



INLAND STREAM

INLAND WEST USA MISSION CENTER NEWS

Inland Stream Spring-Summer 2018

Volume 14, Number 1

Breathe New Life

By Brad A. Martell

“. . . the Spirit is the power of life-giving breath (*rûah*) within the cosmos who continually works to transform and renew all forms of life – both human and nonhuman.”

~ Mark I. Wallace, *Fragments of the Spirit*, 2002, p. 1

The 2018 Reunion theme “Breathe New Life” expresses one of my favorite metaphors for God’s Spirit. The Greek word *pneuma* and the Hebrew word *rûah* both mean “breath” and “spirit.” Saying out loud the words *pneuma* and *rûah* I feel air move over my tongue and lips. Not only do these words express breath and spirit but there is a physical sensation that reminds me of how the ancient Greeks and Hebrews understood how closely connected the divine was with everyday life.

I confess that I do not always pay that much attention to my breathing. It is so easy to be oblivious of it since breathing is an unconscious, automatic, involuntary, and continuous bodily process. It just happens, for the most part. However, breathing is not always unconscious and involuntary. Breathing can be a very intentional and mindful act.

“I sit, breath, and open myself up, inviting God’s Spirit into my being.”

Over the years, Lori and I have learned different breathing techniques as we have taken meditation, Tai Chi, and yoga classes.

When I practice sitting still, mindful of my breathing – using a technic of rhythmic breathing where I slowly inhale through my nose, filling up my chest, and slowly exhaling out through my mouth – I open myself up to the sacred space of encounter. I sit, breath, and open myself up, inviting God’s Spirit into my being.

This has been one way I have experienced a breath of new life, a breath of peace, a breath of the Holy Spirit as the source of life. Mindful breathing, meditation, and prayer is a practice I use for my spiritual formation. Some days it is only a few minutes. Other days it can be a half hour or longer. The essential part is that every day I am intentional about breathing new life that comes from God’s Spirit.

I, too, believe that “the Spirit is the power of life-giving breath.” It is the life-giving breath that transforms and renews. That brings us peace and disrupts us. That guides and inspires us. That “. . . becomes present whenever persons create mutually open spaces for the Spirit to inhabit” (Wallace, *Fragment of the Spirit*, p. 11).

Breathe New Life!

Priesthood Gatherings— March, 2018

Thank You for Our March Priesthood Gatherings --
“True to the Vision of Christ”

*Our chief purpose is to birth, nurture, and multiply communities
of disciples and seekers engaged in spiritual formation and
compassionate ministry and action.*

-- Stephen M. Veazey

Thank you to everyone who attended the mission center Priesthood Gatherings this past March. Your participation made each weekend a great gathering. We are extremely grateful for the guest ministry of David Anderson, Director of Human Resource Ministries, President of High Priest Quorum; Apostle Robin Linkhart; Karin Peter, President of Seventy; our mission center staff; all our volunteers; and the Spokane Valley, WA and Boise, ID congregations. The weekends were overflowing with spirit-led worship, spiritual formation, thought-provoking classes, exploring new ministry resources for mission, and fellowship to further inspire and engage us to be true to the vision of Christ.



David Anderson leads the learning.



Fellowship and sharing time.



Spotlight quizzes tested our knowledge.



Learning to assembly Generosity jars.



Sharing in Sacred Space Small Group Resources.

Why Camps and Reunions are So Important

As the summer fast approaches, it's time to mark our calendars for the many activities that will define our summers. The days are long, and the weather is warm. June, July and August are the months that lend themselves to getting chores done, taking vacations, and renewing our spirits.

I grew up in Community of Christ, and as I reflect upon my own faith journey; camps and reunions were wonderful, invaluable experiences in my life...they shaped, formed and informed the woman I have become. I am so grateful for those experiences and the people who made them possible. It is where I learned the value of relationships, and it was a safe place to try new opportunities and responsibilities.

I carry in my heart sweet memories of classes, campfires, conversations, worship services, and the sheer joy of being with friends and family in this unique experience with God and each other. In my minds eye, I see so many precious friends. Some of those people are no longer with us, but their influence is felt just the same. And, to be honest, their example challenges me to “pay it forward” and to help provide these kinds of experiences for others.



Camps and reunions have allowed me to see World Church ministers...even the president of the church as real people –people who clean bathrooms and do dishes right alongside the rest of us.

The Inland West Mission Center is sponsoring four reunions (family camps), four different camps for kids (of various ages), we will be sending campers to IYF/SPEC (leadership camps for 9th -12th graders) and hosting a Women's Retreat.

It is my prayer that you will listen to your heart and join us in sacred community. Come ready to laugh, sing, pray, share and create wonderful memories. (You know you want to.)

Register now! I can't wait to see you there!
JoAnn Fisher



News Around the Mission Center



Lavera with Washington Governor Jay Insee

Lavera Wade from the Spokane Valley Congregation and Digital Pastor for the Mission Center was recently award with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration/Lifesavers Award for Public Service. Lavera received this award due to her tremendous work and dedication in getting the distracted driving bill passed in the Washington State Legislature. Lavera, along with others, campaigned in 2017 before the State House and Senate in Olympia, lobbied legislators and appeared on television and in local papers campaigning for support of this bill.

Lavera dedicated herself to this

cause in response to the loss of her grandson, Sam who died because he was texting while driving. In receiving this award, she was thanked for her dedication to reducing deaths and injuries and her commitment to keeping families safe on our roadways. Lavera traveled to San Antonio, Texas in April to attend the 2018 Lifesavers Conference to be presented with this award. Congratulations Lavera and thank you for your dedication and hard work.



Women's Retreat

"I Am Because We Are"

Plan now to attend

Dates: August 31 –
September 3, 2018

Place: Camp Cascade

Guest Ministry: Brittany Mangelson and Lisa Butterworth

Watch for more details at www.cofchrist-iwest.org

You are invited to send information to SAINTS' HISTORY CHANNEL as a way of paying tribute to family and friends in the present as well as from the past. Google SAINTS' HISTORY CHANNEL for our website or visit us on Facebook for ideas.

SAINTS' HISTORY CHANNEL is a collection of stories, history and other material related to Community of Christ and its membership throughout the Inland West USA Mission Center. It contains hundreds of posts and has been accessed by tens of thousands of people worldwide over the past eleven years.

Make it a home for your history links, videos, slide shows, obituaries, life stories, testimonies, congregational or mission center news, press releases audio files, photographs, meeting minutes or other records.

"Love will remember yesterday!"

Contact site administrator:

Wayne Gunter, 575 Sagle Road, Sagle ID 83860
(208) 263-6683

waynegunter@frontier.com
Saintshistorychannel.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/Saints-History-Channel-180879258638487/

Save the Dates

2019 Congregational Education Clusters

(Tentative Dates)

March 8-10, 2019 – Spokane Valley, WA

March 15-17, 2019 – Boise, ID

May 3-5, 2019 – Whitehall, MT

November 1-3, 2019 – Salt Lake City, UT

In response to requests for more educational opportunities, the Mission Center plans to provide Congregational Education Clusters in 2019. Watch for more detail as it become available to www.cofchrist-iwest.com.

125th Anniversary Deer Lodge, Montana

Community of Christ

July 21-22, 2018

Apostle Lachlin Mackay,

guest minister

Historic Sites Director

Come share family history

Visit historic sites

Renew friendships

Share meals

RSVP: Claudia Johnson

claudia.j@wildblue.net

406-563-5009

Inland West Blog—Readers Needed!

Thank you to all the wonderful people who have contributed their testimony to our blog. The blog offers powerful testimonies that tell of God speaking, and lives being changed. Most of us who open our hearts to the Lord hear, and are led by the still quiet voice. For some of us God speaks a little louder. Please take the time to read our blog over the coming months, your heart will be touched by the wonder of God's love. Consider sharing your testimony of how God has changed your life. If you would like to contribute to the blog contact Lavera Wade at k7zall@gmail.com. The blog is at <http://cofchrist-inlandwest.blogspot.com/>. And sign up to receive the blog directly to your e-mail. This is a once monthly posting so it will not fill up your inbox!

Inland West Mission Center 2018 Calendar

June 8 – 10 Camp Red Cliff, UT
Kids Camp

June 14 – 18 Echo Valley Reunion

June 15 – 17 Cheney, WA Kids Camp

June 23 – 30 Samish Island Reunion

July 7-13 Red Cliffe Reunion

July 10 – 15 Cascade Reunion

July 19 - 20 International Youth Forum

July 21 – 28 Spectacular

July 21-22 Deer Lodge – 125th Anniversary

Aug 1 – 5 Echo Valley, MT Youth Camp

Aug 4 – 9 Camp Cascade, ID Jr/Sr High
Camp

Aug 31 – Sept. 3 Women's Retreat, Camp
Cascade, ID

Sept. 9 Congregational Leaders Nuts &
Bolts-Session 1

Sept. 13 Congregational Leaders Nuts &
Bolts-Session 1

Oct. 13 – 14 Mission Center Conference –
Boise ID

Oct. 18 Congregational Leaders Nuts &
Bolts-Session 2

Oct. 21 Congregational Leaders Nuts &
Bolts-Session 2

Nov. 8 & 11 Congregational Leaders Nuts &
Bolts-Session 3



2018 Inland West Reunions

Echo Valley Reunion

June 14 to June 18
Echo Valley Campground
Avon, MT
Guest Ministry:
Blake Smith, Brad Martell
and JoAnn Fisher
Director: Mary Beth Hunter

Red Cliffe Reunion

July 7 to July 13
Red Cliffe Campground
Huntsville, UT
Guest Ministry:
Charmaine & Tony Chvala-
Smith and Denise White
Director: Carla Long

Samish Island Reunion

June 23 to June 30
Samish Island Campground
Bow, WA
Guest Ministry:
Karin Peter, Blair White and
Denise White
Directors: Brad Martell and
Planning Team

Cascade Reunion

July 10 to July 15
Cascade Campground
Cascade, ID
Guest Ministry:
Kris & Peter Judd and
Brad Martell
Director: Andrea Silva and
Planning Team

Early registration is always appreciated. You'll find more information and online registration for all reunions at www.cofchrist-iwest.org.

Inland West 2018 Summer Youth Camps

Red Cliffe Kids Camp

June 8-10, 2018
Red Cliffe Campground in
Huntsville, UT
For youth who have
completed grades K-6
RSVP by June 1
Director Carol Andreasen
307-231-4427
chosierandrea5@hotmail.com
Cost: \$50

Cheney Kids Camp

June 15-17, 2018
Cheney, WA
For youth age 7 to 12
RSVP by June 8
Director Kathleen Strozyk
509-636-2011
edwallian@juno.com
Cost \$40

Echo Valley Youth Camp

August 1-5, 2018
Echo Valley Campground in Avon, MT,
For youth going into grades 4 to 9
RSVP by July 25
Director Robin Martell
406-671-1914
rmartellrealestate@gmail.com
Cost: \$165

Cascade Jr/Sr High Camp

August 4-9, 2018
Cascade Campground in Cascade, ID
For youth ages 13-18
RSVP by July 25
Director: Andrea Silva
stampin.silva@gmail.com
Cost: 165 and
\$150 additional sibling

Join us at an Inland West youth camp this summer!

Details including registration forms for each camp at cofchrist-iwest.org.
Print your registration and RSVP to your camp director as soon as possible.
Our camping program relies on dedicated volunteers such as directors, counselors, teachers, cooks, and nurses. We extend a big "Thank you!" to all who take on these important roles for our youth. If you'd like to help at a youth camp this summer, please contact the director listed above or call the Mission Center office at 800-918-8335.

**Inland West USA Mission Center
Community of Christ
11515 E. Broadway Avenue
Spokane Valley, WA 99206**

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**Mark Your Calendar!
2018 Mission Center Conference is
October 13-14
in Boise, ID**

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e-mail NewsBrief? You
can

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Events/News tab then
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Mission Center Staff

11515 E. Broadway Ave.
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

Brad Martell

Mission Center President
bmartell@cofchrist.org

JoAnn Fisher

Mission Specialist
jfisher@cofchrist.org

Karin Peter

President of Seventy
Invitational Support Minister
kpeter@cofchrist.org

Sandy Decker

Associate Financial Officer &
Administrative Assistant
sdecker@cofchrist-iwest.org

Denise White

Mission Center Financial Officer
dwhite@cofchrist.org

Carla Long

Latter-day Seeker Minister
Utah Mission Team
clong@cofchrist.org

Blair White

Latter-day Seeker Minister
Utah Mission Team
bwhite@cofchrist.org

Lavera Wade

Digital Pastor
k7zall@gmail.com