

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



SEPT/OCT 2020

Vol. 2, Issue 6

## — CONNECTIONS —

*Connecting our Churches, Ministries & Events*

*Greetings Friends,*

I wanted to write a note as a follow-up to our Association business meeting and to address some questions about the decentralizing of the office in Salem. I hope it will answer a few of the questions we have received. The Association has signed a lease agreement with New Horizons In-Home Care. New Horizons began occupying the building as of **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**. Sally Ranton and Valerie Borst and a host of volunteers worked hard to get the office ready to vacate by the end of August. I want to again thank both Val and Sally for their years of dedicated service and their hard work right up to the end. They will truly be missed by all.

The Association has made the decision to hire **Paula Wilson** as the Administrative Assistant for the Association. Paula has a rich history with the Church of God and our Association and brings a heart to see pastors and churches thrive. She is a gifted administrator and will work to make the transition seamless. Paula also has a heart for the community of Newberg where she has been working for the past couple of years. Pastor Doug Balzer and the River Street Church of God have offered to allow Paula workspace at the church, so River Street will be the physical location for the Association on September 1st. Paula's hours will be flexible, so if you do call the office and do not get a live voice, please leave a detailed message and your call will be returned in a timely manner. If you need to speak with me directly, my cell phone number is 559-905-4141. If I am not available to answer your call, I will call you back as soon as I am able. Feel free to text me but make sure you identify yourself, so I don't have to guess who is texting.

At present, we will retain our P.O. Box in Salem and our phone number will remain the same. If either of those changes, we will give ample notice to our pastors and churches. Please do not send Association mail to the River Street address. Here are the specifics:

*Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington office address:*

715 S River Street **(NO MAIL PLEASE)**  
Newberg, OR 97132

*Continue to send mail to:*

P.O. Box 18000  
Salem, OR 97305



*(continued on pg 3)*

*The Association of the Churches of God in Oregon & SW Washington | P.O. Box 18000 | Salem, OR | 97305*

*www.orwacog.org | (503) 393-3510 | (800) 873-7729 | districtoffice@orwacog.org | Editor, Paula Wilson*

# District Office, Church & National Events



Sept 7: Labor Day  
Sept 12: National Day of Encouragement  
Sept 13: Grandparent's Day  
Sept 22: First Day of Fall  
Sept 23: See You at the Pole



Oct 11: Clergy Appreciation Day  
October 12: Columbus Day

*"Be still, and know that I am God:  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth."*  
Psalm 46:10

## COVID-19 CHURCH OF GOD EVENT CANCELLATION

### Cannon Beach Retreat 2020 (advertised last issue)

Sept 29-Oct 1 Hosted by Vancouver Church—Be sure to mark your calendar for next year's event



## GLOBAL PANDEMIC | ECONOMIC RECOVERY | RACIAL INJUSTICE

The **NATIONAL** CHOG "Change the Story Fund" exists to help congregations meet local, critical needs like these. Your gift of as little as \$10 will provide micro grants that empower churches to **Change the Story** in their communities.

**SHARE**—tell what your church is already doing

**GIVE**—donate to help local churches change the story in their communities

**APPLY**—apply to receive seed money for your church's project

Want to know more?? go to [Jesusisthesubject.org](https://Jesusisthesubject.org), click on Resources & then Change the Story

# Jerry's Update Cont. / Camp White Branch

The phone number for the office is 503-393-3510 and the office email will remain the same at

[districtoffice@orwacog.org](mailto:districtoffice@orwacog.org). My office email will also remain the same, [jdavisson@orwacog.org](mailto:jdavisson@orwacog.org).

I also wanted to let you know that **Jackie Scott** will be taking over for Ruth Palmer as Recording Secretary for the Association. We want to thank Ruth for her many years of faithful service!! Jackie has served the Association in many capacities including a recent term as Chair. It is great to have her part of the council even though she will not be a voting member. We also want to welcome **Jason Mitchell** who is replacing Jon Nutter as Region 2 representative and **Linda Tucker-Bays** who replaces Mike Kernutt as Region 5 representative. We are still in need of a representative for Region 7. The churches in region 7 include, Community, Iglesia de Dios, Kingdom Nation, Maranatha, Neighborhood, Rockwood, and Vancouver. If you know of anyone in those churches willing to serve, please contact me.

I want to say thank you for your continued support of our Association and for your patience during this transition. Our prayer is that the change in office space will free up resources to help us minister better to the needs of our pastors and churches and help you make a Kingdom impact in the communities you serve. As always, the Association staff is here to serve you, so please don't hesitate to contact us and let us know how we can help.

Grace and Peace,

*Jerry*

## Can You HELP???



Some individuals and churches have been busy helping with projects at the Camp this Summer but there are always more opportunities to get away, experience the beauty of White Branch, and help with needed tasks. There is a work weekend **September 4, 5, 6 and 7th** and you can sign up by going to the website. If another time is better for you, we are also looking for individuals with specific skill sets to come up, at your convenience, to help with a few projects. Details can be found on our website, as well as other needs we currently have.

<https://campwhitebranch.org/needs-list/>

The projects to be worked on are: repairing cedar fences around camp, painting, minor repairs on cabins, clean pool house exterior and patch mortar, fix volleyball court surround, level ground under gagaball court, dig trench by the shop, clean up on the trails, and many other projects depending on the skills of volunteers. We need to follow guidelines related to COVID19 on site and may need to limit group size. Meals and lodging will be provided. ***If interested, please email us at***

[volunteer@campwhitebranch.org](mailto:volunteer@campwhitebranch.org) or call the camp at 877-822-3511.

We are looking to make Camp White Branch the best it can be. Thank you for your support!

Lisa Switzer  
Camp White Branch Chair

# COVID Happenings—Jesus with Skin On

When Covid hit, **Vancouver Church** pastoral staff stepped into high gear, strategically identifying "service gaps" that could be filled by the people of God to bring real and practical impact to people He wants to reach. Three areas of need were quickly identified thanks to a dedicated volunteer force, amazing community partners, and existing Church of God relationships around the globe.

First, church leadership looked to the global community to identify immediate needs. With the coordination of Church of God missionaries Don and Caroline Anderson, the VC Mission Action Committee was able to send emergency relief to Siliguri, India where food supplies had been cut off in the pandemic. In addition, the more recent Beirut bombing brought the need to rebuild homes, schools and churches in that area, and Vancouver Church was able to partner with Heart for Lebanon in the distribution of construction supplies and basic needs for displaced families.

Second, the church looked to our local community partners. Instead of creating competing programs and services, Vancouver Church partners with different local organizations to coordinate volunteers and support existing community efforts. In just six months the congregation increased giving by 6000% (yes, six thousand!) to help people right in their own community. Vancouver Church hosted urgent dental clinics to keep people out of emergency rooms, delivered food boxes to hungry kids who were normally fed at school, sent a constant stream of 700 handwritten notes to a local nursing home, provided money for ultrasounds at a pro-life women's clinic, gave support to help those with visual disabilities, worked with foster kid programming, gave diapers and supplies to single mothers in need, and contributed equipment and funds to a job training program for those dealing with mental health issues. Most recently, the Young Adults group packed over 400 backpacks with supplies for an underprivileged elementary school in the neighborhood. It's an understatement to say Vancouver Church took the shutdown time to rally around community needs outside the four walls of the church!

Third, attention was needed within the church body. The creative, worship and tech teams pivoted quickly to create an online platform for Sunday services, and soon after Bible studies, home groups, the children's ministry, book clubs, and classes went online, too. The church eventually developed an outdoor gathering and drive-in gathering option as well. The annual meeting was even held both in person and online. However, a large part of the Vancouver Church population was in the "non-digital" generation and unable to take advantage of these offerings. In some cases volunteers were able to help people get online from home, but the rest could only be reached by phone. The church quickly rallied a phone ministry, where volunteers to date have made over 4,000 calls to keep the church body connected, prayed for, and up to date on news and events.

In all, the shutdown at Vancouver Church has been a time to look outward, thank God for all that we have to share, have faith for all He is doing that we cannot see, and to do our part to provide evidence that "the church" of Jesus is not a building, but a people!

**Lori Volkman, Communications Director**  
**Vancouver Church of God**

# COVID Happenings (Vancouver CHOG)



Passing out food in Siliguri, India



Aid workers from Heart for Lebanon in Beirut



Vancouver Church community food box shoppers



Vancouver Church Young Adults with Sacajawea Elementary backpacks



Staying connected through Vancouver Church outdoor gatherings

# COVID Happenings—Rainier & Richmond



Pastor Roy Sprunger

## A note from Diane Newkirk, secretary at Rainier COG . . .

We have been having our Sunday morning worship services in our Rainier City Park.

We meet at 10am and bring our lawn chairs. We have canopies set up for our worship team and we purchased a portable sound system that is working great. The worship leader sends the words of the songs to me each Saturday and I

e-mail them out to the congregation so they can use them during service.

We have a large sign set up in the park that says "Worship in the Park —Everyone Welcome!" We have had guests that are walking the park come and listen to the message! We also video stream the service and put it on our church Facebook page—which many are watching. God is good!



**RICHMOND  
Community Church**

Like many congregations, we have had several individuals and families that have been suffering economically. However, an anonymous benefactor has contacted our Board of Elders offering to financially help those needing assistance. God works in mysterious, but wonderful, ways.

**Richmond Community  
Frank Clore**

**Do you have a story you would like to share about what God is doing in your church or community?  
We would love to hear from you. GOD is ALWAYS PRESENT and AT WORK  
and we would like to hear about it. Email your stories to Paula at [districtoffice@orwacog.org](mailto:districtoffice@orwacog.org)**

# WPU—New President Dr. Brian L. Johnson

Since our journey began in 1937, Warner Pacific University perseveres, standing as strong a guide as our beloved Mount Tabor. We attained new heights under the faithful service of our seventh President, Dr. Andrea Cook, from 2008-2020. Now, we begin a new phase.

The WPU Board of Trustees recently announced the appointment of its eighth President, Dr. Brian L. Johnson, effective August 1, 2020. Dr Johnson previously served as Vice President at Mercy College and campus administrator for its Manhattan Campus.

When describing what drew him to Warner Pacific, he says, “I want to be somewhere where I can bring to bear my faith commitments, my scholarly commitments, my ethnicity, and frankly, all the things that prepared me for this moment I see evidenced and embodied in Warner Pacific as a Christ-centered, urban, minority-serving and Hispanic-serving institution situated in a metropolitan environment. It fits everything I enjoy.”

Moreover, he says, “At this moment in higher education, you can no longer just be an ornamental president.” As an enthusiastic and committed administrator, he is motivated to be “bold, visionary [and] strategic.” He envisions leveraging WPU’s status as a “minority graduating” institution rather than just as a “minority enrolling” one to increase enrollment boost its national reputation, and expand corporate and philanthropic partnerships.

Here is the link to the Warner Pacific University Fall 2020 Convocation held on August 25, which includes the keynote address, “Grace and Glory: Navigating Sacred and Civic Spaces for the Future of Warner Pacific University” by President Brian Johnson. YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/3rgU8ryLZYk>

*The following are excerpts from the WPU website concerning their mission statement from President Johnson . . .*

“Four core themes run through our mission statement and guide the holistic educational process at Warner Pacific University. First and foremost, we are Christ-centered. We use that language intentionally! We believe the life and teaching of Jesus Christ provide the best framework for a learning community. We welcome students from diverse backgrounds to come and engage in a learning experience that provides the best of community participation and strives to reflect the character of Christ.

Second, Warner Pacific University is committed to collaborating with and for our urban context. We are fortunate to be located in the City of Portland, where students can engage in learning, serving, leading, interning and working in this city. The world is becoming increasingly urban, and we believe students will be best prepared if they experience opportunities to navigate and apply their learning in an urban context. Beyond that, we believe we have a tremendous opportunity to love and serve our neighbors as we seek the flourishing of our city.

Third, we believe that a liberal arts education provides the best foundation to prepare students to engage actively in a world and economy that is constantly changing. Increasingly, students are pursuing career-focused majors. We believe our liberal arts core provides an important foundation for students to gain the essential skills for leadership and success in all of life’s pursuits. The liberal arts provide a common understanding of our context, develop students’ ability to learn and be adaptable throughout their lifetimes, and cultivate the ability to think critically and make good decisions. A central element of our curriculum is the Humanities Core, which equips students with the critical reading and thinking skills to help them decipher good answers through the complexities that arise in engaging real-world questions. As a result, you will be thoroughly prepared for leadership and service as you encounter life’s paradoxes and the challenges of your life’s calling.

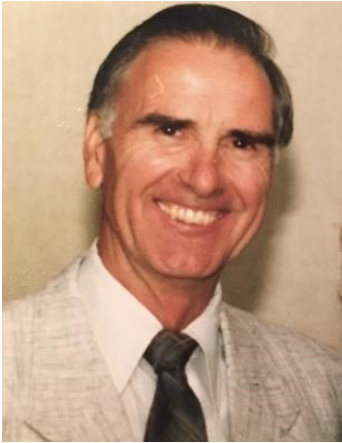
Finally, we are committed to investing in the formation and success of students from diverse backgrounds. We believe a Christ-centered urban education at Warner Pacific University should be accessible and welcoming. We embrace students from diverse backgrounds as they study and live in a community that is characterized by low student to faculty ratios (small classes), intentional mentoring, and a support system that encourages intellectual, personal, spiritual and vocational development.



Sincerely,  
Brian L. Johnson, Ph.D.  
8<sup>th</sup> President, Warner Pacific University



# In Loving Memory



## CLYDE ELDREDGE GOIN

May 17, 1932—July 28, 2020

Clyde was born in a two-room home on the Kilpatrick Ranch in Imperial, NE to Everett Elijah Goin and Carrie Amy Octavia Sparks Goin. He was the tenth of eleven children, coming to Albany, OR at the age of seven and graduating from Jefferson High School, Jefferson, OR. One sister survives, Norma Nordyke, Tigard, OR. Clyde married Marilyn Ruth Miller in 1951. They would have celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary August 12. Two loving daughters, JoAnn (Hartley) Kidd, Anderson, IN Kayleen (Steve) Brown Surprise, AZ, and wife Marilyn of Dallas, OR, survive. Also five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

As a young father and husband, Clyde worked ten years for Mayflower Milk, Salem, making home deliveries and was known as the "Whistling Milkman".

Clyde was a minister of the gospel for 55 years, serving five years in Australia, 14 years in Wyoming and the remaining years in Springfield and Newberg, OR. Clyde had a strong bass voice which gained him a role in the Salem Singers, choirs, quartets and singing with his wife and daughters. He loved fishing and hunting - deer, antelope, moose, elk and bear in Wyoming and kangaroo, wild pig and fox in the outback of Australia. But his greatest joy was sharing the love of Christ with everyone. His favorite gospel artists were the Gaithers and the Booth Brothers.

The family extends their heartfelt thanks for the tender loving care Clyde received from Brighton Hospice. A memorial service will be held at a later time. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

*Published in The Stateman Journal*

# In Loving Memory



## BERTHA BROWN

February 23, 1924—March 5, 2020

Bertha Louise Holzhauer was born February 23, 1924 to Paul and Emma (Keller) Holzhauer in Palco, Kansas in the home she lived in until she was married.

Bertha married her high school (Palco, KS) sweetheart, Dwite Brown, on June 10, 1943. She gave birth to five children and was the matriarch to 77 family members when she went to be with her heavenly father, March 5, 2020, at the age of 96.

Bertha was many things to many people . . . wife, mother, grandma, pastor's wife, hostess, friend . . . and so much more. She was committed to doing the will of God and spent her years loving God, her family, God's church, and her community.

Dwite and Bertha were pastors in Kansas and then moved to Portland, OR in 1953 so that Dwite could attend Pacific College (now Warner Pacific University). They were pastors at the Rockwood church and then worked with the Church of God Association in Oregon and SW Washington beginning in 1957. Bertha was a helpmate to Dwite as he served as the State Evangelist and also worked with over 100 churches on the construction of their buildings on the West Coast and a few in Kansas. They returned to Kansas in 1980 to pastor the church in Wakeeney and remained there in retirement.

In recent years, with a smile on her face, Bertha reminded everyone that . . . "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

Bertha is preceded in death by her husband, Dwite, her sister, Agnes Deines/Wasinger, and her grandson, Steven Beaumont. Bertha is survived by her older sister, Elvera Beiker, and her children, Denda Trapp, Ron and Denise Brown, Paula Wilson, Emery and Delores Brown, and Denise and Greg Baker, who miss her greatly. Bertha has 29 grandchildren, 41 great grandchildren (with 1 more on the way) and 2 great great grandchildren.

A celebration of Bertha's life was held at the Wakeeney Church of God on Tuesday, July 28th.

### *A note from daughter Paula . . .*

One of my favorite memories of my mom is when I knelt down by her side at the Hays Airport awaiting my plane's departure. I put my arm around her and said "Mom, any last minute advice for me? She look at me and said, "When you get up every morning, ask God what He wants you to do, and then . . . do it."



## WARNER PRESS UNVEILS NEW BRAND IDENTITY

This summer, Warner Press will unveil its new brand identity, Warner Christian Resources. “While we’re still the same company with a generations-long tradition of serving churches and schools, we’re constantly looking for innovative ways to equip our ministry partners and inspire people to share the life-changing message of Jesus Christ,” said Eric King, president of Warner Press. “We care about the faith community—about their journey, their questions, and their transformation as Christ-followers.”

Customers should continue to look for product brands by Warner Press, Hermitage Art, Tri-Fire Services, bulletins by Abingdon Press, and the newest acquisition of *WordAlive!*, which strengthens Warner Christian Resources’ position as a leading provider of bulletins and programs to the Christian marketplace. In addition, the company will provide new offerings in its best-selling line of resources for children’s ministry, such as coloring/activity books, picture books, and teaching resources; adult small group studies; individual Bible studies; devotional and non-fiction books; Sunday school curriculum; inspirational products; and greeting cards.

“We are passionate about serving God,” said King. “By creating products using the inspired Word of God to inspire people, we will continue to provide relevant and expanded resources, giving our ministry partners more tools to make a difference for the Kingdom.”

*Founded in 1881, Warner Press publishes and distributes Christian products worldwide, including curriculum, ministry resources, church supplies, bulletins, kids’ books, and boxed greeting cards. Warner Press is a not-for-profit organization with offices located in Anderson, Indiana. Visit [www.warnerpress.org](http://www.warnerpress.org) for more information.*



## PICK A DATE, JOIN THE FIGHT!

**4 Million Victims of Sex Trafficking Globally.**

**1 in 7 Runaways in the US is likely a victim.**

**Profits are estimated at \$99 billion worldwide.**

*(Statistics from the Int’l Labour Organization and Nat’l Center for Missing and Exploited Children)*

**What if you could do something to change that?**

**We believe you can.**

Freedom Sunday, the ecumenical event that has been scheduled on the first Sunday of Lent or in late September, is gaining ground across God’s church. As the idea of a day set aside to bring awareness, strengthen local partnerships, and join the fight broadens, church bodies and organizations are leaving the schedule up to local churches.

This year, Church of God Ministries encourages you to find the best time to host an event in your congregation. The resources you’ll find on the national website will work any time of year and can provide some ideas for a variety of events, from a Sunday morning worship hour, to a book study, to a prayer walk. There are corporate and individual ideas. Go to:

[www.jesusisthe subject.org/trafficklight](http://www.jesusisthe subject.org/trafficklight)



# New Office / CD by Peggy / Many Thanks

This year I have been using the phrase "It's a God Thing" a lot, and I truly believe the opportunity to be your new administrative assistant is just that—"a God Thing." He put the timing and availability together. Please know that even if the state office doesn't look like it used to, we want to be available to you ... Our State Association. Just like our local churches, we aren't a building, we are God's people, and I hope you will want to be connected in new and fresh ways. We are still getting some kinks worked out with equipment and phones in the new office, but please feel free to say hi! And, if we haven't met yet, call and introduce yourself.

Office: 503-393-3510



River Street COG, Newberg



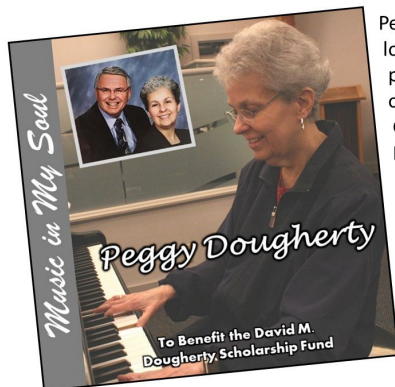
*Together in Ministry,  
Paula Wilson*



New Association Office

## Music in My Soul

A worship CD featuring Peggy Dougherty



Peggy Dougherty, a much-loved and accomplished pianist, has been a vital part of worship in the Church of God for many years. Partnering with her husband, Pastor David Dougherty, they were a dynamic team across the Pacific Northwest. Now for the first time ever, Peggy has recorded some of her favorite worship songs and medleys.

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know • O, How I Love Jesus • Just a Closer Walk with Thee  
The Old Rugged Cross • Thou Art Worthy • There's Power in the Blood • Great Is Thy Faithfulness • In Shady Green Pastures • Surely Goodness and Mercy He Leadeth Me • At Calvary • When We All Get to Heaven • Amazing Grace  
What a Friend We Have in Jesus • Glorify Thy Name • And more

This CD project is available on a donation basis with all proceeds benefiting the **David M. Dougherty Scholarship Fund** which supports young people in the pursuit of their vocational calling. To purchase a copy of this CD project (also available in MP3 format), please contact the Hoodview Church office:

Phone: 503-981-1660  
Email: office@hoodview.church

*Many thanks to those who helped with the move from the Salem Office to the Newberg Office.*

**You are Greatly Appreciated**

*& especially these two who continue to sort & train.*

