

Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington

Missions@WP Fundraiser Event April 13 @ Mt. Scott COG

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April 2014 E-Contact Vol. 2 Issue 4

Marble to Speak at CWC Spring Convention

Women throughout the Association plan to meet for their Spring Convention April 4-5 at Lents Gilbert

Church of God in Portland, OR, where Jenny Marble will speak on the topic of *Freedom*.

Jenny Marble is a native of beautiful St. Helens, Oregon. She graduated



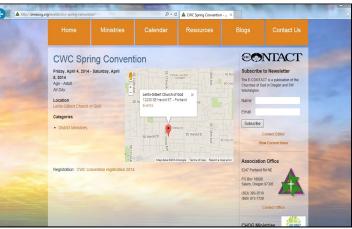
from Warner Pacific College in May 2010 with her Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Christian Ministries, continuing her education at Anderson University School of Theology where she received her Master of Divinity. Jenny currently resides in Eugene, Oregon where she has served as Associate Pastor for Friendly Street Church of God since September, 2013. Jenny is passionate about Church of God history, preaching, teaching, discipleship, and theodicy. Her hobbies include cooking, rock climbing, spending time with family and friends, and traveling.

The schedule for the convention includes a traditional Silent Auction, to help fund the Warner Pacific Scholarship given by CWC each year to a female student preparing for Christian service. The auction will take place both Friday and Saturday. Attendees are encouraged to bring a theme basket to put into the auction and to come prepared to bid on baskets provided by the other churches. Planners note that Spring seems "the

perfect time for baskets, Easter, gardening, tea and books, and the ever popular chocolate basket will likely make an appearance."

Schedule

Friday: 4:00PM – Registration begins Silent auction items 6:00 – Dinner 7:00 – Evening Session Jenny Marble – Speaker 9:00 – Dessert and Fellowship Silent Auction Bidding Saturday: 8:30 - 9:00AM - Devotions 9:15 - 9:30 - Installation 9:30 – 9:45 -- Silent Auction Bidding 9:45 – 11:30 – Morning Session Jenny Marble – Speaker 11:45 -- Last chance to bid 12:00 - Lunch 1:00 - 2:00PM -- Reflections Jenny Marble/Nancy Kernutt Auction Winners Announced! Click online at orwacog.org for a brochure.



Church of God Ministries Publishing Merges with Warner Press

Posted on March 5, 2014 by chogministries



At the beginning of January, the publishing work of Church of God Ministries in Anderson, Indiana, was reintegrated into its subsidiary, Warner Press, Inc. This ends a fifteen-year period in which curriculum, books for the Church of God, and hymnals have been produced by Church of God Ministries and distributed under the Warner Press brand.

"Warner Press was established in 1880 as the publishing house of the Church of God," says Warner president Eric King. "With this step, Warner Press again truly becomes the official publishing house of the church. All of the duties, responsibilities and decisions pertaining to this area are again consolidated within the Warner Press organization." Warner Press continues to have a significant role in the Christian retail market as a producer of church supplies, children's books, and ministry resources. King also announced that Warner Press has repaid all long-term debt incurred in a major restructuring of the company in 1999. He called this a "genuine success story" for the church.

Editorial staff who worked at Church of God Ministries have now joined the Warner Press team. Joe Allison, who served for the past nine years as coordinator of publishing at the national offices of the Church of God, is now editorial director of curriculum and discipleship resources for Warner Press.

"From the movement's birth, the publishing house of the Church of God has been a core component of ministry," explains Jim Lyon, general director of Church of God Ministries. "Church of God Ministries is committed to working as a team with Warner Press, developing content and product lines that advance the kingdom on every front where the Church of God stands—and for the larger body of Christ, as well. To this end, we are excited about not just a

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WELCOME NEW MISSIONARIES

NAME: Timothy and Angelita Downing COUNTRY: Ecuador ASSIGNMENT: Teaching in the Church of God seminary and assisting with Children of Promise and other programs meeting social needs DATE OF APPOINTMENT: February 27, 2014 STATUS: Career Missionaries LENGTH OF SERVICE: Two years TARGET LEAVE DATE: August 2015

INTRODUCTION: Timothy was raised in the Breiel Boulevard Church of God in Middletown, Ohio. A passion for missions was planted in his heart by his parents Darlene and Cordell and his grandmother Ruth. He received his call to ministry on a short-term mission trip to Panama. To prepare for this calling, he attended Mid-America Christian University.

Angelita was born in Wisconsin to Manuel and Tomasa Garcia. She worshiped and served in her local congregation from a young age. She transferred to Mid-America Christian University during her sophomore year of college, where she and Timothy met.

After getting married, the Downings served Christ in pastoral ministry in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Ohio. They have four children: Timothy, 12; Esperanza, 8; Ezequiel, 2; and Elias, 1.

The Downing family prayer is: "Allow us to see Christ clearly so we may follow him closely." It is that heart cry that that has led them to missionary service in Ecuador. Timothy, Angelita, and their children are committed to serve Christ in Ecuador by training leaders at S.E.T.E. (Church of God seminary) and assisting with the Children of Promise program.

PROJECT #: 42.10063



WARM Registration Deadline Approaches

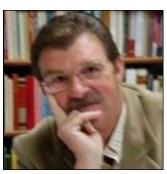
There is still time to register for the Western Area Regional Ministerium (WARM) to be held at Lynchwood Church of God in Portland, OR. Late fees will be charged after April 13 for the event which takes place April 29-May 1, 2014.

The theme, "*Yesterday, Today and Forever: Being the Body of Christ*" is based on Hebrews 11, presented by a trio of dynamic speakers.



Dr. Merle Strege, Church Historian, will appropriately address "*Yesterday*" during the event. Well known in the

Portland area, Dr. Strege taught at Warner Pacific College before joining the faculty of Anderson University, where he serves as professor of historical theology in the Religious Studies Department. Strege has written numerous books on the Church of God (Anderson) and contributed to others. He recently served



with Michael Cartwright as editor of Called to Unite Knowledge & Vital Piety: Indiana's Wesleyan-Related Universities (2011). Strege is currently researching and writing the centennial history of Anderson University. He teaches courses in Church of God history for the School



of Theology and oversees denominational studies courses.

Dr. Leonard Sweet is a scholar of US American culture; a semiotician who "sees things the rest of us do not see, and dreams possibilities that are beyond most of our imagining"; and a preacher and best-selling author who communicates the gospel with a signature bridging of the worlds of faith, academe, and popular culture. Currently the E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism at Drew University, Madison, NJ, and a Visiting Distinguished Professor at George Fox University, Portland, Oregon, Dr. Sweet brings a Wesleyan perspective and unique challenge as he addresses *"Today"*.

Tackling "Forever", is General Director of the Church of God, **Dr. Jim Lyon.**

A visionary and gifted communicator, Jim is passionate about Jesus and the church. As Jim often says, "Jesus is the subject!" Lyon grew up in Seattle, where he served as an Associate and then Senior Pastor of the Fairview Church (1977-1991). Since 1991 until recently, he served as Senior Pastor of the Madison Park Church of



God in Anderson, Indiana, in the Indianapolis metro.

Lyon studied at Seattle Pacific University and the University of Washington Law School, before taking a post at Northwest Airlines, in Seattle. Always fascinated by politics and the public interest, he has worked in many civic and church-related fields; he once represented NW Seattle as a member of the Washington State House of Representatives in the early 1980's.

But it is the Christian ministry that ultimately owned his heart. It is the conviction that Jesus is at work in this world, redeeming and transforming us, that has molded his life and vocation more than any other. Articulate pastor, teacher, and motivational speaker, he became the host of CBH Viewpoint, the weekly English broadcast of Christians Broadcasting Hope (the radio ministry of the Church of God based in Anderson, Indiana), heard internationally on several continents.

In 2011, Jim released his first book, *Go Ahead, Ask Anything*, published by Stylos and distributed by Word. Based on a sermon series at the Madison Park Church, the book addresses the top ten questions posed in a community survey asking, "If you could ask anything at church, what would it be?"

See Page 4 for the proposed WARM Schedule.

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WARM Registration Deadline Approaches



A Refreshing Relationship

by Rev. Lewis Hyslip

One Sunday morning in s1954, in Yokosuka, Japan. I saw a small building with a cross displayed. As I came closer I recognized the music, although it was played in an unfamiliar style. I didn't know the language, but I was drawn by the message of "My Jesus, I Love Thee, I know Thou art Mine". I entered and sat on the back pew. Soon a young lady came and sat beside me and greeted me in English. She stood and said something to the pastor. Through the interpreter, the pastor said, "Welcome to the American Sailor." It was at this point that I experienced Christian Unity. The congregation stood, turned and faced me and greeted me with a smile and the traditional Japanese bowing of the head. I was embarrassed, but I knew I was "home." I never learned what denominational label identified the congregation, but I felt connected to The Body.

Christian Unity was one of the foundational doctrines in which the

Church of God Reformation Movement took root nearly 130 years ago. In order

to maintain unity, connectivity and identity within the ranks of our movement, we must work at eliminating and rejecting those things that have the potential to divide.

We cherish our freedom from manmade creed and the opportunity that we have to pursue our pilgrimage in accordance with our own relationship with Christ. Sometimes, this leads to situations that are divisive, such as an unhealthy sense of autonomy and independence.

If Jesus, and the early church leaders gave us any universal message in addition to that of salvation, it is that we are all connected in The Body, and as responsible members thereof, we are each accountable to the other. This

WARM SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

TBD Golf Tournament – earlier in the day
3:00-6:00pm Registration
6:00-7:00pm Banquet (Sponsored by Servant Solutions)
7:00-9:00pm Main Session - *Dr. Merle Strege*9:00-9:30pm Dessert

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

8:00-9:00am Breakfast (sponsored by Warner Pacific)
9:15-10:45am Main Session (Pt 1) - *Dr. Leonard Sweet*11:00-12:30pm Main Session (Pt 2) - *Dr. Leonard Sweet*12:30-2:00pm Break/Lunch (on your own)
2:00-4:00pm Optional Workshop *Alliance Defending Freedom*"As Christians - What should we be doing, considering today's culture?"
4:00-7:00pm. Break/Dinner (on your own)
7:00-9:00pm Main Session - *Dr. Sweet*(open to the community)
9:00-9:30pm Dessert/Q&A with *Dr. Sweet*

THURSDAY, MAY 1

9:00-10:00am Breakfast/WARM Business Meeting 10:15-12:00pm Main Session with *Dr. Jim Lyon*

holds true for individuals, congregations and larger cooperative entities. If we could somehow catch the magnitude of Paul's message of how The Body, directed by the Holy Spirit, works cooperatively and in a supporting manner, we just might be, as was C.S. Lewis, "surprised by joy." This is nowhere more vivid than in personal and congregational support of the financial needs of the church's ministry.

In this connected relationship there is a refreshing vitality, transforming nurture, and the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus. (John 17:21).

May it be so!



Camp White Branch Schedules Posted

Summer Camp schedules are posted on-line at orwacog.org.



Click on the Calendar link and select the pages for June, July or August. Camp dates are posted, and a simple click on the appropriate date will direct you to the camp location, costs and other pertinent information.

Watch for next month's update on the Capital Campaign project with Director Steve Dow.

Spring Celebration

May 16-17, 2014

Valley River Inn, Eugene, OR

Theme: *"Why We Love the Church"* Ephesians 1:20-23 NLT

To register and pay online: <u>http://orwacog.org/events/spring-celebration/</u>





2014

The CoMission Offerings will be received during the Spring Celebration

Missions@WP Fundraiser for Germany

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, April 13 at 6:30 pm at Mt. Scott Church of God we will be participating in our last Missions@WP Fundraiser. We have three wonderful young ladies traveling to Germany with us May 27-June 30. They include a Church of God missionary kid, a Church of God pastor's kid and one other delightful WPC student. These three women are hard-working and willing to do almost anything to help raise the necessary funds to go on this once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

We will begin our trip by participating in the German Youth Convention in Biebesheim for 3 days. The ladies will lead a session on drama for the youth (ages 14-25). We will then travel to Fritzlar, a medieval village where the Church of God Bible School is located. There the students will live in the dorms with the Bible school students and take a class together and do life together. Finally we will move on to Berlin where we will learn about and visit sites, including Wittenburg, dealing with Boenhoffer, Luther and the Holocaust. They will learn about exegeting the culture and how ministry in a post-Christian society is being done.

Our evening at Mt. Scott will include both vocal and instrumental music by WPC students (Gwen will be joining them), dessert and a silent auction. We hope you can come and support these young women and encourage them with your presence.

If you would be interested in making a favorite dessert for the evening please contact me by email (gljohnson79@gmail.com) or call 503-536-3265.

When the students return from spring break they will be sending out flyers. Please pass this info along to your family and friends and encourage them to attend!

Thank you for your support, ~Gwen and John Johnson



Senior Moments

How is it going with the celebrating? I haven't heard from any of you directly, but I read of some celebrations on Facebook. The big celebrations in

the church are approaching with Palm Sunday and Easter just ahead. What a day that will be when we celebrate the coming of our Lord! We will be joined with all the saints of the ages and be in the presence of our Lord forever and forever.

I wanted to give you information on camp meeting (Summer Celebration) so you can be making plans to be at each of the senior sessions and senior activities. This is a big change that our sessions will be at 1:30 PM. I think we will need a coffee pot going to keep us awake at that hour of the day. Maybe we can do a few exercises to get our blood flowing.

On Monday, Pastor Martin Shrout, of Holladay Park Church in Portland, will be leading us on the subject of music in the church. I don't have the title for this yet but I know it will be good. As the older generation, we have had to do some adjusting in the music department.

Tuesday Jenny Marble, Associate Pastor in Eugene, will be speaking on "Suffering, Humans and God." This will be a session discussing "theodicy" or our attempts to understand God's role in human suffering. I am looking forward to this subject, as I had never heard of the word "theodicy" before.

Ellie Pearson-Sutter, former pastor at Aloha, will be speaking on "God will see you through." Ellie has experienced many of life's bumps and will help each of us find hope to see our way through no matter what comes our way. This title, "God will see you through" was from words my husband, Earl, left with our family just days before he went to be with the Lord.

One special event this year is on Wednesday afternoon. Tentatively at 3:30 PM. It is "All Day Sing and Dinner on the Grounds." I have had this idea for several years and think it will be a fun time.

As you can see ,Wednesday is going to be a full day so plan ahead and get some rest so you can be a part of all of this. I'm sure there are places to rest on campus. Lighthouse Quartet from Olympia will be the featured group for this. For anyone who has heard them, I know you will be looking forward to hearing them. This is the one event that you need a ticket for as we will have our usual meal together at that time.

One additional thing we are trying this year is to invite anyone who wants to come early to our afternoon sessions to bring a sack lunch (or buy your lunch in the cafeteria) and meet together to visit before our sessions begin. A place will be designated to meet. Let's get together and do some catching up!

I hope you can participate in all or at least some of these activities. See you in July!

WOODBURN, OR—Hoodview Church of God

hosted 14 local pastors for a lunch meeting March 18. Steve Kufeldt, Associate Pastor, posted on Facebook "We believe we witnessed a 'rebirth' of a ministerial fellowship. Amazing when different persons shared their hearts how it all blended together in God's heart for our community. God is up to something in Woodburn!"



We Hope to See You at the President's Tea & Scholarship Auction!

Dr. Andrea Cook, President of Warner Pacific College, invites you to support Portland's next generation of urban and diverse leaders at the 2014 President's Tea & Scholarship Auction. Now in its fifth year,



the President's Tea & Scholarship Auction is an opportunity to gather and help meet the needs of underserved and first generation college students as they pursue their higher education goals. The event will feature both a silent and verbal auction, as well as a charity 'paddle raise.' This year, we welcome award winning author, Sarah Thebarge as our keynote speaker. We'll also enjoy a performance from Bridgetown, the College's premiere men's vocal group, and remarks from Act Six Scholar, Yesenia Delgado. All proceeds from this event benefit the Act Six Leadership & Scholarship Initiative at Warner Pacific College.

Saturday, April 12, 2014; 11:30 am – 3:00 pm in Egtvedt Hall/McGuire Auditorium

Tickets are \$35 each, please RSVP by April 3.

For more information visit warnerpacific.edu/tea or contact Diane Minor at 503.517.1114

2014 Homecoming Events Postponed

After an ice storm cancelled the majority of activities planned for the Warner Pacific 2014 Homecoming Celebration, the College has decided to honor our 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award winners and Hall of Honor Inductees at next year's Homecoming, alongside the 2015 honorees. Both events will take place on Saturday, February 14, 2015. The Distinguished Alumni Awards will be a breakfast at 9:00 am and the Hall of Honor Induction will be a lunch at 1:00 pm. With two years' worth of honorees to celebrate, you won't want to miss Homecoming 2015!

Honoring Retiring Faculty

Join Warner Pacific as we pay tribute to four of the College's professors who will be retiring in 2014! Stop by to view photos from their time at Warner Pacific, share your personal memories, and wish them well. The faculty honorees are Dr. John Fazio, Professor of Developmental Psychology; Dr. Lou Foltz, Professor of Educational Psychology; Sue Kopp, Director of Library Services and Associate Professor; and Phyllis Michael, Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies.

Friday, May 9, 2014; 4 – 5 pm in Egtvedt 203.

There is no cost to attend this event, but we appreciate your RSVP by May 2 in order to plan for refreshments.

Act Six Scholar Recognized as Youth of the Year

Congratulations to Sophie Velasquez for being recognized by the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce as their 2014 Youth of the Year. Sophie, a senior at Woodburn Arts and Communications Acad-



emy, has been an active volunteer in Woodburn since she was 13. She has been a member of the city's Youth Advisory Board, is a member of the city's Parks and Recreation Board, and served on last year's Fiesta Mexicana

Learning for a Lifetime

Experience is a magazine for alumni, students, staff, and friends of Warner Pacific College. The Spring 2014 issue explores the value of a liberal arts education and is now available to read online! Just visit warnerpacific.edu/experience-magazine.

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Warner Pacific College News

(Continued from page 7)

Spring 2014 Experience Highlights

- Five alumni share stories of how a liberal arts education is helping them flourish. Featuring Rev. Andria (Cotton) Skornik, Roy Adams, Ruby Mitchell, Bill Hall, and Gretchen Bossio.
- Essay from Tony Kriz, Author in Residence.
- Faculty Profiles with Dr. Pamela Plimpton, Dr. Ulf Spears, Dr. Beth DuPriest, and Joe Linker.
- Reflection by Dr. Cole Dawson.



Extreme Camp Make-Over

August 22-24 are the dates for the **Men's Advance**, to be held at Camp White Branch.

The theme of the 2014 event is *Extreme Camp Make-Over*, with Pastor Bruce Steffensen as speaker. Men ages 18 to infinity are encouraged to attend, and to bring their favorite hand tools to work with.

Enjoy working together on specific projects, relax during free time, or pick another project. We plan on a lot of fellowship and team building experiences..



Look forward to a good time of sharing and working together! It'll be an experience!

Save the date, and watch for more details. Contact:

menofthechurchofgod@gmail.com

ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

- 1-3 Senior Adult Retreat, Cannon Beach
- 4-5 Christian Women's Connection Spring Convention, Lents Gilbert Church; Jenny Marble, speaker
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 12 President's Tea & Scholarship Auction, WPC
- 20 Easter—Resurrection Sunday
- 29-May 1 WARM, Lynchwood COG

May

- 4 Receive CoMission Offering, Local Churches
- 8 NW Pastors' Day
- 11 Mother's Day
- 16-17 Spring Celebration
- 26 Memorial Day
- 31 Mission Commission Meeting, 9-Noon

Publishing Merges . . .

(Continued from page 2)

partnership, but the merging of our creative publishing team into the ministry at Warner Press. At every level, we are working to enhance, strengthen, and maximize our resources to empower the church." Visit the website of the Church of God publishing house, Warner Press, at <u>www.warnerpress.org</u>.

Q: When's the next E-CONTACT deadline?

A: The next issue of the E-CONTACT will be released the first of May. The deadline for submissions: April 15.

Notice: The E-CONTACT is now a monthly publication, with the deadline established as the 15th of EACH month for the following month's issue. Sign up on the Association web site to receive notification of publications. <u>http://orwachog.org</u>

MISSION STATEMENT: "This Association exists to serve and empower affiliated churches and ministries to fulfill the call of Christ."

VISION STATEMENT: "To serve and empower by: coordinating ministries, providing guidance, giving encouragement, supplying information, and offering training, in order to enable churches and ministries to mature in holiness, unity, services and growth."

