

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

June 2005

Living the Word by Ken Rieman

The season of Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit who is our breath and our life. This Spirit, the very manifestation of God's presence is for us a helper, an advocate, a counselor, and both comforter and prophet. It is no wonder that the momentous occasion in which the followers of Jesus gathered after his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension is celebrated as the birth of the church itself.

But this "Spirit" which we celebrate is not an easy thing to describe. Indeed, it is said that it cannot be described, but can only be encountered and known.

Every faith tradition has its own unique ways of understanding and expressing the essence of a life of faith. The "charismatic" strain of Christianity places great emphasis on the gifts of the Spirit and on the encounter of the Spirit in worship.

Historically, the Church of the Brethren has tended to emphasize the rational and practical demands of the religious life. We teach that baptism and becoming a member of the church is our response to Jesus' call to become a disciple of his way, and to become a minister of God's word, but to be not only hearers of the word of preachers of the word but also doers of the word. That makes each of our members

ministers!

The call to ministry can feel like a heavy burden to each of us who have affirmed that call. But the same light which reveals the purpose to which we are called is also the source of our power to undertake this call. This is the Holy Spirit. And we who would be doers of the word make the choice to either rely upon the Spirit utterly for guidance, wisdom and strength, or else to shape our work to the demands and wisdom of our own ego's.

Thus, as followers of Jesus and ministers of God's word, we seek to grow in our spirituality. What exactly does this mean? Eugene Peterson says it well. Spirituality is the capacity by which we discern the presence and activity of the divine.

For me, this is huge. It is monstrous. This single idea, that spiritual growth describes our growing ability to see God's presence and activity both within us and all around us is immense. This means that as ministers, we are called to help others to sense God's presence and activity as well. This means that worship is the time in which we draw ourselves to attention before God's presence and activity. This means that church outreach is the way we bear witness to others of God's presence and

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425 NE 95th Street
Seattle, WA 98115

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

activity in our life as a congregation and in our world. This means that evangelism is the spirit in which we invite others to become a part of our response to God's presence and activity in our life. See what I mean? It's huge.

But it's not just some big, huge, mega concept that we can enjoy tying everything together with. It is meant to give shape to every aspect of our discipleship.

When we are sitting together making difficult decisions, it means that our conversation needn't get stuck around the places where we disagree, but rather be focused on the finding opportunities to open ourselves to new ways of sensing, understanding, bearing witness to, and acting upon the reality of God's presence and activity in our life.

When we are sitting down to pray before a meal or meeting this means that we can acknowledge what we know of God's presence or activity, confess the ways in which we resist acting upon that, and ask for God's help in overcoming our resistance.

When we are trying to show hospitality to someone visiting our church, this means that we don't need to be thinking about how we can entice them to join us, but rather how God might be already using them to reveal divine presence or activity to us. When we approach others with our senses tuned for the workings of the spirit in them, we tend to be much more open to the possibilities of partnering for spiritual purpose than if we have gotten stuck in the anxious rut of thinking that we simply must find a way to bring them into our church.

My prayer for our church this year is that we will embark together upon an adventure of spiritual discovery, seeking those ways where we can individually and collectively sense God's presence and activity in equipping us for the ministry to which we have been called. I hope that these questions and this purpose might guide every decision we make, might saturate every time and place where we gather to worship, and might reveal, with new clarity, the features of the spiritual landscape which surrounds us in all directions.

Ken Rieman

**In Loving
Memory
of Lilyan
Crider
October 31,
1915 to
May 19, 2005**



She was born Lilyan Sukie Inana in Seattle, Washington, on October 31, 1915, the eldest daughter of Japanese immigrants Nobukichi and Teru Inana. With her sister Betty and brother David, she grew up in Seattle and Auburn, where grandfather Ota ran a store.

In 1924 the family moved to Japan, where Lilyan lived for six years, becoming fluent in Japanese. She and Betty returned to America in 1930 and, after re-learning English, they graduated from Broadway High School.

While working as a domestic in Dr. Mosiman's home, Lilyan attended the University of Washington, majoring in English and History. She graduated in 1942, and rode the last bus taking Japanese-Americans to the Puyallup fairgrounds to be sent to the internment camps. She went to Minidoka, Idaho.

Thanks to her uncle, Henry Tatsumi, Lilyan left camp in January 1943 to teach Japanese language at the Navy Language School in Colorado. In 1944 she moved to the Army Language School at the University of Michigan, where she had a student named James Crider. They fell in love, and were married on December 1, 1945.

The couple spent time in Japan during the occupation, returning to Seattle in 1948, where daughter Suzanne was born that year, and son Jon (now Jono) in 1949. Jim finished his Master's Degree, then was called up for the Korean War from 1950-1952. After the war he was hired into the Drama Department at the University of Washington, where he taught for 38 years.

Lilyan earned a teaching certificate while raising her family, and, starting in 1959, taught elementary school until 1980. She truly enjoyed

teaching children.

In 1972 she visited her mother in Japan, and also made trips with Jim to Europe and elsewhere. In 1976 grandchildren began to arrive: Maria, Sarah, Samuel, and Matthew Nicholas and Carly Crider. They took the place of school children in her life, and she became a loving and devoted grandmother. In 1995 the family celebrated Lilyan's 80th birthday and 50th wedding anniversary with a fine party.

Despite the scourge of Alzheimer's Disease, Lilyan remained to the very end a loving, caring human being, always more concerned with others than herself. She was a sweet and gentle soul who now has found eternal peace.

Submitted by: Jono Crider (son)

Church of the Brethren General Board Prayer Calendar

June Prayer Focus: Service/Relief Efforts

Week of June 5

Pray for the hundreds of youth, young adults, and advisors who are serving Jesus Christ by heading out across the nation and the world to be part of work camps this summer.

Week of June 12

Praise God for the witness of Brethren volunteers in Central America, Europe and elsewhere; pray for those who serve far from home, and for the staff who aid their transitions and support them.

Week of June 19

Pray for all the volunteers who help to heal the hurts of natural disasters, through rebuilding and cleanup efforts, child care, sending aid, and other means. Remember all those who suffer, whether from poverty, in justice, disasters, wars, or other causes. Ask that they would feel God's presence.

Week of June 26

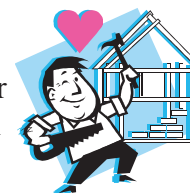
Pray for the dozens of people of all ages who are bearing the light of Christ by offering their time and talents through Brethren Volunteer Service projects around the United States.

The OVCCB Board of Administration met on May 10, 2005.

- We shared joys and concerns, and prayed for all within the church family.
- We heard reports and updates on new and on-going church maintenance issues including additional hearing aids, the sanctuary piano, handicapped parking spaces and permits, church opening and closing procedures, the fellowship hall ramp, a new wall in the Germantown room, pest control, chair lift maintenance and permits, roof repairs, and yard maintenance.
- We discussed church leadership development issues including the May Planning Meeting, Natural Church Development, Deacon trainings, and after-worship Sermon Talk-Ons.
- We rejoiced that church finances continue to be stable. We ask all to continue to support the ministries of the church and the District.

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

Stephanie Herkelrath, Church Clerk



G.U.I.L.D.

Give Up Inactivity & Live w/ Dignity

Olympic View Women's Breakfast Group began last month with a breakfast which included a total of 19 women. If you are interested in attending you have one more chance before the summer months when they will take a break. This month's meeting is on June 15th 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.



Shelley Douglass and Jim Douglass: June 26, 2005

Seattle Speaking Engagements at Seattle Mennonite Church and University Lutheran Church

Jim and Shelley Douglass are long time activists for peace and justice. In 1977 they founded the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action in Poulsbo, Washington, where they worked on issues of nonviolence, nuclear weapons and the Trident submarine system. In 1989, they moved to Birmingham, Alabama to track trains carrying nuclear weapons across the U.S. In 1993, Shelley and Jim founded Mary's House, a Catholic Worker house of hospitality for homeless families in Birmingham. Since the early 1990's Jim and Shelley Douglass have made seven trips to Iraq, in resistance to the Persian Gulf War, economic sanctions against Iraq, and the ongoing Iraq War. Since 1996, Jim has been researching and writing about the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X.



Everyone is invited to all events:

Sunday, June 26

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Jim and Shelley will preach at **Seattle Mennonite Church** for 20 minutes as part of the Sunday service on **"What is Truth? Choices in John's Gospel and Today."**

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Potluck lunch at **Seattle Mennonite Church**

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A conversation with Shelley and Jim at **Seattle Mennonite Church** on **"Nonviolence and Peace-Making Today: Where Do We Go from Here?"** They will talk briefly together and then separately in two different groups for discussion.

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Shelley and Jim speak at **University Lutheran Church** on **"Transforming Truth: Nonviolent Peace-Making Today."**

Seattle Mennonite Church	University Lutheran Church
3120 NE 125th Street	1604 NE 50th Street
Seattle, WA 98125	Seattle, WA 98105

Weldon Nisly, pastor
(206) 361-4630,
for morning & daytime events

Anne Hall, family minister
(206) 525-7074,
--for evening events

Also contact: Glen Milner (206) 365-7865, info@gzcenter.org

Sponsored by Seattle Mennonite Church, University Lutheran Church and the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action

Endorsed by Trinity United Methodist Church, Lutheran Peace Fellowship, Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation, Peace and Justice Task Force of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, Lake Forest Park for Peace

The OVCCB General Assembly was held on April 17, 2005. Forty-three people were in attendance. Highlights of the meeting included:

-- Church Officers and those in other specified key positions were elected:

Moderator -- Carol Bowers

Church Clerk -- Stephanie Herkelrath

Board of Administration Chair -- Marilyn Griffin

Building Trustee -- Bill Shoemaker

Church Treasurer -- Jo Ann Shoemaker

At-Large Board Member -- Dorothy Bollinger

At Large District Conference Representative --

Roger Edmark

Jubilee Endowment Fund -- Tim Bisterfeldt, George DeBon

-- Treasurer Jo Ann Shoemaker reported that we are functioning within our budget. Nancy Bedada, Church Book keeper, the Executive Committee members, and Jo Ann have worked closely together to tackle a number of difficult financial issues during the past year.

-- The Jubilee Endowment Fund has a current balance of \$83,676. Our three Fund trustees will be looking at investments and updating the brochure.

-- Pastor Ken Rieman shared impressions of his first three months at OVCCOB, and stated "the work by which we grow in awareness of God's presence and activity in our families, church, community, and world serves as the foundation for everything which we do and seek to become. This is the work to which my attention will be focused. This is the purpose to which I will be calling us."

--Status of the Flag Issue -- Roger Edmark reviewed the process of this issue to the present time, and Pastor Ken Rieman explained the "Clearness Committee" that will pray, research, study, and shepherd the congregation through the continuing process. There was a vote to form the committee, to put the flag back in the sanctuary during Sunday worship services, and to revisit the flag issue at the next General Assembly. The vote was 34 Agreed, and 9 Stand Aside.

-- Memorial Wish List -- Brainstorming at recent Executive Committee and Board of Administration meetings resulted in the creation of a Memorial Wish List. Those present added suggestions to that list.

-- Reports from OVCCOB and Supporting Ministries -- We rejoiced in hearing reports of various ministries, and of the good work they are all doing.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Herkelrath, Church Clerk

Congratulations Graduates!

We celebrate the graduation of the following church family:

Susanna Rempel

BA-Sycology & French studies

Vicki Ashmun

MA-Teaching English to speakers of other languages.

Erin Lowery

BA-Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences



DON'T MONKEY AROUND -- JOIN OUR PRAYER SAFARI AT KINGDOM OF THE SON!

We're excited about Olympic View's Vacation Bible School to be held July 24-28 (Sunday through Thursday), 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. This year's program is Kingdom of the Son, a week of safari adventure!.

Children will embark on a prayer safari into the Kingdom of the Son. Through their adventures, children will discover that "God Listens," God Provides," God Forgives," God Protects" and "God Rules". We will have a great time with lively songs, hilarious skits, creative crafts, Bible stories, a mission program and tasty snacks--all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children. On top of that, we will be helping children learn to know God through prayer.

Classes for children going into Kindergarten through 6th grade will begin with a field trip to the zoo on Sunday July 24 then they will meet together for an opening session each evening at 6:30. It will be followed with 25 minutes each at the Music center, Bible story center, Craft center, and Mission center.

Encourage your children, grand children, nieces, nephews, and neighbors to plan on this adventure in July. If you would like to participate in this year's Kingdom of the Son, here are some ways you can do that:

Pray for the leaders and children

Be a leader or assistant in one of the centers
Provide materials (a list will be provided next month)

Provide financial support

Help decorate the church on 7/24

Help put everything away on 7/29

Participate in the worship service on 7/31 to share the experiences of the prior week.

Please contact Carol Bowers 360 668 5256 or

Teacher Appreciation & Promotion Sunday June 12th

The kids will begin the morning with pancakes at 9:30. There will be a time during the service when the third graders are presented with Bibles and a time to recognize all the teachers.

Olympic View is invited on June 4th to help raise the walls of the new cabins at Camp Koinonia!



This is a very exciting time at Camp Koinonia. The foundations of four new cabins have been poured, and the floors are being put in place. June 4th has been set aside for the Church of the Brethren churches to start raising the walls.

Olympic View has been a very strong supporter of the camp for many years, and sends many children and youth to camp every year. Olympic View members Frosty Wilkinson and John Russell are currently on the Camp Koinonia Board. The current Camp Directors, Mike and Nancy O'Cain are also members of Olympic View. We would like a strong showing from Olympic View. If you have tools bring them with you. Lunch will be supplied by Camp. If June 4th does not work, there will be work parties at camp on the 11th and the 18th as well. If you would like to pool transportation, or have any questions, call Roger Edmark, 425-743-5725.

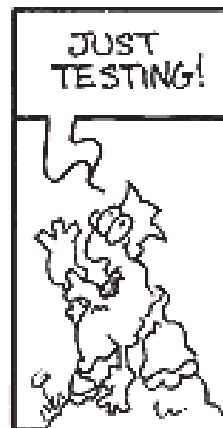
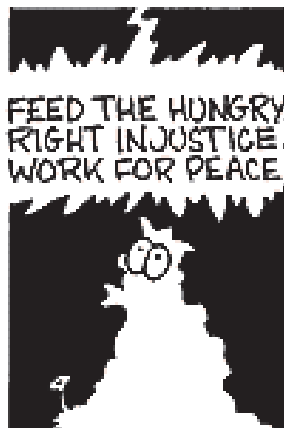
Camp Koinonia Auction

Bring your pies and cakes and fine pastries to the Camp Koinonia auction on June 11th after church. Camp Koinonia will host a delicious lunch followed by the auction. It is a fun time for a great cause. The proceeds from the auction have been used for capital expenses not covered by the general budget at camp. Everyone is welcome to stay for the meal and auction and fun.





Pontius' Puddle



Soap Dispensers Still Needed!

If you have any soap dispensers that we can refill with liquid soap for the restrooms at the church please bring them to the office. They can just be the plastic ones that you get from the grocery store. Nothing fancy needed. ☺

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 **June 3rd**, 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

Sandi Kuess Retirement Open House

You are invited to an Open House to celebrate the Retirement of Sandi Kuess from Northaven. This event will take place on Saturday, June 25th at Northaven I from 12:30-4:00 p.m. There will be a program beginning at 12:30pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend and give Thanks from the Olympic View Church!



June is a very busy month here at Olympic View!

Here are a few events worth mentioning again...

June 4, Saturday

Men's Breakfast Annual Dinner @ N.H. 6pm

June 5, Sunday

Baccalaureate Sunday

University of LaVerne luncheon

Executive Board Meeting

June 11, Saturday

Work Party at Olympic View

June 12, Sunday

Promotion Sunday

Teacher Appreciation

Camp Koinonia Auction

Youth Picnic & Hike (location TBA)

June 19, Sunday

Fathers' Day

Sunday Summer Schedule Begins

No Sunday School, Service begins at 10:00am

OV Book Club

Please join the Olympic View Book Club for this month's meeting. The Book for June is: "Secret Life of the Bees", by Sue Monk Kidd. The club will meet on June 24th at Olive White's home. Pick up this book at your local library and plan to attend the book club's monthly meeting!

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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.