

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

May 2005

Living the Word by Ken Rieman

The recent passing of our beloved Roy Finckh at age 102 has led me once again to hear your stories, to learn about our collective history, and to ponder the legacy which we as individuals and as a church will leave after our physical presence departs this world.



Legacy is one of those words that is easily worn out by casket makers, insurance sellers, and politicians. Yet I suspect that as a culture and as a church, we would do well to consider it more often. A legacy is that which is left from one generation to the next. Most often we use it to speak of the wealth or property which we inherit from our ancestors or which future generations will inherit

from us. Often, the more significant legacies passed on are spiritual in their value. Always, the legacy which one individual or generation leaves for the next reveals the things which they value most.

Several Native American tribes, by long-standing custom, weighed every decision of the tribe against the question, "How might this decision effect the seventh generation to follow in our footsteps." Like the biblical understanding of seven as a number denoting wholeness and perfection, the seventh generation represents *all* who would follow. Not unlike the question, "What would Jesus do?" this question about the well-being of the seventh generation seeks to lift the question of our legacy into our every-day consciousness. What is it that our fore-bearers have left us? What of that will we be leaving behind for those who follow us?

So if half of the challenge in the question of our legacy is to simply create a space for it within our consciousness, then the other half of our challenge must be to understand the nature of change in our world, for we cannot answer the first question well without having learned about how we add, subtract, or otherwise modify the value or character of our inheritance.

When the sacrifices of the generations which carried us through the Great Depression and WWII are weighed against the sense of entitlement to unlimited consumption evident in many people today, where does our legacy stand? When the fail

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425 NE 95th Street
Seattle, WA 98115

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2005
Newsletter



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



Exciting Times at Camp Koinonia



Camp Koinonia is our church camp. It is a non-profit camp and conference center fully owned and operated by the Oregon/Washington District of the Church of the Brethren located about 90 miles east of Seattle in the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains. The camp is 130 acres of forest land with two meadows and a beautiful pond. Annual and semi-annual Church of the Brethren camps, retreats and conference are participated in every year. In addition, Camp Koinonia is the home camp for many other non-profit user groups which represent Pacific Northwest church, camping, school, mission and cultural organizations.



For over ten years, plans for development and needed improvements at Camp Koinonia have been pursued, but timing never allowed all parties, the Camp, the county and the neighbors of camp, to be on the same page to initiate the needed changes to the camp. But that is old news! The good news about camp is that our Conditional Use Permit was approved by the county last year and exciting changes have already begun.

Development approved by the county included substantial improvements in six areas:

Roads – the county requires that the entry road to camp be improved and expanded to allow two-way traffic over about 90% of the road. Additionally, the main roads within the camp needed to be widened for better access. These two efforts are already well under way.

Cabins – the capacity of beds at camp needed to increase and the comfort and convenience of the new beds needs to be incorporated into those accommodations. Four new versatile two room cabins are already under way in the old RV area which will each have their own baths and will allow groups from one to sixteen per cabin to utilize them as they need. Other cabin remodels and additions are planned for the future.



ADA Accessible – with new development planned, it is very important to plan in accessibility for organizations which have people less mobile and in need of wheelchair assistance. A first step in that effort is to remodel the Leadership cabin main floor to make each of those rooms and bath meet ADA (American Disabilities Act) requirements. Additional improvements will be incorporated into the Lodge, new meeting spaces and other improvements as needed.

Dining/Lodge – changes to the main lodge which is used for eating and meeting are required to serve the capacity needed at camp. Eventually space for feeding 200 people is required and a kitchen that can do that well. Plans are being finalized now to maintain the character of the lodge while increasing the capacity by expanding out the back wall of the present kitchen.

Meeting Space – the improvements to camp will allow large groups, or multiple groups of varying size to use the camp at the same time. For that to happen, new meeting spaces, or improved meeting spaces need to be added near each cluster of cabins. Though plans are still being developed, improvements to the lodge, present retreat center, a new year-round meeting space at the location of the present outdoor pavilion, and a new meeting space near the four new cabins are all being evaluated.

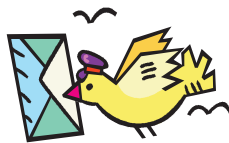
Support Facilities – with the elimination of the old RV area, improvements to the second meadow RV sites have started and a new bathhouse that can serve groups and activities near the pond is being planned.

It is a very exciting time at Camp Koinonia! The changes to the camp are valued at about 1.5 million dollars. Those costs are greatly reduced as groups and individuals generously donate their time, materials and expertise to offset many of the costs of the projects. Several user groups have already stepped forward. Cascade Camp Cherith has taken the lead in the plans and construction of the four new cabins. Lakeridge Christian center has taken the lead on the new RV sites and bathhouse. Those kinds of donations make it possible to complete the development of camp and to open up the camp to an exciting future.

At least half of the 1.5 million dollars will need to come in the form of monetary contributions, grants, and loans. Camp Koinonia has already been blessed by receiving a matching gift commitment of \$400,000. We now need to raise the other \$400,000.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this exciting ministry of the Church of the Brethren. If you would like to make a donation of time, materials or expertise, please contact Mike O’Cain at Camp Koinonia by calling 509-674-5767. Monetary donations made payable to “Camp Koinonia” can be sent directly to:

Camp Koinonia Development Fund
c/o Michael O'Cain
850 Camp Koinonia Lane
Cle Elum, WA 98922



All the COB churches are asked to support a work party on Saturday June 4th to start to put up the walls of the four new cabins mentioned earlier, at camp. We need 25 to 30 people. Bring tools if you have them if not just bring yourself. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Thank You!

Roger M. Edmark
Chair, Camp Koinonia Development Team
Home phone: 425-743-5725
Work phone: 425-237-7485 (Mon-Thur until 5pm)
Home email: kedmark@msn.com

OV Book Club

Please join the Olympic View Book Club for this month's meeting. The book for May is "A Farewell to Arms" by Ernest Hemingway. The club will meet on May 27th at Lois Thomsen's home. Pick up this book at your local library and plan to attend the book club's monthly meeting!



G.U.I.L.D.

Give Up Inactivity & Live w/ Dignity

The Women's Service Guild is beginning anew as the Olympic View Women's Breakfast Group. They will meet the third Wednesday of each month beginning with May 18th. The meeting will take place in the Northaven I dining room from 7:00am-8am. The cost is \$2.00 for breakfast. Breakfast will be followed by a 20 min. program. You are cordially invited to attend. Please let Grace Edmark know if you will be able to attend one week prior to meeting so that she can let the cook know how much to prepare. We hope to see you there.

Church of the Brethren General Board Prayer Calendar

May Prayer Focus: Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Week of May 1

On this National Youth Sunday, thank God for the youth in our midst and pray for openness to all the lessons they can teach.



Week of May 8

Celebrate and say thanks for the regional youth conferences held around the denomination through the spring, and for the impact these events have each year.

Week of May 15

Lift up in prayer the National Youth Cabinet and coordinators Cindy Laprade, Beth Rhodes, and Emily Tyler as they work on plans for next summer's life changing National Youth Conference.

Week of May 22

Pray for the church of the Brethren Young Adult Conference occurring this week in Ohio, asking for the Holy Spirit's leading in the lives of each of the young adults gathered there.

Week of May 29

Remember the six Brethren colleges and Brethren Colleges Abroad, and praise God for the many opportunities they offer young adults. Pray for the campus chaplains, faculty, church relations staff, and others who help students along their faith journey.

Parents Night Out!

Wouldn't you love to have a night all to yourself? Well don't wait any longer! Olympic View Children's Ministry Team is planning to give all you hard working parents and grandparents a night off!

On Friday May 13th drop off your kids at 6:30pm at Olympic View Church. Then enjoy your evening. Just make sure you come back to pick up your children at 10 pm. There will be lots of fun for the kids with crafts, food and a movie. We hope to see all the kids whether you have a exciting night planned or just need to get things done.



First Friday Out!

Please join your Maple Leaf Neighbors for board games, card games and old-time neighborhood socializing the first Friday of every month. This month's First Friday is May st, 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:

Chris: 523-7083 or Liz: 522-3318

May Planning Meeting

Plan to join us for our annual May Plan-ning Meeting on May 7th from 8:30-12. We will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:30 and then at 9:00 start planning for next year.

All are welcome to join!

RE-ENTRY: Psychological and Physical Issues for Iraq War veterans

A PANEL, VIDEO SCREENING, and DISCUSSION

As more soldiers are returning from Iraq, what injuries do they carry? Post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, illness or physical disabilities, job loss, or simply trying to fit in after service in Iraq.

We need to be aware of these issues, as coworkers, families, friends, neighbors, advocates. Ask this panel of medical and public health professionals, What patterns are showing up among Iraq veterans? Is there government support to help with re-entry? What burdens and injuries do they carry? How can we help?

**Please come -- with YOUR questions
Sunday, May 15, at 6:30 pm**

Olympic View Community Church
425 NE 95th - Seattle

Questions? Contact:
Lakecitysnow@hotmail.com



Do you have ideas for worship?

We are re-forming our worship planning team and are looking for people who have the gift of creativity and a heart for planning worship services that comfort, challenge, and inspire. This team will meet 4 to 6 times a year to match worship themes with artwork, music, drama, poetry, and scripture. This team will spend time itself in worship and will also study the art of drawing ourselves to attention before God, to listen and to respond to God's presence and activity in the life of our congregation and our world. This group will also be charged with communicating with all of those who contribute organization or leadership to our worship services.

If you have ideas for worship, but are not sure you want to serve on the team, let Ken Rieman know. If you would like to offer gifts or leadership for our congregational worship, we also want to know how we can involve you.

Wanted: Soap Dispensers!!!

The church is looking for small soap bottles to use in the rest rooms to dispense soap. If you have any of these small bottles that you can donate please bring them to the office and place in box near lost and found. Thank you.



Li'l Abner

Li'l Abner, an original musical comedy starring Molly Helmuth as Daisy Mae.

Presented by Broadway Bound Children's Theatre
Join the church for a night out May 28th, 7 pm show-time. Tickets: \$12 adults / \$8 kids under 18
ACT Theatre,

700 Union Street (downtown Seattle)

Seattle, WA

Contact Jana Helmuth for tickets to see her daughter as Daisy Mae.

work: 206-281-8116, home: 206-664-0391

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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.

ings of our parents and grandparents are swept under the rug because we know of no way to be honest about them and grow in our understanding of them, what do we in fact leave behind? When the fundamental challenges which our youth and young adults face today are considered, will it be said of the church in the years to come that we succeeded in facing them as God gave us wisdom and the power to do so? When children of the victims of poverty, disease, and war around the world wake up tomorrow, will they see in the church a people whose first concern is their future, their well-being?

Roy Finckh devoted his life to his faith. He found in scripture the comfort to know that he was of value to God, no matter his failings. He also found in the Bible the challenge to never imagine that had learned it all. He found in the church a group of people that loved him as he was and yet inspired him to grow. He found in each of us, people that he could love and lift up in prayer. And the impairment in later years of neither his hearing nor his sight could diminish his love of God or his brothers and sisters. Roy has left us a legacy of love, of a life lived in love and for love. He felt we were worthy of such a legacy. May we be as faithful as he was in our stewardship of life's greatest treasure.

Pastor Ken.

Church of the Brethren leaders mourn death of Pope John Paul II.

Church of the Brethren leaders have joined Christians and others worldwide in mourning the death of Pope John Paul II, and expressing condolence to the Roman Catholic community. "It is with sadness that the Church of the Brethren in the United States received the news of the death of His Holiness Pope John Paul II. We mourn the loss of this servant of Christ," said a letter signed by Annual Conference moderator Jim Hardenbrook and the general secretary of the General Board, Stan Noffsinger. "His light and life will be missed."

Quoting from 1 Peter 1:3, the letter expressed appreciation for the many ministries of Pope John Paul II and celebrated the contributions he made to the ecumenical movement. The Brethren leaders prayed that others will be inspired by his work for peace and justice.

The letter was sent to his Eminence Angelo Cardinal Sodano, Secretary of State for the Vatican; the Most Reverend William Skylstad, President of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops; and the Most Reverend Michael P. Driscoll of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise, as a colleague of the Annual Conference moderator.



John Paul II

Pentecost: A New Beginning

A Special Series with Mennonite theologian Gordon Kaufman at University Baptist Church May 15th - 17th, 2005



Conversations with Gordon Kaufman, author of "In the beginning ...Creativity".

Gordon Kaufman is Professor of Theology Emeritus at Harvard Divinity School. Kaufman's new book, *In the beginning, Creativity* offers a radical recasting of religious thinking. A renowned theologian, Kaufman's latest work demonstrates how thinking of God as creativity illuminates our understanding of the creation of the universe, the cosmic evolutionary process and human symbolic creativity. Kaufman's investigates what it would mean to think of God in new ways, to live with faith in this God, and to cooperate with the divine in meeting our most pressing global challenges.

Please join us in a series of events investigating what it means to think about God today -

Sunday, May 15, 10:30 a.m. Gordon Kaufman preaching about "Mystery and God" followed by light lunch, book signing and conversation.

Monday, May 16, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Conversation with Gordon Kaufman on "Today's Evolutionary/ Ecological World and the Theological Structure of Christian Faith"

Tuesday, May 17, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Conversation with Gordon Kaufman on "A Christian View of Creativity: Creativity as God"

All events are held at University Baptist Church, 4554 12th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105. Registrations encouraged. Donations welcomed. Call Rev. Tim Phillips, pastor, for more information at (206) 632-5188 or email info@ubcseattle.org.

Aimee's New Office Hours

Aimee will now be in the office on Monday instead of Tuesday. This change is made due to complications with her other work commitments. She will be in from 1:00-5:00pm on Monday and Thursday from now on. Since her hours continue to be small the best possible way to get a hold of me is to email me at Aimee@olympicchurch.org. If you do not have email then call the church at 206-525-8900 and leave a message for the Administrative Assistant. Thanks for your patience. Aimee

Your Congregational Life Team The Oregon/Washington District PRESENT:

Imagine . . . Time set aside from busy activities to worship, seeking God's dream for your congregation and to review resources to help you attain that dream. Come; spend a day at the Portland Peace Congregation on May 14, and Wenatchee Brethren Baptist Church on May 15 for a time.....

Saturday will begin at 10:00am and go until 3:00pm at Portland Peace; Sunday will begin at 2:00pm and go until 5:00pm at Wenatchee Brethren Baptist.....Carol Bowman, Jeff Glass, Steve Gregory, and Ben Green will be leading you in the following:



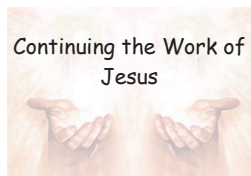
Exploring Postmodern Culture and Ministry: A major cultural shift is occurring around us. What is it? How can we plan ministry and worship in a way that is relevant to postmodern people? Come, discover ways Brethren can reach out and engage the emerging culture.

The Singing Congregation:

This is a workshop for music leaders, musicians, and anyone who enjoys congregational singing. Using the Hymnal and Hymnal Supplement, participants will discover ways to enliven congregational singing. Topics will include: Characteristics of great congregational singing, the role of the music leader, and enjoying familiar and unfamiliar hymns. You'll go home with concrete ideas you can implement right away!



Reclaiming the Offering as Worship: Sometimes, the offering has become a perfunctory part of worship, understood primarily as "raising the budget". In actuality, all of our gifts are a response to God's gifts and make possible the mission of "continuing the work of Jesus". This



workshop will share a theology of giving, present creative ideas to help reclaim and renew our times of offering as worshipful responses to God, and look at mission as the focus of giving.

Healthy Churches naturally grow.

. . . naturally! Learn how the Natural Church Development Survey can help us make our worship services inviting to new people and how we can move from exclusion to inclusion.



For more information, please contact Steve Gregory (509-662-3211) or Jeff Glass (888-826-4951).

There will be a donation asked of \$5.00 per person to cover the cost of materials.

We look forward to seeing you there and sharing ideas to fulfill God's dream of our congregations being healthy and vital in our district.

Olympic View Youth Group

Summer Events

June 12-- The youth group will have a picnic after church to welcome the four youth being promoted to the youth class.

July 14-17-- Mini workcamp and Retreat (more details to come)

July 24-29-- Vacation Bible School- Youth helpers needed

August 14-20-- Jr. & Sr. High Camps at Camp Koinonia

Fundraising!

We need to raise funds so that everybody can go to Camp this summer. We also need to start raising funds now to pay for National Youth Conference (NYC) in 2006. It is not too soon!!! We will set a date for a car wash fundraiser.

If you need more information about any of the youth group activities, call Roger: 425-743-5727 or Ken 206-525-8900.

