

District Council Convenes to Address Bylaws

The newly recognized District Council, formerly Executive Council, met at Cannon Beach, Oregon, September 21-22 to work through the first draft of the new bylaws. An additional meeting will be held this month to complete this benchmark. They report that Regional meetings will be scheduled soon to explain the bylaw changes and policies.



Proposals for transitional bylaws were presented to the General Council at the Spring Celebration in May of this year, pending the approval of the Governance Policy Structure. According to Linda Tucker Bays, Chair of the Ministerial Fellowship and participant on the Discernment Team, the goal is streamlining and making a smaller decision-making team. The key is to create flexibility, life expectancy, and complete assignments.



Photos courtesy of Durwood Ranton

Existing bylaws were modified to replace *General Council* with *Executive Committee*. With the transitional provision, the Executive Committee becomes the decision-making body for the Association, including all administrative and budgeting responsibilities previously assigned to the General Council.

Activities such as nominations and assignment of commission members were frozen, except at the discretion of the Executive Committee during the transitional time until new bylaws are approved.

The transitional bylaws will stay in effect until:

- a) 2/3 of the clusters (regions) have chosen representatives to the new leadership team.
- b) A set of bylaws that matches the new structure has been written and approved.
- b) Training is held in each structure outlining the function and format of the new structure and bylaws.

Pray for the District Council as they continue to work on structural and "big picture" issues. Watch for more information in the next issue of The CONTACT.

Good Times: CWC Prayer Retreat

Camp White Branch, near McKenzie Pass, Oregon, seemed to be the perfect setting once again for the September 2014 Christian Women Connection (CWC) Prayer Retreat, where “*Passion*” was the theme.

Over a dozen first-timers attended this year, with reports of a wonderful experience. Carolyn Grice, of Rainier, Oregon, was the speaker for the event, and focused on Psalm 42-2a, “My soul thirsts for God, the Living God.” Consider Elijah and Corrie Ten Boom, their love for God and His help through difficulties.

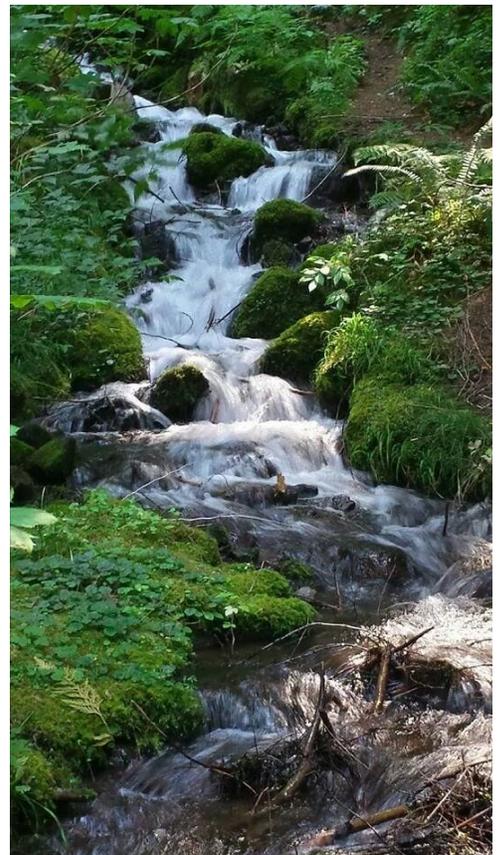
Nancy Kernutt summed it up with “Carolyn is an awesome speaker” and “Just saying it was fun!”

Marva Adams, of Aloha, led worship throughout the weekend.

Attendee Margaret Carr posts on Facebook, “I trekked cross country from the White Branch Falls to Pain Hill (sledding slope), mostly by hanging onto roots, ferns, rocks, etc.”.

A traditional side trip to nearby Belknap Hot Springs has been an enjoyable time for many women as part of the retreat experience.

Kudos to our Christian Women Connection district officers and all who worked together to make the 2014 retreat a memorable and meaningful time.



Photos Courtesy Nancy Kernutt, Julie Ammons, and Leslie Duclou

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Warner Pacific Recognized for Quality and Value by U.S. News & World Report

Warner Pacific is once again ranked in the Top 10 Regional Colleges in the West (ranked 8th) and named as a “Great School at a Great Price” (ranked 9th) and a “Best College for Veterans” (ranked 4th) by the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges 2015 edition.

“As a small college, we are honored to be nationally recognized for the quality of our educational environment,” said Dr. Andrea P. Cook, President of Warner Pacific College. “Through engaging programs like our First-Year Learning Communities and innovative majors like our accelerated Bachelor of Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching program, Warner Pacific students experience a unique blend of rigorous study and authentic relationship that gives them the confidence they need to seek a career that is both professionally rewarding and personally fulfilling.”

Adult Degree Program Celebrates Over 25 Years

Warner Pacific is thrilled to celebrate over 25 years of serving adult learners in the Portland metro area. Through the evening format of the Adult Degree Program (ADP), thousands of adults in our region have been able to land the job they desire, receive the promotion they deserve, and set a positive example for their friends and families because of the college degree that they earned through ADP.



Warner Pacific College offers students enrolled in ADP the flexibility they need to balance work, family, and continuing education at six campus locations as well as online. We invite you to celebrate this 25th anniversary

milestone with us as we share ADP alumni stories, historical timelines, and special events honoring the transformational leadership that ADP graduates are providing to our community.

WP Mobile Puts Warner Pacific in the Palm of Your Hand

Warner Pacific’s new mobile app is available on Google Play and the App Store (iTunes). The app is available for download on your iPad as well.

Features of the free WP Mobile app include:

- Robust academic and events calendar
- Up to the minute news feed that keeps you in the loop with WP and Knights news
- Filter function so you can choose which items you want to view
- Podcasts and live stream capabilities so you won’t miss a moment of the Knights in action
- Directory to quickly reach departments, allowing you to call or email directly through the app as well as access web pages with more information



For more information, visit warnerpacific.edu/wp-mobile.

WPC Launches Accelerated BA/MAT Program

New and transfer students starting at Warner Pacific in Fall 2014 now have the opportunity to gain both their bachelor’s degree and their master’s degree in less than 5 years, saving an average of \$34,000 in tuition expenses. Through the new accelerated BA/MAT program, graduates can begin teaching in middle or high school with their Oregon or Washington teaching licenses in

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less time and potentially earn more money than fellow first-year teachers who have yet to finish a master's program. With a tuition that is 25% lower than comparative programs, Warner Pacific students will save an average of \$34,000, earning both their bachelor's and master's degrees in less time.

WPC UPCOMING EVENTS

GMOs: theological & ethical perspectives

An in-depth discussion with a panel of scientists, teachers, and faith leaders from the Portland metro area

Wednesday, October 15, from 6:30 – 8:40 p.m. in Schlatter Chapel

Diversity Lecture Series: celebrity and social change

Special Guests: Hill Harper, actor and author (10/18) and Dr. Tricia Rose, professor of Africana Studies at Brown University (10/25)

Saturdays, October 18 and 25, from 12:00-3 p.m. in McGuire Auditorium

Earn your bachelor's degree and Master of Arts in Teaching in less than 5 years with our accelerated BA/MAT

BE IN THE CLASSROOM SOONER

HIGHER STARTING SALARY

SAVE \$34,000 IN TUITION



warnerpacific.edu/teach



Senior Moments

by Ruth Bissett, Salem, OR

In continuing the subject of the biblical truth of suffering Ellie-Pearson Sutter reflected on its power to shape us into Christ's image and a new sense of knowing and experiencing Earl's words of "God Will See You Through"

Amy Carmichael, who was a missionary to India and founder of orphanages especially for girls abandoned and abused, emphasis the biblical truth of suffering in this quote: "As I read the New Testament over and over, I am more and more impressed by the way suffering was taken for granted as something appointed; but always there is the thought of joy not far off. In our Lord's private talks with His disciples there is continually and clearly that "Must" of suffering and the joy to follow."

Paul writes in Ephesians that he counts everything in his life as loss and rubbish, but to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death." Phil. 3:10

Timothy writes in 2 Tim 2:12, "Here is a trustworthy saying: "If we suffer with Him, we will also reign with Him."

--We really don't like to hear the word *suffering*. None of us wants or likes to suffer. I believe that God looks at suffering totally different that we do. Ellie shared one of her favorite verses as Phil 1:29, "God gave you the honor not only of believing in Christ, but also SUFFERING FOR HIM, both of which bring glory to Christ." Obviously not all of our suffering is suffering for Christ! But all of our suffering can be used to, "*conform us in His image*" depending on how we respond to it.

The key to this part of Ellie's lesson for us is that suffering is used by God to CONFORM US TO HIS IMAGE. Keep that in mind when the bumps and challenges in life come your way.

Next time I will share the ways to be conformed through suffering. Remember in whatever you are going through, GOD WILL SEE YOU THROUGH.

Ruth Bissett, ruthbissett@gmail.com or 503-798-1706

Seminars and Training Opportunities Available

LAMP Writing Workshop

Held October 2, 2014, at the District Office in Salem, from 10:00 am-3:00 p.m., this conference, facilitated by Rev. David I.



Shrout, will provide a working ability to use a powerful planning tool known as LAMP: *Life And Ministry Plan*.

Lunch will be provided. Sign-up online.

No charge.

Narrative Preaching Conference

During the February Ministers Retreat at Newport's Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Rev. Dr. Jeff Frymire will lead a conference dealing with Narrative preaching—one of the most powerful ways of speaking to the hearts of all ages of people. This style is especially powerful with our 20- and 30-year-olds.

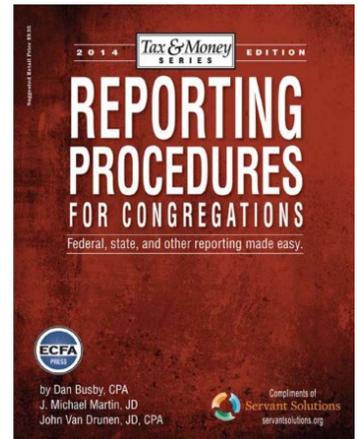


Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Newport,
February 2-4, 2015. Deadline is January 2, 2015.
Online registration available now!

Financial Symposium

Guest speaker Dan Busby, CPA, will present a Financial Symposium March 21, 2015 at the Holladay Park Church of God. This is a gift from Servant Solutions.

All Pastors, Church Treasurers and key Lay Leaders are encouraged to attend this power-packed symposium to discover the best practices in handling the financial gifts that are given to the Church. Don't miss this opportunity.
Online registration available now!



Check out the District Calendar

Check the handy option at www.orwacog.org/calendar. A simple click on a calendar date or event will direct you to detailed information. A chronological listing of events is also included toward the bottom of the screen.

New Budgeting Timeline

A memo to the General Council from Rev. David I. Shrout during the first quarter of 2014 presented the new budgeting timeline: "Now that we have moved our Annual Business meeting to the Summer Celebration, here is the pattern that we will need to follow in our budgeting process":

- Summer Celebration 2015; annual meeting to be held July 29, 2015
- Current budget runs July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015
- Executive Committee will approve a 2-month budget July 1, 2015-August 31, 2015
- New budget will then need to be approved on July 29, 2015, which will cover the time period of September 1, 2015—August 31, 2016.
- Budget requests will be mailed out during the month of March, 2015 and will be due May 2015 for the time period of September 1, 2015-August 31, 2016.

Register Now for November Church Planting Conferences

Oak Park Church of God in Salem, OR is hosting two Dynamic Church Planting International (dpci.org) training conferences November 9-11, in conjunction with leaders of the Oregon Pacific District Church of the Nazarene.

Online registration for the Sunday through Tuesday conferences is only \$35. Visit orwacog.org.

1) Church Planting Essentials— for those interested in discovering if Church Planting may be in their future. Pastors are also invited to this conference. Attendees will receive training on how to understand their community,



develop a vision for their church, and how to create a team to help with that vision.

2) Churches Planting Churches— for Pastors and Church leaders who have seen the vision of leading their church in helping to plant churches. Attendees will learn to answer fears and objections to church planting, determine the involvement of the mother church, develop a timeline for the new church, find resources needed to fund the daughter church, overcome common barriers in the new work, recruit a church planter and leadership, create their own personalized Vision-Involvement-Plan (VIP).

Missions Notes

From the Langfords

We are grateful for your continued prayers and encouragement during this period of fundraising. In moments when it felt like 100% funding was so far away you encouraged us. It has taken two long years to raise our full support, however, we have been able to meet so many amazing people across the country. During this time we have heard stories of great faith, listened to teenagers voice their struggles and joys, and we have been humbled to break bread with many of you.

The day we have been working towards is finally upon us and your prayers go with us. On October 27th, Audrey and I will be flying to Manchester, England by way of Atlanta and London. Our work Visas have been approved and tickets have been purchased. Please continue to pray for us as we sell many of our belongings, move out of our apartment, say goodbye to friends & family, and transition into full-time ministry. In little over a month we will be sending updates from Bir-

kenhead, England and other parts of Europe and the Middle East.

If you would like to learn more and receive day to day updates please follow us on Facebook and Twitter or follow our blog for weekly updates.

Thank you again for all you do to encourage those sharing Jesus Christ around the world.

Children of Promise

We are deeply thankful for your partnership in making a difference in the lives of children around the world. You are part of a team that transforms lives.

As Christmas comes, are you considering a new inspiring Christmas gift idea? Would you consider Children of Promise? This Christmas you can help children in need around the world by joining us in

Promoting sponsorship of children who need help;

Providing the necessary tools to maintain sponsorship;

Protecting our children through on-site assessments; and

Producing a broad array of media to inform and inspire our sponsors and friends.

All of this is essential in allowing children to be helped. Children of Promise provides nutrition, education, health care, and spiritual formation for each child through high school.

Do you have questions, or need information? Call Children of Promise at 800.848.2464, ext. 2114.



Ecuador Mission Effort

River Street Church of God in Newberg, OR, hopes to build a safe and usable building for the Christian Covenant Church of Sua, Ecuador, according to Pastor Matt Ingalls.

March 19-29 are the target dates. A team plans to fly from Portland to Quito, then drive on to Santo Domingo and on to Sua. Construction and VBS will take place March 22-25, followed by some exploration of the Ecuadorian Coast before their return home.

"The church is in need of a building for their ministry," says Ingalls. "They currently worship and minister under a tin roof." With a thriving children's ministry in an impoverished town on Ecuador's coast, Christian Covenant Church could use the help.

"Our group will raise funds for the project, interact with the church, the children they minister to, help begin the building project, and explore the culture of Ecuador."



A \$300 deposit was due June 15, but it's not too late to participate. The team is to have \$1300 per person by November 1st, so tickets can be secured. A total of \$1800 is estimated as cost per person, with \$500 going toward the building project and \$1300 for airfare. Meal costs are not included in the total.

The team's trip verse is I Chronicles 28:10, "Consider now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be courageous and act." For more information, email pastor.mattingalls@gmail.com or call 503-538-4117.



Upcoming Events

Clergy Appreciation Month - Wednesday, October 1, 2014 - Friday, October 31, 2014 - All Day

L.A.M.P. Writing Workshop—October 2, 2014, 9am-3pm

"PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS"

Worship & Singing
Fellowship & Dessert!

**Let's do it again at Rockwood COG
Sunday, October 18 at 6pm.**

133 NE 192nd Avenue, Gresham, OR
(between Glisan & Stark)

Church Planting Conferences - Sunday-Tuesday, November 9-11, 2014

How To Convention - Saturday, January 31, 2015,
8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Ministers & Spouses' Retreat - Monday, February 2, 2015 - Wednesday, February 4, 2015 - Best Western, Agate Beach, Newport, OR (Registration deadline: January 2, 2015)

Pacific NW **Financial Integrity** Conference - Saturday, March 28, 2015, Holiday Park COG

Check online for more events:
www.orwacog.org/calendar

Look to the Hills

Camp White Branch Fundraising Dinner Planned



Faithful workers, Owen, Leonard and Mel are hard at work at Camp White Branch.



CWB Board meetings are scheduled for October 19 and 20, followed by an annual fundraising dinner at Mt. Scott Church of God in Portland, October 23rd.

For more information on Camp White Branch, see <http://www.campwhitebranch.org/>.

Ministers' Retreat Brochure Available Online

A brochure is now available with scheduling and registration details for the February 2015 Ministers and Spouses' Retreat, to be held at Newport, Oregon's Agate Beach.

Guest speaker Dr. Jeffrey W. Frymire, Associate Professor of Homiletics at Asbury Theological Seminary, will facilitate several sessions including:

1. *In a Digital Age, Why Preach?*
2. *Seeing in Narrative*
3. *How Storytelling Really Works*
4. *Moving from Just the Facts to Break a Leg*

To download the brochure, go to orwacog.org, home page, and scroll down to the upcoming events. Click on *2015 Minister Spouse Retreat Brochure*.

January 2, 2015 is the deadline for registration, with a \$50 deposit payable to the Association of the Churches of God.



MISSION STATEMENT: "This Association exists to serve and empower affiliated churches and ministries to fulfill the call of Christ."

VISION STATEMENT: "To serve and empower by: coordinating ministries, providing guidance, giving encouragement, supplying information, and offering training, in order to enable churches and ministries to mature in holiness, unity, services and growth."