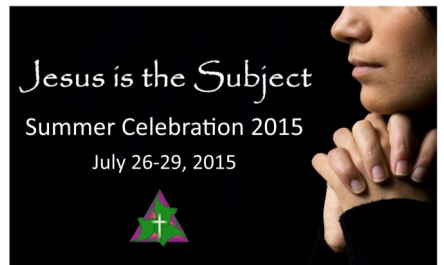


Association of
the Churches
of God
in Oregon and
Southwest
Washington

**CHOG Convention
Live Streaming!**
(See page 4)



THE CONTACT

June 2015

E-Contact Volume 2 Issue 6

Bethel and Fast to Speak at Summer Celebration

Dr. T. Allen Bethel and Rev. Mark Fast will speak at Summer Celebration, to be held on the Warner Pacific College campus July 26-29. Though registration begins on-site Sunday at 2:30, to help ease same-day registration, please register online at www.orwacog.org.



Dr. Bethel has been Senior Pastor at Maranatha for fifteen years, having served churches in Boston and Kansas City, Kansas prior. He also serves on the faculty of North Portland Bible College and Warner Pacific College.

Rev. Bethel attended Bay Ridge Christian College in Texas. He graduated

from Kansas City College and Bible School cum laude with a Bachelor's of Theology Degree. He also holds a Masters of Religious Education Degree from Gordon Conwell, C.U.M.E., South Hamilton, and an honorary Doctor of Ministry from Southern California School of Ministry, with further study for a Doctor of Missiology at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon.

He has preached the gospel across the United States and led mission teams to Haiti and St. Kitts. Rev. Bethel also led a conference in Khartoum, Sudan involved in missions.

Dr. Bethel is the President of the Albina Ministerial Alliance, the largest ecumenical organization of churches and ministers in North and Northeast Portland. Besides

(Continued on page 2)

Speaking at the Monday evening celebration service is **Rev. Mark Fast**, of Centralia Community Church of God in Centralia, Washington.

Mark and his wife, Lori, (both alumni of Warner Pacific College) have been married for 22 years and have three children: daughter, Morgan (17); son, Riley (15); and son, Cameron (12).

Mark is currently on the Board of Trustees at Warner Pacific College. He holds degrees in Religion and Christian Ministry, and in Business Administration from Warner.

Beginning his ministry as Associate Pastor of Worship at New Horizons in Spokane, Mark later spent six years as a church planter, and lead pastor at LifePoint Church in Renton, Washington.

Mark is the son of Dallas and Linda Fast, and grew up in the Centralia church through his middle school and high school years, when his dad was pastor. He has served at Centralia Community Church of God for almost six years now, since his dad's retirement.

A big NW Sports fan, Mark follows the Seahawks, Mariners, etc.



NOTICE

**Association Annual
Business Meeting
Wednesday, 1:30-3:30
July 29, 2015
Warner Pacific
College
McGuire Auditorium**

Summer Celebration: Bethel

(Continued from page 1)

that, he currently serves on the Board of Directors for the International Institute for Christian Communication as executive officer, the Board of Trustees at Warner Pacific College, the Board of Directors of the Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross, Oregon League of Minority Voters and the Nape Foundation. He is a member of the Portland African Leadership. Rev. Bethel also served two terms as a founding member on the Portland Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Portland, acting as both vice chair and chairman of the board. He was also on the Livingstone Outreach Ministry board.

In 2008, Bethel received the Emerald Award for Outstanding African American Men - Religion from the Zeta Sigma Omega chapter of AKA Inc.; the American Red Cross' Service of Distinction award; and The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives' (NOBLE) Drum Major for Justice Award.

Rev. Bethel has been married to Daphne for 32 years and together they have two children, Allen Lauren and Monica Lynn.

Five Ordination Candidates

The following ordination candidates will be presented during Summer Celebration on Wednesday evening, July 29:

- **Greg Baker**, Lynchwood Church of God, Portland, OR
- **Peter Howland**, Longview Church of God, Longview, WA
- **Djohan Kusnadi**, Indonesian Christian Church, Portland, OR
- **Julie Murphy**, Vancouver First Church of God, Vancouver, WA
- **Doug Shrock**, Living Water Church, Prineville, OR.

Recognized for their years of ordained ministry will be:

25 Years: Frank Clore, Denise Douglas, and Stephen Hoover

40 Years: Tom Akery

50 Years: David New

The Exchange

July's Summer Celebration is in for a treat with *The Exchange!*

Born in the quiet Pacific Northwest town of Kingston, Washington, The Exchange is a pop-rock band consisting of brothers Britt and Jack Espinosa, and Tyler Mays. Lately, the group is host to an ever widening audience as they bring their electrifying concert experience and upbeat outlook to cities across the western U.S.

From self-booked national tours and major festival slots to weekly spins across radio networks like

The Effect and K-Life, The Exchange has already accomplished a variety of feats as an independent artist. Still, the group is known for


their down-to-earth attitude and for being highly personal with their fans. For The Exchange, it is long-time tradition for each band member to spend time with the audience after concerts. "Since the beginning" says Britt Espinosa, "we've wanted to be that band that we wish our favorite bands were to us. Even if it means getting four hours of sleep before a long drive, the period of time after a show is critical because it gives us a chance to connect with fans on a level that simply isn't possible on CD."

The Exchange initially formed to perform at a local church event in 2010. Soon after, they cut their debut EP "Show Me How to Love" with producer Neil Young (Needtobreathe, Third Day). Fusing elements of rock, pop punk, and praise music into an energetic package, the 2011 release would go on to sell 7,000+ copies in two years. See www.theexchangerock.com.



FAMILY DAY
ACTIVITIES

A fun time for all!!
This outdoor event, from
2:00-4:00 pm Tuesday on
the lawn, is designed for children,
their parents and grandparents.
Activities include water play,
bounce houses, balloon animals,
face painting, games and so much more.



Summer Celebration

Missions / Conference Leaders

Kelley and Rhonda Philips
Joshua and Audrey Weiger



Kelley and Rhonda are a part of the Three Worlds team and serve with the creative, relational XZ Berlin ministry, which partners with the German church to reach people for Christ in the postmodern city of Berlin, Germany. Rhonda has a ministry working with women caught in sex-trafficking.

Joshua will head up a network that supports youth leaders in Europe and the Middle East as well as youth. Audrey will use her business and management skills to assist in the ministry with women caught in sex-trafficking and in organizational and administrative work for the Three Worlds region.



Prayer Summit June 15

FACILITATOR, Pastor Dennis Fuqua
International Renewal Ministries

Monday, June 15, 2015

Hoodview Church of God, Woodburn, OR

The Church Extension Commission invites you to a Prayer Summit with the specific purpose of discovering God's preferred direction in the area of Church Planting.

Facilitating the summit is Dennis Fuqua, Executive Director of International Renewal Ministries from Vancouver, Washington. Dennis has led prayer summits throughout the world and has been greatly used of God to call folks to the most critical aspect of our ministry, the call to prayer.



District pastors are encouraged to attend the prayer summit. Others with a burden for church planting, currently involved in a church plant or anyone with plans to be involved in one, are also encouraged to attend.

The Prayer Summit takes place Monday, June 15, at Hoodview Church of God in Woodburn, Oregon. To keep costs down, area attendees will travel to and from Woodburn, and housing arrangements are available for those coming from a distance.

Be in prayer for God's appointed number to attend, and personally invite a pastoral friend or whoever the Lord lays on your heart. There is no better way for us to undertake the work of the kingdom of God as an Association, than to bathe our activity in prayer.

“. . . And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47)

For more information about International Renewal Ministries <http://prayersummits.net>

Jesus is the Subject

Summer Celebration 2015
July 26-29, 2015

Warner Pacific College
Portland Oregon

Association of the Churches of God in
Oregon and SW Washington

Guest Speakers

Rev. Dr. T. Allen Bethel
Rev. Mark Fast
Rhonda Philips & Audrey Weiger
Rev. Brian Arnold
Rev. Nate Jackson
Rev. Teresa Hellstrom

Missionaries: Kelley & Rhonda Philips and
Joshua & Audrey Weiger

Worship Led by: The Exchange

CHOG Convention 2015: Online Streaming of GA, Wednesday Evening Worship

By Carl Stagner

Can't make it to Church of God Convention this year? *We've got good news!* The convention planning committee, elected by the General Assembly in 2014, determined early on that they wanted to offer a taste of Church of God Convention to persons who simply could not make it to Oklahoma City in 2015. Based on the rich content and special guests scheduled for Wednesday evening's worship session, the planning committee came to the conclusion that Wednesday evening's experience would be the most encouraging for online participation. Church of God Ministries is pleased to offer **free live streaming** of the **Wednesday evening** worship session (June 24, 7:00 PM CDT), and free live streaming of **all General Assembly sessions**.



Wednesday evening's free opportunity to watch a live worship session will provide you with just a taste of the inspirational worship, compelling stories, dynamic preaching, and the physical expression of unity emblematic of the Church of God Convention. The joy of Church of God Convention is not meant to be experienced alone, however. Why not share with others the preaching of **Francis Chan**, the towering soprano voice of **Sandi Patty**, and the powerhouse tenor **Larnelle Harris**—all scheduled for Wednesday evening's session?

Here are five ideas to make your live streaming experience both meaningful and memorable:

- **Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study.** Probably the most common evening for midweek prayer meetings and Bible studies is Wednesday. Why not suspend normal activities for a one-time convention screening with your small group? Remember, the session is scheduled for 7:00 to 9:00 PM CDT. Make it interactive—use #BeBold2015 on Facebook and Twitter.
- **Special Church-wide Screening.** Whether or not your church holds regular midweek services, you can plan on inviting the entire congregation to a special evening service where the Church of God Convention is broadcast from Oklahoma City into your worship center or sanctuary.
- **Local Church of God Unity Rally.** Perhaps there are multiple Church of God congregations in your area. They may have others who can't attend the convention this year, but would love to watch one of the sessions. Some of these individuals may not have Internet access in their home. Plan a special local Church of God unity rally, and before and after the event, introduce visiting congregations, pray for the worship service about to commence, and sing a few worship songs together.
- **Soul Food Banquet.** Consider a potluck or pitch-in dinner to precede a live convention-watching event. Encourage others to gather for food that will feed the body and the soul.
- **Family & Friends Worship Night.** Round up a group of alumni from your Church of God college or university, or bring together friends and members of your own family—anyone who might be interested or curious! Grab the popcorn and the soft drinks, and be prepared for a blessing from God.

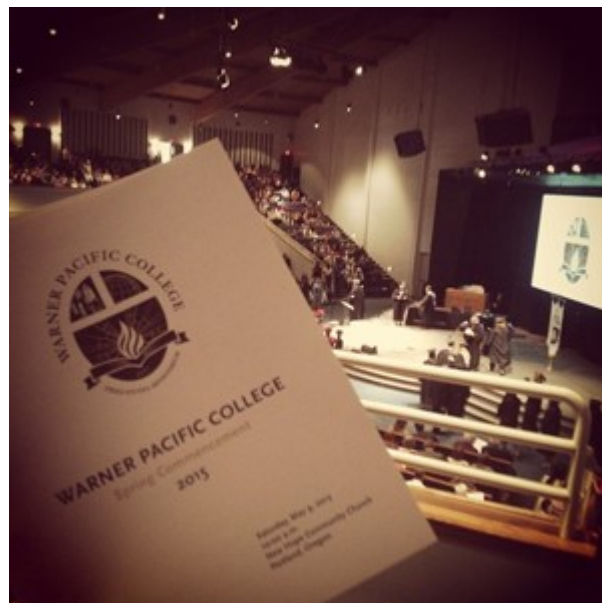


Local church ministry depends on attendance and active involvement of those who attend. Likewise, Church of God Ministries strongly encourages brothers and sisters from across the movement to gather together in one place at one time to worship together, interact with one another, and be actively involved in the direction of the movement. Unlike the atmosphere of a studio broadcast on television or over the Internet, the Church of God Convention functions as designed when the Church of God comes together in-person as a physical expression of the unity we proclaim. As we seek to increase General Assembly participation, we also pour the

brunt of our energies into producing an experience especially with the in-person attendee in mind. For those who cannot attend this year, we pray that the General Assembly sessions, in addition to Wednesday evening's live-streamed session, will bless you and encourage you to attend in the future. Thank you for your understanding and support of this goal. Jesus is the subject!

Graduation! WPC Class of 2015

Warner Pacific congratulated 237 students as they received their diplomas earlier this May. We are blessed with a graduating class that not only achieved academic excellence; they've forged in their hearts a true sense of service for this community. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/2015-spring-graduation/>



Warner Pacific celebrated achievements of Heald College Portland

Just days before almost 100 Heald College students in Portland were to celebrate achieving their academic dream of obtaining a college degree, they were hit with the news that Heald was closed and the graduation ceremony was cancelled. Warner Pacific College recognized the need for graduating Heald students to have some opportunity for celebration and decided to reach out to plan a graduation party for those students who were left with no public acknowledgment of their accomplishments. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/wp-hosts-heald-college-grad-reception-may-1/>

Social Entrepreneurship program presents first cash awards for Capstone Projects

On April 29, two Warner Pacific seniors were presented with the first Social Entrepreneurship (SE) Capstone Project awards. The cash awards will help both graduating seniors fund their business plans and become real-world social entrepreneurs. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/social-entrepreneurship-program-presents-first-cash-awards-for-capstone-projects/>

Men's Soccer add six players to 2015 roster

"I am excited to have these players in our program and as students at Warner Pacific," said coach Chris Thoms. "It's my goal to develop each one as soccer players and help them reach their goals academically. I can't wait to get started with the team this fall." http://www.wpcknights.com/news/2015/4/29/MSOC_0429151025.aspx?path=msoc

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

Summer Celebration Guidelines and Policies

Summer Celebration program costs are paid for in part by evening service offerings as well as a registration fee for each attendee. Registration information is available on the district web page: www.orwacog.org.

Nursery, Pre-school and Children's Locations

The nursery/preschool program (newborn through kindergarten) will be held in the Warner Pacific College Early Learning Center, with nursery available in the mornings by appointment only (contact Nancy Brown 541-430-6892). Children 1st through 5th grades will be released mid-service for their programs to be held in the WPC Lower Library.

Conduct

Persons are requested and expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Christian principles of good taste while participating in any aspect of the Summer Celebration experience. These include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

No smoking, profanity, alcoholic beverages or chewing gum. Modest attire is requested at all times. Quiet hour is 11:00 pm. for WP dorms and apartments. Please keep the grounds and facilities clean. All persons at WPC are expected to attend the services and conferences available for the various ages and interests.

Safety

Please drive carefully at all times, and be mindful of people in the parking lots. No pets at any of the Summer Celebration functions at WPC. Leave bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, etc. at home.

Youth and Children Registration

All youth entering 6th grade and under the age of 18, participating in Summer Celebration activities must complete a signed registration form, including the signature of an adult sponsor who is at least 21 years of age or older who will be responsible for them while at Summer Celebration. This also includes the signature of their parent/guardian for medical release purposes. The registration form will be available both at the Information Center and in the McGuire foyer.

Included on the registration form is a release for all off-site activities. Youth will be transported to any activities away from WPC in vehicles provided by the

Association. No youth will be allowed to use personal vehicles for transportation to and from group activities.

Parents of all preschool and elementary age children are also requested to register them for the Summer Celebration programs. Registration cards are available at the Information Center and McGuire foyer.

Food Services

Meals will be provided by Warner Pacific College's food service department. Cost of meals will be Breakfast: \$6.40, Lunch: \$10, and Dinner: \$10.50.

Lodging

Apartments will be available for adults at WPC at \$50/night (one and two-bedroom apartments available). Please check the district web page, www.orwacog.org, for lodging and registration information.



SOLID BRASS
in concert
James Cameron, conductor

*Featuring a wide variety of music for large brass ensemble
by Copland, Wagner and music from Lord of the Rings*



Friday, June 5, 7:30 pm
Mt Scott Church of God
10603 SE Henderson
Portland, OR

Saturday, June 6, 7:30 pm
Hillsboro First Baptist
177 NE Lincoln St
Hillsboro, OR

Suggested donation of
\$5 Students/Seniors
& \$10 Adults

All proceeds go directly to

www.sharedhope.org

SOLID BRASS PDX
www.solidbrasspdx.com

Camp White Branch

SUMMER CAMP DATES

- Junior Camp - Monday, July 6, through Friday, July 10, 2015
- Middle School Camp - Monday, July 13— Friday, July 17, 2015
- Intro Camp - Friday, July 17, through Sunday, July 19, 2015
- Primary Camp - Monday, July 20, through Thursday, July 23, 2015
- Senior High Camp - Monday, August 3, through Friday, August 7, 2015



Posters and information available at <http://www.orwacog/camp-white-branch>

Facilities Update

By Mel Neu

Pacific Building Systems has secured a sand blaster and a painter to repaint the multipurpose building and just need eight to ten consecutive days of dry weather. We are trusting the Lord to provide that, so they can get the job done as soon as possible before camps start.

The State water representatives will conduct their final test on the water system shortly.

We look forward to a good season of camp and activities at Camp White Branch. We appreciate your prayer support.



**Save the Date: August 21-23
2015 Men's Advance
Camp White Branch**

Senior High Camp

It is time to start thinking about Senior High Camp at Camp White Branch again.

The dates for senior High Camp will be August 3-8 and the event will be co-directed by Billy Effingham, Teresa Hellstrom, Boston Jackson, and Cody Meyer.

We would love to know as soon as possible what leaders or adults will be at camp during the week.

Please contact Billy at wefingham@gmail.com. Feel free to contact any of the co-directors listed if you have questions.





Senior Moments

By Ruth Bissett

To the seniors of Oregon and Southwest Washington: Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I would like to share some thoughts with you from the recent senior retreat at Cannon Beach Conference Center sponsored by the Vancouver

Church of God. I was privileged to attend again this year. For those of you who have never attended this retreat, I would encourage you to plan on next year. It is in April although the dates haven't been confirmed yet. Every year there is an outstanding speaker and the fellowship and food are fabulous. Just ask anyone who was there. This year the speaker was Dr. Steve Rennick, pastor of Church at the Crossings in Indianapolis, Indiana. I will be sharing from that retreat.

The text Steve used for one of the sessions was Matthew 1 starting at verse 1. For those of you who are familiar with the Bible, you will realize that this passage goes into detail of the lineage of Jesus. Probably few of us have heard a sermon on this passage. As we know, the lineage of Jesus has some who we possibly wouldn't choose as our ancestors. Steve shared about his lineage. He came from an unchurched family, but he came to know the Lord because of a friend who invited him to camp. His friend then invited him to youth group so he went mostly for the girls and the fun times. During the Bible study time at the table, led by an old lady, he would turn his chair around so as to have his back to the group. He was so disruptive that the teacher asked the pastor for help in how to

deal with him. The pastor's way to deal with him was for the pastor and the teacher to get down on their knees and pray at the altar for 30 minutes every time before the Bible study. And today, Steve is a pastor and has a doctorate. Steve's brother is a career military man; a relative is a very successful and well-known businessman in his hometown; his uncle is the town drunk.

How can God's view of people change our view of people? So, Steve asked, "Who are your people?" We are all human. You and I need to vacate the judgment seat. What if we give our family mercy and grace; mercy for our past and grace for our future? Family is never going to receive God's grace until they experience our mercy and grace. We need to be a force to be deployed in a garden to be tended. We need to be the people our family wants to become. Set an example.

"Little things done with great love can change the world." Mother Teresa

Make plans to come to Summer Celebration, July 26-29. On Monday and Tuesday at 3:30, Gale Hency will lead us in a study on heaven. Also on Wednesday, July 29, at 4:30 we will have a "Heavenly Event" to include dinner and a program. Who knows...Abraham or Peter may even be there. I think we may even see some angels. (If possible, wear white). Tickets can be purchased when you register online at www.orwacog.org for Summer Celebration.

Contact info: ruthbissett1@gmail.com or 503-798-1706

Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day



Dr. Wayne Schmidt addressed pastors and leaders at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in Salem, April 23 during Holiness Day. Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington was one of many sponsors of the day-long event, providing opportunity for conversation regarding holiness and transformation of lives and communities.

Summer Celebration CE Positions Available Now

The Christian Education (C.E.) Commission is now accepting applications for the following positions for Summer Celebration:

- Preschool Director (program and materials are already supplied.)
- Assistant Preschool Director/Teacher
- Preschool Assistant
- Morning Nursery Positions are also available.
- Five (5) Secret Agents (Assistants) needed for school-age program. (1st-5th Grade)

Preschool Director and Assistant Preschool Director must be over age 18, as well as nursery positions. All other assistants must be age 16 and up.

Applications are available at <http://orwacog.org/church-packets/>. Please fill out the 2015 Application for CE Volunteers, as well as the Background Search Form. After you complete the forms, please have your Senior Pastor sign them, and then mail them to the District Office, PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305.

**AGENTS OF TRUTH:
JESUS IS THE SUBJECT**

CALLING ALL AGENTS,
FIRST THROUGH FIFTH GRADE,
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS TO DISCOVER GOD'S **TRUTH**

COME TOGETHER AS ONE ON A MISSION TO DECODE
TOP SECRET FUN, WHILE UNCOVERING CLUES
THROUGH ACTIVITIES, GAMES, AND
BIBLE LESSONS WHILE DISCOVERING
GOD'S TRUTH ONCE AND FOR ALL.

THE MISSION TAKES PLACE
JULY 26-29 DURING THE
SUMMER CELEBRATION
WORSHIP SERVICE.

PRESCHOOL WILL ENAGE THIS MISSION IN
THEIR OWN HEADQUARTERS EACH EVENING.

Upcoming Events

Region #7 & #8 - Thursday, June 4, 4 pm

Prayer Summit - Monday, June 15, All Day

Father's Day - Sunday, June 21,

**Church of God Convention,
Oklahoma City** - Monday, June 22, - Thursday, June 25,

Region #6 - Thursday, June 25, - 11:00 am

Independence Day - Saturday, July 4,

Junior Camp, entering 5th-6th grade - Monday, July 6, - Friday, July 10, - All Day

Middle School Camp, entering 7th-8th grade - Monday, July 13, - Friday, July 17,

Region #1 - Tuesday, July 14, - 10:00 am

Intro Camp, entering 2nd-3rd grade & Parent - Friday, July 17, - Sunday, July 19,

Primary Camp, entering 3rd-4th grade - Monday, July 20, - Thursday, July 23, - All Day

Summer Celebration - Sunday, July 26, - Wednesday, July 29 - All Day

Annual Business Meeting. Wednesday, July 29, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm.

NACOG Campmeeting - Sunday, August 2, 2015 - Sunday, August 9, 2015 - All Day

Senior High Camp, entering 9th-12th grade - Monday, August 3, 2015 - Friday, August 7, 2015 - All Day

Men's Advance - Friday, August 21, 2015 - Sunday, August 23, 2015 - All Day

**Retired Ministers, Missionaries & Spouses
Appreciation Dinner** - Thursday, September 3, 2015 - 4:30 pm

LABOR DAY - Monday, September 7, 2015 - All Day

Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat - Friday, September 18, 2015 - Sunday, September 20, 2015 - All Day



See: www.orwacog.org/calendar

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."

