

Association of the Churches of God in Oregon and Southwest Washington

### More than just a playground

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# COG Unleashed for 'Greater Works'

by Carl Stagner, Church of God Ministries

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Daring to do something about racial reconciliation, champion those far from God, challenge the status quo, or lift up Jesus over all other subjects, the Church of God was inspired Wednesday, April 18, to reclaim what hell has stolen. It didn't matter that the sermons stung a bit; truth can hurt, and we needed to hear the truth. It didn't matter that a Church of God Ministries employee missed the first session of the morning; he

encountered a homeless man, was compelled to

pray with him, and took the time to purchase the T-shirts he was in need of. It didn't matter that students from the school across the street from the convention host church hung out on church property, inside and out, after the dismissal bell rang; those students need Christ, and they've learned they're more than welcome at



Don Wilson challenged and inspired on Wednesday night (Day 2 of Regional Conference, Phoenix).

Mountain Park Church—even when a convention is taking place.

Radical. Bold. Life-giving. By word, example, and experience, the closing day of the first 2018 Regional Convention will no doubt continue to give life to those who attended.

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## Woodburn Hosts Annual Scholarship Concert

by Pastor Steve Kufeldt, Woodburn, OR

Hoodview Church of God in Woodburn will host the Annual David M. Dougherty Scholarship Concert on Sunday evening, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. This benefit concert continues the legacy of former Hoodview Church pastor Dave Dougherty, who had a passion to help young people achieve their educational dreams. What started originally as a basketball free-throw fundraiser, in which Pastor Dougherty would make 95 shots (or better) out of 100 free throws, as Pastor Dave's health worsened, the fundraiser transformed into another of his passions—music. This annual event has now provided scholarships to at least 42 recipients over the past 23 years. This year's concert will feature local favorites Roger & Nancy Wilhite along with musicians from Hoodview Church of God. The concert is free but a free-will offering will be received to support the David M. Dougherty Scholarship Fund. A time of refreshments will follow. For more information, call 503-981-1660 or visit the church web site at *www.hoodviewchurchofgod.com.* 

# COG Unleashed for 'Greater Works'

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Following an excellent time of worship through song, led by the worship team of Scottsdale, Arizona's McDowell Mountain Church, Allan Fuller took the stage. The host pastor of the thriving Mountain Park Church shared many of his insights from twelve years of pastoring one of the Southwest's most innovative and thriving churches. Jo Anne Lyon, ambassador for the Wesleyan Church, rounded out the morning, and Jeff Whye, former IYC emcee and current associate pastor at Central Christian Church in Mesa, Arizona, started the afternoon off just right. Don Wilson, founder of Christ's Church of the Valley, offered the closing message of the convention. The following are a few guotes from the day (For more, hear their messages in person at one of the four remaining Regional Conventions: www.chogconvention.org).

- "The thing no other organization in this world can offer besides the church is life!" —Allan Fuller
- *"If we truly believe in the power of the Holy Spirit, we need to act on it!"* —Jo Ann Lyon
- "When was the last time we did something so bold it defied the odds and relied on the Holy Spirit?" —Jeff Whye
- *"Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors, RELEASE all the people!"* —Don Wilson



Convention crowds in the lobby at Mountain Park.

CWC's luncheon was a popular event, as well, on Wednesday, and featured Glendale, Arizona's next generation pastor Kayla Harden. The W.A.R.M. (Western Area Regional Ministerium) dinner and meeting was also well attended, and featured special music from Nueva Vida Church of God in Glendale. A town hall meeting was also hosted by the chair of the Table on Race and Reconciliation.

Common themes of the day, including boldness and risk-taking, were also emphasized in worship. The closing song reminded all of us not only that Jesus is the subject, but that we now owe him everything. "Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe." We can do "greater works," as Jo Anne Lyon asserted, but we have to be willing to sacrifice everything, including comfort and certainty, for the adventure God has for us.



Sunset over Mountain Park on Wednesday.

An Arizona sunset accompanied the close of the first Church of God Regional Convention. Though the beauty faded with the night sky, promise of a new day coming strengthened the gathered Church of God. As pastors and lay leaders return home from #LifePhoenix, our prayer is that they will have received, heard, and embraced the fullness of life only Jesus offers.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." —John 10:10 NIV

## Attend one of Three Remaining Regional Conventions 2018





Sept. 18-19, 2018



June 19–20, 2018

Sept. 25-26, 2018

# How's Your Scorecard? by Pastor Jerry Davisson



In last month's article I wrote about my observations regarding the state of the churches in our Association. I shared how many of them are plateaued or in decline. I realize however, attendance is

Rev. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor

not the only measure of health. Too often in the church, especially pastors look at attendance numbers as the primary indicator of whether we are doing the right thing. The main way we "keep score" in the church is by measuring the three B's, buildings, budgets and butts (in the pews). This is partly because these are easy to measure. The problem is these three measurements are not always a good indicator of a church's health. Almost any church can attract a crowd with the right incentive. I read of one church that gave away a Harley Davidson motorcycle to the person who sat in a particular seat on a special Sunday. Not a very spiritual motivation for attending church.

According to Brad Brisco, in his e-book, Rethink, these three matrixes do not always give us a real good indication of how a church is doing in terms of its mission. They don't tell us what impact we are making in our community or our individual neighborhoods. Brisco states, "We need to do less counting and more measuring." He explains, "Counting is giving attention to numbers. When counting, the question to be answered is: 'How many?' It is quantitative". On the other hand, "measuring is giving attention to change. When measuring, the question is not about 'How many?' but rather about 'How far?' Conversations about 'How far?' are frequently about the change that can be measured over a particular time, as in, 'How far have we come over the past year?' Measuring is about qualitative change. Has the quality of something changed over time?' In other words, has something gotten better, or worse, since the last time we measured?" It is true, counting give us an indication that something has changed. However,

counting numbers doesn't always give us a good indication of how we are doing in terms of our missional life. I would argue we need to change our scorecards as we move forward.

Brisco goes on to say, "In the context of the church, measuring is about determining transformational change (discipleship) in both people and in the neighborhoods where we live. Ask yourself, 'What changes would you like to see in the lives of the people, but also in the life of your community?' That is an outcome. But then ask the follow-up question, 'What will it take to get to that place?' Then begin to ask measurement questions toward that change. 'How will we know if we are making progress in the right direction?' 'What will we measure' to determine transformational change?"

What would this change look like in our personal lives? Using prayer as an example, rather than counting the number of hours spent in prayer for the needs in the church, what could be accomplished if we measured the amount of time we spend praying for our community and neighborhoods. Reggie McNeal in his book, *Missional Renaissance*, states, "imagine what would happen if the prayer scorecard shifted to supporting and reflecting an externally focused ministry agenda." I believe our mission is to help people become disciples of Jesus and to see our communities flourish. How might our mission be hastened by recalibrating our prayer life to be less church-centric and more Kingdom-biased?

Brisco states, "what gets measured gets done and what gets measured gets repeated." What are some things we could measure in our prayer life that could lead to community transformation? How about if we measured the number of people being prayed for outside the church walls and the impact that had on their lives. We could also measure the number of prayer walks taken in our city and neighborhoods or the number of community prayer gatherings we host.

Prayer is just one area we could change our scorecard to shift from simply supporting a membership culture to developing a missional culture. If we are going to impact the communities around us, we are going to need to make a change in the things we measure. How could we change our scorecards to make them more Kingdom focused? As we measure our facility resources (buildings) we

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## How's Your Scorecard?

#### (Continued from page 3)

could measure the use of our facility by outside organizations we are building relationships with, knowing Kingdom impact doesn't just happen by allowing others to use our building. We could also create uses for our facility that could be a blessing to our community. For example, we could open an art gallery or coffee shop. In terms of our budgets, we could measure how much of our resources are going toward community transformation and missional engagement. How about our people resources (butts)? We could monitor the number of hours our people volunteer with schools and community service agencies. According to McNeal, we could also "count the spiritual conversations and intentional acts of blessing" we engage in with those outside the church.

If we are going to see our churches take on a more missional posture, we need to change our scorecard to reflect our desire for missional engagement. Remember, what gets measured gets done and what gets measured gets repeated.

### Crossings Community Welcomes Movement Back for 2018 Regional

#### by Carl Stagner, ChoG Ministries

The first Church of God Regional Convention of 2018 has come and gone, but the impact is still being felt by those who descended upon the desert Southwest last week. For several days, social media was abuzz with pictures and posts from the event, giving people across the country a glimpse of what these events have to offer. Beginning Tuesday, April 24, for much of the Church of God, especially those in the central region of the country, the "Receive, Hear, Embrace Life" experience will come into full view. A tremendous lineup of speakers and worship leaders are slated to inspire, challenge, and equip pastors and laypeople to reclaim what hell has stolen in their cities and towns. Crossings Community Church in Oklahoma City is perfectly suited to open their doors, once again, for another life-giving gathering of the Church of God.

When the Church of God in the United States and Canada first convened in Oklahoma in June 2014, it was both history, and history in the making. After more than a century of meetings in Anderson, Indiana, the Movement returned to its roots—in Oklahoma, that is. When historians Dale Stultz and Doug Welch released the groundbreaking book The Gospel Trumpet Years in 2011, we learned that the totality of what we thought we knew about Church of God history was only *part* of the story. Besides the kingdom contributions of Mary Cole to the formation of the Church of God, many of which predated D. S. Warner, Oklahoma was a foundational setting for ministry among pioneer leaders like Nora Hunter, John Morrison, and Lena Shoffner Matthesen. Names like Dale Oldham, H. M. Riggle, Herb and Lola Thompson, Steele Smith, Lawrence Chestnut,

and Chuck and Donna Thomas also have considerable Oklahoma connections.

Today, not only is Oklahoma home to Mid-America Christian University, but it is also home to one of the largest and most influential Church of God congregations anywhere: Crossings Community Church. Led by senior pastor Marty Grubbs for the past thirty-one years, the flock of more than 7,000 is the source of a wide array of transformative ministries touching the city, state, country, and world for Jesus Christ. As his biography states, "Driven by the foundational and ever-relevant elements of the church in Acts 2, Marty inspires his congregation to live out their mission statement: to be a Christcentered church committed to live by faith, to be a voice of hope, and to be known by love." Guests from across the country this week have the chance to worship, learn, and grow in a place where transformation and dynamic ministry is neverceasing.

Indeed, Church of God guests of the second 2018 Regional Convention will enjoy sitting under the teaching of Pastor Marty Grubbs. Other staff will offer electives in the afternoon, affording convention-goers the opportunity hear directly from persons on the front lines of their influential church. Regional guest speaker Don Wilson from Phoenix will speak again, as will Jo Anne Lyon, Jeff Whye, and Jim Lyon. On Tuesday, Ben Hardman and Gravity Leadership will conduct a discipleship training seminar and Jim Lyon will offer the opening message.

# More than Just a Playground

by Pastor Robin Brooke, Hillsboro, OR

Valley Hope Community Church is proud to reveal the new playground and dinosaur slide restoration. The neighborhood around Valley Hope includes more than 150 low income apartments. People regularly seek places to take children to play. Providing a safe, inviting place is one way we can reach out to meet needs in our community.



For 15-20 years, the dinosaur slide has been a landmark in the community, and has been loved by many people of all ages. The dinosaur renovation took about 5 weeks of work. Pastor Robin Brooke learned to be a "dinosaur surgeon," using foam fill and shaping, sanding, fiber-glassing, and painting, repairing holes, reconstructing missing toes, and giving a facelift. There was a rumor that Pastor Robin and the dinosaur were officially dating, but that was false. He is a young dinosaur and what he really wanted was to be adopted by Robin and husband Trevor, who spent many hours assisting on the project.

In addition to dinosaur restoration, the old play equipment needed to be replaced, so it was time for a major project. Instead of a play area in the grass and mud, a defined area was created. The ground was leveled, weed barrier and retainer edges installed, cedar chips added, and new play structures were assembled. We received construction help from a boy scout troop, un-churched neighbors, a public/ home school that rents from Valley Hope, and many people from the church. To raise funds we had a community event in September, 2016, with assistance from neighbors, friends, the school that rents from Valley Hope, and the Minidoka Swing Band. We have had an ongoing bottle and can drive which is supported by the above groups plus a Hispanic church that rents from Valley Hope.

During the initial fundraising event, we made many new young adult friends. Trevor and Robin Brooke began inviting young adults to their home for pizza and table games a couple of times per month. Last summer they went boating and water skiing with the Brookes. Now several of those young adults attend Valley Hope, assisting with nursery, PowerPoint, playing drums, playing bass and running the sound board.

While working on the renovation part of the project, Robin shared pictures with people in the community and came across several who had fond memories of the dinosaur to tell. It became a conversation starter with people in stores and neighbors who pass by. Four new people have received Jesus as Lord and the family attends church now, because of the relationships built during the project.



Thank you to each one of you who helped! I am hesitant to list names because I could not remember everyone, but EACH of you is a BLESSING! This has been a long and wonderful journey, made successful by the many, many people who helped. Now, the church, the groups who rent the church, and the neighborhood are all blessed to have this beautiful area to welcome people so we can share God's love.

The E-CONTACT is a publication of the Church of God in Oregon and SW Washington PO Box 18000, Salem, OR 97305 503-393-3510 or 800-873-7729 <u>www.orwacog.org</u> Rev. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor Kay Tira, Editor—<u>contacteditor@orwacog.org</u> Submissions and news items for publication consideration are encouraged by the 15th of each month.

# Look to the Hills: Camp White Branch

The Camp White Branch Board met Tuesday, April 10, at the District Office in Salem, OR, to discuss budget and business items.

Then it was on to the Camp, Mel Neu reports, where he woke up to a white world, with hopes of warmer weather and no rain. Leonard just about has the remodeling done in the Dining Hall. The kitchen, washing room, and storage room have new flooring and other improvements. "I really appreciate all the work he has done there," notes Mel, who has been working along with Duane on sheet-rocking in the new building.



"Duane is taping and fixing some of the mistakes of the sheet rock hangers. I have been finishing putting in the small pieces around the floors and other places. I almost have all of the sheet rock up. Now Duane can finish the taping and texturing. We have contractors gearing up to come up and hang the fire wall doors so we can get the final fire wall inspection. The floor heat contractor will be up in a few weeks to finish hooking the pipes. We have some painters coming up to paint the upstairs and prime the downstairs. The guys will be up soon to do the concrete work on the back deck. Things are

beginning to take shape."

Mel adds "Please pray that things will all happen to get this little project done. "







### Summer Camps

• July 6-8, Intro camp, Jackson, \$165 (Deadline June 22)



- July 9-13, Senior High (9th-12th grades), Effingham; \$250, includes rafting (Deadline June 25)
- July 16-20, Junior (5th & 6th grades), Kuykendall, \$180 (Deadline July 2)
- July 30-August 3, Middle School (7th & 8th grades), Beisley, \$205
- August 13-16, Primary (3rd & 4th grades), Graham, \$170

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

# **Certified Lifeguard Needed**

This year marks Pastor Julie and RJ Jackson's 12th year as directors for an Introductory Children's Camp, an event for 2nd and 3rd graders and their same-sex parent. The Intro Camp is held every summer for a weekend at Camp White Branch in McKenzie Bridge, OR., to familiarize the young campers and prepare them to attend subsequent years with confidence. The swimming pool has been a highlight of all the camps. See *http:// www.campwhitebranch.org/* 

The State of Oregon now requires the on-duty presence of a certified lifeguard when the Camp White Branch pool is in use, even though attended by directors, counselors, or parents. The Jacksons are looking for a certified lifeguard for at least Saturday afternoon, July 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. for the traditional Introductory Camp swimming event. For this service, room and meals will be provided in lieu of payment.

Camp White Branch is a beautiful retreat setting. Without a lifeguard on duty, the pool will not be open for campers this year. If you know of a certified lifeguard interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Julie Jackson at 503-252-0272.



### Willamette Valley Campmeeting August 5-9

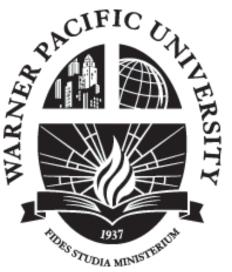
Enjoy a week of great worship, dynamic preaching and lots of fellowship at the Third Annual Willamette Valley Campmeeting on the grounds of the Oregon Christian Convention in nearby Turner. Michael Thigpen, Lead Pastor of Celebration Church at Arrow Heights in Anderson, IN, will be our guest speaker. We also will be joined by the youth from our District churches. It is shaping up to be a great week. Don't miss it! Registration opens on May 14. If you plan on staying overnight at the Oregon Christian Convention site, be sure to reserve your place on the district website (*www.orwacog.org*).

# Warner Pacific becomes a University

Warner Pacific College is now Warner Pacific University. The new name more accurately reflects the growth and development that Warner Pacific has experienced in recent years.

The change recognizes increased academic programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Becoming Warner Pacific University will also clarify the position of the institution to international students and those whose language of origin is not English, where 'college' often refers to high school or secondary level education.

Established as Pacific Bible College in 1937 by the Church of God (Anderson, IN) in Spokane, Washington, this is not the first major identity change for the institution. The school moved to Portland in 1940 and became Warner Pacific College in 1959. For nearly a decade, Warner Pacific has been recognized for a commitment to diversity in higher education, with 63 percent of students coming from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds.



Warner Pacific University serves undergraduate and graduate students at campuses throughout Portland and Southwest Washington, as well as online. The University offers over 30 career-focused majors that prepare students with the confidence and skills they need to use their education to make a difference for their family and their community. On April 15, 2018, the Albany First Church of God watched as our pastor of 16 years, Rev. Steve Dow, preached his last sermon for us. We held an evening of celebration and thanks as we all packed into the basement, had a wonderful meal and reminisced. Rev. Dow is retiring, and moving on in his ministry to serve at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice as a Chaplain. We'd like to express our gratitude for his many years of service, and pray blessings upon his next endeavors and those he will touch.



Left: Pastor Steve Dow with his wife, Kathy; Right: Prayers of blessing; Below: Reception and Reminiscing



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# Poplar Bluff, Missouri: Capacity Crowds Require a Coliseum

by Carl Stagner, ChoG Ministries



Worship on Easter at the Black River Coliseum (credit: Nico Cuevas)

Last Easter, West Side Church of God in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, welcomed a crowd of about 640 people between two services. With average attendance running 17 percent higher this year than last, they expected about 750 people to be present on April 1. Leadership had to prepare for sufficient seating and ample parking, all of which could not be found at their facility. As they dreamed of the possibilities, they concluded that capacity crowds would require booking the local coliseum for their Easter gathering. Good thing they did—some 1,400 people showed up! That's especially remarkable when you consider the church had declined to just 25 people less than four years ago.

So, how did they grow, and so fast? "I get this question a lot, and it is very hard for me to answer," Pastor Jason Jordan explains. "There really isn't any 'secret sauce,' but we are desperate for the Spirit of God to do something. G. Campbell Morgan once said, 'We cannot make revival, but we can set our sails to catch the wind from heaven when it blows.' That's what we're trying to do. Our average attendance now between two services is up to about 380 to 400. We have a deep commitment to the scriptures at West Side; people would be surprised how traditional or liturgical our services really are. At the end of the day we want to see Jesus magnified through song, sermon, or sacrament." Jesus is the subject! Actually, it's not about the numbers for Jason. He recognizes that growth, especially fast growth, isn't always a good thing. "Not all growth is good," Jason explains. "I mean, a tumor is growth, but that's not good! We want health to precede growth." The spike in attendance they've seen since Easter was a byproduct of their event at the Black River Coliseum, but certainly not the goal. "Now we're focusing on the level of care we can provide our people and multiply our small groups. We are switching our attention from addition to multiplication."

The move to the Coliseum for Easter Sunday was a risk West Side Church knew they had to take, and now they're celebrating the spiritual payoff. Many accepted Christ for the first time, and the Spirit moved in a powerful way as families came forward en masse for Communion.



Jason Jordan preaching at the Coliseum on Easter (credit: Nico Cuevas)

But the moment that lives on in Jason's mind is what happened *before* Easter. Taking the church's ministry operation off campus, while preparing for large crowds, is no small feat. The chance for the body of Christ to shine was presented to the congregation, and did they ever shine! "We had over a hundred volunteers help set up and organize teams," Jason recalls. "To see that many serve was a huge win for us."

As West Side Church of God continues to live out their purpose in Poplar Bluff, Jason insists that their

# Capacity Crowds in Coliseum

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prayer going forward and their mission remains the same. "We believe the Christian life is a life transformed by the gospel, experienced in community, and lived out for the glory of God and the good of our neighbors," he concludes. "We strive to achieve that by engaging people with the gospel, encouraging one another in community, and equipping disciples for mission."



Jesus is the subject for Pastor Jason (photo taken at West Side Church).

In Missouri, across North America, and around the world, God is on the move in the Church of God. Reach our world. Donate today at give.jesusisthesubject.org.



## Praise Report

Following a fractured hip, a bout with vertigo and time with rehab, we have received the following update from Dr. T. Allen Bethel.

I want to thank the entire district for your prayers and thoughts. Truly prayer is powerful and made a great difference in my two-month journey and continues to do so. I am at home now, learning how to walk again, taking a few steps and gaining strength daily. To God be all glory and praise! -Dr. T. Allen Bethel

# **District Pastors' Round Table**

Plans are underway for our Round Table on Sexual Ethics, Friday and Saturday, June 15-16, 2018.

Dr. Chris Cottrell will be facilitating our dialogue, and has recommended that in preparation for the meeting each person spend time praying and meditating on James 1:19, Acts 15 and Philippians 4:2-9. In addition, if you would like a better understanding of the process we will be using, pick up a copy of the book, *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High*, Second Edition, by Kerry Patterson and Joseph Grenny.

Please visit our website: https://orwacog.org/events/ sexual-ethics-mtg/ to register for the event and for more information. This is an important time in the life of our Association.

Note: Due to space limitations, this event is for district pastors and ministry staff.

- **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.



#### **PARKER, John Henry, Jr.** Aug. 12, 1933-Apr. 3, 2018

A Celebration of Life was held in honor of Rev. John H. Parker. Jr., Thursday, April 12, at Maranatha Church of God in Portland, Oregon, Rev. Parker. an ordained minister in the Church of God. was known for his smile and kindness. Loved ones describe him as a "man of quiet power. He just quietly served people every day." Other tributes tagged him as a "man



of action" and even "like Linc' of Mod Squad" in his ("Kevin liked Karen") jump-over-fence protective-dad -mode! A man of humor, honor, compassion and integrity, Rev. John Parker made a huge impact on his world.

Born in Arrow Rock, MO, August 12, 1933, to Lucille and John Henry Parker, Sr., John was reared in Omaha, NE. He served in the US Air Force, from 1953-1957, with an Honorable Discharge. In his preteen years, he was a Golden Glove Boxing Champ. He attended the Church of God in Omaha, and accepted the Lord as his savior at the age 16. He moved to Portland, OR, to attend Pacific Bible College (now Warner Pacific University) graduating with a Bachelor of Science in 1973.

John met and married Vivian Vernell Brown, January of 1959. They had eight children together and were married for 59 years. He along with his wife founded, Prison Ministries, Inc. in 1975. For the next 40+ years, he ministered to incarcerated men and women throughout the country, sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

John is preceded by his father, John Henry Parker Sr.; mother, Lucile Parker; sisters, Roberta "Brownie" Parker, Paula Janice Parker; and brother, Tolly Parker.

John is survived by wife, Vivian Parker; sons, Brent Parker, Gregory Bryan Parker, Jeffrey Anson Parker, Malcolm Reid Parker; daughters, Karen Lynn Parker, Sharman Gayle Lawson, Jonette Helene Phillips, Angela Allison Yoakum; brothers, Tyrone Parker, Gregory Parker; sisters, Brenda Harrison (William), Odessa Horton (Samuel); 16 grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and a host of extended family and friends.

Special Achievements/Recognitions:

- Citizen of the Year 10/26/1985 The Skanner
- Emerald Award 11/05/88 Zeta Sigma Omega Chapter
- Appreciation Award 06/19/1990 Eusi Umoja
- along with several other awards and accolades related to Prison Ministries over the years.

*Happy on earth; happier in Heaven.* Well done, John Parker. Thank you for your love and friendship through the years.

# 2018 District Calendar

- May 6, Sun., Scholarship Concert, Woodburn
- May 10, Thurs., Region #2
- May 13, Sun., Mother's Day
- May 17, 2018, Thurs., Region #4
- May 22, 2018, Tues., Region #3
- May 24, 2018, Thurs., Region #5
- May 28, 2018, Memorial Day, office closed
- June 4, Mon., District Council, Salem
- June 7, Thurs., Region #8
- June 15-16, 2018, Fri.-Sat., District Ministers' Round Table, Oak Park COG, Salem.
- June 17, Sun., Father's Day
- Summer Camps (See page 6)
- July 21, Sat., Assoc. Annual Business Mtg
- Aug 5-9, Willamette Valley Campmeeting, Turner, OR

For more events, see *orwacog.org/calendar*