

The New Olympian

July / August 2017

The Newsletter of the Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
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PASTORS MESSAGE

by Pastor Jeffrey L. Barker

Brothers and sisters, as we go to press with the July/August newsletter, summer is here and so is the heat!

Today, after finishing my article, I leave for kids and junior camp at Camp Koinonia. Our theme for the camp this year is taken from the Gospel of St. John; 15:1-11.

The theme is entitled, "Branching Out." It relates to the aforementioned Gospel reading and Christ's telling us disciples that he is the "true vine," and we are "branches" springing forth from him! During our week at camp, we will daily seek to "plant" seeds of faith and Christ-like love into the hearts and lives of our young disciples/campers.

Daily and nightly, we will study the bible together. We will pray and sing worship songs together. We will play in the meadows, swim and hike the mountains near Snoqualmie Pass together. In short, we will seek to be one big family of God's children and staff, coming "together," to nurture and grow in our common faith in Christ.

During the week of June 27th, to July 1st, I ask you all to pray for the young people and camp staff. As we "branch out" in our



Contemplation

bible studies and play-time; may our kids and youth experience the love, grace and peace of Christ, in the beautiful, Sylvan woods and playfields of Camp Koinonia.

So, to camp I go, 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

NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR DISTRICT EXECUTIVE

I am reminded everyday how gifted the people in our District are. Our Spring Event was testimony to just some of those gifts. Hymn leading, story-telling, interest group opportunities, worship in its many forms, leadership for planning and 'making it happen,' fellowship around the table and the opportunity to bid on both Silent and Live Auction items. Together we raised a little over \$2000 to support Disaster Relief. I am not willing to take the risk of including names of all those who planned this event and who made it happen because I would need to list every person who was with us that weekend. However, having said that I will send out a BIG THANK YOU to Doug and Jan Eller for their gifts of leadership and planning; to Elizabeth Ullery-Swensen for her part in "MC'ing" and keeping our scheduled events 'on track'; to Tara Hornbecker for her gifts of ministry serving as our guest for the weekend in so many ways; to Frosty Wilkinson and Brent Carlson for coordinating our Disaster Auction; to Mont Chris Hubbard and Ben Green for sharing their music ministry gifts and to Joe Detrick, Director Office of Ministry for taking the time to be with us. It takes a village, and we have one of the best

For this and so much more, I am thankful and blessed. Update on congregations and Pastors:

Whitestone: Currently in the Search process, Bobbi Dykema serving as their Interim. From her Facebook posts, she is enjoying her ministry in the Okanogan Valley. We continue our prayers for her as she commutes from Seattle each week so she can fulfill her commitment as a Commissioned Minister for the youth at Olympic View Community Church.

Sunnyslope: Mike O'Cain is serving as their Interim pastor while the congregation continues on their Pastoral Search journey. At the recommendation of Rev. Mike Denten, (my counterpart

for the United Church of Christ) a congregational job description is being developed to accompany the Pastoral 'call' position description. They served a lovely Easter morning breakfast for our two Wenatchee congregations. They hosted the May 19 Listening Session with David Steele, our General Secretary.

Wenatchee: Brethren Baptist: Hosted the Maundy Thursday Love Feast with our Sunnyslope brothers and sisters joining. Worshipped together with Sunnyslope at the Easter Sunrise service at Rock Reach Dam. This congregation continues to participate in the Food distribution ministry in cooperation with Serve Wenatchee. Thanks to some forward thinking people many years ago, WBBC will have \$11,000 from the interest realized from their Planned Gift investment to distribute this year. These monies go to Mission beyond our walls; capital improvements not included in the budget and community outreach efforts as well as other 'non-budget' ministries.

Ellisforde: Took church council action to serve as a 'Sanctuary Congregation'. Participated in Love Feast with the Whitestone congregation and they continue their ministry through the food bank. Peace Church (Portland): Welcomed their pastor, Sarah Kinsel back from Maternity Leave. During this time Elizabeth Ullery-Swensen served as their Interim Pastor. They welcomed Owen to their church family and were glad to have Daniel and Matt with them again. David Steele was hosted by this congregation on Sunday, May 21.

Olympic View Community Church: Jeff Barker is serving as their Interim Pastor while the Search Team reviews Pastoral profiles. His 'call' has been extended until October. This congregation hosted the Listening Sessions with David Steele, our General Secretary on Saturday May 20. Celebrated our Risen Lord with Love Feast

and Easter morning service that was, in the words of Pastor Jeff, "Beautiful". Their Thursday evening Youth group continues under the ministerial leadership of Bobbi Dykema and lay leadership of Harriet Koscho and many other lay leaders who give of their time to model Christian values.

Springfield: Their plans for completing the housing project that will serve mentally challenged folks and other low income brothers and sisters continue. Mariska Seese-Green has accepted the 'call' to serve as the over-sight chair for this congregation that chooses to not have a Pastor. Sam Brackett preaches there on a regular basis and provides pastoral care as needed.

Covington Community Church: These faithful brothers and sisters will be meeting in Council on May 7 to make a decision re: their property. Their Leadership Team has spent countless hours in consultation with the City of Covington and structural engineers to come to this place of discernment and decision. Prayers for this Council are requested and appreciated.

Fruitdale Community Church: Anticipates the completion of the sale of their church building in late May or early June. These monies will go to the continued support of the lay ministry of Jim and Debra Bard in the Grants Pass area; will compensate, in part, Jim for his years of service during which the congregation was unable to offer him any kind of financial support and will offer some financial support to the Core Ministries of our District.

Living Stream Church of the Brethren: Under the Pastor Team leadership of Enten Eller and Bruce and Mary Sue Rosenberger this 'on-line' congregation continues to grow in 'cyber' ways. They decided, a few weeks ago to prepare a Congregational Profile for pub-

lication across our Denomination. Just this week they had a response from someone who accessed the profile and is interested in being 'called' to serve on the Pastor Team. They also decided to advertise in Messenger. Their advertisement is scheduled for the May/June edition. You are encouraged to participate in this 'new way of being church' each Sunday evening at 5pm Pacific Time. Just go www.living-streamcob.org. Worshipers from across the United States, Mexico, China, Canada and Germany come together via this Live Stream. TAKE NOTE: Carol Mason, one of our Area Minister will be sharing on the about her recent experiences in Nigeria.

Wildwood Gathering: Our newest 'new way of doing church' will be recognized as a Fellowship at the New Church Development breakfast at Annual Conference this year. These Brothers and Sisters, with the Pastoral leadership of Elizabeth (Liz) Ullery Swensen continues to meet every Sunday evening at 6pm on the 'upper room' of Browsers Books, downtown Olympia. They continue to explore what it means to be a 'church' through story telling, art, wilderness walks, song, Scripture engagement and participating in the elements of Brethren worship like the Love Feast and 'all are welcome' Communion.

REMINDER: Every voice is needed at our Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI June 28-July 2. Please register your delegate for this conference at Cob.org/AnnualConference. There is a \$150 scholarship available for each delegate from West of the Mississippi. What has your District Executive been up to?

January: Participated and completed in a weekend intensive course at Bethany Seminary addressing Administration as Ministry; Served as the Chair of the Council of District Executives at our winter meeting and shared a morning message at Whitestone.

February: Participated in a Search Team meeting with the Sunnyslope folks; shared messages at the Lacey Community Church and with our Living Stream congregation; attended the "Search for Meaning" Ecumeni-

cal conference on the Seattle University Campus. One set apart session addressed the issue of 'doing church in a different way' and the other session was led by the writer of the book (now a movie)....Hidden Faces. I also took advantage of being on the west side of the hills and connected face to face with Mark Ray and Elizabeth Ullery-Swensen.

March: Met with our District Board and participated in the Appreciative Inquiry Performance Evaluation of my service and ministry of our District. Participated in our Spring Event, shared the morning message at Whitestone and Peace Church then traveled to Dayton, Ohio and drove Greenville, Ohio for a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of District Executives. Was Spiritually enriched at the Prayer Retreat at my home congregation in Wenatchee. Engaged in Board conversations with Living Stream.

April: Was blessed at the Love Feast service with the Sunnyslope and my home congregation. Got very cold at the Sunrise Service at Rocky Reach Dam but was warmed by the delicious breakfast served by our Sunnyslope brothers and sisters. Engaged in conference calls with the Leadership Team of the Church of the Brethren and the Executive Committee of the Council of DE's continuing to hone our response to the question related to how District and congregations respond when not 'of one mind' with the decisions of Annual Conference. Coming Up:

May: Lunch gathering of the "Rain shadow" Pastors serving congregations on the East side of Washington; participating in the Council meeting at Covington on May 7, traveling to Portland for worship and Listening Session on May 20 then meeting face to face with the Oversight Committee at Springfield and Jim Bard, Lay minister at the Fruitdale Community Church (Grant's Pass, OR)

June-July: Sharing the morning message at Ellisford on June 18. Fly-

ing to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the summer meeting of the Council of District Executives and then serving as a delegate for my home congregation at Annual Conference. Once again I will be traveling to Camp Myrtlewood for Family Camp. I spend my office hours, usually Mon-Wed 10-2pm

WE ARE THERE:

By Roger Edmark

WE ARE THERE *When the District Area Ministers visit and support a pastor at any of our 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 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, 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 our camps, Myrtlewood and Koinonia, we are there... When Colleen, our Executive Minister travels to represent us at the national level of our denomination, we are there. When we promote, Winter Snow Camp/Retreat, Men's Retreat, Women's Retreat, Summer camping experience for our kids, youth and families, we are there,.... When we sponsor our youth to participate in National Youth Conference and Regional Youth Conference in the alternate years, we are there..... When we enable set apart ministers in our district to be recognized through Ordination, Commissioning or Licensing, we are there..... When we gather for District Conference to review and celebrate our past and set a course for our future, we do it together for all of us and we are there.*

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DAN AND KATHRYN SMITH DERKSEN MISSION TO SOUTH AFRICA



Above: Kathryn & Dan Smith Derksen and their sons, Jacob and John-Clair

The Smith Derksens are serving in South Africa and would love to update you on the mission while they are in the states in July. As many of you remember, Dan was our Administrative Secretary a few years ago, and Kathryn was our choir director, so we have many connections with them. If you want to hear more about their service in South African, come to one of the events listed below:

Sun. 9 July – Northminster Presbyterian Church in Ballard; 9-10:00 Dan & Kathryn will give a presentation, at 10:30 Kathryn will preach during the worship service.

Sun. 9 July – University Christian Church; 10:15 Dan will share during Early Coffee, at 11:00 Dan will preach during the worship service.

CHURCH CLEANUP

**Saturday, July 8th, 2017
9:30 am**

The church needs a good summer clean up, both inside and outside. If you have cleaning or gardening skills - we need you!

Sun 16 July – 10 Kathryn will preach at Evergreen Mennonite Church in Kirkland, and the Smith Derksen family will share a photo presentation and have time for questions after the service.

Fri 21 July, Open-house at Kathryn's sister's residence in Lake City, 13754 37th Ave NE. Come anytime between 4 – 8pm. Refreshments will be served and a short program will happen around 6pm. Please RSVP directly to smithderksen@gmail.com – All welcome.

CAMP KOINONIA

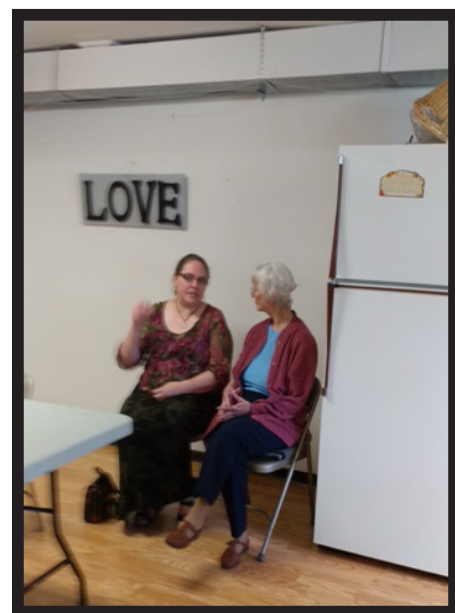
Summer has arrived, and that means it's time to start thinking about sending the kids off to summer camp.

The church office is now accepting applications. Please Pre-register your child by sending an e-mail to the church: ovsecretary@gmail.com - with camper(s) name, address, gender and grade along with parent/guardian name, phone number and email address.

BOBBI IS INSTALLED AT WHITESTONE!

On June 11, 2017, Bobbi Dykema was installed as interim pastor at Whitestone Church of the Brethren in Tonasket, WA. Bobbi brought family and friends to celebrate, with a potluck following her installation.

Bobbi reports that Whitestone wants to support our youth group by praying for the kids and by giving a parishioner a photo of a kid to sponsor in prayer.



Above: Bobbi Dykema and Colleen Michael

Then go to:

www.olympicchurch.org and either download and fill out - or fill out on-line, the application and send it off to the church office with the application fee.

Junior and Senior High Camp is for 7th - 12 grades. Bring them to camp on Sunday August 6th at 5pm, and pick them up on Saturday, August 12th at 11am. Fee is \$300.

We can't wait to see you at camp this summer!

July 2017

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship <i>Pentecost 4</i>	3	4	5	6 Youth Night 6 pm	7	8 Church Cleanup
9 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship <i>Pentecost 5</i>	10	11	12 5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	13 Youth Night 6 pm	14	15
16 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship <i>Pentecost 6</i>	17	18	19	20 Youth Night 6 pm	21	22
23 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship <i>Pentecost 7</i>	24	25	26	27 Youth Night 6 pm	28	29
30	31	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 Marie Funston	27 Victor Quiroz
18 Chris O'Cain	30 Anden Hormann

Upcoming Events

July

8 Church Cleanup
12 OV Executive Meeting
12 OV Board Meeting

August 2017

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Pentecost 8</i> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia	7 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia	8 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia	9 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia 5:30 OV Exec. Mtg. 7:00 OV Board	10 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia Youth Night 6 pm	11 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia	12 Jr. Senior Hlgh Camp Kononia
13 <i>Pentecost 9</i> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	14	15	16	17 Youth Night 6 pm	18	19
20 <i>Pentecost 10</i> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	21	22	23	24 Youth Night 6 pm	25	26
27 <i>Pentecost 11</i> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	28	29	30			

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	13 Misghana Andemichael
4 Barbara Ehli	18 Elizabeth Russell
4 Nancy Utter	22 John Russell
5 Stephanie O'Cain	23 Dan Smith-Derksen
5 Byron Thrill	24 Carol Landis
8 Myrna Latschaw	

Upcoming Events

August

6-12 Junior/Senior High Camp Kononia
 9 OV Executive Meeting
 9 OV Board Meeting