



Association of  
the Churches  
of God  
in Oregon and  
Southwest  
Washington

**Check out Summer  
Celebration Photos**  
(throughout this issue)



# CONTACT

August 2014

E-Contact Vol. 2 Issue 8

## Summer Celebration: 121st Campmeeting

A July 1944 article from the *Woodburn Independent* records Church of God Campmeetings as estimated at half a century old. That was 70 years ago. Transitioning from Campmeeting to Summer Celebration, the July 2014 event convened at the Warner Pacific College Campus July 20-23—tagged the 121st annual gathering.

The three-day celebration was packed with music, prayer, fellowship, snacks, and great speakers with good, challenging messages to the Church. Attendance was good, and once again the youth made their presence known, sitting together during evening services in a reserved section of McGuire.

Pastor Ken and Keli Oldham shared of life in Egypt, and spoke of loving the Church by exalting Jesus. Mt. Scott's Youth Pastor Aaron Walton emphasized *hope*—"stronger, always and more". Ben Sand, whose passion is outreach, spoke of looking for Jesus in our communities, where least expected; and Jenny Marble, scooter-free, used a bag of colorful gummy bear candies

(Continued on page 2)



## Men's Advance: Extreme Camp Makeover

Men of the Church of God will check-in at 4 p.m. Friday, August 22, to enjoy dinner and some free time, as they kick off the 2014 Men's Advance. The weekend event will include devotions, sessions, projects and free time, and concludes Sunday morning following a time of communion and fellowship on the main deck.



The speaker for the event, Rev. Bruce Steffensen, holds a doctorate from George Fox University in Spiritual Formation and Leadership. Steffensen has served on

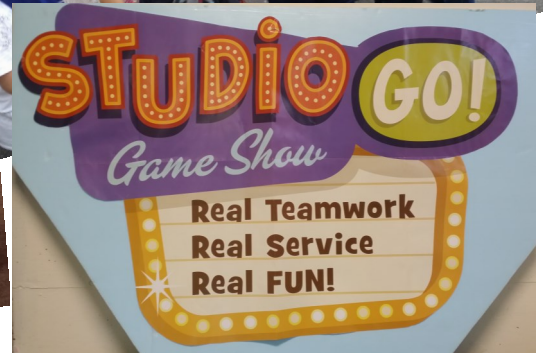
staff with the Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington, and as an adjunct professor at Warner Pacific College. He and his wife, Debi, planted New Life Christian Fellowship in Mariposa, CA, in 1994, where they served for 14 years before moving to Portland, OR, in 2008.

Cost for the weekend is \$75 if pre-registered and postmarked by August 8, or \$85 at the door. Make checks payable to Oregon Men of the Church of God, and send to Mark Gebler, 300 Nelson Lane, Gladstone, OR 97027. If questions, e-mail [menofthechurchofgod@gmail.com](mailto:menofthechurchofgod@gmail.com).



## Summer Celebration: 121st Campmeeting... *(Continued from page 1)*

to make her point about the Church: Holiness and perfection = Love God and neighbor. Meanwhile, kids experienced "Studio Go!" with Wade Winalot; and Youth, enjoying an extended 5-day event, took a trip to the beach Wednesday, leaving a noticeable gap in McGuire Hall seating. Pictures are worth 1,000 words. Enjoy!





# Summer Celebration: Great Worship Music



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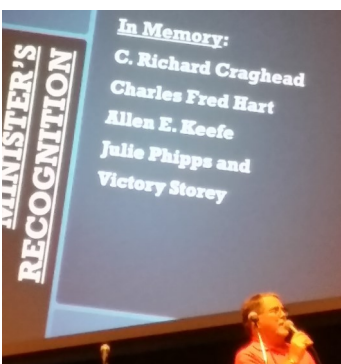
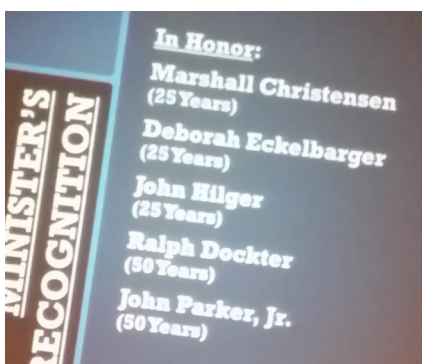


# Summer Celebration: *Ministers' Day*

Ministers met for business and credentials information Wednesday morning, with Ministerial Fellowship Chair Linda Tucker-Bays, Executive Director Rev. David Shrout, and Credentials Chair Monica Monroe.

Ruth Ann Yerden and Julie Jackson were recognized in an ordination service Wednesday evening. Ordained pastors serving 50 years (Ralph Dockter and John Parker, Jr.) and 25 years (Deborah Eckelbarger) were honored, along with their spouses, for their faithful service: Also honored were ministers who passed away this past year.

Bruce Steffensen and his wife Debi were honored for their service to the Association, with a special reception following Wednesday evening's worship service.





# Summer Celebration: Great Speakers



Ken & Keli  
Oldham



Aaron Walton



Ben Sand



Jenny Marble



Randy Archer

You are cordially invited to attend the **INSTALLATION SERVICE** for Rev. Randy Archer at Lents-Gilbert Church of God, 12230 SE Harold St., Portland OR 97236. August 24, 2014 @ 3:30 pm. Ice cream & dessert will be served in the basement following the service.







WPC alumni and friends enjoyed a dinner in the gym. President Andrea Cook expressed appreciation for the support of the Church of God Association. Youth hit the beach for volleyball and campfire, and participated in the Service Day projects in the City.





# Senior Moments

by Ruth Bissett, Salem, OR

Yes, we had some awesome senior moments at camp meeting (Summer Celebration)! I want to personally thank each one who was able to come and participate in any or all of the activities especially planned for you seniors!

More information will be coming in future issues of The Contact, but here is a brief run down on the events. On Monday, **Martin Shrout**, pastor of the Holliday Park Church of God, shared on "Sing an old hymn in a new way." He started with some of the history of music within the church. It was of interest to me that the all-time favorite Christmas song, Joy to the World with words by Isaac Watts, was not written as a Christmas song. Words

were added at a later time that added the Christmas message. Based on Psalm 98, it was written referring to the Second Advent or the end of the ages. So, when you sing it, listen for words that express that message.

On Tuesday, **Jenny Marble**, Associate Pastor at Friendly Street Church of God in Eugene, spoke to us on the subject of "Why does God allow evil/ suffering in our world." From her own experience with the challenging Chrohn's disease at a young age, her bottom line message to us is that God is our comforter in times of grief and suffering.



Wednesday started with **Ellie Pierson-Sutter**, former pastor of the Aloha Church of God, being vulnerable and sharing the many bumps and challenging experiences of her life. The topic she was assigned was "God Will See You



Through." I will add that "God is seeing her through" and He will see each of us through so let Him lift you up.



Our next event on Wednesday was the "All Day Song and Dinner on the Grounds." This began with the **Lighthouse Quartet** blessing us with their inspiring music. There was a lot of hand clapping and foot stomp music! A few locals shared in the All Day Sing. Then there was the "Dinner on the Grounds" Over 60 people enjoyed this old fashioned picnic with chicken, potato salad, green beans, salad, rolls and old fashioned peach cobbler. Yum! Yum! Thank the Lord we planned an indoor picnic as it poured down rain!

I thank the Lord for each one who made these activities happen. You know who you are and God knows!

Here's a heads up! Next year the plan is for a Heavenly Event! I would invite any suggestions or input on this. Also, at least one of our topics next year will be the subject of heaven. I hope that this topic is of interest to you. We're all going there I trust so hopefully we can learn what the Bible says on the subject as opposed to what the world may be saying. "See" you next time!

## Summer Celebration: Good Times



## Upcoming Events

**Senior High Camp** - Monday, August 4, 2014 - Friday, August 8, 2014 - All Day

**Men's Advance** - Friday, August 22, 2014 - Sunday, August 24, 2014 - All Day

**Labor Day**—Sept. 1—District Office Closed.

**Christian Women Connection Prayer Retreat** - Friday, September 12, 2014 - Sunday, September 14, 2014 - All Day

**District Council Retreat**—Sept. 21-22, All Day

**Clergy Appreciation Month** - Wednesday, October 1, 2014 - Friday, October 31, 2014 - All Day

**L.A.M.P. Writing Workshop**—October 2, 2014, 10am-3pm

**How To Convention** - Saturday, January 31, 2015  
8:30 am - 3:00 pm

**Ministers & Spouses' Retreat** - Monday, February 2, 2015 - Wednesday, February 4 2015 - Newport Agate Beach Best Western Inn.

## "PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS"

Worship & Singing

Fellowship & Dessert!

**Let's do it again at Rockwood COG**  
**Sunday, October 19 at 6pm.**

133 NE 192nd Avenue, Gresham, OR  
(between Glisan & Stark)



# Look to the Hills

## Summer Camps Continue

Summer Camps at White Branch continue this month, with Senior High camp August 4-8. Introductory, Junior, Primary and Middle School Camps took place in July, with reports still coming in. A big THANKS to everyone who pitched in to make these memorable events! Pray that God will continue the good work begun in many lives touched at CWB.



## Greetings from Tanna

To All My Dear COG Family Members,

I just wanted to thank you all for your love, support and prayers through all the 8 1/2 years at CWB. Wayne and I have and always will love. You mean so much to me.

My Mom and I are living in Camas, Wash. now. It is nice here. I do miss my camps and the kids.

It was a pleasure and honor to have loved and served you all.

The new managers, Leonard and Stacey Meyers, are great. They are very loving and doing a good job.

I left it full of reservations for the summer and they are doing fine. They also have fire fighters in now. Pray for them. This is not an easy task; lots of hard work. Mel is helping them. He is pretty special. His love for the camp is above and beyond.

You can drop me a line any of

you, especially my kids: tannamiller11@gmail. Love to hear from you.

Remember my Mom, Helen Crenshaw in prayer. She is 89 years old, and has Chronic Kidney Disease and Alzheimer's. It is pretty rough. She amazes me. She is a trooper.

God Bless you all.  
Love, Tanna Miller,  
Retired Manager at CWB



*Waves of Grace*

"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." John 1:16 NRSV

2014 Church of God Women's Convention

Christian Women connection

Hilton Oceanfront Resort, Daytona Beach, Florida October 30 - November 2, 2014

Breakout Sessions	Speakers
<b>Defining Your Ministry</b> Erin Taylor	 Cynthia Thomas
<b>Healthy Boundaries</b> Donna Roddy	 Jeannette Flynn
<b>Old Fashioned Bible Study</b> Joy Sherman	 Carol Merritt
<b>New Connections: Revitalize your CWC</b> Holly Myers	 Mary Stephens
<b>Estudio de la Biblia</b> Mary Ann Garcia	
<b>Designed for You: The Needs of Young Women</b> Rachel McDuffe & Precious Earley	
<b>Serving the Community: Home Missions</b> Donna Rothenberg	
<b>Women Clergy: Then and Now</b> Cheryl Sanders	
<b>Sacred Memories: Caring for those with Alzheimer's</b> Patricia Bailey	
<b>Get the Word Out: Technology &amp; Ministry</b> Mary Baker Boudissa	
<b>Sister to Sister: Ages 13-19</b> Dee Edmond	
<b>Men's Conference</b> Bill Jones	

Worship & Special Guests

 Leslie Parker Barnes  
Worship Leader

 Missionaries & International Delegates

 Qara: Women in Ministry & Mission

Special Events

 The Woman at the Well  
Myra Green & The Bible Alive Theater present  
*The Woman at the Well*

 R.D. CARPENTIER  
EXTRAVAGANZA!  
Banquet & Musical  
*The Ten Brides of Christ*  
arranged by Eubanks Productions

 Prayer Breakfast & Communion  
Ruth Ann Lambe, Bermuda Speaker

For more information or to register, visit us at [www.christianwomenconnection.org](http://www.christianwomenconnection.org)

## Christian Women's Connection Prayer Retreat



Carolyn Grice, of Rainier, Oregon, will serve as speaker for the Christian Women's Connection (CWC) prayer retreat at Camp White Branch, McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, September 12-14.

This year's theme is taken from Psalm 42-2a, "My soul thirsts for God, the Living God". Leading Worship will be Marva Adams, of Aloha, Oregon.

The three-day event begins with check-in at 3 p.m. with get-acquainted time and dinner before the 7:30 opening session. Saturday is a full day including a visit to the Hot Springs or free-time, and the event concludes with devotions and a brunch on Sunday. Registration forms are available online at <http://orwacog.org/events/christian-women-connection-prayer-retreat-2/>. Mail registration to Becky Sander, 12424 SE Bybee Blvd, Portland, OR 97236.



## Waves of Grace National Christian Women's Connection Event!

**Register on-line now!**  
**2014 Convention**  
**Daytona Beach, Florida**  
**October 30-November 2**  
**<http://www.Christianwomenconnection.org/2014-church-of-god-womens-convention.html>**

## Scappoose: School Clothing Exchange

Pastor Linda Tucker-Bays reports that Chapman Church of God in Scappoose, OR, made the local paper with news of their children's school clothing exchange project, August 16 from 2-5 p.m. and August 18 from 6-8 p.m.. Great community outreach project!



**MISSION STATEMENT:** "This Association exists to serve and empower affiliated churches and ministries to fulfill the call of Christ."

**VISION STATEMENT:** "To serve and empower by: coordinating ministries, providing guidance, giving encouragement, supplying information, and offering training, in order to enable churches and ministries to mature in holiness, unity, services and growth."