



Association of
the Churches
of God
in Oregon and
Southwest
Washington

**Ticket deadline March 2
for Holiness Day event**

See Page 2

THE CONTACT

March 2017

Volume 4 Issue 03

E-Contact

Candidate Recommended: Voting March 19

In a February 17 letter to Delegates and Churches, Association Chair Jackie Scott announced that the District Council is pleased to report the selection of a candidate for the position of District Pastor of the Association of Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington.

The Search Committee recommended candidate Rev. Jerry Davisson to the Council, and the Council has endorsed the recommendation is now calls for ratification by the Association delegates. The February letter served as a 30-day notice of the special business meeting, which will be conducted electronically. A cover letter, resume and introductory video were included in the correspondence to the delegates and churches.

Pastor Jerry is third-generation Church of God, having accepted Jesus as Savior and been baptized at Lynchwood COG in Portland. He earned his BA Rel: Christian Ministries at Warner Pacific, his MA Div at Anderson School of Theology, and is currently working on his Doctorate of Ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary, with an emphasis on Missional Church Life. He and his wife of over 30 years, Kris, have two married daughters, Allie (Kyle) Thomas and Kelsey (Josh) Breese.



**Rev. Jerry
Davisson**

Voting will take place electronically on or before Sunday, March 19, with a voting deadline of 5:00 p.m. Monday, March 20. Delegates without email access may vote by mail-in ballot or by phoning the District Office at 503-393-3510. To learn more about Rev. Jerry Davisson, view a video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ntbw30-LEX4&feature=youtu.be>

Keepsakes Kick off Ministers' Retreat

By Kay Tira

"I've had this doll since I was four years old," says Connie Shrout, "and I took her with me to the hospital when I had my tonsils out when I was seven."

Connie's was just one of many keepsakes and stories shared at the Agate Beach Ministers and Spouses' retreat in Newport, Oregon, February 20-22, under the leadership of Dr. Lou Foltz.

Attendees shared a gamut of treasures, including a marionette, a Princess phone, a 1960's Risk game, photos, an Oklahoma rose rock, and many more. With each treasure came a story, and participants discovered a deeper connection to each other and appreciation for "signifiers" and "signified" - terms indicating something



with deep meaning, but you can't quite express it.

Ralph Dockter, 91, shared photos of his dad's horse and carriage. Grant Fall drew a picture of an outhouse. Aaron Hiller drew and colored his grandma's red

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Keepsakes Kick off Ministers' Retreat

(Continued from page 1)

Volkswagen bug. Tim Irwin shared a wrench passed on through generations, and his memory of his dad's work shop.

Dr. Lou encouraged attendees to view the various items displayed, taking opportunity to write words of affirmation.

Pastor Tim Irwin did a great job leading the opening session in a time of worship, setting the tone for a meaningful experience as ministers throughout the Association came together for encouragement and refreshing.

After a full breakfast, Tuesday's sessions gave opportunity to discuss what participants learned Monday—that everyone has a story, and relationships and a sense of belonging are vital. Dr. Lou invited attendees to tour through mountain tops, fruitful plains and deserts, separating the "Friskies" from the "Fraidies" with a challenge to creatively explore the journey of the Christian faith, regrouping an hour later to share findings and souvenirs. A common theme was the faithfulness of God through our journeys.

Ever leading with activity, Dr. Lou instructed participants to create a timeline, using a separate sheet of paper for each decade, and noting mountaintop and desert areas, then overlapping sheets with those of teammates, to observe commonalities and differences with age and experience. A full-group overlay made the point of time from God's outside-of-time perspective, as He sees the cross, the empty tomb, and our lives



simultaneously.

A final activity simulated the importance of knowing and listening to God's voice, as three teams were challenged to keep their respective volunteer from making it across the room through multiple obstacles, with voices of truth, mimicking truth, lies, traps and subtle false-prophet direction.

Worship, led by Pastor Tim Irwin, and communion brought the conference to a close, with attendees feeling connected and encouraged to continue in their callings. (See more photos, page 3).

Holiness in Context

The Association of Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington is one of several sponsors for the "Holiness in Context" event March 9.

Keynote Speaker Pastor Albert Hung will address attendees at the Holiness Pastors and Leaders Day, from 9am-3pm at the Salem Kroc Center, 1865 Bill Frey Drive NE, Salem, OR.



Albert Hung is the Lead Pastor of Trinity Church of the Nazarene, a multi-site, multi-ethnic church east of Los Angeles, CA. His presentation will emphasize the highly contextual nature of holiness. "Since holiness is defined as being set apart," says Hung, "we need to consider what it is we are set apart FROM, and what we are set apart FOR. This will find expression in different ways depending on the culture in which we live. Holiness is not a matter of following a static, rigid system of laws and rules. It is a dynamic relationship/conversation between God, the Church, and the wider culture."

Other sponsoring associations and denominations include North Pacific District of the Foursquare Churches, Pacific Conference North American Evangelical Church, Oregon Pacific District Church of the Nazarene, Salvation Army Cascade Division, NW District Wesleyan Church, and Oregon Conference Free Methodist Church.

Tickets need to be purchased by March 2. Go to <https://pastorsandleaders2017.eventbrite.com> and use a debit or credit card. Contact the Association office for a discount code.



With the news of mudslides on Hwy 101, Joe Tira, Mike Kernutt and Bob Christensen check out alternate routes home from the beach



The conference gave ample opportunity for small group interaction and teamwork



Above: Teams work on timelines and share findings

Below: Dr. Lou Foltz describes God's viewpoint outside of time as individual timelines overlap.



From left, retired District Pastor David Shrout, Interim District Pastor Bob Christensen, and candidate for new District Pastor, Jerry Davisson



***Friskies or 'Fraidies?
Afternoon excursions lead to exploration of Mountaintops, Deserts and Fruitful Plains***

Blackwood Legacy Quartet in Woodburn

Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m.

Hoodview Church of God

**1530 Mount Hood Ave—
Woodburn**

Info: 503-981-1660

**Non-denominational community
event – Admission is free!
Love Offering will be received**

Hoodview Church of God will host the popular touring group, The Blackwood Legacy Quartet, in concert on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m.



Blending the best of Country Gospel, traditional & contemporary Southern Gospel, and today's popular worship music, this group is known for their flawless harmonies, as well as their comedy and wit. Rick Price, the group's founder and leader, began his 35-year career singing with the legendary Dove and Grammy-award winning Blackwood Brothers Quartet, eventually being inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame with the group. The Blackwood Legacy Quartet has toured and ministered for more than 15 uninterrupted years. The concert is free. A free-will offering will be received. Hoodview Church of God is located at 1530 Mount Hood Avenue in Woodburn, Oregon. For more information, call 503-981-1660 or visit www.hoodviewchurchofgod.com.

Children of Promise Establishes Endowment with CHOG Foundation

By Carl Stagner, COG Ministries

This year, Children of Promise celebrates 25 years of forever changing the course of children's lives around the world. Since the beginning, more than 12,000 children have received nutrition, education, medical care, and spiritual formation because of the child sponsorship ministry of the Church of God. Kicking off a year of celebrations that will give God glory for the past 25 years—and looking ahead to what God will do over the next twenty-five-plus years—Children of Promise established an endowment with the Church of God Foundation. The Sidney and Jean Ratzlaff Johnson Endowment will enable transformational ministry to continue for generations to come, all the while honoring the legacy of two exceptional individuals.



**Art Clawson and Kirk Bookout
celebrate the new Endowment**

- **FACT:** There are endowments in existence today that were established prior to the American Revolution.
- **FACT:** Endowments established several decades ago are now distributing as much as tens of millions of dollars for ministry, charitable, and educational purposes.
- **FACT:** Children of Promise opted to work with the Church of God Foundation for their endowment

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COP Establishes Endowment with CHOG Foundation

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because they believe it has the potential to magnify the ministry's impact for the long haul.

Kirk Bookout, development director for Children of Promise, explains that the low 1 percent annual fee through the Church of God Foundation is something you simply won't find anywhere else. "The least I'm aware of is a fee of about 2.5 percent among other Foundations," he explains. Also appealing to Children of Promise was the Foundation's protections built in to the endowment, such as the retention of ownership of the endowment by Children of Promise and the flexibility of control over how endowment funds are invested. But most of all, Kirk says Children of Promise appreciates the opportunity to work with *family*.

"We're part of the Church of God family, and we want to function as family," Kirk explains. "The board of directors of the Foundation include people who know the Church of God, who know Children of Promise. Many of our churches and institutions will want to invest in this endowment, and our overall dream is that over a long period of time the endowment will cover all of our operating costs so 100-percent of a sponsor's donation can go directly to the child. An endowment has to be large to be effective, but we believe people will give, knowing that these children will be cared for generation after generation."

Sidney and Jean Johnson founded Children of Promise in 1992. When Children of Promise decided to create an endowment with the Church of God Foundation,



Jean and Sidney Johnson

there was no debate about what it should be called. "They're our founders," Kirk explains. "We want their names never to be forgotten. We are deeply appreciative of the Johnsons, and this is just one way to honor them."

Some 4,500 children are currently sponsored by Children of Promise. To make a 25th anniversary even sweeter, this year the ministry will enter its 30th country. Unlike other child sponsorship programs, Children of Promise does not employ employees

Rescue. Restore. Release.



throughout the world, but instead operates by a massive pool of Church of God indigenous volunteers on the ground, those who are most acquainted with the children and the culture. As a result, operational costs are kept very low and more funding goes directly to each child. Additionally, the financial accountability and inextricable connection to local Church of God leadership sets Children of Promise apart.

"We go to the poorest areas," Kirk explains. "We guarantee food. We cover medical expenses, large or small. We don't do the work for the local churches, but we train and equip them to do it. The local Children of Promise ministries were founded by Church of God missionaries and national leaders. In terms of the stewardship of program dollars, no one can match what we do. And, to top it off, graduates from our programs around the world have gone on to do pretty amazing things." Just a few of the amazing stories can be found at www.echildrenofpromise.org. Exciting events are in the planning stages to commemorate this 25th anniversary year, including a Children of Promise banquet scheduled for the Church of God Convention in Wichita, Kansas, in June. Stay tuned for details as they unfold.

"As a former missionary in Haiti and Africa I have personally witnessed the wonderful ministry Children of Promise is doing in children's lives," Art Clawson, advancement director for Church of God Ministries explains. "I am thrilled that they have established this endowment that will provide a multigenerational investment in children who are the future of their local church and their countries. My hope and prayer is that people will leave a lasting legacy by contributing to this endowment."

Learn more about the Sidney and Jean Ratzlaff Johnson Endowment at <http://www.echildrenofpromise.org/givingoptions/endowment/>. See also www.chogfoundation.org.

Newberg Pastor Releases Devotional Book

Matthew Ingalls, Pastor at River Street Church of God in Newberg, Oregon, says "It is a bit terrifying to publish your own thoughts . . . especially about Jesus," as he announces the first run of his book, *The Upside Down Way: Following Jesus Through the Gospel of Luke*.

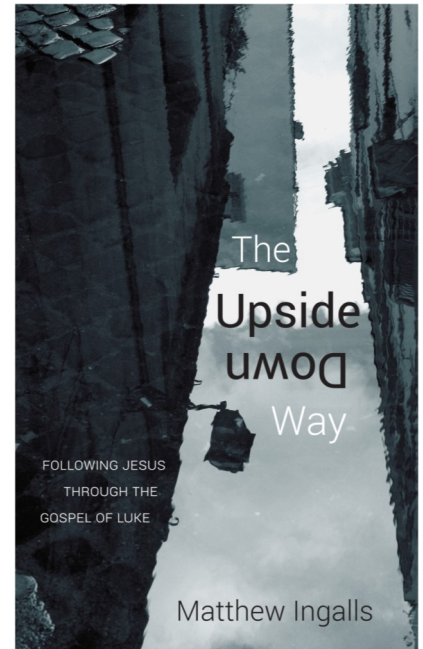
Wipf & Stock Publishers in Eugene, OR, accepted Ingalls' proposal back in July for a devotional on key passages in Luke, resulting in the February 2017 first press run, with the full run to follow in a few weeks. A book signing is scheduled for March 3 from 5pm-7:30 p.m. at Chapters Books and Coffee, 701 E. 1st Street in Newberg.



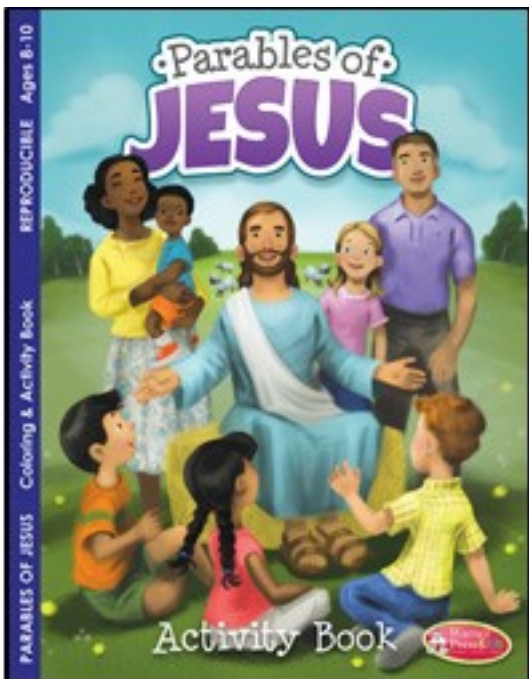
Matt Ingalls

"I hope it at least challenges you to keep taking a deeper look at Jesus," says Ingalls. "I sure know that writing it did just that for me."

Check out Matt's thoughts in his video link: <https://youtu.be/MP6Fx2S1bTA>. *The Upside Down Way* is available through Amazon, or contact Matt directly at pastormattingalls@gmail.com.



Scappoose Pastor Publishes Children's Activity Book



Warner Press has released a reproducible children's activity book written by Linda Tucker Bays, Pastor at Chapman Church of God in Scappoose, Oregon.

"It's so fun to see the finished product!" says Linda, "It makes me want to do another one, but my kids are probably too old to test out my puzzles!"

The reproducible book is available at [http://www.warnerpress.org/Product/E4793/Coloring_Activity_Book_\(8-10\)_Parables_of_Jesus.aspx](http://www.warnerpress.org/Product/E4793/Coloring_Activity_Book_(8-10)_Parables_of_Jesus.aspx)

"This little book came about as I was preaching a series on parables. Since the kids in our church remain with adults for the Sunday service, I thought it would be fun and helpful for them if they had a puzzle that they could do during the service which would help reinforce the message. I hoped to come up with enough puzzles for a little book. The kids at church, including my own kids, became my 'testers,' reading my simplified version of the parable, completing the puzzles, and giving me feedback. I would ask them if the story and puzzle directions made sense and if the puzzle was too easy or too difficult for them. Their feedback helped me know whether or not I was on the right track. It was so much fun to see the completed project with pictures drawn by an actual artist! My hope is that these stories and puzzles will, in some small way, help more children understand the love and teachings of Jesus."



Linda Tucker Bays

Regional Campmeeting Invitation from District 3

Region 3 (Woodburn, Salem, Albany and Lebanon) extends an invitation to those interested throughout the District, to attend their Regional Campmeeting Sunday through Wednesday (August 13-16, 2017) at the Turner site, across from Aldersgate.

Though not able to accommodate District-wide, according to Pastor Glen Hossler, last year 120-150 attended, making good use of the 60 RV sites, 100+ cabin bunks, and large tabernacle. In an attempt to keep costs down (estimating \$12/person) and meet the desire for an old-fashioned Campmeeting and reconnecting of congregations, the event will likely have a menu/meal coordinator and call on churches to volunteer for set-up and clean-up, with simple meals like chili and hot dogs on a donation basis. The site has a creek/swim hole and concrete basketball court.

Details are a bit sketchy at this time, and more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Senior Adult Retreat

April 11-13, 2017

Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center

**Speaker, Pastor Tom Dougherty, Boise
Music Leader, Pastor Mark Kelly, Vancouver**

(Room keys not available before 1:00 p.m.)
Arrive before Dinner 5:30 p.m. Tuesday;
Concludes 12:30 p.m., Thursday

Payment deadline: March 31, 2017
(\$25 nonrefundable reservation fee)

All registration forms and payments go to
Marla Riley c/o First Church of God
3300 NE 78th Street Vancouver, WA 98665

Open to all Church of God congregations in
Oregon and SW Washington

Questions? Call Marla Riley, 360-909-8810



Warner Pacific College News

By Kathy Covey, WPC Web Content & Marketing Specialist

WP Alum Appointed to Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Warner Pacific alumnae Sonya Fischer '88, is an inspiring example of how the College prepares students and alumni to become active change agents for their communities. We congratulate Fischer on her recent appointment to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, a place where her servant's heart will flourish while acting for the betterment of the county's most vulnerable citizens.

<http://www.warnerpacific.edu/alum-sonya-fischer/>

WP Calendar

Night of Stories: Student Reflections on Ministry

Thursday, March 2
7:00 – 8:30 pm (reception immediately following)
Schlatter Chapel (Mt. Tabor Campus, 2219 SW
68th Ave., Portland)

Free

Students will share their experiences with a journey to calling. You'll learn more about the how Warner Pacific students are changing and being changed by the city we call home through the love of God, self, neighbor, enemy, stranger, and the world today.

Super Jazz with Dennis Plies Quintet

Warner Pacific College, McGuire Auditorium (Mt. Tabor Campus, 2219 SW 68th Ave., Portland)
Sunday, March 5, 3:00 PM
\$10 donation at the door

Nickel and Dimed

Warner Pacific's Spring Drama Production
March 16-18: 7:30 pm
March 19: 2:00 pm
\$5 general admission

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PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305 503-393-3510 or 800-873-7729 www.orwacog.org
Robert Christensen, Interim District Pastor Kay Tira, Editor—contacteditor@orwacog.org
Submissions and news items for publication consideration are encouraged by the 15th of each month.

WP Alum Rep. Vic Gilliam resigns from Oregon Legislature

Warner Pacific alumni often leave the College with a degree in their hand and a passion to serve others in their heart. It is truly inspiring to see the many ways in which a Christ-centered, liberal arts education cultivates leaders who are prepared to engage actively in a constantly changing world.

Alumnus Vic Gilliam '75, a ten-year veteran in the Oregon House of Representatives, is an inspirational embodiment of how you can remain true to God's call to love and serve your neighbor, even in the face of public and private challenges.

On Monday, January 20, 2017, Gilliam announced that he was stepping down from the Oregon House of Representatives in a letter stating: "I am extremely grateful and honored by the confidence you have placed in me for over a decade. However, several changes in life show it's time to announce my resignation as your State Representative." In November 2015, Representative Gilliam announced he was experiencing the symptoms of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. In the midst of this difficult time, he continued to point to God's goodness in an honest and heartfelt letter penned to his constituents. "I also wanted to share that faith has been crucial for facing this new chapter of life. Becky and I are finding comfort in these words of Jesus: 'I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.'"

He pledged to serve as long as his health allowed. During the 2016 legislative session, Gilliam's ALS symptoms became more noticeable. ALS is an incurable nervous system disease that weakens the body's muscles. "After prayer and consulting family and friends, I was led to the decision to resign for reasons including fairness to you my constituents."

"Vic embodies the mission of the College through his strong gift of leadership and his deep commitment to civic engagement and service," said Warner Pacific President, Andrea Cook. "Vic has spent his life serving others not for the prestige or power, but because of his love for God and His people."

Colleagues in the legislature laud Gilliam for his sense of humor and ability to reach across the aisle to get the state's work done. "He served his community with honesty and integrity, and he is without a doubt the funniest guy in the Capitol," remembers Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek.

"People like Vic are increasingly rare in this world," said House Republican Leader Mike McLane. "While his time in the Legislature has come to a close, I

believe his legacy will fill the halls of the Capitol for years to come. He is, and will always be, the embodiment of what it means to be a public servant in Oregon."



From 2007, Representative Gilliam represented House District 18, which includes Silverton, Molalla, Hubbard, Aurora, and Mount Angel. In July 2016, the Oregon Business Association selected Gilliam as their 2016 "Statesman of the Year." Warner Pacific presented him with an Honorary Doctor of Law degree during the May 14, 2016, graduation ceremony.

Vic has lived in Silverton, Oregon, since 1998 and has raised three children with his wife, Becky. In addition to serving as a state representative, he had a 25-year career as a development executive with non-profit organizations including Willamette University, Oregon Health & Science University Foundation, International Youth Foundation, and Mercy Corps.

As he looks toward a future as a private citizen, he intends "to turn my primary focus on personal faith and the important path as a follower of Jesus" using the words of Paul an Apostle of Jesus as an example of God's comfort during current challenges: "... God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?" (Galatians 5: 13-15)

Warner Pacific College congratulates Vic Gilliam on his remarkable accomplishments in both the private and public sector. We wish him all the best as he and his family continue to seek God's guidance in this next chapter.

<http://www.warnerpacific.edu/changing-focus-warner-pacific-alumnus-vic-gilliam-leaves-oregon-house-of-representatives/>

Change is coming

By District Pastor Robert Christensen

While change can be uncomfortable, it can also be inspiring and encouraging.

Change is coming in the life of the Oregon/SW Washington Church of God Association and I hope you are looking forward to it. I am.

As of this writing, the delegates from our churches are in the process of reviewing information on the candidate to be our new District Pastor. The search committee and the district council have presented Pastor Jerry Davisson as the candidate for this position. The process of ratification is to be complete by about March 20. You can watch an introductory video from Pastor Jerry on the Oregon Association website. <http://orwacog.org/>

Having met and talked with Jerry, I know that he has a heart for the work of our district churches and a love for the northwest, his home territory.

As spring and summer are on the way (even though we saw snow today) your leadership team is working on plans for Summer Celebration and other activities that will help to encourage, train, and strengthen the church in Oregon and SW Washington.

The Pastors' Retreat just completed was an inspiration to us as we were led by Dr. Lou Foltz to deepen our relationships with one another, to be a team together.

Barbara and I participated in a visioning event at the Mt. Scott Church the weekend of February 24-25. As the church faces a changing culture, we are pressed to rethink how we offer the Gospel and love to our communities. Mt. Scott Church is carefully considering four different approaches to ministry in the future. Such work is challenging but necessary.

Sunday, February 26, at the Vancouver Church, Casey Graves, the Young Adults' Pastor, challenged the congregation to treat our fellow worshipers as family, to be what the church is meant to be. We need each other; we need to share life together. In a busy, technology-occupied world, God's Word calls us to care for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. When I was growing up, we referred to some of the older members of the congregation as *brother* or *sister* so-and-so.

So, as a challenge, let me suggest that you call someone you have not seen or talked to in a while



and see how they are doing. Listen to their story, their heart. Offer to pray for that person. You could be the blessing he or she needs today. It could change their heart. In fact, I just took my own advice and made a call. It was a blessing.

May you be the next blessing in someone's life.

Marriage Redeemed, a Conference for Couples *Restoring Hope*

**April 8, 2017
Mountain Park Church
40 McNary Parkway
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035**

presented by Tuff Stuff Ministries
(co-directed by
Pastor Dennis & Georgia Miller
and Earl & Sandy Wilson)
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Early Registration by 3/29/17 \$70 payable to
Tuff Stuff Ministries, 14688 SE Carol Ave.,
Milwaukie, OR 97267
After 3/29, Registration Fee: \$80

www.tuffstuffministries.com
503-655-5534
gmler@icmusa.org

Gaither Vocal Band to Kickoff Wichita Convention

By Carl Stagner, ChoG Ministries

Across the Church of God—more accurately, across Christendom—the name *Gaither* has become synonymous with the best of gospel music. With a sense of holy pride in two of its own, the Church of God has celebrated the extensive reach of Bill and Gloria Gaither for several decades. From “He Touched Me,” to “Because He Lives,” to “The Family of God,” several classics found in the Church of God hymnal have come to us from the pens of Bill and Gloria. The Gaither Vocal Band, featured on just about every one of the highly popular Gaither Homecoming videos, has touched audiences around the world with the hope of Jesus Christ set to music. Today we couldn’t be more excited to announce the Gaither Vocal Band as kickoff worship artists for Church of God Convention 2017 in Wichita, Kansas.



Larnelle Harris, Gary McSpadden, Steve Green, Michael English, Guy Penrod, Marshall Hall, and Mark Lowry are just a few of the well-known artists to have comprised the Gaither Vocal Band since the 1980s. Today the roster includes Bill Gaither, David Phelps, Todd Suttles, Adam Crabb, and Wes Hampton. Tight harmonies, incredibly strong voices, and humble spirit characterize the group, which regularly tops the charts, and has even secured Grammy Awards. Whether one’s favorite style of music is rock, country, praise and worship, traditional hymns, or southern gospel, the Gaither Vocal Band’s eclectic style offers something everyone will appreciate. Most importantly, it’s all about the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

The Gaither Vocal Band will lead the Church of God in a powerful worship experience Tuesday evening, June 20, at 7:00 PM EDT. It will be the perfect opening to a convention that is already shaping up to be a historic event for the Church of God movement. Between speakers such as Nick Vujicic, Paul Sheppard, and Anita Renfro, as well as top-notch breakout sessions and conferences, not to mention the long-anticipated release of the outcomes of the CHOG Tables of 2016, the entire convention is this summer’s priority—an experience you won’t want to miss. Then there’s the pivotal General Assembly that will celebrate one hundred years since its first gathering—clearly, Tuesday night’s opening celebration is just the beginning of what God has in store.

*Register for Church of God Convention 2017
(June 20–23 at Central Community Church)
in Wichita, Kansas, at www.chogconvention.org.*



Look to the Hills: Camp White Branch *By Stacey Meyer*

Camp White Branch was blessed with over five feet of snow this winter season, with dustings still coming here and there.

In December we hosted Elkton High School for McKenzie High School's basketball tournament. About 30 all together stayed with us. The Elkton boys gathered up some shovels and made forts/caves from the more than seven hills of snow that slid off the new building. Rob, Elkton's coach and Athletic director, said they had a wonderful time. It's hard keeping high energy teens quiet in motel rooms, as we all know their need to run around and exert their energies in fun ways. At CWB, they were able to tube down the hill late into the night without disturbing anyone, along with running around and making all the noise they want to. They had a blast. We hope to host them and possibly more the future with future tournaments.

The weather created some havoc with the freezing and some breakage of pipes. It kept Leonard busy thawing the ground and digging a trench in order to fix a pipe that froze and broke underneath Elm cabin. (All of this before Elkton's high school basketball team arrived.)

Alder's attic pipes leading to the water heater froze again, causing a leak. It was found right away and repaired before any damage occurred (unlike in 2014's winter months, when water damage nearly resulted in water heater falling through the ceiling. Duane helped that time).

Due to the freezing temperatures and ice, many of our Alder trees snapped in half as well as some Fir trees downing themselves and having to be cut out of the way. A few came down in our driveway and along Hwy 242 as well as the road leading to the pasture and kitchen. I believe 11 trees in all had to be cut out of the way for access to our driveway.

We are excited to have the work camps come this year—one is scheduled during Memorial Weekend and one during Father's Day weekend. So much work is done during these camps, and all who come and work and play help Leonard and me so much. There is no way we could take care of Camp White Branch by ourselves, and we certainly have our work cut out for us this year with all the trees that came down and the swimming pool that will need tending. What a blessing all of you are to us!



2017 CAMP WHITE BRANCH SUMMER SCHEDULE

Intro Camp, entering 2nd or 3rd grade & parent

Friday, July 7, 2017 - Sunday, July 9, 2017 - Directors: Jackson

Senior High Camp, entering 9th-12th grade

Monday, July 10, 2017 - Friday, July 14, 2017—Directors: Nunnally, Effingham, Hiller

Junior Camp, entering 5th-6th grade

Monday, July 17, 2017 - Friday, July 21, 2017—Directors: Kuykendall

Middle School Camp, entering 7th-8th grade

Monday, July 31, 2017 - Friday, August 4, 2017—Directors: Doug & Danette Beisley

Primary Camp, entering 3rd-4th grade

Monday, August 7, 2017 -Thursday, August 10, 2017—Directors: Graham

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

District Calendar



- March 2, Thurs., REGION #2, 10am - Noon
- March 7, Tues., Blackwood Legacy Concert, 7pm
- March 9, Thurs., Holiness Pastors & Leaders Day
- March 12, Sun., Daylight Savings begins
- March 16, Thurs., REGION #4, 10am-Noon
- March 18, Sat., CWC Board, 10am-Noon
- March 19, Sun., VOTE! (see page 1)
- March 21, Tues., District Council, 5:30 pm
- March 23, Thurs., REGION #5, 9:00 am
- March 28, Tues., REGION #3, 10:00 am
- April 9, PALM SUNDAY
- April 11, Tues., REGION #1 Mtg., 10:00 am
- April 11-13, Tues.-Thurs., Senior Adult Retreat
- April 14, GOOD FRIDAY
- April 16, EASTER: RESURRECTION SUNDAY
- April 25-27, Tues.-Thurs. W.A.R.M.
- May 4, Thurs., REGION #2, 10 am - 12 pm
- May 6, Sat., CWC Spring Connection, 9 am
- May 13, Sat., Ministers' Gathering
- May 14, Sun., MOTHER'S DAY
- 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 31-Aug. 4, Mon.-Fri., Middle School camp, entering 7th-8th grades
- Aug. 7-10, Mon.-Thurs., Primary camp, entering 3rd-4th grades

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.