



## Reclaim Your Neighbor[hood]

The Regional Convention of the Church of God Ministries will take place in Vancouver, Washington, April 26-28, at Vancouver First Church, 3300 NE 78th Street, 98665, with “Reclaim Your Neighbor[hood]” as the focus.

One of three events—the others scheduled for Anderson, Indiana (June 21-23), and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Sept. 27-29)—the Western Area Regional Convention (WARM) will feature powerful guest speakers, Reggie McNeal, Ben Hardman, Milton Grannum, Steve Arterburn, Arnetta McNeese Bailey, and Jim Lyon (pictured below).

Scheduled sessions for the Tuesday through Thursday event are listed on page two. Thursday is set aside for CHOG Table discussions dealing with Sexual Ethics.

General Director Jim Lyon expresses his firm belief that the Church of God is not so much in the church-building business as in the world-changing business, and indeed, not so much in the reformation business as in the reclamation business—reclaiming what Satan has stolen: life in this world and in the next; hope.

Register online at [jesusisthesubject.org](http://jesusisthesubject.org), and don't miss this great opportunity to search the Scriptures together and grow in understanding how to reclaim our lives, our neighbors and our communities.



Reggie McNeal



Ben Hardman



Milton Grannum



Steve Arterburn



Arnetta McNeese Bailey



Jim Lyon

# Regional Convention Schedule



SCHEDULE	Vancouver First Church Location
<b>April 26, 2016</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
5:00 PM—7:00 PM:	Check-in and registration
7:00 PM—9:00 PM:	Session One with Milton Grannum
<b>April 27, 2016</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>
9:00 AM—10:15 AM:	Session Two with Ben Hardman
10:30 AM—NOON:	Session Three
NOON—2:00 PM:	Lunch Break
2:00 PM—3:15 PM:	Session Four with Steve Arterburn
3:15 PM—3:45 PM:	Break
3:45 PM—5:00 PM:	Session Five with Steve Arterburn
5:00 PM—7:00 PM:	Dinner Break
7:00 PM—9:00 PM:	Session Six with Reggie McNeal
<b>April 28, 2016</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
9:00 AM—12:15 PM:	CHOG Table—TOPIC: Sexual Ethics
12:15 PM—1:45 PM:	Lunch Break
1:45 PM—4:30 PM:	CHOG Table—TOPIC: Sexual Ethics

## Reclaim!

Luke 10 records the history of Jesus sending His disciples into whole communities—neighborhoods—to reclaim and redeem. It also tells of a smart guy who asked the question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus’ answer leads to an astonishing parable of the Good Samaritan. The Law, the Gospel, the power of Satan broken, the centrality of Jesus. It’s all there in Luke 10—and it will all be at the 2016 Regional Conventions.

[www.jesusthesubject.org](http://www.jesusthesubject.org)

## District Pastor Search Team Formed

As reported in the March edition of The Contact, District Pastor David Shroul has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2016. The District Council met in special session in late February to discuss succession planning and has named a search committee for the position of District Pastor. Members of this committee include: Pastor Monica Monroe, Pastor Matt Ingalls, Dr. T. Allen Bethel, Dr. Andrea Cook, Pastor Randy Archer, Pastor Jim Minkler, and Ruth Palmer. The committee held its initial meeting March 29.

## Camp White Branch Summer Camps

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



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

# Mid-America Christian University Basketball: Buzzer-Beating, First-Ever NAIA Championship

Posted on March 24, 2016 by [chogministries](#) |

In what will forever be known in Mid-America Christian University lore as the “drive for a championship,” Malcolm Mann took the ball with four seconds left, drove the court, and put in a game-winning layup that spun around and found the net to give the number 14-ranked and fourth-seeded MACU Evangels a thrilling 100-99 overtime victory over the number 1-ranked and top-seeded Georgetown (Kentucky) Tigers and their first ever Buffalo-Funds NAIA national championship on March 22 in the historic Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri.

After a review of the monitor to make sure Mann got the shot off before the clock expired, it was officially ruled good that sent the Evangels into championship euphoria. Mann’s championship-winning score finished off a career night of twenty-three points for the junior guard. “If I didn’t see anyone within two seconds, I was taking it myself,” Mann said. “I lost the ball for a little bit and by the grace of God it went in.”

MACU head coach Josh Gamblin (just turned twenty-seven years old), the youngest coach to ever win a men’s national championship at the four-year level, was named the Rawlings-NAIA Head Coach of the Year after guiding the Evangels to their first-ever NAIA national title in his first season at the helm. “We played a tough schedule, we’re tested, and we have a lot of transfers,” Gamblin said. “They love each other and play for each other, and when you do that, good things tend to happen.”

On Mann’s last shot, Gamblin stated, “I don’t think we even got Malcom a screen, but four seconds for him is a lifetime. He got what he wanted and it was a tremendous finish.”

The Evangels win over the top-ranked Tigers snapped their eleven-game winning streak, the second time this tourney that MACU has halted such a streak after beating Biola in the second round. The extra session had gone back and forth and the Tigers appeared to have the edge when Trent Gilbert hit his first shot of the game, a go-ahead three with four seconds remaining. Trailing the entire way, the Evangels used a 9-0 run and a jumper by Devonse Reed that gave MACU its first lead of the game at 80-79 with 2:07 left.

Tony Kimbro answered for the Tigers with one free throw and then a score inside to put Georgetown back in front 82-80 with 46 seconds left. The Evangels came back down and got a layup from Chris Runnels that tied the score with 21 seconds remaining and eventually sent the game into the overtime period. Down by double-digits much of the first half and 11 at the half, the Evangels made their charge back behind back-to-back threes by Reed and a trey from Bryon Miller that cut the deficit to 55-52, the closest MACU had been since early in the first half.

After Noah Cottrill briefly halted the run with a three, a score inside from Nick Tate and consecutive driving layups by Mann brought the Evangels even at 60-60. The Tigers scored the next four, but the Evangels continued to hang in and came within one at 68-67 on a layup from Chris Runnels. Georgetown regained some separation by scoring the next seven points for an eight-point lead with 8:56 remaining. The Tigers missed their first six shots from two-point distance to begin the game but were red-hot from the perimeter, hitting their first six shots from beyond the arc. Four of those treys came from Kimbro that helped Georgetown build a double-digit lead of 25-15 through the first 10 minutes of the contest.

Georgetown kept the Evangels at arm’s length the rest of the period as Kimbro nailed his fifth trey of the half to give the Tigers a 50-39 lead at the break. In addition to the Tigers’ hot-shooting from three-point distance, Deondre McWhorter had a double-double in the opening stanza of 13 points and 10 rebounds to help the



*(Continued on page 4)*

# International Youth Convention slated for San Antonio

The registration deadline is approaching for International Youth Convention (IYC) to be held in San Antonio, Texas July 2-5, 2016.

The theme for the event is ONE God, Truth, Body, Mission, and is based on Eph. 4:4-6: *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”*

Details and registration information are online at [iyc2016.org](http://iyc2016.org), or for assistance, email [iyc@chogorg](mailto:iyc@chogorg) or call 1-800-848-2464.



## CONVENTION T-SHIRTS

We are excited to have our IYC2016 pre-convention t-shirts ready for purchase! This is a special edition that is only available for you to order pre-convention. Below is the link for you to order your IYC pre-convention t-shirt. Your order must be postmarked by March 10, 2016. Cost of shirt is \$12 + \$2 for shipping. If you have any questions about t-shirts, feel free to email [pfalke@chog.org](mailto:pfalke@chog.org). <https://CGM.formstack.com/forms/iyc2016tshirts>

## Buzzer-Beating, First-Ever NAIA Championship

*(Continued from page 3)*

Tigers build the opening half cushion. Reed, named the Chuck Taylor Most Valuable Player for the tourney, scored a team-high 25 points. “It’s about helping my teammates,” Reed said. “I know they have my back and I do my best to have their back.”

Miller scored 16 and Tate had 14 points. Chris Runnels chipped in with 12 points. Cotttrill led the Tigers (32-4) with 32 points and Kimbro had a double-double of 25 points and 12 rebounds. McWhorter also had a double-double of 21 points and 11 boards.

“We have really good players with very good kids and two great assistant coaches,” Gamblin said. “The administration has been great and the program was built well,” Gamblin said. “We had a bad taste in our mouth from the conference tournament and we won a bunch of good, tough games in KC.”

*Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), MACU is a private, Christian liberal arts college of the Church of God (Anderson, IN) that’s experiencing unprecedented growth. MACU offers a range of programs, such as behavioral science, counseling, business administration, Bible & theology, teacher education, leadership, and criminal justice, all taught from a worldview that promotes Judeo-Christian values and ethics. Article originally published at [www.macuathletics.com](http://www.macuathletics.com).*

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## Warner Pacific Wrestlers Achieve All-American Performances

Three Knights represented the Warner Pacific Men's Wrestling Team at the NAIA National Championships, and came away with 2 All-American performances including a national title by Blake Cooper, who becomes school's second-ever All-American since 1973. <http://www.wpcknights.com/news/2016/3/5/mens-wrestling-cooper-wins-185lb-title-wilbert-all-american-at-naia-championships.aspx?path=mwres>

## Warner Pacific Knights named NAIA Scholar Athletes

Congratulations to Knights Daesha Jackson and Maurice Hale on being honored for their hard work in the classroom and on the basketball court. <http://www.wpcknights.com/news/2016/3/15/mens-basketball-jackson-hale-named-naia-scholar-athletes.aspx?path=mball>

## Warner Pacific welcomes a new Act Six Cadre of Students

Act Six provides leadership training and full scholarships for emerging urban and community leaders who want to use their college education to make a difference on campus and in their communities. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/meet-our-new-act-six-cadre/>

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/>

## EVENTS:

### President's Scholarship Auction

Dr. Andrea Cook, President of Warner Pacific College, invites you to support Portland's next generation of urban and diverse leaders at a formal tea and live auction. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/scholarship-auction/>

Saturday, April 9

Registration opens at 10:15 am

Tickets are just \$34 per person

RSVP online: [https://](https://warnerpacific.regfox.com/2016-presidents-scholarship-auction)

[warnerpacific.regfox.com/2016-presidents-scholarship-auction](https://warnerpacific.regfox.com/2016-presidents-scholarship-auction)

### College Preview Day

College-bound students can get a sneak peek at what college life is really like during Warner Pacific's Preview Days April 14-15. Check out all the details and reserve your spot (stay overnight or come just for the <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/admissions/visit/preview/>

Warner Pacific College is located at 2219 SE 68th Avenue in Portland.

**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.

# KFalls to host Women's Connector Rally May 13-14

The First Church of God in Klamath Falls, Oregon, will host the 2016 *Connector Rally*, formerly known as the Christian Women's Connection (CWC) spring convention, with the theme of *Peace*, based on Colossians 3:15a: "And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts".

Guest speaker for the May 13-14 event is Toni Johnson, with worship leader Marsha Akery.

Toni is a lifelong resident of Rainier, Oregon, and has attended the Rainier Community Church of God for almost that long. She and her husband, Ray, have been married almost 50 years. They raised three children, have five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Toni lights up when she talks about them. Toni ran a daycare for 11 years in her home, then worked as a teacher assistant at the Rainier Middle School for 20 years. She taught Sunday School for several years, with classes ranging from two-year-olds to adults. Toni has participated in several L.I.V.E. weekends and is also a cancer survivor. Currently she is the Spiritual Formation Coordinator for the Christian Women Connection of Oregon. Toni truly loves the Lord and laughter! Come get to know Toni as she shares from her heart.

Marsha Akery has enjoyed serving the Lord in ministry as a Pastor's Wife, Choir Director, Church Worship Leader, pianist/organist, Sunday School teacher, Women's Retreat/Conference Speaker and Worship Leader as well as holding Local and State WCG Offices. As a two-term State Spiritual Life Director she has planned and coordinated the California, Nevada and Hawaii State Prayer Retreat at Diamond Arrow Camp Grounds. Marsha has had many wonderful experiences with the Women of the Church of God. She looks forward to serving the Lord through leading worship at the District Connector Rally.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a theme basket and be prepared to participate in the bidding during the traditional Silent Auction fundraiser. Each year the district women help raise scholarship funds for a Warner Pacific female student preparing for Christian service.

Registration for the two-day event is \$40, and includes meals and programming. Please register by April 25, 2016, with contact information and a \$20, with the balance payable upon arrival. If possible send all registrations from your church together with one check. Registration is transferable but non-refundable. Make checks payable to CWC and mail registration to: Sherrill Goodeill, 3229 SE 116<sup>th</sup> Ave. Portland, OR 97266.

The First Church of God is located at 2802 Altamont Dr. in Klamath Falls, OR 97603. Phone: (503) 880-0576. For housing needs, Cimarron Inn and Olympic Inn are closest to the church and recommended by the planning team. Other accommodations include Holiday Inn Express, Comfort Inn, Microtel, and Motel 6. Mention the Rally when making reservations.

Driving Directions: Entering in from US-97 South/The Dalles-California Hwy continue 4.5 miles until it becomes OR-39/S 6<sup>th</sup> St. Turn Right on S 6<sup>th</sup> St And go 0.5 miles then turn Left onto Altamont Drive and go



Toni Johnson



Marsha Akery

## *Connector Rally Schedule*

### Friday, May 13:

4:00 - Registration begins

Silent auction items

6:00 - Dinner

7:00 - Evening Session

Marsha Akery/Toni Johnson

9:00 - Dessert and Fellowship

Silent Auction Bidding

### Saturday, May 14:

8:30 - 9:00 - Devotions

9:15 - 9:30 - Installation

9:30 - 9:45 -- Silent Auction Bidding

9:45 - 11:30 - Morning Session

Marsha Akery/Toni Johnson

11:45 -- Last chance to bid

12:00 - Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 -- Reflections

Marsha Akery/Toni Johnson

Auction Winners Announced!

# Ministers' Gathering May 7

Ministers and spouses will gather at 9:30 Saturday morning at the Hoodview Church of God, 1530 Mt. Hood Avenue, Woodburn, OR. Only credentialed ministers will vote, but the meeting is open to all. Welcome, guest speaker, Rev. Jeannette Flynn.



REV. JEANNETTE FLYNN  
GUEST SPEAKER  
MINISTERS MEETING

Lunch will be served by the Hoodview  
Church of God for \$5.00

PLEASE SIGN UP ON-LINE  
BY MAY 5 AT  
WWW.ORWACOG.ORG



## Senior Adult Theme

Senior Adults will enjoy an old fashioned theme during July's Summer Celebration, to include songs from the early years of the Church of God.

Participants are to dress in old-fashioned clothes (suspenders, top hat, bonnets for the women, etc.). Senior sessions will focus on Wise Investments—not about stocks and bonds—but investments in lives.



**Books Available**—Church of God historical books (hardbound *Gospel Trumpet*) are available. If interested, contact Longview First Church of God 360-636-0370.

**Musician Needed**—Keyboard player is needed for the Summer Celebration worship band. Call or text Liza, Summer Celebration Task Force member, at 503-975-4752. The worship leader this year will be Brent Hofer.

**Annual Reports Due**—Task Force/Commission annual reports are due to the District Office by May 1st. Contact the District Office if you have questions or need more information.

**Promotional Materials Due**—To include promotional materials in the Ministers' Gathering packets, please submit brochures/information to the District Office by April 27, 2016.

# Upcoming Events

CWB mtg - Tuesday, April 5 - 5:30 pm

REGION #8 Mtg. - Thursday, April 7 - 4:00 pm

REGION #1 - Tuesday, April 12 - 10 am

COG Regional Convention, Vancouver, WA -  
Tuesday, April 26 - Thursday, April 28

WARM - Tuesday, April 26 - Thursday, April 28

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, May 5 - 10 am

Ministers Gathering (NEW DATE!) - Saturday,  
May 7 - 9:30 am - 3 pm

MOTHER'S DAY - Sunday, May 8

Visit the Association Calendar online at  
[www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org).



Connector Rally (Christian Women  
Spring Convention) - Friday, May 13 - Saturday,  
May 14

REGION #7 Mtg. - Wednesday, May 18 - 12 pm

REGION #3 Mtg. - Tuesday, May 24 - 10 am

REGION #4 Mtg. - Tuesday, May 24 - 10 am

REGION #5 Mtg. - Thursday, May 26 - 10 am

MEMORIAL DAY - Monday, May 30  
(Offices Closed)

REGION #8 Mtg. - Thursday, June 2, 2016 - 4:pm  
Annual Senior Retreat - Wednesday, June 15, -  
Friday, June 17, 2016

FATHER'S DAY - Sunday, June 19, 2016

REGION #6 Mtg. - Thursday, June 23, 11 am  
International Youth Convention - Saturday, July 2,  
2016 - Tuesday, July 5, 2016

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, July 7, 2016 - 10am

## Region 8 Representative Transition

Pastor Randy Archer is the newly appointed Council representative from Region 8, succeeding Pastor David Wilson.

Regional Updates and photos are encouraged.  
Please email: [contacteditor@orwacog.org](mailto:contacteditor@orwacog.org).