



Tigard COG to Host *How-To* Convention

The *How-To* Convention, an annual workshop sponsored by the Christian Education Commission (now Task Force) will be hosted by the Tigard Church of God on January 30, 2016 - the traditional "last Saturday of January".

CE Chair, Julie Jackson, announces keynote speaker: Rev. Handel O. Smith, of Anderson, Indiana (see bio below). Traditionally, a variety of workshops are offered by area speakers and presenters, with attendees selecting areas of interest.

Pictured here is one of last year's sessions dealing with Church Security.



Watch for the January issue, to include a slate of workshops and registration information. Start now to promote attendance at this valuable opportunity to network and hone ministry skills. Everyone is welcome!

Rev. Handel O. Smith to Speak at *How-To* Event

Recognized as "a loving leader helping others reach their full potential", Rev. Handel O. Smith is an ordained minister of the Church of God, with general offices in Anderson, IN. He serves as the Chief Domestic Officer for the Church of God Ministries in the US and Canada. He oversees the CHOG Domestic Team serving Pastors and churches in areas of leadership development, credentialing, youth, and church multiplication. He also served 28 years at Celebration Church in Columbia, MD, where he provided leadership as Deputy Pastor of Strategic Planning overseeing over 76 ministry teams, four Celebration Churches and Celebrate Recovery at Celebration Church. Churches who partner with Handel and his team are recognizing significant growth and maturity in their ministry.

Rev. Smith's recent selection as the Chief Domestic Officer with the Church of God Ministries takes him around the country as God uses him to advance ministry in the areas of church planting, leadership development, university and college connections, congregational health and pastoral care. He currently oversees regional pastors, youth, children, families, and senior ministries.



**Rev. Handel O. Smith
Keynote Speaker,
How-To Convention**

(Continued on page 2)

Regional Convention coming to Vancouver, WA

Church of God Ministries announces that registration for regional meetings opens November 9, with schedule information available at jesusisthesubject.org.

Three regional conventions (East, West, and Central U.S.) are slated for 2016, with one in our own backyard. Each regional convention will have the same program.



April 26-28, 2016—Vancouver, Washington (Vancouver First Church)

June 21-23, 2016—Anderson, Indiana (Madison Park Church)

September 27-29, 2016—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (New Covenant Church)

Additionally, the site and dates for the **biennial Church of God Convention** in 2017 have been released: Mark your calendar for June 20-23, 2017, and plan now for Wichita, Kansas (Central Community Church). You won't want to miss this outstanding life-changing opportunity!

The Ministries Council and team at Church of God Ministries urge us to attend one of the 2016 regional conventions, also featuring the CHOG Table, "a forum," described by Jim Lyons, "where "we will grapple with important issues facing the church in our generation." These inspirational gatherings will feed your soul and connect you with friends and ministry colleagues. You won't want to miss being a part of one of these meaningful events.

Rev. Handel O. Smith to Speak at *How-To* Convention

(Continued from page 1)

He is also President and CEO of HVS Solutions, an organizational and information technology consulting company advising non-profits, businesses and governments world-wide. He holds the position of Maryland's Senior State Director for the Celebrate Recovery Inside program where his team oversees Celebrate Recovery inside prison and transition programs.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Public Affairs from Anderson University, and a Master of Science degree in Professional Business Administration and Organizational Development from Johns Hopkins University. He is also a graduate of Johns Hopkins, and Wharton University Executive Leadership Program. Rev. Smith has served as an officer for the National Inspirational Youth Convention of the Church of God, and the Black Administration for Child Welfare. He is an adjunct professor at Strayer University, and a 27 year retiree with Verizon Business where he worked as a Regional Director for State Government Services.

He began playing the piano at the young age of nine, and later went on to serve as the Minister of Music at Long Reach Church of God, Oakland Mills Church of God and the Inspirational Youth Convention. He is the Executive Producer of the debut CD "Healed in His Presence."

A sought after speaker on the subject of recovery, marriage and family, and business development; Handel has been married for 31 years to his wife Victoria who is an anointed preacher, vocalist, psalmist, teacher, directress, and bassist. They are blessed with three wonderful children Darius, Josiah and Mariah.

A Loving Leader Helping Others Reach Their Full Potential, Handel Smith has a passion to help people and organizations. He equips them to discover their purpose and potential while navigating them towards their God given destiny.

Ministers' & Spouses' Annual Retreat

February 15-17, 2016

Newport, Oregon

Guest Speakers: Rand & Phyllis Michael

Worship Leader: Pastor Martin Shrout

Registration: <http://orwacog.org/events/ministers-spouse-retreat/>

Registration Deadline: January 13, 2016

This retreat is intended for:

All pastors and staff associates

Those who are single or whose spouse has passed away. You are not only very welcome to attend, but greatly encouraged to be a part of this special time of fellowship.

Christ Amid Crisis: Syrian Refugees Loved by ‘People of the Messiah’

by Carl Stagner, Church of God Ministries

They're not just "swarms" or "masses" of people. They're people. They're individuals. They're individuals for whom Christ died. One of the most complex issues of our day has hit the Middle Eastern country of Turkey especially hard. The Syrian refugee crisis—as it has been dubbed—offers no simple solutions, no easy answers. While the Church of God strategically prepares a holistic, long-term response, believers in Turkey are busy meeting immediate needs. Known by the refugees as "people of the Messiah," Christians in the region are boldly loving the "least of these." Ruth Lyons, Church of God contact on-the-ground (Eurasia Ministries), gives us a closer look.

While others are dismissing them, God's people are welcoming them. Believers aren't ignoring the very real problems posed by such unprecedented migration, but they do recognize that behind each



refugee's face is a soul in need. Even as the Syrian refugee crisis fades from the headlines, it's important for the Church of God to know

that the issue remains front-and-center in countries like Turkey. According to Ruth, three primary areas of concern weigh on the hearts and minds of those most affected in Turkey: One, internal political tension; two, ethnic tensions between Turks and Kurds; and, three, the growing influence of the Islamic State (IS) and the refugee crisis. As a result of civil war in Syria and the rise of IS, economic instability and rampant violence has become the norm. "As a result of the Syrian refugee crisis," Ruth explains, "Turkey now hosts nearly two million refugees, according to official statistics, but the actual numbers may be even higher. This means that at least 3 percent of Turkey's population is now composed of refugees who have crossed into the country in the last two years."

All of this bad news has presented an opportunity for the Good News of Christ to be made known through word and deed. Ruth tells the story of one family's exodus from Syria, painting a picture of the need for a tangible expression of the gospel:

We had just delivered some children's clothes, a carpet, and a hot water heater to Hanan and her family. The warm jackets we had were both for girls—fine for their six-year-old, but we hadn't realized her eight-year-old was a boy. Nevertheless, they took the dark pink fur-lined winter jacket gladly, and he put it on, proudly parading around the house. "It's fine," she assured us. "We can't afford to be fussy about the color..." How many brothers and sisters do you have?" we asked. We learned that there were five, and they had all fled from Aleppo to Turkey. Hanan just needed to talk about the day that changed their lives... They had lived in a four-floor apartment, with two apartments per floor. A bomb made a direct hit on the building, flattening it so only the ground floor remained. Hanan was outside in the yard, and she raced into the rubble, screaming for her children, and also the names of her sisters. The children were fine, but shaken. Her sisters had not been at home, thankfully. Having escaped with their lives, they'd lost everything, and decided to flee across the border, for the bomb had been dropped by their own government.

Much of the ministry to refugees has been ongoing since civil war first erupted in Syrian more than four years ago. These believers are in it for the long haul, and understand the power of developing relationships. "By visiting the families we get to know their stories and to recognize the dignity they have as people created in the image of God and deeply loved by him," Ruth explains. "We can rarely give a package of food or a bag of clothing without the lady of the house wanting to show us hospitality in some way."

Coming to the aid of refugees, believers in Turkey have been a

source of food, clothing, and other basic necessities. They've offered medical care and helped refugees get to hospitals

when needed. They've distributed hardcopy Bibles and Bibles on CD in the Arabic and Kurdish



(Continued on page 4)

Christ Amid Crisis: Syrian Refugees Loved by 'People of the Messiah'

(Continued from page 3)

languages. They have prayed with the refugees. In all, God has been glorified.

Having witnessed the Syrian refugee crisis firsthand, Ruth Lyons suggests some specific ways the Church of God can pray. Pray for wisdom in determining best ways to help the refugees. Pray for protection, both physical and spiritual. Pray for those refugees facing serious medical issues. Pray for displaced children

without access to adequate education. Pray for the Protestant church in Turkey and those who are coming to the aid of refugees. Pray for those who read and hear the message of the gospel. Finally, Ruth suggests, pray for area governments to develop a strategy that will help bring peace back to the region. Thank you!

Learn more about *Global Strategy of the Church of God* at www.chogglobal.org.

Christmas Events throughout the District

ALBANY 1st Church of God

N. Albany Rd & Hickory Street,
Albany, OR

Live Nativity

Free drive or walk-through

December 18-20

6:30-8:30 p.m. nightly

Christmas Eve Service

1225 15th Ave SW, Albany

7-8 p.m. December 24

Church phone: (541)926-2095

ALOHA Church of God

18380 SW Kinnaman Rd., Aloha,
OR

December 13, 2015

Candlelight, Carols and Christ

6:00 p.m.

An evening of candlelight, carols
and communion.

Church phone: (503) 649-5678

EUGENE - Friendly Street Church of God

2290 Friendly Street, Eugene, OR

December 18-20, 2015

Live Nativity

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. nightly, Free!

Drive or walk by scenes of Jesus'
life with live actors and animals

Church phone: (541) 345-6553

LONGVIEW First Church of God

2335 46th Avenue,

Longview, WA

December 20, 2015

Christmas Play & Program

6:00 p.m.

Church phone: (360) 636-
0370

PORTLAND - Holladay Park Church of God

First Christmas Stories from the
Birth of Christ

A Christmas Dinner Theater

Sun. 12/13/15 6 P.M.

2120 NE Tillamook St., Portland,
OR 97212

503-287-1238 *Please call church
at 503-287-1238 before 12/10/15
for reservations.*

Fellowship Hall (basement level,
elevator available)

A Christmas Celebration with a
Children's program, music, drama,
and great food.

6 P.M. Children's Christmas
Program

6:30 P.M. Dinner

7:15 P.M. Musical "The First
Christmas"

8:15 P.M. Closing Remarks.

Special Fourth Sunday of Advent/
Christmas Service
with the Shrout and Sanker
Families



Sunday, 12/20/15 10:30 A.M.

Christmas Eve Service

Wed. 12/24/15 7 P.M.

PORTLAND - Lynchwood Church of God

3818 SE 174th Avenue, Portland,
OR

December 12-14, 2015

Live Nativity

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 12-13:
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 14: 7:00 – 9 p.m.

Church phone: (503) 665-6638

PORTLAND – Mt. Scott Church of God

10603 SE Henderson St.,
Portland, OR

December 12, 2015

Christmas Banquet

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

"Jesus is the Sweetest Gift" with

Christmas Events

(Continued from page 4)

music from the Kuykendall Family, Woodburn

\$15.00 per person. **Tickets must be purchased by December 1.**

Contact: Charlie or Zona Gray, 7103 SE 117 Place, Portland, OR 97266

Email: zonagray@aol.com

Phone: 503-760-6671

PORTLAND – Warner Pacific College

McGuire Auditorium (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland, OR)
Christmas Music Concerts
Free and open to the public.
Jazz Band & Vocal Jazz,
Wednesday, December 2,
7:30 p.m.

Choral, Sunday, December 6,
3:00 p.m.

Advent Chapel, Thursday,
December 10,
10:00 a.m.

Wind Ensemble,
Friday,
December 11,
7:30 p.m.

<http://>



www.warnerpacific.edu/directory/maps-directions/#WPC

Advent Brunch

Please join us for the 4th Annual Advent Brunch hosted President Andrea

Cook; a joyful time of fellowship, reflection, and renewal.

Details <http://>

www.warnerpacific.edu/advent-brunch/

Saturday, December 5, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., McGuire Auditorium (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland)

<http://www.warnerpacific.edu/directory/maps-directions/#WPC>

Gourmet Brunch

Help us spread joy this season by bringing and donating a new or gently used children's book for the Children's

<http://>

www.childrensbookbank.org/

Book Bank Drive and help us give kids throughout Portland the gift of reading

Tickets are just \$25 per person or \$175 for a table of 7 guests

REEDSPORT Church of God

2191 Birch Ave. Reedsport.

Candlelight Christmas Eve services

4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.,
December 24

Phone: 541-271-3928.

ROSEBURG - Hucrest

Community COG – Julie Brown
541-673-7073

Sunday, December 13

Family Christmas Program "The Donkey in the Living Room" following the 10:30 a.m. worship service

Christmas Eve services,
December 24

2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (includes communion, music, a brief message followed by the candle lighting ceremony).

ST HELENS

Christmas program: Bethlehem News

December 13, 2015, 4-6 p.m.,
Sunset Park Community Church,
174 Sunset Blvd., St. Helens,
OR 97051

Fellowship and goodies to follow.

Christmas Eve Candlelight service, Dec. 24, 2015 at 6 p.m.

Church office: 503-397-0535

VANCOUVER First Church of God (vchurch.org),
3300 NE 78th Street, Vancouver,
WA 98665

43rd annual Christmas program:
"The Gift", featuring church kids' choirs, Kings Way school choir, hand bells, adult choir, Olaf the snowman, and Jim Fisher Band
December 9, 7p.m.

December 11, 7p.m.

December 12, 3p.m. & 7p.m.

December 13, 3p.m. & 7 p.m.

Doors open 1 hour before program

Preshow 20-30 minutes before program.

Cost is FREE. Bring a canned food donation for the Giving Closet. (We will also receive a freewill offering for local children.)

Phone: 360-574-1611

Woodburn – Hoodview Church of God

1530 Mt. Hood Avenue,
Woodburn, OR, 503-981-1660

Christmas cantata, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. "Celebrate His Name! Proclaim His Birth!"

Fellowship and dessert to follow



NOTE: Christmas Events are noted on the District webpage under the calendar icon at <http://orwacog.org>.

Camp White Branch Progress

Mel Neu, Board Chair, and Lisa Switzer, Vice Chair, are seeking clarity to the role of the Camp White Branch Board in light of the restructuring of the Association. Lisa formulated some questions and requested a meeting with the Executive Council to address the role and accountability.



District Pastor, David Shrout, has invited CWB Board to meet with the District Council January 7, 2016, for open dialogue to help resolve the issues. The meeting will take place at 5:30 pm in Salem.

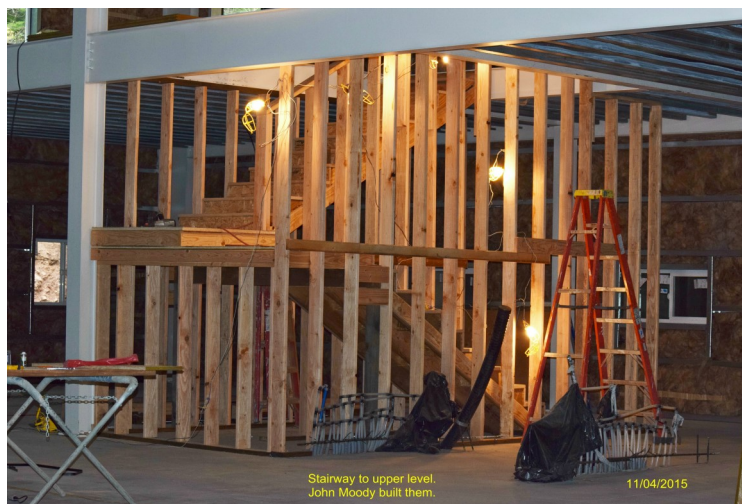
<http://www.orwacog/camp-white-branch>

The next regular CWB Board meeting will be January 19, 2016, at 6:00 pm at the District Office.

Association Bookkeeper, Valerie Borst, reports the following financial detail.

This year's annual fundraising dinner was held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at Mt. Scott Church of God. Please note the following figures for the donation report:

Donations received at dinner (checks):	\$ 9,310.00
Donations received at dinner (cash):	970.00
Pledges received at dinner	<u>+ 20,220.00</u>
Total donations/pledges	\$ 30,500.00
Total donations/pledges:	\$30,500.00
Dinner expenses:	<u>- 1,200.00</u>
Net donations/pledges:	\$29,300.00



Donation Designation:

General operations	\$ 500.00
Building fund	<u>+ 9,780.00</u>
Total donations deposited	\$10,280.00

Pledge Designation

Building fund	\$20,220.00
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Continue to pray for Camp White Branch and the Oregon and SW Washington Association of the Churches of God.



CWB Camp Dates Slated for 2016

- Senior High camp - Monday, July 11–Friday, July 15, 2016
- Introductory Camp - Friday, July 15–Sunday, July 17, 2016
- Middle School Camp - Monday, July 18–Friday, July 22, 2016
- Summer Celebration - Sunday, July 24–Wednesday, July 27, 2016
- Junior Camp - Monday, August 1–Friday, August 5, 2016
- Primary Camp - Monday, August 8–Thursday, August 11, 2016

Promote camp attendance for your local congregations.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington
 PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305 503-393-3510 or 800-873-7729 www.orwacog.org
 Rev. David Shrout, District Pastor—dshrout@orwacog.org
 Kay Tira, Editor—contacteditor@orwacog.org

Students Present Research at Murdock College Science Conference

At the recent Murdock College Science Research Conference (November 6-7) hosted in Vancouver, two Warner Pacific science students presented research posters. Science posters are a key component of communicating a snapshot of research and are intended to invite conversation about the work. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/students-present-research-at-murdock-college-science-research-conference/>

First-Year Learning Communities Offer Semester-End Events

The First-Year Learning Communities (FYLCs) at Warner Pacific invite you to share in their first-semester experiences through a series of community events. At these events, our freshmen will engage with fellow students, local service partners, and members of the Warner Pacific community through the shared exploration of the four FYLC values: City, Curiosity, Community, and Connection. The Events take place on the Mt. Tabor Campus at various times from December 3-14. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/fylc-2015/>

17 WPC Athletes Earn Academic All-Conference Recognition

Seventeen Warner Pacific athletes are among a total of 339 Cascade Collegiate Conference student-athletes in the fall sports of men's and women's soccer, men's and women's cross country, and volleyball have earned U.S. Bank Academic All-CCC honors for their performances in the classroom, the conference office announced on October 27, 2015. To earn recognition as a CCC scholar-athlete, a student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and sophomore standing. http://wpcknights.com/news/2015/10/27/GEN_1027150443.aspx

New Adult Degree Programs Offered

Join a cohort and in two years or less earn your Associate of Science in Accounting or your Master of

Arts in Human Services by attending classes one evening a week.

The Associate of Science in Accounting is a perfect way to lay the foundation for a career in business and attend classes while you work during the day. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/admissions/adult-degree-program/adult-degree-programs/associate-of-science-in-accounting/>

The Master of Arts in Human Services builds on your human service career. Graduates will become agents for positive change in people's lives, relationships, and community. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/admissions/adult-degree-program/adult-degree-programs/master-of-arts-in-human-services/>

Events:

Jazz Band & Vocal Jazz Concert

Wednesday, December 2, 7:30 pm, Free
McGuire Auditorium (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland)

Advent Brunch Saturday, December 5

Please join us for the 4th Annual Advent Brunch hosted President Andrea Cook; a joyful time of fellowship, reflection, and renewal. RSVP online; tickets just \$25: <https://warnerpacific.regfox.com/advent-brunch>

Choral Concert

Sunday, December 6, 3:00 pm, Free
McGuire Auditorium (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland)

Wind Ensemble Concert

Friday, December 11, 7:30 pm, Free
McGuire Auditorium (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland)

Christmas/New Year's Holiday

December 24, 2015 – January 2, 2016
Warner Pacific College campuses are closed

Chapel

Everyone is welcome to attend WPC Tuesday/Thursday Chapels (10 am). <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/campus-life/chapel/chapel-schedule/>

Free Mobile App

Download Warner Pacific's free mobile app (available from Google Play or iTunes) and never miss an exciting event or the latest news: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/wp-mobile/>

Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy Name CHOG Clergywoman as President

by Church of God Ministries (Posted Nov. 9, 2015)

Rev. Dr. MaryAnn Hawkins, Church of God (Anderson) has been chosen to serve a three-year term as the new president of Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy. Hawkins, a member of the Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy board of directors since 2008, is a professor of intercultural studies and associate dean at Anderson University School of Theology.

MaryAnn Hawkins has been in ordained ministry in the Church of God for more than thirty years, serving the church in congregational ministry, as a missionary in East Africa, and in higher education. She is a graduate of Bartlesville Wesleyan College (BS in Religion), Azusa Pacific University (MA in Social Science), and Fuller Theological Seminary (PhD Inter-Cultural Studies). MaryAnn married Rev. James T.

Hawkins in 1973, and they have two grown children and four grandchildren. MaryAnn has attended eight of the previous Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy conferences, teaching workshops at several.

Learn more about the Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy at www.wesleyanholinesswomenclergy.org.



Freedom Sunday 2016: Plan Now!

by Church of God Ministries (Posted Nov. 3, 2015)



Last year the charge was given, and you responded. Thank you! It has been said that perhaps more than any other church-wide initiative, CHOG TraffickLight has mobilized the Church of God to work together in unity to accomplish a single goal. As we've continued to make Jesus the subject of who we are why we do what we do, we're determined more than ever to champion that which moved the heart of Jesus when he walked this earth. In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah's proclamation of freedom for the captives. Motivated by the heart of Jesus, the Church of God rallied together to raise more than half of our million-dollar goal. Now it's time to finish the job. On Valentine's Day 2016 (February 14), Church of God congregations will observe Freedom Sunday once again, and once again, we'll rattle the very gates of hell.

We know the need is greater than ever. We've reflected on the biblical mandate to put our faith into action. Pastors, lay leaders, and churches are

urged to join the effort to fight against the pervasive evil of human trafficking. We've made participation accessible for every church by providing a wealth of free, downloadable resources at our website. Prayer, worship, and sermon ideas are at your fingertips, as well as promotional tools, statistics, and Bible study material.

Register your church at www.CHOGTraffickLight.org/FreedomSunday. There you'll find everything you need to make this year's Valentine's Day less about candy and roses, and more about God's unconditional love for the oppressed and enslaved.

Imagine what the Lord can do through his people if we are only willing to say Yes. Love for the unloved. Hope for the hopeless. Freedom for the captive. We've experienced the Good News of Christ, and now it's time to pass it on. Will you join us?

Register and prepare for Freedom Sunday 2016 at www.CHOGTraffickLight.org/FreedomSunday.

Regional Areas and District Council Representatives

Chair: Jackie Scott (2015-2018) three-year term. Attends Lynchwood COG; serves on Board of Trustees

- **Region 1** (Bandon, North Bend, Powers and Reedsport): **Rev. Jim Minkler** (2015-2016) one-year term. Senior Pastor at Seabird Chapel, Bandon
- **Region 2** (Cottage Grove, Eugene, Klamath Falls, Medford, Springfield and Roseburg): **J Brown** (2015-2017) two-year term; layperson at First COG, Springfield
- **Region 3** (Albany Community, Albany 1st, Albany Oak Hill, Lebanon, Salem and Woodburn): **Rev. Steve Kufeldt** (2015-2018) three-year term; Associate Pastor at Hoodview COG, Woodburn
- **Region 4** (Aloha, Gales Creek, Hillsboro, Newberg and Tigard): **Michael Harkema** (2015-2016) one-year term; layperson at River Street Church of God, Newberg
- **Region 5** (Longview, Rainier, Scappoose, and St. Helens): **Rev. Mike Kernutt** (2015-2017) two-year term; retired pastor attending Rainier Community COG.
- **Region 6** (Husum, LaGrande, Pendleton, Prineville, Redmond, and The Dalles): **Rev. Tom Culp** (2015-2018) three-year term; Senior Pastor of Husum Community COG in WA
- **Region 7** (Community, Holladay Park, Iglesia de Dios, Maranatha, Neighborhood and Vancouver): **Rev. Martin Shrout** (2015-2016) one-year term; Senior Pastor of Holladay Park COG, Portland
- **Region 8** (International Fellowship, Lents-Gilbert, Lynchwood, Mt. Scott, Richmond, Rockwood, Winding Road, Faith Rock and Hilltop): **Rev. David Wilson** (2015-2017) two-year term; Co-pastor of Mt. Scott COG, Portland.

Region 3 Extends Invitation

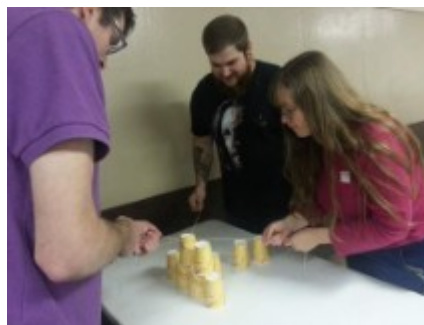
Prayer Summit, Tuesday, January 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

As we seek the Lord together to hear what God desires to do in our region and district-wide, the pastors of Region 3 invite other pastors and church leaders to join them for a one-day Prayer Summit, a time of concentrated prayer, worship and fasting. The specific location in the Salem area is to be announced, but make plans now to join us as we seek the Lord together. For more information, contact Steve Kufeldt.

Region 5 Connects and Clucks

Church of God congregations from Longview, Rainier, St. Helens and Scappoose gathered in Rainier, Oregon, November 1st, for a time of connecting through games, skits and snacks. Each congregation was asked to bring finger food to share, and to provide a game and a skit. Attendees maxed capacity of the fellowship hall, with overflow into adjacent rooms. A video clip of "Hunt and Cluck" documents the laughter and noise level as "roosters" scurried to collect candy pointed out by their clucking, cackling, wing-flapping "hens". A cup-stacking game involving rubber bands was another hit, with the winning team pictured below. Region 5 representative, Mike Kernutt, emceed the event, hosted by the Rainier church.

Submit your photos and reports of Regional events to contacteditor@orwacog.org.



THE PURPOSE

of The Association is to:

- Conduct business as the legally-incorporated body of the Association of the Churches of God in Oregon, Inc.
- Provide assistance to Oregon and Southwest Washington congregations and be a channel through which local congregations shall be mobilized to fulfill our united vision and mission.

THE VISION

of The Association is for every believer to fulfill the mandate of the Great Commission, the Great Commandments, and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

THE MISSION

of The Association is to:

- Create and maintain ministries that will strengthen, encourage, supplement, and promote local congregations of The Association;
- Inspire commitment to the teachings, mission, and theological perspectives of the Church of God, Anderson, IN;
- Provide support for the development of healthy Church of God congregations.

Homeward Journeys

MAY, James W. (Jim)

Nov. 26, 1931-Oct. 4, 2015



James (Jim) May passed away October 4, 2015, from complications related to a fall he took earlier in the day.

The son of Lawrence and Myrtle May, Jim was born in Yakima, WA, and spent his growing up years in Washington, Idaho and Montana, graduating from high school in Big Sandy, MT.

In 1951 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and in 1954 was honorably discharged. That fall Jim enrolled in Pacific Bible College, where he met, and later married, Betty Wagoner in 1955. They had two children, Donna and Glen.

Jim enjoyed working for the Lord and his family. For many years he served in different capacities in local churches, but he also worked with the State Association, camp meetings, etc..

His career of 30-plus years was in the United States Postal Service, first as a clerk then as a Postmaster. No matter where he was, he was always happy when he was helping others.

Jim is survived by his wife, daughter and son; three grandchildren, several step-grandchildren and three brothers and three sisters.

A memorial service was held at Hoodview Church of God in Woodburn, OR, October 17, 2015. It was an inspiring service with some rousing Southern Gospel music as well as several hymns. A good time of refreshments and fellowship followed the service.

**“For to us a Child is born,
To us a son is given,
And the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.”**

-Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)



Upcoming Events



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

(See pages 4 & 5)

CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday, December 25, 2015

DISTRICT COUNCIL—Thursday, January 7, 2016,
5:30 p.m. District Office

HOW-TO Convention, Saturday, January 30,
2016, Tigard Church of God

Ministers & Spouses Retreat - Monday, February
15, 2016 - Wednesday, February 17, 2016
(Registration Deadline: January 13)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1st Sunday of Advent 6:30p Hanging of the Greens, Albany			7:30p Jazz Band & Vocal Jazz	10a REGION #5 Mtg.		10a Advent Brunch
2nd Sunday of Advent			7p Christmas Program, Vancouver	4p REGION #6 mtg	7p Christmas Program, Vancouver	1p Christmas Banquet, Mt. Scott
3p Christmas Concert Warner Pacific College					7:30p Wind Ensemble Concert	6:30p Live Nativity, Lynchwood Church of God
Live Nativity, Lynchwood Church of God				11a REGION #6	4p The Living Christmas Story, Woodburn	
3rd Sunday of Advent more ...					6:30p Live Nativity, Albany	
10:30a Christmas Program, Roseburg					7p Live Nativity, Eugene	
The Living Christmas Story, Woodburn			District Office closed	CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY	
Live Nativity, Albany				District Office closed	District Office closed	
Live Nativity, Eugene				more ...	2p Christmas Eve Service, Roseburg	
					District Office closed	NEW YEAR'S DAY
					5:30p District Council mtg.	

Just a click away:
<http://orwacog.org/calendar>