

Lynchwood Brass Kicks Off Summer Celebration

The Lynchwood Brass Ensemble kicked off the Summer Celebration Sunday, July 26, with pre-service musical selections including *Salvation Medley*, *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*, *Amazing Grace*, and *the Hallelujah Chorus*. Instrumentalists (L to R) include John Luce, Dan Richardson, Fred Hazen, Bart Valentine, Gary Thogerson, Gary Ihle, and Terry Meyer. It was just the beginning of a great four-day celebration, followed by an extended day of Youth activities.



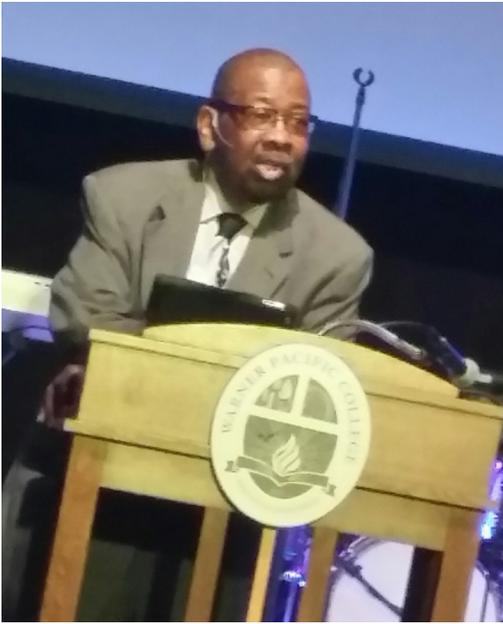
The Exchange, a Washington-based band, consisting of brothers Britt and Jack Espinosa, Stephen Bistline and Tyler Mays, served as worship leaders throughout the Celebration, with a special concert Monday night following the evening service. The Exchange has toured extensively, performed at Creation NW and released singles and an album.



Photo credit Diane Harlow

Youth had a strong presence at Summer Celebration once again this year, with about 150 seated in a reserved section of McGuire during general sessions. Great speakers, pre-service and worship music, along with times of discussion and fellowship made Summer Celebration a valuable experience. Kudos to the SC Commission members.

Loudly and Clearly Now: JESUS IS THE SUBJECT!



Rev. T. Allen Bethel
*“Jesus is the Subject: ENOUGH.”
 He is the answer to every question;
 the solution to every problem;
 the supplier of every need.*



Rev. Mark Fast
*Jesus is the Subject:
 Chew on Colossians 1*



Rev. Nate Jackson
*“What’s the Score?”
 We’re called to get into the
 game, and win. The Gates of
 Hell shall not prevail against
 the building of God’s Kingdom.*



Guest speakers also included 3-Worlds Ministry team members: **Rhonda & Kelley Philips** currently stationed in Berlin, and **Joshua & Audrey Weiger**, newly appointed, raising funds to eventually be in Berlin. Sharing in several sessions, the tag team is a good model of synergy in ministry. Some current views of Christianity: Traditional, Non-Western, and Post-Christendom. Model relationships. Be a neighbor. For interesting stats and information, check out generations.barna.org.



Rev. Teresa Hellstrom
*It’s Not About Our
 Comfort Zones
 Step out of the boat;
 follow Jesus.*



Rev. Brian Arnold
*“How Can the Church
 Minister to Mad Cats?”
 Let the world hear us sing to the
 Lord of His faithfulness, regardless
 of our circumstances.*



Kelley Philips



Joshua Weiger

Summer Celebration

Teens arrive, sticking close to each other from their own churches at first, then mingle and bond with new friends by the end of the week.

Julie Jackson asked the children to come forward to be prayed for, before checking-in for their class. Led by Judi Howland, and followed by Aisha Berra, the group made their way from McGuire to the WPC

**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 ENGAGE THIS MISSION IN
THEIR OWN HEADQUARTERS EACH EVENING.

Library during a brief downpour Sunday evening. It didn't dampen their spirits, though, and they donned vests, viewed video clips and acted out portions of Scripture, under the direction of Peter Howland.

Their theme for the week was "Agents of Truth".



Mt. Scott COG Youth, Portland, OR



Centralia, WA Youth



Longview, WA Youth



Peter and Judi Howland led the children's program



Pastor Aaron Walton did a great job with registration and encouraging Gorilla, Ninja, Zombie competition among the youth (an interesting twist on paper/scissors/rock) as they "paired up in threes" during one of their sessions.

Watch for camp reports and more pictures in the next issue of the E-CONTACT.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington
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Annual Meeting: Budget Passed, Bylaws Approved, District Council Introduced

By Kay Tira

A new set of bylaws was approved July 29, during the 2015 Annual Business meeting of the Association of Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington. Chairman Bob Haskell called the meeting to order and appointed tellers: Jack Hansen, Terry Shrout, Tim Townley, Linda Gerig, and Mary Hatch. Rev. David Shrout shared some devotional thoughts.

Held at the McGuire Auditorium of Warner Pacific College in Portland, the meeting was open to everyone, with 98 registered voters present, representing 45 pastors, 41 lay delegates and 12 commission members. Structured after a "governance model" the intent of the newly approved bylaws is to allow for freedom and accountability of leadership, while shifting from the General Council to a District Council comprised of appointed representatives from all eight regions.



Pictured above, standing from Right to Left, are the new team members of the District Council: **Jackie Scott**, Chair; Region 1-8 Representatives, respectively: **Jim Minkler, Jay Brown, Steve Kufeldt, Mike Harkema, Mike Kernutt, Tom Culp, Martin Shrout, and Dave Wilson**. Each Region has met at least once, and Rev. Shrout urged pastors to encourage their regional congregations to meet together.

The 2015-2016 Budget passed, 86-10, with discussion about Camp White Branch, the District transitional phase, progress toward a balanced budget and reduced spending of savings/reserves. Total projected funds of \$197,061.47 include a one-time line item from savings in the amount of \$27,961.47 during the transition, in order to meet the 2015-2016 Budget.

The new District Council will decide, in conjunction with Regions, which Commissions function as Task Forces and how funds will be allocated. Rev. Shrout presented certificates of appreciation to the Executive Council for their work during the transition phase.



Pictured (from Right to Left, standing): Past Chair **Bob Haskell, Linda Tucker-Bays, Reg Gregory, Patty Deacon, Nathan Dunbar, and Glen Hossler**.

With printed commission reports, bylaws, proposed budget and ballots distributed, the business meeting lasted only an hour. Items were also made available in advance on the District website: www.orwacog.org.



Warner Pacific Welcomes Dr. Nichols as New Vice President for Academic Affairs

After a nation-wide search earlier this year, Rev. Dr. Reginald Nichols was selected to take on the role of Warner Pacific's new VPAA. Dr. Nichols



brings a wealth of diverse experience in improving student learning, empowering urban communities, facilitating study abroad, serving first-generation students, and fundraising. For the past 30 years, he has served as a senior educational executive and international / global program initiator in the United States and around the world.
<http://>

www.warnerpacific.edu/welcome-dr-reginald-nichols-warner-pacifics-new-vice-president-for-academic-affairs/

Warner Pacific Honored for Educational Excellence

Warner Pacific was honored as a College of Distinction for the upcoming 2015-16 school year.

The College of Distinction designation is given to select schools to honor their excellence in student-focused higher education.

<http://www.warnerpacific.edu/warner-pacific-honored-for-distinctive-educational-excellence-by-national-college-guide/>

Warner Pacific Knights Hosting DFB (German Football Association) Coaching Course

The Knights are hosting international coaching instructor Oliver Page for a week-long course to be held in Portland on August 3-7. Participants will receive a Certificate from the DFB (Deutscher Fußballbund - German Football Association) upon

completion.

http://www.wpcknights.com/news/2015/7/2/MSOC_0702153748.aspx?path=msoc

Early Learning Preschool Accepting Fall 2015 registrations

The ELC Preschool at Warner Pacific has openings for Fall 2015. The ELC also provides, under the guidance of a director and qualified teachers, a play-based, anti-bias, Christ-centered preschool program for young children in the community.

<http://www.warnerpacific.edu/about/early-learning-center/>

Free Movie on the Lawn - Saturday, August 8, on the AF Gray Lawn at Warner Pacific we will screen The Lego Movie (PG). The movie starts at dusk, but enjoy a free concert by POPgoji starting at 6:30 pm. Bring snack, a blanket, and jacket - oh and the kids!

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/489142>

Oregon Private College Week at Warner Pacific - August 3-4

Interesting in college? Learn more about Warner Pacific and other Oregon Private Colleges. Register today (free) for a 9 am or 2 pm session at one or more schools.

Go to oregonprivatecolleges.com

Join us at Convocation

Tuesday, September 1, at 10 am, in McGuire Auditorium. Celebrate the start of the new academic year and meet Dr. Nichols, who will deliver the keynote address. RSVP: <http://>

www.warnerpacific.edu/2015-convocation/

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/>

Camp White Branch

Intro Camp Highlights By Julie Jackson

- More than usual *thank yous* and hugs when camp ended.
- Great chemistry between all of us.
- Boston staying in RJ's and my cabin (hasn't happened in years)
- How the Lord worked through me in my presentations and giving me ideas to share the Gospel.
- Being at White Branch falls. I really draw close to the Lord when I sit at the falls and ponder and pray.
- Seeing the joy in the campers of their experiences of CWB.
- The satisfaction of a great camp (our 9th one).
- The delight of seeing the changes in the dining room. The new curtains and the new paint on the walls, etc. are fantastic!
- Of course the kids' version would be the thrills of swimming and water sliding! And of course...the tire swing.
- We didn't see deer, but a snake and a frog.
- It is fun to watch which parents take ownership in the mirror craft and really get into our ABC scavenger hunt of what they find for the craft. Kathy Dow and a guardian from Hillsboro took the prize this year!

Middle Schoolers (right) kicked off the Summer Camp season in mid-July, with Peter Howland as speaker and Steve Dow as Director.



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

**August 21-23
Men's Advance
Camp White Branch**



FALL RETREAT
September 18-20, 2015
Camp White Branch

Speaker: Sherilyn Sander



Check out the district web site for the brochure and additional information:
www.orwacog.org



Work continues on the multipurpose facility. During the business meeting, Chairman Mel Neu expressed appreciation for work crews and support, and reported that the repainting has been completed and the outside of the building will be finished soon, Lord willing.

Rev. John Kuykendall will lead the fundraising efforts for the completion of the project and loan repayment to the Association. Save the date—Oct. 11, 2015—and watch for information about *Pledge Day* for CWB. ~kt

Five Candidates Ordained at Summer Celebration

Five ministry candidates were ordained during Summer Celebration Wednesday, July 29, 2015. Seated, from left to right, are **Greg Baker, Peter Kusnadi, Julie Murphy, and Doug Shrock**. The ceremony included a traditional foot-washing offered by sponsoring pastors: Grant Fall, Joe Tira, Bruce Steffensen, Rena Marvel-Hess, and David ShROUT.

The candidates are from Happy Valley, OR, Longview, WA, Aloha, OR, Vancouver, WA, and Redmond, OR, respectively. Congratulations to the five newly ordained ministers. Preach the Word!

Credentials and Advisory Board Chair, Monica Monroe, reports that the Board is currently working with 21 individuals in the credentialing process—some are district commissioned, and some are licensed.

The District presently has 161 approved ministers, for whom the CAB maintains files and performs annual registration. In compliance with recommendations in the most recent Credentials Manual of the Church of God, the CAB is working toward conducting a written review of every ordained minister on a five-year cycle. Churches currently open: St. Helens, Rainier, Redmond, Klamath Falls and Gales Creek, Oregon. ~kt

Pictured at right:
District Summer Celebration attendees join in prayer, voiced by Charles Hunter, as five ministry candidates were officially ordained at Warner Pacific College's McGuire Auditorium, July 29, 2015.





Senior Moments

By Ruth Bissett

Life is like a mountain railway
With an engineer that's brave
We must make the run successful
From the cradle to the grave.

Heed the curves and watch the tunnels
Never falter, never fail
Keep your hands upon the throttle
And your eye upon the rail.

Blessed Savior, there to guide us
Till we reach that blissful shore
And the angels there to join us
In God's grace forevermore.

As you roll across the trestle
Spanning Jordan's swelling tide
You will reach the Union Depot
Into which your train will ride

There you'll meet the superintendent
God the Father, God the Son
With a happy joyous greeting
Weary pilgrim, welcome home.*

I have just returned from a short trip so travelling is on my mind. This song paints a picture of our journey. I appreciate the songwriters from long ago who expressed so well our experiences in the Christian life. The words *travelling* and *trip* are other words for the journey that we are all on. One of the definitions of journey is: passage or progress from one stage to another. On our trip there are delays, detours, speed bumps, stops to rest, to eat, stretch our legs or ask directions. All of us are headed to our eternal home and some of us are closer than others. I'm sure you can think of lots of ways that our lives reflect this journey. So, where are you on the journey? I would encourage you wherever you are to keep moving on because these words tell us about the end of our journey:

When I come to the end of my journey
Weary of life and the battle is won
Bearing the staff and the cross of redemption
He'll understand and say, "Well done."

**Editor's Note:
Lyrics are public domain.
Origin is uncertain, but attributed to Eliza R. Snow, 1800s.*

Heavenly Dinner: An Angelic Event

Angels, Gabriel, St. Peter and a cloud of witnesses including Abraham, C.S. Lewis, D.L. Moody, Spurgeon, and others pitched in to make Wednesday's dinner a delightful experience during Summer Celebration. Organizer Ruth Bissett and team did an amazing job. Quartet music, Scripture, skits, and a sing-along kept folks engaged as they enjoyed a heavenly meal. A capacity crowd enjoyed the event, held in Egvedt 203. Have you made reservations? Is your name in the Book of Life? What a glorious Day that will be!



District Ministers meet for Business and Fellowship

Association ministers met Wednesday morning to conduct business, under the leadership of Chair Linda Tucker-Bays, and to verify and share information. An approved list of ministers and churches in Oregon and SW Washington was distributed by Credentials Chair, Monica Monroe. Rev. David Shrout provided updates from the ChoG Convention (formerly North American Convention), noting a decision for a two-year rotation (see related article on page10).



Rev. Shrout reported that the “Be Bold Academy” was launched during the June convention, with personal and church online accounts available for a monthly fee. Contact Church of God Ministries, 800-848-2464 or go to beboldacademy.org.

Rev. John Kuykendall shared information about Camp White Branch, noting the need for a point-person from each congregation as we work toward a three-year pledge program.

Rev. Don Minkler shared information about a proposed ministry: “School of the Called Seminary,” specifically geared toward Church of God doctrines, and covering methods, philosophy, and the call of God. Taught by Church of God pastors, the coursework is designed for 100-200 level classes under the direction of Association Senior Pastors (Resident Faculty), with 300 and up courses set by the Senior Faculty (Administrator and four senior pastors). Watch for more info. ~kt



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.”

General Assembly Makes Historic Convention Decision

By Carl Stagner

For more than a century, the Church of God has convened almost every summer for worship, preaching, fellowship, and the General Assembly. In a historic vote, this year's General Assembly decided overwhelmingly to make a change to the frequency of the Church of God Convention. Signaling a new day for the Church of God, the resolution paves the way for maximum General Assembly and convention accessibility and engagement.

In 2014, the General Assembly elected a seven-member convention committee to determine location, dates, and the program for this year's convention. But that wasn't their entire responsibility—they were also chosen to "prepare a proposal for the long-term trajectory of the Convention (including its meeting cycle, timing, and location)."



After careful research, extensive review, and prayerful discussion, **the committee proposed that, going forward, the Church of God Convention and General Assembly would meet during odd-numbered years, while the International Youth Convention—our largest Church of God gathering— would meet during even-numbered years.** By affirming the resolution, the **General Assembly also demonstrated support for regional meetings to take place in the even-numbered years**, thereby encouraging broader participation and accessibility. These regional gatherings will take what you know and love about the Church of God Convention *on the road*. Coming to a city near you, you'll find the same high-quality worship, speaking, and conferences you've come to expect, but in a

condensed format to save you time and money. Furthermore, General Assembly 2015—with attendance higher than recent years—affirmed the need for intentional international participation every fourth year.

Thank you, Jennifer Carney, Tommy Dove, Milton Granum, Eric Livingston, Jim Lyon, Jesus Mena, Melissa Pratt, Michael Thigpen, and Judy Weeks for your dedication and service to the Church of God through the convention committee. We are indebted to your hard work and labor of love.

Details on dates, locations, and program for the regional gatherings are in development. Stay tuned to www.JesusIsTheSubject.org for convention announcements.

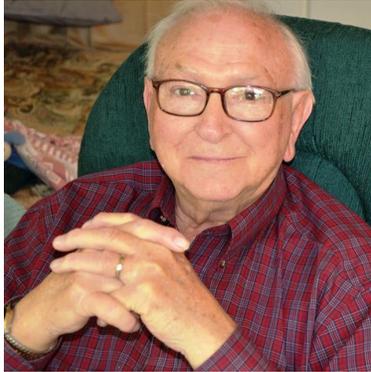
Read the text of the Convention Committee Report and Resolution at <http://www.jesusisthesubject.org/files/downloads/documents/ga/2014-2015CHOGGAConventionCommitteeReportAndResolution.pdf>



Homeward Journeys

**HYSLIP, Lewis Edward
11/12/1934-6/25/2015)**

A Celebration of Life service will be held August 1st promptly at 10:57 a.m., in loving memory of **Rev. Lewis Edward (Eddie) Hyslip** at the Hoodview Church of God, 1530 Mt. Hood Avenue, Woodburn, OR 97071.



Rev. Lewis "Eddie" Hyslip

Born in Smithville, Arkansas to Louis N. and Susie F. (Henshaw)

Hyslip, Lewis was the youngest of seven children. His dad was a sharecropper which made for a challenging childhood. At the age of 18 Lewis joined the United States Navy where he served his country from 1952-1954 aboard the USS Mount McKinley.

He obtained a Bachelor's degree in Theology at Warner Pacific College (then Pacific Bible College) and went on to complete his Master's degree in Philosophy of Christian Education at Azusa Pacific University. He taught at Seattle Pacific University while undertaking Doctorate Studies in Christian Education at the University of Washington.

Lewis served his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as a pastor in multiple locations throughout the United States and Canada. He was ordained in Nevada City, CA, in 1962, and his formal ministry roles included the following:

- Youth Minister and Senior Pastor, North Fair Oaks Community Church, Redwood City, CA.
- Senior Pastor, Community Church of God, Colorado Springs, CO
- Multiple Interim ministry positions within Southern CA.
- Minister of Christian Education, First Free Methodist Church, Seattle, WA.
- Senior Pastor, Mountain View Church of God, Baker OR
- Executive Secretary, Church of God – Western Canada.

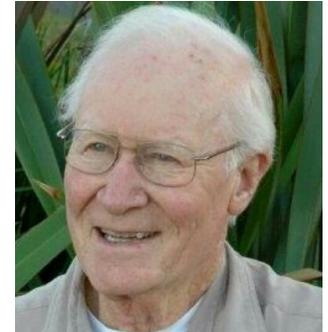
Lewis touched many lives as a pastor, family member, and friend. He was a wise and faithful man, known for his kind and generous nature. He brought smiles to those around him with his boisterous spirit and great sense of humor. Lewis enjoyed working on "projects" from church committees to making toys for his grandchildren, his passion for perfection shown through.

Lewis was preceded in death by siblings Virginia, Virgil, Lottie and Lester. He is survived by siblings William and Betty, sister-in-law Alene, his loving wife of 58 years Barbara Livingston Hyslip, children Sonja, Tam-

mie and Edward Hyslip, Grandchildren; Douglas and Adam Sherriffs, Jocelyn and Alicia Hyslip, as well as two great grandchildren, Brayden and Taylor Sheriffs.

**ROGERS, Ward Leslie
(7/6/1933-7/27/2015)**

Rev. Ward Rogers, Senior Adult Pastor at the Tigard Church of God passed away July 27, 2015. A Celebration of Life service will be held Friday, August 7, at 3:00 p.m., at the Tigard Church of God, 15670 SE 98th Avenue, Tigard, OR 97224.



Rev. Ward Rogers

Ward Leslie Rogers was born July 6, 1933, in Boise, Idaho, the fourth son of Claude Albert and Bessie Estella Rogers. Later, he had two younger sisters. Ward grew up on a farm in Notice, Idaho, and at ten years old his arm was injured in a hunting accident. In his sophomore year of high school he transferred to Caldwell High, where he met Mary Ann Meyer. They married on August 10, 1950. This month would have marked 65 years of marriage.

Ward finished his senior year through correspondence, and then worked at a local meat market as an apprentice meat cutter. He supported Mary and himself through those early years, during college, and his first two pastorates by cutting meat and managing meat markets. In 1953 Ward accepted a call into ministry and Mary and Ward packed up everything and headed to the International Bible College in San Antonio, Texas. Their first child, Lloyd, was born during their years at Bible school. After graduation the little family moved back to Caldwell, where, daughter Shirley was born.

Together with his mentor, Rev. John Hash, Ward planted the Church of the Open Door in Boise, ID, where John served as Senior Pastor and Ward served as the Minister of Christian Education. It was Pastor Hash who later encouraged Ward to accept a position with the Church of God. For over 55 years he served in COG congregations, including Middleton, ID, Pendleton and Reedsport, OR, Yakima and Spokane, WA, Camrose, Alberta Canada, San Bernardino, Santa Cruz and Whittier, CA. After (his first) retirement in 1994,

(Continued on page 12)

Homeward Journeys

Rev. Ward Rogers (continued from page 11)

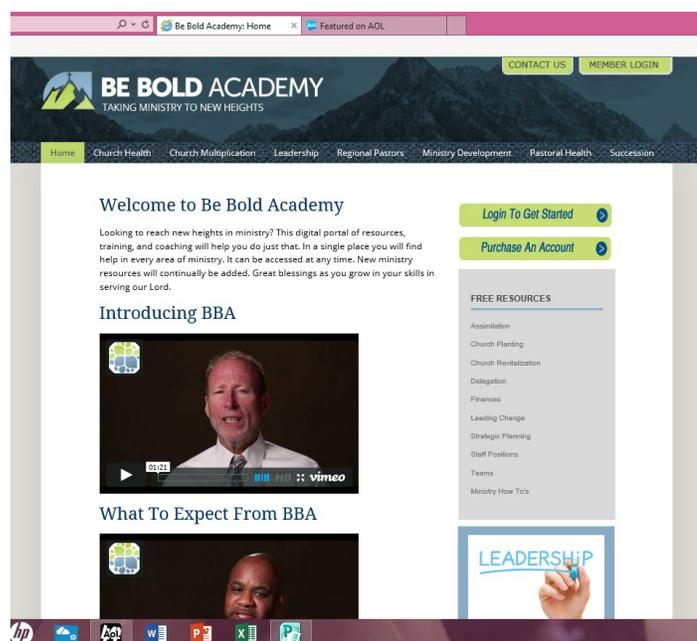
Ward continued to serve in various retirement homes, associate, interim and chaplain positions until 2006. While serving in Pomona, CA, he helped relocate the church, remodel their facility, and served as Senior Pastor until 2008. He served for a couple of years in Reedsport, and since 2010 has served in the Tigard, OR, congregation as Associate of Senior Adult Ministries and Visitation.

Ward was diagnosed on July 3, 2015 with stomach and Esophagus cancer. He faced his final days with courage, dignity and humor. He went home to be with the Lord July 27, about 9 a.m., surrounded by family. Ward ran the race set before him with perseverance, just as the author of Hebrews calls us to do.

Ward is survived by his two sisters, Carol Putnam and Kay Marrs and their families, his loving wife, Mary Ann, their two children, Lloyd Albert Rogers (Kerrie Sue Rogers) and Shirley Estella Culver (Roy Milton Culver Jr.), five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Be Bold Academy Online

Launched at Oklahoma City's June 2015 ChoG Convention, Be Bold Academy (BBA) is available for leadership training and coaching. Listen to an introduction by Director Jim Lyon, at beboldacademy.org.



Upcoming Events

- Lewis Hyslip Service**, August 1, Woodburn
- NACOG Campmeeting** - Sunday, August 2, 2015 - Sunday, August 9, 2015
- Senior High Camp, entering 9th-12th grade** - Monday, August 3, 2015 - Friday, August 7, 2015
- Ward Rogers Service**, August 7, Tigard
- Men's Advance** - Friday, August 21, 2015 - Sunday, August 23, 2015
- Retired Ministers, Missionaries & Spouses Appreciation Dinner** - Thursday, September 3, 2015 - 4:30 pm
- LABOR DAY** - Monday, September 7, 2015
- Camp White Branch Campaign Sunday** - Sunday, September 20, 2015
- Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat** - Friday, September 18, 2015 - Sunday, September 20, 2015
- 2015 Children of Promise Sunday** - Sunday, September 27, 2015
- Clergy Appreciation Month** - Thursday, October 1, 2015 - Saturday, October 31, 2015
- Camp White Branch Campaign Sunday** - Sunday, October 11, 2015
- Camp White Branch Fundraising Dinner** - Thursday, October 15, 2015 - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
- NATIONAL BOSS' DAY** - Friday, October 16, 2015
- DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS** - Sunday, November 1, 2015
- VETERAN'S DAY** - Wednesday, November 11
- THANKSGIVING DAY** - Thursday, November 26,
- CHRISTMAS DAY** - Friday, December 25, 2015
- Ministers & Spouses Retreat** - Monday, February 15, 2016 - Wednesday, February 17, 2016



See: www.orwacog.org/calendar for more details.