

Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington

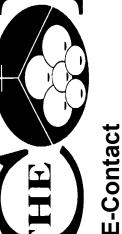
Camp White Branch gets trail bridge crossings!

See Page 4

A Global Movement in One Accord



lssue 06 Volume 4



It's happening in Wichita, Kansas, June 20-23, 2017.



George R. Skramstad

Join us as we come together: A GLOBAL MOVEMENT IN ONE ACCORD The story of the Gospel from beginning to end is Central Community Church Wichita, Kansas the story of God reclaiming The culmination of this story is **JESUS**



Nick Vujisic















Be Bold Reclaim!

Register online at jesusisthesubject.org





Working Together: T-I-M-E spells love

Last month I wrote about the theme of relationships. This is one of the overarching values that our district has identified to focus on. I shared that we need to spend

time together in



Rev. Jerry Davisson District Pastor

order for strong connections to be built. One of the challenges we face as a district is our proximity to one another. Oregon and Southwest Washington is a large territory to cover.

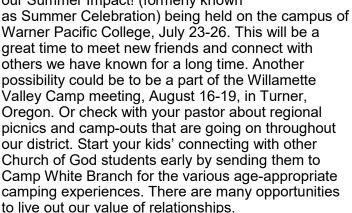
Let me give you an example. On May 4, I left my house at 4:45 a.m. so I could be in Eugene by 7:00 a.m. In Eugene I picked up two of our pastors and drove down to Roseburg, where we boarded Roseburg's church van with three other pastors to drive down to Medford for Region 2's bi-monthly gathering. In Medford we met at Pastor John and Sandra Wiuff's charming Tea House, meeting up with two other pastors for a time of inspiring fellowship (This sounds like one of those math word problems I disliked in grade school, how many pastors were at the meeting?). We met for two hours and then had lunch at In-N-Out Burger, a taste of California, before heading home. In the van we laughed and told stories and had an absolutely fabulous time of connecting. I arrived home at 6:45 p.m., thoroughly exhausted but having increased appreciation for the great leaders I was able to get to know better. Our district is truly spread out.

Some might question if this was the best use of time. I contend it was. Jesus spent time in two ways, with people and with his heavenly Father. When pressed

about which of the Jewish laws was of supreme importance, Jesus responded, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39). If we are to truly fulfill these commands, we have to spend time with God and with each other.

Someone once asked, *how do you spell love?*, the answer given, *T-I-M-E*. I am suggesting we make

hanging out together a priority if we truly want to build strong relationships. There are various opportunities to do this as a district, so at the risk of being redundant let me encourage you to participate in our Summer Impact! (formerly known



If we are going to work together to build the Kingdom of God, it is going to require loving each other. Loving each other is going to require spending time together. John 13:34-35 states, "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." I pray that we will truly be a district that loves one another!

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, Indiana;
- Provide support for the development of healthy Church of God congregations.

Christian Women Connection Spring Retreat

By Nancy Kernutt, CWC President

Saturday, May 6, began early for some Rainier ladies. CWC was being hosted by Oak Park Church of God (Salem). Several ladies traveled from Prineville, and about eight different churches were represented. Jay Tepper provided a continental breakfast and lovely lunch. Baskets were donated for a silent auction. About \$600 was raised toward our scholarship for a student at Warner Pacific College.

I was so blessed by Marva Adams as she led in worship. *Trust in You* by Lauren Daigle is one of my new favorite songs. Marva's rendition of the song was beautiful! The words of the song remind us "when you don't move the mountains I'm needing you to move...I will trust in you."

Lynda Taylor shared her testimony in the first session. She is a miracle of God's healing power. It was moving to hear the words of her husband from a journal that he kept. The journal described the seriousness of her injuries and the many steps it took for her recovery from a car accident. The second session was a time for individuals to share about irritants that hinder them from growing in their relationship with Jesus. Lynda guided our discussion and sharing. During the last session Lynda used storytelling techniques to bring to life the

lives of Queen Esther, Ruth and Mary (mother of Jesus). I was made aware how important it is to make my days count for Jesus, as did these women.

CWC officers were installed by Pastor Danette Beisley: Joyce Hinkle, Sherrill Goodeill, Becky Sander, Maria Dixon, LaRene Hossler, Leslie Duclo, Toni Johnson, and Nancy Kernutt. CWC is a resource for any women's ministry group. Feel free to contact Nancy Kernutt at nankernutt57@gmail.com.











The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305 503-393-3510 or 800-873-7729 www.orwacog.org Rev. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor Kay Tira, Editor—contacteditor@orwacog.org Submissions and news items for publication consideration are encouraged by the 15th of each month.

Look to the Hills: Camp White Branch

The McKenzie Forest Service held a volunteer training camp at Camp White Branch May 5-7, teaching volunteers to maintain trails, make new trails and bring down trees for bridge building.

The event, sponsored by Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and involving 70-85 volunteers including trainers, also provided CPR classes and chainsaw classes.

PCTA pays for the food, and Camp White Branch puts them up for the weekend and offers a place to hold classes. CWB benefits by the volunteers trail clearing and new bridge crossings—yes, three new bridge crossings for CWB! A "Home in the Woods" was also relocated.

This is something Leonard has been working on with the McKenzie Ranger Station since he took on management for CWB. What a blessing they are to us. They loved it here so much that they want to come back next year and continue some much needed trail maintenance. It was amazing to see the amount of work they accomplished.

We are so excited with the partnership of the McKenzie Forest Service Ranger Station and how they are embracing Leonard and his care for CWB and surrounding grounds.

We are also excited to see Rainier Church of God on Memorial Day weekend. Can't wait for their much needed help. What a blessing they are to us as well.

~Stacey Meyer











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June 2017





SUMMER CAMP FORMS REQUIRED

All Children and Youth Campers (Introductory, Primary, Junior, Middle School, and Senior High) must submit the following:

- Registration form (with camper's, parent/legal guardian and Pastor's signatures)
- Association Waiver and Release form (please note there are two waivers—one for under 18 years of age and one for over 18)
- \$25 non-refundable deposit or payment in full.
 Checks should be made out to Camp White
 Branch or you may make the payment in full online
 at <u>www.orwacog.org</u>. Click on the Resources tab
 for Camp White Branch Camps.

All Camp Staff and Counselors must complete and submit the following forms to the Church of God District Office no later than one week PRIOR to the start of camp.

- Application and Consent Form for Background Search. This includes the required reading material (Oregon Child Abuse Reporting Law and Policy for Preventing Abuse of Children and Youth). If any Youth Counselors are under the age of 18, they are still required to fill out the Background Search form.
- Association Waiver and Release form Please use the appropriate under or over age 18 form.
 All directors, staff, counselors, helpers, and campers will need to have a completed waiver.

2017 CAMP WHITE BRANCH SUMMER SCHEDULE

Intro Camp

entering 2nd or 3rd grade & parent Friday, July 7- Sunday, July 9 Directors: Julie Jackson

Senior High Camp

entering 9th-12th grade Monday, July 10 - Friday, July 14 Directors: Tyson Nunnally, Billy Effingham, Aaron Hiller

Junior Camp

entering 5th-6th grade Monday, July 17- Friday, July 21 Directors: John Kuykendall

Middle School Camp

entering 7th-8th grade Monday, July 31-Friday, August 4 Directors: Doug & Danette Beisley

Primary Camp

entering 3rd-4th grade Monday, Aug. 7-Thursday, Aug. 10 Directors: Karen Graham

> Camp White Branch 61500 Old McKenzie Hwy McKenzie Bridge, OR

All documents are available online at www.orwacog.org. Under the Resource tab, click on Camp White Branch Camps for camp documents and counselor documents. Under the Calendar tab, either look for the summer month or scroll down to the list of events to find the specific camp of interest..

That will take you to that camp's information as well as the opportunity to pay online, if desired.

When God's People Respond to Disaster

By Christy Anderson, Anderson University Student, Contributor to ChoG Ministries

When tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, and fires strike, people want to know how they can help. Individuals try to find ways to contact their loved ones to let them know that they are safe. Others call for more help. When called, the Church of God activates the Disaster Relief Team. This team assesses the situation and sends funds to affected areas as needed. These funds make it possible for on-the-ground teams to provide food, medicine, and other resources where the need is the greatest. As said by Scottish philosopher Adam Smith, "To feel much for others and little for ourselves; to restrain our selfishness and exercise our benevolent affections, constitute the perfection of human nature."



Rebuilding after the 2010 Haiti earthquake

The teams are sent out not only within the United States, but globally, as well. Throughout the years, Disaster Relief has sent teams to Haiti and Tanzania, as well as money to Japan, India, and Mexico. Many of these stories are published in articles at chognews.org, and share how much money was sent to each crisis. It is one of the simplest ways to share this information with donors and prayer warriors alike, and inspires them to bless others through the Disaster Relief fund. By raising funds, even when disaster is not imminent, Disaster Relief can immediately send teams and supplies to those in crisis.

Church of God Ministries has reported on several disaster relief efforts over the years. One article in particular, published in September 2011, offers glimpse at the variety of disasters the Church of God was addressing at the time. Author Carl Stagner talks about the earthquake in Haiti, Hurricane Alex in Mexico, an earthquake and tsunami affecting Japan,

an outbreak of 137 tornadoes in Alabama, and the devastating EF-5 tornado in Missouri.

Over the past seven years alone, Church of God Disaster Relief has sent help for close to 30 different crises. They have sent resources as far as Japan and the DR Congo, and as close as Louisiana and South Carolina. Before resources could be packed, before teams were assembled on the ground by local churches and area assemblies, and before the first dollar was donated, someone somewhere had to have an idea. According to Pastor Donald Smith, former missionary and former director of Disaster Relief, the Disaster Relief Committee was formed in the 1990s. Unfortunately for him, there was not much time to get acquainted with the job before being thrown into action within the first week.

"I came off the field in September 2009, and five days later Bob Edwards of Global Missions asked me to assume the role of director of Project Link after I finished my itineration as a missionary. In my job description he included "chair of the Disaster Relief Committee." He said it wouldn't take much time based on the previous five years after Katrina for which they had not needed to meet very much. Six days after assuming my new responsibilities, the Haiti earthquake happened! I had no experience in this area, did not know the major players of the Caribbean Church of God, did not know the ins and outs of the office workings and, all at once, there was this huge disaster on our hands."



Recent flooding disaster at First Church of God, Doniphan, Missouri

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When God's People Respond to Disaster

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The church responded in a significant way to the earthquake in Haiti. Disaster Relief raised \$850,000 in response and in partnership with the Church of God across the United States and Canada. They were also able to fund an on-site coordinator to help over 55 work teams that went to Haiti, build seventy to eighty homes for Church of God families in Haiti, provide hunger relief, and help fund a new prosthesis unit at the clinic in St. Ard, operated by Dr. Mark Fulton.

This is just a small example of what Disaster Relief is and does. Disaster Relief continues to help in ongoing disaster relief situations, such as the present-day refugee crisis and the flooding devastation in Missouri. By reaching out and partnering with local volunteers and those around the world, Disaster Relief continues to make a difference for those who have been in crisis because of people like you. Your giving allows Church of God Disaster Relief to respond swiftly when disaster strikes. Give now at *give.jesusisthesubject.org/disasterrelief*.



Tornado damage at First Church of God, Carrier Mills, IL, in 2012

In crises where an immediate response is critical for relief, Church of God Ministries advances funds in anticipation of a gracious outpouring of donations from churches and individuals. Such advances are made from a limited Disaster Relief Fund maintained by Church of God Ministries for emergency response to disaster. One hundred percent of Disaster Relief contributions are utilized to bring relief to those affected by disasters worldwide.



2nd Annual Willamette Valley Campmeeting August 16-19

Wednesday Evening to Saturday Noon Oregon Christian Convention, Turner

A gathering of congregations from the Willamette Valley and around the district for informal times of worship, encouragement and fellowship. Lodging and camping options are available onsite. Costs are minimal. Come for a day or for the entire four days. Registration forms are available at: www.hoodviewchurchofgod.com/campmeeting. For more information, contact Hoodview Church of God (phone: 503-981-1660).



Children of Promise Celebrates 25 Years of Hope

By Emily Ploetz, Anderson University Communications Intern, ChoG Ministries

Bishu was a young boy who lived with his family in the remote rice fields of eastern India, in a state called Odisha. His family worked alongside many other families from sunrise to sunset in the rice fields, earning only thirty to forty cents per day. Somehow, Bishu's family went into debt to the landowner. This put the landowner in control of their home and ultimately, their lives. The only way the family could pay back the landowner was to sell Bishu as a slave. Paul Maxfield, director of Children of Promise, was traveling in Bishu's village in 2010 and heard about

his story when he did not show up for a scheduled interview. After many prayers and hard work with local volunteers. Bishu was released from slavery. Three years later, Paul had the chance to talk with Bishu. He asked him. "What is the most important thing that has happened in your life?" To this day, Paul has never forgotten Bishu's answer: "The day Children of Promise rescued me "



Bishu stands with Paul Maxfield.

Bishu is one of many children whose lives have been transformed because of Children of Promise. Since 1992, over twelve thousand children have received nutrition, education, health care, and spiritual nurturing because of sponsors. Children of Promise has provided the funds for life-saving medical care, support during natural disasters, and advocacy for children who have fallen into difficult personal situations. This year is the 25th anniversary for Children of Promise: a major milestone in the life of this ministry of the Church of God! To celebrate the past and look forward to a brighter future, Children of Promise would like to invite all Church of God families to two special events.

The first event is their 25th anniversary reception on June 17 at Madison Park Church of God in Anderson, Indiana. The reception will include a concert by their partner musical group, Alanna Story. There will also be a presentation by special guest, Jewel (Viray) Leodones. Jewel was once a girl sponsored for many years through Children of Promise. Now, she is the protocol officer for the president of the Philippines.

The second event is a 25th anniversary banquet on June 21 at the Church of God Convention in Wichita, Kansas. Children of Promise will have a display set up during the convention and will continue to encourage child sponsorship. The banquet itself will take place that Wednesday, June 21, at 4:30 p.m. at Central Community Church. Jewel Leodones will once again be the special guest speaker. At the banquet, Children of Promise will set aside time for an offering to propel the ministry into twenty-five more years of ministry. Children of Promise will also host the Thursday afternoon session of CHOG Convention 2017.

Paul shared that Children of Promise has set four new goals during this anniversary year. The first goal is to increase the number of children being sponsored by 25 percent. The second goal is to enlist twenty-five new churches to engage in the ministry. The third goal is for twenty-five more people to graciously remember this ministry in their wills, to leave behind a legacy of compassion. The last goal and prayer is that the Church of God community would be generous enough to donate gifts in multiples of 25 dollars in honor of this anniversary. Any amount from \$25 to \$25,000 (and beyond!) will be encouraged and gladly accepted!



Alanna Story in Ecuador for Children of Promise.

Children of Promise has been able to help thousands of children around the world thanks to the prayers and support from the Church of God community. This is a celebration not just for the ministry, but a collective celebration for everyone. Paul Maxfield would like to thank everyone who has supported this ministry over

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Children of Promise Celebrates 25 Years of Hope

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the years. "We are deeply grateful for the support of so many churches and individuals during this first twenty-five years. Your support has brought help, health, and hope to over twelve thousand children

during that time. Twenty-five years is a great start. Many more children need help. Why not join with us in ministering to children in need by sponsoring children or supporting



Children of Promise blessings in Tanzania

the ministry financially? Children are waiting. Together, we can offer help and hope for bright futures for thousands more children."

Children who were once in similar situations of distress like Bishu are now teachers, doctors, nurses, accountants, and pastors because of the education they received. With access to an emergency medical fund, children who had serious medical conditions are alive and healthy. Children who used to have weak, malnourished bodies can run and play now because they have access to healthy food delivered every month. When sponsors live by faith and send their love and support to these children, lives are changed forever.

So, come to one of these special anniversary events, or come to both. Celebrate the rescue, the healing, and the love that has saved children for the past twenty-five years. If you feel moved, become a donor or a sponsor for the next generation of children in need. Come and celebrate the past twenty-five years. Come and be a promise of hope for another twenty-five years.

Find more information and event registration at http://www.echildrenofpromise.org/ourevents/25th-anniversary/.

Dear Families of the Oregon and SW Washington Churches of God:



We would like to extend a warm welcome to the Families with a **2**nd and/or **3**rd grader (Fall 2017) to come to Introduction (Parent-Child) Camp at Camp White Branch this July, 2017. This will be our 11th year as serving as Directors of the

Introduction Camp. The children need to bring a same-sex parent, guardian, or adult friend to share the camp experiences together.

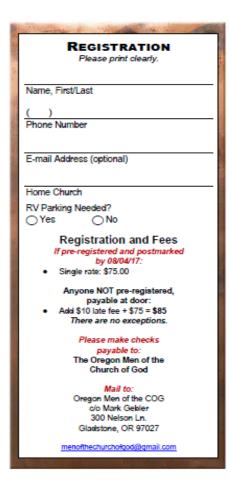


You can find all the information you need at: http://orwacog.org/events/intro-camp-entering-2nd-3rd-grade-parent-2/ to register for camp. Please see your pastoral staff for further information, printed copies, possible scholarships, and travel assistance for this year's camp, July 7-9, 2017.

We have structured activities as well as parentchild free time. Be sure to bring your swimsuit, sun-screen, flip flops, closed-toe running shoes, flashlight, cameras, Bible, any medications, mosquito repellant, towels, sleeping and bed attire, and a good attitude. There is no cell phone or Wi-Fi coverage. We will do hiking, swimming, water slide, group games, camp fires with s'mores, and lots more good stuff. We look forward to receiving your early bird registrations before June 23rd to avoid a \$10 late fee.

See you at camp!

Pastor Julie and RJ Jackson juliemariejackson@comcast.net of Holladay Park Church of God 503-287-1238









DIRECTIONS

From the North or South on I-5:

Take Exit 194A/Springfield exit. This becomes I-105 and connects with Hwy 126 at the east side of Springfield. Turn left (east) at second stop light which is Hwy 126 and head toward Bend. Stay on Hwy 126 past the McKenzie Ranger Station. In about 3-4 miles, you will turn right onto Hwy 242. Continue on Hwy 242 about 7 miles to the camp which is on the right. Road is open all year.

From the East:

Except for the winter when the road is closed, take Hwy 242 out of Sisters. The camp is about 30 miles at Milepost 62 on the left. This road is quite windy.





Camp White Branch

61500 Old McKenzie Hwy. McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

Winter Directions

During the winter when the road is closed, take Hwy 20 out of Sisters. Then take Hwy 126 toward Eugene. Continue about 19 miles and turn left on Hwy 242 which is about 1 miles past Belknap Hot Springs. Continue on Hwy 242 about 7 miles to the camp which is on the right. Road is open all year!



Rev. Martin Shrout has served in fulltime ministry since 1982. For 13 years, he served in youth and music ministry. His last position was at the First Church of God in Albany, OR. The next 16 years Shrout served as Senior Pastor in Oceanside, CA at the Del Oro Hills Community Church. Since February of 2011 he has served as the Senior Pastor at Holladay Park Church of God. Shrout loves to sing and write music, bicycle (has ridden the coast of Oregon 2 times now), and really loves to watch Sci-Fi. Other interests include his two grandkids (Sydney [8] and Grayson [3]), technology, fast food, and anything with chocolate and peanuts. Shrout has two sons. Adam 28 (who is married to Samantha), and Zack 25, and he is passionately in love with his wife Kathy of 36 years.

Items to Bring
Bible, sleeping bag, pillow,
towels, toiletries, and an
open heart

Region 5 Holds Picnic

Churches from Region 5 (Rainier, Scappoose, St. Helens, OR, and Longview, WA) were invited to a picnic event at a local park in St. Helens April 30. Along with the potluck lunch, crazy games led by Sandra Salisbury and Pastor Linda Tucker-Bays helped the group get better acquainted.



Pastor Joe Tira and Mike Kernutt played guitars and led in camp songs and worship songs.

Scheduling is always a struggle with our busy

churches and personal lives, but those who were able to attend had a great time together, and look forward to more Regional events.







Mark your calendar!

July 23-26, 2017

Warner Pacific Campus, Portland, Oregon

District Calendar

- June 18, Sun., FATHER'S DAY
- June 20-23, Tues.-Fri., Church of God Convention 2017
- July 4, Tues., INDEPENDENCE DAY
- July 6, Thurs., Region #2, 10 am 12 pm
- July 7-9, Fri.-Sun., Intro Camp, entering 2nd or 3rd grades & parent
- **July 10-14**, Mon.-Fri., Senior High camp, entering 9th-12th grades
- July 11, Tues., REGION #1 Mtg., 10:00 am
- **July 17-21**, Mon.-Fri., Junior camp, entering 5th-6th grades
- July 23-26, Sun.-Wed., Summer Impact!, Warner Pacific Campus
- July 26, Wed., Annual Business meeting
- July 31-Aug. 4, Mon.-Fri., Middle School camp, entering 7th-8th grades
- Aug. 7-10, Mon.-Thurs., Primary camp, entering 3rd-4th grades
- Aug. 18-20, Fri.-Sun., Men's Advance
- Sept. 4, Mon., LABOR DAY
- Sept. 7, Thurs., REGION #2, 10:00 a.m.-Noon
- Oct. 10, Tues., REGION #1 Mtg.,10:00 am-Noon
- Oct. 19, Thurs., CWB Fundraising Dinner
- Nov. 2, Thurs., REGION #2,10:00 am-Noon
- Nov. 5, Sun., Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov. 11, Sat., VETERANS DAY
- Nov. 23, Thurs., THANKSGIVING DAY
- Dec. 25, Mon., CHRISTMAS DAY

For more events, see orwacog.org/calendar

