



THE HOLINESS PASTOR

February 2016

Issue 2

Volume 3

E-Contact

Presenters Address Tigard How-To Crowd

Over 100 attendees chose from a variety of workshops Saturday, January 30, at the 2016 How-To Convention in Tigard, Oregon. Keynote speaker Rev. Handel Smith from Anderson, IN, along with professional and ministry leaders from the District and surrounding community offered practical tips for leaders and laymen at the all-day event. From email marketing, your unique purpose, story telling and bulletin boards to parenting, spiritual gifts, and coffee with millennials, topics were varied and helpful.



Tigard Musicians and Vocalists lead in Worship

(Continued on page 2)

Holiness Leaders Day, March 17

A great opportunity for conversation has been set aside for Thursday, March 17, at the Salem Kroc Center. The focus: the message and life of holiness and its power in engaging and transforming lives and communities.

Danielle Strickland, a Salvation Army officer, will serve as keynote speaker. Danielle is internationally recognized in her capacity as leader, speaker, writer, justice advocate, mission developer, and church planter. She currently leads the social justice fight in the US, Western Territory based in Los Angeles, CA.

The deadline to purchase tickets for the Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day is March 10. The \$17.50 registration fee includes lunch. Check online for ticket information: <http://holinesspastorandleader.eventbrite.com>. Sponsoring group discounts are available. Contact the District Office for the required discount code. The Salvation Army Kroc Center is located off I-5, exit #258 (1865 Bill Frey Drive NE, Salem, OR).

Sponsoring Associations and Denominations:

- Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington
- North Pacific District of the Foursquare Churches
- Pacific Conference North American Evangelical Church
- Oregon Pacific District Church of the Nazarene
- Salvation Army Cascade Division
- NW District Wesleyan Church
- Oregon Conference Free Methodist Church
- The Oregon Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God



Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day, March 17th, 2016
9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Salem Kroc Center

How to find the Salvation Army Kroc Center:
Address: 1865 Bill Frey Dr. NE, Salem, OR
On I-5, take exit #258. Turn south on the light onto Portland Road (toward downtown Salem). Turn right on to Bill Frey Dr. This will lead directly to the parking lot.



Keynote Speaker: Danielle Strickland

Danielle serves in The Salvation Army as an officer - currently leading the social justice fight in the United States, Western Territory based in Los Angeles, California. She is internationally recognized in her capacity as a leader, speaker, writer, justice advocate, mission developer, and church planter.

Ticket information
Just go to: <http://holinesspastorandleader.eventbrite.com> and use a debit or credit card. Contact your district, conference, association office for a discount code.
Dining: \$17.50 registration includes lunch (\$15 for sponsoring groups)
BUY TICKETS BY MARCH 10TH

The purpose of the Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day is to create an opportunity for conversation regarding the message of holiness and its power in engaging and transforming lives and communities. Ample time has been set aside in the day's schedule for this conversation to take place.

How-To Moments

(Continued from page 1)

The Tigard crew provided a great time of worship and, along with CE Chair, Rev. Julie Jackson and team, Tigard efficiently met the needs of speakers and guests.

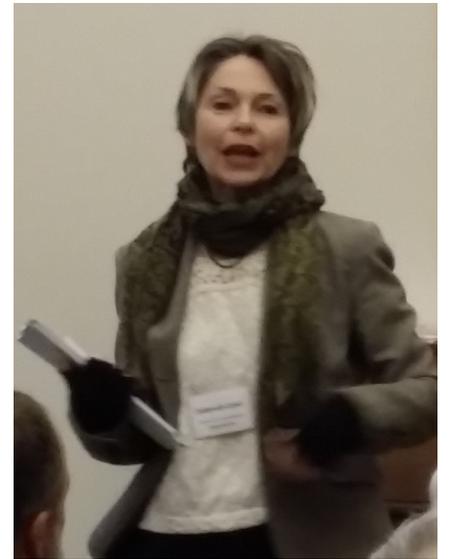
Warner Pacific College provided lunch for the event, along with updates of great things happening on campus and with amazing opportunities on the horizon.

Presenters included: Rev. Handel Smith, author Deborah Loyd, Rev. David Shrout, Rev. Martin Shrout, consultant Albert Kaufman, Rev. Gale Hency, Rev. Dennis and Georgia Miller, Rev. Matt Ingalls and Rev. Mike Mugford, Rev. Joe Tira, Connie Shrout, Pastor Tim Townley and from Warner Pacific College, President Andrea Cook, Alumni rep Serena Cline and VP of Institutional Advancement Aaron McMurray.

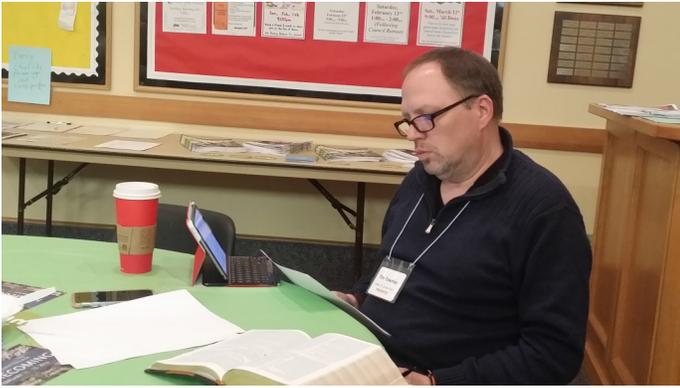


A recap session at the close of the day gave opportunity for attendees to share highlights and take-aways:

- How to tell stories (Jesus and parables)
- Results are based on our systems in place
- Servant Leadership
- Use the gifts God gave you
- SMART Goals (specific, measurable, attainable, repeatable, timely)
- Make your church attractive, and a place you can be proud to bring your friends
- Conflict can be healthy
- Empathy before Discipline (Love & Logic)
- Develop your vocational creed from your personal story (triangle demonstration)
- How to deal with pastoral transitioning
- Listen, Love, Learn
- Create a safe place at church for people to receive healing (James 5:16)



How-To Moments



Michaels to Speak at Ministers' and Spouses' Retreat

Rand and Phyllis Michael are guest speakers for the February 15-17 retreat for ministers and their spouses, to be held at the Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn, 3019 N. Coast Highway in Newport, Oregon.

Rand, an ordained minister, has pastored churches in California, Colorado and Kansas. For over 25 years, he and his wife Phyllis have been involved in a multi-faceted international ministry of counseling, preaching, speaking, teaching, training and pastoral care. Their ministry has taken them to many world locations, including Africa, China, Mexico, Central Europe and the Middle East. Rand holds an earned doctorate that combines Biblical studies and the understanding of persons and relationships. Phyllis holds a graduate degree in counseling psychology. Since 1992, Rand has been a professor of marriage and family therapy at a Christian university; Phyllis is Professor Emeritus of Human Development and Family Studies. Throughout all their ministries, they are committed to encouraging, empowering and equipping those who serve.



Rand and Phyllis Michael

Pastor Martin Shrout, of Portland, Oregon, will serve as Worship leader for the three-day retreat.

Camp White Branch Progress

The Camp White Branch Board continues to function, with a recent meeting at the Salem office. Docket items included caretakers Leonard Meyer reporting on the camp, and Stacey Meyer updating on the promotional brochure. Rev. John Kuykendall and Lisa Switzer are heading up the fundraiser campaign, recruiting regional support. Owen Hinkle faithfully oversees maintenance, and Mel Neu continues to track the building activity, noting the many answers to prayer.

The summer camp schedule is in place (listed below), with the 2016 Men's Advance scheduled in August, Women's Retreat in September, and the annual White Branch Dinner October 27, 2016.

Looking over the past decade, since the formation of a Planning Committee in 2006, the board recognizes God's hand at work. Initial pursuit of a staff and couples' building led to drawings, an environmental impact study, a shift in vision to a multipurpose facility, a 30-year master plan and lease. Obstacles along the way were met with answers to prayer: matching funds, written affirmation of requirements, \$162k in campaign receipts and pledges, and \$150k Murdock grant. An additional permit and excavation efforts were followed by a deposit with a contractor, the foundation footings and retaining wall began in 2012, interrupted with snowfall. Then 2013 saw the completion of pads, retaining wall, start of an access ramp between the dining hall and new building, pads for wood shed and wood boiler, rough plumbing, sewer lines, electrical pipe and phone lines, insulation and rebar. Ramp and gravel work took place in 2014, and on October 13 the building parts were delivered to the camp, with the structure erected by November. Once again ice and snow interrupted the process. Paint peeling issues were identified, and work stopped until reevaluation in mid-March. By May, sandblasting, priming, repainting and coating was approved, completed in August of 2015. Window caulking issues resulted in leaking. As of January 2016, the stairway and mezzanine level flooring, outside doors and big garage door have been installed. The building is now fully enclosed and secure. Funds have been a concern, but God is faithful and our bills are currently paid up to date! Praise God! Thank you to everyone who has supported the work of the Camp, both in prayer, in labor, and with financial contributions. Praise God with us as we continue the adventure.



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

CWB Camp Dates Slated for 2016

(Promote camp attendance for your local congregations)

Senior High camp - Mon.-Fri., July 11-15 (\$200)
Effingham & Nunnally

Introductory Camp - Fri.-Sun., July 15-17 (\$150) Jackson

Middle School Camp - Mon.-Fri., July 18-22 (\$180) Dow

Summer Celebration - Sun.-Wed., July 24- 27

Junior Camp - Mon.-Fri., August 1-5 (\$160) Kuykendall

Primary Camp - Mon.-Thurs., August 8-11 (\$150) Graham

Church of God Band Bridges Generational Gap with Fresh Take on Hymns

by Carl Stagner, COG Ministries (reprinted with permission)

They're Church of God, born-and-raised. They've sung the hymns and let the truths therein sink deep into their hearts. The harmony and conviction resonating from the saints of old still ring in their ears. Sadly, so does the clanging of discord and disharmony caused by worship wars. Though worship wars may not be as prevalent as they once were, there still exists a generational gap in many churches across the country surrounding worship styles. Alanna Story, known for their gifts of worship leadership at the Church of God Convention and numerous youth conventions, is doing something about it. Recognizing that the younger generation often misses out on the depth of the hymns, while the older generation often overlooks the value of the new, Alanna Story is set to release an album that bridges the gap.



We Hymn puts timeless hymns in a modern context, yet maintains singability and substance. Sisters Ally West and Anna Hodge grew up on the hymns of the church, many of which espouse unity. Now they're encouraging the church to live out that unity, even in worship. "We have seen the young generation grab ahold of new choruses and melodies (which are great and help many connect to the heart of God), but many times this is at the expense of losing touch with the songs of old," they explain. "We have also seen a generation that grew up singing hymns cling to those songs at the expense of embracing some of the new, powerful ways the church engages with the presence of God. We need both in our worship!"

Seeking to rid the house of God of the *us-and-them* mentality, Alanna Story began experimenting with creative expressions of classic hymns. As they introduced some of these hymns in worship, they discovered that every generation could participate and connect with God. "The challenge with the styling of this project was to bring fresh sounds to these songs, while also keeping them accessible enough so local churches can use the arrangements and recreate the sounds in their services," Ally and Anna explain. "So while we definitely experimented with programmed sounds like synths, electric drums,

etc., as well as some of the folk instruments you would expect to hear from Alanna Story (accordion, mandolin, strings, etc.), we also used a choir and a full band so that it reflects the kind of corporate sound many churches use in their local context."

So Alanna Story isn't just recording another CD. They've set out to equip the local church with a practical way to introduce and re-introduce hymns into the modern setting. Charts, choral scores, and tracks will all be made available—for hymns such as "The Solid Rock"; "Holy, Holy, Holy"; "Crown Him with Many Crowns"; "I Am the Lord's, I Know"; "Be Still My Soul"; "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"; "My Jesus, I Love Thee"; "When We All Get to Heaven"; as well as two original compositions.

Some may wonder if they read the title of Alanna Story's new project correctly—*We Hymn*. As the group prepared for the project, they discovered that the word *hymn* can be used not only as a noun, but also as a verb.

"To hymn" is "to praise"—exactly what the group has set out to do in this one-of-a-kind project, set to release this April. Presale is expected to begin in a few weeks, so check their



website (www.alannastory.com) and social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) periodically for updates!



Region 5 enjoyed snacks and a time to visit following the Lighthouse Quartet and singalong evening at Sunset Park in St. Helens, OR (see photo on page 8)

Fall Dean's List

Join us as we celebrate the academic achievements of 464 of our undergraduate students included on the Dean's List for the Fall 2015 Semester! To qualify, students must be enrolled full-time and achieve a 3.5 or greater grade point average. Many achieved a perfect 4.0. See the entire list here: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/deans-list-for-fall-2015/>

Homecoming is just around the corner

Did you attend Warner Pacific? Plan to attend this year's Homecoming Weekend (February 11-13). We've got great activities planned, including a professional networking event, a family carnival, and even an alumni pops concert featuring some of your favorite musicians from your time at Warner Pacific College! Registration required. Find the online registration form as well as the weekend's packed schedule here: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/about/alumni/homecoming/>



Knights move up in the rankings

Both the men's and women's basketball teams moved into the 24 spot in their respective NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) Division II Coaches' Top-25 Polls. Read more and check out the entire rankings list here: http://www.wpcknights.com/news/2016/1/5/MBB_0105162357.aspx?path=mball

College/Campuses Closed for President's Day, February 15.

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/>



February 14 is **Freedom Sunday!** If you are in need of programming/service ideas, please take advantage of the numerous resources available at chogtrafficklight.org. Also, we encourage you to share with your community updates from our ministry partners. The Shelter's expansion project is fully funded and breaking ground as we speak. Pink Door will welcome their first women into their transitional home by February 1, with their official launch February 6. God has propelled these works forward in transformational ways because of your partnership!

We want to celebrate together in sharing the powerful stories and thousands of dollars that will be raised during this time, so visit our website at chogtrafficklight.org on February 15 to share both stories from your community's Freedom Sunday and the amount of support your church raised. We have \$370,000 dollars remaining to meet our \$1 million goal, and we believe that together we will meet and exceed this in the coming weeks!

Proud Mama Moment

DeAnn Marble enjoyed a proud mama moment at the WPC display table during the January 31 How-To convention, opening every issue of *The Experience* to the page portraying her daughter, Jenny Marble Elliot. Smile with us at this clever play.



Seven Reasons Why Every Church Should Be Involved in Church Planting

by Chuck Lawless (Reprinted with permission)

I'm a late fan of church planting – not because I didn't believe in it years ago, but more because I wasn't exposed much to planting in my early years of ministry. Now years later, I'm a member of a church plant and a strong proponent of church planting. In fact, I think every church ought to be involved in church planting in some way. Here's why:

1. **All the established churches in North America still aren't reaching our continent.** Some are doing well, but most are plateaued or declining. The status quo just won't work if we want to reach North America.
2. **Thousands of churches will close this year.** The estimates vary, but as many as 10,000 churches will close their doors this year. New, effective churches will be needed to replace them.
3. **New churches tend to grow more evangelistically.** When comparing membership to conversion ratios, new churches usually have a better evangelistic ratio. Both the newness of their work and the passion of their vision tend to drive these congregations outward.
4. **We need new churches to reach our growing ethnic population.** Despite an increasing interest in multi-ethnic congregations, these congregations will not reach the majority of ethnics in our country. We also need ethnic churches to meet this need.
5. **Every church can do something with church planting.** I'm convinced of this statement more than ever – and this point may be the most

important one of this post. Every church can give at least a few dollars to support a church plant. Every church can raise up church planters and encourage church members to consider moving to join a plant. Every church can develop an intentional prayer strategy for a plant. Every church can connect with and help a church planter's family in some way.

6. **God blesses churches with an outward focus.** That's the heart of a God who sent His Son to die for us while we were yet sinners (Rom. 5:8). He blesses congregations who focus beyond themselves to start other congregations.
7. **Many church planters would welcome the support of an experienced, healthy church leader.** Church planting is hard work. It can be lonely at times. Many planters are young leaders navigating the waters of ministry for the first time. A friend with ministry experience would be a welcomed gift.

How might you and your church get involved in church planting? If your church is already involved, tell us why you'd encourage others to do the same.

Chuck Lawless is Dean and Vice-President of Graduate Studies and Ministry Centers at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, where he also serves as Professor of Evangelism and Missions. In addition, he is Global Theological Education Consultant for the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Read more on Chuck's website/blog: <http://chucklawless.com>

Regional Convention coming to Vancouver, WA

Church of God Ministries announces that registration is open for the three "regional conventions (East, West, and Central U.S.) slated for 2016 each with 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)

Additionally, the biennial Church of God Convention will be held June 20-23, 2017, in 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.





Senior Moments

by Ruth Bissett

My thoughts are influenced by three different recent things: 1) My shock and sadness at the recent sudden death of Sharon Skaggs who was loved by so many and who loved and served the Lord. 2) The sudden death of the grandfather of my grandson's wife. Unfortunately this man, who I didn't personally know, was not a believer. And 3) my recent study of Revelation at Bible Study Fellowship.

These things make me think of my life and your life and how fragile life is. The Bible says life is like a vapor that appears for a while and then is gone. You might ask what these things have in common. Sharon went to heaven and, as far as they know, the grandfather went to hell. It is hard for me to even say that word. It seems so final. So that is where the study in Revelation 8 and 9 comes in as we see the many judgments that will come. In the recent study, God limits the judgments by only allowing a third of the trees to be burned up, a third of the sea to become blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. You can read it yourself, but the list includes locusts that were like horses prepared for battle. Then at the end of the chapter it says that those who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands. They worshiped demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts. This sounds like so many people today. Even though tragedy comes, they continue in their sins.

So what does this say to me? It makes me feel compassion for the lost and an urgency to share Jesus in any way and every way I can. That is my prayer. None of us knows when God will call us home, so we need to be ready. None of us knows when God is going to call those we love and those we don't know to be judged. I remember my dad praying for a soul burden. One night my mother woke me to come out and pray for my father. She had awakened me many times in the middle of the night to pray for him as he had heart trouble. That night I could tell he was in agony. When I came to him he told me it wasn't heart, but he had asked God for a soul burden. We don't hear that term much now days, but maybe God is

calling us or at least me to have burden for the lost. I hope you will join me in the call to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

Two songs come to mind on this subject. The one song is by our own Daniel O. Teasley. A lot of us grew up singing this song.

Would you flee from sin and serve the Lord?
Be ready when He comes;
He will soon appear with His reward,
Be ready when He comes.

Be ready, be ready,
Be ready when He comes;
Be ready, be ready,
Be ready when He comes.

The other song is another old one. The words are by Anna Coghill and she was only 18 when she wrote it. It is based on John 9:4 "We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work." For some of us that time will come sooner than for others.

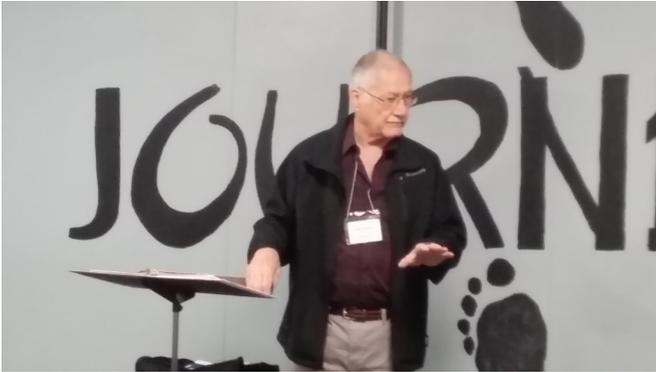
Work, for the night is coming,
Under the sunset skies;
While their bright tints are glowing,
Work, for daylight flies.
Work till the last beam fadeth,
Fadeth to shine no more;
Work, while the night is darkening,
When man's work is o'er.



The Lighthouse Quartet reunited with Wayne Bays during a special "sacred moment" at the Region 5 gathering in St. Helens January 31st.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington
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Presenters Address Tigard How-To Crowd



THE PURPOSE

of The Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington 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

SKAGGS, Sharon E. Gossen

January 9, 1947 - January 8, 2016

Sharon Elaine Skaggs passed away unexpectedly in Salem, Oregon on Friday, January 8, 2016. Born to Ed and Marilyn Gossen on January 9, 1947, she lived a full life characterized by her service to others.



Sharon grew up on a farm in South Dakota and, after graduating from Warner Pacific College in Portland, Oregon, financially managed The Double K Ranch, a non-profit organization providing alternative care to troubled teens in Washington State. From 1981-1991 she and her family lived in Cairo, Egypt serving the church community throughout Egypt. She was a loving caretaker and primary support for her late husband in his battle with cancer from 1988-1993. After his passing, Sharon continued serving others, working in missionary care through Global Missions (now Global Strategy) of Church of God Ministries in Anderson, Indiana. She served in many roles including Living Link Coordinator, Director of Personnel and head of Finance and retired in 2011, having served the organization and the greater church for 30 years. Sharon served on the Children of Promise Board of Directors for 15 years. She also served on the staff of Children of Promise for much of 2015. Even in retirement, Sharon was actively involved with the local food pantry and traveled internationally as a volunteer for Children of Promise. Sharon recently moved to Salem, Oregon to be closer to family. She had already begun to serve in another local food pantry and anticipated more international travels.

Sharon is preceded in death by her husband, Russell Skaggs, parents, Edwin and Marilyn Gossen and in-laws, Wilbur and Evelyn Skaggs.

She is survived by her son and wife, Byron and Jennifer Skaggs of Cairo, Egypt and daughter and husband, Jamie and Patrick Nachtigall of Badenweiler, Germany as well as three grandchildren, Jonathan and Aubrianna Skaggs, Marco Nachtigall, five sisters and

brother, spouses, sister-in-law and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial Service: Saturday, February 6, 1:00 pm at Mt. Scott Church of God, 10603 SE Henderson Street, Portland, OR

Cards for the family may be sent to: 1416 Cunningham Ln S; Salem, OR 97302 USA

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages memorial gifts to the organizations Sharon loved and to which she committed her own time and resources:

Children of Promise, P. O. Box 2316, Anderson, IN 46018. (echildrenofpromise.org/)

Park Place Church of God, Designate: Food Pantry, 501 College Dr, Anderson, IN 46012.

Global Strategy, Church of God Ministries, Sharon Skaggs Memorial Contribution – for the sending of new missionaries, P.O. Box 2420, Anderson, IN 46018.

Upcoming Events

REGION #8 Mtg. - Thursday, February 4, 2016 - 4:00 p.m.

Freedom Sunday - Sunday, February 14, 2016

Office Closed - Monday, February 15, 2016 - Wednesday, February 17, 2016



President's Day - Monday, February 15, 2016

Ministers & Spouse Retreat - Monday, February 15, 2016 - Wednesday, February 17, 2016

REGION #6 Mtg. - Thursday, February 25, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

LEAP YEAR - Monday, February 29, 2016

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, March 3, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

REGION #4 Mtg. - Thursday, March 10, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

Daylight Savings begins - Sunday, March 13, 2016

REGION #7 Mtg. - Wednesday, March 16, 2016 - 12:00 p.m.

Pastors & Leaders Day - Thursday, March 17, 2016

REGION #3 - Tuesday, March 22, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

REGION #5 Mtg. - Thursday, March 24, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.