



Association of
the Churches
of God
in Oregon and
Southwest
Washington

*District Calendar of
Upcoming Events*
(see page 7)

THE CONTACT

August 2018

Volume 5 Issue 08

E-Contact

Summer Camps still underway at CWB

Camp White Branch kicked off the summer season at McKenzie Bridge, OR, with several camps in July. Primary Camp, for 3rd and 4th graders, is slated for August 13-16 (Graham; \$170).

Intro Camp Director Julie Jackson reports that young campers enjoyed the theme "Jesus really is the Son of God" during their stay July 6-8. They visited the bouncy tree teeter totter at White Branch Falls, toured the almost-finished new multipurpose building, made campfire cupcakes to celebrate a birthday, and enjoyed several parent and grandparent buddies. A certified lifeguard on duty allowed for use of the pool.

Senior High and Middle School Camps convened in July as well, with lots of activities and memorable events.

One student attending her last year as a Senior High camper shared her experience: "It was a mix of emotion through the week but when I decided to recommit my life to Christ, the only thing I was feeling was joy and happiness. I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to do this in one of my favorite places, and am also very happy I was able to do it with so many people I greatly care about. It was the perfect end to my last year."

Thank you for your support of Camp White Branch and its eternal impact on lives.



Final issue of the *E-Contact*

by Pastor Jerry Davisson



Rev. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor

I am writing this article prior to our annual meeting. Unless there is action taken by the Association and its delegates to keep publishing the E-Contact, this will be the last issue.

The budget that is being proposed by the District Council eliminates the line item for the E-Contact. Part of the rationale for this is the financial reality of the District. The support to our district is continuing to diminish and our Council was charged with providing the Association a balanced budget. In our attempt to do so, we had to make some painful cuts as well as some hard decisions.

The E-Contact has been the primary means of communication for many decades. It has been one of the best looking and finest publications I have seen. I want to say a special thank you to Kay Tira and the past editors for their diligent and quality work at producing such a quality paper. Their efforts have truly been exemplary.

I know there will be many questions surrounding this decision but the one I want to address is the issue of communication. We will still be producing a monthly newsletter with information about events that have taken place as well as those that are on the schedule. However, the format will perhaps be much different. We will be producing this publication from the State Office and will try to make the transition as seamless as possible.

In this era of social media, we will be attempting to increase our online communication and social media presence. I am hoping to put together a team that is gifted in this area who can help make our communication more affective in these new times. We will be looking at increasing the use of our website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other platforms to keep us all more connected and informed. I am a firm believer in the importance of keeping information flowing in order to keep us

effectively moving in the same direction. You may not be on any of the media platforms I mentioned. As I said earlier we are committed to continuing to produce a monthly news source and will encourage our churches to print copies and make them available to members of their congregations. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

If you are not yet aware, Pastor Joe and Kay Tira will be leaving the Longview, WA, church and moving closer to family. Please keep them in your prayers as they make this transition.

Again, I want to say a special thank you to all who have written articles, provided information and made the E-Contact one of the premier papers in the movement. The State Office will continue to make communication a high priority in these changing times.

Editor's Note:

It has been my privilege to serve for the past 12 years as Editor of the CONTACT and E-CONTACT publications for the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington. Though we have seen many transitions in that time, our Association remains strong as we continue together as the body of Christ.

At the time of this writing, our house is empty and our belongings are on their way to Nebraska, where we will begin a new season.

I am grateful to God for His direction and provision, for allowing our lives to intersect with yours on this journey, and for what the future holds in store. I am confident that while all around us things change, God remains unchanging and faithful. God bless you as you continue to serve Him in your personal spheres of influence. Thank you for an amazing season, and the privilege of serving as Editor. —Kay Tira



Woodburn hosts Annual Association Meeting

by Pastor Tim Irwin, Aloha, OR

The Oregon and SW Washington Association of the Churches of God convened Saturday, July 21, at Hoodview Church of God in Woodburn, hosted by Pastor Steve Kufeldt. The meeting was chaired by Association Chair Jackie Scott. After reports by State Pastor Jerry Davisson, and Warner Pacific University President Dr. Andrea Cook, both Association and Camp White Branch budgets were passed. Jackie Scott was ratified for another term as Association Chair, and Lisa Switzer, Owen Hinkle, Mike Kernutt, and Durwood Ranton were ratified to the Camp White Branch Board.

The Annual Ministers' Meeting approved the coming ordinations of Danette Beisley (Oak Park Community COG - Salem), Sandra Salisbury (Sunset COG - St Helens), and Jim Minkler (Seabird Chapel - Bandon), and the approved lists of pastors and congregations.



Photo credit: Linda Tucker-Bays

Longview welcomes Pastor John Jamieson August 5

The congregation at Longview Church of God welcomes Pastor John Jamieson as Lead Pastor, effective Sunday, August 5, 2018.

The Jamiesons, from Vancouver, WA, have been most recently on staff with East Hill Church in Gresham, OR. They come with over 30 years of pastoral ministry experience. Pastor John's shepherd's heart and Angi's passion for children's ministry; along with their combined musical abilities, evangelism, outreach and love for God's Word make them an effective ministry team.



Pastor John and Angi Jamieson

The Jamiesons love the Lord, love people, enjoy music, the outdoors, and are excited to begin this new adventure with the Longview congregation.

Pastor John will be sharing Sunday's message August 5. He and his wife, Angi, will be welcomed with a time of fellowship and refreshment in lieu of the regularly scheduled 9:30 a.m. Sunday School classes. District Pastor Jerry Davisson will represent the Association of Churches of God in Oregon and SW Washington during the special 10:45 welcoming service. Everyone is invited to attend.

Longview Church of God is located at 2335 46th Avenue, Longview, WA 98632.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington
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Rev. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor Kay Tira, Editor—contacteditor@owwacog.org
Check the web-site for information about future communications.

Willamette Valley Campmeeting

It's time! The Third Annual Willamette Valley Campmeeting convenes August 5-9 on the grounds of the Oregon Christian Convention in Turner, Oregon.

Don't miss this week of great worship, dynamic preaching and lots of fellowship.

Michael Thigpen, Lead Pastor of Celebration Church at Arrow Heights in Anderson, IN, is our guest speaker. We also will be joined by the youth from our District churches.

Overnight guests at the Oregon Christian Convention site, require reservations. Details are still available on the district website (www.orwacog.org).



IYC2018 puts students On Track for Life

by Carl Stagner, Church of God Ministries



Zealand leading students in worship at IYC2018.

leaders, who embraced life at IYC2018, return home to give life to their families, schools, churches, and across their communities.

What would motivate three hundred students to forego sleeping in and instead embark on a five-kilometer race on a sun-scorched, sweltering summer morning in Indianapolis? The 5K was a first for IYC, yet every slot was filled in advance. All enjoyed the camaraderie, some were competitive, but no one was in it for a trophy. There had to be a purpose greater than themselves, and there certainly was. Proceeds from the 5K For Freedom went to support the life-giving fight against human trafficking through CHOG Trafficklight, particularly in one Bangladesh village. Students also gave generously during IYC to Spread the Word in support of Trafficklight.



Students gathered for Communion following the Silent Walk

(Continued on page 5)

For the first time since 1980, Indianapolis, Indiana, was home to the International Youth Convention (IYC) of the Church of God. Reflecting the local racing culture, the 51st pinnacle of youth ministry experiences capitalized on its proximity to the iconic motor speedway, with four days designed to put students on track for the race of a lifetime. Inspiring worship, top-notch speakers, dozens of breakout sessions, a 5K to support the fight against trafficking, and a day devoted to community service combined to create moments of lasting life change. Those moments may have passed, but eternity—brighter than ever before—lies ahead. The life change continues as four thousand students and youth

IYC2018 puts students “On Track for Life”

(Continued from page 4)

Can you picture thousands of students walking through downtown Indianapolis without saying a word? It's hard enough to imagine even one teenager staying silent for long. But that was the scene the final evening of IYC during the Silent Walk, which brought students out of the Indianapolis Convention Center and onto the streets, culminating in Communion at nearby Military Park. Like 1980, IYC made its mark on Indianapolis, but the city does look quite different than it did then.



Runners pause to celebrate their completion of the 5K For Freedom!

“#IYCindy did not disappoint! Most underrated city in the USA,” one Twitter user said about Indianapolis. Upgrades to the downtown area, in particular, have made it ideal for events like IYC. But the fun, food, and fine accommodations weren't why IYC students wanted to give back. Sure, students and their leaders were grateful for the host city's hospitality, but these believers were born to serve! Created in Christ Jesus for good works (Ephesians 2:10), they dispersed across the city for a variety of projects far more fulfilling than any video game they could have otherwise been playing, Netflix show they could have been binge-watching, or Snapchat conversation they could have been keeping up with (though IYC did have some great Snapchat filters!). Because of their work, the community enjoyed the product of hours and hours of volunteer labor, including 140,000 meals were packed to combat hunger.

Of course, the Emerging Leaders Gathering was also a sight to behold. Anytime young believers indicate a commitment to Christ-centered leadership, heaven rejoices. Some of these inquired, while at IYC, about the brand-new Student Leadership Focus, a new resource from Church of God Ministries for high school juniors and seniors hearing and responding to the call of God for mission and ministry. “If this generation of the Church of God gets On Track and stays On Track, [imagine] what good can be done!” Jim Lyon, Church of God Ministries general director, tweeted during IYC2018.

On Track. The theme of IYC2018, based on Hebrews 12:1–3, infused the worship, speaking, conferences, and breakout sessions, each reinforcing God's itinerary for the race of life. Samuel Rodriguez, Tim Ross, Nick Vujicic, Jim Lyon, and Danielle Strickland preached God's Word with clarity and conviction, communicating hope while daring students to get on track with faith, purity, joy, and focus. Worship leaders Zealand, Iron Bell Music, David Crowder, and the IYC High School Band set the stage perfectly for the Spirit to move. Adding to the experience were illusionist John Michael Hinton, rapper Kevin Burgess (“KB”), and emcee Jeff Whye. Many will also never forget seeing a young man, who drowned in an icy lake three years ago, walk on stage and share his powerful testimony (the story is set to release in



Students from The Church at Bradenton (FL) pack meals on Impact Day (courtesy Tom Pelt).

(Continued on page 6)

IYC2018 puts students “On Track for Life”

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theaters as *Breakthrough*, Easter 2019). One student's tweet spoke for many just like it: “God showed up this week and changed so many lives, including mine!”

IYC2020 is scheduled for July 3–6 at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, Florida. Learn more about the Church of God Youth Ministries at www.chogyouth.org.

Men's Advance

Friday, August 17 - Sunday, August 19, 2018

Camp White Branch
61500 Old McKenzie Hwy
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon

Contact Jay Thornhill or the District Office.

Ponder This:



Homeward Journeys

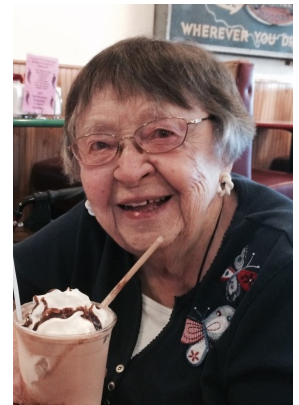
DIETZ, Shirley Arlene Nixon 2/26/1925—6/27/2018

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and friend Mrs. Shirley Arlene (Nixon) Dietz passed away peacefully on Wednesday June 27, 2018.

Shirley was born in Dayton Ohio on February 26, 1925 and grew up in central Ohio. She graduated from Hilliards High School in Columbus Ohio in 1942. Shirley Nixon and Herbert Dietz both attended Pacific Bible College in Portland, Oregon and were married at the Skidmore Church of God on May 30, 1948. Though they have lived in both California and New Mexico, they have family and have maintained many friendships in the Portland area throughout the years and have chosen Portland for their final resting place. A 2:00 visitation in the foyer will follow the 1:00 p.m. funeral service honoring Shirley on Saturday afternoon August 4, 2018, at the Lynchwood Church of God, 3818 SE 174th Ave, Portland OR 97236, (503) 665-6638.

Funeral service is provided by Mt. Scott Funeral Home 4205 SE 59th Ave., Portland, OR 97206.

Those who wish to honor Shirley Dietz in the form of a memorial may send monetary contributions to: Diamond Arrow Christian Conference Center, 15742 North Bloomfield Road, Nevada, CA 95959.



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.

125th Anniversary Celebration

A special celebration marking the 125th anniversary of the work of the Church of God will be held in Woodburn, OR, the weekend of September 8 and 9.

In 1893, Pastor Johnny Green and his wife, Lydia, brought the message of the Church of God to the Pacific Northwest, establishing a church first in Woodburn before branching out to Salem and across the district.

The anniversary celebration will focus on the history of the district in three special events on Saturday, September 8. A celebration worship service highlighting our district's history and key leaders through the years will begin at 3:00 p.m. A "dinner on

the grounds" will be held at 5:00 p.m. (donations will be accepted). The evening will end with a 6:00 p.m. gospel concert. The morning worship service on Sunday, September 9 will focus on the history of the Woodburn congregation.

Churches and individuals are encouraged to bring historic photos and memorabilia to display in the lobby of the church for the Saturday celebration. Contact the Hoodview Church office (503-981-1660) for more information.



District Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **Aug. 5, Sun.**— Welcome Service, Pastor John Jamieson, Longview First COG, 10:45 a.m.
- **Aug. 5-12, Sun.-Sun.** - NACOG Annual Campmeeting
- **Aug. 5-9, Sun.-Thurs.** - Willamette Valley Campmeeting, Turner, OR
- **Aug. 13-16, Mon.-Thurs.** - Primary Camp, entering 3rd-4th grade
- **Aug. 17-19, Fri.-Sun.** - Men's Advance
- **Sept. 3, Mon.** - District Office closed
- **Sept. 3, Mon.** - LABOR DAY
- **Sept. 6, Thurs.** REGION #2 -10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **Sept. 8-9, Sat.-Sun.** - 125th Anniversary Celebration, Hoodview Church of God, Woodburn
- **Sept. 14-16, Fri.-Sun.** - Christian Women Connection Fall Retreat
- **Sept. 20, Thurs.** - REGION #4 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **Sept. 25, Tues.** - REGION #3 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **Sept. 27, Thurs.** - REGION #5 - 12:00 p.m.
- **Oct. 1-31** - PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH
- **Oct. 9, Tues.** - REGION #1 - 12:00 p.m.
- **Oct. 19, Fri.** - Camp White Branch Fundraising Dinner - 6:30 p.m.
- **Nov. 1, Thurs.** - REGION #2 - 10:00 a.m.- 12 p.m.
- **Nov. 4, Sun.** - Daylight Savings Ends
- **Nov. 15, Thurs.** - REGION #4 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:p.m.
- **Nov. 22-23, Thurs.- Fri.** - District Office closed
- **Nov. 22, Thurs.** - THANKSGIVING DAY
- **Nov. 27, Tues.** - REGION #3 - 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Nov. 29, Thurs.** - REGION #5 - 12:00 p.m.
- **Dec. 24-25, Mon.-Tues.** - District Office closed
- **Dec. 25, Tues.** - CHRISTMAS DAY
- **Jan.1, 2019, Tues.** - New Year's Day—closed
- **Apr.2-4, 2019, Tues.-Thurs.** - W.A.R.M.



Attend one of Two Remaining Regional Conventions 2018



Sept. 18–19, 2018



Sept. 25–26, 2018

See www.jesusisthesubject.org

For more events, see orwacog.org/calendar