

Pastors Message

by Pastor Jeffrey L. Barker

Dear brothers and sisters, as we go to press with the Jan, Feb newsletter, the season of Lent is fast approaching. While the liturgical readings and worship practices of the Brethren do not, as a rule; mirror other denomination's practices around the season of Lent, we should still honor the ancient theme of Lent.

Lent, this year begins on Wednesday, March 1st. On this date, which is also, Ash Wednesday, Christians world wide, will begin the "somber" practice of intentionally focusing on the last forty days of Christ's life and ministry. During this period of self-examination, Christians are reminded of "who we are, and whose we are!" During these 40 days of "active repentance," we are called to reflect on our personal shortcomings, and our failure to truly walk in the way in which Jesus calls us to walk and live.

While Lent is a time for serious personal, and soul reflection, it is also a time for hope, as we read ever closely, the closing chapters of Christ's life and ministry. As we, the church, be we Brethren or Baptist, Congregationalist, Catholic, Lutheran or Methodist, enter this Lenten season, may we all rededicate ourselves to walking ever more closely, in the footsteps of Jesus.

One way that we can do this as a congregation is to continue to study the Bible and apply its timeless teachings in our day-to-day lives. In that vein, we just started a wonderful new Bible study series on the book of Isaiah. This multiple month series will take us through Lent, Easter and into the spring! Please consider joining us at 9:30am on Sunday's in the library for this study.

Another way we can honor the season and spirit of Lent, is to contribute to our "new" community outreach to help hungry families and youth from Olympic View Elementary School. As mentioned from the pulpit, Olympic View School sends backpacks of food home on Friday's for families and children in need. Sadly, the food taken home by these kids, may well be the only food some of these families may have for the weekend?

Brothers and sisters, as we near the beginning of Lent, let us ponder and meditate on our walk with God and Christ. While we do this, let us also remember our mission as a church and Christ's people. Let us remember to daily read, reflect, meditate and discern the Holy Bible. Then let us take to heart its teachings! Like, our call to "feed the hungry, clothe the naked and to seek justice for the oppressed!"

People of God, Peace be with you as we prepare to enter the season of Lent.
Peace be with you all, Pastor Jeff

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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

PEACEFULLY, SIMPLY, TOGETHER

by Roger Edmark

Those three words are part of a purpose statement for the Church of the Brethren – “Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. **Together.**” As we reflect on what they mean to us, I was especially convinced of how important it is that we are in ministry **together. Together!** We are in ministry in our church, district churches and national church in ways which would be impossible for us to do without doing it **together.**

Recently I had a reason to look at the ministry of the District to see what we are doing **together.** The District is about 15 churches, some are very small, which pool resources to help each other in ministry. Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren supports that by budgeting funds to work **together** in ministry with the District churches. Thus, every time the District is in ministry, we are in ministry! Here are some of the ways you are in ministry which you may not have realized. It is a great story!

- When the District Area Ministers visit and support a pastor at any of the District churches, we are there;
- When the people of the District go to rebuild a home in Eastern Washington, or New Jersey or wherever as part of our District Disaster Relief ministry, we are there;

- When we offer and then gather as a District to fellowship, be inspired and grow spiritually at the Spring Event each March in Olympia, we are there;

- When we support the beginnings of new ministries in and through the District like ‘Living Stream’ and ‘Wildwood Gathering’, we are there;

- When we support the ministries of the camps, Koinonia and Myrtlewood, we are there;

- When we send Colleen Michael as District Executive to represent us at the national level of the church, we are there;

- When we promote Winter Snow Retreat, Men’s Retreat, Women’s Retreat, summer kids, youth and family camps, we are there;

- When we send our youth off to National Youth Conference every four years, Regional Youth Conferences, Christian Citizenship Seminars or Work camps, we are there;

- When we enable set apart ministers in our district to be recognized through ordination, licensing and commissioning, we are there;

- When we gather for District Conference each fall to review the past and set a course for the future, we do it together for all of us!

None of this would be easy for any one church in our district to do alone, along with the ministries touching the heart of each individual congregation. When we do it **together** and give what we can to the benefit of all of us, we share in ministry **together** in continuing the work of Jesus.

Gerizim Korean Church

Gerizim Korean Church is celebrating their two year anniversary of the planting of their new church right here at Olympic View Community Church. They are inviting family and friends to this celebration and have extended an invitation to our congregation. Please consider attending and if you want, bring your favorite potluck dish!

The date is Feb 12, 2017

4pm in the

Fellowship Hall

NEW COMMUNITY OUTREACH! WEEKEND FOOD BACKPACKS, FOR OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAMILIES.



As mentioned in my newsletter message, we are collecting non-perishable food items for kids and families at Olympic View Elementary School. Please bring in: Cans of soup, rice, beans, tuna, mac & cheese, peanut butter, or other dry non-perishable food. We are still waiting for a more detailed menu list. More information coming later.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO ALL!

The 15th Annual St. Patty's Game Day and Green Potluck will be held in the Fellowship Hall, Saturday, March 18th! Games will begin at 3:00 pm, with dinner to follow at 5:30 pm.

Please bring your favorite board (or other) game and a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Corned beef with cabbage and potatoes will be the main dish!

This event is always a lot of fun and all are invited. You can teach your favorite game to others or learn a new one. There's always lots of laughter, not to mention great food. Please join us for a few hours of fun and fellowship! Kathy and Roger Edmark will be hosting if you need any more information

2017 PNW DISTRICT SPRING EVENT - STORIES OF HOPE

MARCH 3 - 5

Since 2015, we have gathered on the banks of Hicks Lake to foster spiritual growth, celebrate our ministries, fellowship together and tell stories. We hope you will join us this year! Special Guests: Tara Hornbacker and Mont Chris Hubbard.

Registration Information You can register online!
<http://www.cobpacificnorthwest.org> or mail in your

See website for even more information and how to register. Or contact Doug Eller, by phone 503.287.8455, or by email dougeller1@comcast.net. To register by mail please make your check to the Pacific Northwest District and mail to: 5631 N.E. 31st Ave Portland, Ore 97211

Cost:

Adult and Youth \$130.00
Children under 10 \$80.00
Family Maximum \$350.00

Address - Gwinwood Conference Center

6015 30th Ave. SE. Lacey, WA 98503.

Follow the Directions Below:

From the north take I-5 South to Exit 109 Martin Way. Turn right onto Martin Way and take an immediate left onto College St. Turn left on Lacey Blvd. (one way).

From the south take I-5 north to Exit 107 Pacific Ave. Turn right onto Pacific Ave. Proceed through round-a-bout as Pacific Ave. becomes Lacey Blvd. Follow the directions below.

From either direction turn right onto Ruddell Rd. Turn left on 25th Ave. Turn right on Hicks Lake Drive. Follow to the end and turn left onto 30th Ave. Gwinwood is at the end of 30th Ave. on the right.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY STUDY

Please come out and join us each Sunday at 9:30 in the library for our new Bible study series. Our resource for now through the spring is entitled "Isaiah, Trusting God in Troubled Times." This 22 week study is written by Howard Peskett. It is a wonderful book, and we are enjoying the thought provoking content we are studying.

DISTRICT SNOW CAMP 2017

by: Roger Edmark

The District Snow Retreat was held at Camp Koinonia the last weekend of January and the weather conditions were ideal. There was lots of snow on the ground; Snoqualmie pass was open and the road was bare; and though cold outside, it was not unbearably cold. You can see by all of the smiling faces (see pictures) that everyone had a great time. There were about 35 to 40 at the retreat enjoying good food, fun games, sledding, snow shoeing and gathering times each day.

A special thanks to Mark Ray; Covington Community pastor, Jeff Barker; OV pastor and my son-in-law, Free Hinton; worship pastor for Sanctuary church in Everett; for organizing and preparing for all the fun and worshipful times so we could gather together.

The theme of the retreat was that we need joy and laughter as we rest, recharge and reflect. God can work best through us when we are renewed and recharged. The younger kids provided special music for us on Sunday morning (see picture), and a couple of bananas (you had to be there) illustrated why it is God that puts us back together the best. Finally, a special thanks to the many people who helped to make Camp Koinonia a great place to enjoy God's world in the winter. It was a winter wonderland!



Upper Right:
Jennesse and Ben
Miller

Middle:
Ben Miller

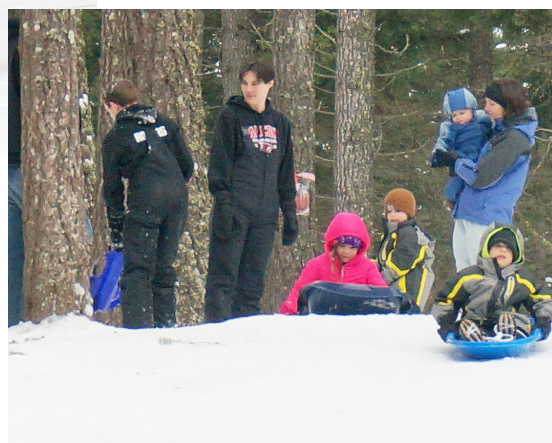
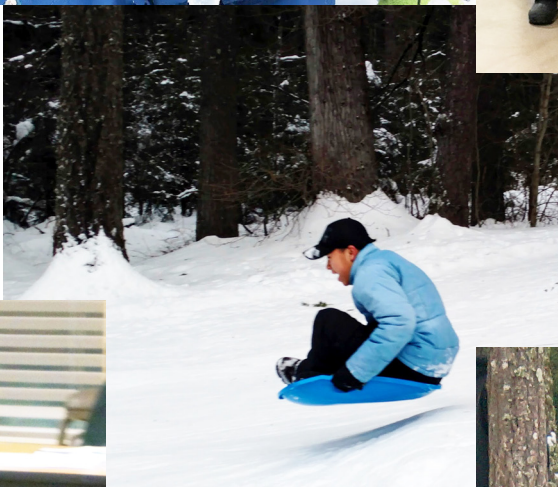
Lower Middle:
Sam Edmark



Right:
Group of district youth singing in
meeting hall

Lower Right:
Group of sledders on sled run

Lower Left: Asher Miller



January 2017

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 January <i>Christmas 1</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship	2	3	4	5 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	6	7
8 <i>First Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship	9	10	11 5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	12 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	13	14
15 <i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship	16	17	18	19 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	20	21
22 <i>Third Sunday after Epiphany</i> 279:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship	23	24	25	26	27 Snow camp	28 Snow camp
29 <i>Forth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Snow camp	30	31				

January
Outreach



January Birthdays!

1 Sharon Miller	6 Jay Michael Patterson
1 Robert Bensinger	7 Haile Bedada
1 Annie Center	8 Job Koscho
1 Lowell Geiver	12 Carmen Olsen
1 Isaiah Koscho	14 Nancy O'Cain
4 Carol Bowers	17 Amy Helmuth
5 Chia-Yin Lin	31 Maria Aliza

Upcoming Events

January

01 International Potluck
 11 OV Executive Meeting
 11 OV Board Meeting
 27-29 Snow Camp

February 2017

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 February	2 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	3	4
5 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship <i>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</i>	6	7	8 5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	9 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	10	11
12 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship 4pm Gerizim Anniversary Celebration <i>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</i>	13	14	15	16 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	17	18
19 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship <i>Seventh Sunday after Epiphany</i>	20	21	22	23 Men's Breakfast 6:30 am Youth Night 6 pm	24	25
26 9:30 Adult Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship <i>Last Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	27	28				
			February Outreach		Pacific Northwest District C.O.B.	

February Birthdays!

2 Juneem Grandison	16 Allison Coleman
3 George DeBon	22 Kathy Korff
10 Dan Fredrickson	27 Colin O'Brien
12 Joanna Calderon	28 Mary Warstler

Upcoming Events

February

8 OV Executive Meeting
8 OV Board Meeting
12 Gerizim Anniversary Celebration
14 Valentines Day