

THE OLYMPIC NEWS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
425 NE 95th St., Seattle WA 98115 • tel. 206-525-8900 • www.olympicchurch.org e-mail: info@olympicchurch.org

February 2005

Living the Word by Pastor Ken Rieman

Seattle has been my home for two weeks now and I am so very thankful for the places you have prepared for me in your hearts, in your homes, and in your faith family.

In some ways, it feels like I've been here for two months. I've sat in on board and committee meetings, Bible studies, men's breakfasts, community suppers and public policy debates. I've practiced and sung with the choir, planned and conducted two worship services, gotten to know five of the people who are staffing our office, attended a play, a hockey game, visited a half-dozen coffee houses, dined on at least a dozen distinct ethnic cuisines, and had salmon prepared about a dozen different ways.

I've had extended pastoral visits with several dozen of you and I've gotten to know nearly as many residents of the area who do not currently have a church family. I've met several area pastors, seminary students, and a rabbi, visited with former college and seminary classmates, and found a bank, an insurance agent and a raft of area retailers who sell the office supplies, clothes, food, and assorted personal items that everyone re-locating across a continent with only their plane luggage needs to buy.

So when people ask me how things are going, I tell them that I've certainly been getting a good taste of Seattle. I feel both fortunate to have been called to serve as your pastor here and excited about the many opportunities which I sense opening for me and for our congregation.

Epiphany is a season of spiritual awakening. It honors the way that God's presence and activity are revealed to us in new ways. In retelling the story of the beginning of Jesus' preaching and teaching and healing, the Hebrew prophets and New Testament gospels reveal that the scope of God's

concern and Israel's purpose are enlarged to include the people of all nations. The scripture lessons of Epiphany also portray the depth of commitment to which Jesus called his disciples and the readiness with which they responded to his invitation to become fishers of *people*.

In my adjustment to a new geographic reality, I've awakened to new spiritual realities as well. This city is full of amazing people who have studied and done amazing things. It is full of people who live every day for the betterment of our world. So I have great hope for our future, and I hope that you too sense the possibilities for God to re-awaken our spirits, enlarge the scope of our compassion, and deepen our commitment to discipleship.

Epiphany prepares us for the season of Lent, in which we are invited to reflect upon the way we live out the word of God, and turn from those things which distract us from God's purposes or keep us from living in right-relationship with God and our neighbors. At times this work is intensely personal. At other times, it requires that we work together. As with all things, this work is done most effectively with a view of both the whole and the particular.

Mt. Olympus was the mythical dwelling place of the gods of ancient Greece. For our congregation to embody the spirit of its name, *Olympic View Community*, we must be prepared to offer our community a view of the dwelling places of the *living* God. And the life which our church will bring to our community will depend on each one of us preparing a place in both our hearts and in our living for the spirit of the divine to dwell within us and move among us. Together in love, may we live out the word.

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425 NE 95th Street
Seattle, WA 98115

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2005
Newsletter



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Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

FEBRUARY SERVICES

- February 6** *Transfiguration Sunday*
Sermon: Lord, It is Good for us to Be Here
Scripture: Ex. 24:12-18, Mt. 17:1-9
- February 13** *1st Sunday of Lent*
Ken Rieman's Installation Service
Guest Preacher: Kerby Lauderdale
Scripture: Luke 4:14-30
- February 20** *2nd Sunday of Lent*
Sermon: This magic ain't magic
Scripture: Gen. 12:1-4, John 3:1-10
- February 27** *3rd Sunday of Lent*
Sermon: Tearing down the walls
Scripture: John 4:5-42

Family Snow Weekend Camp Koinonia February 4-6, 2005

Jesus is the light!



Come join the fun and fellowship in the snow at Camp Koinonia. We'll have sledding, cross-country skiing, snow sculptures and lots of hot cocoa by the fire. Cost: \$30 per person, \$100 maximum per family. (Scholarship money is available to defray expenses. Pay what you can, but we don't want cost keep you from coming.) Transportation in church van and carpools are available.

Contact Roger and Kathy Edmark for more info. and to let them know if you are coming!
425-743-5725 or email: kedmark@msn.com

"Dinners with Ken"

We thought that a fun and easy way for Ken to meet many in our congregation quickly would be to have several "Dinners with Ken." These small group events will be held at various homes and at church, at various times during the next few months. We will endeavor to sign you up with a group meeting near your home. Each dinner will be a one-time event (except Ken who will attend them all!). If you haven't signed up, or if you wish to organize and host an additional group, please see Stephanie Herkelrath at church or call her at 425-649-9595. Bon Appetit!

REPORT FROM THE BOARD

The OVCCB Board of Administration met on January 11, 2005.

--We rejoiced in welcoming Pastor Ken Rieman and Administrative Assistant Aimee Bisterfeldt to their new positions at OVCCB.

--We shared concerns and prayed for those within our church family.

--We reviewed the calendar of upcoming events and are encouraged by the variety of events that connect our members in fellowship.

--We are pleased with the stability of our financial situation, but are looking at ways to make it even more stable. We appreciate all who continue to support the ministries of OVCCB as we begin 2005.

--We are happy to report that the church office is staffed every morning and two afternoons per week, and are thankful for all those who serve there. New email addresses are as follows

General- info@olympicchurch.org

Ken Rieman-Ken@olympicchurch.org

Aimee Bisterfeldt- Aimee@olympicchurch.org

Nancy Bedada- Nbedada@yahoo.com

--We encourage all to sign up, as a host or as a guest, for the "Dinners with Ken." Each small group will meet once as a way for Ken to meet members of the congregation more easily. These dinners will be held February thru April.

--We discussed the issue of flags in the sanctuary and Executive Committee will further define the process by which we, as a church, will continue to explore this issue.

--We defined the process by which all who volunteered time and talents on the Fall Commitment cards will be contacted. Expect a call soon!

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

Stephanie Herkelrath, Church Clerk



First Friday Out!

Join your Maple Leaf Neighbors for board games, card games and old-time neighborhood socializing. On Friday February 4th, from 7-8:30 pm at Olympic View Community Church.

All ages welcome.

Refreshments (donations appreciated)

Games (Provided or bring your own)

Donations appreciated to pay rental fee

Questions or to volunteer to help:

Our new Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Ken Rieman will be in the office Monday thru Thursday from 10-4. These hours however, are flexible depending upon visitation and meetings. In order to make sure that Ken is in the office please call to make an appointment to meet with him.

Church Office # is 206-525-8900

Ken's Mobile # is 206-920-4893

Valentine Potluck Lunch

Please Join us to celebrate all those we love at the annual Valentines Potluck hosted by the Fellowship Team and the Friends group. This wonderful meal will take place after the church service on February 13, 2005. Please bring a dish to share.

Canned Food Drive

In observance of canned food month Olympic View will be collecting canned food for the Lake City Food Bank on Sunday February, 27th.

Black History Month

We look forward to learning more as we begin this month that celebrates Black History. Join us on Sunday mornings to hear Pastor Ken inspire us in new ways to accept and love our neighbors as our friends.

We will go before God to be judged, and God will ask us,

“Where are your wounds.”

And we will say, “We have no wounds.”

And God will ask, “Was nothing worth fighting for?”

Non-violent freedom fighter Rev. Allen Boesak, South Africa



Darielle Horsey	2-02	Judith Sitero	2-15
George Debon	2-03	Maurice Carlson	2-16
Russell Ashmun	2-04	Allison O'Cain	2-16
LaVerne Bollinger	2-08	Janet Schmid	2-16
Dan Fredrickson	2-10	Isabel Elliott	2-21
Jason Haley	2-10	Stacy Garner	2-22
Bill Case	2-11	Kathy Korff	2-22
Eric Lamont	2-11	Colin O'Brien	2-27
Murial Holmes	2-13	Mary Warstler	2-28
Andrew Fredrickson	2-13		

Happy Anniversary

John & Ronda Russell	2-15
LaVerne & Dorothy Bollinger	2-28

Looking Ahead to March

March 20- Palm Sunday

March 24- Maundy-Thursday

Love Feast @Church 7pm

March 27- Easter Sunday



2005 Offering Envelopes

Numbered envelopes are now available in the church office. Please come by and pick up a box and print your name next to the corresponding number on the clip board sign up sheet. If you are unable to come in, please let us know and we will send you a box.

The numbered offering envelopes help us to help you with year-end donation statements for your tax purposes.

The Olympic News is published monthly by Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
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We welcome you to our services.

Sunday School for All Ages	9:30 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Children's Church	11:00 a.m.