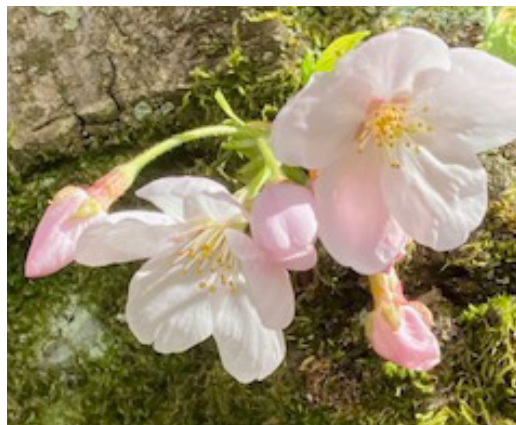


The Newsletter of the Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
tel. 206.525.8900 • olympicchurch.org • email: ovsecretary@gmail.com

PASTORIAL SEARCH PROCESS

by Harriet Koscho




The Pastoral Care team and the Board have both been working hard on various aspects of calling a new pastor. Both groups have been working with Rev. Debbie Eisenbise in frequent Zoom meetings to work out any kinks in the process, and these efforts are making a lot of progress!

The Pastoral Care team, under Roger Edmark’s leadership, has posted a job opening for an interim pastor, and they have contracted Jeanne Rempel as an interim visitation pastor. She has

been reaching out to our wider church community to reconnect with some of our long-time friends and members to find out how they are doing, and what their interests may be.


Debbie has told the board that our five years goals are the most important thing to consider for our congregation before we call a pastor. The board is reading the book “How to Lead If You Don’t Know Where You’re Going” by Susan Beaumont. Short take: This is a time of discernment and listening - a time for big picture thinking - and a liminal time in which much is possible!

Back in January we called a General Assembly to vote on suspending our bylaws and constitution so that we can change them to meet our current needs. This needs to be done every five years or so, but in our case the last revisions were in 2013. Debbie has instructed the board to highlight which portions of the bylaws are actually being used, which seems like a very sensible approach! We will have more of this work done by the time of the next General Assembly on April 28.



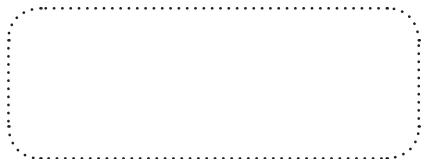
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D · E · A · C · E

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



The New Olympian
Olympic View Community Church of the Brethren
11045 8th Ave. NE
Seattle WA 98125

SHARING IN SERVICE TO THE LORD!

by Roger Edmark

When we sold the Church building at 95th and 5th in Seattle at the end of November 2023, we decided to donate 10% of the proceeds from the sale. We chose several organizations within the Church of the Brethren (COB), others with ties to the COB, and local organizations in the Greater Seattle area. With each donation, we sent them a letter. We want to share with you some of the comments we have received from them.

Brethren Volunteer Services (BVS) Response

“On behalf of the BVS team, I want to thank you all for your recent donation! We were very touched to receive your generous gift. Both the Faith X trip and BVS orientation loved their time at Camp Koinonia! Hopefully, we will be back in the future, and when that happens, we will have to find a way to connect with your congregation. We really appreciate your financial support and your support in sharing about the BVS ministry. We definitely couldn't do it without supporters like you! THANK YOU!” *In Peace, Chelsea Goss Skillan, Director.*

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) Response

“Thank you so much for your gracious gift to CDS. Your thoughtfulness will help continue the mission of serving young children and their families after disasters.” *Sincerely, the CDS team, Carolyn Neher, Mike Scalzi, Roy Winter..*

North Helpline Response

“Thank you for your donation.” From all of us at North Helpline, we hope you have a wonderful new year. Your support continues to shine bright, keeping food on the table and a roof overhead for all our neighbors. Thank you for your very generous support!” *Sarah Brehman, Development Coordinator..*

Doctors Without Borders Response

“On behalf of the staff of DWB, I want to thank you for your generous gift. Your contribution helps ensure that our patients receive the care they so urgently need, no matter their circumstances. In the past few months alone, support from caring donors like you has helped us respond to a range of emergencies in more than 70 countries.

“Our critical work to deliver emergency care to people caught in crises wouldn't be possible without your generous support. Thank you for being part of our important life saving mission.” *Avril Benoit, Executive Director.*

Bethany Theological Seminary Response

“On behalf of all Bethany Theological Seminary students, faculty and staff, please accept my sincerest thanks for your gift. Please know that we value your support of the Seminary and her students and that we will be good stewards of your gift. Thank you for your generosity and commitment in supporting Bethany and our graduates. By removing the stumbling block of debt, more students are free to pursue God's call.” *Jeff Carter, President.*

New Community Project (NCP) Response

“Hello folks. Hope all is well out there. “We received the generous donation from Olympic View - wow. We're considering how best to put it to use, as it presents opportunities to reach out in creative and otherwise-not-possible ways.” *David Radcliff, Director.*
PS. David has since told us that NCP will use a portion of the funds to build a clinic at an Girls school in South Sudan.

Step by Step (SBS) Response

In appreciation for the role our realtor, Teresa Patton, played in the sale of the building, we gave a gift to Step by Step in her name. Jana Helmuth said that Teresa emailed her and said the following: “SBS called [me] and said they did receive the check yesterday. They are very appreciative and thankful.”

Community Peacemaker Teams (CPT) Response

“Thank you and everyone from Olympic View Community Church for this generous donation. I am Julie, CPT's outreach coordinator. I also coordinate congregational outreach for CPT. I would love to talk more and explore possibilities of someone from CPT visiting your congregation either in-person or via zoom. They would be able to update folks on the meaningful ways that this donation will impact our partners on the ground in our program areas. If this is something that you think people in your community would enjoy, let's talk more.” *Julie Brown, Outreach Coordinator.*

Continued next page



BOOK GROUP

by Harriet Koscho

On Earth Peace (OEP) Response

“Thank you for supporting the ministries of On Earth Peace. Because of you, we are making a difference.

“Your gift of \$10,000 received January 24, 2024, ensures the message of justice and peace will continue for the next 50 years. Your steadfast support of our ministries enables On Earth Peace to bring powerful programs of training and accompaniment to the individuals, groups and congregations we serve.

“We thank you for your generous and continued support. Every dollar, every prayer and every volunteer hour is valuable to us. We are grateful for all you do to help as we work for justice and peace in our nation and in our world.”
Darlene Johnson, Administration Director.

Northaven Senior Living Response

“First, let me say how honored we are to have you all as part of the Northaven Community and I believe we have come full circle in our missions. Such a blessing!

“We want to thank you for your generous \$10,000 donation which will be used towards the intergenerational programming for our new Workforce Housing Building with a low-income Early Learning childcare program. We are excited as we begin the intentional planning with this team and how to integrate into the Northaven community.

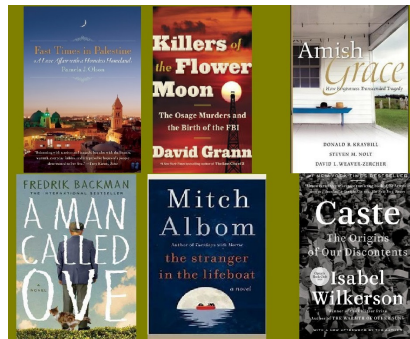
“Thank you so much for all you are doing to keep Northaven strong. “Again, thank you to Olympic View church for the generous support of the Northaven Community.” *Darlene Storti, Executive Director.*

Camp Koinonia Response

“Thank you for your recent donation of \$10,000 to Camp Koinonia’s bridge project. We are able to use these funds to secure safe transportation of our guests across our KRD canal bridge. This has been a long effort to make the bridge safe and include barriers for children to avoid accidental falls into the canal. Because of your generosity, we are 1/3 of the way to paying for the \$34,000 total bridge expenditures. That is an amazing start!”
Thank you, Kevin Eichhorn, Executive Director.

Mission and Ministry Board Response

“Just a quick note to let you know that after several attempts by the Post Office to locate the registered mail, it has finally been delivered and I have all three envelopes. I will give the envelopes to the appropriate staff (BVS, CDS, and David Steele). David Steele is in the office today and opened the one addressed to him. I am so grateful that you called so we could track the package down!” *Blessings, Nancy, David Steele’s secretary.* [David Steele is the General Secretary of the COB]



In April, the book group will be reading the last book on our list for the 2023-2024 season. It’s “Amish Grace”, which is about the community response to a mass shooting at an Amish school in which 10 girls died between the ages of

6 and 13. The Amish are anabaptists, as most of us know, so it will be interesting to learn more about their process for healing their community.

As this book is rather short, we will use the month of May as an opportunity to show one of the movies that have been made about books we have read this year. Our choices are “Killers of the Flower Moon”, “Origin”, or “Amish Grace” - since we already watched “A Man Called Ove” last fall!

In June we will select books for the 2024-2025 season. This is always a great party, and we would love to get suggestions from you. We all bring books or book reviews to make a list of 20 books or so - then we trim the list down by voting for the ones each person thinks sound the most interesting. We generally read a mix of secular and religious books, and usually one of them is from the perspective of a person with deep faith that isn’t Christian.

We meet in the old church library at 3:30 on the third Wednesday of the month - and you are welcome to join us on Zoom as well.

WE HAVE MOVED!

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 remain the same - 206-525-8900

SPRING EVENT 2024

by Harriet Koscho

The Church of the Brethren 2024 Spring Event approaches!

The Spring Event will be held both online and in-person at the Gwinwood Retreat Center in Lacey, WA, from Friday evening of April 19th through Sunday morning of April 21st. This will be a time of community, song, and spiritual exploration. This year's Spring Event will be our first hybrid in-person spring gathering since 2019!

Date and time

April 19 · 5pm - April 21 · 11am PDT

Location

Gwinwood Retreat Center
6015 30th Avenue Southeast Lacey, WA 98503

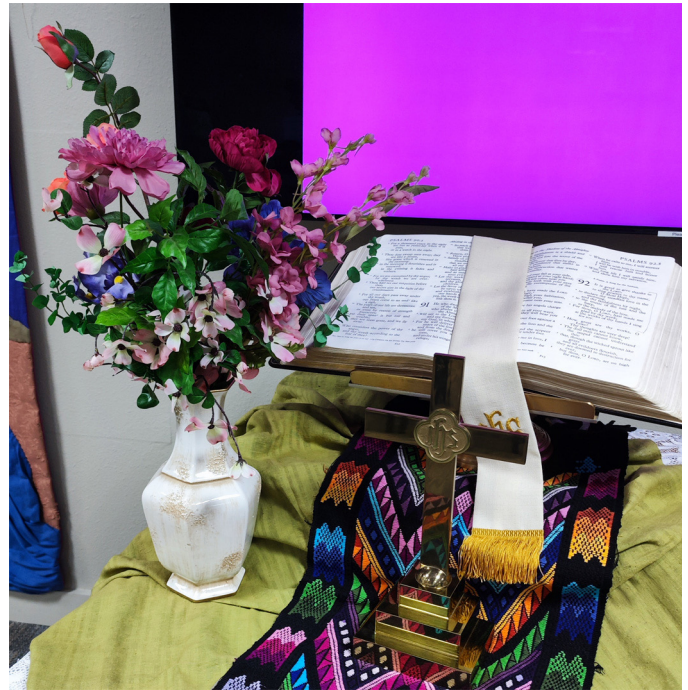
Tickets

Attendees can participate either online through Zoom or in-person at the Gwinwood Retreat Center in Lacey, Washington.

Tickets for online participation is free. Costs for in-person attendance at the Gwinwood Retreat Center cover overnight lodging and meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast).

Scholarship options are available when selecting registration tickets, to ensure that financial concerns are not a barrier to participation. There is also a donation option for those who would like to donate funds to financially support this scholarship program (this will appear in your order as an additional ticket).

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Sunday March 24 - 11 am

Palm Sunday with Communion

Thursday March 28 – 6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday foot washing service

Sunday March 31 - 11 am

Easter

All services will be held in the Harbor Room at Northaven. The Maundy Thursday service will not be live-streamed, but we welcome you to come in person!

Our Holy Week pastor is Rev. Jonny Finlayson

