

# THE OLYMPIC NEWS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren  
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February 2008

## Reaching Out Beyond Our Reach

by Roger Edmark, Treasurer

Our church is supported in ministry by many organizations that reach out farther than we could reach by ourselves. By supporting these ministries, we reach people in cities, counties, states, countries, and on continents in ways we would not be able to do unassisted.

In 2008, as a congregation, we will explore one organization each month; in so doing, we will see how we reach our community and the world by way of the organizations we support at Olympic View.

In January we learned that our support of the Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) is bringing a peaceful, non-violent presence to places in the world where violence is out of control. By supporting organizations such as CPT, you are there!

In February, we will look closely at Northaven to see the positive impact it makes in our community by providing qual-

ity, affordable housing in the Northgate community.

Over the course of the year, we will see how we protect the earth, seek justice, promote peace, feed the hungry, equip the saints, become caregivers, provide housing, support missions, give help to those in need, and develop a camp/retreat center, all because we support the work performed by specialized ministry organizations.

As you find out more about the ministries our congregation supports, we hope that you will give to the organizations that touch your heart. We want you to be passionate about the work you are doing by supporting these organizations. We do not expect that everyone will feel a strong desire to give to all the organizations we will explore in 2008.

*Just give where your heart tells you.* That is enough. You can look forward to an exciting year of exploring ministries supported by all of us at Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren in 2008.

*For more information about:  
Christian Peacemaker Teams, visit [www.cpt.org](http://www.cpt.org)  
Northaven, see article on page 3.*

### The Olympic News

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren  
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February 2008



## OVCCoB Board of Administration Meeting Minutes

The OVCCB Board of Administration met on January 8, 2008, with 8 members present.

We shared information and prayed for those within our church family.

Upcoming activities were added to the church calendar. Please see insert in this newsletter for events and dates.

Roger Edmark, Treasurer, shared that finances are balanced at this time. Building Trustee, Haile Bedada, reported on continuing maintenance needs and jobs that have been completed (Thanks Haile and Jimmy Barnes!). Pastor Ken reported on the verbal bid (we are awaiting a written one) regarding carpet replacement for the sanctuary, and possibly other areas of the church building.

Thanks to Cathy Oberg, who has accepted a call to the Gifts Discernment Team. The new Outreach Working Group met on January 20th, and a committee is forming to organize the 300th Anniversary/Homecoming event.

Reports were received regarding Northaven 1 and 2, and Camp Koinonia, which is in the midst of a number of expansion projects. Funding concerns for these projects are being discussed at the district level.

Concerning Northaven, we discussed subsidizing Northaven 2 with foundation funds. Northaven 1 is doing well for itself and staying full. By committing to having more units be Medicaid/Copes units (now at about 26 units), Northaven 2 now receives additional "add on" funds, which bolsters income considerably.

We are thankful for those within our church family and ask everyone to hold those who have special needs in their prayers at this time.

*Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Herkelrath,  
Church Clerk  
(minutes taken by Carol Bowers, Moderator)*



## Living Peace Church News & Notes

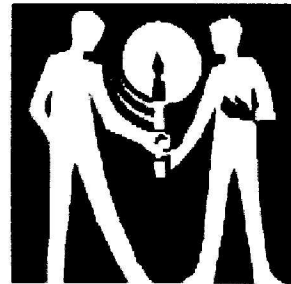
Focusing on the peace & reconciliation ministries of the church.  
Greetings from On Earth Peace!

### First be Reconciled

Lent is often seen as a time to confess our sins to God, to prepare ourselves anew for God's presence in our lives. Repenting to God is necessary, but we need to confess to people we have harmed as well, for when we sin against each other, we also sin against God. This is why Jesus directs us with these words:

*So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.*

~ Matthew 5:23-24



During this season of Lent, begin your preparations for the Holy Week celebration of Love Feast by considering with whom you might need to be reconciled. Go to them and communicate your willingness to repair the situation that divides you (if you would like assistance, ask your pastor, deacon, or the Ministry of Reconciliation). Pray that the Holy Spirit might bless your relationship with these individuals, and that all of us, as forgiven children of God, will be able to come to the table of Christ's love.

~ *Travis Poling, Writer in Residence  
with On Earth Peace through the ministry  
formation program of Bethany Theological Seminary*

**On Earth Peace:** An agency of the  
Church of the Brethren helping people discern  
the things that make for peace

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## February Outreach Focus: Northaven

by Roger Edmark, President,  
Northaven Board of Trustees

Northaven is the outreach focus for the month of February. Northaven, a living community for seniors, is familiar to many of us in that Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren (OVCC) sponsored the facility back in the late 60's. For those of you who do not know where Northaven is located, it is that nine-story tall building you see when you look northeast from the corner of Northgate Way and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. (The N.E. corner of the Northgate Shopping Center.) Here is some great information I took from the 2006 Annual Report:

### Northaven – A Brief History

In 1968, a few members of a small church on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E. and N.E. 95<sup>th</sup> St. envisioned a need for low cost senior housing in North Seattle. Against great odds and government bureaucracy, and with enormous fortitude and perseverance, they convinced the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to grant a loan in the sum of \$3 million to build Northaven. This small group of men and women, with full support of the Pastor and Congregation of Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren, made the "impossible" dream become a reality. It was truly a very remarkable accomplishment.

Today, Northaven is one of the largest and most respected retirement communities in the greater Seattle area, and the only one sponsored by the congregation of a single, local church. With 198 apartments, Northaven has been fully occupied since it opened in 1972.

Recognizing a need for the next level of care, assisted living, Northaven II opened in 1992 with a loan obtained based on the successful management of Northaven. With 40 units, it too has been fully occupied. Northaven II provides a secure,

friendly home for many, including former residents of Northaven, who are no longer able to live independently, but can still remain a part of the Northaven "family."

The Northaven Foundation, with an initial estate gift of \$100,000.00, was created in 1993. Due to generous contributions of residents and friends of Northaven, the Foundation now manages a fund of about \$1 million. The foundation's mission is to help fund the needs of residents of both Northaven and Northaven II when personal finances become insufficient or when Medicaid payments fall short of actual costs. It also aids in the acquisition of special equipment for the resident community and with financial support to the corporate budget as needed.

In early March of 1969, the articles of incorporation were certified by the state of Washington, and Northaven became a reality. The first Board of Directors consisted entirely of OVCC members. Many of the names will be familiar to those who have been around OVCC for a long time – Norma Murphy, Lou Forgey, John Hopkins, Doug Chapman, Fred Utter, Randy Carter, Kerm Gastfield, Clarence (Andy) Anderson, and Jack Zager. What started as a dream shared between Bob Mays, the pastor at that time, and people in the congregation is still going strong today. Present OVCC members on the Board are George DeBon, Dorsey Harris, Hal Lauridsen, JoAnne Shoemaker, and Roger Edmark. Past OVCC members presently on the Board are Keith Russell, Sandi Kuess, and Fred Utter. The members-at-large from the community are Tom Stephenson (Ace Hardware), Kent Gregory (Architect), and Jeanne Hayden (Northaven Resident).

Being a non-profit organization, the Northaven Board and the Staff, led by Darlene Storti, are passionate about the mission of Northaven. The present mission statement states well what has driven Olympic View members and friends of Northaven since it was just a dream back in the 60's:

Northaven, a non-profit resident community, founded on Christian principles, pro-

vides affordable housing and compassionate care to improve the quality of life for seniors

So what about today? Is there any less need for Olympic View to support Northaven? NO! Right now there are probably as many, if not more, Olympic View members living at Northaven as at any time in the past. What are the ways you can support this ministry?

Here are three specific ways you can help and become involved with Northaven:

- Many people at Olympic View **volunteer at Northaven**. Volunteers at Northaven have a vital role in helping provide a high quality of service while keeping costs down.
- Many people at Olympic View regularly **support the mission with their donations**. When we first started the Assisted Living unit, we were required to have 10% of the units (4 units) on Medicaid/Copes, but, as of last month, we had 26 Medicaid/Copes units. People need to get Medicaid/Copes government support when they no longer have the funds to pay for their own care. These are the people our mission seeks to serve! Today, because of donations to the Northaven Foundation, we are able to make up the difference between the cost of quality care and the funds available from the government.
- **Attend the Corporate Meeting**. You are invited to be a guest at the next corporate meeting. The meeting will be held on April 24 at Northaven at 7:00 pm. If you would like to have dinner at Northaven, you are invited to come at 6:00 pm. Call Northaven to reserve your spot at dinner – 206-365-3020.

Come take a look around Northaven while you are there. It is truly a remarkable mission which will continue to need people dedicated to the future of quality, affordable housing and passionate about serving this senior resident community.

## Shared Prayer Requests

### In Our Community:

For **Ken Miller Rieman's** father, **Phil**, hospitalized since Jan. 22 with a stroke.  
For the friends and family of **Elaine Rankin**. Elaine passed away on January 28th.  
For **Roger Edmark**, facing heart valve replacement.  
For the **Edmarks'** daughter, **Melissa Hinton**, awaiting biopsy results for her eye.

### Ongoing prayer requests:

**Geraldine Campbell; Chris Pride; Russell Jarboe; Gene Harnden; Charles Walker; Bill Case's** daughter, **Carol Kamada; Richard Shoemaker**, Bill Shoemaker's brother; **Amber Compton; Eileen Birkey's** mother; Sharon Haley's brothers, **Mark and Paul Andrews; Lowell Geiver; Lew Fortin's** nephew, **Michael Rogers; Smith-Derksens** in Chad; **Lorraine Harris**

### Our Nation, State, and World:

- For an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement and an end to the occupation of the West Bank.
- For wide and thoughtful participation in the United States' 2008 elections.
- For the people of Darfur, Sudan.
- For democratic reforms in Pakistan, Kenya, and Burma.
- For the **four-member CPT team in northern Iraq**, including Church of the Brethren members **Peggy Gish** and **Cliff Kindy**.

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**We welcome you to our services.**

## *Hello? Is Anyone At Home? Where Is God When We Are Most In Need?*

**Is this Sunday school class for you?**

**Discussion leader: Jeffrey Keuss**

*Disappointment with God*, by Philip Yancey, internationally bestselling author of 20 books with a total of more than 7 million copies in print, including *Soul Survivor*, *Where is God When it Hurts?*, *What's So Amazing About Grace?*, and *Rumors of Another World*.

**When: Sunday mornings**

**Time: to be determined**

**Dates: April 6<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Location: Friendship Room (Library)**

*Why am I leading this class?*

This past year, I was dealt several serious health issues which interrupted my outgoing, social activities in many areas of my life. Active involvement with my family, volunteering for the Northaven Foundation, friends and the many excursions we had planned, and even my spiritual life came to a stop and were put on hold.

In the past year, I've been affected by severe vertigo attacks that lasted for up to ten hours; my life changed from an outgoing and happy one into that of a bedridden and helpless patient. I depended on family for all of my basic needs. Every day I prayed many times, asking for God to take away the vertigo and return me to a normal and productive life. I became more and more disappointed with God and even angry.

I read the Bible, and other books, looking for answers, but found nothing that helped my constant dizziness.

Finally, *Disappointment With God*, by Philip Yancey, provided me with a positive spiritual answer. I would like to share with you this book and how it led me to a deeper faith and joy about my relationship with God.

In the past, my life has included: job loss, near divorce, severe hearing loss, polio, the deaths of parents and other relatives, work related stress,

and being fired from my job. However, my life has been blessed with so much that I must share how God's absence from our life is really God's waiting room. This important theological concept will be detailed and discussed to fit your life and its concerns.

***If you have had any of the following concerns or problems...***

- Marital and relationship issues, including divorce or separation
- Illness
- Job loss/unemployment
- Work-related stress
- Financial worries
- Loss of faith or spiritual questions
- Challenges as a parent/Aging parents
- Self-esteem issues

*...then this fast-paced, informative class is meant for you. Join us and bring a friend!*

### **Deacon Update**

No Deacon Training in February

Next Training Scheduled for:

**7:00 p.m. on March 25th**

*Please let your deacon or the church office know if you would like to receive the weekly bulletin by mail. 206 525 8900*

### **G.U.I.L.D. Women's Breakfast**

**February 20, 7:30am—8:30am**

Welcome, ladies! Next meeting on February 20, 2008 at Northaven.

### **Olympic View Book Club**

**February 2008**

**February 22 - *Breath, Eyes, Memory*,  
by Edwidge Danticat.**

Olive White is hosting the club in her new apartment in Northaven. Meets at 10:30 am.