

Northwest Passage

NEWS FROM THE WIDER CHURCH

The African-American Disciples Leadership Development Conference will be held at Transylvania University in Lexington, KY, July 15-16, 2010. This conference is aimed at emerging African-American leaders, 16-20 years of age. Thanks to sponsors and grants there is no charge for registration, housing and meals for the event. Some travel scholarships may be available. Please contact the Regional Office for more information.

New Book from Chalice Press is Helpful for Church Elders Eldership at the Lord's Table By Lara Blackwood Pickrel

Eldership at the Lord's Table meets the needs of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) elders in the 21st century. Elders may minister in a variety of ways, but the one common ministry setting for elders throughout the denomination is weekly ministry at the Lord's Table. This resource offers elders the instruction and assistance they need for their Table Ministry without expecting them to read a lengthy volume on history and theology.

Eldership provides the reader with a concise history of Table eldership with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a brief treatment of common Disciples' theology of the Lord's Supper, helpful hints on how to craft meaningful and brief communion prayers for both bread and cup, examples of communion prayers, and annotated lists of resources that can be consulted by elders if they would like to study further or seek assistance in other areas.

ISBN# 978-08272-08254 26 pages Price: \$3.99
Chalice Press Customer Service Phone Number: 1-800-366-3383 www.chalicepress.com

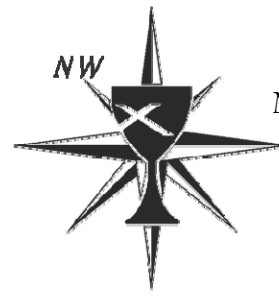
Don Browning Passes Away

We have received word of the death of Don Browning on Thursday, June 3, 2010 after a battle with cancer. The funeral service will take place Thursday, June 10th, at 2 p.m. at Hyde Park Union Church. In addition, a memorial service at the Divinity School will be planned for this fall. The date is yet to be determined.

Don S. Browning was the Alexander Campbell Professor Emeritus of Religious Ethics and the Social Sciences at the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, and also served as Dean of the Disciples Divinity House of the University of Chicago. He was a founding figure in practical theology and a catalyst in a wide-ranging discussion about religion, marriage, and family. He was a prolific author and editor, and esteemed as a mentor and colleague. His numerous books include "The Moral Context of Pastoral Care," "A Fundamental Practical Theology," and just this spring, "Reviving Christian Humanism."

After receiving his undergraduate degree from Central Methodist College, he earned the B.D. (1959), A.M. (1962), and Ph.D. (1964) from the Divinity School as a Disciples Divinity House Scholar. He served as a member of the faculty of the Graduate Seminary of Phillips University before joining the faculty of the Divinity School. From 1977-83, he also served as the Dean of the Disciples Divinity House of the University of Chicago. With Bonnie Miller-McLemore, he co-chaired DDH's Centennial Campaign in 1994-95. In 2009 he was honored with DDH's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Disciples Divinity House; we knew him also as our teacher, colleague, and friend.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Kohl Browning, their two children, two grandchildren, and a sister.



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June 2010

REFLECTIONS ON THE JOURNEY...

Rev. Sandy Messick

Regional Assembly Wrap-Up

That's a wrap! Another Regional Assembly has come and gone and my, what a celebration. Nearly 200 of your regional brothers and sisters gathered in Spokane for worship, fellowship, learning opportunities, and sharing. The pre-Assembly mission group spent Friday afternoon serving the local community. On Friday evening we twisted pipe cleaners and heard inspiring words from Eliacin Rosario-Cruz about new ways of seeing mission. On Saturday morning we were challenged by the words of Dr. Larry Burnley as he shared with us some of our Disciples story as it relates to African-American Disciples. We also celebrated the ways our Region is being poured out in mission by lifting up the work of our various commissions and ministry teams, electing our new officers and thanking those whose work is completed (for now!). Saturday afternoon was spent in learning opportunities about local and global missions. Saturday evening we gathered to hear about the recent global ministry trip to Palestine/Israel and to hear the voices of the Voiceless Choir, a choir composed of homeless (and formerly homeless) people sponsored by Covenant Christian Church. Sunday morning found us once more gathered first for Bible Study

around the Micah 6:8 text with John Bristow and then for worship where we sang together, broke bread together, and finally were commissioned for ministry with the sharing of stones representing drops of water as we were sent out in mission. Throughout the weekend people shared in conversation in the fellowship hall where there were displays to enjoy and plenty of food to go around.

Once again I want to say thank you to all who helped plan, lead, create, envision, and attend this assembly. What a joy it was to gather with my regional church family and be fed both by your presence and by the Holy Spirit.

Soon we will begin planning for the 2012 Assembly. There were many lessons learned during this past one; things we would want to repeat, and things we don't need to repeat. There were plenty of nominees for "The Best Idea that Didn't Work," but it is the spirit of trying new things and exploring new possibilities that we will definitely include in the next Assembly. I look forward to seeing what may happen next, and all we will celebrate two more years down the road of this transformational journey.

Blessings,
Sandy

Check out the Assembly
Wrap-Up online:
[http://www.disciplesnw.org/
whatshappening/
regionalassembly.html](http://www.disciplesnw.org/whatshappening/regionalassembly.html)

Don't miss the photo slide show
at the bottom of the page!

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Here is a sampling of what's going on around our regional Community of Communities. To add your congregation's story to this list, go to the website, www.disciplesnw.org and click on the Connections tab. Please limit your news item to 2-3 sentences.

Edmonds Christian – On May 16th, 2010, the congregation of Edmonds Christian Church voted to conclude the formal ministry of that congregation. As a result of that vote, the church leadership will be working with the Northwest Regional Christian Church, the Board of Church Extension, and the Christian Church Foundation to determine how best to use their remaining assets to further the ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This process will include setting up a trust fund that will be intended to nurture new Disciples of Christ ministries in the area. This trust fund will be financed by transfer of their current financial assets and by the proceeds of the eventual sale of the church property.

The congregation will continue to worship together until a sale of the church property is finalized. One of the leaders of the congregation writes, "We have faith that after this final sale is completed the individual members of Edmonds Christian Church will continue to do the work of Christian ministry in our communities and in whatever church they may eventually call home, and that the wise use of our remaining financial assets will plant new seeds of ministry throughout our local area."

Country Homes Christian, Spokane – John Bristow will complete his ministry at the end of June and celebrate his move into retirement. John and Christy will remain for a time in the Spokane area while John continues to teaching at Gonzaga University. The congregation has called Roger Lynn to be interim pastor beginning August 1, 2010.

Creston Christian – honored their former pastor, Don Hoffman, with the Honored Ministers Pin during the clergy/family breakfast at the Regional Assembly.

First Christian, Olympia – has called Amy Walters to serve as their pastor/pastor developer. She will spend 25% of her time pastoring the present congregation and 75% working to establish a new Disciples congregation in the Olympia area. She will begin her ministry this summer.

Lake City Christian, Seattle – celebrated the installation of their new minister, Mary Olney-Loyd on Sunday, June 6, 2010

All Pilgrims, Seattle – will celebrate the installation of their new minister, Greg Turk, on Sunday, July 18, 2010

University Christian, Seattle – pending final approval by the Commission on Ministry, will celebrate the ordination of Jamie Haskins on Sunday, July 25, 2010

First Christian, Coeur d'Alene – continues to reach out to its community by providing Bags of Love (sack lunches) and the Chaplain's Table of Hope (Saturday morning breakfast).

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CLERGY TRANSITIONS

Hubert Locke, professor and dean emeritus of public affairs at the University of Washington, and a member at University Christian in Seattle, has been named acting president of the Pacific School of Religion effective July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010.

Glenn Nestlerode and Nina Merkle-Nestlerode have accepted a call to serve as co-pastors of First Christian Church in Canton, IL effective August 23, 2010. Nina has recently completed her ministry as Interim at All Pilgrims in Seattle, and Glenn will complete his ministry with Edmonds Christian Church at the end of June.

Greg Skinner, former interim at North Hill Christian in Spokane, has been called to serve as pastor of the Christian Church of Vacaville in Vacaville, CA. He began his ministry on Pentecost Sunday.

Congratulations to **Kara Markell**, one of our divinity students under care with the Commission on Ministry and a member of Queen Anne Christian Church, on the birth of her son, Jonah David, born on June 1st, 2010.

GLOBAL MINISTRIES IN THE NORTHWEST REGION

David and Kathy Helseth of Englewood Christian in Yakima and John Williams of First Christian, Tacoma, have recently returned from a visit to South Korea as part of our partnership with the PROK (Presbyterian Church in the People's Republic of Korea). They returned full of stories and excitement about the Christian witness taking place there and about our partnership with the PROK through Global Ministries.

CAMP SEASON IS AROUND THE CORNER!

"BE A HERO" is the theme for the 2010 Camping Season. Camps will be held at both Zephyr Camp at Liberty Lake and Gwinwood in Lacey for entering grades 2 through just graduated high school.

GWINWOOD

Kids Camp (entering grades 2 and 3)
July 7 - 10
Junior Camp (entering grades 4, 5 and 6)
July 6 - 10
Chi Rho Camp (entering grades 7, 8 and 9)
July 12 - 17
CYF Camp (entering grades 10-12 & Grads)
July 12 - 17

ZEPHYR

Kids Camp (entering grades 2 and 3)
July 13 - 16
Junior Camp (entering grades 4, 5 and 6)
July 13 - 17
Chi Rho Camp (entering grades 7, 8 and 9)
July 19 - 24
CYF Camp (entering grades 10-12 & Grads)
July 19 - 24

New this year: You can begin registration and pay for camp online with a credit card. Please go to <http://www.disciplesnw.org/whats happening/summerncamp.html>

FROM THE MAILBOX

A note from Roger Lynn:
Dear friends in the NW Region – "thank you" seems to pale in the blazing light of your compassionate and generous support during these most challenging days. Your love and prayers have been a part of the web that continues to sustain me and your financial gifts have allowed me to begin seeing light at the end of the tunnel of bills. I will never be able to adequately express my gratitude.