

The Newsletter of the **Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren**  
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### Book Club to celebrate last meeting at the Kitchen Table

The OB Book Group has decided to retire. We were started by Jeanne Rempel about 15 years ago. We have read almost 150 books—mostly novels with a few non-fiction and a classic here and there. Have you read Moby Dick? We did!

Our official name, which is registered with the Seattle Public Library, is "Kitchen Table Book Group." We chose this because we have been holding our meetings at the kitchen table in the social hall for many years. We first started as the OV Church Book Group. We realized that a name change was necessary when the OV School Book Group (which was led at that time by Denise Fredrickson) accidentally took the

*The Kitchen Table Book Group at one of their many meetings. (From left; Betty DeBon, Dorothy Bollinger, Grace Edmark, Olive White and Carol Landis)*

book that was assigned to us and confusion reigned! Our apologies to you, Denise.

Present and past members of the Kitchen Table Book Group are:

- Dorothy Bollinger
- Betty DeBon
- Grace Edmark
- Stephanie Herkelrath
- Dorothy Johnson
- Carol Landis
- Jeanne Rempel
- Lois Thomsen
- Olive White

Our last meeting will be held Friday, August 15, 2014. Where? At the Kitchen Table, of course. So long!

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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PNWD Youth & Advisors  
at NYC!

## The Board Report: Living the Vision Together

July 15, 2014

*'Bearing witness to the radically transforming  
power of God's love'*

This is my third and final year to serve as Moderator and I continue to be impressed by what we can accomplish when we all work together. We have a strong team of people on the Board who are committed to serve, each in their own way. Roger Edmark as Board Chair, Bill Hershberger as Treasurer, Kristi Morris as Trustee, Charles Walker, Frosty Wilkinson, and Carol Landis as Board members, Bobbi Dykema as Youth Director and Jim and Goldie Barnes as Deacon Chairs. We will serve together until May 2015.

At our Board meeting in July Roger shared about a lesson he's learn from playing the game 'Gravity'. To win this game you have to be willing to take a risk. The message for us is that great risk can produce great reward. Big things have happened over the years at Olympic View Church and it's because people have been willing to take risks. Sometimes we will fail, but if we keep our focus on God, we will see the reward.

Here is a peek into what's going on in your church:

**1) Teachers and Leaders for Children and Youth:** Continuing to learn is important for all ages. Bobbi Dykema has agreed to lead the adult Sunday School class again in the fall. We need to provide that same opportu-

nity to our children and youth by supplying teachers and leaders for their classes. We have someone considering teaching the primary age class! Please pray that God will clarify this call. We still need a youth leader for the Sunday School time September. It doesn't have to be a commitment to teach all 9 months. Maybe it's a quarter, maybe it's being part of a team of leaders/teachers, once or twice a month. Could it be you? Could it be someone you know? Let's lift it up together trusting God to reveal who has the gift of ministry in this area.

**2) National Youth Conference:** By the time you read this we will be back from NYC. We couldn't have done it without each one of you, by your prayers and by your financial support! This has been a huge undertaking but we know the rewards will be equally as great in the lives of the Youth and the Advisors. And you have been a part of the opportunity for transformation in their lives. Thank you, thank you!!

**3) Finances:** God continually amazes us as we work to be good stewards of our finances and our facility. Last month we shared that our expenses have been greater than our giving. One among us decided to make their total pledge through the end of the year and consequently, the church is now experiencing a more comfortable cash flow. Thank you!

Here is what we need to keep our focus on:

- Keeping current with our personal pledges as we go through summer when giving traditionally falls off a bit
- Share with those we know that might be interested in a facility to host their meetings or rehearsals, etc. Show a welcoming spirit to our current community groups using the church.
- Consider ways to help with special projects or expenses that have occurred and are not in our budget. The Board is working on a new concept to help communicate those needs to you.
- *Some current items that fall into this category are the purchase of a new vacuum = \$425, organ repair = \$1159, carpet removal = \$432, carpet disposal = \$110.*

*(The Board Report, continued)*

**4) Camp Koinonia—August 10-16:** Camp is just around the corner and we have had a great response from kids wanting to attend. Because of the great interest, funds may be a little thin this year but scholarship money from the church and the District are available to make sure every child can go to camp. As an added bonus, the Youth Peace Travel Team will be at Summer Camp, an event that happens only every four or five years. If you know of someone that should be a part of the camp experience, let the office know. They can provide a registration brochure (they are on the counter in the office and on the website). Sign up now!

Thank you for ALWAYS stepping up when a need is presented. The funding for National Youth Conference has been a perfect example.

May we each look for God’s calling in some area in our church, stepping out and perhaps taking a risk, knowing that the blessings and the rewards are so much greater!

—*Sylvia Hershberger, Moderator*



## All-Church Work Party

*Saturday, September 6—9 am to 12 pm*

Come together and support our ministries by tending to some much needed work around our building and grounds. Chores will be available for volunteers of any and all abilities at the next OVCC Work Party!

Please contact the office, or check in with our Building Trustee, Kristi Morris if you have any questions.

*“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men...”*

— *Colossians 3.23*



*NYC Youth Sunday: The youth prepare to serve communion at worship on August 3.*



*Kate & Marigold Miller Rieman representing OVCC at the Maple Leaf Summer Social, July 30.*



## **BVS at Work: Weaving Empowerment**

### *Unión Victoria, Guatemala*

The women of Union Victoria are a strong and vigorous bunch. After suffering through the brutal atrocities of civil war and surviving for years in the mountainous wilderness to escape persecution, they and their remaining loved ones have resettled to the village of Unión Victoria. Here they have rebuilt a new life for themselves and their children. After 14 years of building with tenacity and communal spirit, the village now has a primary and secondary school, a health and dental clinic, and running water and electricity for all homes.

In addition to the generally elected leadership of the community, the women have organized a specific group to represent women's needs and interests in the community. Every two years they elect a new board of leaders and every month they hold meetings where all women can come together to discuss their current concerns and think of ways of advocating on behalf of themselves and their families' needs. Their current goal is to raise funds to build a permanent office where they can hold their meetings, safely store their archives and project materials, and also house the foot-loom they were recently granted, which will hopefully generate continued income and work for the community. Having a permanent structure within the village will be a symbol of the importance and centrality of women's work here.

The total cost of the project is \$4,000, but any amount of donation would be a much appreciated show of support. The weavings being sold for this fundraiser are all done by hand from women ranging from ages 14 to 83. They continue to use a traditional backstrap weaving method, sitting on the ground with the loom tied to a tree, using only sticks and strings to make their beautiful and complex creations. The colors and figures used all hold deeply traditional symbolism within the Mayan world—blue representing the sky, red the sunset, white the wind, and green nature, with depictions of ducks, horses, water jugs, and the beloved cornstalks which are so central to their lives. We hope these handicrafts will brighten your surroundings and remind you of the power of what people can accomplish together when they persevere as a community. As the women of Unión Victoria remind us, "a cord of three strands is not easily broken."

**Join us on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> for a special presentation during worship, along with the opportunity to purchase and order custom made items as gifts during fellowship.**

Any inquiries can be directed to Jessica in the office.



## CWS School Kits

*Assembly Line: Sept. 7—Rally Sunday!*

It's almost the first day of school again!

Do you remember the first day of school each year when you carried new school supplies to school, met new classmates and new teachers and maybe even had a new outfit to wear? You might not have slept very well the night before the big day because you were so excited. Church World Service's School Kits help with that first day of school for children around the world.

It's been a tradition for a number of years that members of our congregation purchase items for Church World Service School Kits in the months of July and August when prices for school supplies are lowest and assemble those kits in early September. This year, we'll have our assembly line on Rally Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, during Fellowship Hour. Everyone is invited to bring their school supply purchases to the church office by that date and to participate in the assembly line.

During the assembly line, items for School Kits are placed in cloth bags that are sewn according to a pattern from CWS. Making each bag requires 1/2 yard of child-friendly fabric. I am in need of people who sew to help make as many bags as we can for this year's kits. There will be printed pattern instructions in the Narthex for anyone who would like to help make bags. If anyone has cotton material at home that they have no use for, in patterns that are child-friendly, that's a great donation, too. In the past, our congregation has usually contributed enough items to make about 30 kits each year. Some years, we have had bags leftover from the previous year...but this year we don't have any. So if you sew, please consider helping with this part of the project.

The contents of each School Kit include:

- 3 – 70-page spiral notebooks per kit
- 1 – pair of blunt metal child scissors (rounded tip)
- 1 – 12" plastic ruler (no wooden rulers)
- 1 – hand-held pencil sharpener
- 1 – large eraser



*Church World Service School Kits give children in impoverished schools, refugee camps, or other difficult settings some of the basic tools for learning. Each year, CWS is able to collect supplies for thousands of children in need around the world, in nine different countries including the United States.*

- 6 – new pencils with erasers
- 1 – box of 24 count crayons (only 24, not boxes with more or less)

Check around for the best price on the items you'd like to contribute. You can drop them off in the church office at any time before the deadline date, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

If you don't sew and don't like to shop, monetary donations are always needed to purchase items to complete our kits and to contribute to the \$2.00 overseas shipping fee for each kit we send. In addition, we have to pay for shipping the kits from here to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Maryland.

Thank you all so much for your support of this outreach project within our church. With our combined efforts, many children will have happy smiles on their first day of school this year!

—Stephanie Herkelrath





## Brethren Disaster Ministries

### Work in New Jersey

As you know, many areas hit in late 2012 by Hurricane Sandy are still in the throes of long term recovery projects, and there are many homes left to rebuild.

We have an opportunity to join with volunteers from another CoB District to work in New Jersey early this fall, and Frosty Wilkinson is recruiting volunteers.

**The trip has been scheduled for September 28 - October 4!**

Volunteers with any level of skill, including nothing but willingness to learn, are needed.

Funding is available through the Church of the Brethren PNW District to help with transportation costs. Meals and lodging are provided at the work site. Contact Frosty with any questions you might have, or call the church office.

**Contact: Frosty (Forrest) Wilkinson**  
frostyw1@yahoo.com  
360-202-8859 (cell)

*“What if our religion was each other,  
If our practice was our life  
If prayer, our words.  
What if the temple was the Earth,  
If forests were our church  
If holy water—the rivers, lakes, & oceans.  
What if meditation was our relationships,  
If the teacher was life,  
If wisdom was self-knowledge,  
If love was the center of our being.”*

*—Ganga White*

## Sharing Together in Prayer

### In Our Community:

- For **Carol Landis**, celebrating the birth of her 8<sup>th</sup> Great Grandchild.
- For **Griffin Hernandez**, facing foot surgery.
- For **Dorothy Bollinger**, facing likely kidney removal.
- For **Charles Walker**, waiting for back surgery to be scheduled in hopes of relief from chronic pain.
- For **Bill and JoAnn Shoemaker**, traveling mercies as they head out for an Alaska cruise.
- **Taylor Barnes** offers thanks for the congregations' support getting to NYC and the powerfully transforming experience he had.
- For **Terence McBain**, homeless and applying to Bible College in Woodland Park, CO.

### In Our State, Nation, and World:

- For **Nate & Angela**, working with BVS in Unión Victoria, Guatemala.
- For an end to the rocket launches and bombings in **Israel and Gaza**.



## Creative Space Available

*for local community groups & non-profits*

As a community church we are committed to partnering with like-minded non-profit organizations to enrich the lives of those closest to us and enhance our combined impact on our community. In addition to hosting meetings for community groups, we also have dedicated space available for rent. Our facility offers a quiet and welcoming atmosphere full of natural light in a great North Seattle location!

If you are a community based or non-profit organization in need of office, meeting, classroom or creative activity space, we welcome your inquiries.

Please contact our secretary, Jessica Quiroz at 206.525.8900 or ovsecretary@gmail.com.