

Association of
the Churches
of God
in Oregon and
Southwest
Washington



**Camp White Branch
Announces
New Caretakers
(See page 5)**

THE CONNECTION

E-Contact Vol. 2 Issue 5 May 2014

Codeiro to address Holiness Pastors May 8



Pastor Wayne Codeiro, author of 12 books and founder of New Hope Christian Fellowship in Honolulu, HI, is the keynote speaker for the Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day, to be held

at the Salem Kroc Center, May 8.

Among Codeiro's books are *Doing Church as a Team*, *Dream Releasers*, *Leading on Empty*, *The Irresistible Church*, and his latest, *Jesus, Pure and Simple*.

Geared for Oregon and SW Washington Holiness Leaders, the purpose of the event is to create an opportunity for conversation regarding the message/life of holiness and its power in engaging and transforming communities. Ample time has been set aside in the day's schedule for this conversation to take place.

The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center is located at 1865 Bill Frey Drive Northeast, Salem, OR 97301

The event begins at 9:00 A.M. Thursday, May 8, and concludes at 3:00 p.m.. The deadline to purchase tickets is May 1st, but a limited number of tickets may be available. Please call the church of God District Office at 800-873-7729.

Spring Celebration

May 16-17, 2014

Valley River Inn, Eugene, OR



Ephesians 1:20-23 NLT

The event kicks off with a Ministers/Spouse Session and Layperson Session at 9 A.M. Friday, May 16, followed by a 10:30 session dealing with the website, newsletter and discovery process. Following lunch (on your own), a 1:30-3 p.m. session will address the proposed "New Structure and How It Addresses the Problems That We Discovered". An update on Church Planting will be part of the Dinner Banquet at 5:30, with worship at 7 p.m..

Saturday's breakfast buffet begins at 8 a.m. followed by the business session sign-in. Delegates, Pastors and Commission Members will receive color-coded voting packets PRIOR to the meeting, to streamline the process. These will be available at tables set up just outside the West/Middle Willamette room, with directional signs.

This historic event is the last time Spring Celebration will be held at the Valley River Inn location. Spring Celebration will be combined with Summer Celebration, beginning in the summer of 2015. The annual business meeting which normally takes place in May, will then be held during Summer Celebration next year.

COG Ministries Welcomes Kartchner and Moss

The Church of God is at a pivotal moment of leadership, of unity, and of vision for the future. Over the past several months, General Director Jim Lyon has



Daniel Kartchner
Chief Operating Officer



Rev. Robert L. Moss
Chief Advancement Officer

been speaking with leaders across the movement to affirm that *Jesus is the subject* around which we will build a new day for the Church of God. As part of that new and exciting future, Church of God Ministries has engaged leaders to support Jim in bringing about much-needed change and revitalization.

Church of God Ministries is pleased to welcome Daniel Kartchner as Chief Operating Officer and Rev. Robert L. Moss as Chief Advancement Officer. Both bring their unique gifts and abilities, undergirded by a deep commitment to Christ in their personal and professional lives. They are part of an executive leadership team that will soon include a Domestic Ministries Director and an International Ministries Director. Please pray for Daniel and Bob as they transition into these key roles.



NEW MISSIONARIES-ELECT

NAME: John & Gwen Johnson

COUNTRY: Vietnam

ASSIGNMENT:

- Pastor of the Hanoi International Fellowship (My Dinh site).
- Create and teach a curriculum for Bible, spiritual formation and for the international community (HIF).
- Leadership development and training in the Asia–Pacific region as assigned by their regional coordinators, Don and Caroline Armstrong.

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: March 25, 2014

STATUS: Special Assignment Missionaries (SAMs)

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 year initial commitment

TARGET LEAVE DATE: August 2014

INTRODUCTION: Since 1980, John and Gwen have been involved in cross-cultural ministry. While raising their family, they were involved in leadership training and pastoring in South Korea, Egypt, and Lebanon, and served as Global Missions Asia–Pacific regional coordinators under Church of God Ministries.

Beginning in the fall of 2006, John joined the Religion and Christian Ministries Department at Warner Pacific College (WPC) as professor of ministry and missions. In addition to teaching, he served as faculty chair and department chair; Gwen and John together reignited the missions program at WPC, leading numerous trips to Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe.

Gwen is passionate about developing relationships and community, organizing events, and leading retreats and seminars on de-cluttering and simplifying your life.

The Johnsons currently reside in Portland, Oregon. They have two married adult children and are expecting their second grandson in May.

PROJECT #: 42.11256



Nicole Wells to Lead Worship at Summer Celebration

Raised in the Church of God and a graduate of Warner Pacific College, **Nicole Wells** is excited about coming home and leading worship for this year's Campmeeting, bringing her family along to join her as musicians.

Nicole is a professional songwriter and private piano and violin teacher. No longer serving on staff at a church, Nicole travels and leads worship for retreats and conferences. Recently, her travel has included writing and recording on worship projects for a publisher in Nashville, TN.

Nicole also enjoys performing with her sister in their band "Carlson Wells". She was fortunate to win "Song of the Year" for the West Coast Songwriters organization in 2013, which has opened doors for her in many music genres.

Though she keeps busy as a musician, her greatest love is being a wife to Steve and mother to sons, Chandler and Landon. Together, Nicole and Steve

use their testimony of God's power to restore by serving as lay-leaders in recovery ministry at Cedar Creek Church in Sherwood, OR and for organizations such as Tuff Stuff Ministries and Pure Life Alliance, speaking at conferences and mentoring other couples who are searching for hope.



Summer Celebration is scheduled for July 20-23 at Warner Pacific College campus.

Watch for details and registration information in the next issue of The E-CONTACT.

WPC Enactus Team Brings Home National Trophy

 Competing with 250 teams of college business students from across the county, the College's Enactus Team were the first round Champions of the Western region and 5th overall (placing in the top 20) after three levels of competition during the Enactus USA Expo in Cincinnati, Ohio; March 31 – April 3.

Enactus is an international community of student, academic, and business leaders committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a better, more sustainable world. Teams were judged at three levels during the competition based on the content of their presentation, including delivery style, and the organization of the details from the projects presented. Presentations are designed to highlight community based activities that use business skills to create positive, local change.



The Enactus Team members who represented the College at the Enactus USA Expo were: Daniel Ryan – Business Administration; Gimena Olguin – Social Entrepreneurship; Will Brauckmiller – Business Administration and Accounting; and Alexander Hayes – American Studies.

Look to the Hills

Camp White Branch Introduces New Caretakers

New Caretakers, Leonard and Stacey Meyer, of Middleton, ID, met with the Camp White Branch Board April 12th at the District Office in Salem, OR.

Leonard has over 25 years' experience in all phases of construction and remodel, auto body and paint including farm, fleet and large equipment, as well as 8 years class-A truck driving experience, passenger endorsement. Additionally, he is experienced in operating a fork lift and large equipment. He enjoys working with youth development, counseling all aspects of person to person development. Some of his community activities include working with Canyon County youth baseball, Varsity Coach at Greenleaf Friends Academy, Youth

Pastor in Training at Oregon Trail Church of God, and counseling/coach at youth camps.

"I work hard and take accountability seriously. I am dependable and take pride in my work," says Meyer.

According to Chairman Mel Neu, the Meyers will begin their service to CWB on May 10. A work project will be held May 5-10 in preparation for their arrival. Contact Mel (mgneu@lookoutcomputer.net) if you are interested in helping out.

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



Leonard and Stacey Meyer

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.

Multipurpose Building Capital Campaign Progresses

The vision of having a new multi-purpose building at Camp White Branch is closer to being a reality than it ever has before. The vision has been cast, many have responded in the previous Cam-



paign, and now the second Campaign is underway to complete this much need structure. To assist in this end, Rev. Glen Hossler, the Senior Pastor at the Oak Park Community Church of God has agreed to be Church Contact Team Leader for the Campaign.

As the Church Contact Leader, Glen will work with Rev. Stephen Dow the current chairman of the Campaign, in coordinating

By Rev. Stephen W. Dow, Albany, OR

the Campaign presentations to our local churches. If you would like a representative to come to your church and share about our vision and the Campaign, then please call Pastor Glen (503-364-3626) or Pastor Steve (541-926-2095) to coordinate the presentation.

Imagine the future...be part of the legacy.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington
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Senior Moments

by Ruth Bissett, Salem, OR

Greetings fellow seniors!

I was blessed to be able to attend the senior retreat at Cannon Beach Conference Center recently with 100 or so other seniors from the Church of God in

Southwest Washington and Oregon. If you have not attended this retreat, you might want to watch for it next year, April 21-23, 2015. Anyone who has attended has words of praise for this event. We eat, fellowship, eat, listen to a special speaker, eat, relax or walk on the beach, have fun and eat. Did you get it? We eat. The food is always one of the highlights, as the staff does a great job of serving good food.



This year, Tom Dougherty of Boise, Idaho was the speaker. I want to share some notes from his sharing. His topic was *spiritual refinement*.

Spiritual Refinement:

•**By Humor** – From Scripture there is a time to weep, a time to laugh. Laughter lengthens life. Be alive in the spirit. Be alive in the spirit of God. Be more spontaneous. Be contagious.

•**By Joy** – I Peter 1:8b “.... You believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.” We have a choice to have joy. **Celebrate** is an important part of joy. We go to church to celebrate the joy of the Lord. We need to have a church full of joy. Enjoy life to the fullest. Spread the joy. Things won’t always be perfect. Don’t base your joy on circumstances. Plan times of joy.

•**By Mission** – Be in the world. We let the littlest things steal us out of our mission. Visualize your mission. See the big picture. Your mission is different than mine. Community is vital. Church is to breath hope into our lives. Follow the mission God has given you.

•**By Prayer** – We need to be faithful in prayer. I don’t know the future but I know who I can trust. Prayer changes things. I have to have prayer in my life. Have a strategy or plan. God always sees the big picture. Keep praying.

•**By Song** – Tom shared on several familiar hymns and their meaning and influence in our lives. Some of the hymns he shared were *Blessed Assurance, He Lives, All Hail the Power of Jesus Name* and *Amazing Grace*. Each of us have sung these songs for years, but I would challenge you to either read or sing these songs again and look for new lessons in the message.



Photos courtesy David Shrou, Facebook

I hope you are making plans to be at Summer Celebration (campmeeting). Last month I shared the program for camp meeting. I am excited to hear those who are sharing and especially hearing Lighthouse Quartet. Some have heard them recently, but they are worth hearing again and again. Hope to see you there!

“See” you next time.



President's Tea: Record Year

The 5th Annual President's Tea & Scholarship Auction was a tremendous success, as 220 guests gathered at Warner Pacific College to help meet the needs of under served and first generation college students. The President's Tea raised over \$91,000 in scholarship funding for urban and diverse students in Portland through the Warner Pacific Act Six Leadership & Scholarship Initiative. The event featured both a silent and verbal auction, as well as a charity paddle raise.



Sarah Theborge, President Andrea Cook, and Act Six scholar Yesenia Delgado

Award winning author, Sarah Theborge was the afternoon's keynote speaker. Her memoir, "The Invisible Girls," was released in April 2013 and tells the story of her growing relationship with a family of Somali refugees, and the remarkable ways God used their lives to make His presence known to Sarah.



Act Six scholar Luwam Kahassay shares her story with guest, Dixie Samuels.



Raising a paddle to support Act Six scholars

The attendees also heard from special guest and Act Six scholar, Yesenia Delgado, '14. Yesenia shared her passion for investing and inspiring others to achieve greatness one day, just as Warner Pacific believed in her.

Thank you for your prayers and support surrounding this event, the College and our Act Six scholars are truly humbled and inspired by God's abundant provision!

WPC Honors Retiring Faculty

Warner Pacific will honor four faculty members at a special celebration to acknowledge their dedicated service to Warner Pacific. Their retirement signals a new opportunity in the lives of these educators, and for three of them, a transition to Emeritus status which will allow more time for personal research and student mentoring. 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 p.m., WPC Egtvedt 203** There is no cost to attend this event, but please contact Diane Minor at dminor@warnerpacific.edu or 503.517.1114 by May 2 if you plan to attend so that we can plan for refreshments.

CWC Celebrates Freedom

Guest speaker Jenny Marble addressed the Christian Women's Connection spring retreat attendees April 4-5 at Lents-Gilbert Church of God in Portland, focusing on the topic of freedom. The weekend included worship, fellowship, CWC officer installation service, meals, a silent auction fundraiser, breakout sessions and a circle of prayer. A big thanks to all who participated.



2014 CWC Retreat



Clock Ticks Down *by Dr. Bruce Steffensen*

As the clock ticks down on my time on staff with the district, I want to make the most of my last few E-Contact articles. I began wondering what might be the most important things I needed to say. I thought of a couple of things so I'm going to share them. I should issue a disclaimer. These are spoken out of my passion, so they probably won't be as eloquent or as well presented as they should be. I'm just going to say them—I don't know how else to do it. So here goes with the first one.

I'm deeply worried about the church.

I'm not just talking about the local church, or our district, or even the Church of God Reformation Movement, I'm talking about the church in general in the part of the world in which we live. The church in the western world is shrinking and aging. There are probably many reasons for this, but there is one that I have been particularly close to so it nags at me.

The Church has been around since Jesus commissioned it 2000 years ago. It has survived through prosperity and hardship. In fact, it has seemed to be strongest and most vital when things around it seem the worst, and the forces marshalled against it seem the strongest.

In spite of that, we have this insane idea that our best strategy is to model ourselves after institutions that are notoriously transient, that come and go—things like businesses and governments.

I think budgets and structures and strategies and programs are more about self-preservation

than they are about building the kingdom. But they have become our kingdom language.

Jesus talks of a different approach. He says things like:

"Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies..."

"Anyone who loves their life will lose it...."

Paul said,
"For I am already being poured out like a drink offering...."

"but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise,"

Are these things not true?

I don't see pouring itself out, or forfeiting its life as identifying themes in the church these days. There are parts of the world where that's still true, but not here. I'm convicted about my contribution to that.

Good stewardship is currently defined as holding on to what we have. It's not always been that way.



Nashville Hosts IYC2014

The International Youth Convention of the Church of God is scheduled to meet in Nashville, Tennessee, July 5-8. Information and registration forms are available online at iyc2014.org. The event theme is "InTUNE"

InTUNE with purpose
InTUNE with purity,
nTUNE with power, and
InTUNE with people.

Students and adults alike will be challenged to live InTUNE with the Spirit with the theme verse of Galatians 5:25, "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit" (NIV).

The 2014 IYC offers reduced registration prices, a new and improved schedule, and a world-class hotel. Youth Ministries Team members are Andy Stephenson, Tami Byrd, Eric Reeder, Chris Spitters and Adam Rentas. Check it out: www.iyc2014.org!

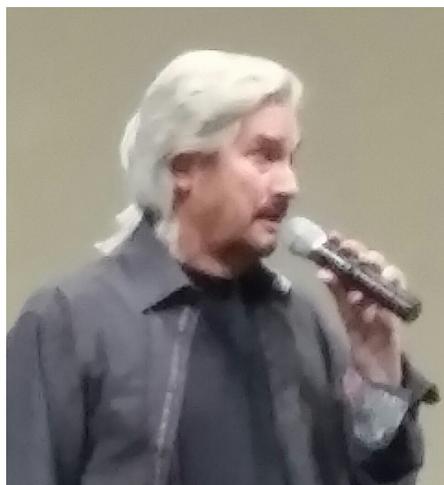
"Pie the Professor" for a Cause

Four Warner Pacific College professors took a hit during "Pie the Professor" - a recent Missions@WP Germany 2014 Fundraiser. Netting a bit over \$300, the event will help three students participate in the German Youth Convention, spend time in Fritzlar at the COG Bible School, and visit Wittenburg, Marburg, and Berlin. A May 10 garage sale at WPC will also help fund the mission trip, led by Dr. John and Gwen Johnson.



"Pied" Professors: Jess Bielman, Jennifer Cameron, John Johnson and Brad Tripp

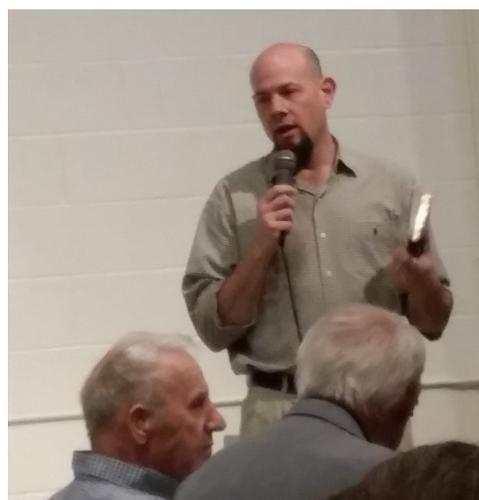
Regional Pastors Gather at Lynchwood: W.A.R.M.



With the theme of *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, 147 registered WARM attendees—with historian Dr. Merle Strege, author Dr. Leonard Sweet, and General Director Dr. Jim Lyon—took a look at the Church of God history, our changing culture, and the challenges before us. The three-day event at Lynchwood COG in Portland, was a time of fellowship, unity, bonding and communion. The subject is Jesus.



Left:
Warner Pacific College and Servant Solutions sponsored meals.



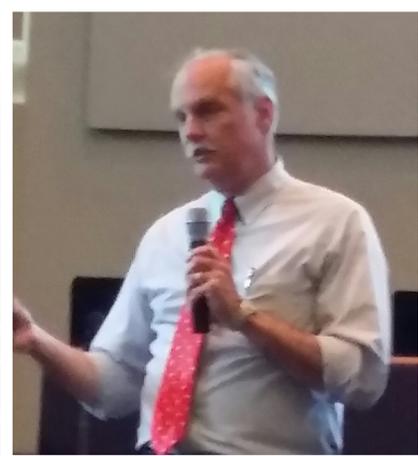
Right:
Breakfast Devotions with Tony Criz

An optional bus tour of Portland and WPC, and a trip to Chinese Buffet were also available during the event.

Lynchwood's lobby housed displays, including Missions, Double-K Ranch, WPC, Servant Solutions and a book table with Lyon's *"Go Ahead, Ask Anything."*



Thursday's closing included communion and prayers of blessing.



Attorney Herb Grey, Alliance Defending Freedom, presented a session on the legal rights of pastors and churches.

Be Bold! Selfie Video Contest (CHOG Convention 2014)

DEADLINE: May 20 For a chance to win a Kindle Fire, gift cards, & more—follow these three easy steps:

1. Take a selfie video (must be two minutes or less, preferably landscape orientation) and answer this question: Why are you excited for the Be Bold Convention (the CHOG Convention 2014)?
2. Be sure to mention “Be Bold” and “Oklahoma City” in your video to qualify!
3. Submit your video to Church of God Ministries by May 20:
 - By e-mail to CommServices@chog.org,
 - Upload to YouTube and e-mail your link to CommServices@chog.org.
 - Request a link to our DropBox—just send an e-mail to CommServices@chog.org.

Winners*

Grand Prize: A Kindle Fire tablet, plus a CD or book from each artist and speaker scheduled for the Church of God Convention 2014!

Second Place: iTunes gift card or Amazon Kindle gift card (your choice) valued at \$50, plus a book and CD from CHOG Convention 2014 speakers and artists.

Third Place: iTunes gift card or Amazon Kindle gift card (your choice) valued at \$25, plus a CD from a CHOG Convention 2014 artist.

**Winners will be determined subjectively by the Church of God Ministries communication team—impress us! Winners will be notified by e-mail and publicly announced on the Church of God—Anderson, IN, page on Facebook by June 3. Prizes will be shipped to winners’ designated shipping address (allow six weeks delivery). Any and all content submitted to Church of God Ministries becomes the property of Church of God Ministries, Inc. (CGM). CGM further reserves the right to use any and all submitted content for promotional use. CGM employees and immediate family of CGM employees are ineligible for this promotion.*

ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2014

- 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, 9-12

June 2014

- 15 Father’s Day
- 20-26 127th COG Convention & General Assembly
- 22 Kuykendall Retirement Open House, Lynchwood

Kuykendall Retirement Open House

Lynchwood Church of God in Portland, OR, invites you to celebrate with Pastor John & Sally Kuykendall on the occasion of their Retirement. Please attend the Open House in the Church Gym, 3818 SE 174th, on Sunday, June 22, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m..

ORWA COG Website Calendar Feature



See details at <http://orwacog.org/events/127th-cog-convention-2014-general-assembly/> (Click on the June 23 Calendar date).

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.”