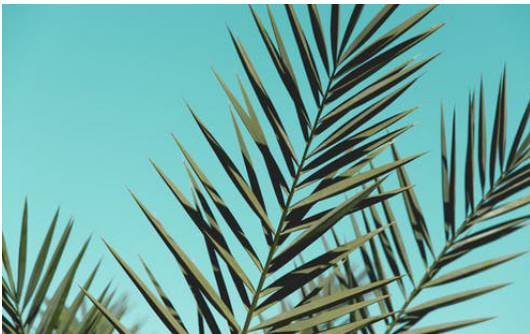


The Newsletter of the Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
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PASTOR'S REFLECTION

by Rev. Glenn A. Brumbaugh



Spring is in the air! The end of winter is in sight! While this winter was fairly tame, it is always joyous to see plants starting to sprout, and the sun shining more often.

As a church, we have begun our Lenten journey as well. Ash Wednesday sets the tone for this reflective time of meditation and fasting, in whatever manner we choose to live that out in our daily lives. In our weekly, hybrid worship, we have begun a journey in the wilderness as we follow Jesus to Holy Week through stories, specifically the parables that have formed such an important base for much of our faith and values, looking at those familiar stories from new perspectives.

As a congregation and a community, we have also been spending time in our own version fasting and meditation as we have

journeyed through our own wilderness of pandemic. Our world has rapidly changed all around us, and as the body of Christ, we have and continue to adapt to the changes in our culture and community wrought by COVID-19. Like Jesus, we seek to be led by the Spirit in our own Lenten wilderness journey, seeking God at work among and around us, and what our calling in that work is in our new reality.

We hope to emerge from this time of desert discernment with new vigor and focus for what new work God has planned for us. As we journey together towards Holy Week, I would urge you to take time to pray and reflect on who do you feel called to be as an individual, and what we feel we are called to as Christ's body in this community. To that end, we will be scheduling some intentional time together in the near future to seek God's leading in what is next for our faith community, what our mission will be going forward, in these ever changing times for the church.

May we all find meaning and discernment in this most holy and reflective time of the year.

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Glenn

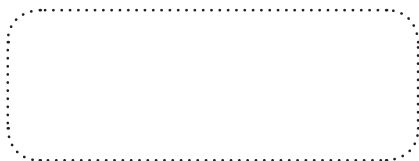


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PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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



Inhabit Conference 2022 April 29th and 30th – in Seattle!

by Pastor Glenn

Next month we are truly blessed to have the opportunity to attend the inhabit Conference which is taking place here in Seattle this year.

This annual conference is a chance for church members and leaders to gather together and share stories of being the church in our own neighborhoods. It's an opportunity to network with others facing the same struggles, and find hope together in what could be possible for the future. This is an excellent opportunity for us as the local church to hear new possibilities for how we might use the resources we have to make a difference in our own communities.

More information can be found on their website:

<https://www.parishcollective.org/inhabit-2022>

Please consider attending this unique opportunity. As the Church of the Brethren is one of the sponsors this year, we will be invited to meet with several of the key speakers in a more informal session limited to COB attendees. There is financial assistance available for the registration fee from the denomination if you are interested.

Please contact the church office if you are interested by April 1st via email at ovsecretary@gmail.com, or leave a voicemail at (206) 525-8900. Hope to see you there!

Love Feast

Sharing Love Feast together certainly seems like a distant memory, doesn't it? With quarantines and COVID surges these past two years, we haven't been comfortable sharing time together in such an intimate setting. However, as COVID rates continue to drop, and with a largely vaccinated and boosted group, we are planning to revive our Maundy Thursday tradition by meeting for Love Feast at 7 PM on April 14th.

Please let us know if you are interested in attending so we can get an idea of what resources we will need to plan for by emailing the church office at ovsecretary@gmail.com or leaving a voicemail at (206) 525-8900 by Monday, April 11th. I hope you take this opportunity to join together in taking part in this sacred meal and time of humble service.

Northaven West

by Anita LaFranchi

Olympic View Community Church welcomes our new tenant. An organization called "Human Good." Northaven West is opening up a new wing at Northaven and they are taking applications at Olympic View Community Church until they open their new offices in April 2022.

The Apartments offered are income restricted for seniors that have a household of at least one member aged 62 or older at the time of application. Maximum income is based on the number of residents. One resident \$48,600 or a couple at \$55,560 per month. All applicants must satisfy the resident selection criteria and WSHFC requirements. Everyone is welcome to apply.

Northaven West offers:

- For low and moderate incomes
- Affordable rates
- Studios and 1-Bedroom apartments
- New construction – opening April 2022
- Contemporary finishes
- On-site maintenance
- Access to amenities and services of adjacent Northaven, an established senior community
- Pet-friendly (breed and weight restrictions)
- Great location – 2 blocks to Northgate Mall and light rail.

OPENING APRIL 2022

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW

APPLY NOW!

Call (833) 924-7229

BOOK GROUP

by Harriet Koscho

3rd Wednesdays at 7 pm

We have a lively and thought-provoking book group which meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 7pm pacific time (*That's March 16 this month!*) A good book can generate a lot of good discussion. We tend to select shorter books and it is easy to participate even if you haven't read the whole thing. We encourage our members to underline or highlight the paragraphs and pages that are interesting. It's really fun, and we are inviting **YOU** to join us!

This month we are starting a new book, *Regarding the Pain of Others* by Susan Sontag. It's only 130 pages in total, and we're only reading the first three chapters which gets us about halfway through the book to page 60.

We had no idea that this book would be so pertinent to recent events with the beginning of the war of Russian aggression against Ukraine. It is an essay about news photography - specifically images of wars and disasters.

Nonstop imagery (television, streaming video, movies) is our surround, but when it comes to remembering, the photograph has the deeper bite. Memory freeze-frames; its basic unit is the single image. In an era of information overload, the photograph provides a quick way of apprehending something and a compact form for memorizing it. The photo is like a quotation, or a maxim or proverb. Each of us mentally stocks hundreds of photographs, subject to instant recall.
~ **Susan Sontag, p.22**

Covid has faded for the moment, but we still want everyone to wear masks if you are coming in person. We'd like to see six months or so without a COVID resurgence before we relax all pandemic precautions.

Zoom Bible Study

Wednesdays at 3 PM

by Pastor Glenn

All are invited to join our Zoom Bible Study, which currently meets Wednesday at 3 PM. We are currently finishing up a study of the book of Isaiah, and are looking for suggestions of what may be of interest to dig into next.

Generally we focus on a particular book of the bible, or a theme among several books. If you have something you'd like to explore, please don't hesitate to reach out to Bill Hershberger, bilnsyl@frontier.com or Pastor Glenn, vicar-glenn@gmail.com.

Our current meeting time is scheduled to make it possible for Roger and Kathy Edmark to attend from Japan, though we may transition to an more convenient time in the evening upon their return.

If you would like to join us, please send an email to the church office at ovsecretary@gmail.com, and we'll make sure to get an invite to you with the Zoom link. Hope to see you there!

A Brief Word About COVID

by Harriet Koscho

Covid-19 infection rates have gone down drastically since the December peak. However, we are not comfortable with removing our requirement that everyone should wear a mask inside the church.

Even though King County is lifting the indoor mask requirement on March 11, many arts organizations in Seattle are requiring masks through May 31, 2022. This includes Town Hall in Seattle, Beneroya Hall, Frye Art Museum, and many more. We will likewise require masks through May 31, which reduces the chances of spreading COVID if there is another wave of infection.



In honor of St. Patrick

GAME DAY AND POTLUCK!

March 26, 2022 3-6pm

- Potluck begins at 5pm
- Corned beef provided
- Bring a dish to share



Join us for classic board and card games

Scrabble, Zonk, Uno, Jenga,
Dominoes, Telestrations
Fun for all ages!

NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT ...TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN... CP'S 2022 SPRING CAMPAIGN

KEEP 'EM SAFE!

NCP Nepali partner Shakti Samuha is urgently requesting funds to build a protective wall around a shelter for girls who survived sex trafficking and domestic abuse, as they are at risk from the same ones who used to abuse them.

A devastating 2015 earthquake destroyed Shakti Samuha's shelter for survivors of sex trafficking in the Sindupulchok district of Nepal. As this is a heavily trafficked area, it was critical that it be replaced. The previous shelter was in a rental facility, so NCP raised funds to buy land for Shakti to have their own shelter, with the local government agreeing to pay for construction of the building.

Currently, 15 girls - ranging in age from 5-15 - live there, along with several Shakti staff. They are typically there for six months or so until conditions are right for them to be reintegrated into their families. The daily routine involves rising at 6 a.m., yoga, dance classes, breakfast, school, chores, skill training such as knitting. Older girls receive three hours of nonformal education. (We can't show the girls' faces for privacy and security reasons.)

"We can breathe easy now with the land and the home – we can live in peace," house mother Harikala told us on our January 2022 Learning Tour.

Except for one thing: as Shakti helps the girls bring their traffickers to trial, these criminals are often out to seek revenge and/or to kidnap them to further exploit them. And currently there is nothing standing between them and a house full of young women and their caretakers. Thus, Shakti's urgent request for funds to build a wall around the property.

The cost is \$25,000. None of Shakti's other supporters have shown interest in helping out. That leaves us.

- Raised so far: \$18,667

Can you or your group, class, club, congregation lend a hand to keep these girls safe? We're suggesting to groups that they consider contributing one or more "shares" at \$250 each - or of course whatever they can raise. For others of us, a gift in any amount is deeply appreciated. Give at the tab above or by check to NCP, 117 Nature Road, Blue Ridge, VA 24064.

As always, 100 percent of donations to our Special Projects go to the programs themselves.

Donate here to build the wall

<https://www.newcommunityproject.info/keepemsafe>

Copied off the New Community Project web page. To donate use the link above,