ISSUE #03

Summer Newsletter

2026

A Summer of Gratitude and Impact

God is so faithful.

When Brighter Days Giving Circle first began, we hoped that one day we might reach $100,000 in annual grants to local gospel-based organizations. At this year's luncheon, we were overjoyed to announce that we were able to fully fund all five grant requests, bringing our total giving this year to $96,823.

We continue to stand in awe of God's provision and the way He is using this community to encourage and strengthen organizations already serving our neighbors in the name of Christ.

In this newsletter, you'll find updates from each of our five grant recipients and the meaningful work happening throughout our community because of your generosity. We're also excited to share invitations to upcoming Brighter Days gatherings, along with a special opportunity to join our very first Summer Book Club as we read through the inspiring Theo of Golden together. We hope these opportunities continue to encourage connection, deepen faith, and remind us of the joy of walking alongside one another in this mission.

To every woman who joined the giving circle this year: thank you. Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and for believing in this mission. Your commitment is making a tangible impact in our community and helping share the light of Christ throughout Lane County.

We pray your summer is filled with rest, joy, and reminders of God's goodness.

With gratitude,

BDG Board Member Team

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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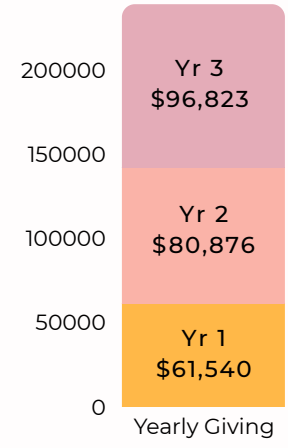
Invitation to Book Club!

Our Mission

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar!

Join Us For Our Fourth Year of Giving

OUR MEMBERS HAVE GIVEN $239,239!



Susan Egbert • Jamie Favreau • Phares Gilchrist • DawnD Gubrud • Danielle Guerrero • Stacy Haugen
Brenda Large • Monica Osborne • Marla Pellum • Amy Roller • Gloria Tyree

Updates from our 2026 Grant Recipients

Youth For Christ - Awarded $20,000

Lane County Youth For Christ is excited to be wrapping up the process of purchasing a new ministry van. While it took some time to find the right fit, the wait has been worth it. The van we are purchasing has only 20,000 miles and is in excellent condition, which we believe will position us well for many years of safe and reliable transportation for students across Lane County. This van is already being integrated into our spring and summer ministry plans, including camps, lake days, student outings, and weekly programs. These shared experiences create meaningful opportunities for young people to build trusted relationships with caring adults and experience the hope found only in Jesus. We are deeply grateful for Brighter Days' partnership and investment in the lives of local youth.

Eugene Young Life - Awarded $27,823

This spring we officially began work on the Eugene Young Life House outdoor restoration project by removing the old underground oil tank from the front yard at the end of March. This was a major first step toward restoring and improving the property for long-term ministry use. We hope to start the next phase of the project in late May/early June, including repairing the sprinkler system, reseeding and restoring the grass, creating a paver patio gathering space, slightly leveling the front yard for more accessible use, and adding gravel to the easement area between the yard and the street. The final phase of the project will include installing a fence to help create a more welcoming and functional outdoor environment for students and leaders. We hope to finish the final phase before the students come back in the fall.

Safe Families/CAFA - Awarded $20,000

Safe Families Plus has been deeply blessed by the generous support of the Brighter Days Giving Circle. On April 21st, we gathered 23 youth leaders from six churches, along with leaders from Youth for Christ, Hosea Youth Services, and other community organizations, to brainstorm how we can better support struggling youth in our community. This gathering marked the beginning of the very partnerships your grant is helping make possible. Together, we explored trainings that will equip youth pastors to recognize mental health concerns, signs of grooming, and other youth risk factors. Our next event, a half-day workshop on June 8th titled **From Surviving to Thriving... Fully Alive**, will continue equipping youth leaders with practical tools to walk alongside vulnerable youth in meaningful ways. We are incredibly grateful for your partnership and prayers as we work together to bring healing, safety, and hope to youth throughout Lane County.

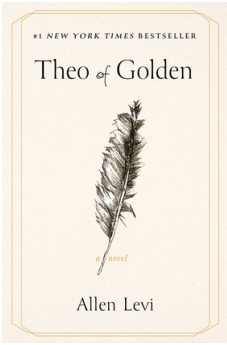
Agape Families - Awarded $14,000

We are so grateful for the financial support from Brighter Days and providing a full year scholarship for one of our current residents! We are looking forward to the resident transitions this summer that have been long awaited and prepared for, and welcoming the next cohort of young women into the house. The Agape Girls House Ministry continues to be a place of growth, discipleship, and meaningful transition for young women. This year, we successfully helped two residents move into stable, independent living situations, and we are excited that two of the girls from the house will serve as Cabin Leaders at camp this summer—a reflection of how the intentional discipleship structure of the house is equipping them to lead and serve others well. Monday night dinners and Bible studies remain a favorite part of the program, creating space for deep community and encouragement each week. The girls are also actively connected to local church communities including University Fellowship Church, Joy Church, and Cove Church.

Reboot - Awarded $15,000

During these past three months in the Eugene area, five Reboot groups came together to get serious about trauma healing—two groups at First Baptist Church of Eugene, two at Northwood Christian Church in Springfield, and a brand-new group at Encounter Church in Elmira. Thirty-six individuals and couples completed the 12-week course, which included “Military Reboot” (for military service members and their spouses), “Trauma Reboot” (for general trauma), and “Reboot Advance” (for graduates of the basic courses who want to begin helping others). It’s exciting to see people connecting deeply with the Healer and experiencing His work in their lives. Even more encouraging is the report that, from these groups, four people committed to leading Reboot courses themselves within the next few months. The reach of our trauma healing ministry in Lane County is growing! Thank you, Brighter Days, for your grant, which supports the training of new leaders and the formation of new groups in locations close to where they live!

Summer Book Club: Theo of Golden



What if one story could help you see your own journey with fresh courage and clarity? What if the most meaningful way to build community isn’t doing more—but seeing more clearly?

We invite all the members and friends of Brighter Days Giving Circle to join us to discuss the book Theo of Golden, a powerful story of faith, identity, purpose, and the unexpected ways our lives are shaped through challenge and calling. Theo of Golden is a quiet, beautiful story about a stranger whose simple acts of generosity begin to change an entire town. Not through grand gestures, but through attention, presence, and dignity—one person at a time.

We invite you to read the book and join us in “book club” fashion to discuss it! We will gather for thoughtful conversation, Scripture reflection, and to share stories and ideas for becoming a community that truly sees.

If you’re longing for deeper relationships, a more attentive way of living, and a faith expressed through everyday kindness, we’d love for you to join us. Get ready for thoughtful conversation, encouragement, and connection within our Brighter Days Giving community.

The book discussion is being offered twice to accommodate schedules:

- **Friday, June 19 | 10:00–11:30 AM**
- **Thursday, July 16 | 1:00–2:30 PM**

We would love for you to join us for this meaningful experience. Come to either one or BOTH if you can!

Purpose: Build Community, grow in generosity, attentiveness, and the practice of truly seeing people.

Location: The home of Brenda Large, 1069 Crenshaw Rd, Eugene, OR 97401

Come read. Come belong. Come see.

Upcoming Events

COME JOIN US!

We're excited to host a series of small group gatherings designed to help us connect, build community, and share all that God is doing in and through us. These events are perfect for new and longtime members alike — and a great opportunity to invite friends to learn more about our giving circle. **Learn more by scanning the QR code, or visit brighterdaysgiving.com/events**

Jun 19. Book Club: Theo of Golden @ Home of Brenda Large

July 16. Book Club: Theo of Golden @ Home of Brenda Large

Aug 12. Summer Backyard Gathering @ Home of Sarah Nelson

Sep 29. Fall Coffee and Grant Presentations

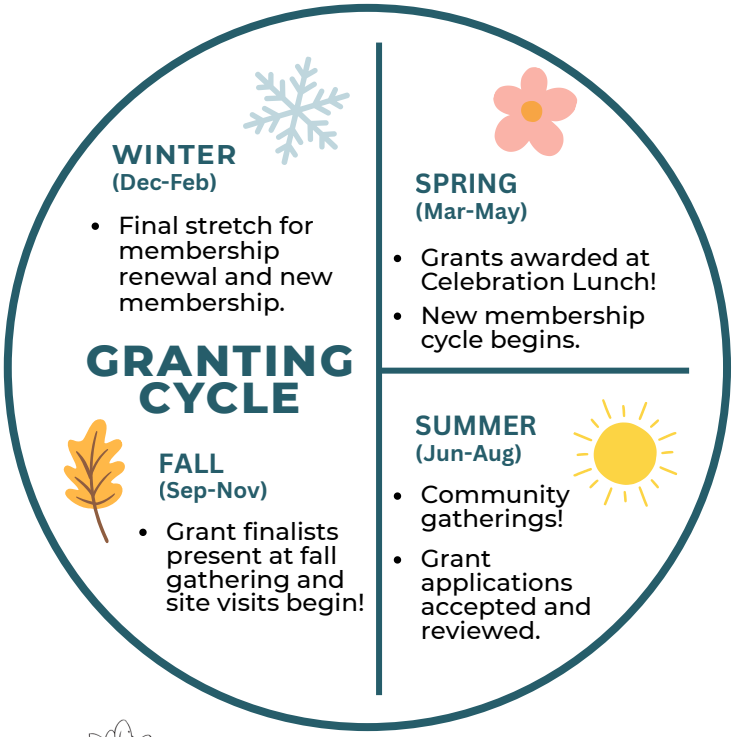
Mar 02. Celebration Lunch

OUR MISSION

The women of Brighter Days Giving circle are committed to sharing the light of Christ in our Lane County Oregon area. We do this by partnering financially with local non-profits already engaged in the work of making Christ known in our community. We are dedicated to impacting and encouraging our community through radical, life-changing generosity - generosity that we believe transforms both the givers and the recipients.

SHE OPENS HER ARMS TO THE POOR AND EXTENDS HER HANDS TO THE NEEDY

PROVERBS 31:20



You can join our community by giving to Brighter Days!

Our Celebration Lunch in March marked the beginning of our new giving cycle! We are ready to replenish our fund to continue spreading our impact, influence, and joy!

Ready to join again or become a first-time member?

- If you joined us last year, renew your membership by giving again for our 2026-2027 granting cycle.
- If this is your first year, we invite you to join us today by scanning the QR code, or visit, **brighterdaysgiving.com/donate.**

CONTACT US
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