Now, this does not negate the fact that God might choose to bless us with a great paying job, a beautiful family, and a healthy life on account of his grace. But the bottom line is we should never expect those things to happen or seek to appeal to the promise of Jeremiah 29:11-13 in order to substantiate our expectations. We have no right to hold God hostage to a promise that we have misunderstood."

He concludes with these thoughts: "Friends, in the end, we should never be looking and living for our own glory in this life. Instead, we should be living for God's glory now and waiting for the glory that we will receive from him in the life to come. And, we cannot twist Scripture around in order to make that happen, or to make Scripture work for us the way we want it to. We have to live by faith. And those who do will receive what he promised. And when we seek him with all of our heart, we will certainly find him. To that, I say a hearty!

Next month in the New Year, January 2020, we'll examine "Ask for anything in My Name (John 14:13-14). Does this give us a kind of *carte blanc* with God?"

Thanks for reading and I pray this has blessed you or encouraged you to seek Him and His word and to better rightly divide the truth. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me or email me.

Brad Krantz

Bargerhuff, E.J. (2012). *The Most Misused Verses in the Bible: Surprising Ways God's Word Is Misunderstood* (p. 42). Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers.

Plummer, R. L. (2010). *40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible*. (B. L. Merkle, Ed.) (p. 79). Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic & Professional.

Christmas Caroling



Old-fashioned, door-to-door Christmas Caroling

When: Sunday, December 15, 6:00 PM

Where: Meet at the Lindblom's house

What: Door-to-door caroling and cookies afterward

Who: Anyone who likes to carol. No choir experience necessary.

Contact Tammie Lindblom for more information or further directions.

Christmas Shopping?



If you shop on amazon, Highline Christian Church is registered as a charitable organization.

You shop, Amazon gives. Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know, same products, same prices, same service.

Just click this [link](#) and sign in with your regular Amazon account, choose Highline Christian Church as your charity organization and shop.

Thank you for making a difference in your community.

HCC Christmas Tree Stand Open



Tree Stand Hours

Weekdays: 3 - 7:30PM

Saturdays: 9AM - 7:30PM

Sundays: 10AM - 5PM

YOU CAN HELP!



*Support Highline's short-term mission trips by purchasing a Christmas Tree or wreath.

*Sharing hope and joy with our community by helping staff the tree stand.

Ways you can help at the tree stand

- Greet community members
- Sweep needles
- Hold trees upright for customer viewing
- Assist with loading trees in/on vehicles
- Answer questions about Highline and the mission trips we support
- Provide snacks or hot drinks for tree stand staff
- Share the love of Jesus

More details and sign-up in the Atrium today.

Have questions, call Gregg.

Men By God Study Taco Bar



All Men invited to share a festive meal together!
Wednesday, December 11 at 6 pm in Great Room
Main course will be provided.
Please bring drinks or dessert.

Christmas Mingle Jingle



Ladies, get your tickets today! You will be blessed at this year's Christmas Mingle Jingle. Join us for dessert, Two Town Sound Quartet and some mingle jingle time. Doors open at 6:30pm.

This year we are supporting Foster Champs organization. Please bring a wrapped gift of PJ's, underwear and/or socks for ALL ages, teenagers most in need. A label will be provided to place on your gift.

Donations will be accepted through Sunday December 8th.

Paper Bags Needed

Early Childhood and Early Elementary needs paper grocery bags for a December 18th event.

By December 15th

Bring to
Early Childhood Wing (NB)

Or

Early Elementary
Area (South
Building Basement)



Thank you!

Operation Christmas Child



Thank you, thank you, thank you for making this year's Operation Christmas Child season a success!

As of Monday, November 18, we have filled, collected, and delivered **712** boxes filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene

items to bless children around the world.

I am very grateful for:

22 people who helped fold boxes

14 people who helped at the Atrium Table

11 youth who helped run boxes from the Atrium to the stage

16 people who helped load the

boxes from the Worship Center into vans on Collection Sunday.



Countless people who so generously donated individual items, money for shopping, money for shipping, and full boxes!

This is a group effort here at Highline joining countless thousands around the world to help meet children's physical needs and,

more importantly, to open the door for each child, family, and community to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for each child who will receive a shoe box. Distributions occur at various times over the next 6 months. If you hear where your box was sent, I'd love to know. If you receive a response from the child who received your box, please share it with me.

Tammie Lindblom



Shoemaker's Circle

December 18th
10:30AM
Room S-203



Ladies, join us for fellowship. Bring a sandwich & a scripture to share.

Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided.



Ladies, Mark Your Calendar

Mark your calendar for April

24-26, 2020 for

the Northwest Christian Women's Conference. Registrations will be available in late February.

Any questions, contact Tammie Lindblom



Ladies Quilting and Fellowship
Friday, December 27th at 6:00 pm
S-101

Iron, ironing board, cutting mats and rulers will be provided

Ladies Who Brunch
9:30am-11 am HCC Atrium

October 12th
November 9th
January 11th
February 8th
March 14th
April 11th
May 9th
June 13th

Want to help?
Patty Snell
206-650-0149

childcare available for age 5 and under

March 20th-22nd, 2020
WOMEN IN TOUCH SPRING RETREAT



Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room

Seems like the days before Christmas are merely a countdown to open-presents-day. Exciting as that is, what if God intended for something more? What if he intended for our hearts to be transformed as we anticipate his arrival? And if he has this intention for us, how can we purposefully “prepare him room”?



This season, would you set aside time to spend with your family reflecting on what God wants to do in us as we prepare for his coming? There will be short age-appropriate devotionals available for the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. The devotional materials can be picked up in the early childhood wing beginning November 24th and will be written for ages 2-4 in mind. In the meantime, you might want to get the following items gathered:

- Wreath or tray to hold candles
- Five candles (three purple, one pink, and one white). If you feel more comfortable using battery operated candles, go for it. Real flames, however, are more exciting and children take real flames very seriously!

Charlene Crawford

Indoor Nativity Walk-thru

Sunday, December 22nd
9AM and 10:40AM Services
Age 2 - 2nd Grade



God has extended an invitation to be a part of his big story. We want children to experience this truth as they walk through different “sets” of the Christmas story. We desire children to experience **the whole story** so please check in your child before the services begin! We accept students beginning at 8:45 and 10:30.



ENCHANT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
TUESDAY DECEMBER 10TH | \$25
T - MOBILE PARK
MEET AT HIGHLINE 7:15pm
BACK AT HIGHLINE 10:30pm
PURCHASE YOUR OWN TICKET!
NEXT GENERATION YOUNG ADULTS

A red rectangular background with several white gift boxes tied with red ribbons and red bows scattered at the bottom.

CHRISTMAS PARTY
THURSDAY DECEMBER 19TH
FREE | 8 - 9:30PM
- BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT
- UGLY SWEATER CONTEST
- COOKIES, GAMES, MUSIC AND
GINGER BREAD HOUSES

A wooden surface with several gift boxes and a chalkboard in the center. The chalkboard contains the text for the Christmas Party.

Christmas Services

In celebration of Christ's past, present and future reign, please join us at one of the following Worship Services.

Saturday, December 21st

6 PM

This is a family service and there will be no childcare provided.

Sunday, December 22nd

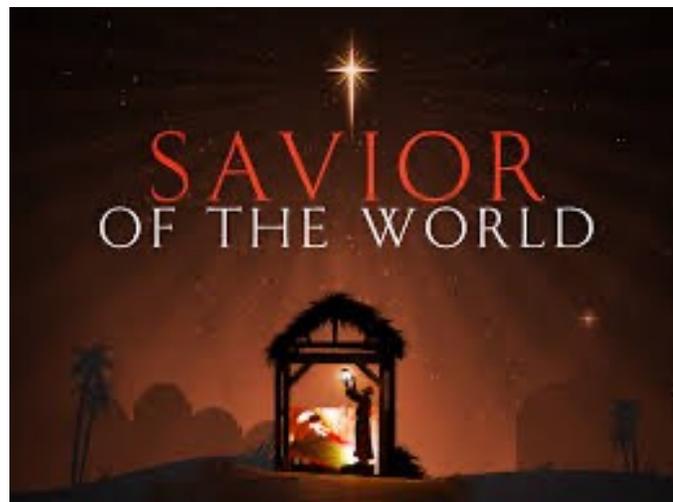
9 & 10:40 AM

We will have classes for Birth through 6th grade during both services and Youth services as normal. Adult Sunday School classes are canceled.

December 24th

3 & 5 PM

These are family services and there will be no childcare provided.



In His Presence

Norma Smith joyfully graduated into the presence of the Lord November 22, 2019.



2019-2020 Elders



Paul Smith
Elder Chair



Tim Knight



Bret Thorson

Worship Service Times

Saturdays - 6:00 PM
Sundays - 9:00 AM & 10:40 AM

Contact Us

Phone:

206.243.4333

Website:

highlinechristian.org

Email:

office@highlinechristian.org

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30-2:30

Friday 8:30-Noon

Next eNewsletter Deadline

December 15, 2019



David Cowan



Bruce Ernst



Les Fader



Konrad Lindblom



Gregg Louvier



Dave Rogge

HCC Staff



Tim Knight
Senior Pastor
Tim@highlinechristian.org



Bret Thorson
Discipleship Pastor
Bret@highlinechristian.org



Jack Fratangelo
Church Life Director
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Liesl Behm
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Julie Kemp
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Charlene Crawford
Early Childhood Assistant
Charlene@highlinechristian.org



Katie Taylor
Early Childhood Director
Katie@highlinechristian.org



Tyler Mosier
Children's Pastor
Tyler@highlinechristian.org



Josh Ambrose
Youth & Young Adults Pastor
Josh@highlinechristian.org