

THE CONTACT

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E-Contact

Association Purpose and Vision Redefined

In light of the restructuring of the Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington, to embrace a governance policy and connect through regional activity, the Mission and Vision statements have been revisited to more accurately reflect the new bylaws.

Formerly the Mission Statement was publicized with: "This Association exists to serve and empower affiliated churches and ministries to fulfill the call of Christ." The Vision Statement was framed: "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."

The District office released the following revision:

THE PURPOSE of The Association:

To conduct business as the legally-incorporated body of the Association of the Churches of God in Oregon, Inc.

To 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;

To inspire commitment to the teachings, mission, and theological perspectives of the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana;

To provide support for the development of healthy Church of God congregations.

Regional activity is beginning to surface with leadership and congregational gatherings—a picnic and worship service, a scheduled time of games, skits and snacks, and get-acquainted activities. Reports and photos are welcomed and encouraged. See page 6 for regional contact points and a summary of the September District Council meeting.

Pictured: District Office, Salem Oregon.



Camp White Branch Progress



Mel Neu reports that he observed “happy changes” as he arrived at Camp White Branch recently. Check out the progress seen in these pictures.

A fundraiser campaign began September 20th with “Flash” Sundays, and concludes October 11th with *Camp White Branch Sunday*. Encourage your pastor and staff to be a part of this event, distributing information each Sunday to encourage congregational involvement. The CWB Board hopes the campaign will raise funds to complete the building and repay the Association for the money borrowed. An annual CWB fundraising dinner will be held

<http://www.orwacog/camp-white-branch>



Thursday, Oct. 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the Mt. Scott Church of God, Portland.

Camp White Branch had a good summer with many of our youth making new commitments to the Lord Jesus.

Thank you for your faithfulness to Camp White Branch.



CWB Camp Dates Slated for 2016

- Senior High camp - Monday, July 11 – Friday, July 15, 2016
- Introductory Camp - Friday, July 15 – Sunday, July 17, 2016
- Middle School Camp - Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22, 2016
- Summer Celebration - Sunday, July 24 – Wednesday, July 27, 2016
- Junior Camp - Monday, August 1 – Friday, August 5, 2016
- Primary Camp - Monday, August 8 – Thursday, August 11, 2016

Mark your calendars and plan now to promote camp attendance for your local congregations.

Many Opportunities are Available to Support the Camp

<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Donations</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ COG Summer Camps ❖ Church Sponsored Work Weekends ❖ Volunteer Time and Skills ❖ Pray for Ministry and Financial Stability ❖ Adopt a Cabin(s)/Specific Building ❖ Camp White Branch Board ❖ Provide Notes and Gifts of Appreciation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Designate Funds from Church or Group Offerings ❖ Give to Capital Fund Campaigns/Special Projects ❖ Donate Gifts in Kind (Sellable Items) ❖ Identify Camp White Branch in Estate Plans ❖ Provide Gifts in Honor of a Loved One ❖ Adopt a Cabin(s)/Specific Building w/ Funds ❖ Employer Matching Donation Program ❖ Donate Supplies, Tools, and Appliances ❖ Sponsor a Fundraising Dinner/Event

*** see detailed information on each opportunity on the Assoc. of COG website under CWB

“Imagine the Future...Leave a Legacy”

Ways You Can Support the Camp White Branch Fundraising Sunday on October 11th to Raise \$500k for the Multi-Purpose Building

1. Pray for the ongoing ministry of CWB and the success of this Campaign.
2. Give a one-time financial gift to this Campaign.
3. Provide a gift in honor of someone you know or donate “in remembrance” of a loved one
4. Give a monthly or yearly financial pledge toward this project.
5. Give “gifts in kind,” toward the Campaign. For example: a car or boat or RV; land; stocks/bonds; or other items of value which may be sold.
5. Rally your small groups or Sunday school classes to commit to raise funds

Look to the Hills

**Where does our help come from?
Our help comes from the Lord!**

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College Rankings put Warner Pacific at the Top of Many Nation-Wide and Regional Lists

Warner Pacific College continues to be ranked in the Top 10 Regional Colleges (West) by the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges 2016 edition.

The 2015 “Best Bang for the Buck” list shows which schools in the West are the best value for your money based on “net” (not sticker) price, how well they do graduating the students they admit, and whether those students go on to earn at least enough to pay off their loans. Out of the 233 colleges included in this list for 2015, Warner Pacific is ranked at 70th nationwide and 5th for Oregon (out of the 20 schools from Oregon included).

We are thrilled that Warner Pacific ranked 37th in the nation on Washington Monthly’s 2015 Baccalaureate Colleges list, moving up the list 11 slots from last year!

Alum named acting director of Oregon’s Department of Human Services by Governor

Warner Pacific congratulates alumni Jerry Waybrant '80 on his recent appointment to head Oregon’s Department of Human Services. On Wednesday, September 2, Governor Kate Brown named Waybrant the Acting Director as the longtime director, Erinn Kelley-Siel, stepped down on Friday, September 4. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/alum-named-acting-director-of-oregons-department-of-human-services-by-governor-brown/>

NEW: Master’s Degree in Human Services now offered at Warner Pacific College

Warner Pacific College introduces a new Masters of Arts in Human Services degree through the Adult Degree Program. This program is designed for experienced professionals who are passionate about their communities and wish to make a positive impact. Cohorts are forming now: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/admissions/adult-degree-program/adult-degree-programs/master-of-arts-in-human-services/>

College Application Fee Waived Through December 1 when applying to WPC

When you apply to attend Warner Pacific College, we’ll waive your application fee. Hurry. While the benefits of a quality, Christ-centered education through Warner Pacific will last a lifetime, the application fee waiver period ends December 1. This waiver applies to applications from incoming freshmen, transfer students, and international students. <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/admissions/apply/>

October Events:

- **Warner Pacific Founder’s Day** - Monday, October 5, at 12:30 pm

Join us for a celebration lunch at noon (\$5 with coupon); be there for the cake cutting by Dr. Cook; join us for PBC/WPC trivia night at 7 pm. And continue the legacy by supporting the College’s scholarship programs with your donation.

Details and the lunch coupon can be found here: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/founders-day/>

- **Celebration Concert** – Friday, October 9, or Saturday, October 10 at 7:30 pm each evening (NEW DATES – event was rescheduled from September to October)

Warner Pacific’s Choral Summit will end each day with a concert featuring high school choirs and Warner Pacific choral ensembles

Tickets are just \$10. Get your tickets today: <https://warnerpacific.webconnex.com/choralfestivaltickets>

Download Warner Pacific’s free mobile app (available from Google Play or iTunes) and never miss an exciting event or the latest news: <http://www.warnerpacific.edu/wp-mobile/>

Pastor David Shrout Recuperating

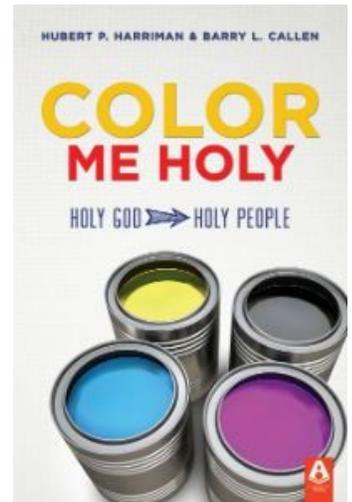
Thank you for your prayers for Pastor David Shrout during his recent hip replacement surgery. He is at home and recovering (with the good assistance of his grandkids).



New Books Bring Color, Clarity to Holiness and Theology

By Carl Stagner, Church of God News

Does holiness still matter? Does your church still preach and teach holiness? What does the Bible really say about the subject? In 2006, the “Holiness Manifesto”—a result of the Wesleyan Holiness Study Project—made it clear that “there has never been a time in greater need of a compelling articulation of the message of holiness.” One of the chief architects of that written work is Barry Callen, highly-regarded in the Church of God for his communication of the truths of the Bible and the Church of God movement. Seven years after the project, Callen believes the opening statement of the “Holiness Manifesto” has never been truer. He has just released a book titled *Color Me Holy*, which offers a fresh perspective on holiness for today’s reader. Also for today’s reader, he’s penned the practical, easy-to-digest *Approaching Theology*—a book that proves anyone can grasp the study of God.

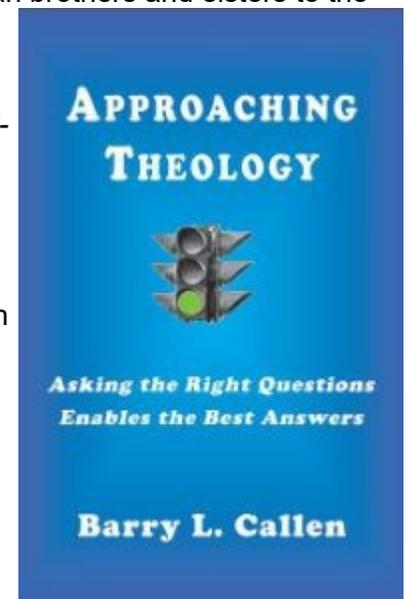


“The theme of holiness is absolutely foundational to this movement yet, in this generation, is rarely preached or thought about,” Barry explains. “But because it’s so central to the entire biblical revelation, this generation ought to take a new look at it.” *Color Me Holy* offers this generation that opportunity. Utilizing the motif of color, authors Barry Callen and Hubert Harriman explore the idea of holiness from its origins in God’s very nature, to its application throughout the history of the church. While the book describes God as the divine Artist who paints his nature on the canvas of our lives, it also reveals the Artist’s true colors, and makes the case for the personal petition, “Color me holy!” Not in the least a New Age departure from the foundational truths about holiness, *Color Me Holy* simply makes the subject of holiness accessible to anyone, anywhere. In fact, the book is already making a colorful splash on the other side of the Atlantic.

“My coauthor, Huber Harriman, is the president of World Gospel Mission,” Barry explains. “We’ve had a big population of Church of God people in Africa for years, but what’s happening over there is really making an impact on the African Gospel Church, a large, indigenous African denomination with Wesleyan orientation—common to the Church of God.” After licensing the publishing of the book to Kenya, the church there made the book available to some 1,500 pastors for free. Now another 5,000 are being printed for lay leaders. The refreshing perspective on holiness has captured the attention of our African brothers and sisters to the point that now arrangements are being made to translate the entire book (already available in Spanish) into Swahili!

Approaching Theology is a unique and much-needed resource. While *theology* may sound scary to many Christians, it really can be accessible to anyone. “The very word theology simply means a disciplined thinking about God,” Barry explains. “What is more basic? However, usually theology has been done in such theoretical ways, in academic circles, and has been disconnected from the average person. There is nothing more important, but it needs to be done with some guidance, and without assuming any technical expertise on the part of the reader. Most books on theology are written by theologians, for theologians. This book is for the average believer, with no theological background, but who doesn’t want to be belittled because of that.”

Order your copy of *Color Me Holy* at <http://www.lamppostinc.com/COLOR-ME-HOLY-by-Hubert-P-Harriman-Barry-Callen-9781600393037.htm>. Order your copy of *Approaching Theology* at <http://www.emethpress.com/9781609470920.htm>. Learn more about the Church of God at www.JesusIsTheSubject.org.





Senior Moments

By Ruth Bissett

“Heaven doesn’t make this life LESS important...it makes it MORE important.”
~Billy Graham

We will be thinking and “talking” about heaven now and in future issues. As Gale Hency said in the conference as Principle #1: “All discussion regarding Heaven is an attempt to describe ‘another world/event/place’ while we are restricted by the language of ‘this world.’ How do you do that? Well, you stumble a lot.”

At the World Fair in Seattle in 1962, I attended Moody’s Sermons From Science. I was so impressed because the previous day they had asked, “What if heaven is right here?” They showed how Caruso’s voice broke the goblet by the pitch of his voice. They put a dime in a goblet and turned radio waves on low and then intensified the pitch. You could see the dime start to vibrate and when the pitch got to a certain frequency, the vibrations intensified and broke the goblet. Next they explained that if we hit a wall with our fist it will hurt because we aren’t at the radio frequency of the wall, but radio waves can go through the wall. Now days we really see this with the world wide web. Similarly when we put our finger in a socket we can get a shock because we are at that frequency. Scientifically they were saying that heaven could be right here, but we can’t see it because we are at a

different frequency. Isn’t that fascinating and exciting? I was and continue to be impressed with this explanation of where heaven could be.

Principle #2 says, “Heaven is what it is regardless of my (our) descriptions of fantasies.” My experience at the World’s Fair is an example of this. I Corinthians 2:9 sums it up this way, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”

“I believe that your place in Heaven will seem to be MADE for you and you alone, because you were made for Heaven-made for it stitch by stitch by stitch as a glove is made for a hand.” C. S. Lewis

I hope you will join me in thinking about heaven, after all, it is our destination, but it begins here as the songwriter, Charles Butler, says,

Once heaven seemed a far off place
Till Jesus showed his smiling face
Now it’s begun within my soul
‘Twill last while endless ages roll.

Oh, hallelujah, yes ‘tis Heaven
‘Tis Heaven to know my sins forgiven
On land or sea, what matters where
Where Jesus is, ‘tis Heaven there.

Rainier Church Dedicates New Sign

Photos courtesy Pamela Burnett

The Rainier Community Church of God in Rainier, Oregon, has been busy remodeling their facility, and dedicated their new LED sign September 13, in loving memory of Pastor Steve Stecker, well known and loved in the community and district.



Rev. David Shroust spoke Sunday morning, using a “rope” object lesson of author/speaker Francis Chan. Pastor Mike Kernutt presented the plaque during the sign dedication: “In memory of Pastor Steve Stecker, Jan. 5, 1961– Oct. 16, 2014, He loved our community and wanted everyone to know the Lord. He encouraged us all to ‘keep looking up.’ ‘Seek the Lord and you will find him.’ –Deut 4:29.” The day was filled with worship, food, inflatables, games, balloons, banners, streamers, and lots of love.



District Council Convenes

The new District Council, approved and introduced during Summer Celebration in July, met September 8, at the District Office in Salem. Council members represent the eight regions of the Association of the Churches of God.

Their initial meeting was mostly a “get-acquainted and informational session,” according to Jackie Scott, Council Chair. Pastor Steve Kudfeldt was elected as Corporate Secretary, and Nathan Dunbar was reappointed as Treasurer. Pastor Linda Tucker-Bays, of Scappoose, OR, provided Policy Governance training.

Continue to pray for the District Council and their leadership in the Association.

Chair Person: Jackie Scott (2015-2018) three-year term. Attends Lynchwood COG; serves on Board of Trustees

Region 1 (Bandon, North Bend, Powers and Reed-sport): **Rev. Jim Minkler** (2015-2016) one-year term. Senior Pastor at Seabird Community COG, Bandon

Region 2 (Cottage Grove, Eugene, Klamath Falls, Medford, Springfield and Roseburg): **J Brown** (2015-2017) two-year term; layperson at First COG, Springfield

Region 3 (Albany Community, Albany 1st, Albany Oak Hill, Lebanon, Salem and Woodburn): **Rev. Steve Kufeldt** (2015-2018) three-year term; Associate Pastor at Hoodview COG, Woodburn

Region 4 (Aloha, Gales Creek, Hillsboro, Newberg and Tigard): **Michael Harkema** (2015-2016) one-year term; layperson at River Street Church of God, Newberg

Region 5 (Longview, Rainier, Scappoose, and St. Helens): **Rev. Mike Kernutt** (2015-2017) two-year term; retired pastor attending Rainier Community COG.

Region 6 (Husum, LaGrande, Pendleton, Prineville, Redmond, and The Dalles): **Rev. Tom Culp** (2015-2018) three-year term; Senior Pastor of Husum Community COG in WA

Region 7 (Community, Holladay Park, Iglesia de Dios, Maranatha, Neighborhood and Vancouver): **Rev. Martin Shrout** (2015-2016) one-year term; Senior Pastor of Holladay Park COG, Portland

Region 8 (International Fellowship, Lents-Gilbert, Lynchwood, Mt. Scott, Richmond, Rockwood, Winding Road, Faith Rock and Hilltop): **Rev. David Wilson** (2015-2017) two-year term; Co-pastor of Mt. Scott COG, Portland

Upcoming Events

Clergy Appreciation Month - Thursday, October 1, 2015 - Saturday, October 31, 2015

Camp White Branch “Flash” Sunday*
Sunday, October 4, 2015

Warner Pacific College Founder’s Day
Monday, October 5, 2015

Camp White Branch “Pledge” Sunday*
Sunday, October 11, 2015

Albany 1st COG 120th Anniversary Celebration
Friday, Oct. 16 through Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015

NATIONAL BOSS’ DAY - Friday, October 16, 2015

Lents-Gilbert COG 60th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, Oct. 17, 2:00-4:00 pm.

Camp White Branch Fundraising Dinner
Thursday, October 22, 2015 - 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Mt. Scott COG, Portland

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS - Sunday, November 1, 2015

VETERAN’S DAY - Wednesday, November 11

THANKSGIVING DAY - Thursday, November 26,

CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday, December 25, 2015

Ministers & Spouses Retreat - Monday, February 15, 2016 - Wednesday, February 17, 2016

*Flash Sundays—Appointed presenters will share about the CWB Campaign with their respective congregations on each of those Sundays.



A Click Away
Orwacog.org/calendar

