

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

## Debbie Eisenbise To Help Direct and Guide Us.

by Harriet Koscho



We now have a part-time transitional pastor! It's Debbie Eisenbise who also serves on the Living Stream CoB pastoral team, and will be working remotely with us over the next six months. Her purpose is to provide "big picture" direction and guidance for our congregation. She's urging us to come up with ways to describe

ourselves that are accurate with who we are currently, and not who we used to be ten years ago. This will help us fill out the congregational profile needed in the process of looking for a new settled pastor. We will also need a local interim pastor for about a year to preach and provide pastoral care while we are searching; somebody who is ordained but not necessarily Brethren. Debbie will also be helping us update our constitution and by-laws, which need to be re-evaluated every 7-10 years. We have a great opportunity in this moment to refine and clearly articulate our understanding of who we are, the ministry to which we are called, and our vision of the future. This will help us as we establish ourselves in this new home and search for a new pastor. Your input and participation will make a real difference in this process. Look for invitations to engage in the weeks and months ahead.



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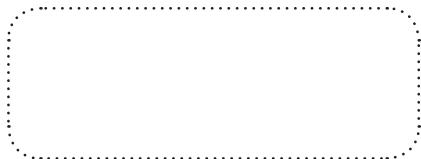
2. Olympic View New Address
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Olympic View  
Community Church  
Sale Donation



D·E·A·C·E

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



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



## OLYMPIC VIEW NEW ADDRESS!

by Roger Edmark



**OLYMPIC VIEW  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**



**SUNDAY WORSHIP**      **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
Dec 17th at 11am      Dec 24th at 3pm

**NORTHAVEN SENIOR LIVING**  
Harbor Room



Friends, Neighbors and  
Church Members,

Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren has completed the sale of the church building and property and has moved to Northaven Senior Living as our new home for worship. Northaven was started by the church over 50 years ago, and has continued to be supported by the church community to this day.

Here is a link to Northaven's website:  
<http://northavenseniiorliving.org/>

### **The church's new address is:**

Olympic View Community Church  
c/o Northaven  
11045 8th Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98125

Please send all correspondence, including donation checks sent through the mail, to this new address. If you send donations through the mail via online banking, make sure that you have changed the address associated with the church in your banking application.

Our phone number will be the same, 206-525-8900, though it is possible that we might have a short interruption in service as we move to a new provider.

Worship is at 11:00 am each Sunday in the Harbor Room of Northaven. All are welcome! You can also find us on YouTube or Facebook each Sunday, or watch the recording of the service after it is posted early in the week.

YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIwyIUer\\_eFk6QVZ9XWTAjg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIwyIUer_eFk6QVZ9XWTAjg)

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/ovcob/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/ovcob/live_videos/)

The service on Dec 24, has moved from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and will be the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. If you would like to get messages like this via email, send an email to [ovsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ovsecretary@gmail.com) and we will add you to the email list.

**We hope we will see you  
at our new location!**

## ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD

by Roger Edmark

The church's story begins in 1948 when a new building was built by the Phinney Ridge Church of the Brethren in Seattle. The pastor, Rev. Dewey Rowe, went door to door in the neighborhood telling everyone no matter what denomination they had once been a member of that "this was their church". He was genuine and caring and people came. The church was named Olympic View Community Church because it was the community's church. Over the last 75 years, it grew, it flourished, it grew older, it split once, it grew even older, and eventually started to decline in membership. But through it all it still served the neighborhood, supported the district, was an advocate for the camps and stayed relevant. We started to rent space to a Mandarin language pre-school. A Spanish speaking church came on Sunday evening, a Korean church Sunday afternoon, and eventually the Eritrean Orthodox Church on Sunday mornings. We stayed true to the word "Community" in our name.

During the pandemic we continued to worship together, but older members became satisfied joining online. We realized that a lot of energy was being put into managing the churches tenants. The income from those tenants was keeping the church afloat, but we questioned whether that was our calling. The work of managing the facility fell on a few people and they were starting to show signs of burnout. As we started to look again to the future

in 2022, Northaven Senior Living came to us with the suggestion that we could worship there as a church. Northaven, which was started by the church 50 years ago, is only one mile north. As the congregation discerned the church's future, worshiping at Northaven became the consensus choice for the immediate future.

So much of a congregation's history can be tied to the structure they meet in and we were no different. Though it was prime property in Seattle and developers would find it desirable, it had been a house of worship and still was for us. The only thing that felt right was to pass it on to another congregation that loved and honored it as a house of worship for them. The Eritrean Orthodox church heard that we might be considering moving and sent us a letter of interest. "Don't sell it until you talk with us." We did and they have now purchased the building. We started to worship anew at Northaven on a campus of 300 residents. It is exciting and glorious while being challenging at the same time.

It all started with a commitment to the Olympic View neighborhood 75 years ago. A commitment which brought Jesus into the neighborhood. A commitment which continues as the Eritrean Orthodox church serves that community; and as our congregation moves forward to start something new as we worship and serve amongst the Northaven community.



## THANKSGIVING BASKETS 2023

by Harriet Koscho

### Happy Thanksgiving everybody!!

Thanks to everyone who helped procure, store, box and deliver Thanksgiving baskets! We provided food for 78 families this year, including families from Olympic View Elementary School and the Broadview family shelter.

Each basket is a box filled with everything you need to prepare a homemade feast: yams, carrots, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, chickens for small families, and turkeys for large ones.

We all worked together and donated, shopped, packed, and received families picking up their boxes. Special thanks to Sea Bend Meats for 3 lb fresh whole chickens! We appreciate you. Also thanks to the View Ridge PTA, Northaven (for storing frozen turkeys), and Sunny Language Academy. We also salute some amazing individuals; Ronda and her friend shopping for pies, Gabrielle, Sherae, Lynnae, Kristi, Roger, Jana, Joyce, and others who helped along the way. And Harriet who coordinated everything. She's become something of an expert in bulk purchases and keeping costs down.



## OLYMPIC VIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH SALE DONATION

by Roger Edmark

### Background

Over the last 20 years or more, our church budgets have included a tithe of 10% of our annual income to outreach. The tithe funds went to organizations outside the doors of the church that the congregation was interested in supporting.

To be consistent with our 10% tithing practice, it is proposed that we likewise donate \$310,000 from the sale proceeds to outreach. Each of the following organizations will receive a portion of the tithe as determined by the action of the Board at the December Board meeting.

### **Pacific Northwest District of the Church of the Brethren (\$200,000)**

Though it is up to the PNWD as to how the money we send them is used, we would be pleased if they chose to support three ministries which are important to the PNWD: Camp Koinonia, Camp Myrtlewood, District Disaster Relief Ministry

### **Other Disbursements (\$110,000)**

Additional disbursements will be divided among the following:

Church of the Brethren: Mission & Ministry Board, Brethren Volunteer Service and Children's Disaster Services

Church of the Brethren Agencies: On Earth Peace, Bethany "No Debt Education" Initiative

Other Organizations: Northaven, New Community Project, Community Peacemaker Teams, Step by Step (Pregnancy Support); Doctors Without Borders; North Helpline