

A new way to keep up with what's going on in the Oregon Conference —without wasting paper.

eCOMMUNIQUÉ

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INDIA'S BEST HOPE

The Adventist schools in India provide an important link to sharing Christ in their country. Learn one man's story.

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TOUCHED LIVES AT THE MISSION

By Christian Martin



HOW ADVENTIST CHURCHES GROW

Evangelism can take many forms. Here's another line of thought on sharing the Adventist message and the love of Jesus.

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WHAT TO KNOW FOR CAMP MEETING

Thinking about attending camp meeting this summer? Learn what you can expect this year and start making plans now!

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NOTE WORTHY NEWS

Bits of news from around the Conference and around the world that we thought you might find interesting.

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The story of the Grants Pass Gospel Rescue Mission (GRM), which offers shelter to over 120 homeless men, women and children, is one of remarkable vision, godly dedication, and unconditional love. It also became a story of unparalleled impact on a youth group from the Grants Pass church led by pastor Christian Martin.

On Sabbath, April 14, nine young people between the ages of 12 and 19 and seven youth adult leaders arrived at the GRM and were warmly welcomed by Ken Emilio, executive director since 2011. Their mission would not be around the world, but in their very own city of Grants Pass, Ore.

The youth group quickly welcomed the task of

servicing supper to both the men in Wagner Hall and women and children in the Fikso Family Center. The homeless shelter cooks over 350 meals every day and it was a joy not only to see the young people serve food, but to see them sit and eat with real lonely people. Reflecting on conversations with the homeless residents, Lori Kainer, one of the youth leaders, told the group, "I met some lonely people who just need someone to listen and care about them." Following the supper, the youth gave no second thought to washing dishes and did it with willing and happy smiles!

"I MET SOME LONELY PEOPLE WHO JUST NEED SOMEONE TO LISTEN AND CARE ABOUT THEM."

Following supper, the boys and men led out in a worship service at the men's residence, which included a lively song service, gripping testimony

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TOUCHED LIVES

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by Ernie Day, trumpet solo by Stephen Covrig, and a devotional talk by Pastor Martin. Meanwhile, the girls and ladies played with many children at the Fisko Family Center. "The kids absolutely loved playing and reading with us," recalls Lexie Wheeler, one of the youth.

After interacting with several residents by praying or simply listening to them, the youth group proceeded to grab their sleeping bags and pillows and participated in one of the most unique experiences in their lives,—spending a night at the Mission! It was a time that both youth and adults used to reflect on their own lives and count the many blessings that God has given. In one of those moments of reflection, Darla Day, one of the youth leaders, stated, "I realized how fortunate I am to still have a home ... thank you, God, for my home."

The next morning, both groups once again made their way to both dorm kitchens and prepared breakfast. Laura Ross, a senior at Milo Academy, looks back at the experience, "It was amazing to be able to get to know everyone and make breakfast for them."

It was Jesus who said, "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" Various members of the groups expressed similar thoughts: "We listened to hurting women, played with love-thirsty children, prayed with searching men, but all along we were ministering to Jesus Christ Himself!"

When it was all said and done, the homeless residents did not necessarily receive the greatest blessing as Anna Ermshar, another one of the youth leaders, recognizes, "It was beautiful that they were willing to let us into their lives."

Pastor Martin adds, "We were touched by their transparency and their willingness to share their life with us. Our prayers with them moved us to tears. We were deeply blessed."

Darla Day says she, "can't wait to go back!" a sentiment that was most definitely shared by the entire Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Youth Group.



INDIA'S BEST HOPE

By Jim Reynolds

The smells, sights and sounds were overpowering as we walked down the narrow alley toward the small Adventist school located in the heart of the slum in Visac, India. I tried to watch in all directions, not knowing quite what to expect. Sure enough, a dog came charging at me and as I faced him, someone yelled at the dog and something or someone held him back. Thank God. The last thing I wanted to do was to be treated for rabies in the middle of this mission trip. We walked through the filth and poverty to a badly painted building and up a narrow flight of stairs, turned into a small set of rooms, and were greeted by the most beautiful, precious children you have ever seen!

There in the middle of that slum, children were able to go to school, learn to read, write and even more importantly, learn about Jesus.

I noticed a common thread as I visited the Adventist schools in India. Yes, the schools were about learning, but the main goal and purpose of the Adventist schools was to lift Jesus up. It was evangelism at its best.

One of my favorite Indians is a man named Ravvi. When Ravvi was four, his mother died. His father took him to his grandmothers home for the day and never came back. His grandmother died soon after, so the village elder gave him to his uncle. Ravvi's uncle and aunt didn't want him and his aunt would make Ravvi get up before her children and fetch water before breakfast. Ravvi would make several trips to the well, moving as fast as his four-year-old legs would take him. Ravvi moved fast because many times he would return on his last trip from the well only to find the house locked and the family gone. Once again, Ravvi would go without breakfast.

It wasn't long until Ravvi's uncle sold him. Yes, you

read that right. His uncle sold him as a slave to a man with cattle. Ravvi still remembers the man showing him how to clean the dung in the stalls and carry the hay on his head to feed the cattle.

One day while carrying hay down the road on top of his head, a man stopped Ravvi, lifted up the hay so that he could see Ravvi's young face and asked him if he went to school. Ravvi said "no." Then the kind man asked Ravvi if he would like to go to school. Ravvi was very excited and said he would. The kind man who turned out to be an Adventist pastor told him that he would be back in two days. Ravvi waited and sure enough, after two days the man came back, bought him from the cattle man and took him to an Adventist school. The school was supported by Asian Aid, an Adventist organization. Ravvi was left

alone in a room and decided to look around. He walked through a door and there, before his eyes, was an angel. Ravvi could hardly believe it, but there she was. The angel asked Ravvi to come to her. When Ravvi did, the angel gave him a big hug and kiss. It was the first hug Ravvi ever remembered getting. The angel was Helen Eager, the co-founder of Asian Aid.

HE WALKED THROUGH A DOOR AND THERE, BEFORE HIS EYES, WAS AN ANGEL.

There are thousands of stories similar to the one you just read happening *right now* in India. Our Adventist schools and Asian Aid are doing incredible work for the Kingdom. Visit AsianAid.org to learn how you can help children like Ravvi!



ADVENTIST CHURCHES GROW DIFFERENTLY

By Roger Walter

According to Thom Rainer, a non-Adventist church growth consultant and author, the fastest growing denomination in North America is the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"What?" you say, "I thought we were growing in Africa and South America, but not the NAD!" But it's true, we are growing faster than any other denomination out there, including Mormons, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

The question is, how do we generally grow? The only time most Adventist churches grow is when they hold a public evangelistic series. Some do that yearly, every other year, and others do it more often. "Oh...those.... But I don't like the beasts and scary images we so often put on our brochures."

My response? Those brochures aren't targeted at you. They are targeted specifically toward people who want to gather more information and learn more about the Bible. These seminars aren't about providing you with new information to fill out a prophetic timeline. They are designed to invite a seeker into church, introduce them to the gospel as Adventists understand it, and facilitate their decision for Christ. You don't like it because it isn't effective for you.

Adventist churches grow differently than most. Why do I say that? In most churches, you simply express a few beliefs that are foundational to all of Christianity to become a member. Yet, for Adventists, you must also profess belief in a 24-hour Sabbath, a unique belief in hell and death, a not-so-secret second coming, and a few more. It takes time to process Adventist beliefs. And takes time to make life changes.

Yet, we consistently find that people who want to know more about the Bible and come to our seminars find a rock-solid belief system that is unequalled in its biblical integrity and faithfulness to the message. This Message needs to be proclaimed all the more. If we really believe time is short, then we should preach this Message more often than every 18-24 months. We need to proclaim a kingdom Message to people for the soon coming of Christ.

My hope is that every church would get involved on a regular basis in proclaiming the Message as Adventists understand it. Your Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering will help us do just that. This special offering planned for the 2012 Gladstone Camp Meeting is designed to raise the bar on doing evangelism in the local church. Please plan to participate in telling your neighborhood about Jesus.



ARE YOU READY FOR CAMP MEETING?

Gladstone Camp Meeting will hold its 83rd camp meeting on the grounds at Gladstone Park July 17-21, 2012! Speakers in this year's line-up include: Elizabeth Talbot, Dan Jackson, Ty Gibson, and Jason Worf. Get ready to learn how you can be a member in ministry and reach your own world as you learn how to start a community garden, how to update or create a website for your ministry or church, how to engage in and share healthy living, and even how to raise funds for your ministries! And that's just the beginning! Each evening in the Plaza Pavilion, last year's Sabbath service speaker, Elizabeth Talbot, will be speaking on one of the four gospels.

In the young adult, youth, and teen programs you won't want to miss the great speakers, music, activities, and events planned! And in the children's divisions, the theme will be one based on archeology!

You won't want to miss this year's line-up so make plans to attend today! Learn more in the coming days on the Oregon Conference website at www.OregonConference.org. The Camp Meeting booklet will be on the website around the middle of June.

We are feverishly working out some issues with our camp meeting reservation website at the moment. We are very close to being able to take reservations online. In the mean time, to make a RV or tent site reservation, please call 503-850-3344 or email Jayne.Johnson@oc.npuc.org. Locations staff will call you back *in the order the messages were received*. Thank you for your patience as we work to complete this project!

The Recipe Exchange

Camp meeting will soon be upon us and many of you will be making your traditional camp meeting recipes. Here's a chance to share some of those traditions! Have a favorite salad recipe? Casserole concoction? Send them our way! We'll pick a favorite and publish it in next month's *eCommunique*, just in time for camp meeting!

All recipes must be vegetarian or vegan. Please include preparation directions. Send your recipes to: krissy.barber@oc.npuc.org

In the meantime, enjoy this delicious summer salad!

Black Bean Salad with a Lime-Cilantro Vinaigrette

Ingredients

2 15oz cans of black beans, drained	2 tbsp sugar
3 ears freshly cooked corn, cut off the cob	9 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 red bell peppers, diced	1 tsp lime zest
2 cloves garlic, minced	6 tbsp fresh lime juice
2 tbsp minced shallot	1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
2 tsp salt	2 Hass avocados, diced
1/4 tsp cayenne pepper	

Directions

Combine all ingredients except avocados in a large bowl and mix well. Cover and chill for a few hours or overnight. Right before serving, add avocados and mix gently, being careful not to mash avocados. Garnish with more chopped cilantro if desired. Serve at room temperature.



NOTE WORTHY...

REGIONAL CONVOCATION CELEBRATES 36TH GATHERING

Hundreds of Adventist members representing African-American and other multi-cultural churches around the Northwest gathered May 17-20 at Camp Berachah near Auburn, Wash., for the annual Regional Convocation. Organized by Alphonso McCarthy and Patric Parris of the North Pacific Union Conference Regional Ministries department, the convocation featured keynote speaker Carlton Byrd, Breath of Life director/speaker. Other guests included musicians Wayne Buckner and Andrew Young from Oakwood University, and presenters from Don't Follow Me, an anti-drug, alcohol and crime prevention organization. Read a full report in the August issue of the *Gleaner*.

MILO ACADEMY'S HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGE

Milo Adventist Academy's historic covered bridge was recently inspected by OBEC Consulting Engineers. The engineers identified several areas of significant deterioration, damage, and fatigue which are cause for concern when it comes to the safety of the bridge. Currently, the bridge's maximum load limit has been set at five (5) tons. As you make plans to travel to Milo in the near future, please do not plan to bring mobile homes and larger vehicles across the bridge. Please drive slowly as you cross the bridge and avoid driving across immediately behind other vehicles. Contact Nancy Starr at nancy.starr@miloacademy.org or 541-825-3200 ext. 3321 to make alternate arrangements for large vehicles.

NPUC PLANS ACTION ON WOMEN IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

In response to a North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Executive Committee vote on May 16, NPUC administration will appoint an ad hoc committee to help resolve issues of women in Adventist ministry. This ad hoc committee will be tasked with creating specific recommendations on how to fully integrate committed and called Adventist women into all levels of church leadership within the NPUC territory. The recommendations will be presented to the NPUC Executive Committee at the next scheduled meeting on Nov. 14, 2012.

BACK TO SQUARE ONE FOR WWU PRESIDENT SEARCH

David E. Thomas, Walla Walla University (WWU) School of Theology dean, has withdrawn his name from consideration as WWU president. On May 4, the Presidential Search Committee voted to recommend Thomas and intended to take his name to the May 14 WWU Board of Trustees meeting. On May 11, Thomas informed Max Torkelsen, WWU board chair, of his decision to withdraw. The committee has initiated a new look at current candidates and have included some additional names. "Please keep this process in your prayers, that the Lord will guide us to the right individual He has chosen for this important leadership position," says Torkelsen.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD GOES TO ROBERTS

Anita Roberts, Lake City Junior Academy (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) third- and fourth-grade teacher, is among 10 teachers selected this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive a 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award. AAF is a foundation that supports Seventh-day Adventist schools in North America. The award includes a medallion and a \$2,000 gift. Health instruction is a key component of Roberts' mission. She has designed a "Fitness Expedition: Project Healthy Kids" curriculum that promotes a lifestyle of exercise and nutrition for her students. Roberts was chosen to be one of the Upper Columbia Conference lead teachers for the new Pathways language arts program and was responsible for training other teachers in the conference on how to implement it.

NEW WEBSITE FEATURES ADVENTIST CREATIVE ARTISTS

A new web community has been developed. InSpire is a web community where Seventh-day Adventist members gifted in or passionate about the creative arts can share their ideas and creations in a collaborative way. Songwriting, drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, poetry and more can be used in powerful ways to convey God's message of hope and healing to churches and surrounding cultural environments. This website represents an intentional effort to stimulate dialog and creative engagement in mission among Adventist songwriters, poets and artists. It is designed to help Adventist members celebrate the old and capture the new. Visit www.visitinspire.org to learn more!

WOMEN CLERGY MEET FOR FIRST CONFERENCE

Most of the 107 women pastors in the Division were able to attend the first organized conference for women clergy, April 23-26. Boosting the attendance to nearly 300 were female chaplains, seminary students and Division administrators who were there in support of women in ministry. Dan Jackson, NAD president, also attended the event.

WALLA WALLA VALLEY ACADEMY SELECTS PRINCIPAL

At the beginning of May, the Walla Walla Valley Academy board selected Brian Harris to serve as principal for this coming school year. Harris has been serving as principal at Cascade Christian Academy in Wenatchee, Wash. and will be replacing John Deming who is retiring this year.

ADVENTIST LEADERS PONDER FUTURE MINISTERIAL STAFFING NEEDS

A recent review of pastoral demographics in the United States reveals that nearly 50 percent of Seventh-day Adventist ministers will reach retirement age within 10 years, a discovery that is prompting ministry officials to examine potential scenarios to address the coming dilemma. Namely, will the denomination hire a new crop to replace retiring ministers, or will it urge much of its experienced, aging workforce to continue working longer than previously planned? Each option has its own advantages, and church leaders such as Ivan Williams, North American Division ministerial director, say they're exploring a mix of both possible solutions.

JUNE GLEANER FEATURES 'MINISTERS WITH BOOTS ON'

The June *Gleaner* features several Adventist chaplains in Washington state. You will get acquainted with Jay Coon, Auburn Adventist Academy associate pastor, who also serves as head community chaplain for the local police and fire departments. You'll also meet James Hall and other Adventist military chaplains with Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Wash. These individuals often spend their hours in environments seldom reached by traditional pastors or evangelistic efforts. Read the feature, watch the video and discover why they are truly Ministers with Boots On at www.gleaneronline.org.

PORTLAND ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER CEO WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems has awarded Tom Russell, president and CEO of Adventist Medical Center the 2012 Grassroots Champion Award. As a 2012 Grassroots Champion, Russell is being recognized for exceptional leadership in generating grassroots and community activity in support of a hospital's mission. Russell is the only health system CEO in Oregon to win the award. The American Hospital Association Grassroots Champion Award was created to recognize those hospital leaders who most effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affect the hospital's vital role in the community, who have done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital and who are tireless advocates for hospitals and their patients.

For additional news visit www.OregonConference.org/news_entries



Events

LIVE VEGETARIAN COOKING SHOW

When: July 16, 6:30 pm

Location: Hoodview Adventist Church

Come see celebrity chef Mark Anthony's live vegetarian cooking show presentation on July 16 at 6:30 pm! Along with the show, you'll receive a free dinner so come ready to eat! During the show Chef Anthony will talk about learning to cook vegan, a plant-based nutrition program, and the greatest new healthcare solutions. The best part is that this exciting performing culinary arts program is free! Come to Hood View Adventist Church located at 26775 SE Kelso Road, Boring, Ore. For more information, call 503-663-561 or visit www.ChefMarkAnthony.com.

ANNUAL STRAWBERRY VESPERS

When: June 23, 6:00 pm

Location: Sunnyside Adventist Church

The 31st Annual Strawberry Vespers at Sunnyside Church welcomes everyone. There will be lots of good music featuring some of Portland's finest musicians, opportunity to fellowship and enjoy strawberry shortcake. Come on Sabbath, June 23 at 6:00 pm to the Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St. For more information call 503-252-8080.

PLEASANT VALLEY VBS COMING

When: June 25-29, 9:00 - 12:00 pm

Location: Pleasant Valley Adventist Church

Sky VBS is coming to Pleasant Valley Church, June 25-29, 9:00 am-12:00noon, for ages 3 and up! Register now to be a part of PVC's Sky VBS! Mark 10:27 comes to life as kids discover that God is still doing amazing things, and they'll learn that by trusting God everything is possible! Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of PVC's Sky VBS. Register online at www.pvcda.org.

JOB OPENING COMING SOON

When: The week of June 4

Location: Oregon Conference Office

Watch the Oregon Conference Employment page (<http://bit.ly/JEA7Q9>) this next week for information about an Executive Assistant opening.

OAMC & FRIENDS BENEFIT CONCERT

When: June 16, 7:30 pm

Location: East Salem Adventist Church

Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus (OAMC) and friends present an evening of music featuring Levis Dragulin, trumpet virtuoso, Medford's renowned Valley View Quartet, tenor Rick Pummel, the OAMC Recording Ensemble, and much more. Invite your family and friends! A free-will offering will be taken to benefit OAMC's South Africa Mission 2012.

CAMP MEETING

FUN RUN/WALK 2012 REGISTRATION

When: July 20, 2012

Location: Gladstone Camp Meeting

All ages are welcome to join the Gladstone Camp Meeting 5K Fun Run/Walk on Friday, July 20. Register online now or in person at camp meeting. The run/walk begins at 7:30 am with snacks at the finish line. If you would like to order a commemorative t-shirt (\$10), please visit <http://bit.ly/MYmHQ1> before July 2. (There will be a very limited supply of t-shirts at camp meeting.) You can pick up your number and pre-ordered t-shirt at the InfoBooth Tuesday - Thursday during camp meeting or at 7:00 am on Friday. This free event is sponsored by the Oregon Conference Health Ministries Department.

NORTHWEST MISSION INSTITUTE BOOT CAMP

When: Starts June 17, 2012

Location: Kennewick, Wash.

Northwest Mission Institute (NMI) is a new and innovative training school for Bible Worker Coordinators. NMI is a ministry of the North Pacific Union in cooperation with Walla Walla University, sponsored by the Oregon Conference. This program offers practical training. Besides excellent classes, students receive experiential knowledge in outreach ministries and lots of in-the-field, mentored training. Come for our inaugural NMI Boot Camp session starting June 17, or our NMI Complete program starting September 23. Visit www.missioninstitute.org to learn more.

SPANISH BIBLES NEEDED

When: Now until Fall 2012

Location: For Guatemala

Light Bearers Ministry is in the middle of an evangelistic series in Guatemala. People there are hungry for the Word of God. Light Bearers has a need of 3,000 - 5,000 Spanish Bibles to go in the next container to Guatemala. The target date is fall of this year or sooner. If you have a Spanish Bible that you would like to donate, please send it to Light Bearers Ministry at 37457 Jasper Lowell Rd. Jasper, OR 97438. Light Bearers is still taking English Bibles as well. For more information call 541-988-3333

BETTER LIFE BROADCASTING CAMP MEETING

When: June 8 & 9, 2012

Location: Rogue Valley Adventist Academy campus

You're invited to attend the Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting June 8 and 9 at Rogue Valley Adventist Academy. The keynote speaker will be Pastor Stephen Bohr. Several musical guests will also be featured. For more information visit <http://BetterLifeTV.tv/> or call 541-474-3089. **PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the recent reduction in weight limit for Milo Academy's historic covered bridge, Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting has been relocated from its traditional location at Milo Adventist Academy.

FAITHCAMP LITE IN EUGENE

When: July 13 & 14, 2012

Location: Eugene Adventist Church

FaithCamp is designed to challenge you, stretch you, and refresh you! You will hear Bible teachings, mission stories, and faith experiences fresh from the front lines. Speakers include Tim Maddocks, faith-based missionary to Cambodia, and Jon and Natalie Wood, founders of Jesus for Asia. The event will be held at the Eugene Adventist Church located at 1275 Polk Street, Eugene, Ore. Meeting times are Friday, 7:00 pm; Sabbath, 11:00 am, 2:30 pm, 4:00 pm, and 7:00 pm. For more information call 541-683-4769 or visit FaithCampOnline.org or eugeneadventistchurch.org.

All links are clickable here and elsewhere in the eCommunique.



Transitions

Roger & Kathy Hernandez will be leaving the Oregon Conference to join the Southern Union.

Gerald Bandy (Tania) has ended his interim position as pastor for the Klamath Falls district.

Steve Behrmann (Elizabeth) will be filling the position of interim pastor for the Sutherlin/Winston district.

Keith Bowman (Shayna) has moved to seminary from the Beaverton church.

Steve Dayen (Linda) has joined the Oregon Conference from the Texas Conference. He will be taking the position of pastor the Klamath Falls district.

Richard Beck (Wanda) will be retiring from full-time work with the Oregon Conference. He will be continuing on part-time.

Ben Bilan (Violeta) will be returning from seminary in June.

Pat Milligan (Tami) will be transferring to the Michigan Conference.

Leslie Carins (David) will be joining the Oregon Conference as an auditor.

Dacia Haning will be leaving the Oregon Conference to join Adventist Health.

Reach Our World...

Gladstone Camp Meeting

July 17 - 21, 2012

Members in Ministry



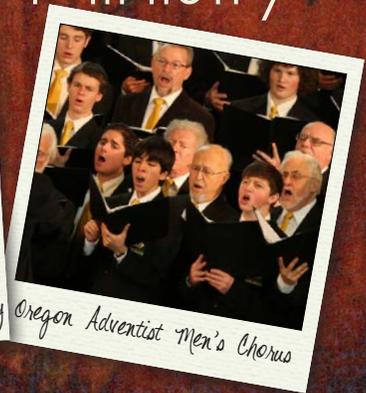
Dan Jackson, NAO President



The King's Herald



Elizabeth Talbot, Voice of Prophecy



Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus

Visit www.OregonConference.org for more!

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Jun 2	Jun 9	Jun 16	Jun 23	Jun 30	Jul 7
Bend	8:42 PM	8:47 PM	8:51 PM	8:52 PM	8:52 PM	8:50 PM
Eugene	8:50 PM	8:54 PM	8:58 PM	9:00 PM	9:00 PM	8:58 PM
Hood River	8:49 PM	8:54 PM	8:58 PM	9:00 PM	9:00 PM	8:57 PM
Longview	8:57 PM	9:02 PM	9:06 PM	9:08 PM	9:08 PM	9:06 PM
Medford	8:42 PM	8:47 PM	8:50 PM	8:52 PM	8:52 PM	8:50 PM
Newport	8:55 PM	9:00 PM	9:04 PM	9:05 PM	9:05 PM	9:03 PM
Portland	8:54 PM	8:59 PM	9:02 PM	9:04 PM	9:04 PM	9:02 PM

A publication of the Oregon Conference Communication Department • Gary McLain, director • Krissy Barber, administrative assistant

To submit stories, announcements, or to get in touch with us please email us at krissy.barber@oc.npuc.org or call 503.850.3500

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