

A Will to Give

A newsletter for those who want to leave a legacy.



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"I am not praying only on their behalf, but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their testimony, that they will all be one, just as you, Father, are in me and I am in you."

John 17:20-21 (NET)

Mark and Beth Buchholz

The Tentmaker

Once the associate vice president for IT network security at State Street Bank and later the chairman of the elders for the Boston Church of Christ, Mark Buchholz, signs his email messages with the phrase "with love and respect." This humble, thoughtful sign off, he says, was adopted from one of the longest-serving elders, a great brother and friend named Clarence Webster. Mark believes that one relationship at a time, through love, respect, caring, and empathy, is Christ's eternal plan for unity.

Mark and his wife Beth have had a long, spirit-filled Christian journey. In 1976, Mark met a man who changed his life. "Andrew

looked exactly like the Grammy award-winning saxophonist Grover Washington, Jr., who I was very fond of," Mark says, "it helped to break the ice."

He invited Mark to a service that was inspirational and convicting. Mark began to immerse himself in the Bible and his Bible studies, and then proceeded to take the steps to become a Christian. "I learned that it is not just about attending church. There's faith involved, then repentance, making Jesus Lord of your life, baptism, and receiving the Holy Spirit to mark your salvation and help you along the way," Mark says.



Boston Church of Christ
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Mark was baptized in Gainesville on August 15, 1976, and Beth in Athens, Georgia, that same year.

They met while attending the University of Florida. Beth was getting her veterinary degree; Mark's degree was in mathematics and computer science. After graduating, they got engaged and asked for God's direction. God made it clear that Boston was to be their destination when Beth received a job offer in the Boston area. In 1984, they moved to Boston during their honeymoon and attended their first Boston evangelism seminar. It was at this seminar that they first learned about the plan to send out churches all over the world. That original call to the mission has invigorated Mark and Beth ever since, watching teams go out from their region, helping to prepare the teams, and consistently contributing to the annual mission's contribution. In fact, their son and his wife have been leading the church planting in Milan, Italy, for the past nine years.

Over the years, he and Beth have led small groups, House Churches, and Regions. He has been a deacon and an elder. At times, both have been on the full-time staff, and at other times as volunteers. Mark compares his experience in serving in an unpaid staff role to being "a tentmaker," much like Paul the Apostle, who at times was tasked with literally making tents to support himself. Twice, Mark gave up lucrative jobs at State Street to tend to Christ's flock in various roles serving in the church.

Mark has continued his involvement in missions work by being a Board member of the European Missions Society and the Beam Missions Foundation for the past twenty years.

Now in retirement, Mark and Beth continue to financially support the church and its mission, as well as benevolence work. They have a financial advisor and have happily made decisions about their philanthropy that are tax efficient and provide funds for over 25 charities. Mark recently set up a Donor Advised Fund

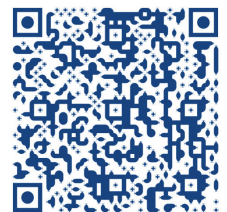
with Fidelity. This way of making grants to one's favorite charities has several pluses, as Mark noted:

- When you give to a Donor Advised Fund, you can take an immediate tax deduction for that gift or spread the deduction over time; it's your choice.
- It is a managed fund that continues to use your funds to make money.
- You decide when you want to give to the charity / ies—whether it's monthly, quarterly, annually, etc.
- You can make any or all of your charities a beneficiary of the remainder of your Donor Advised Fund after you pass.
- The Boston Church's website is equipped to make electronic giving very easy from Fidelity's Donor Advised Fund, among others.

They have also named the Church as a partial beneficiary of their estate. "We've designated 10% of whatever's left of our estate to charity, and it's clearly listed that part of that remainder goes to the Boston church."

It is with that sense of love and respect that Mark and Beth have made their legacy plans and continue to build a tent for all believers.

To learn more about Donor Advised Funds or to give from your DAF, use this code:



For more information about granting a gift from your Donor Advised Fund (DAF) or any other kind of gift to the church, please contact:



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Evangelist's Corner

"Therefore, go and make disciples..." (Mt 28:18)

There are many inspiring miracles taking place in the Boston Church. We have seen over 150 souls become Christians so far this year, and God is having a special impact on the youth of Boston.

Jesus is the model of so many spiritual gifts. He is the good shepherd, the teacher, a healer. Jesus was also an amazing evangelist of the good news. His impact as an evangelist is visible in the 12 young men he trained and sent out, and we strive to imitate him. Across the church this year, we've seen over 60 conversions on campus alone. In the Northwest region, their campus ministry of four students two years ago is now 25.

Downtown, Josephus and Katrina Bartuah are campus ministers at UMass Boston, and over the last two years, the gospel has made a great impact there as well. Josephus was converted as a student at UMass ten years ago; Katrina was raised in the church and went to college there. They have served as campus ministers over the last two years as the ministry grew from six students to over 40. Appropriately, on October 8, the Bartuahs were appointed Evangelist and Women's Ministry



Kevin Miller and Melissa Miller

Leaders, marking the third couple appointed in the last year.

There are many young disciples being sent out, going into the ministry, and dreaming of being missionaries. In Boston, our aim by God's grace is to continue raising up a new generation of young disciples and leaders to have a global impact. We feel blessed to be seeing this vision bearing fruit, and we pray that as these young souls are raised up that we will have the resources to be able to fulfill God's plan and their dreams to serve. Thank you always for your faith, love, and sacrifice as God continues to bless our work through you.

How to Leave a Gift in Your Will

When creating a gift in your will that lives on for generations to come, here is a simple bequest you might consider and the specific language to use in your will.*

"I/we irrevocably give, devise, and bequeath to the Boston Church of Christ, Tax ID #04-2494881, 214 Concord Street, Framingham, MA 01702, the sum of \$_____ (or a description of a specific asset), to be used for the following purpose: (e.g., unrestricted current use).

If at any time in the judgment of the trustees of Boston Church of Christ it is impossible or impracticable to carry out exactly the designated purpose, they shall determine an alternative purpose closest to the designated purpose."

*This information is not intended as legal advice. For legal advice, please consult an estate attorney.

Be sure to include our tax ID number and address in any gift in your will:

**Boston Church of Christ
Tax ID #04-2494881
214 Concord Street
Framingham, MA 01702**



Boston
CHURCH OF CHRIST

214 Concord Street
Framingham, MA 01702

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FROM THE ELDERS

“Why” Makes “What” Make Sense

It is important to know “why.” As an evangelist, an elder, and a dad, expressing “what” clearly needs to happen is the easy part. “Why” makes “what” make sense.

Our “what” in this context is Legacy Giving. The sort of giving that helps solidify the church for future generations and ensures that our impact does not expire when we do. It is so encouraging to see the momentum grow as more and more members of the Boston Church show that they have a “will to give.” Thank you very much.

The “why” for me is twofold. First, it is working. The Boston Church, by transitioning in an orderly way from older staff to younger, investing in campus ministry, sponsoring Chance of a Lifetime (COAL), and hosting the New England School of Missions (NESM), is leading the way among our U.S. churches in converting and maturing young disciples. Just



Mike Van Auken with
granddaughter Emma

today, as I write this, an elder from a sister church commented to me that we are one of the few churches currently “moving the ball down the field.” He’s right.

Second, I now have a grandchild. Emma was born five months ago, just two days before my birthday. As she turns 18, I will turn 81. I will miss most of her days. However, I am determined to have an impact on all of them. By my words and my actions, I am determined to offer her that which will last her lifetime.

The idea of passing on a church to future generations is no longer a theory for me. Even now, the church is increasingly in my children’s hands, but now I see the need to stretch past them as we build. Let’s do that together.