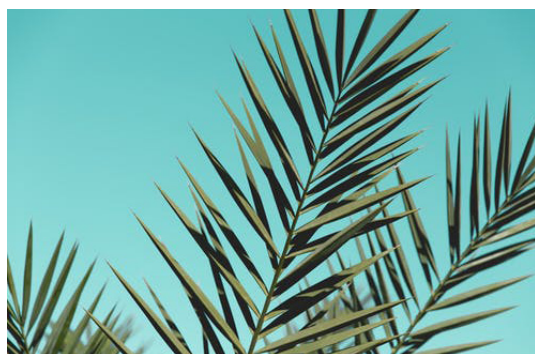


PASTOR'S REFLECTION

by Rev. Glenn A. Brumbaugh



It has been refreshing lately to see the return of the long-absent sun, with the promise of longer days and the renewal that spring promises. In the rainy, dark days of winter, it can be all too easy to become somber, and lose hope in the promise that things will get better. Yet every year, hope springs anew in the greening of the trees, the budding of flowers, even the return of the bees and mosquitoes.

In our church and our culture, we can also find ourselves losing hope. Often it seems like the darkness and dreariness have become a permanent fixture. There doesn't seem to be any hope of redemption, all can sometimes seem lost. The rancor only seems to grow in

our national dialogue, and our congregations seem to be fading away into the gloom.

But that's what the story of Lent and Easter is all about, isn't it. We aren't without hope, there is promise now, and promise to come. God is at work, here and now, seeking to bring the kin-dom of heaven to fruition. Through that work we can be God's hope, the light shining in a world that seems so full of darkness and gloom.

Our church board has been seeking ways in which we can be that light in our community. We hope to have a retreat in the near future for all of us to discern together how we can use the resources we have to give hope to our community, to show those around us what the kin-dom of heaven can look like here and now. I hope that you'll join us in that journey, as well as joining us for worship during Lent, as we explore how we can resist the those forces that would have us lose hope, and through that resistance exhibit those kin-dom values Jesus taught us in the Sermon on the Mount.

May God bless you and may you find the hope that Easter brings,

Pastor Glenn



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- 3. Book Group
- Lent/EasterPlanner
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- Spring Workshop
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- Day and Potluck
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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

Michael Stern & Friends in Concert

“Stand Up Songbook” & CD release
with special dance appearance by Erica Badgeley



Saturday March 7 at 7:00 PM

Olympic View Community Church
425 NE 95th St, Seattle, WA 98115

"Stand Up" is the only song I know that brings a crowd to its feet in the middle of a concert. Michael writes songs like that: songs that move people, lift them up and energize them to stand up for what's right.

Charlie King, singer/songwriter

... anthems for an America as it should be – a reminder that peace and justice should be our highest moral values.

David Horsey, two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist and columnist

Songs plant seeds of empathy and love within us. Songs undermine intellectual excuses for doing nothing.

... And this is why we need these beautiful, powerful songs that Michael writes. Listen to them. Sing them. Let them touch you in your core. Let them move you to stand in solidarity with people of color, the poor, immigrants and refugees, sexual minorities, and others facing violence and oppression around this country - and around the world.

Peter Blood, co-creator of Rise Up Singing and Rise Again songbooks

Free-will offering, songbook & CD sales

Songbook can be ordered at [https://bppub.net/Stand Up Songbook](https://bppub.net/Stand_Up_Songbook)



BOOK GROUP

by Harriet Koscho

The book group has been around for a whole year, which means it's time to select some new books to read!

Book group meets in the library on second Tuesdays of the month at 7. Our current book is "Time and Again" by Jack Finney. We will finish this book on Tuesday, March 10. On April 14, 2020 we will have a book party in the church library to determine what we might like to read. Bring a couple of books with you that seem interesting. We will allow each person to describe their books and generate enthusiasm in preparation for voting on which books we will read. Each person will get 5 votes, and when the counting is done, the most popular books in the voting will go on the list to be read over the next year. We have read a variety of books, but we seem to prefer books about social justice, prayer, and spiritual growth.

Please join us on April 14 at 7 to tell us what you like to read!

LENT / EASTER PLANNER

Feb 26	7pm	Ash Wednesday
April 5	11am	Palm Sunday
April 9	7pm	Love Feast / Tenebrae
April 12	7pm	Easter

Celebrate South Africa:

An evening of food, fun, and learning about the Smith Derksen's recent peacework in Cape Town.

Date: March 27, 2020
Time: doors open at 7:00, presentation at 7:45
Format: slideshow, Q&A, silent auction and raffle, light reception and music
 Place: Seattle Mennonite Church sanctuary, 3120 NE 125th St, Seattle, 98125
RSVPS: very helpful:
smithderksen@gmail.com

SPRING WORKSHOP

Hello PNWD folks,

Having moved into a period of discernment focused on life as a District, the Deep Work Team (Matt Guynn, Liz Swenson, Jan Eller, and Daniel Klayton who are coordinating District discernment effort) is planning a Spring Discernment and Envisioning Event. All people of District congregations are invited and encouraged to join in this valuable and helpful process. The Event will be held at Camp Koinonia, March 6 & 7, with the option of staying until the 8th for a time of relaxation and fellowship. The programed portion will begin with 6:00 PM dinner on Friday and conclude Saturday afternoon. Leadership will come from Gregg Carlson, a professional church life consultant and will engage in a process to help guide discernment for the District while also providing a model and insights applicable to local congregational life.

This looks like a lively and engaging time of exploring options and possibilities for all of us with the bonus opportunity to share life and enjoy Camp Koinonia in early spring.

Registration is on-line at the following link:

www.forms.gle/gNchxXd2Qg5CKP9W9

We look forward to seeing you at Camp Koinonia, Matt, Liz, Jan, and Daniel



Saint Patricks Game Day & Potluck

March 14, 2020

Board Games Start at 3pm
Fabulous Corn Beef and Cabbage served around 5pm

Bring a Dish to share!

at:
Olympic View
Community Church
425 NE 95th St. Seattle, WA 98115





Jesus in the Neighborhood

A Compelling Vision for the Church of the Brethren

(All cited scripture from the NRSV unless otherwise noted.)

Three years ago, denominational leadership recognized that we had reached a critical moment in our life together. While individuals and congregations were engaged in faithful ministry, as a denomination, it could be said we were wandering without a sense of unified purpose. Further, we were mired in soul-sapping conflict. Something needed to change. As a body, we were called into a time of intentional discernment. Like Noah in the ark, Moses before the burning bush, the Israelites in the desert, Ruth following Naomi to Judah, Elijah on Mount Horeb, Mary during her visit with Elizabeth, Jesus entering the desert following his baptism, and Paul after he had been struck blind, for almost two years, we dwelled in a challenging, disorienting, and uncomfortable, yet creative, exciting, and hopeful season of waiting and watching for God's presence and direction. Throughout, as a community, we were centered in Jesus Christ, guided by Scripture, and led by the Holy Spirit, resulting in the emergence of a new, unifying, and compelling vision for the Church of the Brethren.

Vision Statement

Together, as the Church of the Brethren, we will passionately live and share the radical transformation and holistic peace of Jesus Christ through relationship-based neighborhood engagement. To move us forward, we will develop a culture of calling and equipping disciples who are innovative, adaptable, and fearless. There is much in this rich vision to unpack as we look to scripture and theology to further interpret each significant phrase.

"Together, as the Church of the Brethren..."

Bonded to Jesus Christ, we move together toward God's New Creation. In our diversity we celebrate our unity in the person and work of the Savior, celebrating the God who makes us one. We recognize we are more than individuals; we are the people of God. In a world that favors independence and solo effort, we choose interdependence and community. We do so in the context of our Church of the Brethren heritage, living out our Anabaptist-Pietist ideals empowered by the Holy Spirit, through congregational, district, and national ministries. We believe our faith legacy lives on as we risk adventuresome acts of radical discipleship, utilizing every expression of the church, local and trans-local. In doing so, we venture forth boldly as a faith family, expectant and innovative, serving others and the God who makes all things new.

...passionately live and share..."

This vision calls us to passionate discipleship, requiring us to embody an enthusiastic zeal that glows from within us as we live and share with others. Our living should exhibit the vigor of one who is alive in Jesus Christ, thoroughly steeped in and guided by the Holy

Spirit. The manner in which we live should radiate in our homes and communities so our good works can be seen and God may be glorified. With the same passion that we live Christ-centered lives, we are called to share generously with our neighbors, in deed and by word, what we have experienced ourselves. We share so that our neighbors and our communities may participate in the blessing of abundant life in Jesus Christ, now and for eternity.

"...radical transformation..."

Radical transformation occurs only through the work of the Holy Spirit. It is characterized by an all-encompassing, profound change within those who place full faith and belief in God incarnate as revealed in Scripture—Jesus Christ. This inner transformation manifests outwardly through a life that turns away from the values of a world alienated from God and seeks to understand and embody God's holy values as revealed in Jesus Christ. Lives radically transformed by Jesus Christ become channels for the flow of Christ's powerful grace, unconditional love, and holistic peace in the world around us where the Holy Spirit continues to draw people into radical transformation for the glory of God.

"...holistic peace..."

In the beginning, God created the world in Shalom. Shalom is not simply the absence of violence, but rather the presence of a holistic peace—right, or healthy, relationships in four different ways:

- **between us and God;**
- **between us and other human beings;**
- **between us and ourselves;**
- **between us and all of creation.**

In Genesis 3 all four of these relationships become broken. The rest of the Biblical story is an account of God's varied and ongoing attempts to restore this original Shalom, ultimately culminating in sending Jesus Christ to bring about this restoration through his life, death and resurrection.

When we speak of "holistic peace" we are referring to Shalom. Since God's kingdom is already begun, but not yet complete, we are called by God to strive for and participate in Shalom, both in small, everyday ways and in large, systemic ways. For example:

- **To help others learn about Jesus and become his disciples is to participate in Shalom.**
- **To work to transform conflict, whether between individuals or nations, is to participate in Shalom.**
- **To directly address mental health issues is to participate in Shalom.**
- **To care for God's creation that has been entrusted to us is to participate in Shalom.**

“...Jesus Christ...”

Jesus Christ is the living Word, the Son of God, fully Divine and present with God at creation. He was sent from God as a human being, walking and living in the neighborhoods of Judea proclaiming God’s kingdom. We continue to delight in the presence of the living Christ through the Holy Spirit, empowering us to live as Jesus’ followers in our neighborhoods. Therefore, we confess together:

- **Jesus Christ is our Redeemer** – Through God’s extension of grace and our repentance, Christ’s redemption delivers us from sin. Our redemption through Christ restores our broken relationship with God and our Neighbors.
- **Jesus Christ is our Teacher** – Jesus’ words, deeds and example are recorded in Scripture, teaching us how to live in reconciled relationships with God and our neighbors.
- **Jesus Christ is our Lord** – We pledge to Christ alone our loyalty and obedience. All other loyalties are secondary to our commitment to follow Jesus as his disciples.

“...relationship-based neighborhood engagement...”

The body of Christ is called to be generous, sharing its resources with those in need. Many congregations quickly and enthusiastically gather food, clothing, and other resources to help those who face scarcity in relation to basic, physical needs. This vision calls us to go beyond meeting physical needs to a place where we, like Jesus Christ, are walking in authentic friendship with those who share our geographic neighborhoods. This means responding to needs and sharing our resources without partiality or condescension in the face of any differences, but rather with sensitivity, compassion, respect, and a genuine willingness to learn. It is grounded in a deep understanding that every human being stands in equal need of reconciliation with God, and when we have experienced that reconciliation we become ministers of it through trusting, faithful, long-term relationships with our neighbors. This is well done by the body of Christ when behavior toward those both within and outside the body consistently and seamlessly embodies the call to love as Jesus Christ loved, making the “walls” of the church virtually non-existent. In these times, God is calling us to be the denomination challenging its congregations to live out a deep sense of love and care for the body, soul, and spirit of each individual with whom we are privileged to engage, and an unmistakable commitment to the overall well-being of the neighborhood. Such a focus brings deeper meaning to the motto which hung above the Sauer printing press and which many Brethren have claimed as their own: “For the glory of God and our neighbor’s good.”

“...culture...”

We will reorient the entire “nature and being” of our denomination around a missional (e.g., outwardly focused) mindset. To this end, we call every element of our denominational system (Mission and Ministry Board, Annual Conference agencies, Districts, Congregations) to realign their language, norms, beliefs, symbols, values, and priorities

around an external focus to reach persons for Jesus Christ and His other way of living. We will create a culture of empowerment that encourages and equips the local church to reach persons with a comprehensive message of salvation, declaring Jesus Christ as Lord of all life. It is understood that such a kingdom emphasis summons congregations to respond prophetically, systemically, and globally, even while reaching out locally. We recognize such refocus will require loss but claim the biblical hope that as some things die, there is, nevertheless, the promise of new life. We further affirm such rebirth is a gift of the Holy Spirit; thus, we recommit to a renewed denominational language of dependence on God’s provision and the sufficiency of Jesus Christ.

“...calling and equipping...”

It has been said that “God doesn’t call the equipped. God equips the called.” Within the Church of the Brethren, we affirm the “priesthood of all believers.” Therefore, as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are all called to partner in God’s ongoing work of redemption. Further, we can trust that God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, will equip us—individually and as a community—with all we need to do God’s will. However, that doesn’t mean it isn’t important for us to actively call and equip people to lead us special ways. As we embark on this journey into our neighborhoods to live and share the radical transformation and holistic peace of Jesus Christ with grace and humility, it is incumbent upon us to be attentive to the movement of the Holy Spirit in our own lives and in the lives of our neighbors, to discern the God-given gifts in one another and ourselves, to call out those among us who can lead us into our neighborhoods, and to partner with God in equipping our faith communities—through teaching, prayer, communal study of Scripture, and a consistent, faithful openness to what God is calling us to do and be.

“...disciples who are innovative, adaptable, and fearless...”

Discipleship connects not only the head (learning and growing in faith and knowledge) and the heart (allowing us to feel the needs of those around us); it also connects to our hands (challenging us to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in this world). Consider the disciples who walked with Jesus Christ and the radical manner in which they lived out their call. They interacted with outcasts, they engaged others in unique ways, they were molded and shaped into evangelists, encouragers, empathizers, and those who empowered others. Even in the first century, these radical disciples changed the way people thought about life, faith, and community. Men and women, together, demonstrated a new hope found only in Jesus Christ. To be disciples in the 21st century, we need look no further than those first disciples and the cloud of witnesses that came after them. Disciples throughout the years were fearless in their pursuit of Jesus Christ. They were risk-takers, seeking opportunities to let go of their needs and surrender to the call of Jesus in their lives. They had courage to share the holistic peace and radical transformation Jesus Christ offered. At each step of history, disciples were innovative in sharing this transformation and peace in a constantly evolving world. New ways of connecting, sharing the gospel, and building community change with every generation. Like the disciples who preceded us, we need to be adaptable in both the means by and opportunities in which we share that hope. In a fractured culture, we must be courageous and discerning of new ways to proclaim Jesus Christ in order to passionately live out Christ’s call for our neighborhoods and world

March 2020

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	2	3	4	5	6 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	7
8 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	9	10 Book Group	11 4pm OV Board	12 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	13 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	14
15 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	16	17 Book Group 7pm	18	19 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	20 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	21
22 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	23	24	25	26 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	27 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	28
29 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	30	31				

March Outreach



March Birthdays!

2 Jaren Hormann	16 Aspen Colton
4 Cathy Oberg	19 Ken Rieman
6 Olivia Russell	20 Robert Oberg
7 Kathryn Smith-Derksen	22 Sharon Aliza
8 Agnes Gallagher	26 Denise Fredrickson
16 Gavin Bowers	31 Jason Hinton Jr.
16 Conner Bowers	

Upcoming Events

March

6-7	Spring Workshop - Koinonia
10	Book Group - Library
11	OV Board
Thur	Breakfast Club

April 2020

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	4
5 Palm Sunday 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	6	7	8 OV Board 4pm	9 Tenebrae Love Feast 7pm Breakfast Club 6:30am	10 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	11
12 Easter 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	13	14 Book Group 7pm	15	16 Breakfast Club 6:30am	17 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	18
19 Second Sunday of Easter 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	20	21	22	23 Breakfast Club 6:30am	24 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	25
26 Third Sunday of Easter 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	27	28	29	30		

April Outreach

**EARTH
MINISTRY**



April Birthdays!

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Beth Hormann | 19 Jeff Keuss Sr. |
| 3 Joe Edmark | 23 Jessica Quiroz |
| 4 Christine Beckman | 24 Kelli O'Brien |
| 5 Kristi Morris | 25 Dennis Hormann |
| 14 Micah Bowers | 26 Sabra Hernandez |
| 16 Betty DeBon | 27 Kaila Schober |

Upcoming Events

April

- 5 Palm Sunday
- 8 OV Board @ 4pm
- 9 Tenebrae Love Feast @7pm
- 12 Easter
- 14 Book Group @ 7pm
- Thur Breakfast Club

May 2020

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	2
3 <i>Easter 4</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	4	5	6	7 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	8 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	9
10 <i>Easter 5</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	11	12 Book Group 7pm	13 4pm OV Board	14 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	15 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	16
17 <i>Easter 6</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	18	19	20	21 Breakfast Club Northaven 6:30am	22 Good Samaritan Church 7-8pm	23
24 <i>Easter 7</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship New Point Church 1-3 pm Good Samaritan Church 6-8 pm	<div>May Outreach</div>					

May Birthdays!

3 Susanna Rempel	17 John Braun
5 Orlay Johnson	25 Jacob Smith-Derksen
9 Angela Hinton	25 Lowell Flory
10 Dr. Jeanesse Miller	26 Marta Petty
11 June Grandison	26 Percy Dawson
12 Jeff Barker	27 Jordan Thill
12 Lyah Martinez	29 Keith Russell

Upcoming Events

May

6-7	Spring Workshop - Koinonia
12	Book Group - Library
13	OV Board
31	Pentecost
Thur	Breakfast Club