

Association of  
the Churches  
of God  
in Oregon and  
Southwest  
Washington

**Seminars & Training  
opportunities  
available**  
(See page 5)



# CONTACT

September 2014

E-Contact Vol. 2 Issue 9

## Christian Women Connection Prayer Retreat

Speaker Carolyn Grice, of Rainier, Oregon, will be featured at the Christian Women Connection (CWC) prayer retreat at Camp White Branch, McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, September 12-14. This year's theme is *PASSION*, and is based on Psalm 42:2a, "My soul thirsts for God, the Living God",

Carolyn attends the Rainier Community Church of God, where she serves as worship leader, board member, senior high Sunday school teacher and youth worker, and teaches for the Wednesday night Kids' program. A wife of 40 years, mother of three and grandmother of four, Carolyn loves children. She also manages a mini-storage facility.

Leading Worship will be Marva Adams, of Aloha, Oregon. Marva has attended the Aloha Church of God since 1985, where she has served as worship leader for 23 years. Along with her work at the church, Marva is the receptionist at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, OR. Married for 37 years, she loves spending time with her husband and family. They have three married children and seven grandkids. Marva is grateful for the many friends who have blessed their lives, and takes great pleasure in leading worship.

The three-day retreat begins with check-in at 3 p.m. Friday, followed by a get-acquainted time and dinner before the 7:30 opening session. Saturday is a full day including a visit to the

(Continued on page 2)



Carolyn Grice



Marva Adams

## Church Planting Conferences Available

Two Dynamic Church Planting International (dpci.org) training conferences are available in Salem, OR, November 9-11, in conjunction with leaders of the Oregon Pacific District Church of the Nazarene.

**1) Church Planting Essentials**— for those interested in discovering if Church Planting may be in their future. Pastors are also invited to this conference. Attendees will receive training on how to understand their community, develop a vision for their church, and how to create a team to help with that vision.

**2) Churches Planting Churches**— for Pastors and Church leaders who have

seen the vision of leading their church in helping to plant churches. Attendees will learn to answer fears and objections to church planting, determine the involvement of the mother church, develop a timeline for the new church, find resources needed to fund the daughter church, overcome common barriers in the new work, recruit a church planter and leadership, create their own personalized Vision-Involvement-Plan (VIP).

The conferences will be held at Oak Park Church of God, Sunday night through Tuesday afternoon. The cost is \$35. Register online @ [www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org).

# Christian Women Connection Prayer Retreat

(Continued from page 1)

Belknap Hot Springs or free-time, and the event concludes with devotions and a brunch on Sunday.

If you missed the August 30 registration deadline, registration for this time of fellowship, spiritually challenging teaching, rest and relaxation is \$95, and includes the \$10 late fee, lodging, all meals, and programming for Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Only able to attend Friday and Saturday? Your cost is \$70.

If you desire to spend Saturday afternoon soaking in the pool at Belknap Hot Springs that will be an additional \$7, payable on arrival at the Hot springs. You may wander the grounds at the Hot springs with no additional fee, while others are soaking.

Register online at <http://orwacog.org/events/christian-women-connection-prayer-retreat-2/>.

## What to Bring:

- Sleeping bag or bedding of your choice
- Pillow
- Towels and Toiletries (there is a shower in each cabin as well as near the pool)
- Warm jacket and walking shoes
- Bible and Notepad
- Table Games and Snacks to Share
- Great Expectations of:
  - Enjoying the great outdoors
  - Good food and Fellowship
  - Receiving inspiration from Carolyn



## Camp White Branch

61500 Old McKenzie Hwy, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413  
To contact campers: 1-877-822-3964

## Driving Directions:

Take exit 194A the Springfield exit. 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 7 miles to the camp, which is on the right.

Checks may be made payable to *Christian Women Connection*, and mailed 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>

**Waves of Grace**  
"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." John 1:16 nsv  
2014 Church of God Women's Convention  
Christian Women Connection  
Hilton Oceanfront Resort, Daytona Beach, Florida October 30 - November 2, 2014

**Breakout Sessions**  
Defining Your Ministry  
Healthy Boundaries  
Old Fashioned Bible Study  
New Connections: Revitalize your CWC  
Exodus de la Biblia  
Designed for You: The Needs of Young Women  
Rachel McChaffin & Precious Early  
Serving the Community: Home Missions  
Women's Change: Theology & Ministry  
Several Ministries: Calling you to serve with Alzheimer's  
Get the Word Out: Technology & Ministry  
Power to Sister: Ages 13-19  
Men's Conference

**Speakers**  
Cynthia Thomas  
Jeannette Flynn  
Carol Merritt  
Mary Stephens

**Worship & Special Guests**  
Leite Parker Barnes  
Missionaries & International Delegates  
Dana: Women in Ministry & Mission

**Special Events**  
Prayer Breakfast & Communion  
The Ten Tribes of Christ  
The Women of the Word  
Estimote Productions

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

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PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305 503-393-3510 or 800-873-7729 —[www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org);  
Rev. David Shrout, District Pastor—[dshrout@orwacog.org](mailto:dshrout@orwacog.org); Kay Tira, Editor—[contacteditor@orwacog.org](mailto:contacteditor@orwacog.org)

# Change the World

Jesus believed his disciples could change the world. We believe that too.

Have you ever observed a problem in the world and wondered why God hasn't done something about it? If there were one thing you could do to change the world, what would it be? How would you be a part of the solution?

The **Change the World Initiative** is designed to empower individuals and/or groups, within the Church of God, to launch new ideas that demonstrate the transformative power of Jesus, while directly impacting neighborhoods, cities and the world. We acknowledge that the Holy Spirit is constantly moving to redeem, reclaim, and restore what hell has stolen. In the midst of a turning point in the Church of God, it is critical that the people of the church pray, discern, and act upon what God is prompting in each corner of the Movement.

Church of God Ministries will award Change the World grants and provide various forms support to empower the people of the Movement to initiate specific visions that change the world.

Proposals may include a request for funds up to \$20,000.

Since entering the post of General Director in August 2013, Jim Lyon was given the mandate to facilitate substantive, sweeping, change across the Church of God Movement.

Several things are clear: (1) the Church of God cannot stay the present course (to do so will only facilitate decline), (2) change, consequently, must come; (3) change is difficult, even when welcome.

In April 2014, Church of God Ministries gathered a group of diverse, experienced, well-respected leaders—committed to innovation and change—to ask them to help inspire innovation in the Movement. Hence, the emergence of the Change the World Grant Initiative and the leadership of the Innovation Trustees.

Innovation Trustees:

Dr. Andrea Cook, Portland, OR  
Jorge Palacios, El Salvador  
Matt Anderson, Scottsdale, AZ  
Ken Love, Orlando, FL  
Jeremy Dixon, Inglewood, CA  
Daniel Dorman, Kitchener, Ontario  
Malcolm Tyree, Dallas, TX  
Dave Bish, DuBois, PA  
Carron Odokara, Detroit, MI  
Allan Hutchinson, Morehead, KY



The **Innovation Trustees** will function in two key areas over the course of their assignment:

- **Change the World Grant Evaluation:** The Innovation Trustees will review all submitted proposals and select proposals to be awarded and announced in January 2015
- **Team of Advisors for General Director:** For one year's time, the Innovation Trustees will serve as a team of advisors designed to provide the General Director, and his Executive Team, a strategic feedback loop as Church of God Ministries works to inspire dramatic change in the Movement.

The Church of God is filled with men and women— young and old—who are passionate about serving their community in the name of Jesus. Change the World has been launched to encourage brothers and sisters to take risks and be bold to launch new programs in communities across North America. Whether it is serving at-risk youth, families in need, or the elderly, we want to provide targeted funding to help get your idea off the ground!

All applications will be evaluated based upon the following selection criteria:

1. **Specific Need Being Addressed:** What specific need(s) will this idea seek to address? All ideas should articulate how targeted support will provide opportunity for your idea to come to life.
2. **Engaging the World in the Name of Jesus:** How does this idea both transform the community and embody the presence of Christ in the world? How do you envision people experiencing the love of Christ, as a result of this idea, in word and deed, action and articulation, presence and proclamation?
3. **Mobilizing People:** What opportunities does your idea provide for followers of Jesus to put their faith into action? What opportunities does your idea provide for community members to love their neighbors?
4. **Growth Plan:** What type of team is needed for your idea to work well? What is the timeline for growth? What does success look like?

Start your Change the World grant application today! Deadline for submissions: 11:59pm on September 15, 2014. Questions regarding purpose or process may be directed to Abby Knowles at [AKnowles@chog.org](mailto:AKnowles@chog.org).



# Warner Pacific Welcomes Record Number of Students



Warner Pacific College (SE Portland) welcomed a record number of 250 new freshmen

and transfer students to campus during the 2014 Welcome Weekend of August 23.

"We are excited that so many students selected Warner Pacific College for the next step in their educational journey," said Dale Seipp, Jr., vice president for enrollment and marketing. "We are eager to welcome each of these students to our community, to hear their stories, share in their dreams, and engage in a collaborative learning experience to help them flourish academically, socially, spiritually, and have great impact in their community."

Welcome Weekend is a time of transition for all new students. They leave the comforts of home and step

into a new and different world. The activities and informative sessions offered during the first official weekend as a college student are designed to engage new friendships, answer questions, alleviate anxiety, and build anticipation for their first class.

Students were also introduced to the College's four core themes: *Christ-centered, urban, diverse, and liberal-arts.*

While Warner Pacific's new students come from all over the Portland-metro area and the Pacific Northwest as well as from across the country and world, they all became Knights on Saturday evening. During a time-honored tradition full of pageantry, Dr. Andrea Cook, president of Warner Pacific College, bestowed the title of Knight on each and every new student.

Students also had a chance to explore Portland during Warner

Pacific's traditional "City Search" scavenger hunt Sunday afternoon.

Warner Pacific recognizes and embraces the diversity of their campus. During the weekend, students were exposed to more of the richness of multiculturalism, the connections made by joining a club, the encouragement from staff and faculty, the fullness of serving others, and the depth of commitment to ensuring every Warner Pacific student flourishes.

Seipp encouraged incoming students to fully engage in all activities offered during the orientation weekend.



## Senior Moments

by Ruth Bissett, Salem, OR

God is good...all the time! We have all heard this saying, "God is good" and responded with..."all the time." I just recently purchased a used car and must give God praise and say that God has shown His love for me in the details of this purchase. I also

praise Him for a smaller praise when I was given a like-new sweatshirt at a garage sale. It is important that we praise Him in all things-big, small and even the not-so-good times. A man from our church, **Doug Anderson**, recently found out he has a type of leukemia. He has such a positive attitude and is, in his words, "leaving it in God's hands." Although we know that it is in God's hands, we may express fear, grief, uncertainty, sorrow, or feel sorry for ourselves. Doug's attitude is that, if his time here is over, he is ready to go home to be with the Lord.

It was just such situations that **Ellie Pierson-Sutter** spoke of in her session at Summer Celebra-

tion, with "God Will See You Through." In the book entitled, Don't Waste Your Sorrows by Pastor Paul Billheimer, he stressed over and over again that we are never to compare our sorrows and sufferings to those of others because it's not the size or severity that matter to God, but our response to them.

Ellie's second premise was from a book by Oswald Chambers. His point was that all that we go through in life is not just to "teach us something", but rather to "make us something." That "something" is to be "made into or conformed to the image of God's Son!" Remembering this causes us to see the "bumps and challenges" in life in a different light and with a deeper meaning and purpose.

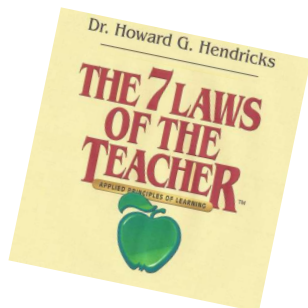
I will share more on this subject next time. Keep praising God in the good times and the bad times. "See" you next time.

Ruth Bissett, [ruthbissett@gmail.com](mailto:ruthbissett@gmail.com) or 503-798-1706

# Seminars and Training Opportunities Available

## The 7 Laws of the Teacher

Timeless principles of the late Dr. Howard Hendricks are captured on this DVD series. Anyone—high school age and up—currently teaching or interested in teaching will benefit from these seven essential principles which will forever change the teaching and learning experience.



The seminar, facilitated by Pastor Joe Tira, will be held at the First Church of God, 2335 46th Avenue, Longview, WA, September 26-27. It begins at 6 p.m. Friday until 9 p.m., and continues at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, concluding at 4 p.m.

Register today! Cost is \$25 and includes a workbook, Saturday's lunch, and snacks. Deadline is Sept. 9. Make checks payable to First Church of God, Longview, and mail to the church address.

## LAMP Writing Workshop

Held October 2, 2014, at the District Office in Salem, from 10:00 am-3:00 p.m., this conference, facilitated by Rev. David I. Shroul, will provide a working ability to use a powerful planning tool known as LAMP: *Life And Ministry Plan*.



Lunch will be provided. Sign-up online.

No charge.

## Narrative Preaching Conference

During the February Ministers Retreat at Newport's Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Rev. Dr. Jeff Frymire will lead a conference dealing with Narrative preaching—one of the most powerful ways of speaking to the hearts of all ages of people. This style is especially powerful with our 20- and 30-year-olds.

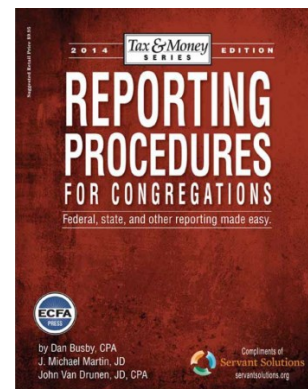


Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Newport, **February 2-4, 2015**. Deadline is January 2, 2015. *Online registration available soon!*

## Pacific NW Financial Integrity Conference

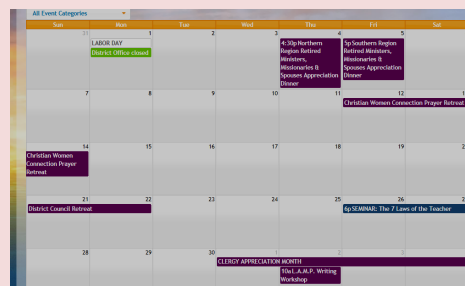
Guest speaker Dan Busby, CPA, will present a Financial Symposium Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Holladay Park Church of God. This is a gift from Servant Solutions.

All Pastors, Church Treasurers and key Lay Leaders are encouraged to attend this power-packed symposium to discover the best practices in handling the financial gifts that are given to the Church. Don't miss this opportunity. Register online at [www.orwacog.org](http://www.orwacog.org).



## Are you using the Web Site?

Check the CALENDAR option at [www.orwacog.org/calendar](http://www.orwacog.org/calendar). A simple click on a calendar date or event will direct you to more detailed information. A chronological listing of events is also included toward the bottom of the screen.



## REDEFINED: Leadership Summit



### Warner University Lake Wales, FL July 7-11, 2015

We are excited to announce **Leadership Summit 2015!** Leadership Summit is an incredible training ground for emerging leaders in high school and college.

We encourage youth and state pastors to bring their student leadership teams. Leadership Summit will be held July 7-11, 2015 in Lake Wales, Florida, at Warner University.

Regular pricing is \$240 before December 31, 2014, and \$280 for registrations received by April 29, 2015.

Special pricing for those who signed up with a \$50 nonrefundable deposit at IYC2014.

\$200 for churches or state student leadership teams that have never gone, with up to five registrations per church or team

\$220 for alumni churches or state student leadership teams, with up to five registrations per church or team

Find highlight videos from Leadership Summit 2013 at <http://emergingleaders101.com/?q=node/44>.

### "PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS"

Worship & Singing  
Fellowship & Dessert!

**Let's do it again at Rockwood COG  
Sunday, October 18 at 6pm.**

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

## NextGen Fund

For those interested in supporting Christians or refugees in the Middle East during these turbulent times, donations can be given to the NextGen Fund (project #42.30401), run by the Church of God team in the Middle East. Visit: [Jesusisthesubject.org](http://Jesusisthesubject.org)

## Upcoming Events

**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

**The 7 Laws of the Teacher**—Sept. 26-27, Longview, WA

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

**L.A.M.P. Writing Workshop**—October 2, 2014, 9am-3pm

**Church Planting Conferences** - Sunday-Tuesday, November 9-11, 2014

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

**Ministers & Spouses' Retreat** - Monday, February 2, 2015 - Wednesday, February 4, 2015 - Best Western, Agate Beach, Newport, OR (Registration deadline: January 2, 2015)

**Financial Symposium** - Saturday, March 28, 2015, Holladay Park COG

## BE BOLD Convention DVDs

DVDs from the Oklahoma City Convention are available for Order or Download. Find out how: <http://www.jesusisthesubject.org/be-bold-convention-videos/>





## Camp White Branch

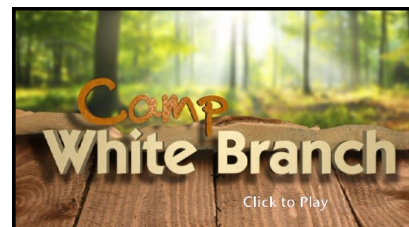
Camp White Branch Board Chairman, Mel Neu, reports that all of the summer camps went well, and says “I am very thankful for all of your work in making them a success.”

The next CWB Board Meeting will be on-site October 19, and 20, and will begin with dinner at 6:00 Sunday evening. “We will have a time after dinner to bring everyone up to date of what is happening at camp,” says Neu. “By then we should be able to do a walkthrough of our new building. As of now it is supposed to begin construction on the last week of September.”

August 18, a Forest Service representative provided training regarding wilderness use and regulations, for our off-premises activities. Camp directors were encouraged to attend the training.

Mel reports that CWB continues to make progress with the water system and State approval.

The annual CWB celebration and fundraising dinner will be hosted at Mt. Scott Church on Thursday evening, October 23, at 6:30. Contact Pastor Steve Dow for Capital Campaign updates.



## COG Students support Spread The Word

*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’*

—Romans 10:13–15

Did you know?

- There are over 7 billion

people in this world.

- Over 4 billion people have never discovered a personal relationship with Christ.
- Nearly 3 billion have never even heard the name of Jesus.
- Every week over 1 million people die—the majority of whom have never heard of Jesus’ sacrifice for them.

**Goal:** Spread The Word is a North American missions avenue to enable youth to spread the Kingdom around the globe through

financial giving.

**Focus:** Spread The Word gives specifically to tools for evangelism.

This includes: cars—vans—trucks—buses—motorcycles—bicycles—boats—boat motors—trailers—tractors—four wheel drive vehicles—planes—handheld sound systems—portable PA systems—audio cassette duplicators—tape editing equipment—projectors—microphones—videocassette duplicators—mules—oxen and carts—camels—printed evangelistic materials.



This could also include special projects with youth emphasis, such as youth centers etc., or other ministries that are having an enormous impact on world evangelism.

A report on July’s IYC notes that Church of God students raised \$64,000 for STW! Great job! Check it out at <http://chognews.org/2014/07/08/iy2014-brings-lives-intune-with-holy-spirit/>.

**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.”