



## District to sponsor Multi-Regional Forums

### FORUMS:

- **October 14** (2-4 pm) @ Redmond 1<sup>st</sup> Church of God
- **October 17** (7-9 pm) @ Mt. Scott Church of God, Portland
- **October 21** (10 am – 12 noon) @ Friendly St. Church of God, Eugene

District Pastor Jerry Davisson and Council Chair Jackie Scott, on behalf of the Association and District Council, will be hosting three public forums/round tables during the month of October in various areas of the state, and they invite you and your congregation to be involved.

Pastor Jerry will be sharing about some of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We will discuss finances, district programming, as well as the benefits of working together. Please note that these forums will not be addressing the issue of sexual ethics; that will be a discussion for the ministerial fellowship at another time.

The forums are open to pastors, delegates, church leaders and lay persons -- in other words, *anyone* interested in our work together as an Association of Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington. We want to hear from you, the Church, about your vision for the Association. Participants will have opportunity to ask questions and give input on how the district office can help each church have an impact in their unique context as well as in our joint work.

We hope that you will be able to attend one of these sessions, and request that you also advertise these forums to your congregation and encourage any and all who are interested to attend.

To help us know how many people to prepare for, online registration is available on our website: [www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org) Scroll to the bottom of the homepage to find the links for your date choice.

### Association of the Churches of God in Oregon & SW Washington



QUESTIONS



DISCUSSION



IDEAS



**3 Forums •**

**3 Dates • 3 Locations**

**YOU are invited!**

- Pastors, delegates, church leaders & interested lay persons
- TOPICS: Finances, district programming, working together

#### Central Oregon area

October 14, 2017; 2-4 pm  
Redmond 1<sup>st</sup> Church of God

#### Portland area

October 17, 2017; 7-9 pm  
Mt. Scott Church of God

#### Southern Oregon area

October 21; 10 am – noon  
Eugene Friendly St. Church of God

Register Online @ [www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org), Calendar tab, pick date

# October Multi-Regional Forums

I had a great time at *Summer IMPACT!* in July. I can't believe we are already heading into the Fall. If you were at our July Association meeting you probably heard me talk about scheduling three



**Rev. Jerry Davisson**  
**District Pastor**

Multi-Regional Forums or "Round Tables" to address some of the challenges we face as an Association, and hopes for the future. I want to take this opportunity to invite everyone to one of the three Multi-Regional Round Tables being offered during the month of October.

The purpose of these meetings is to give you an opportunity to hear my heart for the Association as well as an opportunity for you to speak into the direction we will be going in the future. Our agenda will be very specific. We will be talking about why we exist as an Association. We will be talking about our mission and ways we can fulfill that mission together. We will be looking toward the future in terms of finances and church planting. We will not specifically be addressing the topic of Sexual Ethics that was brought up during our annual meeting. This will be a discussion for another time.

I would encourage you to come with your heart and mind open to new possibilities. Come with your questions. I believe we have a bright future as an Association, but it will take all of us working together to make it happen.

The three options are:

1. October 14, Redmond Church of God, 2-4 p.m.
2. October 17, Mt. Scott Church of God, 7-9 p.m.
3. October 21, Friendly Street Church of God, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Please choose the time and location that best fits your schedule. A light snack will be provided by our host church. Thank you in advance for your participation.

On another note, my wife, Kris and I returned from a vacation to sunny Orlando, FL, on Friday, September 8. It was not the vacation we had planned. We spent the week with my in-laws preparing their home for hurricane Irma and watching nonstop coverage of the weather channel's reporting on the impending disaster. It gave me a new perspective on "hurricane season". We took one of the last flights out before the Orlando Airport closed.

I am thankful to report that Kris' parents' home sustained no damage but they are still without power in the uncomfortable heat. Many others were not so fortunate.

This has been an active weather season with earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, flooding and much more, not only here in the states but around the globe. I want to challenge the churches around our District to get involved in helping those who are trying to rebuild their lives after these disasters. I am thankful for those churches who have already taken action. One way we can help is by giving financially to those effected. The national Church of God agency would be a great place to donate. The link to make a donation is: < <http://www.jesusisthesubject.org/disaster-relief>> <http://www.jesusisthesubject.org/disaster-relief>.

**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.



## Warner Pacific Celebrates 80 Years



donate **\$80 for our 80th year!** These gifts go a long way in providing financial aid for current Knights. Visit [warnerpacific.edu/foundersday](http://warnerpacific.edu/foundersday) for more information or to donate!

## Founder's Week

Alumni and friends of the College are invited to attend the Warner Pacific Founder's Week festivities as the College celebrates its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday!

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 2:

#### **Cheers to 80 Years!**

4:00 - 7:00 pm AF Gray Lawn (Gym if Raining)  
A family-friendly birthday dinner with inflatables, a dunk tank, and more! Hosted by Student Life.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3:

#### **Founder's Day Chapel**

10:00 am McGuire Auditorium  
Hear alumni share stories about the legacy of WPC.

#### **Birthday Lunch**

11:30 am Egtvedt Dining Hall  
Enjoy a \$5 birthday lunch! President Cook will cut the birthday cake at 12:30 pm.

#### **Knight-Time**

7:00 - 9:00 pm CC Perry Gym  
A fantastic evening of excitement with Athletics.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5:

#### **Worshiping Politics:**

#### **Chapel and Lunch with Dr. Luke Goble**

Remember to login and donate for our Founder's Day giving campaign! We are asking friends and alumni to



**WP students participate in service projects to support community.**



# Hurricane Harvey: Hope for Texas in the Aftermath of a Monster

*By Carl Stagner, ChoG Ministries*

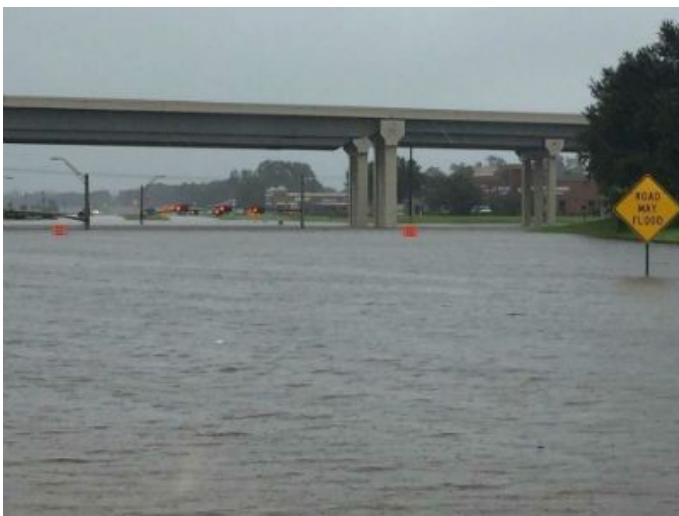
Church of God, it's time. It's time to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our brothers and sisters in Texas. It's time to be hope to the people who have lost loved ones, homes, businesses, and churches. It's time to make a difference. Whether God is leading you to give generously, donate supplies, or assemble work teams for upcoming opportunities to rebuild homes, *now* is the time to act. While this nightmare is far from over for tens of thousands of people, the outpouring of support for the Lone Star State is proving that they are not alone. The latest updates to the Church of God Ministries Disaster Relief Team are both sobering and encouraging.

With 130 mile-per-hour sustained winds, Hurricane Harvey struck the Texas coast near Rockport on Friday, August 25, leaving behind a vast swath of destruction to homes and business. For millions of residents to the north, it wouldn't be winds, but rain, that did the most damage. More than fifty inches of rain fell around the Houston metro area, shattering records and flirting with the all-time national record for rainfall from one storm—a record set in 1950 by Hawaii's Hurricane Hiki. Jim Feirtag, pastor of Parkgate Community Church in Pasadena, Texas, reported that their local weather station measured fifty-five inches of rain. "Just so you know," Jim explains, "our local meteorologist said that is the equivalent of 275 feet of snow. Something like nine trillion gallons of water have fallen in the greater Houston area. It's mind-blowing!"

The devastation is also mind-blowing. Damage left in the wake of Hurricane Harvey is nothing short of catastrophic. Forty-two Church of God congregations have been affected by Harvey's wrath to one degree or another. Eleven congregations have reported damage of varying severity. While damage to church structures has been minimal, damage to homes of our pastors and brothers and sisters who worship in our congregations is widespread. Initial damage estimates among our congregations suggest up to a half a million dollars of repairs and rebuilding efforts will be needed. A disaster recovery plan is



***Flooding up to the street lights in Houston (courtesy June Sherman).***



***Houston street sign warns, "Road may flood" (courtesy June Sherman).***

being implemented and more information will continue to be disseminated.

Help is needed today.

You can give to Church of God Disaster Relief at <http://give.jesusisthesubject.org/disasterrelief>, or send a check to Church of God Ministries, PO Box 2420, Anderson IN 46018-2420 and write "Harvey Disaster Relief" on the memo line.

You can collect and send supplies. Pastor Tim Gould of Houston First Church created an Amazon Wish List as a guide (<https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/2V3HZQB8Z3OYS/>) and more items are listed at <http://www.texaschurchofgod.com/resources/hurricane-harvey.html>.

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# Hurricane Harvey: Hope for Texas in the Aftermath of a Monster

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There are two primary collection locations:

## EASTERN UNIT:

Dr. Jim Feirtag  
Parkgate Community Church  
3715 Preston Rd  
Pasadena TX 77505

## WESTERN UNIT

Rev. Sandra McNeese  
Camp Hallettsville  
401 S Dowling Ave  
Hallettsville TX 77964

You can volunteer your labor or a work team. Simply fill out this online form to indicate abilities, availability, and estimated numbers: <http://www.texaschurchofgod.com/forms/view/34942>.

Most importantly, please keep praying. Reports of damage to homes and churches of our Church of

God family continue to come in. Cleanup and rebuilding homes—and lives—could take months. Thank you.

Please continue to also pray and support Disaster Relief in light of the increasingly dangerous and deadly flooding conditions in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

*About Church of God Disaster Relief—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. Disaster Relief contributions are utilized to bring relief to those affected by disasters worldwide. Give now at <http://give.jesusisthesubject.org/disasterrelief>.*

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## Region 3 Promotes Connection

By Pastor Steve Kufeldt, Woodburn

Region 3 churches had a busy end of summer as they worshipped together, played together, ate together and saw God do some amazing things.

The Albany, Salem and Woodburn congregations organized for the second year the Willamette Valley Camp-meeting, which took place August 16-19 at the historic Oregon Christian Convention in Turner. Representing 11 different Church of God congregations and a handful of other churches, 164 people participated in the four-day event, some coming for one day (or evening) while others stayed the whole time. Three meals a day were provided on site, as well as a morning worship service, afternoon activities for children, and an evening service. Calvin Bontrager, the former pastor of Turning Point Church in Lebanon, Oregon, spoke during the three evening services and prophetically reminded the church that we must daily depend on the Holy Spirit's leadership in our lives and churches. District Pastor Jerry Davisson and Lynchwood Church of God Pastor Brian Arnold each spoke during the morning services, both sharing messages that dovetailed perfectly with the other sessions. A number of persons responded to the call to greater dependence on the Lord, and a young person from the Salem congregation gave his heart to the Lord. It was a great meeting and plans are already underway for next year's gathering,



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# Region Three Promotes Connection

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which will be August 5-9, 2018, once again in Turner. The week affords great times of fellowship and worship, including onsite lodging options and RV spaces.

The Albany, Salem and Woodburn congregations also gathered for "Worship in the Park" on the Sunday afternoon of Labor Day weekend at Bush's Pasture Park in Salem. A fried chicken "carry-in" dinner kicked off the afternoon. Games and music followed, with songs led by Pastor John Kuykendall. Pastor David Shrout (our recently retired District Pastor) and a member of the Albany congregation, shared a message about the fruit of the Spirit and challenged each person to focus on one fruit over the next week.



The September bi-monthly pastors gathering invited spouses to join them as the meeting was moved from a midday lunch meeting to an evening meal in a Salem restaurant. Fifteen pastors and spouses were present as relationships were renewed and fellowship was enjoyed, including a time of sharing around the table. Pastor Grant Fall closed the time with a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing.



# Look to the Hills: Camp White Branch

## CAMP WHITE BRANCH FUNDRAISING DINNER



**Mt. Scott Church of God**  
10603 SE Henderson Street  
Portland, OR

**Friday, OCTOBER 13, 2017**  
**@ 6:30 PM**

**GOAL ①:** To raise enough funds to complete the Multi-Purpose building AND to replace the kitchen & washroom flooring at camp.

**GOAL ②:** To let our donors & volunteers know how very much we appreciate them!!

**PLEASE R.S.V.P.**

ONLINE: [www.ordwacog.org](http://www.ordwacog.org), lower half of home page

Call Church of God District Office: 503-393-3510

Marvin and I are back at camp. Beautiful sunny day here and the camp looks the way it did before the fire experience began. Sprinklers, hoses, pumps, and tanks are all gone. In a couple days we will be feeding the fire fighters who are there cleaning up, putting out stumps, grading the roads, and whatever else they have to do to get ready for winter. The Good Lord put the rain all along the Cascades Mountain in amounts to help the fire fighters put out the fires. The McKenzie Fire people said that they would not give us more than one hundred fire fighters. They think they will have around 80 so please pray for Leonard and Stacey. Their helpers may not be the best. Hope all is well with you. Mel

We have received the following encouraging update from Leonard and Stacey Meyer (Camp White Branch) . .

*Hello everyone,*

*Leonard was on his morning conference call with the incident response teams, he came in with such good news! They have lifted the evacuation restrictions, so we are no longer under level 3-evacuate (On Sept. 11) we were given special permission to return to the camp even though we were still on evacuation notice, we were just not allowed to have guests. All restrictions for the McKenzie Bridge up and down river have been lifted. The rain we are getting is subduing the fires, however, we will still have some smoke from them smoldering. We can carry on with the rest of our camp season. Thank you to all who have been in prayer for the camp and for us. I can now put my computer back up and my office back together!! (yes I erred on the side of caution) like my wise 21 year old Megan said, "Mom, there's a fine line between faith and foolishness." God is so very good!*

*Blessings! Leonard and Stacey*

"Good News: the camp is open for business again. The fire restrictions were lifted September 18," reports Mel Neu. "The Good Lord sent rain and has helped the fire fighters."

We have scheduled the White Branch Dinner again at Mount Scott Church of God. The dinner will be on Friday, October 13. Lynchwood Church's new kitchen is not finished and that is the date we can get at Mt Scott.

I will be going up to camp on Thursday this week to work on the building. I will get in touch with you soon. Thanks for understanding. Please be praying for the camp and Leonard and Stacey. Mel Neu

## Save the Dates: 2018 Summer 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 13-16, Primary (3rd & 4th)

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



# Homeward Journeys

## **HATCH, A. Frost** **1/4/1926-9/19/2017**

The Reverend A. Frost Hatch, born January 4, 1926, entered his heavenly home on September 19, 2017. Most recently from Highland, Illinois, Frost was born in Dunwell, NE, and graduated from Mullen, NE High School. A World War II veteran, Frost spent four years aboard the Navy escort destroyer, USS Mack in the Pacific Theater. He married Theresa Heins in 1950. They recently celebrated their 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He is survived by Theresa, two daughters, Jeannie Donais (husband, Jerry), of Texas, and Wilda Poehler (husband, Bryan) of Highland, Illinois. He is also survived by granddaughter, Jaime Breinig, in Virginia, and two great-grandchildren, Logan and Thomas.



Frost gave his life to his Lord and Savior at age 27. He then attended Pacific Bible College (which later became Warner Pacific College) in Portland, Oregon. In 1958 he became beloved pastor of Churches of God (Anderson, Indiana) in Pendleton, Coquille and St. Helens, Oregon; Spokane, Washington and Libby, Montana.

Frost had many hobbies and held a patent for a specialty auto tool. He loved cars, was an avid reader, he played several musical instruments and became an accomplished woodworker. He built a deep sea fishing boat, grandfather clock, church additions, and seven houses. He had an admirable woodworking shop where he made significant pieces of art. The family and a local museum enjoy his landscapes and still life in oils.

The family thanks you for your thoughts and prayers and requests donations be made to The Highland Home, 1600 Walnut St., Highland, IL 62249; in honor of Frost Hatch.

## **HELBLING, Martha Ardeth** **11/29/1926-8/31/2017**

A memorial service was held Saturday, Sept 9, 2017, at Lynchwood Church of God in Portland, OR, for Martha Ardeth Helbling, who died August 31, 2017 in her home at the age of 90.



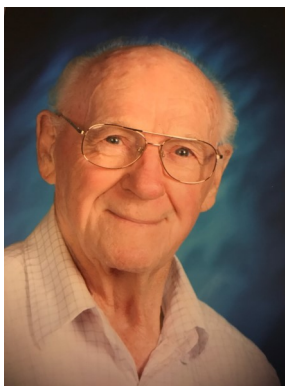
"Ardeth" was born on Nov. 29, 1926 in Clare, MI to Rev. Harry and Adeline Cleveland. She attended Anderson College, Anderson, Indiana, and married Rev. Paul Helbling in 1945. They pastored churches for 50 years in Michigan, Kansas, Texas, Oregon and California before returning to Newberg, OR in 1988.

Survivors include her children, Ruth Yerden (Frank), Jean Shackleton, Janet Wilson, John Helbling (Melinda), Delores Brown (Emery), Sharon Wolsten (Paul), sisters, Ella Goodbread and Ruth Owens, brother-in-law Doyle Helbling (Helen) and sister-in-law Delores Sheldon (Paul), 18 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, four brothers, husband Paul Helbling, sons-in-laws, Martin Shackleton and Dale Wilson. She enjoyed playing the piano and dearly loved her family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, a memoriam can be made to Charlie's Lunch or Operation Smile.

## **HOFER, Emmett Anton**

**6/29/1928-9/24/2017**



Emmett Anton Hofer was born June 29, 1928, in Huron, South Dakota. His father, John Hofer was a lawyer, who along with his mother, Mary, farmed the land. In 1929 the stock market crash occurred, followed by the drought and dust bowl. In 1932 the family left their farm and moved to Dinuba, California, to start afresh. Two years later his father died of a sudden

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# Homeward Journeys

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heart attack shortly after Emmett's sixth birthday. His mother was now left with nine children. They bought a five-acre farm and began to literally live off the land. At fourteen years of age, with Emmett's two older brothers gone from the home, he became the male head of the house.

Following high school, a year in college and work, he enlisted in the Navy during the Korean War. While studying in electronics school, on leave back in Dinuba, he met Reta Conrad, daughter of the Church of God pastor. Three months later on March 30, 1951, they married.

After seven months of marriage he was shipped to Japan for two years. While there he had an experience with God that shaped the course of his life. One night, while in prayer, he had an encounter with God that he could only describe as liquid waves of love lasting for two hours. That experience changed him and others noticed. The captain of the ship instructed him to begin worship services, and because he wasn't a chaplain, the US Navy made him an acting chaplain, the first in Navy history.

After his discharge he sensed a call to the ministry and moved to Portland, OR, to study theology at Pacific Bible College. While a student, in 1955, he and Reta had their only son, Brent. After graduation in 1957, he began a 50-year ministry career, divided into three seasons. As a senior pastor, he pastored churches in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California. The next season of his life was as an associate pastor in Wichita, KS, Olympia, WA and Oregon City, OR, where he worked primarily in discipleship. The last season of his ministry was as an interim pastor in Cottage Grove, St Helens, Rainer, Longview and Husum.

His next to last work was to become the maintenance man at North Clackamas Christian School, where his two granddaughters were in grade school. For six years he was able to see them five days a week while he maintained the campus. He retired at the age of 84.

He had no real hobbies in life. Rather, he had his passions. Number one was experiencing God. He loved to pastor and he loved spending time with Reta and Brent. Once his granddaughters, Ellie and Nikki,

were born he invested his life in them. Finally, he loved to build. He was an accomplished builder and built three beautiful homes for Reta during their years together.

On Sunday, September 24, at around 3 pm, while talking with Reta, he got up to get a drink of water from the sink. Suddenly, he slumped to the floor and passed away. He was 89 years old.

He leaves behind Reta, his wife of 66 years, his son Brent along with Sherry, and two granddaughters, Ellie and Nikki, all of Oregon City. Additionally he has two surviving sisters, Margie and Annie of California and his brother Jonas, also of California along with 35 nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held Tuesday, October 3, at 11:00 a.m., at the Lynchwood Church of God, 3818 SE 174th, Portland, OR 97236-1255. A reception will follow. Military Burial will be held at 2:00 p.m. at Willamette National Cemetery, 11800 SE Mt. Scott Blvd., Portland, OR 97086.

Your continued thoughts and prayers for the Hofer family are appreciated.

## District Calendar



- **Oct. 1-31**, Clergy Appreciation Month
- **Oct. 3**, Tues., 11 a.m., Emmett Hofer Celebration of Life, Lynchwood COG
- **Oct. 10**, Tues., REGION #1 Mtg., 10:00 am-Noon
- **Oct. 13**, Fri., CWB Fundraising Dinner, Mt. Scott COG
- **Oct. 26**, Thurs., REGION #6 (ZOOM), 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