

A PUBLICATION OF
The Association of the
Churches of God in Oregon &
SW Washington



Vol. 5, Issue 4
July/Aug 2023



— CONNECTIONS —

Connecting our Churches, Ministries & Events



Greetings Friends!

I have just returned from the biannual Church of God Convention and General Assembly held in Tampa FL. Thank you for allowing me to attend and to represent our Association at this important meeting. It was great to see old friends and to make new ones. The main sessions and electives were inspiring and filled with excellent content. The General Assembly, which is made up of credentialed ministers and lay delegates from Church of God congregations in the United States and Canada was held 3 days during the conference. Each session lasted for two and a half hours. The GA is where decisions are made on behalf of the

movement since its first meeting in 1917. According to Loyd Moritz in his most recent ChoGBlog, “there were at most approximately 500 registered delegates in person, and a measly 120 watching online. On the final day, Saturday, where some of the most significant votes were held those numbers were closer to 400 and 95, respectively. At best, less than 7% of eligible voters participated in the important decisions that were made.” As you can see, broad-based participation in the G.A. seems to be waning. Many factors contribute to these low numbers including location and cost of travel. Even so, some important topics were discussed, and decisions made.

As many of you have heard, our General Director Jim Lyon’s term of service is up in 2025. Jim has made the decision not to be considered for another term. At the GA there was information given on the search process that has begun. Information on how we can pray and participate will be communicated through the usual channels used by Church of God Ministries. You can also find information on the national website at jesusisthesubject.org in the “about” tab. Jim Lyon gave a report that highlighted some of the challenges of his position and the difficulties for the movement moving forward. He talked about the need for “real dialogue” regarding a change in the way the Church of God operates if we are to see any growth in the future.

One of the areas of growth that the assembly saw as important is in the area of racial and gender equity. At the 2021 GA in Denver, CO a resolution was passed to establish a Justice and Equity Task Force dubbed the Jet.Force. The purpose of the Jet. Force was “to discover the composition, beliefs, and

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District Office, Church & National Events



- July 4: Fourth of July
- July 8: Annual Business Mtg—Salem
- July 10-14: Senior High Camp @ CWB
- July 17-21: Middle School Camp @ CWB
- July 24-28: Junior Camp @ CWB
- July 30-Aug 3: Willamette Valley Campmeeting

- Aug 7-10: Primary Camp @ CWB
- Aug 11-13: Introductory Camp @ CWB
- Aug 18-20: Men's Retreat @ CWB

Nehemiah 9:6
God made the heavens, the earth, the sea,
and everything in them.

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE CHURCH OF GOD

CHOG NEWS

Check out this event and so much more at Jesusisthesubject.org—



Want to know more about ministries happening around the world?
Sign up to get updates on the following ... and so much more.

1. All That is to Say Podcast
2. CARE
3. Chapter 4 Institute
4. Christians Broadcasting Hope
5. Disaster Relief and Restoration
6. US & Canada Strategy
7. Global Strategy
8. Partners in Ministry



Pastor Jerry—District Team to Assist You

(continued from page 1)

practices of Church of God agencies and congregations with regard to racial justice and the equality of men and women across the Movement in the United States and Canada and to ascertain the impact of such composition, beliefs, and practice on the global mission of the Church of God.” The task force did an excellent job of surveying the church and reporting its findings. An 86-page booklet was distributed to the delegates highlighting some of the history of the movement regarding equity and women in ministry. From their research, the Jet. Force proposed several recommendations for the Church of God movement including celebrating our diversity and women in ministry, communicating our commitment to these important issues, creating resources as well as opening opportunities for dialogue, and coaching leaders. They also presented six new resolutions including the hiring of a new executive leadership position called the Director of Strategic Partnership as well as directing Church of God ministries to coordinate a celebration of diversity on Pentecost Sunday. There was also a resolution directing Church of God ministries to coordinate a celebration of women in ministry called PreacHer Sunday. A Sunday in March set aside to promote women in ministry with the goal of filling as many pulpits in the movement with women as possible. I applaud the work done by the Jet force and hope this spurs the movement on to greater ethnic and gender equity and inclusion.

Among some of the other resolutions that were presented to the GA was the approval of the budget, consideration of where the convention is held, as well as a resolution to give seminary graduates an exemption from or fast tract to completing the Leadership Focus credentialing track.

While at the conference I had the opportunity to participate in the Global Strategy 5k fun run to benefit disaster relief around the globe. “Fun run” is relative as Saturday morning brought 80+ degree heat with high humidity.

I left the convention with mixed emotions. I was inspired by the content of the meeting but feeling like the movement needs some drastic changes if we are to thrive in the future. I have hope that if we keep Jesus as not only the subject but the object of our discipleship and attention, we can make an impact not only in the United States and Canada but around the globe. In a world full of division, the world still needs the call to unity that the Church of God has always embraced—a call to Holy Spirit led unity not uniformity.

Together in ministry,

Pastor Jerry

Annual Business Meeting

Our Annual Business Meeting for our Association is scheduled for this

Saturday, July 8th @ Oak Park Church of God in Salem.

Registration begins @ 9:30am

Lunch will be available to everyone registered.

Campmeeting—July 30th-August 3rd

THE ASSOC. OF THE CHURCH OF GOD • OR & SW WA
WILLAMETTE VALLEY CAMPMEETING 2023

ONE ANOTHER

OREGON CHRISTIAN CONVENTION CENTER • TURNER, OR

REGISTRATION OPENS
MAY 1

JULY 30
-
AUGUST 3

REGISTER AT
ORWACOG.ORG

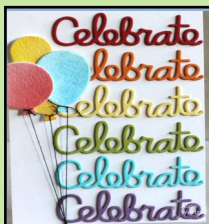
GUEST SPEAKERS
MARK AND LORI FAST

The graphic features a central photo of Mark and Lori Fast, a man and a woman smiling. The background is light blue with faint, repeating words like 'love', 'forgive', 'encourage', 'serve', and 'teach'. The text is arranged in a modern, geometric layout with green and white diamond shapes.

Registration is open for this year's Willamette Valley Campmeeting, our district's annual gathering in Turner, Oregon. This is a great time of worship and inspiration for the whole family. It's also a great a time to get to know others from across our district.

Mark & Lori Fast, a Pacific Northwest pastoral couple who now serve through Church of God Ministries, will be our main speakers for the daily combined services as well as the morning youth services. They will speak on the "one anothers" of Scripture—encouraging and equipping us to live out these vital truths.

Held on the historic grounds of the Oregon Christian Convention, this family-friendly event offers a variety of activities, onsite dining, and overnight lodging options (cabins, dormitory rooms, RV and tent spaces). Daily commuters are also welcome. Costs are kept low to make it affordable for all. Plan now to join us. **Everyone attending must register, go to: <http://bit.ly/Campmeeting2023>. July 23rd is the deadline to register for meals.**



Sunday Night Worship will also be a time of celebration for those being ordained and those being recognized for years of ordination—25, 40 & 50 years. Come support the call to vocational ministry of our pastors!! Service begins at 7pm.

Plan now to join us. Registration is open.

Missions Project at WVC

Homeless Go Bags

Our missions project this year at Willamette Valley Campmeeting will provide “essential” backpacks for the homeless.

If you would like to contribute supplies for these bags, here are the items we will need to fill the cinch backpacks ...

**Water Pair of Socks Toothbrush/Toothpaste
Deodorant Lotion or Sunscreen Gum
Cleaning Wipes Sanitizer Chapstick
A few snacks like Jerky, Granola Bars,
Crackers, Hard Candy, Trail Mix
Small Christian Book... such as a New Testament,
Bible Promise Book, etc**



Please **bring your donated items** to Campmeeting by Sunday evening, July 30th and place them at the back of the tabernacle. If you would like to **contribute \$\$** towards this project, send it to the District Office (715 S River Street, Newberg, OR 97132) prior to July 24th designated for Go Bags or call Paula @ 503-393-3510 office, 559-269-9126 cell.

If you would like to **assemble the Go Bags**, come to WVC Tuesday, August 1st. We will meet in the tabernacle at 1pm.

2023 Campmeeting Schedule

Sunday, July 30

3:00P Registration Opens
7:00P Evening Service
 Minister's Ordination/Recognition

Monday, July 31

7:30A Morning Devotions:
8:00A Breakfast
10:00A Morning Service
 Children's Activities
10:00A Youth Summer Impact
12:00P Lunch
1:00P Meet Your Missionaries
2:00P Afternoon Activities
5:30P Dinner
7:00P Evening Service

Tuesday, August 1

7:30A Morning Devotions
8:00A Breakfast
10:00A Morning Service
 Children's Activities
10:00A Youth Summer Impact
12:00P Lunch
1:00P Missions Project
2:00P Afternoon Activities
5:30P Dinner
7:00P Evening Service

Wednesday, August 2

7:30A Morning Devotions
8:00A Breakfast
10:00A Morning Service
 Children's Activities

Wednesday, August 2 (cont)

10:00A Youth Summer Impact
12:00P Lunch
1:00P Meet Your Missionaries
2:00P Afternoon Activities—
 Cornhole Tournament
5:30P Dinner
7:00P Evening Service

Thursday, August 3

7:30A Morning Devotions
8:00A Breakfast
10:00A Combined Morning Service
 Children's Activity Bags
10:00A Cleanup/Head Home

There will be Children's Activity Bags available during the evening worship service and 'Float the River' will follow the afternoon activities each day.

A complete schedule with speaker information will be available soon on our website.

Camp White Branch

Greetings from Camp White Branch,

Summer has finally arrived at the camp. The snow is gone and now due to the dry weather we are in fire season early this year. I have been praying for some rain to keep the forest around the camp green.



2023 Church of God Summer Camp is Just Around the Corner



Have you registered your campers yet? All registrations need to be completed online at www.campwhitebranch.org a week prior to beginning of camp. (See website for details.). Churches and individuals can scholarship campers once the camper is registered on the website also, click on the 'support tab' and then 'donate a scholarship'.

Camp Dates:

- High School Camp - \$350.00 - July 10-14, 2023 (entering 9th grade-graduating senior)
- Middle School Camp - \$275.00 - July 17-21, 2023 (entering 7th & 8th grade)
- Junior Camp - \$250.00 - July 24-28, 2023 (entering 5th & 6th grade)
- Primary Camp - \$200 - August 7-10, 2023 (entering 3rd & 4th grade)
- Introductory Camp - \$260 - August 11-13, 2023 (Parent/Guardian and student entering 2nd & 3rd grade)

We are still in need of health staff, an activity coordinator, and a music lead for our Middle School Camp as well as health staff for Senior High Camp. An urgent request was sent to all churches last month for help at middle school camp specifically. If a director doesn't have enough adults and other roles to properly facilitate and manage the week of camp for the youth they have to consider canceling. This is such an important ministry for the entire Association to get involved in. It will change your life and those of our youth. Please contact Danette Beisley, our camp coordinator, at 503-396-2090 or danette@oakparkchurch.net if you are interested and want to know where openings still exist.

Camp White Branch—2023 Summer Camps

Camp Facility Update

Clayton, Faye, and volunteers have been working to ensure the facility is ready for COG camps and other rentals this summer, post the winter season. McKenzie roofing has started replacing the remaining wood roofs on site with metal roofs prior to camp season. New LED lighting is being put in each cabin/dorm. A new furnace has been donated for the dining hall since the existing one quit working over the winter. Installation is scheduled for this summer. Due to the age of the facility, we have quite a few repairs on a regular basis and we are always in need of funding to fix or update our buildings and other amenities. God has been blessing us with donors and memorials ... He knows our needs.

COG Camp White Branch 65th Anniversary

We are going to have a celebration! It was 65 years ago that the Association of the Churches of God, Oregon and SW Washington purchased the camp from the Nazarene Church. Mark your calendar since you are invited to camp on **Saturday, October 7th** to help us celebrate!! It will be an afternoon filled with good food, stories and fun. More details will be shared on our website and sent to your churches soon.

Blessings,

Lisa Switzer, Camp White Branch, Chair

Danette Beisley, Church of God Camp Coordinator



Seabird Chapel Church of God (Bandon)

It has been an exciting couple of months for Seabird Chapel, Church of God in Bandon.

God has been stirring mightily in a few churches within this tiny coastal town, and the result has been a refreshing season of *joint* ministry among fellow believers from different congregations/denominations.

For the last several years, Seabird Chapel has joined with two other local churches (Faith Baptist and Pacific Community Church) once a month for a joint prayer meeting. This has laid the groundwork for a deep and shared bond between fellow believers. Early this year we saw direct fruit of this movement of God's Spirit as these three churches came together to plan a series of evangelistic outreaches in our community. Former NBA player and world evangelist, Bay Forrest, was asked to come and hold multiple rallies over the course of 2 weeks in April. In preparation for these events,



these three congregations committed to a 40-day period of prayer and fasting, which would end on the day of the first rally. To accompany this prayer and fasting, a booklet was put together with daily devotional passages, prayer lists, and other guides and study helps.

At the same time, a man from a different congregation (not among those 3 churches) felt God lay upon *his* heart to call all Christ followers in Bandon to consider a town-wide seeking of the Lord, including fasting, for the entire month of March. The Holy Spirit was stirring up believers all over this town simultaneously for the same purpose!

Praise God, through the Spirit's leading in these endeavors, we have seen many people come to Christ, entire families make a decision to start coming to church, an explosion in our youth ministry, and a spawning of additional joint-ministry outreach to our community! We saw a packed Bandon High School gym filled with junior high and high school students for a youth rally, where the gospel message was delivered and about two dozen kids came to Christ on that night alone. I was told that one of the youth in attendance (a pastor's kid from a different church) confessed that she was not right with God and yielded everything to Him that night!



Bandon Continued ...



This youth rally drew in an additional *two other congregations* to join with our three churches and pour into this exciting work! *Now 5 churches were serving together!* There was also a weekend men's rally, and a weekend women's rally, which greatly strengthened our congregations. For two Sundays in a row, we cancelled our normal Sunday morning worship services and combined with two other churches in one building to honor God. There were two people at those joint worship services who felt the call to be baptized right then and there!

In the 22 years I've served in Bandon, *I have never witnessed God bringing His people together for one purpose like this!* This is what the Church of God movement proclaimed at the beginning of its formation—that there is **one God** and **one church** and **one common, shared experience for all of God's children!**

Ephesians 4:4-6

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Please keep Bandon in your prayers. God is still stirring us to advance His kingdom in exciting new ways. Oh, that all

of our congregations in our Association here in Oregon and SW Washington would experience a fire that would burn so hotly for Christ! Let's redeem the time! Let's be that city on a hill!



Blessings to you all.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Jim Minkler
Senior Pastor, Seabird Chapel

Men's Retreat @ CWB—August 18-20



MEN REGISTER NOW!!

The Men of the Church of God are planning for a wonderful time of growing ... with each other and with God August 18-20th at Camp White Branch. Registration forms are available on our district website www.orwacog.org and in your churches.

God doesn't just move rocks and mountains, He shapes and cultivates them. God's design for men is that of an intentional strength called forth to bear fruit from otherwise wild and barren lands.

Come expecting to hear from God and experience scripture together!

Cost is \$95 if registered by August 9th. After that date, cost will be \$105. (There will also be an offering taken at the camp for the speaker and worship leader.) Hope you can come!

SPEAKER, Aaron Hiller



Aaron Hiller is a pastor of over 30 years, currently leading the Sunset Park Church in St. Helens, Oregon. He shares that "while he and his story are completely unremarkable, what he continues to discover about walking with God in Christ is nothing short of astonishing." Add 21 years of U.S. Coast Guard service, and discussions about ministering to an otherwise perishing world we are able to find real life examples of struggle and recovered purpose and destiny.



SCHEDULE

Friday, August 18

- 4:00 pm Camp Opens
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Registration
- 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Dinner
- 8:30pm Session 1

Saturday, August 19

- 7:45 am – 8:00 am Devotions
- 8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast
- 9:30am-10:45am Session 2
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm Free Time
- 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm Session 3
- 8:15 pm Free Time

Sunday, August 20

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am – 10:00 am Cleanup
- 10:00 am Closing Session & Communion

42 Years of Bringing Men Closer to God



A collaboration of the Men of the Church of God



**Speaker -
Pastor Aaron
Hiller**

**Worship Leader -
Pastor Martin
Shrout**

Camp White Branch
61500 Old McKenzie Hwy
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97412

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust" (Psalm 18:2).

Women's Retreat @ CWB—Sept 15-17



CHRISTIAN
WOMEN
CONNECTION

Fall RETREAT

Sept 15-17, 2023

At Camp White Branch

Moving Forward...

Psalms 119:105

Registration forms are available on the COG website and in your churches.

Women plan now to attend this great time together!

Cost is \$105 for entire weekend, \$80 for Friday/Saturday only.



Speaker and Worship Leader



Janelle Irwin was raised in Missouri. She met her husband, Tim, while attending Anderson College in Indiana; they married in 1979. They are the parents of two sons, Ben and Will, and grandparents of Lyla Rose. Janelle was raised in the Church of God, the daughter of a pastor, and accepted Christ at the age of 9. Professionally, she has spent many years in sales, including several years in real estate. Currently, she's a Family Service Counselor with Dignity Memorial at Skyline Memorial Gardens & Funeral Home. In addition to church and family activities, Janelle enjoys reading, music, hiking, walking, cooking, travel and connecting with friends. Janelle has a deep love for her family and for the church, with a desire to see people live abundant, happy lives, free from the weight of the past.



Rev. Ashleigh Carnley is the Associate Pastor at Albany First Church of God, where she focuses on empowering and guiding youth, young adults, and the worship ministries. With five years of dedicated service on staff, Ashleigh brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role. She holds a degree in Music and Ministry with an emphasis on worship arts leadership from Warner Pacific College (now University). She is committed to fostering spiritual growth, discipleship, community outreach, and multigenerational communication within the church community. Her commitment to fostering spiritual growth and creating impactful worship experiences has made her a valuable asset to the church community.

Schedule

Friday:

4 pm — Check in begins
6 pm — Dinner
7 pm — Session 1 Janelle and Ashleigh
Games to follow

Saturday:

8 am — Devotions
8:30 am — Breakfast
9:15 am — Session 2 Janelle and Ashleigh
11:45 am — Lunch
12:30-5:45 pm — Free Time
6 pm — Dinner
7 pm — Session 3 Janelle and Ashleigh
**Please bring a fun skit to share*

Sunday:

8:30 am — Breakfast/ Time for Reflection
Clean up and prepare for 11:00 departure

Saturday Free Time

Free time Options on Saturday :

Hiking...Games...Resting... a trip to Belknap Hot Springs for a walk or soak in the pool. Cost to soak in the pool is \$10.

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. NIV

By your words I can see where I am going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path. Mssg



Karl Vater Conference—November 17-18



**Pastors & Church Leaders,
mark your calendar now for this conference!**

Beginning Friday evening and ending Sat afternoon.

Location—Oak Park Church of God, Salem

It is available to you for FREE.

(Lodging, as needed, will be your only cost—with some scholarships available.)

The local church is the main way Jesus chose to bring hope and love to the world. By “church” we don’t mean denominations, buildings, organizations, sacraments or creeds. We believe the church is at its most profound and basic when it acts as an extension of Jesus’ command to love God and love others.

People getting together to love Jesus, each other and the world is what the church looks like when it is stripped back to its essential core. Or, as Jesus put it, “when two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them.”

Megachurches are great! Not only do we have nothing against them, we believe the world needs more of them.

House Churches are great too! No one knows how many of them exist all over the world but, especially where the church is illegal, they are a vital spiritual lifeline for untold millions of believers. They deserve and need our prayer and support.

So, if megachurches and house churches are so wonderful, why is New Small Church all about the churches in between and what do we mean by “Small Church?”

Numerically, the boundaries between churches of each size are fairly fluid, but here’s a guide:

House Church: Less than 25 (and meeting in a house), **Small Church:** 25 – 350 (or under 25 meeting in a church building), **Big Church:** 350 – 2,000, **Megachurch:** Over 2,000

Helping Small Churches Thrive

WHY WE EXIST

Small Churches don't appeal to everyone. But, as it turns out, they do appeal to most people. More followers of Jesus have attended Small Churches in the last 2,000 years than any other type of church. That doesn't mean they're the best way to do church (we believe the "best" way is whatever works for the people who need it), but as the most popular type of church in existence, they need to receive more attention, support and encouragement than they typically have.

Small Churches make up 80% – 90% of the known churches in the world, but are the subject of probably less than 1% of the books and blogs about how to do church ministry. Small Churches are no better and no worse than churches of any other size. But they have been the most neglected, especially when it comes to pastoral training.

New Small Church wants to help fill that gap. We exist to encourage, connect and equip innovative Small church leaders. That's not just a slogan – it's what we actually plan to do. We want to see better, stronger, healthier Small Churches, led by passionate, prayerful, capable, innovative and loving pastors.

We believe being small is not a problem to fix, but a strategy God wants to use.

Most Small Church leaders have not been told that – or at least they haven't been told it enough. If we can help turn up the volume on that message, we will have done what we set out to do.

Karl Vaters is the author of four books.

[The Church Recovery Guide](#): *How Your Congregation Can Adapt and Thrive after a Crisis*

[100 Days to a Healthier Church](#): *A Step-By-Step Guide for Pastors and Leadership Teams*

[Small Church Essentials](#): *Field-Tested Principles for Leading a Healthy Congregation of Under 250*

[The Grasshopper Myth](#): *Big Churches, Small Churches and the Small Thinking That Divides Us*

Want to know more about Karl Vaters and his ministry, go to **www.karlvaters.com**. There are many free resources available on his website.



Sessions at the November conference will include:

- *Redefining Success in Ministry*
- *Big Churches, Small Churches—What's the Difference*
- *How to Discover and Use What Your Church Does Well*
- *Finding & Mentoring Volunteers in Today's (And Tomorrow's) Small Church*

Registration information will be available soon.

Plan now to attend!

The Awakening ...



I didn't grow up in the Church of God. I didn't go to Warner Pacific or Anderson University. But, I came into contact with the Church of God of Exeter congregation as a kid and was loved on by a sweet church family of mothers, fathers, and grandparents. Years later, that same church invited me to be Youth Pastor, then Discipleship Pastor, and finally Lead Pastor. Those 14 years of ministry are a fond season of life for my family. For sure, there were challenges and difficulties, but by and large, the experience was incredibly fruitful and life-changing. The reason: I came into intimate contact with a rugged group of people who still call themselves a Movement, who dream of a united church, who desire for the church to live holy lives unto the Lord—filled and empowered by the Spirit of God, who take the hand of every blood-washed one, and who have no creed but the Bible. I have come to love the Church of God and believe our Movement is uniquely positioned like no other denomination, organization, or group to live into the ideals it holds. I think the world needs the witness of the Church of God today. We are a united church for a divided world. For that reason, I developed the Awakening Series as one of my ministry priorities as the new Multimedia & Resource Pastor for the Association.

The Awakening is a series of conversations with leaders from inside and outside of the Movement that are meant to infuse voices, resources, and inspiration for today's challenges. As this article is written there are currently six episodes published on YouTube for viewing, sharing, and discussing.

Episode 1, "**A Movement Captivated by Idealism**" is a conversation with Dr. Barry Callen, the Movement's most prolific writer. He and I discuss some new resources he has recently published, and as always with Dr. Callen, we discuss the beauty and the agony of the Church of God.

Episode 2, "**The Five Non-Negotiables**" is a discussion with Dr. Jim Lyon, Executive Director of Church of God Ministries. Jim shares the back story of the five non-negotiables and their importance in his story and our story. They capture well the unique nature of the Church of God and deserve to be built upon for the next decades.

Episode 3, "**Taking Back What Hell Has Stolen**" is a second discussion with Dr. Jim Lyon. In this episode, we talk about the aggressive language Jim used for a previous ChoG Convention. Jim provides the back story and narrative scriptural background but also addresses some areas of pushback to the language.

A Series of Conversation

Episode 4, “**Embracing the Ways of Jesus**” is a lengthy talk with my friend and mentor, Bob Rognlien, Director of 3DM West and Founder of The Footsteps of Jesus and The Footsteps of Paul— immersive, experiential, guided trips to the Holy Lands. We discuss the way of Jesus and how it is such a helpful outline for the life and the ministry in which we find ourselves in this post-Christian, post-pandemic, secular era.



Episode 5, “**BibleProject for the Church of God**” is a dialogue with Mike McDonald, Chief Strategic Relations Officer for the BibleProject. We explore the full variety of free resources the BibleProject has available, hear Mike’s testimony and amazing strategy for engaging with change, and hear an open invitation for our Association and churches to partner with the BibleProject to see our people experience the Bible as a unified story that leads to Jesus.

In Episode 6, “**The Rooted Impact of Women in Ministry**” I sit down with the Reverend Dr. Kimberly Majeski, Executive Director of Christian Women Connection. We discuss Kimberly’s ministry history and influences and hear about some of the new initiatives at CWC. We also discuss the impact of women in ministry in the Movement’s early days, but the decrease in the number of women in ministry in our current day. You will hear about many open doors currently available to see more sisters leading Kingdom work in the present and future.



The Awakening Series is designed to remind us that we are part of an amazing Movement. The guests are curated to catalyze change and further conversation on meaningful topics. I’d love to have you watch, comment, share, and subscribe to the channel so you can play a part in amplifying stories and ideas that will be like fuel to the fire of the Movement.

Find the full YouTube playlist at www.bit.ly/orwacog-awakening

Michael Guzman
Multimedia/Resource Pastor
jmichaelguzman@gmail.com
559.303.1571

Church of God Convention in Tampa



The North American Convention that took place June 21 -25 in Tampa offered multiple conferences, the General Assembly, great speakers as well as ...

KidzLive, Lead-Her Power Up, the Global Church of God Alliance and much more.

The Global COG Alliance was an historic event as it was the first-ever convocation of representatives of Church of God assemblies worldwide to establish an ongoing strategic table to strengthen and network the Movement globally.

We had seven churches represented from our District. It was well worth attending and we encourage you to consider attending the one planned for June 2025 in Denver, Colorado.

We hope you enjoy these pictures of pastors and delegates from our District (plus a few friends).



Tampa Conference continued ...



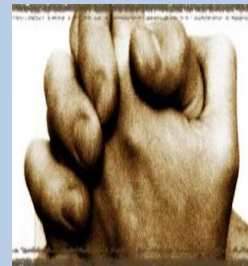
Valley Hope Church in Transition

Please continue to **PRAY** for our churches in transition with pastoral leadership. They greatly appreciate your prayers.

Friendly Street, Eugene—needing a worship pastor

Reedsport—Welcome NEW Youth & Family Pastor,
Nicole Gordon

Valley Hope, Hillsboro—beginning a restart,
Pastor Ken Hoole—Interim



2023 Calendar Dates

Annual Business Meeting @ Salem July 8

Senior High Camp @ CWB July 10-14

Middle School Camp @ CWB July 17-21

Junior Camp @ CWB July 24-28

Willamette Valley Campmeeting @ Turner, OR July 30-August 3

Primary Camp @ CWB August 7-10

Introductory Camp @ CWB Aug 11-13

Men's Retreat @ CWB August 18-20

CWC Women's Fall Prayer Retreat @ CWB September 15-17

CWB 65th Anniversary Celebration October 7

Small Church Conference @ Oak Park November 17-18

**Do you have EVENTS planned for your
Church and/or Community?**

**We would love to hear about them. We will be updating our website
and facebook page regularly and can post your events on those sites.**

District Prayer List for 2023

Be sure to remember our Church of God congregations in prayer during the year. (Below you will find our District Prayer List for 2023.) There is power in prayer and we are stronger together.

"I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." ~ Mark 11:24 ESV

Portland - Kingdom Nation	1/1/23	Willamette Valley Campmeeting 7/30-8/3	7/2/23
Portland- Winding Road Church of God	1/8/23	Albany - First Church of God	7/9/23
Powers - Powers Church of God	1/15/23	Aloha - Aloha Church of God	7/16/23
Prineville - Living Water Church of God	1/22/23	Bandon - Seabird Chapel Church of God	7/23/23
Rainier - Rainier Community COG	1/29/23	Cottage Grove - Riverside Comm COG	7/30/23
Redmond - First Church of God	2/5/23	Eugene - Friendly Street Church of God	8/6/23
Reedsport - Reedsport Church of God	2/12/23	Gales Creek - Gales Creek Comm COG	8/13/23
Roseburg - New Roseburg Church	2/19/23	Hillsboro - Valley Hope Community Church	8/20/23
Salem - Oak Park Church of God	2/26/23	Husum, WA - Husum Community COG	8/27/23
Scappoose - Chapman Community COG	3/5/23	Klamath Falls - First Church of God	9/3/23
Springfield - Springfield Church of God	3/12/23	La Grande - Crossroads Comm Church	9/10/23
St. Helens - Sunset Park Comm Church	3/19/23	District Committee Members	9/17/23
The Dalles - Solid Rock Ministries	3/26/23	Longview, WA - Westview Church	9/24/23
Tigard - Tigard Church of God	4/2/23	Medford - First Church of God	10/1/23
Vancouver, WA - First Church of God	4/9/23	Newberg - River Street Church of God	10/8/23
Vancouver, WA - Iglesia de Dios	4/16/23	North Bend - College Park Comm Church	10/15/23
Woodburn - Hoodview Church of God	4/23/23	Oregon City - Faith Rock Comm Church	10/22/23
Church of God Missionaries	4/30/23	Oregon City - Hilltop Community COG	10/29/23
Camp White Branch	5/7/23	Portland - Community Church of God	11/5/23
Warner Pacific University (Portland, OR)	5/14/23	Portland - Lents-Gilbert Church of God	11/12/23
COG Ministries Staff/Council (Anderson, IN)	5/21/23	Portland - Lynchwood Church of God	11/19/23
Church of God District Council	5/28/23	Portland - Maranatha Church	11/26/23
Summer Camp Directors & Counselors	6/4/23	Portland - Neighborhood Church of God	12/3/23
Summer Camp Children & Youth	6/11/23	Portland - Richmond Community Church	12/10/23
Opportunities to share God's Good News	6/18/23	Portland - Rockwood Church of God	12/17/23
Our Pastors/Church Staff & their Families	6/25/23	Our Pastors & Spouses—Active & Retired	12/24/23
		District and CWB Staff	12/31/23

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.