

DISCIPLE DIGEST

Highline Christian Church, 14859 1st Avenue South, Burien

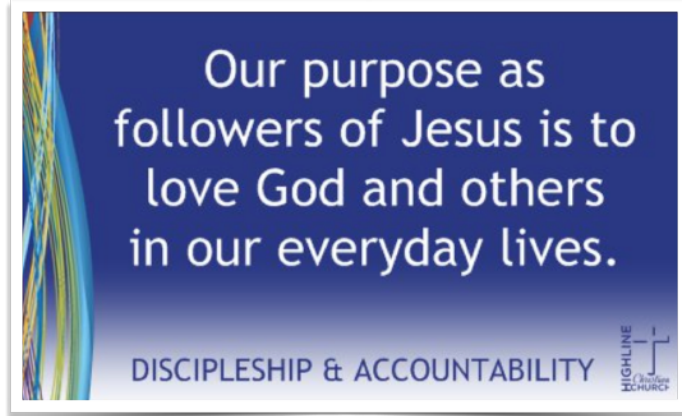
Prayer Request?

If you have a prayer request our Prayer Team would like to pray for you. You may enter your prayer request on the APP, or by clicking [here](#).



Food for Thought

He who lives well preaches well. Actions speak louder than words.



The Finish Line

Have you ever competed in a race? Though I'm probably a less than average athlete, I've participated in a number of different races over the years. I remember when I was a teen I had the opportunity to enter into the Fourth of July 'Round the Lake Run'. I was excited about the opportunity and thought it would be easy seeing as I was running all the time playing soccer and basketball. That morning my grandmother put out some fruit and other things for breakfast including some beautiful and sweet strawberries. I remember my dad warning me about how many strawberries I was eating when I should have been getting ready for the run. Oh, I should have listened. I finished my breakfast, went over to the starting area for the run, and when it was time, I started running. I soon realized I was not going to be in the top runners finishing the race, but in my age group I was doing well. I remember running down the hill toward my grandparents house and could hear some family cheering me on. I'm almost there I thought, then again,

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The Finish Line *(Continued)*

I was really tired and the house was right there, why not stop, it's not a major competition after all? I decided to keep running the rest of the way when my stomach really started to hurt.

Strawberries. I could see the finish line, but I was in so much pain all I wanted to do was turn around and go home. My dad was there to encourage me on. With the finish line less than 30 yards away I couldn't take another step because my stomach hurt so bad. Then, I lost my breakfast right there. Embarrassed and in pain all I wanted to do was quit and go home. My dad wouldn't let me. He continued to encourage me step by step the rest of the way to the finish line. It wasn't pretty, but I made it. I fixed my eyes on the finish line and one step at a time I crossed it. I learned a lot of lessons that day.

What is your faith finish line? What difference does your faith finish line have to do with how you live? Is your finish line salvation? Or is it death? Maybe your faith finish line is Heaven? Realize it or not, many of us live with these faith finish lines in place. For those whose faith finish line is salvation, life is often filled with an urgency to get as many people to make a decision to be saved with very little thought to what to do after the decision is made. After all, what difference does how you live after you make a decision to be saved make if getting saved is the finish line? What if your faith finish line is death? Well, people who view death as the finish line may end up living very busy lives, making the most of every opportunity because the days are evil as with each

one that passes, death is that much closer and with death coming closer so does the eternal rest. What about the Heaven finish line? Isn't the finish line when we all get to Heaven and get to spend the rest of our lives in an endless worship service, or sitting around on clouds playing harps all day, or spending the days of eternity doing whatever we feel like?

What if the finish line wasn't a line at all? What if the faith finish line wasn't a moment in time, a destination, or even the finish or end? The Apostle Paul often used race imagery describing our faith. *"Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 3:13b-14) *"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it."* (1 Corinthians 9:24) The author of Hebrews put it this way, *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."* (Hebrews 12:1-2) What if the finish line of our faith is Jesus; not just knowing about Jesus, but knowing Jesus; growing into deep relationship with Jesus; being hidden in Him and He in you? What if the finish line of our faith is not just getting to some place, but instead learning to run

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We Are Here For You

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation and more.



Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

If you would like to receive a Stephen Minister or would like more information regarding Stephen Ministry you may tap [here](#), or contact the church office by [email](#) or phone, 206-243-4333.

The Finish Line *(Continued)*

with Jesus, the way Jesus would run, all the while He is running by you encouraging you to take the next step when all you want to do is quit and go home?

Now, don't get me wrong here. I'm not saying we are saved by our own running. We are saved by the grace of God through Jesus our Savior King, but we must ask ourselves, is being saved the faith finish line? I don't believe it is. Entering into a saving relationship with Jesus is a part of the race, but I do not believe it is the end of the race, rather it is quite close to the beginning.

I'm so glad I ran the race that day and that my dad was there to comfort me when the race got hard, and to encourage me all the way to the finish line. Our Heavenly Father is here with us comforting us in our daily lives and encouraging us to keep taking steps toward the finish line; the in Jesus life as we grow in Christ and He in us.

May you run this faith race as the author of Hebrews described, fixing your eyes on Jesus. May you learn to run as He would run if He were you and never stop running as you come to realize Jesus running with you.

Moment by moment with Jesus,
Bret Thorson
Discipleship Pastor



Encore Ministries

It has been a long time since we seniors have gotten together outside of the Senior Breakfast and it is time to reinvigorate our ministry. We will be having a planning meeting for all seniors who are 55 years and above on February 22nd at 2:00 pm. We will meet in the upstairs Great Room in the North Building.

This is your ministry and we would like to have everyone share in what direction you would like to see this ministry to grow.

Coffee and dessert will be served as we put our heads together and develop a thriving ministry that encourages one another and serves our Lord. Let your light shine!

Freedom in Christ - Grow Group

Truth that Transforms – Your Identity in Christ

Leaders: Marrell & Terry Greutman

Email: greutman@gmail.com

Marrell 206-999-4102

Terry 206-999-4296

Meeting date & time: TBD Start date in March.

This course is for every Christian who has been walking with the Lord for decades to those who have just begun their journey. Our 10 week discipleship course will meet weekly for video presentation & discussion. There will be an additional half day session on a Saturday, between sessions 7 & 8, to go deeper into what we have learned & to complete “The Steps to Freedom in Christ”.

The course is designed to help you:

Take hold of the truth of exactly what happened when you received Christ

Resolve personal & spiritual issues that maybe holding you back

Learn strategies: to renew your mind, break free from negative thinking & unhelpful patterns of behavior

Grow relationships & fellowship together

The cost for the participant’s book and Steps booklet is \$15.

Pastor Tim's Daily Podcast

Join Pastor Tim's daily podcast,

[The2Greatest](#) (T2G)

after the two greatest commandments to love God and others. They are only approximately 5 minutes long. We hope they will bless you. Listen in! You may access T2G by Facebook or our APP.



Sermons

If you missed a service or would like to rewatch a past sermon tap [here](#).



Young Adults

2023 is off to a great start! It has been a lot of fun getting to live life, pray for, and learn together. Our first event of the year was at Family Fun Center. We had 15 young adults who played laser tag, went bowling, and of course go karting. It was so much fun to see and be around young adults enjoying being silly and just having a good time together.



For our first gathering of 2023 we started a new teaching series called “**Bigger Than You Think**”. In this series we are talking about the small practices most of us overlook but really are the basis of strong Christian living.

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday, February 9th 7 - 9PM | AMC Movie Theater
Meet at AMC South Center

Thursday, February 2nd and 23rd NO Young Adults |
Josh Gone

Thursday, March 2nd 7 - 9PM | Location TBD



Youth Ministry

We have been having some incredible things happen in our Youth Ministry. Every Wednesday, 6:30PM - 8:30PM, we gather to worship God, learn and study His Word and build healthy community relationships! One way we get to do that is through our small group discussions every other week after the message. Small groups are where the students get to share what is on their heart as well as go deeper in discussion based on the open ended questions about the message. Though both guys and gals experience very different challenges in life, small groups has provided a great environment for them to ask questions, go deep, find biblical application, and to pray for and to be prayed over by each other.



Over the last few weeks we've had a few new students come to youth group and it's been great to see them establish new relationships with Jesus and to get connected with other students in the group. It's so cool to see these new students beginning to get involved, to begin to participate in worship, and to pray for their friends to come to know Jesus.



I believe one of the best ways to help young people today grow with Jesus and remain a part of the church as they grow is to get them involved with the life of the church by serving in various ways. One way

students serve is by making and serving coffee each Sunday. Another great way for the students to serve is on the worship team and over the last couple of weeks, we have been able to get more students to play or sing with the team.

LEAVENWORTH DAY TRIP:

Our Youth Ministry went over to Leavenworth to enjoy the day in the mountains. Students had a great time making memories together. We had just over 30 students in attendance for this event everyone really had a great time. The first part of the day was free time and just enjoyment of Main Street going to shops,

getting food, taking photos, and drinking coffee or hot cocoa. Many thanks to our adult amazing adult leaders for spending time with students and helping everyone have a blast!



Later, in the afternoon, we went sledding and everyone was full of laughter and silliness. Thankfully no one got hurt and everyone had fun! Driving over Snoqualmie Pass was great and God really protected the group as we drove there and back. This is easily one of our favorite annual trips as a youth ministry.



Youth Ministry

SAVE THE DATES

*Registrations and Event
Calendars available on the
HCC App.*

February 2nd
3PM - 5th 3PM | YOUTH
WINTER CAMP — \$120

Wednesday, March 1st
6 - 8:30PM | "Rep Your
School Night" — Free at
HCC

Friday, March 24th
4:30 - 11PM | Winter Jam —
\$15 High School *ONLY*

Sunday, March 26th
Time TBD | Defy Seattle —
\$22-25 Jr. High *ONLY*

YOUTH WINTER CAMP

Thursday, February 2nd at 3PM - Sunday, February 5th
at 3PM — \$120



Registration slots available for GIRLS ONLY. (All the
guys spots have sold out.) Register on the HCC App
by January 29th.

We are so excited to host our first ever Highline Youth
Winter Camp at Pleasant Valley Christian Camp in
Mineral, WA. This is a Highline Christian Church Youth
Ministry, 6th - 12th grade camp!

Transportation is provided!



Next Gen Kids

Serve Update: The Elementary students at the 9:00 service decided to put their coins together to purchase golf balls for Pleasant Valley Christian Camp. They brought in over \$95 and then chose the colors they wanted the camp to have. We are all a part of the Kingdom of God and we are serving others by following the model of Jesus. We will choose another service project as a group and work together to complete it.



On Friday February 17-Monday February 20, the 4th through 6th graders will be heading to Pleasant Valley Christian Camp. Registration is open, if you student would like to join us. Our theme of the weekend is Lifer and we will be looking at how God is with us and we are not alone. Register soon as spots will fill up! Talk to Katie to get access to a promo code that will get a discount for the weekend. Register at Pleasantvalleycamp.org

We love welcoming new children to the classes. Both the Early Childhood and Elementary ministries are meeting so many new families! In order to create great spaces to welcome the children it takes many volunteers. They faithfully show up and help empower the children to hear from God. We share the love of Jesus through lessons, worship, crafts, snacks, games, activities, and getting to know each other. If you are wanting to know more about how partner with us to share the love of Jesus with the children, please talk to Katie. We are looking for a few more volunteers to join our rotation of helpers.



The 3rd-6th graders on Wednesday nights are getting into to God's Word. We are looking at the divisions in the Bible and learning to put the books in order. This will help us learn how to use our Bibles better and find passages. We did a study last month on why we read the Bible and how to read it. The kids had some great reasons they read the Bible. It is God's Word. It helps us know God more. It helps us see Jesus. It helps us make choices. We discussed how to read the Bible. It starts with praying first. We invite the Holy Spirit to help us. Then we simply open the Bible up. Then we read the words and lastly, engage with them. We engage in God's word when we use our eyes to see the text and see what God is doing in our lives. We use our ears to engage by listening to the Holy Spirit. We use our heart to engage by letting God change us. Then we engage by responding to what God has asked us to do. We will keep practicing through the month as we read God's word together.





Next Gen Kids



The Kindergarten through 2nd graders on Wednesday nights are diving into the Old Testament. They started with creation and have loved looking at Noah's ark. They are learning that they can be a part of the story too!



The kindergarten through 2nd grade built an ark as they studied Noah's Ark. They made special snacks to celebrate what they are learning.

Operation Christmas Child

It isn't too early to begin shopping for next Fall's Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child! I just found a girl's knit dress on a Christmas sale for \$1.87!



A "warm" item is put inside every Operation Christmas Child box packed on behalf of the congregation. While a "warm" item can be a hat, gloves, mittens, scarf, shoes, socks, flip flops, t-shirts, or any clothing item (ie \$1.87 Christmas dress!), a pair of socks is put inside every box! Therefore, our **FOCUS ITEM** for **FEBRUARY** is **SOCKS**. Socks are needed for every age group and gender: 2-4 yr old Boys, 5-9 yr old Boys, 10-14 yr old Boys; 2-4 yr old Girls, 5-9 yr old Girls, and 10-14 yr old Girls. You can use this focus to shop early for your own box or you can donate socks for the boxes packed from congregation-wide donations. Place those socks in the Operation Christmas Child tote in the Community Room of the South Building. If you don't know where that room/tote is, please ask at the Welcome Center or you can contact Tammie Lindblom at ktsralindblom@comcast.net or 253-670-2386 with any Operation Christmas Child question.



Be In the Know

Wondering what is happening at HCC?

Download our app today!



Groups

[Join](#) a HCC group where you may GROW, LIVE, & SERVE with others toward Jesus.



GriefShare



Your Journey from Mourning to Joy

We have begun the first GriefShare Support Group here at Highline. The response of grieving and hurting people being helped through their grief of losing a loved one is encouraging. This program includes three key elements, a Video seminar, a Group discussion and your personal workbook. The video experts share insights they have learned through their counseling, teaching and pastoring. Yes, all people in all walks of life, hurt, grieve and shed tears when others close to them die. Each week during this 13 week program is self-contained and you may start at any time that is right for you. Topics that are presented are Is this Normal, Grief and your Relationships, Why?, Guilt and Anger, Stuck, Heaven and many other topics.

We meet on Wednesday morning, 9:30 to 11:30 am in the North Building.

Have questions? Phone Mary 206-694-3112 (phone or text) or the church office.

Mary Lathan

World Outreach

IBEROAMERICAN MINISTRIES - CHILE

Dear Friends and Family,

This letter comes to you with all our love. We are incredibly blessed to be a part of what God is doing and by those He has blessed us to minister with including those who pray, send and support. May what follows encourage your heart. It is but a small glimpse of how God is moving to reach the nations.

*** Ten years ago, Fabian and Alejandra, a Columbian couple, were married before a judge in a civil ceremony. About a year ago they became part of a group at church called “Not so Young”. This group sought out people who didn’t feel as if they fit into any of our existing groups and gave them a family. Ten months ago, Fabian gave his life to Christ. Things had been difficult but with this newfound life in Christ, Fabian and Ale decided to renew their vows before God in the church. Their wedding was beautiful in every way especially their handwritten vows dedicated to God and to each other. Fabian says, “We found a family in Christ overflowing with unexpected love.” People need to be loved, to belong, to be part of God’s family the church.

*** Luis Diego is Chilean and Andrea is Peruvian. They met on a research trip that Doug led to Thailand just before the pandemic hit. Luis Diego is an Occupational Therapist and former youth leader at Oriente, and Andrea is a Counselor. They are now married and eager to be part of taking Christ’s love to the nations! Rejoice with us

as Luis Diego and Andrea leave in February to begin 2 years serving in Thailand with Not Forgotten a ministry focused on helping women out of human trafficking.



*** We have ministered together with David Diaz for over 20 years. David is now serving at the el Faro church. David’s wife Janira developed a serious illness just after David became part of the Oriente church family years ago. David cared for his wife, raised his three children, and has lived life in ministry. After lunch one day recently, we lingered at the table talking. As David shared his heart, this was part of our conversation. David... People wait for the “Blessing of God” expecting material gain or even success in ministry. Although my wife has been sick, I attribute it all to her. She was a Christian when I fell in love with her. I was not... The blessing of God... May we be truly thankful for all of God’s blessings especially the ones that are right before our eyes.

Here is a quick recap of the second half of 2022... In May we were tremendously blessed once again by the Grove retreat. This retreat is put on by Canyon Hills CC in Seattle and is designed to minister to those serving on the field. Rest, the Word, worship, fellowship, laughter and tears all set in a beautiful mountain retreat center. It was truly amazing! Thank you. “Being Intentional Churches” was the focus of a conference we hosted in June at the Oriente Church. The conference was put on by Pastor Jeff

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World Outreach

IBEROAMERICAN MINISTRIES - CHILE

Swaney from Eastside CC in CA and was well attended by our Chilean Pastors and leadership. The material Jeff presented left us both edified and challenged! With international travel getting back to normal, Doug spent June, July, August and into September "On the road again!" Doug traveled to Southern Chile, Ecuador and Colombia visiting churches, reconnecting, encouraging and teaching. It was Doug's first trip to our newest field Colombia! During this time, Doug also traveled to the Middle East for teaching and the graduation of our first group of students from the Bible Institute there. God is truly moving in unexpected and amazing ways!

Over the years, Doug and I have hosted a Team Christmas Dinner in our home. We invite Pastors and their wives and any workers from different fields currently in Chile. It has been three years since we have been able to gather. For us the world began changing on October 18, 2019, when the social uprising began in Chile. The night they set fire to the metro/ subway station in front of our house. We celebrated Christmas 2022 in October with a dinner at Oriente. We no longer fit in our home! It was tremendously encouraging to be together!

Prayer Requests

- Wisdom to grow as intentional churches in each of our different contexts.
- Doug's travels in 2023 for safety and that he would continue to be a blessing to those he goes to serve.
- Thankfulness for how God is working on the different fields.
- For Marcelo his health, his family and ministry.
- For Luis and Andrea that they would continue to grow in their marriage. That God would give them wisdom and courage as they begin life in ministry in a new culture with a new team. That God would prepare the hearts of those they go to serve.
- For the Mission, the pastors, the workers on the different fields and their families that God would encourage our hearts and give us wisdom and strength to move forward in hope with Him into 2023.

Thank you for being part of our lives and ministry. May 2023 be filled with joy and peace as many more people come to know the love of Jesus.

Doug & Shelly

Sermon Discussion Study

Wednesdays
9:30AM
Room N-106



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

Retirees Breakfast & Fellowship



Seniors, join us at Pancake Chef for breakfast & fellowship Thursday, **Feb 9, 8:30am**

Third Saturday Work Party

February 18th
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 questions, contact Gregg at 206-391-0113

Community Outreach



Care Net of Puget Sound provides life-affirming care and hope to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies through the hope of Jesus. Through compassionate care and practical resources, they empower women to choose life, parent with confidence, find healing after abortion and much more. All services are provided at no cost to clients.

Spare Change Changes Lives.
Donate to the Baby Bottle Drive.

[Click here to give.](#)



Women in Touch

Ladies Quilting and Fellowship

Friday, February 24th at 6:00 pm

S-101

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





Welcome New Members by
Confession of Faith

Roberta Ely
Carol Maxwell
Mark Maxwell

Worship Service Times

Saturdays - **6:00pm**
Sundays - **9:00am & 10:40am**

Contact Us

Phone:
206.243.4333

Website:
highlinechristian.org

Email:
office@highlinechristian.org

Office Hours

Sunday - Wednesday 8:30-2:30
(Out for lunch 12pm - 1pm)
Thursday 8:30-Noon

Next eNewsletter Deadline

Feb 18, 2023 all day

Sunday, February 26th HCC Outreach Dinner Transform Burien



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:

Sunnydale School
15623 Des Moines Mem Dr
Burien WA

Contact

Don Berg
206-243-4333



2022-2023 Elders



Bruce Ernst, Elder Chair



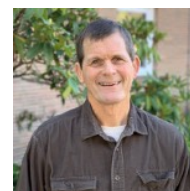
David Cowan



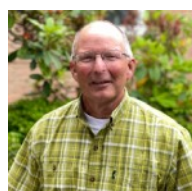
Tim Knight



Ralph Lane



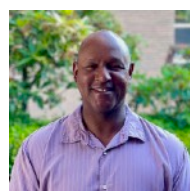
Gregg Louvier



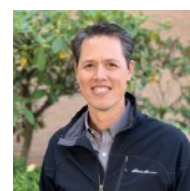
Shawn Packard



Paul Smith



Chris Terry

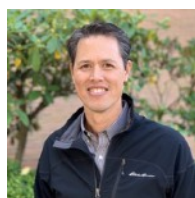


Bret Thorson

Staff



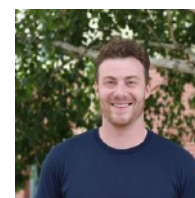
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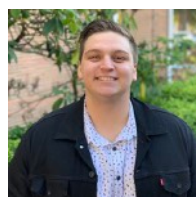
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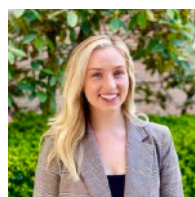
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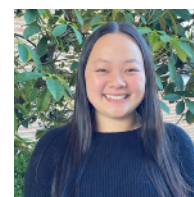
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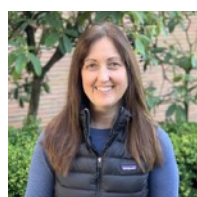
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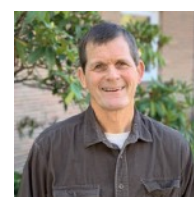
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