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— CONNECTIONS —

Connecting our Churches, Ministries & Events



From the Desk of Pastor Jerry Davisson

District Pastor



February 26, 2020 kicks off the season of Lent. Lent is the 40 days beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Easter. Lent is a season of fasting and reflection where Christians replicate Jesus sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert. The story can be found in Luke 4. Fasting in this context is abstaining from something for a spiritual purpose. With every soul training exercise, our motives matter. We don't give something up to lose weight or to lower our cholesterol. We

don't fast to impress anyone or to get a pat on the back from God. So, what is fasting all about? Fasting at its very core is centered on God. According to Richard Foster in his book, *Celebration of Discipline*, "More than any other single discipline, fasting reveals the things that control us. This is a wonderful benefit to the true disciple who longs to be transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. We cover up what is inside us with food and other good things, but in fasting these things surface." There are so many things in our lives that we use to mask our pain or to escape reality. Occasionally we need to avoid these things in order to remind ourselves that God is the only one who truly satisfies. Foster goes on to say, "Fasting helps us keep our balance in life. How easily we begin to allow nonessentials to take precedence in our lives. How quickly we crave things we do not need until we are enslaved by them." Paul said in 1 Corinthians 6:12, "Everything is permissible for me'-but not everything is beneficial. 'Everything is permissible for me'- but I will not be mastered by anything." The things we enjoy in our lives are not necessarily bad. However, often we can use good things like ice cream, T.V., Facebook to mask our hurt or escape from reality.

I often need to be reminded that Jesus is all I need. The practice of fasting during Lent offers us the opportunity to do just that. Fasting is most often associated with food. However, you can give up anything that is important to you. It could be ice cream, T.V., video games, social media. The idea is to use the time you would be spending on the thing you are giving up focusing on God in prayer or study or some other exercise that helps you direct your attention on Jesus. Foster concludes with the idea that fasting can produce in us, spiritual breakthroughs that could not be gained by any other means. When our forty day fast is over, we often realized we really didn't need the thing we gave up like we thought we did. God truly is enough to satisfy. Let me challenge you to research and celebrate the season of Lent this year. Let me know how it goes.

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District Office, Church & National Events



March 8

Spring forward

Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.



Palm Sunday April 5: April 10: Good Friday

April 12: Easter

April 22-24: Church of God Regional Convention, Inglewood, California

> Please check our website for current calendar information.

www.orwacog.org



Travel Opportunities

Journey to the Holy Land: ISRAEL & JORDAN with Pastor Jim Lyon

Christians Broadcasting Hope Church of God Ministries

January 4-16, 2022

https://www.cbhviewpoint.org/travel-with-us



Global Strategy (formerly Global Missions) offers high-impact, life-changing experiences for trip participants engaging them in a unique discipleship experience.

DISCIPLESHIP SERVICE EXPERIENCES

1. Negombo, Sri Lanka: November 8-18, 2020,

Hosts: Christian Women Connection, Steven & Peggy Beverly

http://www.christianwomenconnection.org/sri-lanka-trip-nov-2020.html



- 2. San Jose, Costa Rica: Dates TBD Hosts: Jason & Abby Torgeson
- 3. Babati, Tanzania: Dates TBD https://www.chogglobal.org/travel/

Church of God Ministries "Register Now"





Information about the ARISE – Women in Ministry Conferences

http://www.christianwomenconnection.org/ arise-conferences.html

Arise (\$75.00)

ARISE is for ordained women serving the Church of God movement.

ARISE exists to encourage women to discover their call in ministry, to develop their gifts, and to grow and thrive in their call.

Arise and Regional Conference (\$149.00)

Attending both the Arise and Regional Conference

Women's Events during the Regional Conventions





Information about our Christian Women Connection Luncheon: \$20

http://www.christianwomenconnection.org/cwc-luncheon.html

If you are in the area wanting to attend the CWC Luncheon or the ARISE Conferences ONLY and are not attending the Regional Convention call 866-778-0804

Church of God Ministries "Register Now"

Regional Conventions 2020

Choose from the following dates



For More Information & to Register:

https://www.jesusisthesubject.org/2020-regional-conventions/

Registration is non-refundable upon purchase, but fully transferable to a substitute registrant. The transfer of tickets to another attendee can be managed by contacting 800-848-2464, or upon arrival at the event.

Camp White Branch Summer Camps



Camp Descriptions

IINTRO CAMP

Age: Entering 2nd and 3rd grade with parent

July 24-26, 2020 | Price: \$220 (includes child & adult)

Camp is structured for children who haven't been to camp before, and provides the security of having one of their parents along for the experience. The activities and faith-based sessions are created with both the children and adults in mind. It is a great camp for parent-child bonding and creating special memories. This camp also helps to acquaint children with the camp so they will be prepared for many years of camping to follow.

PRIMARY CAMP

Age: Entering 3rd and 4th Grade August 10-13, 2020 | Price: \$180

This is an opportunity for many first time campers to experience the great outdoors. Campers will have adventures, crafts, and activities during this fun week. An age appropriate scripture is selected for worship and learning sessions. Campers will spend time in small group discussions helping them to apply what they have learned.

JUNIOR CAMP

Age: Entering 5th and 6th
July 20-24, 2020 | Price: \$230

Campers spend time in the woods each day around campfire pits in small family type groups to engage in discussion and prayer time. Cabin groups are assigned set up and clean up duties for meals to teach responsibility and serving, and cabin cleanliness is encouraged by visits and inspections by the mysterious "old ranger". Crafts and recreation such as swimming are also a fun part of each day.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Age: Entering 6th, 7th, and 8th July 13-17, 2020 | Price: \$235

This week campers will be connecting with God and their friends. It's a time to become more connected with God through music, speakers, and small group discussions. They will learn that by working together in a team they can achieve more than they could alone. Fun activities, swimming, hikes and crafts are planned to fill each day and encourage working together. The theme dinner this year will be Western so be sure to bring your flannel shirts and cowboy hats!

SENIOR HIGH CAMP

Age: Entering 9th-Sr High Graduate July 27-31, 2020 | Price: \$299

This week is jam packed full of adventure with white water rafting, hikes, onsite activities, and games. The programming is designed to meet physical and spiritual needs on all different levels. Every morning and night there will be main sessions with our returning worship band from Portland, "Solebridge" and this summer's speaker, Taylor Downey from Phoenix, Arizona. Taylor's theme for this week is "Just Jesus" where you will learn on a deeper level of where their faith is rooted and who Jesus is. Each main session will be followed up by a small group discussion to unpack these lessons and have the chance to ask questions.

YOUNG ADULT

Age: HS Graduates to early 30 (no kids) | July 9-12, 2020 | Price: \$140 + option to raft for \$37.50 Those who have graduated from high school still get to go to camp! This is the second year we are offering this camp. It is a time of fellowship, worship, and learning for young adults. This camp has structured talk times, but allows for free time and time to engage in fun activities at the camp or off site with friends. Rafting is being offered this year.

Camp White Branch New Logo!





Look for Camp White Branch Videos on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv25gVZ9LQObgB-41WIGPPQ

(1) CWB Dedication Slide Show

(2) Neu Building Dedication Slide Show

CWB New Website! Coming Soon!



New look. Same web address: www.campwhitebranch.org

Camp White Branch Staff Openings

2020 SUMMER SEASONAL STAFF OPENINGS

It is not simply a job, it's a way you can make an impact at Camp White Branch and be a part of our ministry.

If you are passionate about serving others, want to be a part of a great team, enjoy spending time in the forest, and desire to be equipped for leadership- come work with us this summer!

We have 2 general staff openings and 1 general/life guard staff opening for the Summer of 2020.

General: These positions are responsible for washing and putting away dishes post meals. Helping with meal prep and cleaning of the kitchen. Cleaning restrooms, showers, cabins, and main buildings on site. Assist with other duties such as mowing, painting/staining, raking, etc. and supporting Camp Manager with repairs. Attend staff meetings and keep staff lodging clean. Able to attend any Church of God sponsored worship sessions if not working.

General/Life Guard: Must be willing to get lifeguard certified or possess current ARC Lifeguard Certificate, and first aid and CPR training (will consider covering certification cost). Prep and clean pool for usage. Ensure a safe environment at the pool when in use by campers. During non-pool times will help cover general staff duties listed above and support Camp Manager with maintenance and repair work.

Qualifications:

Able to stand for extended periods of time and able to lift 50 Lbs.

Fit enough to help with small maintenance jobs and operating general equipment such as lawn mowers, weed eaters, loppers, hammers, etc.

Self-Motivated, Teachable, and Adaptable

Exemplify Christian attitude, words, and actions

Lifeguard- see certification required above

Other Information:

Date of service: end-June to mid-September potentially, opportunity to carry over in to October if available

16 and older applicants welcome to apply. Desire 18+ years of age. Must pass a background check for employment

Wages: \$170/week general and \$190/ week general/Life guard - meals and lodging included

Staff resides at camp in a dormitory type setting and reports to Camp Manager/Kitchen Lead

Need to work posted schedule, be flexible, and understand needs any time we have a camp on site

Limited internet connection available and no cell service at camp

Camp location is in the Willamette National Forest and closest town is 25 minutes away; Springfield 1 hour

If interested, resume and references need to be submitted to whitebranchoffice@gmail.com by March 28, 2020. Interviews of potential candidates will start as soon as possible. Please contact us with any questions.

Camp White Branch is a Christian Camp and retreat center, catering to individuals and groups year round. It is located 60 miles east of Eugene, Oregon on Highway 242. The camp is owned and operated by the Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington on Forest Service leased property. http://www.campwhitebranch.org/

Introducing the Anderson Twins!

Pastor Ian and Abby Anderson expanded their home by "4 feet" on Nov. 14, 2019. They did not find out the gender before the babies' arrival so they were thrilled to have both a boy and a girl! The twins joined big sister, Rylee Jo (2½ yrs

old). Pastor Ian is Worship Pastor at Friendly Street

Church of God in Eugene.











ASSOCIATION OF THE CHURCHES OF GOD IN OREGON & SW WASHINGTON

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, July 18, 2020 Lynchwood Church of God Portland, Oregon

Registration: 9:30 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m.
Lunch: 12 Noon/\$5 suggested donation
Ministers Meeting: 1:00 p.m.

In Loving Memory

Martha J. Perry





July 3, 1928 - Jan. 10, 2020

Martha Jeanette Perry, age 91, of Clackamas, Oregon, passed into the arms of Jesus, Friday, Jan. 10, 2020. Martha was born July 3,1928 to Fred and Beulah Kaufman in Arizona. Martha graduated from Pacific Bible College (now Warner Pacific University) in Portland, with a Bachelor of Theology degree in 1954. She was active in Christian Women Connection and the Gideons.

She married Walter Eugene Perry Oct. 25, 1955 and they enjoyed 64 years of marriage, five children: David (Susan) Perry, Diane (Jeff) Minor, Danette (Doug) Beisley, Darla (Dan) Smatlak, Donelle (Vadim) Sokolov; 12 grandchildren and four greatgrandchildren.

Services were held February 1, 2020 at Lynchwood Church of God where Martha attended church.