The Koinonia Center

1414 Kincaid Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS GREETINGS!

We have many things to be thankful for this season at The Koinonia Center. We have faithful and prayerful supporters of our organization that we have looked to in times of need and now as we move forward into our 100 th year serving the University of Oregon campus. I am grateful for my new position as Director here at The Koinonia Center that allows me to meet new people and prayerfully, strategically plan for our next steps in our ministry. Post covid brings us challenges but we know that God is faithful and will guide us into our future. We ask that you consider remembering us in your end of year donations for 2024. This is a time of growth for our ministry. Our presence here in the lobby of 14th & Kincaid, the K14 Flats, is always finding ways to support the 140 students who live here. We also seek your continued prayers for the presence of God to be known on the University of Oregon campus as future leaders become educated and gain experience that they will take out into our world.

Thank you and have a blessed season,

Jennifer Daniels, MDiv.
Director

THE KOINONIA CENTER

At The University of Oregon

November/December 2024 Established 1925

Bonhoeffer Opens Nov 22

By Writer and Director Todd Komarnicki

"In 1933, when Hitler attained power in Germany, the first thing he took over was the German church. He used his brute nationalism to sway the Lutheran and Catholic leadership to his way of seeing the world. Within months, Bibles and crosses disappeared from sanctuaries, replaced by copies of Mein Kampf and the ever-present swastika. "One man inside the church decided that political courage was an act of faith, and to stand silent in the face of evil, was in fact, evil itself. "Bonhoeffer" is the story of that man. Dietrich Bonhoeffer. A son of privilege who traded his very life to fight against Hitler and to stand in the breach to protect the lives of innocent Jews. A man whose books, many of them written in prison, have sold countless millions over the decades.

A hero whose statue stands outside Westminster Abbey next to MLK, Jr.'s. A human being who decided that his life was worth trading if it meant another man could go free." "Remarkably, Dietrich found his faith during his time studying in Harlem, New York City, while attending the legendary Abyssinian Baptist Church, led by Adam Clayton Powell. It was there that Dietrich saw dynamic, joyous faith in action. And he also saw the struggle of blacks to find total freedom in their own country. The racism he witnessed in America gave him a new lens through which to see Hitler's heinous anti-semitism, long before the rest of Germany understood what was truly taking place. "Dietrich Bonhoeffer still stands as a lighthouse, to remind us that we need each other. That we are all connected. And where one man suffers, we all do." The Koinonia Center has books about Bonhoeffer to borrow if you are interested in learning more about his life. Stop by and take a look at them and other books that we have for borrowing and that are free to take.

NEW DIRECTOR

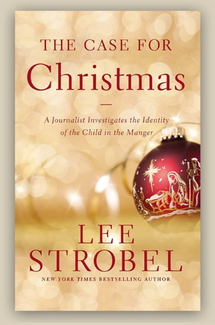
Our new Director of Campus Ministry, Jennifer Daniels, currently comes to us from Corvallis, but don't worry Ducks, she has agreed to trade in her black and orange for green and yellow! Actually a "Duck by marriage," Jennifer met her husband while taking art classes at U of O years ago. She ultimately graduated with a B.A. in history and peace studies from Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, CT and an MDiv from Princeton Seminary. After a season of life spent raising kids, volunteering at her church and working as a hospice chaplain, Jennifer decided to direct her energies toward ministries on campus and take on the challenge of working to give spiritual support to students. Having three children at OSU during and after the pandemic has helped Jennifer develop a unique perspective. These experiences bring insights about the circumstances of college students today, preparing her to help U of O students to meet the challenges they are facing after COVID.

Jennifer has a strong commitment to supporting student mental health needs and plans to come alongside an already solid Behavioral Healthcare program offered on the U of O campus. When away from campus Jennifer spends time with her family including her American Spitz dog, named Lewis after C.S. Lewis, a favorite author of the family. Jennifer enjoys movies, cooking, traveling, exploring Eugene restaurants, watching the Portland Timbers and Thorns, and attending college sports. For Jennifer, returning to Eugene after many years living in other parts of the country feels like coming home.

CHRISTMAS BOOK RECOMMENDATION

With over 14 million sold, The Case for Christmas is one in a series of books by journalist Lee Strobel. Strobel is a Yale educated writer who approaches his work from a skeptical viewpoint as he was an atheist for most of his adult life. From the Publisher "Who was in the manger that first Christmas morning? Some say he would become a great moral leader. Others, a social critic. Still others view Jesus as a profound philosopher, a rabbi, a feminist, a prophet, and more. Many are convinced he was the divine Son of God. Who was he—really? And how can you know for sure? Consulting experts on the Bible, archaeology, and messianic prophecy, Lee Strobel searches out the true identity of the child in the manger.

Join him as he asks the tough, pointed questions you'd expect from an award winning legal journalist. If Jesus really was God in the flesh, then there ought to be credible evidence, including Eyewitness Evidence—Can the biographies of Jesus be trusted? Scientific Evidence—What does archaeology reveal? Profile Evidence—Did Jesus fulfill the attributes of God? Fingerprint Evidence—Did Jesus uniquely match the identity of the Messiah? The Case for Christmas invites you to consider why Christmas matters in the first place. Somewhere beyond the traditions of the holiday lies the truth. It may be more compelling than you've realized. Weigh the facts . . . and decide for yourself."



THANK YOU, CENTRAL PRES!

The Koinonia Center recently received a grant from the Endowment Committee of Central Presbyterian Church. The grant was for the purchase of a large screen TV to allow for U of O Game Day Watch Parties, Documentary and Movie Nights, and guest speaker presentations. We are grateful for the continued support of the people of Central Presbyterian Church who have an ongoing desire to support the students of the U of O.

BACK TO SCHOOL FLOCK PARTY A SUCCESS!

The Koinonia Center hosted a table at the annual back to school Flock Party. At this event the U of O welcomes new and transferring students to campus the first week of school. We passed out healthy green tea and gold chamomile tea in keeping with our beloved green and gold! We also passed out over 1,000 free coffee coupons for the first week of school. It was a great opportunity to meet students and let them know our plans for the coming year including offering volunteer opportunities, support groups and sports watch parties.

COOKIES FOR CHRIST

The Koinonia Center is looking for cookie donations to go in our freezer for serving to students during our weeknight study hours. This is a wonderful way to contribute to the campus ministry at the U of O. What better way to show love than over a yummy treat! If you're willing to bake and share a batch, please be in touch with Jennifer directly, 541-286-0213.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

November 2, 12:30pm Watch Party, Wear White, Home vs Michigan
November 9, 4:00pm Watch Party, Wear Green, Home vs Maryland
November 11, Veteran's Day - No School
November 11, Hosea Youth Services Clothing Drive Begins Provides for homeless teens in Eugene.
November 16, 4:30pm Watch Party, Wear White, Away vs Wisconsin
November 22, Bonhoeffer Opens in theaters nationwide
November 24, 7:00pm Tobymac in Concert, Matthew Knight Arena
November 30, TBA Watch Party, Wear Green, Home vs U of Washington
December 2-6, 6-9pm Study Time - Christmas Cider & Hot Chocolate!
December 9-13, 6-9pm Finals Week - Christmas Movies, Swag and Treats!
December 13, Hosea Youth Services Clothing Drive Deadline

December 16-January 6, Winter Break
December 20, Oregon Mozart Players, Central Presbyterian Church. Only 20 tickets are available
December 22, 10am Cantata, Westminster Presbyterian Church. Includes U of O student members in orchestra
December 22, 4:30pm Central Presbyterian Church Chapel Longest Night Service: A service for those who are grieving or who find the holidays challenging. "Bring your fatigue and allow yourself a quiet space to reflect."
December 24, 5:30pm Central Presbyterian Church, Service - Chapel Labyrinth Walk - Fellowship Hall 7:30pm, Candles, Carols, Bells - Sanctuary
December 24, 7:30pm Candlelight Service Westminster Presbyterian Church.

KOINONIA - koi-no-KNEE-ah

Greek for 'To be in Community or Fellowship'