

Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington

### Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat

See Page 12

# Summer IMPACT! Change the World!

"Note this: As soon as you get into the church-building business, you take your eye off the ball of the change-the-world-business. There are all kinds of people who know how to build churches. But Jesus will change the world." -Jim Lyon

The Association of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington's *Summer IMPACT*! (fomerly Campmeeting, Summer Celebration) kicked off with Lynchwood's

Gospel Praise Vocal Band Sunday evening, July 23, at Warner Pacific College.

Featuring Rev. Jim Lyon (General Director for the Church of God) as guest speaker, and missionaries, Bobby and Jenny Mihsill, Cote d'Ivoire, Africa, the fourday event focused on a

study of Mark 3. Sunday evening's

worship service was packed. "Honestly, I'm so thankful to be invited into this mix," says Lyon, "The Lord is stirring the pot. Okay, I'm in Oregon, not that kind of pot—but souls."

Jim Lyon's pithy quick wit, eloquent speech, unequalled storytelling and powerfully convicting instruction masterfully meshed to bring the message: "We are not in the churchbuilding business; we are in the change-the world business!"

With a challenge for reclamation rather than reformation, Lyon stressed, "The Church needs to be in a season of definitive action...If we do not...what's going to happen to our world, our families?"

"Jesus is not looking to find fault. He's looking to enter a broken place, and make it transformed."

*"Bam. Pow. Smack!"* It promised to be a great week of significant impact.

Along with activities for children and youth, conferences, leadership meetings and lunches were scheduled throughout the week, including







(Continued on page 2)

## Summer IMPACT! Change the World!

(Continued from page 1)



a ladies' Hawaiian theme luncheon held at Lents-Gilbert Church of God on Wednesday, July 26.

Casey Graves, Young Adult Pastor at Vancouver Church, served as Conference Leader for the event. IMPACT Talk sessions were led by Randy Archer, Jenny Marble Elliot, and Nathan Dunbar.

Following the opening meeting, a reception was held in WP's McGuire Auditorium to officially welcome the Association's new District Pastor, Jerry Davisson, and his wife, Kris.



Jerry and Kris Davisson



MINISTERS' RECOGNITION-July 26, 2017

<u>25 Years of Ordained Ministry</u> Jerry Davisson Monica Monroe Monica Phillippi Mary Ross

<u>40 Years of Ordained Ministry</u> Hazel Brown Ray Cotton Michael Kernutt

Recently Retired Ministers Les Bailey Doug Dougherty Gary Hood Frank Yerden

In Loving Memory Athur Eikamp Samuel Hooker Peter Howland



<u>50 Years of Ordained Ministry</u> Charlie Gray, John Good, Carl Buckle, Lorin Myers

## Summer IMPACT! 2017

*Enjoy these glimpses of a variety of happenings at Summer IMPACT! What a great week of worship, connections, mission, motivation. Bam! Pow! Smack!* 



*"If Jesus has not taken you somewhere you've never been, you're probably not traveling with Him."* 

*-Jim Lyon* Summer Impact! July 25, 2017







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Rick Cunnington and team lead worship



Above: Youth Return from Blue Lake; Below: Lunch





Above: Ministry Cohort Conversations Below: Child Care during Worship Service



E-CONTACT Volume 4 Issue 08



Summer IMPACT! Planning Session



Pictionary at The Gathering Place



Missions with Jenny Mihsill



IMPACT! Talks with Randy Archer, Nathan Dunbar and Jenny Elliot



Photos courtesy Diane Harlow



Irish Dinner with Jim Lyon sharing his life story





**Pastor Martin Shrout** 





Casey Graves, Vancouver Principles about "Growing Young"





## Discipleship: moving people from unbelief to belief

As this issue goes to press, *Summer IMPACT!* is coming to a close. I've been filled with anticipation as the dates drew near, and have been praying for months that



Rev. Jerry Davisson District Pastor

God would show up in a powerful way to draw us together in unity and purpose. I will devote next month's article to my reflections of the event. However, this month I want to take some time to explore the District's core value of discipleship.

I grew up in the Church of God hearing a great deal about becoming a disciple of Jesus. I memorized Matthew 28:18-20 which says; "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Growing up I got the impression that discipleship was something that happened in the church. We had discipleship classes devoted to teaching what the Bible said. We had baptism services for those who were ready to identify themselves as a disciple of Jesus. However, there wasn't much talk about going anywhere other than church. Missionaries were the ones called to go to the nations and make disciples. For me being a disciple consisted of following the rules and having my quiet time (neither of which I did a very good job at). Making disciples involved inviting my friends to church so they could learn about Jesus and learn to keep the rules like me. Discipleship was a church-centric activity. Discipleship was more a "come and see" proposal and less of a "go and make" adventure. This appeared to work well in Christendom, where the church held a place of honor in the center of the public square. It is not very effective in the post-Christendom world we live in today, where the church has been pushed to the margins of society.

Discipleship is about moving people from unbelief to belief in Jesus. If we hope to fulfill the mandate of Jesus, to make disciples, it is going to require you and me to once again GO. We are going to have to be intentional about seeking out and building genuine friendships with people in our neighborhoods, schools and jobs to name the most obvious places. We need to follow Jesus' example and hang out where not-yet-disciples (sinners) hang out, if we hope to bring the Kingdom of God into our communities. We are going to have to learn the lost art of listening, hospitality and presence as we move into our neighborhoods. We will need to be filled with the Spirit, working toward justice, full of grace and truth. In other words, we are going to have to be ready to practice the way of Jesus in all we do and say.

Jesus truly is the subject! If we hope to impact our world we are going to have to take Jesus seriously and GO.

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.

## Jewel of the Philippines Glistens in Office of the President

By Carl Stagner, Chogministries

Every child is a treasure in God's sight. Of this assertion, there is no discrepancy in the Church of God. As Jesus welcomed the children into his presence, congregations and individuals offer open arms to children all over the world, most of the time without even crossing an ocean. Through the child sponsorship ministry of the Church of God, individual and congregational reach is extended to parts of the world where hope for a brighter future is often only a dream. In this twenty-fifth year of ministry for Children of Promise, there is one Jewel that glistens especially bright, shining the light of Christ in church, community, and government. She's living proof that dreams do come true.



Jewel Leodones speaks to the Church of God in North America

Jewel Leodones was five years old when she enrolled in the Grace Family Helper Project, a local program of Children of Promise based at a Church of God in the Philippines. Growing up in a fatherless household forced her mother to provide for the four children alone. But Jewel's mother really wasn't alone. The presence of a loving heavenly Father was made tangible through the ministry of Children of Promise and the Church of God. As a result of the thorough provision synonymous with Children of Promise, Jewel would be given food, school supplies and uniform, medical checkups, and even special birthday gifts from her sponsor. Jewel made a special visit to the Church of God Convention in Wichita this year, at which she made an important distinction about all these material provisions.

"Little did I know that those dresses, pairs of shoes, etc., were not the most important thing I acquired because of the program," she

reflects. "It is the effect of the people around me and the personal growth and development of each sponsored child..." Financial support is critical to the ministry of Children of Promise, but it's only a vehicle for the hope of Jesus Christ.

Church was, at first, a chore for Jewel. As a child, she recalls her mother giving a Sunday morning wake-up call that would put the most discordant alarm clock to shame. But a showing of the *Passion of the Christ* put life—and church—in a new light. It wasn't long before Jewel would rise before her mother's voice rang out. The relationships and support of her sponsor and Children of Promise gave her a sense of self-reliance, productivity, and responsibility. Ultimately, Jewel would lead the worship team at church, teach Sunday school, and serve for a season as the national director for the Church of God youth fellowship in the Philippines.

Sure, the Children of Promise program took care of Jewel's basic needs as a child. Sure, the Children of Promise program offered opportunities that otherwise would have been unattainable. Indeed, the Children of Promise program helped Jewel receive a scholarship to attend college and graduate with a bachelor of arts in



Jewel with COP founders Sidney and Jean Johnson

consular and diplomatic affairs. Thus, because of her aptitude and credentials, Jewel has now worked in the office of the President of the Philippines since 2015. But, when Jewel looks back, these experiences aren't what really changed her life. "I was not aware God was already molding me to be the person who I am today," she reflected as she shared her stories with Children of Promise supporters in North America. "I want

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### Jewel of the Philippines Glistens in Office of the President

#### (Continued from page 7)

everyone to know that the reason I have the confidence to stand and speak in front of all of you today is because I was molded and shaped like this by God and our church. It was the people around me, the Children of Promise-Philippines..."

When considering how God has blessed her journey, Jewel takes it all in stride. "It's such a blessing to work in that office," she explains. "I really have no words to explain how I feel." The truth is, Jewel is more concerned that children like her have the chance to know that they can dream dreams, too—that there's hope for them, as well—that they truly are children of *promise*. "As a former sponsored child, I wondered why," she reflects. "Why is this person supporting and helping me? Why me? What have I done to deserve this kindness and love? Little by little, I was able to answer my own questions. I saw God's grace."

Today, the ministry of Children of Promise makes possible the sponsorship of nearly six hundred children in the Philippines. In fact, Children of Promise sponsorship covers 4,430 children in 29 countries today. There are so many more children, however, that need your love and support. Perhaps your sponsored child will be the next Jewel in the Philippines.



Jewel gives back today to the ministry that changed her life.

Learn more about Children of Promise at <u>www.echildrenofpromise.org</u>.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).



## Look to the Hills: Camp White Branch

Always a "happening place," here are a few pictures from Camp White Branch. Firefighters found a nice place to set up their tents in late June and early July. Check out the visiting deer. It was quiet over the 4th of July, and Mel Neu was able to get some primer painted on the ceiling of the big room. Camps started up, with Intro campers pictured here, along with directors Julie and RJ Jackson. Watch for pictures of Senior High, Middle School and Primary summer camps, as they are made available.







Continue to pray for Camp White Branch and the activities at the beautiful location in the woods. We are blessed! Christian Women Connection is scheduled to attend in September (see page 9).



Julie and RJ Jackson pose with Intro Campers (July 8, 2017): Jariah, Caleb, Eli, Natalie, Sydney, Kira, Jaela, Allison, Landon, and Elijah. Julie says, "I made sure they are all pumped up for Primary Camp 2018!"



Junior Camp at CWB. . . We had such an awesome week growing closer to God and to one another. It was wonderful getting to know all the kids and counselors and beginning new friendships with them. This week was full of spiritual growth, the growth of new and old friendships and a whole lot of fun. I love each and every one that was at camp this week. #blessed

Next Up: Middle School (7-8th) July31-Aug. 4, Beisleys Primary Camp (3-4th) Aug. 7-10, Karen Graham

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Home Church	
RV Parking Needed?	
Registration and Fees	
by 08/04/17: Single rate: \$75.00	
Anyone NOT pre-registered, payable at door:	
<ul> <li>Add \$10 late fee + \$75 = \$85 There are no exceptions.</li> </ul>	
Please make checks	
payable to: The Oregon Men of the	
Church of God	10100
Mail to: Oregon Men of the COG	
c/o Mark Gekler 300 Nelson Ln.	
Gladstone, OR 97027	-
menofthechurchofgod@gmail.com	-20

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	MEN'S ADVANCE CAMP WHITE BRANCH
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4:00 pm – 6:30 pm Check-in     6:30 pm – 8:30 pm Dinner     8:30 pm Free Time	Living with
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Saturday, August 19	& Change
<ul> <li>7:45 am – 8:00 am Devotions</li> <li>8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast</li> </ul>	d onlange
<ul> <li>9:30 am – 11:00 am Session 1</li> <li>11:30 am – 12:30 pm Lunch</li> </ul>	
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<ul> <li>2:30 pm – 6:00 pm Free Time</li> <li>6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner</li> </ul>	Thre you
<ul> <li>7:15 pm – 8:45 pm Session 3</li> <li>8:45 pm Free Time</li> </ul>	2
Sunday, August 20	Are You Ready?
<ul> <li>8:00 am — 9:00 am Breakfast</li> </ul>	Carding .
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37 years of bringing men closer to God	August 18-20, 2017
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#### 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



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.

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#### **KRETLOW**, Orlo

Marvin Orlo Kretlow passed away on July 19, 2017, in Vancouver, Washington at the age of 85, with a massive heart attack.

Orlo was born in Owatonna, Minnesota in 1931, the son of late Earl and Ella Kretlow. Orlo was married to Carol Ann Trudgeon on August 2, 1952 in Portland, Oregon;



they were married two weeks short of 65 years.

He graduated from Owatonna High School in 1950. While he was in high school, he was very involved in sports. He played football, basketball, and tennis. He attended the Bethany Fellowship School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, which many years later became Bethany House Publishers. In the fall of 1951 he hitchhiked from Owatonna to Portland, Oregon to attend Pacific Bible College, now known as Warner Pacific College. He met Carol there and they were married in August, 1952. Their two daughters were born while he was still attending college. He graduated in 1955 with a BA. In May of 1956 he moved his little family to Anderson, Indiana to attend Anderson School of Theology, a Church of God school. He graduated in 1959 with a Master of Divinity Degree. He became the pastor of the Slusser's Chapel Church of God in Blacksburg, Virginia. After 5 years, in 1964, the Church of God Mission Board called them to become missionaries in Japan. They served in Japan 31 years, then went to Russia for 1 year. They retired in 1996, and moved to Vancouver, Washington. Orlo became the pastor to seniors at the First Church of God on 78th Street, and served until 2007. Since that time he has enjoyed his hobbies and gardening.

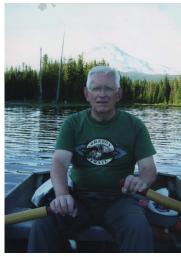
After completely retiring he went on many of the Church work camps around the world, such as Tanzania, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Australia. He was very involved in all kinds of sports: golfing, tennis, racquet ball, and down-hill skiing. He really enjoyed teaching his grandchildren and greatgrandchildren tennis, golfing, and skiing. He was already talking about teaching Trinity Joy who is yet to be born. He was ski crazy-this past year he skied 35 times. Another favorite pastime was watching all the pro-football games and basketball games. He always told his kids not to call him about a game and tell him the scores, because he always recorded them and watched them later. He decided to write his memoirs and published his book "Orlo's Story" in 2010.

He is survived by his loving wife, Carol Kretlow; two daughters: Bonita (Kretlow) Ray, husband, Michael Ray; Patricia (Kretlow) Hefner, husband, Randy Hefner. He is lovingly remembered by his 6 grandchildren: Candace (Ray) Kay (husband, Gary), Kevin Ray, Shannon (Ray) Cassidy (husband, Nathan), Sean Hefner, Joshua Hefner (wife, Nicole), Elizabeth (Hefner) Davis (husband, Paul); 14 greatgrandchildren: Nevaeh, Elijah, Shannaniah, Mikalah, and Ella Cassidy; Alex, Aaron, Katie, Taelor, and Isabella Kay; Noah, Lily, and Grace Hefner; Trinity Joy Davis. Siblings: the late Claude Kretlow (wife, Bette), Gwen (Kretlow) Tinnerstet, (late husband, Alan), and Elde Kretlow (wife, Judy).

The Celebration of Life Service will be held at the Vancouver Church, 3300 N.E. 78th Street, Vancouver, Washington, at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 5th, followed by a reception in the Multi-Purpose Room.

#### **NIELSEN, Charles**

A public memorial service to honor Dr. Charles Nielson will be held August 5, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at Warner Pacific College. He passed away Monday, July 24, 2017. Remembered fondly as a longtime staff member of Warner Pacific College. Dr. Nielson is known as a phenomenal encourager. effective teacher and gracious friend. Please be in prayer for Charles' wife, Phyllis. Memorial



gifts may be made to Warner Pacific College for the Charles Nielsen Social Science Scholarship fund.

#### E-CONTACT Volume 4 Issue 08

### **Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat**

*Friday, September 15-17, 2017 ~ Camp White Branch* "Unplug to Connect with your Roots"



Speaker Leslie Duclo lives in Hillsboro with her husband, Gary. They have a daughter, Bethany. While they do not have any grandchildren they do have a grand horse, dog, two cats and a turtle with an attitude. Thankfully, only the dog comes to visit on occasion with Beth.

Leslie has attended Aloha Church of God since she was a junior in high school except for the three years that she worshipped with the First Church of God in Juneau, Alaska. It was while she was in Alaska that she began to love WCG, now Christian Women Connection. As she looks back, the connections she made with those women and the things they taught her have been invaluable as she faced the defeats and triumphs of the last forty years. Leslie has been very active throughout her life teaching Sunday school,

leading Bible studies, serving others in the food pantry and as the woman's group leader in Celebrate Recovery. She served as State President of WCG and continues to serve as secretary to CWC.

Leslie continues to work part time as a dental hygienist. She is beginning to ask what God wants her to do with the rest of her life: continue working, retire, travel, sit back and take it easy? No matter what God has in mind, she is sure that it will require her to "unplug" in order to make a new "connection" doing what God is calling her to do.



Marva Adams, worship leader, lives in Hillsboro with her husband, Rick. Their three married children have given her eight grandchildren who are the joy of her life. Three of them have recently moved with their parents to Kenya on a short term mission assignment.

Marva has used her musical talents to lead worship at Aloha Church of God for over 25 years and still counts it a great pleasure to serve. In addition to leading at church she has lead worship for many retreats, and was the worship leader this year's Spring CWC Connection.

Marva also enjoys singing in the Portland Scandinavian Choir, where they sing in six

different Scandinavian languages, loves bicycling, going to the beach and spending time with family and friends.

#### Check In Begins at 4:00 pm

There is an activity being planned for Saturday afternoon; however, the complete plans have not taken root. But be prepared for a great time at Camp.

Let your roots grow down in him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7 (NLT)

If you want to return to Belknap Hot Springs for a walk or to soak in the Hot Springs pool, there will be time for that on Saturday as well. The entrance fee for the pool has been raised to \$8 according to their website. As always, you can go with the group and walk the grounds for no fee. Whatever you choose to do we encourage you to spend time making new friend relationships and strengthening old ones.

#### Be Sure to Pack:

Sleeping bag or bedding and your pillow! Towels and toiletries Warm jacket and walking shoes Bible and notepad Table games and snacks to share Great expectations of:

Enjoying God's beautiful creation Good food and fellowship Receiving teaching and instruction Wonderful worship in song

### **Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat**

#### Camp White Branch 61500 Old McKenzie Hwy. McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 To contact campers: 1-877-822-3964

Take the Springfield Exit 194A. This becomes I-105 and connects with Hwy 126 at the east side of Springfield. Turn left (east) at second stop light Hwy 126 (toward Bend). Continue on 126 for about 50 miles, past McKenzie Ranger Station. Turn right onto Hwy 242. Continue for about seven miles to the camp, which is on the right.

#### Fall Retreat Registration

Registration Fee of \$90 includes: Housing, Programming and all meals Friday through Sunday Brunch. If you are planning to go to Belknap Hot Springs Pool, you will pay (\$8) upon entrance to pool.

Please try to send registrations from your church together, and on one check, by September 1. If needed, you may pay \$45 at registration and the balance when you arrive.

Checks, payable to Christian Women Connection, may be mailed to: Sherrill Goodeill, 3229 SE 116<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland, OR 97266

Name:	Phone	
Home Church:		
I plan to attend:Friday—Sunday	Friday and Saturday only <b>\$65</b>	

CAMP WHITE BRANCH
SUMMER SCHEDULES

<u>Middle School Camp</u> entering 7th-8th grade Monday, July 31-Friday, August 4, 2017 Directors: Doug & Danette Beisley

<u>Primary Camp</u> entering 3rd-4th grade Monday, Aug. 7-Thursday, Aug. 10, 2017 Directors: Karen Graham

### Save the Dates: 2018 Camps

- July 6 8, Intro camp
- July 9 13, Senior High (9th-12th)
- July 16 20, Junior (5th & 6th)
- July 30 August 3, Middle School (7th & 8th)
- August 6 10, Primary (3rd & 4th)

Camp White Branch 61500 Old McKenzie Hwy McKenzie Bridge, OR

# District Calendar

- Aug. 5, Sat., Celebration of Life, Orlo Kretlow, Vancouver 1st Church of God, 2pm
- 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
- March 20-22, 2018, Senior Adult Retreat For more events, see *orwacog.org/calendar*