

Montesano Church of God

2016 Annual Report



“The Montesano Church of God exists to Glorify God by inviting people to Faith in Jesus Christ, building them up in the Word of God, and Equipping them to serve Christ in our community and beyond.”

Montesano Church of God
317 E. Spruce Avenue
Montesano, WA 98563

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2-3
GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROTOCOL	4
GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES	
October 18, 2015	5-7
Ballot Results	8
PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT	9-10
BOARD OF ELDERS ANNUAL REPORT	11
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE	12
MISSIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE	13
WORSHIP	14
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	15
VIEW FROM THE OFFICE	16
CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS	17
WOMEN OF FAITH	18
MEN'S GROUP / BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP	19
SMALL GROUP	20
10.10 GROUP / GRIEFSHARE	21
5TH QUARTER MINISTRY / UNION GOSPEL MISSION	22
CHILDREN OF PROMISE	23

XYZ ANNUAL REPORT	24
SPIRITUAL LIFE	25
SENIOR EXERCISE / QUILTING FRIENDS	26
GIRL SCOUT TROUP #41645	27
LETTERS OF THANKS	
MONTESANO JUNIOR—SENIOR HIGH	28
GRAYS HARBOR ADVOCACY CENTER	29
LIBRARY	30
BUDGET GUIDELINES / ATTENDANCE SUMMARY	31
MONTESANO CHURCH OF GOD FINANCE REPORT	32
MONTESANO CHURCH OF GOD PROPOSED BUDGET	33-34
NOMINATION COMMITTEE STATEMENTS	35
ELDER CANDIDATES	
LEROY SCHATZ	36
ROGER SAUER	37
BALLOT	38

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROTOCOL

October 23, 2016

1. **UNITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST** is to be cherished more than our individual *ideas, opinions* or *preferences*.

2. **Scripture and parliamentary procedure call for us to speak in ways that:**
 - a. Reflect *positively* on each other's conduct and character.
 - b. Is *courteous* and *respectful*.
 - c. Expects the *best* of each other
 - d. *Builds up love* for each other and *strengthens our faith* in Christ.

3. **Please wait to be recognized by the Chair to speak and make use of a microphone when available.**

4. **Be *specific* and *brief* in sharing remarks.** Speak no more than twice on any motion (3 minutes maximum each time)

5. **Members of the General Assembly should speak and raise questions *through the Chair only*.**

Montesano Church of God
Annual Meeting – October 18, 2015

Meeting brought to order at 12:06 p.m. by Pastor Marc Rice

Registration – Pat Schmidt

32 people members present

Prayer by Pastor Jerry Phillips, Board of Elder Secretary

Called to order at 12:09 p.m. by Pastor Marc Rice

Quorum was met of 15.

Absentee ballots – Matt, Jennifer, and Elizabeth Taborski, Arlene and Mike Hume, Nola and Jerry Schaefer, and Mike and Louise Murphy

Tellers: Toni Aubuchon, Arlene Hume, and Donna Smith

Meeting “General Assembly Protocol” by Vini Samuel, Board of Elder Chair – on page 3 of the annual report passed out.

Vini Samuel introduced and told members about the question included in the annual report.

Pastor Jerry Phillips, BOE Secretary, presented the annual meeting minutes from last year. Opened for any questions. Ray McMaster motion to accept minutes; seconded by Molly Anderson. Motion passed.

Pastor Marc Rice presented an annual report – highlight church ministry over the past year.

Jon Hudson has volunteered to organize the next annual report and collection of articles.

Treasurer Report – by Molly Anderson

Found on page 34 and 35 of annual report – Fiscal Report

Detailed fiscal report is posted outside the office door on bulletin board

General fund –

Building Fund – lots of projects: lighting and kitchen

Honor’s banquet - \$222.99 brought in

In and out fund - \$150 for Bibles for Christmas for Kids, DVD player

Memorial fund – CD at Edward Jones $\$84,409.36 + \$5,071.87 = \$89,481.23$

Men’s Fund – breakfast \$621.55

Women of Faith - \$2,400

Mission Fund \$3,525.92

Youth Fund 5th Quarter \$1,132.33

Youth Fund KFC - \$2,559.63

Rental Fund – up \$20.66

HRA Pastor Marc Rice's Health Fund - \$2,407.61

Open for questions.

Present 2015-2016 Budget

Detail passed out at the meeting 2 weeks ago.

Summary included in this report

Board of Elders and Stewardship community work together to create the budget

Went to percentage for funds division versus using flat \$0.05 percentage

Budget we are approving will include a new worship computer and external hard drive.

Memorial fund – paving projects, community care, health and family

Open for questions. No questions.

Introduce and Acceptance of Ballot – Marc

Ratification of Budget – 2015-2016

Ratification of Elder Board Members

Election of Nominating Committee

Motion made by Marje Crass to accept the ballot as presented; seconded by Toni Aubuchon. Passed.

Recommended to posted names of nominating committee and Elder Board Members.

Open for member thanks and questions.

Financial University Peace by Larry Scrivner will start in January 2016.

We had a tie between Jenny Hudson and Karen Klinger – ballot passed out and members voted between the two candidates.

Questionnaire Summary – Vini Samuel, Board of Elder Chair – last time as Elder Board Chair

Question: What do you want the church to focus on in 2015-2016 Fiscal Year?

Repair ramp, add handrails, and repair doors

Worship – more personal testimony, piano players, organ players, hymns, unity-spreading

Add Pastor Marc Rice's sermons on website

Missions – Grief Share, Singles group, 10.10 (parenting), Operation Shoe Box

Outreach – Double K, home visit and visit those not able to attend church

Stephen Ministry added that would help with going out and visiting members that cannot attend church

Youth and Children – Blessing of Children, 5th Quarter and KFC

Leaving the Board of Elders are Pastor Jerry Phillips, Secretary, Mike Casberg, and Vini Samuel, Head Chair.

Ratified budget and elder candidates (Betty Crass, Chris Thomas, and Jamie Anderson)

Nomination committee for next year - Tim Crass, Mike Hume, and Jenny Hudson

Any new business – no

Adjourn motion made by Vini Samuel, Board of Elder's Chair.

Adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

**THE BALLOT RESULTS
FOR LAST YEAR'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY
October 18, 2015**

The Budget for 2015-2016 was ratified.

Chris Thomas was approved to complete his FIRST 2-year term

Jamie Anderson was approved to serve his FIRST 3-year term.

Betty Crass was approved to serve her FIRST 3-year term.

The members of the 2016 Nominating Committee will be Mike Hume, Tim Crass, and Jenny Hudson.

Pastor's Annual Report 2016

October 1st marked 16 ½ years for me serving as your Pastor. This Annual Report Packet contains a wonderful “snap-shot” of many of our ministry endeavors together as a congregation this past year. It is my humble privilege to share with you all in the Daily, Weekly, Monthly journeys of walking with Christ, encouraging one another and sharing our gifts together.

Since October 1st 2015 I have been with you in weekly worship on 47 Sundays and preached 42 morning messages, led one Baby Dedication, provided pre-marital counseling and conducted weddings for five couples and officiated or assisted at ten funerals. Guest Preachers / Speakers on Sunday Mornings this past year have included Rev. Sarah Monroe, Rev. Jerry Phillips, Courtney Rice, Mother's Day Homilies from Wendy Keith, Eileen Foster, Teri Zillyett and Father's Day Homilies from Chris Thomas, Leroy Schatz, and Mike Murphy. Other special Sundays have included KFC Christmas Program 12/13; KFC Easter Program 3/20; Blessing of the Children Sunday 9/18; Children of Promise Sunday 9/25 (Molly Barker, Jerry Phillips and Louise Murphy shared)

As guiding themes of our weekly worship, we completed the 32-week *Believe Series: Think, Act, Be Like Jesus* on February 7th; The 14 wk Lent/Easter Season Series *Ashes to Fire* and are currently in the midst of the *Egermeiers Bible Story Series*.

One of my biggest celebrations and realized goals this year has been the re-launching of the *Stephen Ministry* program. This involved 6-day intensive *Stephen Ministry Leadership Training* for myself and 3 Lay People: Sandy Casberg, Arlene Hume, Charlie Crass who together form our initial *SM Leadership Team* and have launched our first *Lay Training Course* with 4 other people currently training to become Stephen Ministers. My hope and prayer is that within 2-3 years we will have a vibrant, lay- led, self-sustaining and growing congregational and community care program resident within our congregation.

Janet and I attended the first of 3 new *Church of God Regional Convention and Round Tables* in Vancouver, WA. The National Church of God promoted these 3 gatherings with a common teaching and worship core program followed by a different day- long “Round Table Forum” in each location, each of which addressed 3 important relevant issues: Vancouver, WA: Sexual Ethics; Anderson, IN: Immigration and Refugees; and Philadelphia, PA: Racial Reconciliation. Later this spring CoG Ministries will publish and post videos from all three gatherings and summaries of the Round Table learnings. We will then convene in June 2017 in Wichita, KS for the now **Biennial** *National Church of God Convention and General Assembly*.

On a personal note, this past year I underwent a Sinus Surgery May 24th which necessitated 2 Sundays off and about 7 weeks' total recovery time and after which I am thankful to say I feel much healthier and strong.

Following this report, you will find a summary of the charge I received from the church and the vows I took at my Ordination in October of 1999. I review and reflect on these regularly and have made it a practice to include them in my Annual Reports to remind myself and my congregation what I understand my core role as pastor to be. It has been and continues to be my heart-felt desire to be faithful to the call that God has given me and which the church at large and you, my church family have affirmed by calling me as your pastor. Together in Ministry I gladly remain In Christ's Service and at Yours,

Pastor Marc

Ordination Challenge and Vows from Pastor Marc's Ordination Service

Church at the Crossing, Indianapolis, IN October 1, 1999

CHALLENGE TO CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION

My sisters and brothers, you are being ordained to the vocation of Pastor/Teacher in the Church of God. While all God's people are called to share Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, as an ordained minister, you are called to minister with and on behalf of the whole church by:

- Preaching the Word of God and faithfully administering the ordinances of the church;
- By leading the people of God in worship and prayer;
- By nourishing, teaching and encouraging them in the riches of God's grace;
- By exercising pastoral care and oversight, counseling the troubled spirit, and declaring Christ's forgiveness of sin;
- By leading God's people in their obedience to Christ and His mission, and in their concern for justice, peace and freedom for all people;
- By taking a responsible place in the leadership of the church and in service to your community; and
- By being conformed to the life of Christ for the sake of others.

It is your task to proclaim, by word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ and no other, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love, serve and pray for all the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor.

Understand the meaning of what you are to do; practice what you profess. Always remember that you are called to serve rather than to be served, and to look after the concerns of God and His church above all.

SUMMARY OF VOWS OF ORDINATION

- Do you trust in your heart that you are truly called by God to the ministry of Pastor/Teacher in his church?
- Do you believe in one God-Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit- and do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
- Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments convey the Word of God, and are the unique and authoritative standards of the church's life, worship, witness, teaching, and mission?
- Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge and wisdom that will make you a stronger, more effective minister of Jesus Christ?
- Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to the people you are called to serve, laboring with them to build up the Body of Christ, equipping them as God's holy people to fulfill their ministry of reconciliation?
- Will you persevere in prayer, always seeking God's grace and guidance for yourself and for your people, offering all your labors as your gift to God?
- As an ambassador of Christ, will you, with the help of the Holy Spirit, continually rekindle the gift that is in you to make known to all people the Gospel of the grace of God?

I will, with the grace of God.

Then, may the One who has given you the strength to will these things, give you the grace to do them.

Board of Elders 2016 yearly report

Board of Elder Members: **Chair:** Louise Murphy; **Vice Chair:** Eileen Foster; **Corp. Secretary:** Chris Thomas; Jamie Anderson, LeRoy Schatz; Betty Crass, Pastor Marc Rice

Treasurer: Molly Anderson

Recording Secretary: Teri Zillyett

This year board members have been right on top of attending the committee meetings and keeping us all informed of what's going on with the activities of the church. We've had wonderful connection with our regional Church of God and lots of information on major topics that are changing in our society. We were blessed to go to Seattle to hear COG General Director Jim Lyon speak and feel a part of the bigger movement. Pastor Marc and Janet were able to go to the *Regional Convention* and *Regional Round Table* in Vancouver and bring back information on a lot of difficult delicate issues.

We are in support of the newly needed insurance to bring safety and support to our building and staff.

Thanks to a healthy year the board members have been able to attend most all roundtable meetings and the board meetings. We have united together to work on issues brought to our attention at the table together.

We have been able to initiate support of the new Benevolence Committee, Stephen Ministry, and bringing on a new recording secretary.

Making our facility a satellite for *Women's Bible Study Fellowship*, a world-wide Bible study, on Tuesday mornings has been a great investment for facilitating God's work in the Grays Harbor area.

Having been blessed with Molly Anderson, our Treasurer, preparing and presenting the monthly financial report and the new 2017 budget has been of minimal time consumption for the board. She is so very skilled and able to present the numbers in the way we can understand them fully. She has designed the report so that it's self-explanatory and makes perfect sense as to where the money is going and how it is being spent for all the church's ministries. Her hard work of many hours has made the Board's time investment minimal in being able to understand and approve the works of the church.

It has been a pleasure for all of us to work together for God and His church in service to this community.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Your Stewardship Committee has been quietly maintaining the many assets of the church. Hard working members of the committee are Pona Samuel, Harry Beeler, Jerry Phillips, Larry Scrivner, Chris Thomas and Molly Anderson.

Molly guides us each month while reviewing budget constraints as we progress through the year. Her expertise is truly an asset to the church. A new refrigerator was purchased for the kitchen as well as new phones for the office and kitchen. New televisions were purchased for the fellowship hall, KFC and Fireside rooms to improve our communication system used by church members as needed. Harry, Jamie and others spent their time hooking up the systems.

We upgraded the exit and emergency lights with LED's, which will reduce cost and add efficiencies. Harry worked hard for several weeks replacing the bulbs. Harry doesn't get enough acknowledgement for all he does for the church. A new computer was purchased to allow for any power point presentations that might be needed by church members.

We had limited progress on the paving project and the effort fell short of results. The contractor was unable to offer a bid on the handicap ramps due to a heavy work load. We are rescheduling another contractor to offer a bid. Progress has been disappointing but the project is still alive. We have faith something will get done this year.

Lawn care was arranged and has been completed each week thanks to Steven Brookshire. He has done a great job keeping the grounds presentable to the community and our church family. We lost a renter in the rental units but it was quickly filled by the fine work of Larry Scrivner. Larry handled the rental agreement and the interview. The utilities costs for each renter were transferred into their names to be paid by them, which will increase the revenue to the church. Our liability insurance rider on gender issues was reviewed by Larry and our recommendations were forwarded to the Board.

Jerry Phillips gives us experience from both sides of the issues involving the needs of the church and we are blessed to have his oversight and guidance. Pona keeps track of our meetings during the year and adds significantly to our budget review. We also have a direct path to the Board of Elders with Chris, who carries with him our recommendations.

Finally, committee members reviewed the proposed budget for 2017 and offered recommendations to the Board of Elders. If any church member has a concern or question regarding the care of the facility, please contact one of the above committee members. I offer my continued appreciation and thanks to all committee members for their commitment and talents. Together....We Serve!

Gerald Schaefer
Chairman
Stewardship Committee

Mission & Outreach Committee

The Mission & Outreach committee planned a busy year this year;

5th Quarter program continues into its sixth season. Meals are served, and fellowship is offered to 100+ youth following Friday night home football games.

Children of Promise was the focus of our worship service September 25, emphasizing children from around the world. Three parishioners, who currently support children, spoke of their experience. Seven children were sponsored this year by members of our church.

Operation Christmas Child received 50 shoes boxes from our congregation, which were sent throughout the world.

Thanksgiving Calendar provided daily reflections of all our many, many blessings. Proceeds of \$1,142.45 went to Nepal.

Christmas for Kids annual wrapping and children's party served many families in our community.

Christmas Caroling was performed for residents at SunBridge Care & Rehabilitation.

Christ's Birthday Offering of \$417.56 was given to Church of God Women Ministries to aid with their budget.

Easter Offering of \$1,150.00 was split evenly between our church ministries of Emergency Human Needs and the Barnabas Fund.

Teen Homeless campaign was held during the month of August. Clothes, personal items, and sundries were collected for homeless teens in Aberdeen.

Union Gospel Mission continued to receive a devotional and meal of Shephard's Pie served six times a year. The need increased this year with greater numbers of 65+ reaching as high as 80 people fed. Our church also supports the Union Gospel Mission financially with \$100 a month.

Living Link we continued to support the Nachtigall family, Regional Coordinators for Europe and the Middle East Global Missions, with financial support of \$100 a month.

Wycliff Bible Translators we continued to support the Matuszczak family, bible translators in Mexico, with financial support of \$100 a month.

Church of God Ministries receives continued support with a tithe of 3% of our General Funds gifts received.

Pacific Northwest Association of the Church of God receives continued support with a 3% tithe of our General Fund gifts received.

Double K Christian Retreat Center receives continued support with a ½% tithe of our General Fund gifts received.

We appreciate and thank all the people who help and continue to support the mission & outreach ministries of our church. We had a great year. May God help us ALL to reach out and serve Him to His Glory.

Pona Samuel, Arlene Hume, Nancy Crass, Sue McMaster, Nola Schaefer, and Betty Crass, elder rep.

Worship Team

Team: Mike Casberg, Pastor Marc Rice, Toni Aubuchon, Molly Anderson, Jessica Taborski, Jenny Hudson, John Poukkula, Allan Kalar, and Louise Murphy.

A lot has gone on this year with our group of worship leaders. We've had wonderful music, specials, some new and old solid hymns. Our kids have joined us on special Sundays. John and Allen have joined the team this year. This gives us flexibility with many who can or can't be there, allowing service to be covered every week. Having Mike and Pastor Marc on the guitar has been wonderful, many people voice appreciations of their service. When Pastor Marc is gone we've had people filling in on the piano which has been received well. We've enjoyed our young people with their talents watching them grow and sharing music with the congregation.

Toni has done an exceptional job with running the computer and having people fill in for her when she's gone. Having Matt Taborski and Harry Beeler both on the sound system has benefited the congregation with consistency having two people capable to be of service. Communion and ushering have run well with many volunteers willing to assist. The series following Egermeier's Bible Story Book as a guide has been great too.

God's Blessing to us all as worship Him together.

Louise Murphy

Christian Education

The adult Sunday School class is being led once again by Barry Freeman. Barry has recently retired and will be ready to give it his all. The class is well attended and the members of the class seem to enjoy the class very much. Always room for more as the study material lends itself for each lesson to stand alone.

The children's Sunday School class is being team taught by Sue McMaster and Vini Samuel.

KFC is at the moment meeting each Sunday except the first Sunday during the regular service and headed by Sarah Thomasson, Phyllis Stanley, Becky Moore, Pona Samuel and Patty Poukkula.

The challenge for this year is to try and increase the children`s Sunday school participation. Please pray for our young folks as they are the hope and church of the future. Praise the Lord for all His greatness!

LeRoy Schatz, Elder Representative

View from the Office

Well, it has been 4 ½ years since I agreed to take this job for a period of one month. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve this congregation and this community. I have been blessed to be a part of the body of believers who are called the Montesano Church of God.

One thing that is so unique about our church is the way we support our schools. We have for a number of years prepared the meal and hosted the Honor's Banquet. We provide space for Senior Boards and Business Week. We host 5th quarter after every home football game with 100+ youth attending each time. The students of Montesano High School feel very much at home here and we are very pleased with that.

I am inspired by the way the churches of Montesano work together in so many different ways. For a number of years, they have provided a Community Bible Camp for as many as 200 children each year and they sponsor several community worship opportunities. They work together as a team to provide physical and spiritual care to the citizens of our entire community. What a place to call home!

Things here at the church haven't changed much. Harry Beeler and Dean Skaramuca can still be seen frequently working on the maintenance of the church. We now have Laura Schweyen and Bobbi Kinkade helping out with the cleaning inside the church. I am still providing the "odds and ends" of the office (telephone, mail, care cards, attendance records, calendar, visitors (many who need assistance of some kind), the Monte Messenger (with the able help of Eileen Foster, Doris Parnel, Nola Schaefer, and Donna Smith), e-mails (sending and answering), and a multitude of other things). We have added a Women's Bible Study to the outside groups who meet in our facility. We are still providing space for the many groups who meet in our church and we continue to host an American Red Cross blood drive each year. Life is good!

The congregation continues to be very faithful with providing empty ink cartridges. These are recycled through Staples and the proceeds used for office supplies. These savings are used to help provide other programs of the church. We collect Thriftway receipts which receive a 1% rebate and the money goes to the Women of Faith.

It has been a joy to work with Pastor Marc and the leaders of this congregation. We are working together to help build the Kingdom of God. And I am enjoying every minute of it!

Thanking you,

Pat Schmidt

Christmas for Kids

Many years ago our church began providing Christmas gifts for an underprivileged family. About 12 years ago we began partnering with Christmas for Kids, which is based in Aberdeen, and have been hosting all the Montesano families at our facilities for a Wrapping and Children's party. We serve anywhere between 27 and 40 families, with 50 to 100 children participating each year.

Our objective is to make the church a welcoming place where there is no judgment. We provide each child with a Bible or a Bible story book the first year they come and replace them as needed. There is opportunity to engage in conversation and many lasting friendships have been made.

We invite the parents to bring their children and come to the church on the day of our party. The children are invited downstairs for crafts, movies, snacks and a lot of fun. They are hosted by Angi and Toni Aubuchon and their able crew. The girl scouts also help with this endeavor. There is so much fun to be had downstairs some parents have a hard time convincing their children it is time to go.

Upstairs in the Fellowship Hall, tables are set up with scissors, tape and name tags. With paper and bows provided, the parents wrap their children's presents with the able help of members of our congregation. This ministry is a favorite, both to our congregation as well as to the families we are privileged to serve.

WOMEN OF FAITH

The Montesano Church of God Women of Faith still meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. We gather to share our lives with one another through study, prayer and fellowship. Catching up on each other's lives draws us closer as a body of Christian women.

This is what our year looked like. We continued our DVD/book study of *Twelve Women of the Bible* with Mary of Bethany: Putting Our Faith into Action – in November. A small contingent attended a Group Women's Ministry Leadership Training in November and then a larger group of us attended the Women of Faith Loved: The Farewell Tour in December. It was an awesome experience and we were privileged to be a part of the final tour. December also found us at our annual Christmas party at the home of Pona Samuel. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and great food. As always our annual gift exchange was a lot of fun.

In January of 2016 we studied - Martha: Finding Our Identity in Jesus. In February, The Woman at the Well: Turning Our Messes into Messages and then we completed the study with The Syrophenician Woman: Approaching God with Persistency and Boldness in March. The Twelve Women of the Bible was a fantastic study and I would encourage anyone who didn't have the opportunity to participate with us to watch the videos. (I have the book and the video series if anyone wants to borrow it.)

In June we met to preview two new DVD Book Studies, one on the Book of Ruth and the other on the Book of Acts. We opted to "Take a Walk with Ruth and the God who Rocked Her World" in the study by Liz Curtis Higgs, *The Girl's Still Got It*. We took the month of July off and then had our annual kickoff Barbeque at Nola Schaefer's in August. September found us beginning our Ruth study. Several ladies also attending the PNA Women's Retreat at Double K in September. The Ruth study should take us through this next year.

Remember, all women are welcome to our 2nd Tuesday of the month study and even if you only have one Tuesday that you can join us, we warmly invite you to come and be welcomed and loved by the women of the Montesano Church of God. We would love to have you join us. Also plan to attend our Women's annual Christmas Celebration in December. Be watching for details.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

Blessings, Janet Rice

Men's Group

The men's group has had a delicious year. We met during the school year for breakfast one Saturday a month, sharing discussion and good fellowship. This group of men is very diverse. They lead small groups, teach Sunday school, serve on the elder board, assist with Union Gospel Mission and other missions, participate in the worship team, assist in building maintenance, sponsor children around the world and help with 5th Quarter.

When we get together for breakfast we get together to chat about all the things going on in our lives and to hear the word of God to fill us up and go out and serve.

Thank you to all who help clean up and to Christian Cerdena for stepping in to cook when my work schedule didn't permit me. Thanks to Pastor Marc for sharing God's word.

This year looks to be a promising one again and I am greatly appreciative of the opportunity to share my love of food with this group of men. I am excited to share from the book "Quiet Strength" by Tony Dungy. This study promises to be one that is inspiring and personally tailored just for us. Join me on the scheduled Saturdays at 7:30am for treats and coffee and 8am for breakfast.

Jamie Anderson

Bible Study Fellowship

We are thrilled to host this newly formed Women's Bible Study group. We were looking to provide another opportunity and God answered our prayers! Many members of our congregation and community have joined together in a partnership. Bible Study Fellowship is an in-depth, interdenominational Bible study that helps people know God and equips them to effectively serve the Church throughout the world. A satellite class is currently offered at Montesano Church of God on Tuesday mornings at 9:30am. For questions please feel free to call Kelly (360)790-2348.

SMALL GROUP

The year of 2004 was a starting point ... for members of our congregation and other friends to begin meeting weekly in various homes. Since then hosts have included Norm & Donna Smith, Orville & Marj Crass, Patsy Aubuchon, and Jerry & Jeannine Phillips, our current leaders. 12 to 20 folks attend each week.

The Phillips' home ... 290 S. 9th Street ... is where we gather each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM. We pray and study God's Word with the help of resource books written by Christian authors. Discussion is encouraged by asking and welcoming questions that surface from our reading of the Bible, resource book and life experiences. A dessert is prepared by volunteers.

Now we are using a book by Chuck Swindoll as a guide for Bible study ... "*Living Above the Level of Mediocrity*". A well known radio minister and pastor, Chuck uses humor along with his insights into God's Word to challenge his audience and captivate readers of his many books.

"Swindoll combines interesting, insightful Bible exposition with the storyteller's ability to make an anecdote live. Throughout the book he weaves briefs about the eagle, a bird he holds up as an example of the pursuit of excellence. He writes devotionally, giving you constant food for thought." *Eternity*

"Perhaps his best book . . . both a challenge to easy living and a blueprint for breaking out of patterns of mediocrity. . . . One of the most helpful aspects of this book is Swindoll's ability to distinguish between striving for excellence and the modern-day philosophies of success." *Today's Christian Woman*

Our goal is to grow in our understanding of the Bible and to welcome folks into the Family of God who have not yet come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Our 7th annual barbeque was celebrated at the home of Jerry & Nola Schaefer in the summer. This is always a very special event!

You will find a welcome if you would like to join with us in this shared journey. Call 249-0519 for more information.

Jerry and Jeannine Phillips

10.10 Group

The 10.10 Group continues to enjoy social and fun gatherings. In doing so we are strengthening relationships in families through God and the Christian faith. Families can connect with one another in a casual and loving atmosphere

As 2016 nears its conclusion, the 10.10 Group has enjoyed many occasions of food and friendship. We have connected even more with the people that join us as we spend the last Friday evening of the month watching our children play and share meals together, or even just share a family movie. Parents have an opportunity to take a breath, share laughter, and a few tears with our Christian extended families. After each meeting we all leave with a greater sense of appreciation for one another.

Looking forward to next year we hope to incorporate family outings, building upon the friendships that have blossomed and grown from this ministry. We are thankful for the congregation for their prayers for these young families as we walk the path that is set before us.

GRIEFSHARE

GriefShare is a service that truly calls to my heart. It seems like each week we are blessed with witnessing growth in each of our participants. The program series called "FROM MOURNING TO JOY" is so well put together there isn't a soul it doesn't touch.

This year we have had 25 new participants and 3 returns. Some only come one time and others return when they can or the need becomes very strong. Each week brings groups as small as 2 to as many as 11 that I've witnessed in the past year. The most rewarding is a group of about 5 to 8; it gives everyone good comfort, room to speak out or share their experiences and receive a lot of love and caring. *GriefShare* is a very enriching program that allows individuals to share their story if they wish, hear how others have moved forward through their grief and how to create a new identity without your loved one. This is a safe environment for people to discuss their highs and lows and to know others are praying for them. This program has brought nothing but success.

Eileen Foster

5th Quarter Ministry



Our sixth season of “The 5th Quarter Program” continues to see growth. It is our goal to provide a safe haven, as well as let the youth know we care about them. Hosting 4 regular season, plus a couple of anticipated post season events after Friday night home football games, makes for an exciting and busy year. It continues to be such a blessing to have the fellowship hall filled with the vibrant energy of 100+ young people. We have been continually impressed with the respect and polite manner the kids have conducted themselves, and the gratitude they have expressed. We pray with them, feed them, provide them with a safe place to meet and visit, and set out some sort of memento (wristbands, dog tags, cowbells, hacky-sacks, etc.) usually with “May God bless the Bulldogs” imprinted on them. Some of the kids attend church elsewhere, it is our hope to plant seeds that may bear fruit somewhere down the road. We cannot over express our thanks to the many volunteers that help this program along, and the many that support the program through prayer, donating financially, providing food items, or encouraging us in other ways.

Union Gospel Mission

Montesano Church of God serves the Union Gospel Mission the fourth Monday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Someone from our church fills the pulpit and supplies a short 10 minute or so devotional. We cook and serve a meal for any and all in attendance. We have honed our meal to Shepard’s Pie, salad, roll, and homemade goody. We are known for our Shepard’s Pie, and people look forward to us serving. The need has increased this year with greater numbers of 65+ each time we serve, reaching as high as an unprecedented 80 people fed. It is such a privilege to serve these people.



“Truly I tell you, whatever you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me.”

Children of Promise

“The local church is the hope of the world.”

– Bill Hybels, Founding and Senior Pastor at Willow Creek Community Church in Chicago, IL

I have been working at Children of Promise for a little over a year now. WOW! How time has flown. This job, this staff, this ministry has blessed me in so many unexpected ways.

This past spring, I took a Church of God History course. One of the course components required me to select a person, event or topic that pertained to the Church of God Reformation Movement, and conduct a research project on it. Since I had been working for COP, and it was an agency affiliated with the Church of God, I thought it was fitting for me to do some research into the beginnings of the ministry.

Children of Promise was started in 1992, by Jean and Sidney Johnson, long-time Church of God missionaries to Asia. Their vision was that the organization would be a ministry of the local church congregation. The Philippines was the first country to establish a COP program. Over the years, the ministry has grown immensely, now operating in 29 countries around the world. 2017 will mark the 25th Anniversary of Children of Promise, and as of now, over 4500 children are being helped through the work of this ministry.

From a young age, I was introduced to the concept of putting someone else’s needs before my own. My family first began sponsoring a child when I was little, and over the years, we have enjoyed staying in touch through letter-writing. Little did I know at the time that this organization would one day captivate my heart in such a deep way. There are at least 15 children sponsored by members of the Montesano Church of God – my home church in Washington State. As someone who loves COP and everything it stands for and works toward, it makes my heart smile to know there are a number of my home church family who support and sponsor a child.

At Children of Promise, we work to help provide a promising future for thousands of children who simply do not have the resources, environment, or ability to live into their potential. They live in dangerous neighborhoods, come from broken homes, suffer from disease and malnutrition, lack education, and have not been given an opportunity to learn about Jesus Christ. Through sponsorship with Children of Promise, these dearly loved children are promised basic necessities, such as: food, health care, education, and spiritual nurture.

Every day, I find myself filled with joy because of the precious faces on our child profiles, and at the same time, I am heartbroken over reading their stories of what they deal with on a day to day basis. There is so much brokenness and darkness that exists in our world today – but there is HOPE. The Lord’s promise in Habakkuk 1:5 is comforting: *“For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.”* In working at Children of Promise – I trust and believe that the Lord is in the midst of doing great and life-changing things that I am not able to see and fully understand right now. At COP, we choose to partner and come alongside the incredible work God is already doing – and in that, I find joy, hope, and promise. Truly, through the ministry of Children of Promise, the local church is impacting the world, one child at a time.

If you have ever sponsored a child – through COP or another sponsorship program – THANK YOU. If you currently sponsor a child – through COP or another sponsorship program – THANK YOU. If you are interested in learning more about sponsoring a child through COP– please check us out at www.echildrenofpromise.org.

Change a life...sponsor a child.

Courtney Rice

XYZ Annual Report

Our XYZ Group had 12 wonderful gatherings this past year. Here is an overview of our year:

- October: We were blessed with musical selections by John Poukkula. He also led us in an old-fashioned Sing-Along.
- November: Our old friend Jean Hossler gave us a wonderful message & we all donated items for a Thanksgiving Basket for a local family in need.
- December: Sarah Monroe spoke to us about the needs of the Harbor's homeless community. We gathered needed items of food and clothing and donated them to her to be distributed.
- January: We took a tour of our Chehalis Valley Museum. What a great gathering of local historical items is on display!
- February: Rick Watkinson from the Montesano Fire Department came and gave a us a talk about keeping ourselves and our homes safe.
- March: We were blessed by four local Foreign Exchange Students. We got to hear talks from kids from Germany, Mexico, Spain and the Republic of Georgia. Their talks were so interesting and it was so nice to see how much pride they each had in his or her heritage.
- April: We learned all about the four important documents for Estate Planning and how important it is that we have a personal will. Ben Winkleman, who grew up in our church, and is a local attorney, was our speaker.
- May: Our Stephen Ministry Leader Team, Pastor Marc Rice, Charlie Crass, Sandy Casberg & Arlene Hume gave a talk, answered questions, and gave out information about an upcoming Spiritual Gifts Class & the Stephen Ministry program.
- June: Jerry Schaefer gave us an interesting talk and slide-show about jails and prisons of the American Old West.
- July: Mike and Louise Murphy gave a talk on planning the trip of your wildest dreams. We also had a fun activity remembering our favorite trip from our past.
- August: We held our annual Pot-luck Picnic at Trina Young's great campground up the Satsop. What a beautiful spot!
- September: Pona Samuel & Sam Thomas spoke to us about the charity "Change for Children", which raises funds for local children at the Harbor Youth Center and a children's home in India.

It has been a rewarding and great year. If you haven't joined us, please do so! We already have some exciting speakers and events planned for this next year!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Hume

SPIRITUAL LIFE

This committee is a well-greased wheel. The people that head this committee up do a splendid job. Sandy Casberg is the go to for Prayer requests and praises having over 76 participants that take our requests to the Lord seriously. All requests are asked for permission to go out on our Prayer Chain as some are not from our congregation. Also, Pat Schmidt sees to it that all requests that come through the office are forwarded to the correct people.

Each year members of our congregation partake in a 24-hour prayer vigil and I have personally experienced God's works through the event. Prayers are answered and those that take part in this are Blessed. Each volunteer gives at least one hour of their day to spend on this wonderful event. This Prayer Vigil has included participants as young as 8 and as old as in the 80's and 90's.

Requests for prayers are collected for this event in several ways. We offer a basket that prayer request cards can be placed in or you can bring your own on your heart. We try to get to all requests and pray for all the many needs that are out there. Please think about volunteering an hour of your day when the next vigil comes around.

The Lord loves everyone and hears all our prayers. I am looking forward to the next one and hope to share this time with my grandchildren as I found children's prayers are very powerful.

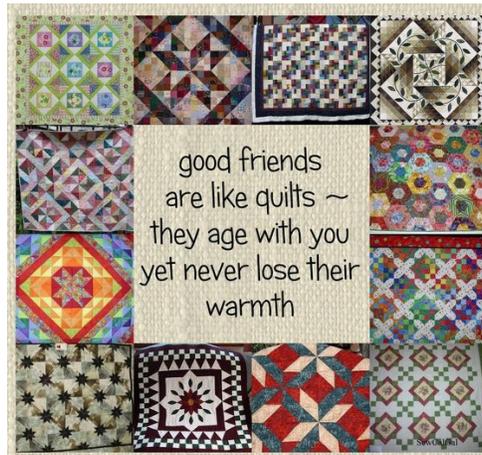
The church also has available Daily Devotional booklets that are provided by the Spiritual Life Committee. Please feel free to take one for your use at home.

Senior Exercise Class



The Sit and Be Fit Senior exercise class, which has been sponsored through the Montesano Community School, has been meeting three times a week in our youth room for a number of years. Lila Stone and Marlene Vahl have been faithfully providing leadership.

We are sorry to learn that the Community School has been discontinued and this group is no longer with us. We will miss them.



Quilting Friends

Started by Sue McMaster in 2013, *Quilting Friends* is a group of women that meet weekly to quilt and sew. We gather on Monday evenings from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We work on our own projects and use it as a time to encourage each other and learn new techniques in quilting.

Girl Scout Troop #41645

The 2015-2016 school year was busy and successful for our scouts. Our troop grew to over 50 girls with 30-40 regularly in attendance at our meetings each week, some from as far away as Elma and Aberdeen.

We kicked off the fall season by enjoying many of our favorite traditions and creating some new ones. Some of our girls attended Loggers' Play Day, volunteered to clean up the grand stands at Rottle Field after football games, and even wore mismatched socks to school to take a stand against bullying. We held our annual Halloween carnival at the church, and after all the trick-or-treating was over, several scouts donated their candy to make care packages for soldiers. We were invited by our sisters in Elma to take part in their Veteran's Day parade in November, then went straight to work creating Operation Christmas Child boxes and helping at the drop-off location.

Girl Scouts are full of celebration and the giving spirit, so December is our busiest month of the year. In 2015 we made the most of it by walking in the Festival of Lights parade, participating in the craft fair, and cleaning up litter on the streets the next day. Our troop also hosted a craft booth at the school PTO family fun night. We baked all day at the church one Saturday to give out Christmas goodies to friends and neighbors. Some of our girls took a trip to Montesano Health and Rehab to deliver their handmade fleece lap blankets and spread some cheer with Christmas carols. On another occasion, girls and their families caroled throughout the neighborhood surrounding the church. Some scouts toured, donated and lent helping hands to the Montesano food bank.

The New Year brought a great honor to our troop as we were invited to perform the flag ceremony at the inauguration of our city's first female mayor and former Girl Scout, Vini Samuel. After that, our cookie-selling season was in full swing and our scouts worked incredibly hard to earn enough money to support all of their endeavors. Over 700 boxes of cookies were given to soldiers through the Operation Cookie Drop program. Our Cadettes made and delivered care packages to families at the neonatal intensive care unit in Tacoma. Donations were made locally to PAWS and Relay for Life. Our Brownies donated to the FOSLs Legacy Project at Lake Sylvia and toured the site. For four of our Junior Girl Scouts, civic pride took them all the way to the Bronze Award, the highest achievement at their level. Alexia Glasgow-Fry, Maddison Conner, Patience Teeter, and Paige Carroll met with the city council and raised money through business donations to make improvements at Kelsey Park. They each volunteered over 15 hours of time over several weeks to weed and replace bark, clean the entrance sign, pick up litter and plant flowers. They plan to add a handicap-accessible picnic table this year.

Our troop would like to give our many thanks to the Church of God for allowing us use of your facilities. We especially appreciated being able to host our award ceremony in the sanctuary, Mother's Day tea in the dining room, a council-wide science event and our first-ever pinewood derby downstairs. We look forward to another year of adventures.

Montesano Junior - Senior High School

It is with much gratitude I express my thankfulness to the Montesano Church of God for the use of your facility. Without the physical space your church provides, successful systems within our high school curriculum would have to be rethought and redesigned.

At Montesano Junior Senior High School, I coordinate the Senior Boards (a graduation requirement) and Business Week – a relative new curriculum enhancement for our 11th grade students. When Seniors present themselves to community panels in April, all 110(plus) senior students, include Running Start students and exchange students, will prove themselves ready to graduate to over 40 community members. When we use your facility for the Business Week this March, approximately 125 students will fill your rooms with an additional 40 adults supervising, teaching and presenting.



The use of the Church of God's building is critical to these programs. The support of the Church of God's membership warms my heart and fills our students' hearts with a sense of familiarity and belonging.

Sincerely Thankful,

April Pocklington

Media Specialist, TOSA

Montesano Junior Senior High School



September 19, 2016

The congregation of the Montesano Church of God has graciously provided space for the Grays Harbor Children's Advocacy Center to offer group parenting classes to parents who want to improve their ability to positively and successfully parent their children. Many of our attendees say that they did not have positive relationships with their parents and want to learn to parent their children differently than they were parented.

The curriculum that we use is called *Incredible Years*. The Incredible Years curriculum was developed at the University of Washington. Long-term research was conducted when the Incredible Years program was being developed. The results of this research demonstrated that children whose parents participated in the program had improved social skills and greater school success when compared to children whose parents had not participated in the Incredible Years program.

The Incredible Years curriculum focuses on the pro-social development of children. It increases parental bonding with children through child-directed play, teaches the stages of normal child development (thus increasing parent's appropriate expectations of their child's behavior) and improves parent's limit setting skills by replacing physical punishment with non-violent discipline techniques. It promotes positive parenting strategies.

Each Incredible Years class meets once a week for three hours for eighteen weeks. Lunch is provided at the beginning of each session as there is an emphasis on establishing positive bonds between the class participants as they navigate the important role of parenting their young children.

During the past year, the graciousness of your congregation has allowed the CAC to offer eight eighteen week courses of the Incredible Years program. Sixty-five parents were enrolled in those eight classes.

Parents have consistently commented on the new insights and positive parenting strategies they have learned through the Incredible Years' experience. They talk about their improved relationships with their children.

The generosity of the Montesano Church of God has made these improved relationships between parents and children possible. We are grateful for your support. The positive impact of your kindness has been felt throughout our county.

Sincerely,

Shawn Dickson

Parent Education Director

Montesano Church of God Library and Heritage Library – October 2016

*Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.*

Isaiah 55:1

Do you give much thought to luxury? I have to admit, I do. It's very frustrating when you want to enjoy something but it's out of reach because of the price tag. I think everyone has experienced that. But things work differently in God's economy. That is certainly evident in the Church Library.

In the early days, when we were sorting through the old and bringing in the new, we had a little book sale. It didn't feel right so a "no-fund-raising" policy was adopted for this particular ministry. Without solicitation, we have been blessed with books, furniture, supplies and everything you could possibly want to run a church library. In fact, as I write this, the Library is torn apart as we rework the room to accommodate some beautiful oak shelving that was donated by the Senior Companion Program. Amazing!

God is really, really good! Isn't He?

Our church family and friends have been very generous in sharing books that they have loved and enjoyed. The quality of inventory is really exceptional, thanks to generous support from all of you.

The purpose of the Church Library is to "feed the flock". We want you to enjoy the luxury of an endless supply of books and materials that are relevant to your life, and to make sure that these are available to you at no cost and with no barriers. That is why we continue to operate under an honor-system and keep no formal inventory. It is why we don't impose a limit on the time you may borrow a book and that is why we allow you to bring your coffee into the library (although we are totally ok with you using that garbage can in the corner).

So let me ask YOU some questions: Are you enjoying the Library? Are you learning anything? Are you finding a wholesome source of entertainment in the fiction section? Have you found something to make you laugh or smile in the Inspirational section? Have you found a good recipe to make for your family, or something to feed your soul in the Food and Faith section? Have you found help for your troubles in the Family and Relationship section? Or been helped in your walk with Christ in the Christian Living section?

If you can answer YES to any of that, then we have had an excellent year indeed! Thank you so much for being a part of that and for giving me this extraordinary opportunity to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Kauzlarich

BUDGET GUIDELINES

2016-2017

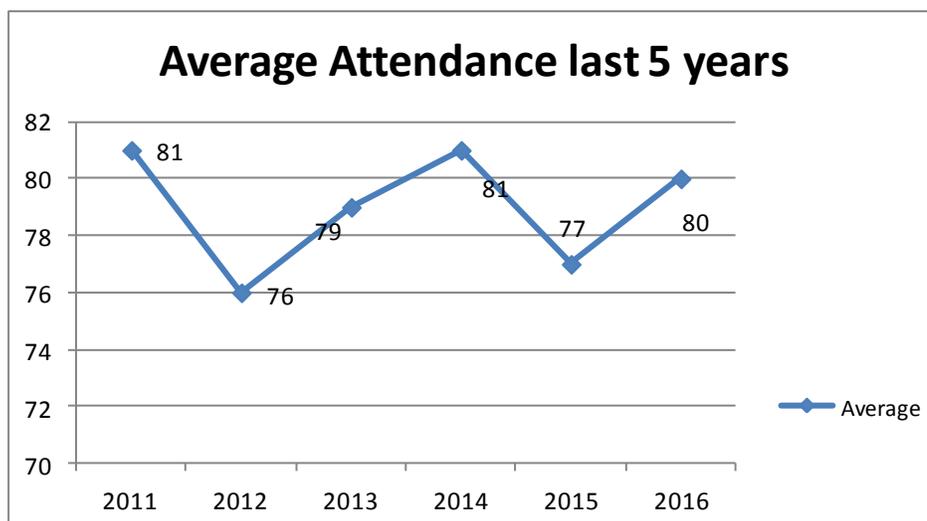
These operational budget guidelines are adopted by the General Assembly and affirmed by the Leadership Community of the Montesano Church of God to facilitate the proficient and effective management of the fiscal ministry of the congregation.

Committees are authorized to spend funds up to the total approved for their respective ministry area. The Committee chairs or other authorized representatives must fill out and sign proper authorization for all expenses. The Stewardship Committee and Board of Elders will monitor all expenses and manage cash flow on a monthly basis.

Requests and explanation for funds that exceed approved budget amounts should be submitted in writing by committee chair to the Board of Elders for approval before funds are expended. The Board of Elders may authorize spending over the total approved annual budget, up to **five percent (5%)** of annual budget. Expenses exceeding **five percent (5%)** of the total annual budget will be presented for approval by the General Assembly (congregation) at a duly called special business meeting.

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

2011-2016



Montesano Church of God
Finance Report
Fiscal year 10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016

Fund Balances	10/1/2015	change this FY	9/30/2016
10 General Fund	\$ 21,270.63	\$ 3,642.92	\$ 24,913.55
15 Building Fund	\$ 3,128.73	\$ (1,775.15)	\$ 1,353.58
35 Honors/Banquet Fund	\$ 222.99	\$ 527.77	\$ 750.76
40 In/Out Fund	\$ 463.07	\$ 1,241.85	\$ 1,704.92
50 Memorial Fund includes CD	\$ 89,481.23	\$ (13,179.84)	\$ 76,301.39
55 Men's Fund	\$ 621.55	\$ 26.25	\$ 647.80
65 Women of Faith Fund	\$ 2,400.05	\$ (80.61)	\$ 2,319.44
67 Missions Fund	\$ 3,525.92	\$ 881.95	\$ 4,407.87
70 Youth Fund 5th Qtr	\$ 1,132.33	\$ 503.01	\$ 1,635.34
72 KFC Fund	\$ 2,559.63	\$ 928.79	\$ 3,488.42
75 Rental Fund	\$ (3,709.88)	\$ (807.72)	\$ (4,517.60)
HRA	\$ 4,216.69	\$ (2,189.61)	\$ 2,027.08
Total	\$ 125,312.94	\$ (10,280.39)	\$ 115,032.55

There were several highlights to the finance reports this year. The general fund remained stable and the education programs saw growth in both youth and adult classes. The church continued serving locally through the Union Gospel Mission, Kids for Christ, 5th Quarter, Grief Share, and 10.10 young families group. We also continued our service outside our area with contributions to the Pacific NW and National Association of the Church of God, Double K Retreat Center, several missionaries, and special offerings.

Thanks to a generous gift last year, Pastor Marc and three volunteers were able to travel to training to learn how to facilitate Stephen's Ministry in our area. This new ministry is exciting and provides opportunities for all to learn how to care for people.

Additional detail is available upon request to the church office at 360-249-3242 or Treasurer Molly Anderson at 360-593-5082.

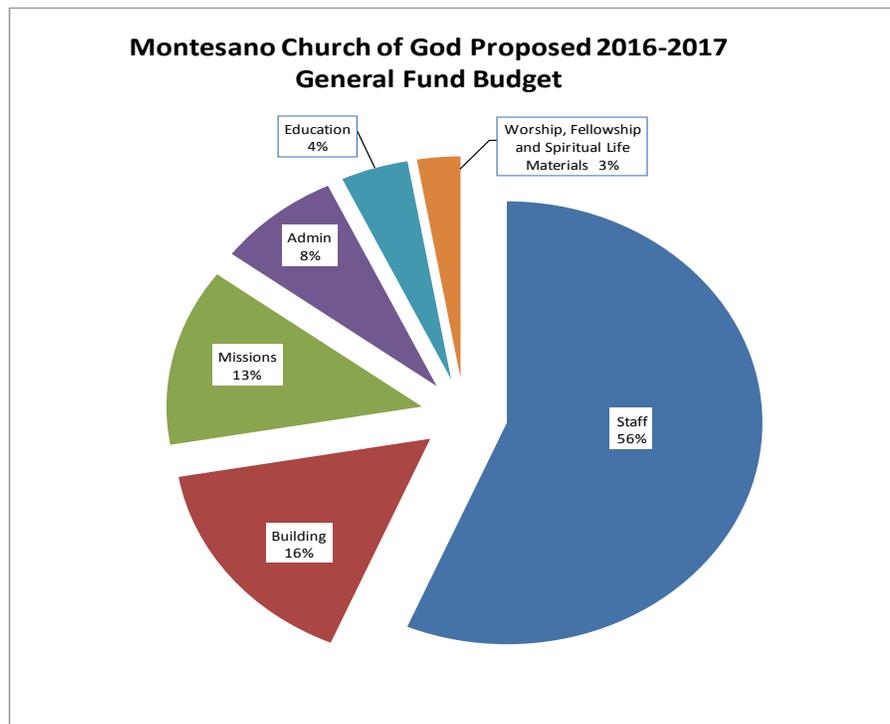
2016-2017 Proposed Montesano Church of God Budget

The 2016-2017 Annual Montesano Church of God General Fund Budget’s purpose is to provide the opportunity to further Christ’s mission. The significant changes include:

- A new separate fund for Stephen’s Ministry
- Rental tenants paying own electricity and increase in maintenance budget

How the general fund budget breaks down by category

General Fund Budget, largest to smallest budget amount:		
Staff	\$	84,172.05
Building	\$	23,699.00
Missions	\$	19,331.00
Admin	\$	11,661.95
Education	\$	6,371.00
Worship, Fellowship & Spiritual Life materials	\$	4,086.00
Total	\$	149,321.00



Additional detail is available upon request to the church office at 360-249-3242 or Treasurer Molly Anderson at 360-593-5082.

2016-2017 Proposed Montesano Church of God Budget

We have several dedicated funds to keep carryover balances separate from the General Fund. Here are the proposed budgets for those funds:

Montesano Church of God Proposed Budget 2016-2017					
Dedicated Funds					
Fund #	Description	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Estimated Ending Balance
15	Building	\$ 1,353.58	\$ 3,829.40	\$ 3,567.00	\$ 1,615.98
35	Banquet	\$ 750.76	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.76
40	In/Out Fund	\$ 1,704.92	\$ -	\$ 1,704.92	\$ -
50	Memorial	\$ 76,301.39	\$ 250.00	\$ 67,168.78	\$ 9,382.61
55	Men's	\$ 647.80	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 647.80
65	Women's	\$ 2,319.44	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,319.44
67	Missions	\$ 4,407.87	\$ 934.00	\$ 934.00	\$ 4,407.87
68 *NEW*	Stephen Ministry	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
70	Youth	\$ 1,635.34	\$ 714.00	\$ 714.00	\$ 1,635.34
72	KFC	\$ 3,488.42	\$ 1,121.00	\$ 1,121.00	\$ 3,488.42
75	Rental	\$ (4,517.60)	\$ 13,800.00	\$ 10,919.31	\$ (1,636.91)
	Total	\$ 88,091.92	\$ 23,298.40	\$ 88,779.01	\$ 22,611.31

Nomination Committee Statements

I've been with the Montesano Church of God for about 3 years and it has been refreshing to feel the genuine care the Montesano Church of God family has for one another. I truly feel blessed and am thankful to GOD for providing me a wonderful Church home. I would like to assist with the leadership body here at Montesano Church of God, and would be honored to be involved.

Jon Hudson

It is just short of two years that I began to worship and call Montesano Church of God my church family. From the moment I walked through the doors of this church, I immediately felt a warm welcome and sense of belonging. I truly feel the genuine closeness and caring attitude of the congregation, which to me, is proof that the Holy Spirit is alive and working in the hearts and minds of our church family. I feel connected with this congregation and am quite humbled to have been asked to consider any kind of leadership role in the church. I feel the call to serve the Lord in a leadership role, and in so doing, am committed to strive to live by the scriptural ideals of church leadership.

Teri Zillyett

As a long-time member of our church, and one claiming Jesus as my Savior, I realize the commitment and responsibility required by those individuals called, and willing to serve in leadership roles. I would be willing to serve on the Nominating Committee with the other elected candidates, and Pastor Marc serving as chair

Tim Crass

For the last sixteen years, I've had the amazing privilege of being part of this Church of God family. It's been a blessing, because it is here that I found a real relationship with Christ, that His love is relentless. So when I received this invitation as a candidate for the nomination committee I knew that this was a door that God has opened. I'm always grateful and honored to serve for this church family. Thank you everyone for your receptivity & kindness.

Phyllis Stanley

We have a great congregation and I am very happy to call our Church my family in Christ. I am happy to serve again if the church wants me to.

Mike Hume

ELDER CANDIDATE PROFILE

FOR

LEROY SCHATZ

Please provide a brief testimony of your Christian experience.

I was a regular church attendee of the Church of God in Tacoma, WA since the 1960's. Came to Montesano in the 1990's and have worshiped at this location steadily since.

Approximately how long have you been affiliated with our congregation?

Since the 1990's when Jerry Phillips was pastor.

List some of the areas you have served in this congregation or in other places.

Sunday School teacher in Tacoma and also the adult class here. Work night shift at the Aberdeen Union Gospel Mission. Have served as an usher here and have been on the Mission committee. I have been a regular contributor, writing monthly articles for the Monte Messenger for the last 3-4 years. I have served as an Elder and represented the Christian Education Committee for the last 3 years.

What are your vocation, Interests, Hobbies, and Passions in life?

I am a "retired" professional classroom teacher and recently joined the teaching staff at Mary M Knight School District as a substitute teacher. I enjoy reading bible based books by notable authors. I enjoy working around my home. Writing articles for the Monte Messenger is another passion.

Describe your thoughts, feelings, and desires about serving as an Elder.

I believe that the Word of God is the center of the work of the church and is the most important work in the growth and maturity of each church believer. Expanding Wednesday evening small groups to include more participants is a worthwhile goal. The Adult Sunday School is well attended. KFC and Children's Sunday School could be expanded.

ELDER CANDIDATE PROFILE

FOR

Roger Sauer

Please provide a brief testimony of your Christian experience

I went to Sunday school and church, Lutheran, pretty regularly until the age of 13. At this time, we moved to Washington and because my parents weren't very religious we quit attending church. In my late teens I got interested in Eastern philosophies and meditation, first with TM, then later with Zen. I knew I wanted a spiritual life, but not sure what it should look like. It was during this time that I thought I had found the path to God, the path to spiritual awareness when God showed me otherwise. I remember a night when I thought someone was in the house. I went to my parents' bedroom to wake my dad. Just outside his door God said to me, why are you going to him, he can't help you and won't always be with you, but I will. Two weeks later my dad had a heart attack and died. Even with this experience meeting God, it would be another ten years or so and the beginnings of my family that would bring me back to attending church on a regular basis. I remember Josh coming home from a neighbors scared to death. It was Halloween and this neighbor told him, after he said he was going trick or treating, that he was headed for hell and he better repent immediately. It was this event that brought us back to the church. I knew my kids needed more teaching about Christ than I was equipped to give them. We started going to the Lutheran church in Hoquiam and later moving to Monte where we started attending the Church of God.

Approximately how long have you been affiliated with our congregation?

We have been affiliated with the Church of God since 1987 when we moved from Hoquiam to Montesano.

List some of the areas you have served in this congregation or in other places.

I briefly taught adult Sunday School class. In 1994 I was part of a mission to Mexico. We took a group of teens and spent a week at El Cipris working on a building project and outreach at the Church of God there. I led a small group meeting for a year. I served on the *Lilly Foundation Sabbatical Grant* Committee in 2009. I have served as an usher at various times and run the sound system. I have helped with the 5th quarter for the past six years.

What are your Vocation, Interests, Hobbies, and Passions in life?

My biggest passion in life is learning. Whether it's learning how to make a better golf swing or how to get through to a student or grandkid, or something totally new learning is my passion, my interest and my hobby. After 30 years of cutting meat I found the greatest way to live my passion is through teaching. What many people don't realize is the best way to learn something is to teach it. It is through the teaching process, the striving to get through to each kid that you learn more about any subject. I was that annoying little kid who kept asking why. Well, I have never stopped asking.

Describe your thoughts, feelings, and desires about serving as an Elder.

I have had a desire for a while now to find a way to give back more to the church than I have in the past. I am at a point in my life when I have the time to devote to something new and the passion to learn more about the workings of the church than I now know. I feel the time is right for me to get more into the nuts and bolts of how the church works. For this reason, and a passion to show more of how God is working in my life, I would love to serve as an elder. I had a quote from Soren Kierkegaard on my classroom wall that said, "life can only be understood looking backwards, but it must be lived moving forward." As I look back on my life I see all the times God was with me when I didn't know it. As he said years ago, he will always be with me. It was during this reflection that I realized God was preparing me for something new, something to move forward with.

BALLOT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OCTOBER 23, 2016

A circled YES is an approval.

A circled NO is a rejection.

2016-2017 BUDGET RATIFICATION of the proposed operating budget

YES

NO

BOARD OF ELDERS RATIFICATION

LEROY SCHATZ YES NO (3 YEAR TERM)

ROGER SAUER YES NO (3 YEAR TERM)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE serving a one-year term

Vote for three (3) only

JON HUDSON YES

TERI ZILLYETT YES

MIKE HUME YES

TIM CRASS YES

PHYLLIS STANLEY YES