

2017 PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING



*It Starts **Here**»*

Nuestra Misión Comienza Aquí

Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst."

Luke 17:20-21



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Vision statement

A mosaic of churches working interdependently to transform lives and communities.

Mission priorities

Because of God's call upon us to go and make disciples in Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, our priorities are to:

1. Start New Churches
2. Strengthen Churches
3. Support Pastors



PacNWC newsletter

Keep apprised of news and events in the Pacific Northwest Conference by reading the e-newsletter "The Catch." To sign up, go to the PacNWC webpage:

www.pacnwc.org/catch

You can also sign up to receive our Facebook feeds. PacNWC staff posts news events on a regular basis. Search for the group "Pacific Northwest Conference."

Index

4	Congregational Vitality
6	Journey to Mosaic
7	Leadership Matrix Ministerium
8	Church Planting
10	Hispanic ministries
12	Youth ministry
13	Camping ministry
14	Women Ministries Covenant Men Boards and commissions
15	Finances
16	Directory of churches



Pacific Northwest Conference staff, from left: Cris Back, Director of Ministries; Donald T. Robinson, Associate Superintendent; Erik Cave, Coordinator of Communication and Family Ministries; Keith Tungseth, Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries; Dawn Taloyo, Director of Pastoral and Congregational Health; Greg Yee, Superintendent.

El personal de la oficina desde el lado izquierdo: Cris Back, Director de los Ministerios; Donald T. Robinson, Superintendente Asociado; Erik Cave, Coordinador de Comunicaciones y Ministerios de la Familia; Keith Tungseth, Coordinador de Ministerios Hispánicos; Dawn Taloyo, Salud Pastoral y Congregacional; Greg Yee, Superintendente.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Heart for world missions begins with local church

By Rev. Greg Yee
PacNWC Superintendent

Welcome to our 127th annual meeting! It Starts Here – Nuestra Misión Comienza Aquí is our theme.

As we focus on our "serve globally" mission priority and welcome our executive minister, the Rev. Dr. Al Tizon, to speak to us, our focus is simply this: Our heart for missions goes to the ends of the earth, but it is profoundly shaped by our heart for what happens right here. We look forward to how God will inspire us as "Mission Friends."

As we take time to reflect on the significant challenges, wonderful opportunities, and amazing fruit of this past year, I know we come together to be encouraged and inspired. Everyday I am aware of the beautiful gift God gives us in each other - our history and evolving story; our diverse shared mission; and our friendship. I am spurred on by your commitment to Christ. I

See **SUPERINTENDENT** on next page

EL REPORTE DEL SUPERINTENDENTE

El corazón para la misión mundial comienza con la iglesia local

By Rev. Greg Yee
PacNWC Superintendente

Bienvenidos a nuestra 127^a reunión anual! Nuestro tema es Nuestra Misión Comienza Aquí. Mientras nos enfocamos en nuestra prioridad de misión por medio de Servir Globalmente y damos la bienvenida a nuestro Ministro Ejecutivo, el Reverendo Dr. Al Tizon para hablar con nosotros, nuestro enfoque simplemente es: Nuestro corazón para misiones va hasta los fines de la tierra, pero es profundamente formada por nuestro corazón hacia lo que sucede aquí. Esperamos con anticipación cómo Dios nos inspirará ya que somos Amigos de la Misión.

Al tomar tiempo para reflexionar sobre los retos significativos, las oportunidades maravillosas, y el asombroso fruto de este año pasado, sé que nos reunimos para ser

Vea **SUPERINTENDENTE** en la página siguiente



Traducción al español

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SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from previous page

am moved by the vision and mission of your local church. There is confirmation of our regional focus to be a mosaic of churches working interdependently together to transform lives and communities.

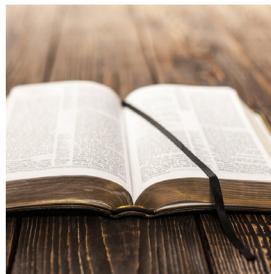
But as quickly as I say that, I don't want to glance over the fact that it has been a particularly challenging year in our country and in our churches. We experienced intense polarization fueling division and discouragement among us. The frustration and tiredness I heard from many of you was difficult. I felt the pain of our narrow-mindedness and impatience. I felt the weight of us leading well.

May God continue to push us. We need to be pushed. I feel the immediacy of Paul's spirit when talking to the diverse Philippians church plant:

"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." (Phil 2:1-4).

Too much is at stake in the gospel work for us to be chained down by disunity and discord. Church, we must be better and not settle for a twisted version of who we are as the church. We need to lean into difficult conversations and be committed to being more deliberate learners and more intent listeners. May Christ be glorified in our struggle and in our resolve for unity. May we be encouraged and comforted to seize this moment as we grow into like-mindedness, united love and oneness in mind and spirit. Lead Church!

Amidst these challenges, God continued to stretch and grow us within our ministry priorities. Here are highlights from this



ABOUT THE COVER: *We know to reach the world with the Gospel, as the Covenant is doing with the Paul Carlson Partnership in Congo, it all starts with new life in Christ here in the Pacific Northwest. That means letting the Word transform us, receiving the sacraments (shown here at Pine Lake Covenant in Sammamish, Wash.) and baptizing (Bethany Covenant in Mount Vernon, Wash.) as we go from the known and comfortable to the increasingly unknown and uncomfortable.*

year:

Starting new churches

- Supported and resourced our 12 church plants.
- Exploring adoption with 6 churches.
- Three churches moving into membership: Renew (Seattle), Immanuel (Spokane), and Radiant (Renton).
- Contracted with Russ Blake, Mark Meredith, and Peter Sung for coaching with ministry development, evangelism, strategic planning, and leadership.

Strengthening churches

- Coached 14 churches along the "vitality pathway." One of Don Robinson's main role is our director of church vitality.
- 28 churches and Covenant Shores joined the Covenant Community Bible Experience representing at least 3,700 people – 24 percent of the entire conference!
- Piloted an evangelism cohort with 13 lead pastors. We recognize the high correlation of lead pastor passion/involvement and higher evangelism temperature in churches.
- Had record numbers of

See **SUPERINTENDENT** on page 11

SUPERINTENDENTE

Continuación de la página anterior

inspirados y alentados. Cada día me doy cuenta del hermoso regalo de Dios que tenemos el uno en el otro - nuestro pasado y nuestro presente que se desarrolla; nuestra variada misión compartida; y nuestra amistad. Me impulsa hacia adelante el ver su compromiso con Cristo. Me conmueve ver la visión y misión de su iglesia local. Hay confirmación de nuestro enfoque regional de ser un mosaico de iglesias que trabajan interdependientemente juntos para transformar vidas y comunidades.

Pero al mismo momento que digo esto, no quiero ignorar el hecho de que ha sido un año especialmente difícil en nuestro país y en nuestras iglesias. Experimentamos intensa polarización alimentando la división y desánimo entre nosotros. La frustración y el cansancio que oí de muchos de ustedes fue difícil. Sentí el dolor de nuestra estrechez de mente e impaciencia. Sentí el peso de nuestro deber de guiar bien.

Que Dios nos siga empujando. Necesitamos ser

empujados. Siento la urgencia del espíritu de Pablo al hablar a la iglesia diversa en plantación de los Filipenses: Por tanto, si sienten algún estímulo en su unión con Cristo, algún consuelo en su amor, algún compañerismo en el Espíritu, algún afecto entrañable, llénenme de alegría teniendo un mismo parecer, un mismo amor, unidos en alma y pensamiento. No hagan nada por egoísmo o vanidad; más bien, con humildad consideren a los demás como superiores a ustedes mismos. Cada uno debe velar no solo por sus propios intereses, sino también por los intereses de los demás. (Fil.2:1 - 4)

Demasiado esta en juego en la obra del Evangelio para que estemos encadenados por la desunión y la discordia. Iglesia, debemos ser mejores y no conformarnos con una versión distorsionada de lo que somos como iglesia. Se trata de voltear hacia las conversaciones difíciles y comprometernos a ser estudiantes intencionales y no solo oyentes. Que Cristo sea glorificado en nuestra lucha y nuestra resolución por la unidad. Que seamos animados y consolados al aprovechar este momento, mientras crecemos en unidad de pensamiento, en amor unido y en ser de una sola mente y de un solo espíritu. Iglesia, guíe!

En medio de estos desafíos, Dios nos continuó a estirar y crecer dentro de nuestras prioridades de ministerio. Aquí están los puntos más destacados de este año:

Plantación de Nuevas Iglesias

- Respaldo y recursos para nuestras 12 iglesias en plantación
- Exploración de adopción de 6 iglesias
- Tres iglesias progresando hacia membresía: Renew (Seattle), Immanuel (Spokane) y Radiant (Renton)
- Contratos con Russ Blake, Mark Meredith y Peter Sung para entrenamiento de desarrollo de ministerio,

Véase **SUPERINTENDENTE** en la página 11

'ONE TEAM, TWO TASKS'

PacNWC committed to starting and strengthening churches

⁵ What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. ⁶ I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.
— 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

By Rev. Donald T. Robinson
PacNWC Associate
Superintendent and Director
of Congregational Vitality

The Pacific Northwest Conference is committed to both strengthening existing churches and the starting of new churches. Dr. John Wenrich, Executive Minister of Starting and Strengthening Churches, describes these missional priorities as, “one team, two tasks.” This is certainly true of the ministries of congregational vitality and church planting in the Pacific Northwest Conference. Ours is a coordinated commitment to start and strengthen churches, and to trust God for the growth.

Together with the Evangelical Covenant Church, we use 10 “Healthy Missional Markers” as one way of assessing



Representatives from Newport Covenant (Bellevue, Wash.), Headwaters Covenant (Helena, Mont.) and Desert Springs Covenant (Pasco, Wash.) attended a “Navigate” conference in Minneapolis, Minn.

congregational health and vitality. Those markers include:

1. Centrality of the Word.
2. Life Transforming Walk with Jesus.
3. Intentional Evangelism.
4. Transforming Communities through Compassion, Mercy and Justice.
5. Global Perspective and Engagement.
6. Compelling Christian Community.
7. Heartfelt Worship.
8. Sacrificial and Generous Living and Giving.

9. Culture of Godly Leadership.

10. Fruitful Organizational Structures.

Those churches that are growing in these areas are considered to be, “healthy and missional.” By healthy, we mean “pursuing Christ,” and by missional, we mean, “pursuing Christ’s priorities” in the world. While a commitment to be “healthy” and “missional” is a priority in many of our conference churches, several churches have taken decisive

steps to living out those missional priorities by participating in the “Congregational Vitality Pathway.” Participating churches this past year included:

Desert Springs of Pasco, Wash., has committed to engaging in the “congregational vitality pathway” by calling a pastor to focus on re-vitalization ministry and participating in a variety of workshops, including Veritas. Pastor Leo Anderson says “the ‘x’ marks the spot” exercise that allows every participant to indicate where they

Congregational vitality pathway

Vitality is not a program; it’s a pathway. It’s a transformative process that occurs over time. With these excellent resources and supportive coaching along the way, many established churches are discovering hope as they walk the congregational vitality pathway. The answers are not in the information presented here; the answers are in the conversations you have about this information as the Holy Spirit leads and guides.

Vitality conversation
with the pastor



A journey of vitality

A dynamic partnership with other churches, the conference and denomination to catalyze your journey on the congregational vitality pathway. A cord of three strands is not easily broken.

Vitality team
formed



Telling the truth about congregational vitality

A workshop that introduces the language of vitality, including the four types of churches and the ten healthy missional markers. The truth will set you free.

thought their church was at was “eye-opening.”

“Veritas also provided some common language for the church to begin talking about itself,” he said. “Questions and comments about ‘culture’ continue to bubble up. I think the church found it to be challenging and helpful.”

Veritas: A workshop that introduces the language of vitality, including the four types of churches and the 10 healthy missional markers.

- Creekside Covenant, Redmond, Wash.
- Desert Springs Covenant, Pasco, Wash.
- Headwaters Covenant, Helena, Mont.
- Faith Covenant, Sumner, Wash.

Epic: “Empowering People – Implementing Change.” A workshop that offers tools for change management, including helpful constructs for both leadership and churches.

- Faith Covenant.

Pulse: A congregational vitality assessment tool that measures a church’s current reality and trajectory using the metrics from Veritas. This assessment can be done every couple of years. In parenthesis is the number of times a church has completed PULSE.

- Milwaukie Covenant, Milwaukie, Ore. (3)
- Sanctuary Covenant, Everett, Wash. (2)
- Lakebay Community, Lakebay, Wash. (2)

One: A workshop that guides the congregation in the discovery and development of a strategic ministry plan. The goal is not just to design and develop a

strategic ministry plan, but to begin immediate implementation. Other resources for strategic ministry planning include an “Appreciative Inquiry Summit.”

- Midway Covenant, Des Moines, Wash.

Navigate: A three-day event bringing pastors and leaders from throughout the U.S., Canada and global missions to catalyze their church’s journey on the vitality pathway. In 2016, these three churches attended “Navigate” in Minneapolis, Minn.

- Newport Covenant, Bellevue, Wash.
- Headwaters Covenant, Rev. Rick Mylander, transitional pastor at Newport Covenant, attended Navigate with a team of leaders.

“At Navigate, our team learned that church vitality is neither rocket science nor the impossible dream, but basic attention to several fundamental things under the guidance of the Holy Spirit,” he said. “Leaning into that, it has been exciting to pray, think about, and strategize toward what our good God has wanted for us all along.”

Leadership and staff retreats

In addition to the denominational and conference congregational vitality tools, conference staff assisted with leadership development retreats and consultations.

- Children of the Valley, Bethany Covenant Church, Mount Vernon, Wash.
- Wiley Heights Covenant, Yakima, Wash.
- Trinity Covenant, Salem, Ore.



PacNWC Associate Superintendent Don Robinson introduces Peter Steinke, left, at the 2016 fall Leadership Matrix conference.

Measurement of church health often is what it ‘gives away’

There are 78 churches and fellowship groups in Pacific Northwest Conference. Of those, 25 churches participated in at least one Veritas workshop between 2010-2016.

- Three of the participating churches closed.
- Five churches saw an increase in attendance.
- Five churches increased their giving to the conference.
- Twenty churches saw a decrease in attendance.
- Nineteen decreased their giving to the conference.
- One church reported no change in giving

While statistical results are easiest to determine and verify, they do not give a completely accurate assessment of the true health and mission of an individual congregation. There is more to the quality of life and spirit of a congregation than what can be counted or meets the eye. In this respect, one of the primary measurements of church health is not what a church brings in and what can be counted in terms of attendance and giving. Rather, it is what the church gives away.

Peter Steinke notes in “A Door Set Open,” that “Numbers change. People represented by these numbers change. The context in which congregations find themselves changes. But the mission is what it is all about.”

Indeed, it is our prayer that every congregation move toward becoming and being a healthy, missional church, within their context. When the church gives itself away in mission, it is good for our communities and God is glorified.

“And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:47)



Empowering people, inspiring change

A workshop that offers tools for change management, including helpful constructs for your leadership and church. All living things change.



A unifying approach to strategic ministry planning

A workshop that guides the congregation in the discovery, development and deployment of a strategic ministry plan. Jesus himself had a strategic ministry plan.

Service of consecration

Strategic planning team and implementation



A congregational vitality assessment tool

A congregational assessment that measures your church’s current reality and trajectory using the metrics from Veritas. There is no vitality without reality.



Coaching of pastors

Organizational leadership coaching for the pastor. Every Moses needs a Jethro.



J2M participants spend some time in prayer after hearing testimony from the Ramirez family.

Exploring the racial realities in our region

By Rev. Jim Sequeira

Our PacNWC has the unique opportunity of hosting a Journey To Mosaic (J2M) each year. The J2M brings people together from diverse ethnic backgrounds for an interactive experience that explores and brings to light racial realities in our region, past and present. It also seeks to educate and equip our participants to share in the healing process of racial righteousness and reconciliation.

Participants are partnered with individuals from a different ethnic background to learn the hurtful effects of racism from personal experiences. Many of the J2M partners have become lasting friendships. This year we were joined by our brothers and sisters from the Alaska Conference and their superintendent Curtis Ivanoff.

We journey by bus which is a mobile classroom where we watch DVD's and discuss historic and contemporary issues while visiting sites in Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Yakama and returning back to Seattle. This year we heard the stories of Asian-Americans, Latinos, African Americans, Native Americans, Native Hawaiians and Native Alaskans. We heard from Japanese-American survivors who were rounded up and put in concentration/internment camps, the expulsion of all Chinese out of Tacoma, an

immigrant Latina's harrowing story, the Ministerial Alliance Coalition's tenuous and ongoing work between the African-American community and local police and city hall leaders in Portland, a panel of courageous Native-American young people sharing about the native culture and the struggles that come with them, the overthrow of Hawaii's Queen, government and land by the children of Christian missionaries and a glimpse of the challenges faced by Native-Alaskan youth and adults. One of the highlights over the years has been the gracious reception when we attend the Yakama Veterans Powwow.

Revelation 7:9 has been our guide and compass over the years, "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that

no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." Please join us on our next J2M.

Members of our PacNW Conference and Alaska Conference are making a big contribution to the ECC denomination in the discussion about the injustices and mistreatment of indigenous people in the U.S. as a result of The Doctrine of Discovery. One of our J2M facilitators, Lenore Three Stars, has been a key resource on this topic and led a panel which included Ivanoff and Sequeira (J2M facilitator) at the national Midwinter Conference in Louisville, Ky., about the Doctrine of Discovery in a discussion entitled, "The Marginalization of Indigenous People." The presentation was well received to a packed crowd with overwhelming interest in learning more and advancing the discussion and reconciliation of indigenous people.



The group that attended the 2016 Journey to Mosaic.

Shining the light of truth on a troubled past

Journey to Mosaic brings us face to face with the true nature of ourselves and our society. We can no more separate our current realities from our history than we can separate a child's worldview from the culture in which they are raised.

Today, it is essential that we recall the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Today, it is imperative that we remember the Japanese Internment Camps during World War II. The current movement at Standing Rock is built on centuries of havoc wreaked by the Doctrine of Discovery which is responsible for the human and cultural genocide of indigenous people. Journey to Mosaic calls the church to shine the light on the truth of where we have come from, and where we are going.

John 1:5 says "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

— Christine Moolo,
Manager of ministry services,
Love Mercy and Do Justice

Alaska pastors, leaders join J2M

Eleven Alaskan pastors and leaders were blessed to attend the Journey to Mosaic learning experience. Thank you Pacific Northwest Conference, for helping to make it happen for us financially and making space for us. Our hearts were moved significantly, and what we learned ignited something deeper in us to engage in the ministry of reconciliation here in Alaska. The hope of the gospel is burning a little brighter up here in Alaska because of what we learned. We are grateful to know that we partner in this gospel work together throughout the Pacific Rim. Quyanah!

— Curtis Ivanoff,
Superintendent Alaska
Conference of the Evangelical
Covenant Church

LEADERSHIP MATRIX

Strengthening churches

By Rev. Dawn Taloyo
PacNWC Director of Pastoral and Congregational Health

Our efforts at strengthening PacNWC churches includes coaching and resourcing. This past year, several conference-wide opportunities were available to our churches to further equip staff and ministry leaders for the mission and health of the local church.

First, a mini-Matrix was offered a year ago in connection with the 2016 Annual Meeting in McMinnville, Ore. Participants had the opportunity to choose two of six workshop options, each related to one of the ten missional markers. Workshops included:



LEADERSHIP MATRIX

Participants listen to Peter Steinke speak at the 2016 fall Leadership Matrix.

- Love Mercy Do Justice, with the Annual Meeting’s Worship speaker Cecelia Williams.
 - The Journey towards Racial Righteousness with Greg Yee.
 - Intentional Evangelism with Russ Blake and Pete Anderson.
 - Intergenerational Faith with Erik Cave and Sarah Hammersborg.

- Leadership as Self-definition and Self-care with Peter Sung.
 - How to Create a Generous Church with Chuck Wysong
 At the Fall Leadership Matrix at Highland Covenant Church in Bellevue, Wash., we offered two full-day tracks for ministry leaders.

First, we welcomed back leading author and consultant on organizational systems, Dr. Peter Steinke, who engaged the group around the topic of “How to Lead Change Amid Turmoil and Conflict.” Other participants received “Financial and Real Estate Training”, offered by National Covenant Properties.

THE PACNWC MINISTERIUM

Supporting the clergy who serve our conference

By Rev. Sarah Hammersborg
Chair of the Ministerial Association

The Ministerial Association (MA) serves the clergy in the Pacific Northwest Conference through advocacy, education, support, and by helping strengthen their spiritual, relational, and professional standing. The executive committee of the Ministerial Association works to provide opportunities for pastors, chaplains, and other credentialed clergy to grow, connect, and find support. Within our conference we support an estimated 250 clergy, who serve in local churches, and other institutions such as hospitals, schools, and retirement communities, and the retired clergy.



Sarah Hammersborg

reviews papers and interviews candidates for Covenant credentials. It is a joy to hear the stories of those called, and the work they have done to live into that call. We are excited to celebrate the 10 women and men who will be presented at this annual meeting for ordination. The celebration and culmination of a lifelong credential is indeed a highlight. The COMS committee also approved ministry licenses for 11 people who are serving in churches and other institutions of our conference.

Another ministry of the MA is to provide opportunities for growth and continuing education for our clergy. The fall Clergy and Family Retreat continues to be a place of connection and learning. This fall we were privileged to welcome Rev. Dave Kersten, Dean of North Park Theological Seminary, who shared tools for helping us

PacNWC Ministerial Association Executive Committee

Role	Name	Covenant church / city, state
Chair	Sarah Hammersborg	Portland First, Portland, Ore.
Vice-Chair	Mark Carlson	McMinnville, McMinnville, Ore.
Secretary	Michael Thomas	Radiant, Renton, Wash.
Treasurer	Scott Bensink-Lewis	Bridge, Salem, Ore.
District pastors	Vicki Lund	Bethany, Mount Vernon, Wash.

navigate conflict and ministry challenges. Families are always welcome at this retreat and many find it to be a great family tradition.

Our continuing education opportunity last year included a seminar with Dr. Stephen Chester to look at theological tools for addressing human sexuality. This April we are thrilled to welcome Christena Cleveland to lead us in a workshop on race and reconciliation. Dr. Cleveland is the author of “Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces That Keep Us Apart.” We are excited to have her help give us some tools to minister in a hurting and broken world.

Lastly, the MA seeks to support the clergy by organizing

regional cluster gatherings, crisis funds, and spiritual direction. Our district cluster meetings are intended to be places for collegial connection, encouragement, and accountability. A portion of our annual dues goes to support pastors in need. We use those funds to help clergy and families in difficult seasons. We have also noted the importance of helping strengthen and support clergy in their marriages, so we have offered all clergy financial assistance on marriage counseling.

From the credentialing of new clergy, to their ongoing education and support, we work to strengthen the work of those God has called to serve in this conference.

2016: A year of planting, pruning and producing

Newer church plants represent much of attendance growth in PacNWC

Fellowship groups

Recognized fellowship groups moving toward ECC membership

2012

Access Covenant
Portland, Ore.

Joel Sommer, pastor

Renew Covenant
Seattle, Wash.

David Sim, pastor

TriWorship Covenant

Federal Way, Wash.
David Aaron Johnson,
pastor

2013

Disciple Community
Bellevue, Wash.

Derek Hwang, pastor

Radiant Covenant

Renton, Wash.
Michael Thomas,
pastor

2015

Iglesia Esperanza Viva

Kent, Wash.
Esau Del Arca, pastor

Iglesia Cristiana Pacto de Gracia

Olympia, Wash.
Manuel Lozano, pastor

Iglesia Nueva Vision

Beaverton, Ore.
Dario Miqueo &
Mariela Gonzalez
Miqueo, pastors

The Rock Covenant

Olympia, Wash.
Steve Pace, pastor

2016

St. Thomas Covenant

Salem, Ore.
Mat Hollen, pastor

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

— John 15:8

By Rev. Donald T. Robinson
PacNWC Associate Superintendent

I live on a small farm in northwest Washington. Each season at that farm is marked with distinct activities necessary to plant, grow and gather the fruit. The same is true in church ministry and particularly church planting. Church planting has annual seasons. And in 2016, the ministry of church planting in the Pacific Northwest Conference was marked by not just one season, but several. We celebrate both the promise of planting and the joy of gathering. In between though, there are the seasons of cultivating and pruning, which are absolutely essential for strengthening the roots and increasing fruitfulness.

2016: A year of planting

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. . . Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

Church planting is primarily an activity of God. A new church's identity is rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ. While we participate in the envisioning, preparation and care of the new church, its identity and purpose is formed in Jesus Christ.

St. Thomas Covenant Church, Salem, Ore., was started in 2016 under the leadership of Rev. Mat Hollen. Mat and his team are creating a church in the spirit of one of the original 12

Three new member and adopted churches to be received in 2017



Radiant Covenant Church
Renton, Wash. (Rev. Michael Thomas)

"In the same way, let your LIGHT SHINE before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Radiant Church started as a vision for a church that would be committed to fostering a community that believes the church should be seen beyond the four walls of a building, and through the people, reflect the illuminating love of God in the culture.



Renew Covenant Church
Seattle, Wash. (Rev. David Sim)

"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations." (Isaiah 61:3-4)

Renew is a community being formed in the way of Christ and carrying this beauty into the world. The church dreams to be drenched in God's grace and to drink it anew in life-altering ways. Their heart is that people will know Jesus and his church and belong, be formed, and be witness in, through, and to His Beauty, Gospel and Love!



Immanuel Church
Spokane, Wash. (Rev. Rob Fairbanks)

Immanuel is a three-year-old, unaffiliated church. Founding Pastor Rob Fairbanks has spent the majority of his adult life pastoring and planting churches in Spokane and around the world, including New Community, a larger church in the Spokane area that has been involved in launching six other churches. After several years working with the para-church organization, Christian Associates, Rob returned to full-time pastoring with the founding of Immanuel. Immanuel is a purposefully diverse and passionate church community in Spokane that exists to worship God in simplicity and beauty, to extravagantly love all without distinction and embody in words and actions the Good News of God's Kingdom through Jesus Christ.

apostles, Thomas, the "patron saint of doubters." It is a church that welcomes doubters, and people with questions. They seek to creatively share the good news of Jesus Christ that provides a place and space to experience timeless Christian truths in a language and style that makes sense today. It also seeks to wrestle honestly with how those truths and practices impact lives today. The church currently meets on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at McKinley Elementary School in Salem.

We currently have 10 recognized fellowship groups that are continuing to make progress toward becoming member congregations of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

2016: A year of pruning

He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

One of the most challenging, yet vitally necessary tasks in producing good fruit, whether it is in a rosebush, an orchard or a vineyard, is pruning. Even the healthiest plants need to be pruned. Pruning is not primarily a punitive activity, but a fruit-bearing activity. Pruning has two primary purposes: To strengthen the attachment and connection of the branch to the tree or plant, and to increase productivity. That has been our experience in the conference this year. We have strengthened our connections and commitments.

Nationwide, across all denominations, a consistent statistic is that 4,000 churches close and only 3,000 new churches are started. For the first time in recent U.S. history, the pace and participation of people in new churches is not keeping up with the population growth.

Former Director of Church Planting for the Evangelical Covenant Church, David Olson, has "said that in next 30 years, 55,000 congregations will close. We know today that 3,000-3,500 congregations are going out of existence. The Barna group in California predicts that 20 percent of the congregations that exist today will no longer exist in 20 years. That's 72,000 congregations." (Peter Steinke) With these realities, church

planting remains as a key mission priority for us.

In the Pacific Northwest Conference in 2016, two churches completed their ministries. Grace Harbor Covenant, Aberdeen, Wash., one of our oldest churches, started in 1893, closed. Dundee Covenant, Dundee, Ore., which was received as a member congregation in the Evangelical Covenant Church in 2009, also closed. We are grateful and blessed by the ministry of these churches and the impact they had in Christ's Kingdom in calling people to faith, serving their communities, and sending servants throughout the world.

2016: A year of producing
"You did not choose me, but

I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other."

2016 was a year of transition and growth. From 1993 to 2016, 40 churches were planted or adopted and are active member congregations of the Pacific Northwest Conference. Through 2016, the Pacific Northwest Conference, in partnership with its churches and the denomination, has invested \$6,067,425 in those church plants. In 2016 these churches contributed \$295,656 toward the Pacific Northwest fund of \$722,893 or 41 percent. This represents a 5 percent return on

our church planting investment during 2016.

In 2016, these new and adopted churches had an average Sunday morning attendance of 6,477. This amounted to 49 percent of the total 2016 November attendance of 13,352.

Our ongoing commitment to plant new churches is making a difference in our communities and our conference. I found a note from my wife in my files from over 25 ago. She was encouraging me not to give up, even though the ministry we were engaged in at the time was conflicted and challenged.

Quoting Albert Schweitzer she said, "No ray of sunlight is ever lost, but the green which it awakens into existence needs time to sprout, and it is not always granted to the sower to see the harvest. All work that is worth anything is done in faith."

2017: A year of promise

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

As Jesus remained in His Father's love, we must remain in Jesus' love for others. Theologian Alan Hirsch has said, "the church doesn't need to seek a mission, but God is seeking a church for His mission." Our call is to both strengthen existing churches and start new churches for God's mission. John Perkins, the social activist for issues of Biblical justice and economic development has said, "It is time for the church, yes, the whole church, to take a whole gospel on a whole mission to the whole world . . . it is time for us to prove that the purpose of the gospel is to reconcile alienated people to God and to each other, across racial, cultural, social and economic barriers."

Together, may 2017 be a year for the Pacific Northwest Conference, in partnership with our churches for ". . . to take a whole gospel on a whole mission to the whole world."

New members and adopted

ECC new member and adopted churches the last 10 years

2009

Alive Covenant
Poulsbo, Wash.
Organized in 2005

2012

Faith Covenant
Summer, Wash.
Organized in 1877

Lettered Streets Covenant
Bellingham, Wash.
Organized in 2008

2013

Cannon Beach Community
Cannon Beach, Ore.
Organized in 1930

2014

Emmanuel Church
Seattle, Wash.
Organized in 1930

Hope Covenant
Lake Stevens, Wash.
Organized in 2011

Yakima Covenant
Yakima, Wash.
Organized in 1957

City of Rain Covenant
Kent, Wash.
Organized in 2012

Headwaters Covenant
Helena, Mont.
Organized in 2010

2015

Bridge Covenant
Salem, Ore.
Organized in 2011

2016

Kaleo Covenant
Beaverton, Ore.
Organized in 2011



A graduation ceremony for 17 students from two Spanish-speaking congregations who completed a two-year, CHET pre-ministerial course.

A renewed focus on starting Spanish-speaking churches

By Rev. Greg Yee
PacNWC Superintendent
and Rev. Keith Tungseth
PacNWC Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries

We are excited about the Covenant's new Director of Church Planting, Alex Rahill. We join him in a renewed focus in starting new churches. We know that starting new churches is a key strategy for reaching more people, especially within the growing diversity of our region. We also know that we need to pray, explore, and discern how church planting is organized and supported going forward. We will need to be creative and be willing to experiment with new models and different approaches. We also need to explore how church planting more naturally becomes a fruit of growth from our established churches and how planters can be grown there. We're excited about how God will lead us into developing new joint ventures with new church adoptions as well. In all of these hopes and endeavors, may God increase our passion for the lost and for the repairing of the breaches in our communities. May God increase our faith in his work among us, especially as he invites us to unlikely and uncomfortable places.

This past year, we saw a marked increase in our shared mission with Spanish-speaking churches. In the past three years, we've grown from one church to four churches and we have been working with many of you that have or are exploring Spanish language ministries. God is using us to help the denomination think through the complexities around credentialing, church planting and leadership development. Within Hispanic church planting we saw all three of our mission priorities lived out.

Start new churches: Extensions

The vision of our Hispanic pastors for growth, extension, and multiplication goes beyond their immediate communities where their congregations are located. In each of our locations the pastors are working to multiply leaders to both grow deep and to extend the Kingdom in places where they are establishing a presence.

Last year we identified four PacNWC Hispanic churches and six leaders seeking ministerial credentialing with the Evangelical Covenant Church. Across the conference we are aware of 11 additional churches with open doors to host Spanish-speaking congregations or which are intentionally offering bi-lingual worship. Because of the faithful witness of these churches, in at least six of these locations there are leaders who have expressed interest in learning about connecting with the PacNWC.

Strengthen churches: Community

We have discovered that some immigrant churches locate where they can find a building that will open to them. Such a rented building may not be a central location for these congregants who may come from several suburbs and do not know or relate to the immediate community around the rented location.

All three of our 2015 Hispanic church plants have been on the move. Iglesia Nueva Vision moved to Aloha, where there is a growing Hispanic community. They had shared their passion for loving and serving God in a specific local community, but their worship services were not located in the community where they and their people live.

God led them to Aloha United Methodist Church, where they have been growing roots into the Aloha community and partnering with Covenant pastor Marty Williams and her congregation.

Esperanza Viva had lost their meeting place and Kent Covenant graciously welcomed them in. The Kent location was not where most of their people live, so when it became possible to move to Federal Way, they began planning to move to serve a community that includes more Hispanic families.

A major event took place at Kent Covenant with the graduation of 17 students from two Spanish-speaking congregations. Pastor Esau Del Arca led one more class through to completion of a 2-year, pre-ministerial course with a focus on the Life of Christ and the Gospel of Matthew. The event was a formal occasion with representatives from CHET participating, along with Superintendent Yee in the solemn ceremony. This course is being taught in all four of our present Hispanic congregations to give a sound biblical base for discipleship and equipping faithful servant leaders.

Support pastors: It all starts with leadership

Our first Covenant orientation cohort was established to provide the four required classes through collaboration with CHET, the Board of Ordered Ministry and PacNWC staff. All have taken vocational excellence and history and theology of the Covenant Church. By Midwinter 2018 we project all will have taken mission and ministry and in the meantime they will take a new course on church governance with direct applications for incorporating practical missional structures in these developing churches. What starts with a cohort to complete requirements for denominational credentialing, continues to form a missional cohort to not only encourage their Spanish

Continued on next page

SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from page 3

middle and high schoolers at Thunder and MUD, and we are piloting a new young adults retreat in May. Erik Cave now brings greater attention and coordination for children, youth, young adult ministries and families. Also, both men's and women's retreats were an immense blessing. Cascades Camp had another wonderfully fruitful year.

- Grew Hispanic ministries through the leadership of Keith Tungseth with a pilot local Covenant Orientation program, assisting churches in exploring Hispanic ministries/partnerships, and supporting new ministry initiatives.

- Hosted the Leadership Matrix and a special training around church finances and conflict resolution (Peter Steinke). Had a full bus for Journey to Mosaic, our mobile racial reconciliation workshop. It proved to be a timely experience the weekend after the election.

Supporting pastors

- Credentialed 11 ministers and are moving forward with ordaining 10 pastors in June in Detroit. We are grateful for those who serve on the Committee on Ministerial Standing (COMS) and celebrate the culmination of the ordinands' journey. Cris Back continues to keep our process organized well.

- Worked with eight lead pastor transitions. We have been extremely pleased with the quality and passion of the new pastors that God has brought to

the PacNWC. These interim/pastoral search seasons continue to be wonderful opportunities to work with churches.

- The Ministerial Association led with excellence this past year with continuing education around the topic of human sexuality. And, they continue to organize the best pastors' retreat in all of the Covenant.

- We continue to see an increase in the practice of good self-care (elective counseling, spiritual direction, etc). We hired Dawn Taloyo to bring greater leadership around congregational and pastoral health.

As I complete my first term, I am filled with joy and deep gratitude for these past four years. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you. I am grateful for God's work among and through us. I am grateful for the conference team. They are beautiful, gifted people. But I would be remiss if I didn't take this moment to publicly thank my wife Mary and my children Jordan, Erin, and Caden. They have been a tremendous source of joy and support. Mary has lovingly and selflessly served the conference well by being the bedrock of our family and being such a dependable ministry and life partner.

Thank you churches. Let's pray fervently for great faith, bold spirits, and overflowing fruit. Thank you for a great year and for your faithful partnership. I look forward with great eagerness and anticipation for where God will lead us next. God bless you!

CHET courses from their own locations and participate in live classroom discussions. With the use of the same equipment, from our conference Hispanic ministry, we will also be able to share courses we are writing with Spanish speaking leaders all over the denomination.

This development will make it possible not only to provide the four required orientation courses, but all the courses needed for our Hispanic pastors to proceed to ordination.

SUPERINTENDENTE

viene de la página 3

evangelismo, planificación estratégica, y liderazgo.

Fortalecimiento de la Iglesia

- Entrenamiento a 14 iglesias usando Vía de Vitalidad (Vitality Pathway). Uno de los papeles principales de Don Robinson es ser nuestro director de Vitalidad de Iglesias.

- 28 iglesias y Covenant Shores se unieron al programa Experiencia Bíblica en Comunidad del Pacto representando al menos 3700 personas - 24% de toda la Conferencia!

- Prueba inicial con 13 pastores líderes sobre evangelismo. Reconocemos la alta correlación del pastor como líder en pasión y compromiso de evangelizar y una medida mas alta de interés de evangelismo en las iglesias.

- Record en asistencia de estudiantes de secundaria y de preparatoria en Thunder y MUD y estamos iniciando un retiro nuevo de jóvenes adultos este mes de mayo. Erik Cave ahora trae mayor atención y coordinación para niños, jóvenes, ministerios de adultos jóvenes y familias. También, ambos retiros de hombres y mujeres fueron de una bendición inmensa. Cascades Camp tuvo otro año maravillosamente fructífero.

- Crecimiento de ministerios hispanos a través del liderazgo de Keith Tungseth con un programa piloto local de orientación al Pacto, ayuda a iglesias en exploración de ministerios/alianzas hispanos y apoyo a nuevas iniciativas de ministerio.

- Anfitriones de Matriz de Liderazgo (The Leadership Matrix) y un entrenamiento especial acerca de las finanzas de la iglesia y resolución de conflictos (Peter Steinke). Se lleno un bus completo para Viaje al Mosaico, nuestro taller móvil de reconciliación racial. Esto resultó ser una experiencia oportuna el fin de semana después de las elecciones.

Apoyo a pastores

- Once ministros recibieron credenciales y avanzamos con

la ordenación de 10 pastores este mes de junio en Detroit. Estamos agradecidos por aquellos que sirven en el Comité de Procesos Ministeriales (COMS) y celebramos la culminación del viaje de los ordenados. Cris Back continúa manteniendo nuestro proceso bien organizado.

- Trabajo con la transición de ocho pastores de planta. Hemos estado muy complacidos con la calidad y la pasión de los nuevos pastores que Dios ha traído a la PacNWC. Estas estaciones de búsqueda de pastores interinos/permanentes siguen siendo maravillosas oportunidades para trabajar con las iglesias.

- La Asociación Ministerial guió con excelencia este año pasado como educación continua, el tema de la sexualidad humana. Y siguen organizando el mejor retiro de pastores de todo el Pacto.

- Seguimos viendo un aumento en la práctica del buen autocuidado (consejería, dirección espiritual, etc.) Contratamos a Dawn Taloyo para traer un liderazgo mayor en cuanto a la salud pastoral y congregacional.

Al completar mi primer término, me siento lleno de alegría y profundo agradecimiento por estos últimos cuatro años. Estoy agradecido por la oportunidad de servirles a ustedes. Estoy agradecido por la obra de Dios entre y a través de nosotros. Estoy agradecido por el equipo de la Conferencia. Son personas hermosas y dotadas. Pero sería una falta si no tomo este momento para agradecer públicamente a mi esposa Mary y mis hijos Jordan, Erin y Caden. Han sido una enorme fuente de alegría y apoyo. Mary, con cariño y desinteresadamente ha servido a la Conferencia muy bien al ser la roca firme de nuestra familia y ser tan confiable compañera de ministerio y vida.

Gracias iglesias. Oremos fervientemente por gran fe, espíritus audaces y fruto en abundancia. Gracias para un año fantástico y por su fiel compañerismo. Espero con gran entusiasmo y anticipación ver hacia donde Dios nos conducirá próximamente. ¡Que Dios les bendiga!

Continued from previous page

speaking congregations but to make significant contributions to the whole conference as we partner and dialogue together for Kingdom goals.

As we continue our partnership with CHET, we anticipate an interchange that will help to accelerate the growth of our leaders. At CHET, new equipment has been added for virtual classrooms. It will now be possible for our students to take



Healthy and flourishing

330 high-school students found more snow than mud at the annual MUD retreat over MLK Weekend at Cascades.

YOUTH MINISTRY

By Rev. Rebekah Strobel
*PacNWC Youth
Commission Chair*

Youth ministry in the Pacific Northwest Conference is flourishing! Our youth workers are deeply devoted to Christ, and passionate about helping their students to live into their created intent. Thanks to the investment of our Youth Commission and Youth Ministry Network Leaders, our local churches are well connected and resourced and youth workers are feeling empowered. Through regular local cluster meetings, retreats at Cascades Camp, an increase in scholarship monies and Erik Cave joining the conference staff, our youth ministries are healthier than ever.

The annual Thunder and MUD retreats at Cascades Camp provided incredible opportunities for youth and leaders alike to grow, connect, have fun and deepen. This year's biggest Thunder ever had the theme "So you want to be a pirate, eh?" and featured speaker Kyle Thomsen with worship led by Paul Burger and Bethany

Covenant students. Bob Nass served as retreat coordinator, and the 487 participants gathered were challenged to grow in their understanding of what identified them as well as to seek to find themselves in Christ. The 330 people that attended the MUD retreat (coordinated by Rebekah Strobel) over MLK Jr. weekend were blessed by speaker Ben Kearns as he helped them dive into what it means for us to be a people "molded" by God. Between amazing worship led by Joe Poppino, great games put on by the camp, deepening seminars planned by Matthew Humphreys and opportunities for youth groups to converse and pray together, it was one of the best MUD retreats ever.

In August our youth workers were privileged to gather together for a two-day retreat, in which we focused together on what racial righteousness looks like within our context and conference. At the 2017 Midwinter's Youth Worker Connection in Louisville we had a large number of PNWC youth leaders attend and enjoyed a time of connection and

deepening together.

Though it is still over a year away, our conference is gearing up for CHIC 2018. A main goal with this tri-annual event is to increase both the number of PacNWC churches represented at CHIC as well as the actual number of students that attend. To do this, we are hoping to connect churches with each other to act as sponsors, and insure that no church youth group member is denied a CHIC experience due to finances.

As a conference, our youth workers are dedicated to growing not only their individual youth groups, but the conference youth presence and connection as a whole. Our leaders are committed to doing empowering and engaging discipleship, and to resource one another so that we all may grow. Our goals in the upcoming year are to continue to resource churches, connect more youth groups to our events and programs, to prioritize and deepen our understanding and efforts around compassion and justice, and to bolster our youth ministry network leadership.

Thank you for your support of PacNWC youth ministry!

KIDS & FAMILY MINISTRY

Growing a new ministry

By Rev. Erik Cave
*PacNWC Coordinator for
Communications
and Family Ministry*

This has been a year of growing connection, networking and support for our kids and family ministries and workers within our conference. This all began as our Kids and Family ministry coaches, Anna Carlson and Katey Hage and I, began meeting to discuss how we could better serve our churches and kids and family ministry workers. Out of this came the creation of our first ever Kids and Family Ministry Task Force. So far we have been able to create a conference-wide database of kids and family ministry workers and form a Facebook group.

There are several highlights from last year. We brought Steve Burger, our national Director of Children, Family and Intergenerational Ministries, to the Northwest. We met at Dumas Bay for a day of encouragement and spiritual renewal. We also had a large number of Kids and Family ministry workers attend the Legacy Connection at Midwinter. Our conference actually had the largest group in attendance. Legacy is a new initiative from the national office to connect children with the larger church. You will be hearing more about this in the future.

For 2017 we hope to continue to grow our Kids and Family Ministry Task Force. We will be hosting local cluster meetings and strategizing how to empower families. Our hope is to help our churches grow through effective ministry to kids and families by Kids and Family ministry workers who are connected and supported by the conference.



Brightwood Station is popular with Cascades youth campers.

Impacting young lives

104 campers at Cascades make first-time commitments

By Rob Mohrweiss

Cascades Associate Director

Looking back on the summer of 2016, we give thanks for yet another fruitful season of ministry here at Cascades!

Between our overnight and day-camp programs, 244 campers renewed their commitment to follow God, 182 campers felt called to work in ministry, and 104 campers made a first-time commitment to Christ – and that’s only a fraction of the decisions that were made, as we have no way of accounting for the Kingdom work that goes on during family camps or guest group retreats. We are continually in awe of the Spirit’s presence and the many hearts and lives that are transformed each year here at Cascades!

Four Cascades family camps

Family camp	Dates	Speaker/Covenant church
Memorial Day Campout	May 26-29	Rev. Rick Kendall, City of Rain, Kent
Independence Day	June 28-July 2	Bob Stromberg, comedian, and Rev. Harvey Drake, Emerald City, Seattle
Double Fun	Aug. 4-6	Rev. Michael Thomas, Radiant, Seattle
Labor Day	Sept. 1-4	Rev. Ryan Eikenbary-Barber, Mt. Vernon



Bob Stromberg, comedian and inspirational speaker.



Rev. Harvey Drake, Emerald City Bible Fellowship.

As we look forward to the rest of 2017, the best keeps getting

better. We’ve installed the second half of our amazing new playground, which we’re sure we will host even more children this season. There’s new flooring in Lakeside Lodge bathrooms as well as all new flooring in Liberty Ridge Lodge, and we’re hard at work on plans for new summer staff housing.

Also, we continue to develop vision and plans for the rapidly growing Rainier Kids Day Camp – our best outreach into the community directly surrounding

Cascades – that is sure to have significant impact on this important area of ministry. As is always our aim, we continue to look for ways to better serve our campers and guests!

Summer 2017 is shaping up to be yet another favorite among kids and “bigger kids” alike. The “new-each-week” themes at Rainier Kids Day Camp continue to provide unique and fun experiences for campers in grades 1-6 who return week after week.

Upper-elementary overnight campers will soar high above the clouds with hot air balloons, airplanes, and helicopters as they fly “Up, Up, and Away” at Brightwood Station. Camp Timber Rock’s “Adventure in the Alps” theme will have epic voyages, avalanche warnings, and kooky mountain characters for our middle-school campers. Sunrise Ranch horse camps will see some brand new horsey-faces, as always. We even have some fresh new ideas that will continue to make the S.A.L.T. program an impactful and life-changing experience for our high school campers. There is much to look forward to in 2017.

At Cascades, we never turn children away from an experience at camp due to financial constraints. As our numbers continue to grow, so do the requests for camper sponsorships. If you feel compelled to give to our endowment fund, please contact the camp office [360-894-3838] and we will provide you with information about donating. Or, if your camper is in need of monetary assistance to get to Cascades, let us know.

New staff in PacNWC churches

Name	Position	Covenant church (city)
Dan Booker	AP of Children & Family Ministries	Bethany (Mt. Vernon, Wash.)
Dean Nelson	Senior Pastor	Yakima (Yakima, Wash.)
Jong H. Eom	Senior Pastor	Korean (Kirkland, Wash.)
Leslie Sanders	Executive Pastor	Kent (Kent, Wash.)
Pete Rizzuto	AP of Student Ministries	Praise (Tacoma, Wash.)
Jerren Wadsworth	Minister of Youth	West Hills (Portland, Ore.)
Zach Carrell	Youth Pastor	Creekside (Redmond, Wash.)
Lynette Sanchez	Pastor of Children & Families	West Hills (Portland, Ore.)
San Kim	Interim Director of Worship	West Hills (Portland, Ore.)
Jelani Greenidge	Associate Pastor	Sunset (Portland, Ore.)
Kari Williams	Children Ministry Leader	Radiant (Renton, Wash.)
Elise Steel	Interim Children & Family Director	Evergreen (Mercer Is. Wash.)

Pastors to be ordained in 2017

Name	Position	Covenant church (City)
Leo Anderson	Lead Pastor	Desert Springs (Pasco, Wash.)
G. Coby Cagle	AP Youth/College Ministries	Quest (Seattle, Wash.)
Jeannette Conver	AP/Adult Spiritual Formation	Kent (Kent, Wash.)
Mathew Hollen	Church Planter	St. Thomas (Salem, Ore.)
Bohyon Lim	Chaplain (Seattle Pacific Univ.)	Seattle, Wash.
Steve Pace	Church Planter	The Rock (Olympia, Wash.)
Jessica Ronhaar	Family Ministry Director	Arlington (Wash.) United
Janet Russell	Dir.of Christian Form./Comm. Life	Bellingham, Wash.
Ann Snowberger	Chaplain (St. Francis Hospital)	Federal Way, Wash.
Brent Strobel	Youth Pastor	Evergreen (Mercer Is., Wash.)

WOMEN MINISTRIES

Fall retreat at Cascades a weekend of blessing and light

Women Ministries exist to equip women to advance the Kingdom of God through ministries that encourage women to grow, serve and reach out with the Gospel of Christ.

Our 2016 Fall Women Ministries Retreat – with the theme “Radiance - arise, shine, for your light has come – was a weekend of blessings and light. About 350 women attended the Sept. 23-25 retreat at Cascades Conference Center.

The speaker was Yvonne DeVaughn, and the missionary Pia Restrepo. Worship was led by the team from Emerald City Bible Fellowship of Seattle.

Our 2017 retreat, “Enter the Story!” is Sept 22-24, with a speaker duo of Ruth Hill and her daughter, Becca Worl.

Our “Spring Celebration” was March 19 at River Ridge Covenant Church in Lacey, Wash. Nearly 100 women attended the “How Beautiful” event, which included speaker Meagan Gillan, director of Women Ministries ECC, worship, annual business meeting, and two breakout sessions.

Other CWM programs includes:

AVA Ministries: The Advocacy for Victims of Abuse team led four workshops and two trainings in 2016. So far 39 Covenant and 16 non-Covenant churches have benefited from AVA and Mending the Soul workshops or trainings.

Faith and outreach grants: Women Ministries awarded one \$500 grant in 2016 to Bellingham Covenant for a Monday morning moms program.

The 2017 board consists of: Jo Wolfe, president, Sanctuary Covenant (Everett, Wash.); Patti Timbers, vice president, Crossroads Covenant (Yelm, Wash.); Janet Russell, secretary, Bellingham (Wash.) Covenant; Phyllis Rogers, interim financial secretary, Kent (Wash) Covenant; Joan Moline,

treasurer, Bellingham Covenant; Luanne Clark, Communications, Creekside Covenant (Redmond, Wash.); Bobette Scheid, AVA Ministries, Evergreen Covenant (Mercer Island, Wash.); Malialani Dullanty, global ministries coordinator, Cedarcreek Covenant (Maple Valley, Wash.); Erikka Hedberg, website coordinator, Emmanuel Covenant (Surrey, B.C.)

COVENANT MEN

Men ‘Jump out of the Stands and onto the Playing Field’

The 2016 Covenant Men’s Breakfast was held in conjunction with the PacNWC Annual Meeting at McMinnville Covenant Church. Pastor Chuck Wysong of Life Community Church, Sacramento, Calif., was our speaker. He previewed the theme of the Fall Retreat, “Jump out of the Stands and onto the Playing Field.”

At Family Camp at Cascades,

Covenant Men barbecued about 80 salmon fillets for Sunday dinner. Bring your family this year for a fun-filled, inspirational week and enjoy another delicious salmon BBQ!

About 100 men from the PNWC gathered at Cascades for the 2016 Men’s Retreat. Chuck Wysong, Peter Sung, Russ Blake and Keith Carpenter spoke on the “Parable of the Sower” and the necessity of self-care. Ben Wysong (Harbor Covenant north campus), Josh Dvorak and Dan Whitmarsh (Lakebay Covenant) led music. Mark Swanson taught a seminar on “Intentional Spirituality” and led us in prayer. We learned about the “Fourth Quarter of Active Life” from Dwight and Bryce Nelson. George Helton taught fly tying. Four guys got seat upgrades to the La-Z-Boy, aka “The Leather Throne”. We watched the Huskies-Ducks football game and played late-night card games. We celebrated communion together and sang, at the top of our lungs, to the Lord! We gave to the native vocational training mission of Amundsen Education Center, Soldotna Alaska. Please join us at the next retreat!

Looking ahead, our annual retreat will be moving to March 2-4, 2018. See the Covenant Men’s website, <http://www.covenantmen.org> for retreat registration.

We continue to promote CM’s mission of service to Christ and glorification of God. We encourage men’s groups at each PacNWC church; attendance at regional activities such as our work projects and retreats; and world mission’s involvement, including the support and involvement in Alaska missions’ projects.

Alaska Christian College this summer will be adding a wing to their dormitory building. Interested? Contact Jim Milton. You can also find us on Facebook, Pacific-Northwest-Conference-Covenant-Men.

PacNWC boards and commissions

Executive Board

Member	Covenant church	City and state
Tricia Cisneros	Bethany	Mt. Vernon, Wash.
Rev. Timonty Jung	Tacoma Trinity	Tacoma, Wash.
Doug Kretz	Cascade View	Vancouver, Wash.
Rev. Stephanie Ahn Mathis	West Hills	Portland, Ore.
Phil Manzano	Emerald City Bible Fellowship	Seattle, Wash.
Connie McKelvey	Tigard	Tigard, Ore.
Gail Ohta	Trinity	Salem, Ore.
Rev. Kent Place	Portland First	Portland, Ore.
Thomas Robinson	Emerald City Bible Fellowship	Seattle, Wash.
Cecilia Salazar	Iglesia Latinoamericana	Bellevue, Wash.
Pam Theis	The Well Covenant Church	Corvallis, Ore.
Lenore Three Stars	Wiley Heights	Yakima, Wash.
Brian Whitaker	Seattle First	Seattle, Wash.
Rev. Michael White	Harbor Covenant Church	Gig Harbor, Wash.

Greg J. Yee, *Ex officio*, PacNWC staff; Donald T. Robinson, *Advisor*, PacNWC staff; Cris Back, *Advisor*, PacNWC staff

Nominating Commission

Member	Covenant church	City and state
Jenny Cobbley	Highland	Bellevue, Wash.
Rev. David Greenidge	Tigard	Tigard, Ore.
Rev. Mark Hjelmervik	Trinity	Salem, Ore.
Rev. Eric Palmquist	Highland	Bellevue, Wash.
Bobette Scheid	Evergreen	Mercer Island, Wash.
Glenna Sequeira	Cascade View	Vancouver, Wash.

Janet Batiste, *Ex officio*, ECC Nomination Board; Greg J. Yee, *PacNWC staff*; Donald T. Robinson, *PacNWC staff*; Cris Back, *PacNWC staff*

Youth Commission

Member	Covenant church	City and state
Rev. G. Coby Cagle	Quest	Seattle, Wash.
Claudia Fisher	Crossroads Community	Yelm, Wash.
Kara Harris	Faith	Sumner, Wash.
Rev. Noah Hormann	Creekside	Redmond, Wash.
Rev. Matthew Humphreys	Trinity	Salem, Ore.
Diane Levitt	Pine Lake	Sammamish, Wash.
Rev. Dan Meyerpeter	River Ridge	Olympia, Wash.
Rev. Bob Nass	Yakima	Yakima, Wash.
Rev. Louie Praseuth	Emerald City Bible Fellowship	Seattle, Wash.
Rev. Nick Pringle	Pine Lake	Sammamish, Wash.
Rev. Rebecca Strobel	Selah	Selah, Wash.
Rev. Ruby Varghese	Kent	Kent, Wash.

Erik Cave, *Conference coach*, PacNWC staff; Greg J. Yee, *PacNWC staff*

“Thank you for all your faithful partnership and for those of you who answered the call to increase giving by 1/2 percent. If you were not able to last year, please consider this going forward.”

– Rev. Greg Yee, PacNWC superintendent

Giving vs. Attendance

A comparison of church average attendance* and church giving of the top 15 giving churches in the Pacific Northwest Conference:

Church	City	Giving (Rank)	Attend. (Rank)
Countryside	Sherwood, Ore.	\$53,407 1	760 2
Pine Lake	Sammamish, Wash.	\$43,961 2	274 14
Cascade	North Bend, Wash.	\$36,268 3	342 11
Crossroads	Yelm, Wash.	\$36,231 4	666 3
Quest	Seattle, Wash.	\$34,885 5	938 1
Harbor	Gig Harbor, Wash.	\$30,000 6	467 7
First	Portland, Ore.	\$29,732 7	146 25
Eastridge	Clackamas, Ore.	\$25,239 8	550 6
Evergreen	Mercer Island, Wash.	\$23,308 9	249 17
Bethany	Mt. Vernon, Wash.	\$22,500 10	592 5
Trinity	Salem, Ore.	\$21,133 11	168 22
Grace	Olympia, Wash.	\$21,000 12	422 8
Newport	Bellevue, Wash.	\$19,750 13	198 20
Highland	Bellevue, Wash.	\$18,619 14	129 30
Emerald City Bible	Seattle, Wash.	\$18,488 15	132 29

*Average attendance for November 2016

PacNWC's top percentage givers*

5% Church	City
Hope	Lake Stevens, Wash.
4%	
Lettered Streets	Bellingham, Wash.
Highland	Bellevue, Wash.
Midway	Des Moines, Wash.
Tigard	Tigard, Ore.
Methow Valley	Twisp, Wash.
3%	
Pine Lake	Sammamish, Wash.
Cascade	North Bend, Wash.
Eastridge	Clackamas, Ore.
West Hills	Portland, Ore.
Countryside	Sherwood, Ore.
Emerald City	Seattle, Wash.
Milwaukie	Milwaukie, Ore.
Sanctuary	Everett, Wash.
Access	Portland, Ore.
Creekside	Redmond, Wash.
Renew	Seattle, Wash.
Trinity	Salem, Ore.

*Based on 2015 income reported to ECC with understanding reports are incomplete.

Tim Hedberg is your financial resource for Covenant Trust

Covenant Trust Company is your financial resource.

Knowing where to turn and who to

contact is essential for what you're called to do. Having your own financial life in order equips you to speak authentically on topics of finance and stewardship.



Tim Hedberg

Tim Hedberg is Covenant Trust's financial representative for the Pacific Northwest Conference, and he can help you with the following:

- Investment planning.
- Social Security claiming strategy.
- IRAs and retirement accounts.
- Estate planning documents.
- Pastoral tax questions.
- Housing allowance.
- Reporting rules.

Hedberg is also available to conduct financial education seminars for your congregation, including information geared for women, seniors and young investors.

Topics include creative ways to give to the church, legacy planning and Biblical financial principles.

If you would like more information you can contact him at 425-394-5090, or thedberg@covenanttrust.com. His mailing address is 21291 Sunrise Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

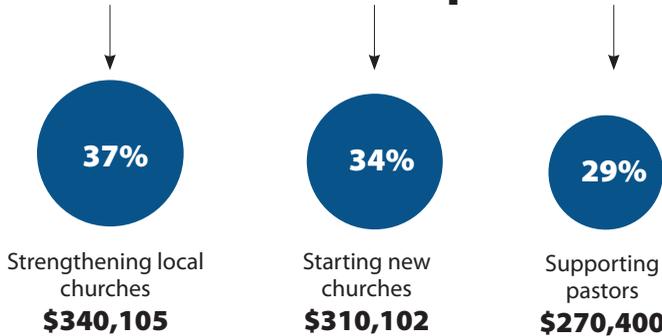
Annual report on the web

To read this annual report online go to <http://pacnwc.org/annualmeeting> to see the entire publication, including Spanish translations.

Our three mission priorities

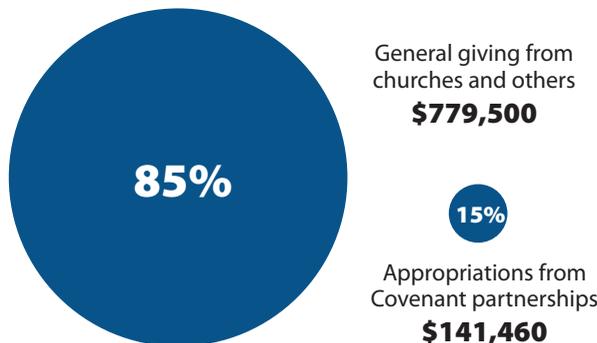
2017 PacNWC budgeted expenses
\$920,607

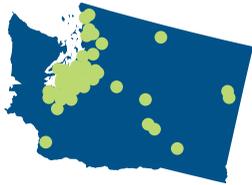
In 2017, 37 percent will be given to strengthening local churches, 34 percent for starting churches and 23 percent to supporting pastors, our three mission priorities



2017 PacNWC budgeted income
\$920,960

The majority of income that the PacNWC receives as mission and ministry support comes from our local churches. Additional income is received from our partnership with the Evangelical Covenant Church





WASHINGTON

Arlington

Arlington United Church
Rev. Deena Jones
www.auc1.org

Bellevue

Disciple Community
Rev. Derek Hwang
www.disciple-cc.org

Highland Covenant

Rev. James Amadon
www.highlandcovenant.com

Iglesia Latinoamericana

Rev. Rosamaria Segura
www.iglesialatinoamericana.org

Newport Covenant

Rev. Rick Mylander, interim
www.newportcov.org

Bellingham

Bellingham Covenant
Rev. Paul Petersen
www.bellinghamcov.org

Lettered Streets Covenant

Rev. Chris Eltrich
www.letteredstreetscc.com

Bremerton

Grace Covenant
Rev. Grant Christensen
www.grace-cov.com

Burlington

Crossroads Covenant
Rev. Bernd Strom, interim
www.crosscov.net

Clear Lake

Community Covenant
Rev. Dwight Nelson, interim
www.clearlakecov.org

Des Moines

Midway Comm. Covenant
Rev. David A. Johnson
www.midcov.org

Everett

Sanctuary Covenant
Rev. Dave Wells, interim
www.sanctuaryycc.org

Federal Way

Calvary Covenant
Rev. Yong Mun (Peter) Kim
Tri-Worship Covenant
Rev. David Aaron Johnson
www.triworship.com

Gig Harbor

Harbor Covenant
Rev. Michael White
www.harborcovenant.org

Graham

Graham
Evangelical Covenant
Rev. Rich Arnold
www.grahamcovenant.org

Kent

City of Rain Covenant
Rev. Andrey Khilchenko
www.cityofrain.org

Evangelical Covenant

Rev. Keith Carpenter
www.kentcov.org

Iglesia Esperanza Viva

Rev. Esau Del Arca
<https://www.facebook.com/EsperanzaVivaWA>

Kirkland

Korean Kirkland Covenant
Rev. Jong H. Eom

Lakebay

Lakebay Community
Rev. Dan Whitmarsh
www.lakebaycovenant.net

Lake Stevens

Hope Covenant
Rev. Bill Wallis
www.hopelakestevens.org

Lynnwood

Martha Lake Covenant
Bill Mueller
www.marthalakecov.org

Maple Valley

Cedarcreek Covenant
Rev. Kenton Johnson
www.cedarcreekcovenant.com

Mercer Island

Evergreen Covenant
Rev. Peter Sung
www.evergreenchurch.cc

Monroe

Monroe Covenant
Rev. Mac Taylor
www.monroecov.org

Mount Vernon

Bethany Covenant
Rev. Ryan Eikenbary-Barber
www.bccmv.org

North Bend

Cascade Covenant
Rev. Dan Boehlje
www.cascadecov.com

Olympia

Grace Community Covenant
Rev. Rhyan Smith
www.accessgrace.org

Iglesia Cristiana

Pacto de Gracia
Rev. Manuel Lozano

River Ridge Covenant

Rev. Brian Wiele
www.rrcov.org

The Rock Covenant

Rev. Steve Pace
www.meetusattherock.org

Pasco

Desert Springs Covenant
Rev. Leo Anderson
www.dscchome.com

Poulsbo

Alive Covenant
Rev. Daron Jagodzinski
www.kitsapalive.com

Redmond

Creekside Covenant
Rev. Vic Varkonyi, interim
www.ecreekside.com

Renton

Radiant Covenant
Rev. Michael Thomas
www.radiantseattle.org

Sammamish

Pine Lake Covenant
Rev. Mark Meredith
www.plcc.org

Seattle

Emerald City Bible Fellowship
Rev. Harvey Drake
www.emeraldcitybible.org

Emmanuel Bible Church

Rev. Bob Zurinsky
www.ebcseattle.org

First Covenant

Rev. Paul Corner
www.firstcovenantseattle.org

Quest Church

Rev. Eugene Cho
www.seattlequest.org

Renew Covenant

Rev. David Sim
www.renewchurchseattle.org

Selah

Selah Covenant
Rev. Brad Hill
www.selahcov.com

Shoreline

Shoreline Covenant
Rev. Mike Guerrero
www.shorelinecovenant.org

Spokane

Immanuel Church
Rev. Rob Fairbanks
www.immanuelspokane.org

The Gathering House

Rev. Robert Bryceson
www.gatheringhouse.org

Sumner

Faith Covenant
Rev. Kurt Notehelfer
www.faithcovsumner.com

Tacoma

Hope Covenant
Rev. Doug Olson

Praise Covenant

Rev. Greg Chantler
www.praisecovenant.net

Tacoma Trinity Covenant

Rev. Sang Kil Kwon
www.tacomasamil.org

Twisp

Community Covenant
Church of the Methow Valley
Rev. Jeff Palmberg
www.mvcommunitycovenant.com

Vancouver

Cascade View Covenant
Rev. Jim Sequeira
www.cascadeview.org

Wenatchee

Columbia Grove Covenant
Rev. Andrew Thompson
www.columbiagrove.org

Yakima

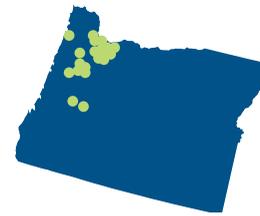
Wiley Heights Covenant
Rev. Mark Swanson
www.wileyheightscovenant.org

Yakima Covenant

Rev. Dean Nelson
www.yakimacovenant.org

Yelm

Crossroads Comm. Covenant
Rev. Russ Blake
www.crossroadscov.com



OREGON

Beaverton

Iglesia Nueva Vision
Rev. Mariela Gonzalez and
Rev. Dario Miqueo

Kaleo Covenant

Rev. Troy Hoppenrath
www.kaleocov.org

Cannon Beach

Cannon Beach Community
Rev. David Robinson
www.beachcommunity.org

Clackamas

Eastridge Covenant
Rev. Dwain Tissell
www.eastridgechurch.org

Corvallis

The Well Covenant
Rev. Matt Mills
www.thewellcovchurch.com

Damascus

Hillsview Covenant
Rev. Michael Conrad
www.hillsviewcommunitychurch.org

Eugene

Valley Covenant
Rev. Steve Bilynskyj
www.valleycovenant.org

Gresham

Powell Valley Covenant
www.powellvalley.org

McMinnville

McMinnville Covenant
Rev. Mark Carlson
and Rev. Ted Yuen
www.maccov.org

Milwaukie

Evangelical Covenant
Rev. Bill Nylund
www.milwaukiecovenant.org

Portland

Access Covenant
Rev. Joel Sommer
www.accesscov.com

First Covenant

Rev. Kent Place
www.firstcov.com

Irrington Covenant

Rev. Phil Berlin, interim
www.irringtoncov.org

Sunset Covenant

Rev. Mary Putera,
revitalization pastor
www.sunsetcov.org

West Hills Covenant

Rev. Mark Mathis and
Rev. Stephanie Ahn Mathis
www.westhillscovchurch.org

Salem

Bridge Covenant
Rev. Carmen Bensink-Lewis
and Rev. Scott Bensink-Lewis
www.bridgecovenant.org

St. Thomas Covenant

Rev. Mat Hollen
www.stthomascov.com

Trinity Covenant

Rev. Mark Hjelmervik
www.trinitycovenant.org

Sherwood

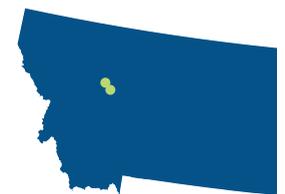
Countryside Covenant
Rev. Paul Duppenthaler
www.countrysidechurch.com

Springfield

Korean Central Covenant
Rev. Byung Du Jun
www.eugenechurch.com

Tigard

Tigard Covenant
Rev. David Greenidge
www.tigardcovenant.org



MONTANA

Helena

Headwaters Covenant
Rev. Seth Dombach
www.helenaheadwaters.org

Life Covenant

Rev. Keith Johnson
www.lifecchelena.org

Note: Only lead pastors are listed.