

Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington

Senior Adult Conference Slated for June

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May 2016

Issue 5

THIE E-Contact

Reclaim: First Ever Regional Convention

By Kay Tira

Church of God people from 13 western states and three Canadian provinces made their way to Vancouver Church in Vancouver, Washington, April 26-28, 2016, for the first of three Regional Conventions.

Enthusiasm was high as General Director Jim Lyon, ever warm and articulate, welcomed the crowd to the historic event, where friends reunited and new friendships formed.

Excellent speakers addressed the convention theme—Reclaim Your Neighbor [hood]—with Biblical insights, storytelling,

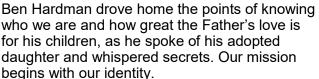


spiritual challenges and some unique humor. Speakers included Milton Grannum, Ben Hardman, Arnetta McNeese Bailey, Steve Arterburn and Reggie McNeal.

Great participation marked the sessions, as folks interacted with laughter and emotion,

nodding and applause. Grannum's delightful accounts of childhood impressions by Church of God leaders

impressions by Church of God leaders challenged listeners to invest in people for eternity.



Steve Arterburn shared an "unpublished work" called "Breathing Under Water", emphasizing our tendency to distance ourselves from danger, rather than reaching out to reclaim what the enemy has taken. His new book, <u>Take Your Life Back</u>, will be released in the Fall.

Jim Lyon, Gen. Dir.

Arnetta McNeese Bailey's passion for ministry came through as she encouraged listeners to show mercy, and "don't pass someone by who is broken and hurt and in

need of the Savior," but to see the needs—the heart and humanity of people without hope.

Ben Shular, of Global Strategies, introduced missionaries Jason and Abby (Smith) Torgeson, and baby Joshua, heading to Costa Rica, who were commissioned with prayer voiced by Bob Marvel.



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Reclaim: First Ever Regional Convention

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Worship was rich, led by Alanna Story, whose "We Hymn" CDs and leadership kits were available at one of the many tables lining the hallways of Vancouver Church. Ken Long, father of the two female vocalists/instrumentalists, treated the crowd by joining in with his fiddle during one afternoon segment.

The impact of the event was maximized by the merging of WARM, the Western Area Regional Ministerium,

with the Church of God Regional Convention this year. Steve Kufeldt, Chairman of WARM, led a brief business





meeting during the Wednesday evening pastor appreciation banquet for ministers and spouses, during which ratification took place for the Vice-Chair and Planning Team members.



The Wednesday evening session with Reggie McNeal required attentive listeners as he riddled his presentation with dry humor and words of encouragement. "Your movement is being positioned, I hope, to lead a whole bunch of us out of the wilderness," said McNeal, known for his missional emphasis. "No one gets help till someone gets off their donkey," said Reggie. Encouraging investment in people, and reclamation, he added, "The gates of Hell will not prevail, and we are

privileged to watch the Kingdom come."



Thursday's extended session focused on round-table discussion of Sexual Ethics, a timely conversation in our cultural context (See related article below).

During last year's General Assembly in Oklahoma City, the decision was made to hold the annual Church of God convention every other year, with smaller-scale, regional gatherings held in the years between. Anderson, IN, is the location for the second of three events (June 21-23), followed by the Philadelphia, PA, convention to be held September 27-29, 2016.

See more at #Reclaim2016 or www.jesusisthesubject.org.

ChoG Table Wraps Up Convention

By Steve Kufeldt, Associate Pastor, Hoodview Church of God, Woodburn, Chair, Western Area Regional Ministerium

The first Regional Convention of the Church of God concluded with the ChoG Table, a one-day forum focused on the topic of "sexual ethics." General Director Jim Lyon started by framing the day with an overview of the topic, as sexuality impacts the ministry of the church in diverse ways, not just the hot-topic of same-sex issues, from the purity and beauty of marital fidelity to the pain and destruction caused by adultery, pornography, rape and so many other ways. A diverse lineup of speakers shared their stories in a frank and open discussion of sexuality, including the biology and chemistry of sex to the journey of someone who has struggled with same-sex attraction and now affirms that position. An overview of the arguments for the "affirming" view was given to help the audience better understand the topic, as well as reasons to refute that view and to affirm the "historical, traditional" view of marriage.

Pastor and blogger Preston Sprinkle challenged the church to be loving and gracious as we deal with sexual issues, especially same-sex discussions. While we may have our theological position right, the posture of the church historically has been wrong. Preston noted, "We can get the Bible right, but if we get the love wrong, we are wrong."

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Summer Celebration Line Up

Warner Pacific College will host the Summer Celebration July 24-27, 2016, with the youth event stretching one day beyond the general celebration, concluding the 28th. This year's leaders include the following:

Brent Hofer, Worship Leader, is a graduate of Warner Pacific College with a degree in Church Music and a master's degree in Biblical Studies. He is the former worship pastor at Mt. Scott Church of God and Kern Park Christian Church. He and his wife Sherry and daughters Eleanna and Nicole live in Oregon City, and currently worship with Oregon City Christian Church.

Summer Celebration's Monday evening speaker, **Matt Ingalls**, pastors River Street Church of God in Newberg, OR - a simple community dedicated to living the way of Jesus so that they and their neighborhood may thrive. He is an alum of both George Fox Evangelical Seminary and Anderson University. He's married to the splendid Abigail and fathers the wily Elliot and the smiley Micah. He can often be found running, eating, coffee drinking, toddler-wrangling, listening, thinking and/or reading.

Aaron McMurray, PhD, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Warner Pacific College, will speak Tuesday evening at Summer Celebration (Warner Day). Aaron has a passion for Christ-centered leadership. You might say he's a leadership fanatic, researching and thinking deeply about ethical, servant and visionary leadership in organizations. But Aaron also cares deeply about seeing positive transformation in the lives of young people. Where these two loves come together is Warner Pacific College, with its Christ-centered mission to serve and educate diverse young people who have been left on the sidelines of traditional higher education. After 12 years with Young Life and five years working at Whitworth University in Spokane, WA, Aaron and his family moved to Portland, OR to lead the advancement efforts at Warner Pacific, where he oversees fundraising, athletics, alumni and external relations and planned giving. Aaron completed a Master's in Organizational Leadership and a PhD in Leadership Studies, both at Gonzaga University. He speaks and consults in areas related to servant leadership, organizational change and reform, and leadership ethics, and is an adjunct professor at Gonzaga University in Organizational Leadership. Aaron and his wife Darcy, have four children and live in Portland, OR.

Denise Douglas will speak at the Wednesday evening service during Summer Celebration. Denise has served three Oregon Church of God congregations, over the past 31 years. She has served as youth pastor, associate pastor, interim pastor, and is currently serving as Co-Senior pastor, at Mt. Scott Church of God in Portland. Denise lives in Clackamas, Oregon with her husband, Fred Douglas. They have two boys, Erick and Brian, both students at Linfield College and an adorable dog named Max. Denise enjoys good coffee, good books, good conversation, and the chaos of home life when it is filled with family and friends. A verse that is currently astounding and encouraging to her: Ephesians 1:5 "God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure."

Patrick and Jamie Nachtigall are Regional Coordinators for Europe/Middle East and lead the Three Worlds Team. Patrick received his B.A. from Anderson University and his M.A. from Yale University in the field of religion. Born in Costa Rica, he has lived in Latin America, Asia, and North America and traveled to 75 countries around the world and lived in six. He has written on issues relating to religion and globalization for a number of periodicals and journals. The author of five books,











Summer Celebration Line Up (Continued from page #)

Patrick likes to explore the global shifts occurring in religion. Jamie Nachtigall was born in Washington but grew up in Cairo, Egypt. She graduated from Anderson University with a degree in English and served as the Membership Coordinator for both the Yale University Art Museum and the Yale Center for British Art. Jamie, along with Patrick, lived and worked in Hong Kong for nearly ten years. Their 13-year old son, Marco, has grown up in Hong Kong and Germany.

7-8:00pm

DAYTIME SESSIONS: Monday Session 1: The Crisis in the Middle East

Monday Session 2: Europe and the Post -Christendom Challenge

Tuesday Session 1: American Christianity from a Global Perspective 1

Tuesday Session 2: American Christianity from a Global Perspective 2

Wednesday Session 1: Update on 3W Missionaries & Countries Wednesday Session 2: Launch of Spain Church-Plant

The Nachtigalls will also speak at the Sunday evening service.





Youth Schedule

Sunday: July 24		
2:30pm	Youth Registration Dinner On Your Own	(Cafeteria)
7:00-9:00pm	Main Service	(McGuire)
Monday: July 25		
8:30am	Breakfast	(Kardatzke)
10:00am	Youth Session	(McGuire)
12:00pm	Lunch	(Kardatzke)
12:45pm	Leave for Seaside Beach Trip	
5:00pm	Dinner, Worship & Missionaries Speaking	

Tuesday: July 26 Breakfast 8:30am (Kardatzke) 9:30am Youth Session (McGuire) Warner Pacific College Lunch 12:00pm (McGuire) 2:00pm Mission Experience 5:30pm WPC Dinner & Promo (Kardatzke) **Evening Service** (McGuire) 7:30pm Night Activity (TBD) 10:00pm

Head back to WPC

Wed: July 27 8:30am Breakfast (Kardatzke) Youth Session 10:00am (McGuire) Lunch (Kardatzke) 12:00DM Oaks Amusement Park 1:30pm

Dinner (Kardatzke) 5:30pm **Evening Service** (McGuire) 7:30pm

Thursday: July 28

8:30am Breakfast (Kardatzke) 10:00am Youth Session (McGuire) Check Out Time 12:00pm (Kardatzke)

Camp White Branch Summer Camps

Senior High camp - Mon.-Fri., July 11-15 (\$200) Effingham & Nunnally Introductory Camp - Fri.-Sun., July 15-17 (\$150) Jackson Middle School Camp - Mon.-Fri., July 18-22

(\$180) Dow

Summer Celebration - Sun.-Wed., July 24- 27

Junior Camp - Mon.-Fri., August 1-5 (\$160) Kuykendall

Primary Camp - Mon.-Thurs., August 8-11 (\$150) Graham



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

Disaster Relief Update: Earthquakes in Myanmar, Japan, and Ecuador

Posted April 21 2016 by chogministries

The week of April 10 saw major earthquakes around the world, including three areas around where the Church of God has a presence: Myanmar, affecting much of the surrounding region, including Meghalaya, India, and Bangladesh; Kyushu, Japan's southern island; and Ecuador.

Often, in the short term, there is little detailed information as news trickles in slowly, sometimes due to geographical isolation, and sometimes due to the destruction. You can contribute at any time to the Disaster Relief Fund at Church of God Ministries.

The Disaster Relief Committee at Church of God Ministries monitors disasters and works with Global Strategy regional coordinators and missionaries, as well as church leaders in affected regions, to identify needs and ways in which we can partner in immediate needs and in recovery.

We do not yet know the full extent of the damage from these three earthquakes, but there does not appear to have been any damage to church building or homes or loss of life within the Church of God in Myanmar and surrounding areas and in Japan. The Church of God in Japan, on the island of Kyushu, is considering how they might reach out to the affected communities in the mountains where no much aid has been distributed.

In Ecuador, Global Strategy missionaries Jon and Karen Lambert are safe. We understand from them that the church leaders and church members appear to have suffered no loss of life despite the massive destruction along the coast. They do know that the earthquake and aftershocks caused significant damage to the Church of God church building in Tonsupa, where the interior walls were destroyed and a six-foot-wide gap in the floor appeared. In Concorida, the church building is fine, but the home of paraplegic church leader Sister Gloria was

completely destroyed. Major landslides are hindering travel to several church sites. We do anticipate that the Church of God in Ecuador will need some disaster relief to help with rebuilding once they have fully assessed the need.

Please continue to pray for each of the affected regions as they grieve losses, deal with cleanup and continue to assess damage. Please pray that the Church of God in each area continues to serves as a beacon of hope and peace amid widespread destruction and chaos. Thank you.

Gifts to the Disaster Relief Fund at Church of God Ministries are used to respond to needs identified on the ground. All gifts to the Disaster Relief Fund are used for disaster relief domestically and internationally at the discretion of the Disaster Relief Committee.

Donations can always be made online to the Disaster Relief Fund athttp://www.jesusisthesubject.org/disaster-relief/. Donations can also be mailed to Church of God Ministries, PO Box 2420, Anderson, IN 46018; please note that your gift is for Disaster Relief, Project # 45.04502.

WP Honored with Education in Equity Award Posted chogministries

On Wednesday, April 13, 2016, Warner Pacific College was presented with the Education in Equity Award from the Oregon Campus Compact at their



Dr. Cook with Jessica Howard, ORCC chair.

20th Anniversary Celebration.

"This award represents a significant achievement in advancing equity within higher education and it is our honor to recognize the hard work that Warner Pacific has put into improving its practices, policies, and programs to improve the quality of the educational experience and the outcomes for students of color and first-generation students," explained Josh Todd, executive director of Oregon Campus Compact.

The Educational Equity Award recognizes one college or university in Oregon that has shown significant commitment to advancing equity in higher education, inequities in outcomes for students of color, first-generation students, and other students who have historically been underrepresented in higher education.

At Warner Pacific, transformation is at the core of our Christ-centered identity, and we see both the tremendous need and the amazing opportunity for higher education to be transformed into an equitable environment where all students can flourish," said President Andrea Cook. "I am grateful for the many

faculty, staff, and especially students who have been part of this work at the College, and I look forward to continuing to develop the ways in which we serve historically marginalized and underrepresented groups of students. We are honored by this award from Campus Compact, but we know that we must continue to learn from one another because there is still work to be done."

The 20th Anniversary Celebration highlighted the achievements made by Oregon Campus Compact's college and university members. The evening was a time to recognize leaders and innovators in Oregon higher education and recommitment to guaranteeing that for the next twenty years the Compact's robust network will stay focused on ensuring all students succeed and become active, engaged members of the community.

Knights earn All-American Status

Warner Pacific basketball players Taylor Young and Earl Jones were named NAIA All-American recently. http://www.wpcknights.com/ news/2016/3/17/mens-basketball-taylor-young-earljones-earn-all-american-status.aspx?path=mbball

Adult Degree Program Alumni - builder of champions

A WPC alum is inspiring students at De La Salle high school in North Portland where 95% of students are accepted into college! One man fills the important positions of dean of students, athletic director, and boys basketball coach — James Broadous Jr., a Warner Pacific Adult Degree Program Alumni.http://portlandtribune.com/pt/12-sports/301470-175828-coach-broadous-builder-of-champions

Warner Pacific hosts youth SlingShot Conference

The August conference is a regional experience that was genuinely designed to be cross-cultural | cross-denominational | cross-missional. Our hope is that

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Warner Pacific College News

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everyone who attends SlingShot will encounter worship, inspiration, mission, and the transformative power of the Gospel in ways that are familiar, but more importantly in ways that introduce them to the vastness of the Kingdom. Please share the Conference link with your youth pastor as well as high school and young adults. It is affordable and accessible for all. http://www.theslingshotconference.com/

WPC launches new website

If it has been a while since you visited warnerpacific.edu, take a look at the College's fresh new online look.

Choral Concert

Featuring WPC's Concert Choir and Warner Chorale May 1 at 2:30 p.m., McGuire Auditorium, Free.

Art of the Call

The Art of the Call is an interactive showcase addressing the integrative formative experiences in the Religion & Christian Ministries department. This is an open exhibit using creative visual storytelling techniques for graduating students to address who they are in Christ and how they are called to engage the world. May 3 from 5:30-7 p.m., Egtvedt Hall, Room 203, Free.

Wind Ensemble Concert

May 6 at 7:30 pm, McGuire Auditorium, Free.

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/

Regional Convention

Warner Pacific College, Servant Solutions, and Warner Press provided financial support for the events at the April 26-28 Regional Convention. Pictured here is the pastor appreciation banquet, held in the Kings Way Christian School cafeteria on the campus of Vancouver First Church of God, in Vancouver, Washington.



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.

CHOG Ministries' Employee Health Insurance Options **Extended to Churches**

By Suzanne Kellam, Posted April 15, 2016 by chogministries

Dealing with health insurance can be a nightmare. Trying to navigate the Affordable Care Act regulations only adds more stress to an already confusing topic. Often churches find themselves caught in the middle of it all. From time to time, pastors and churches have contacted Church of God Ministries to inquire about health insurance options and recommendations. Church of God Ministries is excited to announce a new option available to our churches.

For our group health insurance program, Church of God Ministries uses GuideStone Financial Resources, the benefit board that serves the Southern Baptist Convention and select evangelical ministries. GuideStone has provided health insurance benefits to Church of God Ministries employees for the past several years. We are very pleased with their service and their commitment to helping us provide rich benefits at a very reasonable cost. I am blessed to provide this information to pastors, churches, and small not-for-profit ministries, as a recommended option for health care



The GuideStone website details the eligibility requirement, plan options, estimated rates, and how to submit your church's information. Additional resources are at your fingertips to help guide your ministry through the murky waters of health care coverage.

I am so glad that GuideStone has made its health insurance products available to our churches. Given the complexities of ACA regulations, their plans can provide a way for our churches to provide ACA-compliant health insurance benefits to full-time employees.

As human resources director at Church of God Ministries, I want to offer my experience beyond the health insurance recommendation, as well. I am available as a resource to you when it comes to your personnel questions, hiring and termination, job description templates, related legal questions, what information to keep and what not to keep. Changes seem to be taking place almost every week, whether it be in health care or regulations. I would love to help you walk through those questions so we can find the answers together.

Blessings on your ministry, and know that we, Church of God Ministries, are here to serve you. You may reach me at SKellam@chog.org or 800-848-2464, ext. 2167.

Open Invitation:

Discover how God is moving in and through the lives of the seniors in the Warner Pacific's Department of Religion & Christian Ministries. And find out why ministry isn't about the job you choose, it's about the life you live.

The Art of the Call Tuesday, May 3 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Egtvedt Hall, Room 203, on Warner Pacific's Mt. Tabor Campus (2219 SE 68th Ave., Portland) (http:// www.warnerpacific.edu/directory/maps-directions/ #WPC)

The Art of the Call is an interactive showcase addressing the integrative formative experiences in the Religion & Christian Ministries department. This is an open exhibit using creative visual storytelling techniques for graduating students to address who they are in Christ and how they are called to engage the world.

Hillers Installed

Congratulations to Pastor Aaron and Julie Hiller and the Sunset Park Community Church in St. Helens, Oregon. Pastor Hiller was officially installed on Sunday, April 16, at a 3 p.m. service of celebration, followed by a reception. The pastoral search committee requests prayer that God will greatly use the Hillers in their ministry at St. Helens and in the vears to come.



2016 SENIOR ADULTS CONFERENCE "Keep the Faith; Pass the Faith"

June 15-17 · at Vancouver Church of God 3300 NE 78th St, Vancouver, WA 98665 · (360) 574-1611





Jim Lyon General Director Church of God Ministries

HIGHLIGHTS...

Wednesday, June 15

- 7:00 p.m. General Session open to all ages; speaker, Jim Lyon
- All church choir (if you'd like to join it, sign up on your registration form below)

Thursday, June 16

- 9:30 a.m. Worship & Speaker Jim Lyon
- Breakout sessions
- Senior Fair
- · Lunch and dinner together
- 7:00 p.m. General Session

Friday, June 17

- 9:30 a.m. Worship & Speaker Jim Lyon
- Conference ends at noon

%	TO REGISTER			
 Step 1 - Fill out registration form below. Cut and keep the upper portion. Step 2 - Enclose registration fee: \$45 by June 1 or \$60 after June 1 (made payable to "Vancouver Church") Step 3 - Mail to Irene Sparks, c/o Vancouver Church, 3300 NE 78th St., Vancouver, WA 98665. 				
Name	Church			
Address	City/State	Zip		
Phone	Email			
	for Wednesday evening general ses tenor baritone bass sic and materials.			

Registration by June 1 is \$45; after June 1 is \$60.

ChoG Table Wraps Up Convention

(Continued from page 2)

"The ChoG Table brought together different voices, representing differing views," Jim Lyon later posted via Twitter. "No case can be persuasive if you don't comprehend the other side." The afternoon included a time of Q&A with the presenters and then small group discussions. After the ChoG Table concluded, small group leaders gave feedback to a smaller group of persons representing the larger church, who will meet over the next several months to wrestle with these issues and produce a "white paper" that will summarize this topic. Their assignment is not to set a new course for the church, but instead to provide a helpful resource to assist the church to better navigate these waters as we continue to proclaim the message of Christ to a lost and dying world.



To Benefit the David M. Dougherty Scholarship Fund Featuring Hoodview Church "Family & Friends"

Sunday, May 1 at 6:00PM

Free Admission — Dessert Social Afterwards (a free-will offering will be received)



1530 Mount Hood Avenue, Woodburn 503.981.1660

Upcoming Events

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, May 5 - 10 am Ministers Gathering - Saturday, May 7 - 9:30 am -3 pm

MOTHER'S DAY - Sunday, May 8

Visit the Association Calendar online at www.orwacog/org.

Connector Rally (Christian Women Spring Convention) - Friday, May 13 - Saturday, May 14

REGION #7 Mtg. - Wednesday, May 18 - 12 pm

REGION #4 Mtg. - Thursday, May 19 -

REGION #3 Mtg. - Tuesday, May 24 -

REGION #5 Mtg. - Thursday, May 26 - 10 am

MEMORIAL DAY - Monday, May 30 (Offices Closed)

REGION #8 Mtg. - Thursday, June 2, 2016 - 4:pm Annual Senior Retreat - Wednesday, June 15, -Friday, June 17, 2016

FATHER'S DAY- Sunday, June 19, 2016 REGION #6 Mtg. - Thursday, June 23, 11 am International Youth Convention - Saturday, July 2-Tuesday, July 5, 2016

REGION #2 Mtg - Thursday, July 7, 2016 - 10am Senior High Camp, entering 9th-12th grade -

Monday, July 11, 2016 - Friday, July 15, 2016 REGION #1 Mtg. - Tuesday, July 12, 2016 - 10 am Intro Camp, entering 2nd-3rd grade & Parent -

Friday, July 15, 2016 - Sunday, July 17, 2016 Middle School Camp, entering 7th-8th grade -

Monday, July 18, 2016 - Friday, July 22, 2016 REGION #3 Mtg. - Tuesday, July 19, 2016 - 10 am

REGION #7 Mtg. - Wednesday, July 20, 2016 -12:00 pm

Senior Adult Theme

Senior Adults will enjoy an old fashioned theme during July's Summer Celebration, to include songs from the early years of the Church of God. Participants are to dress in old-fashioned clothes (suspenders, top hat, bonnets for the women, etc.). Senior sessions will focus on Wise Investments—not about stocks and bonds—but investments in lives. Contact Ruth Bissett for more information.

