

The New Olympian

July / August 2016

The Newsletter of the **Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren**
tel. 206.525.8900 • olympicchurch.org • email: ovsecretary@gmail.com

Light Shines in the Darkness...

by Pastor Jeffrey L. Barker

Dear Brothers and Sisters, as we go to press with the July / August newsletter, my heart is both joyful and torn! Joyful in the glow of having just returned from a great week of Kid's & Junior's Camp at Camp Koinonia. Joyful in the sense and knowledge that our kids from OV, the PNW District, and the Disciples denomination celebrated a week of camp and Bible study as one unified camp.

These kids and a diverse group of counselors and leaders played together, prayed together, studied the Bible together; we worshipped together, and in some small way planted seeds of faith in the lives of our young people. Yet, while we were living in peace and tranquility in our little camp bubble, mindless violence was going on elsewhere in America.

The week began with the shootings of two black men at the hands of police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota, and our week ended with news of the five Dallas police officers being assassinated while guarding and shepherding over a peaceful demonstration in memory of the two black men killed by police violence.

Lord, I wondered last Friday night as I left camp, how long O Lord must we endure nearly weekly massacres, murders and violent mayhem set loose upon America?



No easy answer came as I drove home last weekend. Rather, as I drove west, I prayed for the peace and grace to remain a peaceful Christian, and to not give in to anger and hopelessness.

In these dark days, it is important for us all to remain in the light of God and Christ's call for we Brethren to be agents of peace, love and reconciliation in a country, culture and world seemingly gone mad!

As dark as the violence and racist division is right now in America, Christ is still calling his church and people to peace, love and repentance! As Brethren, let us all re-double our commitment to model loving kindness, peace and non-violence in our personal lives and the life of the church.

(continued on page 4)

On these pages:

2. Building the New
3. Gift of Hope
4. Special Events and Updates

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The New Olympian
Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
425 NE 95th Street
Seattle WA 98115



Building the New...

by Jessica Quiroz

Two months ago, I made the truly difficult decision to leave Olympic View Church. I thought two months would be sufficient and prepare me to move on and let go—I think I was wrong, but my time is up! I can't express how much of an impact each and every member of this congregation have meant to me over the past four years. You welcomed me and my family as one of your own, supported and cared for me as I learned your names and faces, and grew to become dear friends, even surrogate parents and grandparents at times. The work we have done together for the life of this church has been one of the great joys in my working career and life in general, and what I have learned from you all will always be with me.

With so much already in the works and changing at OV, this decision was even more difficult, as I know that in the coming months the level of support that the church needs will only increase. I have been worried about this, and even questioned my own path and the timing of my resignation. But in the wise words of Socrates, "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

Fortunately, we have a new partner to help us focus that energy—the Executive team has asked Anita LaFranchi to join OV's staff as your new Administrative Secretary! Anita has a strong background in publishing and web-site design/maintenance as well as various administrative responsibilities. She lives right here in Maple Leaf and is looking forward to working for the church in this part-time position. I know you will all welcome her with open hearts and your thoughtful ways, and I wish you all the best as you build the new at Olympic View!

Please always know that my love for each of you and for OV is steadfast, and I hope that my time here has been as much of a blessing to you as you all have been to me.

In humble service,

Jessica A. Schug Quiroz

P.S. Please keep in touch! My personal email address is: jaschug@hotmail.com



Welcome, Elderwise!

We are excited to announce OV's newest community partner, Elderwise.

Elderwise started as an Adult Day Center in 1997 and now also shares their innovative programs and philosophy with others through outreach programs in retirement communities and educational programs for professionals.

Elderwise provides a unique approach to aging through cultural enrichment and deep respect for all people. Elderwise acts as an agent of change in our society by infusing its values in the community. It does this through its model adult day center, their teaching and outreach program and through their leadership in the field of enriched care for elders.

Like our original program in First Hill, Elderwise at Olympic View will serve participants weekdays from 10am-2pm. Their staff is excited that more participants from more geographic areas will have the chance to experience their unique program, which will include both painting and poetry, soup and song.

Doors open at OV on July 18, so please contact them at info@elderwise.org or 206.774.6606 to find out more and reserve a space!



A Joyful Gift of Hope

Local Church Adopts OV's Choir Robes

*"Chúa là nguồn hy vọng cho muôn dân:
God is hope for all man"*

The Vietnamese Church of Hope in Rainier Valley is a small, five year old church that meets in another church building (similar to our Gerizim Korean congregation). They had been praying for choir robes for two years, but there was just no way that they could afford them.

On Monday, July 4, their prayers were answered. Thom Tran came and picked up the choir robes that we are no longer using; the grin from ear to ear never left his face. Thom says: "Please remember us in your prayers. Thank you and God bless you all." The Church of Hope made a \$500.00 donation to Olympic View's refurbishment fund.

Many of you reading this will be overjoyed that something we had not used for years has found a new home, but we also need to be aware that the robes symbolize a bit more than an unused couch or old banner to many members of our church. At one time the robes were very important to the church, having been purchased with memorial gifts and worn with loving pride by our choir for many years. Thus for some, it may be hard to see them go.

As we look to the future and let go of unused stuff which is only gathering dust, let us also be sensitive to those for whom the church has molded and shaped their lives for many of the last 70 years. We are looking ahead, but that does not diminish the impact that the church of the past had on people. As we progress, we must always humbly consider the many past symbols of our faith community and the faithful servants of the church. Please pray that the gift of choir robes does indeed bring true and lasting joy to the Vietnamese Church of Hope. And let us pray always that we at Olympic View can continue to be as relevant in peoples lives in the future as we as a church body have been in years past! Amen.



A throw-back photo of the OV Choir circa 2005, in full blue robes and with voices lifted on high!



Pastor Jeff's last ride: a shot of his famed motorcycle adventure at camp!

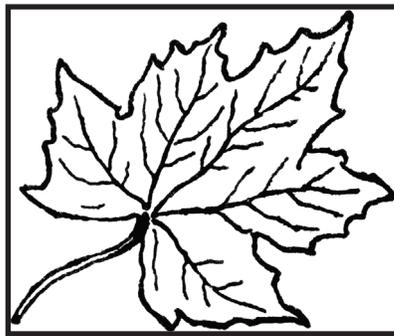
("Light Shines..." ct'd)

My heart is torn as I pledge to continue to "pray for peace while working for justice." I pray our congregation will continue to model love, peace, tolerance and compassion in the days that lie ahead. As I seem to say too often these days, after another senseless tragedy, let us remember the words of St. John, from the Gospel bearing his name: "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. In him was life and the life was the light of humanity! THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT!"

Brothers and Sisters, pray for peace, and ever seek to keep on walking in the light of Christ. In the name of Christ, keep the faith. Please read and pray on these verses of scripture—John 1:1-5.

Peace be with you all,

Pastor Jeff



Maple Leaf Summer Social

Wednesday, July 27th, 6:30-8:30 pm

That's right, the Maple Leaf Community Summer Social, complete with live music, free ice cream, and great neighbors, is just around the corner! Olympic View Church will again be hosting an info table at the event, so come out and represent our congregation and have a wonderful time at Maple Leaf Reservoir Park near the playground. See you there!

Sharing Together in Prayer

- In thanksgiving for the recently completed **kids camp at Koinonia**; everyone had a really good time, about half of the campers were from Olympic View, and the youth that participated as counselors were a great help!
- For **Willy**, who recently lost some beloved pets in their family; her daughter had her dog put to sleep, and Willy had to have her pet cat put down.
- For **Rob Miller's coworker Mary**, recently was diagnosed with cancer, prayers for her comfort and healing as she begins treatment.
- For the **Lacey Community Church of the Brethren**, celebrating 25 years of ministry with Pastor Howard Ulery, and at the same time closing the doors of their beloved church; prayers for the congregation to discern what the future holds for them.
- Prayers for **teenagers and their parents**, that they would be able to communicate and solve problems better together.
- Thanks to **the congregation** for allowing the Hershberger's to represent Olympic View at the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference two weeks ago in Greensboro, NC; it was a very busy but very meaningful week spent with over 2,500 Brethren!
- For **all those** unable to attend worship services due to illness, prayers for their comfort and healing.
- In response to **the violence all around us**: O Lord, in a world gone mad, by your Holy Spirit lead us back to thee!

Annual Community BBQ at Idris Mosque

Sunday, August 14th, 2:00-5:00 pm

All are welcome to join our friends and neighbors at Idris Mosque on Sunday, August 14 for their annual community BBQ. This is a great opportunity to meet some new neighbors and friends, not to mention eat some great food! Join Pastor Jeff in representing Olympic View Church in friendship, peace and solidarity with our Muslim community.

July 2016

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 June 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 6</i> 27	28	29	30 6:00 Youth Night	1 July	2
3 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 7</i> 4	5	6	7 6:00 Youth Night	8	9
10 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 8</i> 11	12	13 5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	14 6:00 Youth Night	15	16
17 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 9</i> 18	19	20	21 6:00 Youth Night	22	23
24 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 10</i> 25	26	27 6:30 Maple Leaf Summer Social at Maple Leaf Park	28 6:00 Youth Night	29	30
31 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 11</i>	July Outreach				

July Birthdays!

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Andrea Bowers | 21 Free Hinton |
| 4 Velda Braun | 23 Jim Barnes |
| 7 Michal Ghebrai | 23 Dennis Rempel |
| 8 Bobbi Dykema | 25 Charles Walker |
| 12 Marie Funston | 26 Rob Miller |
| 16 Jim Lamont | 27 Victor Quiroz |
| 18 Chris O'Cain | 30 Anden Hormann |

Upcoming Events

- August**
- 7 -13: Jr. & Sr. High Camp at Camp K
 - 10 OV Board & Exec. Meetings
 - 14 Idriss Mosque Community BBQ

August 2016

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 July 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 11</i> 1 August	2	3	4	5	6
				6:00 Youth Night		
7 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 12</i> 8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Jr. & Sr. High Camp at Camp Koinonia (thru 8/13)</i>			5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	6:00 Youth Night		<i>Camp K (end)</i>
14 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 13</i> 15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Idriss Mosque's Annual Community BBQ</i>				6:00 Youth Night		
21 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 14</i> 22	23	24	25	26	27
				6:00 Youth Night		
28 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<i>Pentecost 15</i> 29	30	31			

August Outreach



New Community Project
 ...promoting peace through justice,
 care for creation, and experiential learning...
 ...turning the world upside down...Acts 17:6

August Birthdays!

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Patti Berg | 18 Elizabeth Russell |
| 4 Barbara Ehli | 20 Nathan Sheller |
| 4 Nancy Utter | 22 John Russell |
| 5 Stephanie O'Cain | 23 Dan Smith-Derksen |
| 5 Byron Thill | 24 Carol Landis |
| 8 Myrna Latschaw | 25 Barbara O'Brien |
| 13 Misghana Andemichael | 26 Eunice Bell |
| 18 Tom O'Brien | 26 Jerry Bowers |

Upcoming Events

September

- 11 *Rally Sunday!*
 9:30 am - Sunday School
 10:00 am - Worship
- 10 *OV Board & Exec. Meetings*
- 14 *Idriss Mosque Community BBQ*