



Summer Celebration Highlights

by Kay Tira

McGuire Auditorium at the Warner Pacific College campus in Portland, Oregon, was filled on opening night of the 2016 Summer Celebration. The annual gathering of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington Sunday evening, July 24, included 418 registered participants.



Great pre-service music signaled the crowd each evening as worship began and general sessions proclaimed

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”. Worship leader Brent Hofer and program Chairman Mike Mugford directed the evening gatherings with featured speakers Patrick Nachtigall, Matt Ingalls, Aaron McMurray and Denise Douglas, respectively.

Attendees were challenged by Patrick Nachtigall to reject fear and hold tightly to our identity as children of God, citizens of the Kingdom of God, and members of His Church. Matt Ingalls expressed the absurdity of God’s faithfulness in shepherding His children, as He leaves the 99 to tend to the one who should have known better than to wander off. Aaron McMurray traced spiritual lineage, winding through the decades back to a chilly morning at the Sea of Galilee, when he



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Pastor David and Connie Shrou were honored with a tribute by Gale Hency and a reception in McGuire Auditorium at the close of Summer Celebration, in light of David’s upcoming retirement at year end, and in appreciation for 16 years of service as Association Coordinator/District Pastor.

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called Peter to follow him. Pastor Denise Douglas encouraged listeners, chosen witnesses, to develop the habit, discipline and obedience to tell of the mighty acts of God.

With opportunities to connect between sessions, the schedule included mission conferences, morning devotions, a women's High Tea, the annual ministers' fellowship meeting, children's "Dr. Seuss & the Bible" series, the youth "Create to Create" program with artist and speaker Cameron Moberg, a trip to Oak Park, Scavenger hunt, and "Family Fun Day". A special "Old Fashioned" event orchestrated by Ruth Bissett and team included a hymn-sing and historical drama with a great 1880s stage/set by Jay Tepper, and several costumed characters.

The Annual Association Meeting was conducted Wednesday, July 27, with the approval of the bylaws change to include electronic voting, passing of the 2016-17 Association Budget and election of Mel Neu as Camp White Branch Chair.



Patrick Nachtigall shares 3W Team updates



During the Ministers' Fellowship meeting, Tim Irwin and Rich LaMar were elected for three-year terms on the Credentials and Advisory Board (filling spots vacated by Gale Hency and Charlie Gray), with Linda Tucker Bays chairing for another three-year term. The ministers' list was reviewed and approved with contact corrections noted.

Enjoy a variety of Summer Celebration photo highlights in this issue.

In addition to Editor photos, appreciation to Mel Neu, and Facebook photos from Denise Douglas, David Shrou, Peter Howland and Sara Sargent, Ruth Bissett, and Kindra Hammers.



Pastor Matt Ingalls addresses the Tuesday evening attendees

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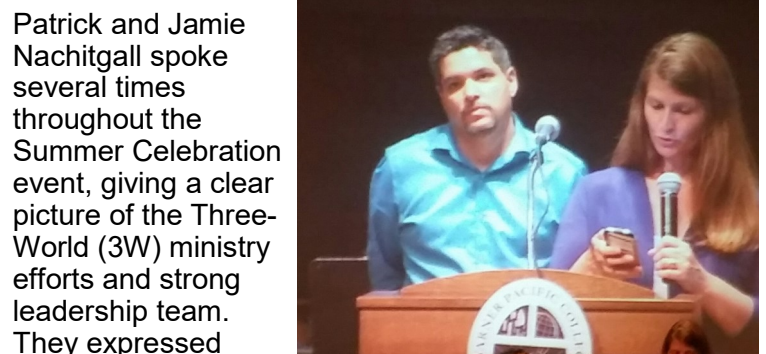
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Pastor Joe Tira, of Longview, WA, anoints Alejandro and Carmen deFrancisco and Patrick and Jamie Nachtigall (3W) during a Wednesday morning missions session in Schlatter Chapel, as attendees gather to agree in prayer.



Above: Dr. Aaron McMurray, of Warner Pacific College, and Pastor Denise Douglas, of Mt. Scott Church of God, speak during general sessions.



Patrick and Jamie Nachtigall spoke several times throughout the Summer Celebration event, giving a clear picture of the Three-World (3W) ministry efforts and strong leadership team. They expressed appreciation for the support of churches and individuals in the Oregon and SW Washington Association.



Alejandro and Carmen deFrancisco (lower right) share their testimony, heart and vision for Spain. In the early stages of seeking support, their field assignment is dependent on funding and is estimated at 12-24 months away. See choggloal.org for Living Link opportunities.

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Dave Thompson of Redmond, and Jessica Taylor of Rockwood Church of God were officially ordained as Church of God ministers July 27, 2016. Sponsoring Pastors Robin Brooke and Frank Yerden honored them and exemplified service by washing of feet.



Children were dismissed with prayer as they moved on to age-appropriate programming during the evening worship services. We appreciate Sandra Salisbury who helped with KidCheck safety check-in/registration, Peter and Judi Howland and Brock Jackson, who led the elementary kids, and R.J. Jackson, Nancy Brown and Elizabeth Dominguez who tended to the preschool/nursery age.



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Over 150 youth celebrated Summer Celebration/ Campmeeting from Monday through Thursday with the theme of "Created to Create". Activities included worship, fellowship, service projects (Mt. Tabor trash pick-up, face-painting for kids, retirement center visits), a trip to Seaside, and a scavenger hunt.

Artist and speaker Cameron Moberg emphasized that God does not want us to be robots, or stay in our safe little box, but to go out into world and engage with community. Using his graffiti skills internationally, Cameron works with high risk teens, seeking opportunity to talk about God and offer hope.



Tigard youth take a break to pose, while trying to agree on a fast-food destination.



Staff and volunteers tend to registration in McGuire lobby.



Teens grouped up to compete in an afternoon Scavenger Hunt.

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Open to all ages this year, the senior adults especially enjoyed the old-fashioned hymn-sing and *Heaven to Earth Heritage* choral and drama presentation and afternoon meal on Wednesday. Big thanks to Ruth Bissett for organizing, Jay Tepper for the 1880's set. and to all who participated.

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, Indiana;
- Provide support for the development of healthy Church of God congregations.

A Bold Move in the United Kingdom

by Zach and Audrey Langford (Posted on chogministries.org July 22, 2016)

As most of you know, we work in a very difficult, post-Christendom context where very few choose to go to church or even know about Jesus. Our neighborhood in Birkenhead has just over 15,000 people and only four evangelical churches—each with about twenty people and no youth. The exception is our church, Egan Road, where we have very few adults, but a consistent and growing fellowship of children, youth, and young adults.



On June 2, our small church, which has an average age of seventy-six, made the monumental decision of re-orienting the church toward the young people and the local community. Pastor John Pemberton has decided it is time for him to retire and for the church to engage the next generation at a much more strategic level. Our great location, our building, and our growing youth ministry means that this is the perfect time to establish a church that intentionally reaches out to the younger generations in our neighborhood. We (the Langfords) have been asked to completely refigure Egan Road to help the church give birth to a whole new church. This is truly amazing! Zach will be the senior pastor and will disciple young leaders with the hope that, in the future, a local person will become the leader of this new younger-generation church.

This does not mean the older fellowship at Egan Road will close or die. The transition does mean that the new church will have new DNA, be able to configure the church facilities to prioritize reaching non-Christians, and be able to present itself in a way that non-Christians can encounter the gospel for the first time.

We are amazed that this old, faithful church is willing to “die to itself” out of its desire to see the neighborhood experience Christ. They understand that their ministry capability to the younger generations is limited, but they do know how to love young people, support them, and support a whole new ministry for them. Lately, we have seen a marked increase in our young people wanting to be discipled and be a part of the church. This change is coming at exactly the right time. We began a six-month home assignment to visit churches and prepare for this next phase of ministry, and then in April 2017, Zach and Audrey will assume leadership for the older church and start a whole new youth-oriented fellowship.



Photo: Zach and Audrey Lanford (left) with Pastor John Pemberton.

We thank you for your support and encourage you to follow us on this exciting adventure. We will need your prayers and support.

Zach and Audrey Langford serve as missionaries for Global Strategy to the United Kingdom. Learn more about Global Strategy at www.chogglobal.org.

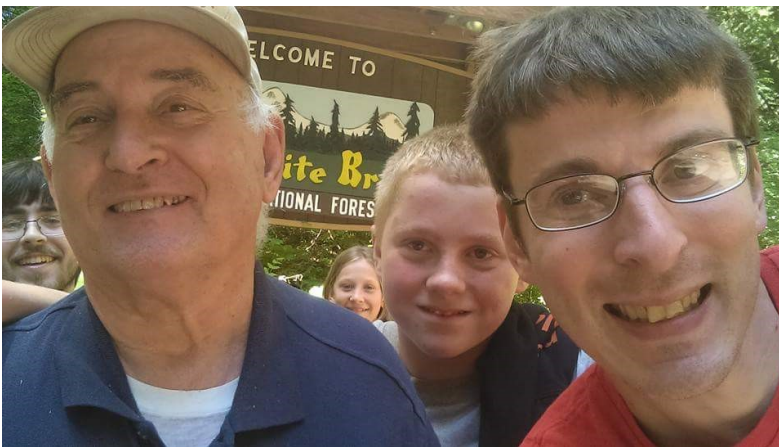
Camp White Branch: Look to the Hills

Progress Continues on Multipurpose Facility

Mel Neu reports that he has now framed the lower level of the building, with only some blocking left to do. The electrician (Bill) has wired the framed parts, and all lights are working. Meanwhile Mel has been getting competitive bids to determine costs to complete the building. He notes, "At this point and all along we have not spent money we did not have. To date everything on the building is paid. I will not have any work done nor will I buy things for the building we can not pay for when product is delivered or work is complete. Thanks for your support," writes Mel, "We are actually beginning to see an end to this project."



Meanwhile, summer camps are underway at White Branch—schedules sandwiching Summer Celebration at Warner Pacific College. Youth leaders and sponsors are carrying heavy schedules as they move from one event to another.



AUGUST SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

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

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

61500 Old McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, OR

Men's Advance "Spiritual Warfare"

Guest Speaker:

Rev. John Kuykendall

August 19-21, 2016

(Friday, 4PM—Sunday 10AM)

Camp White Branch

Registration:

\$75 by August 5

Checks payable to

The Oregon Men of the COG

c/o Mark Gebler, 300 Nelson Ln,

Gladstone, OR 97027

menofthechurchofgod@gmail.com

Additional \$10 late fee after 8/5/16.

Regional Churches Connect

Willamette Valley Campmeeting August 14-17 in Turner

To help promote greater connectedness in their region and beyond, the congregations of Region 3



(Albany, Salem and Woodburn) are hosting an informal 3-day, 4-night "campmeeting" August 14-17 featuring times of worship, fellowship, camping and fun. Held at the Oregon Christian Convention in Turner, the historic grounds feature RV campsites, cabins, dorms, play areas and even a river for tubing.

Kuot Ngor, a Church of God pastor and church planter in South Sudan, will be the speaker for the morning services. Retired Church of God pastor Mike Kernutt will start off each day by leading morning devotions. Doug and Danette Beisley, newly on staff at the Salem congregation, will lead the worship for the evening services and Martin Mann, the founding pastor of Jitters Coffee House Church in Millersburg, Ohio, a church that focuses on evangelism and making disciples, will be the speaker for the evening worship times.

The event is open to anyone and both day and overnight options are available. Monday through Wednesday dinner will be provided on a donation basis. Registration flyers are available online

at www.hoodviewchurchofgod.com/campmeeting. For more information, contact the Hoodview Church of God office at 503-981-1660.

The ORWACOG Association has formed eight Regional areas to promote sister-church activities and synergy. Regional representatives participate in the District Council and are encouraged to provide updates through the E-CONTACT. Together we are better able to serve our communities and identify opportunities.

Region 5 Collaborates to Paint Scappoose Facility



Pastor Linda Tucker-Bays posted these words of appreciation on her Facebook page July 18th:

"I am so grateful for the other Church of God congregations up here in my neck of the woods (otherwise known as Region 5). Volunteers from Longview, Rainier, and St. Helens came the last two Fridays to paint our church building and today, when I needed to attend to some issues relating to one of Wayne's medications, all three churches played a part in transporting our group to camp. Thank you!!!"



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Pastors Mike Kernutt, Steve Kufeldt and Mike Mugford connect in McGuire Auditorium prior to an evening service of worship and celebration.



“Rev. Ray Hood and Dan Arnbrister take time to greet each other during Summer Celebration.

[Pastor Ray Hood celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends at a special reception Saturday, July 30, in Hillsboro, Oregon.]

Warner Pacific College News

by Kathy Covey, WPC Web Content & Marketing Specialist

Welcoming a new class of City Builder Scholars

On July 1, the 2016-17 class of City Builder Scholars was introduced to Warner Pacific. These 19 local students are equipped with a strong cohort, a clearly defined sense of purpose, and practical college success skills. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/welcoming-a-new-class-of-city-builder-scholars/>

Champions Academy at WPC

Warner Pacific College is a founding partner in an incredibly exciting initiative called the Champions Academy (www.pdxchampions.org). It is a powerful summer academy where excellence in academics and athletics is expected as student athletes are challenged to be Champions in all areas of life. Champions Academy is designed to assist student athletes who love sports yet struggle in school. The Academy is a true collaboration. Joining Warner Pacific are: Portland Leadership Foundation, serving as the day-to-day directing organization; HOLLA Mentors, recruiting mentors to ensure each Champ has a year-round healthy adult relationship; the Department of

Human Services (DHS), who enrolled 56 kids currently in foster care. Additionally, Campus Compact of Oregon committed 12 AmeriCorps Summer VISTA spots for us to hire college students as summer staff at the Champions Academy. All Hands Raised folded the Champions Academy into their initiative, called Ninth Grade Counts, so each incoming ninth grader will leave the Champions Academy with a half credit toward their high school diploma.

SlingShot Youth Conference

For three dynamic days, SlingShot encourages believers from all walks of life to be Challengers, Changers, and Champions together. Our hope is that everyone who attends SlingShot will encounter worship, inspiration, mission, and the transformative power of the Gospel in ways that are familiar, but more importantly in ways that introduce them to the vastness of the Kingdom. <http://www.theslingshotconference.com/> August 4-6
Warner Pacific campus: 2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland.

29th Pastoral Anniversary



August 13, 2016

Pastor Charles W Hunter Sr and First Lady Beverly Hunter

Celebrating

29 years as Pastor & Wife of Neighborhood Church of God

43 years with Portland Public Schools

30 plus years with Portland Police Bureau

40 years of Marriage and much, much, more...

Banquet @ 6:00pm

DoubleTree Hotel, Lloyd Ctr, 1000 NE Multnomah Street, Pdx

Tickets: \$50 per person / \$300 per Table

For more info, Call Richard @ 503-964-9137 or email @ 1953drahicir61@gmail.com



Tigard Celebrates 50 Years

Blue and gold decorations made a festive welcome for the estimated 300 attendees at the 50-Year celebration of the Tigard Church of God. The July 30 reunion included special speakers, musicians and guests, a sing-along and catered dessert social. The celebration continued Sunday July 31.

Lynchwood Invites Guest Speakers

Sunday, August 14 - Zach and Audrey Langford, Global Strategy Missionaries to the UK will share at Lynchwood Church of God in the 9 a.m. Sunday School Class and 10:15 a.m. Worship Service during Mission Moments. (See Langford article, page 7).

Upcoming Events

REGION #8 Mtg. - Thursday, August 4, 4 pm

NACOG Centennial Celebration - Sunday, August 7 - Sunday, August 14, 2016

Installation Service, Rainier Church of God - Sunday, August 7, 2016 - 3:00 pm

Primary Camp, entering 3rd-4th grade - Monday, August 8 - Thursday, August 11, 2016

Hunters Celebration Event - Saturday, August 13, 2016 - 6:00 pm, Portland Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah Street

Men's Advance - Friday, August 19 - Sunday, August 21, 2016

REGION #6 Mtg. - Thursday, August 25, 2016 - 11 am

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, September 1, 2016 - 10 am

Retired Ministers, Missionaries & Spouses Appreciation Dinner, Portland - Thursday, September 8, 2016 - 4:30 pm

Retired Ministers, Missionaries & Spouses Appreciation Dinner, Eugene - Friday, September 9, 2016 - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

REGION #4 Mtg. - Thursday, September 15, 2016 - 10 am

Christian Women Connection Prayer Retreat - Friday, September 16, 2016 - Sunday, September 18, 2016

REGION #7 Mtg. - Wednesday, September 21, 2016 - 12:00 pm

REGION #5 Mtg. - Thursday, September 22, 2016 - 10 am

REGION #3 Mtg. - Tuesday, September 27, 2016 - 10 am

orwacog.org/calendar