

**Mission Statement
of the Regional Church**

Our mission is

- To nurture members and congregations
- To establish and receive new congregations

While working together with the whole Church to do Christ's ministry in the world.

Doug and Cathy Myers Wirt
Regional Ministers

Audre Bratcher,
Administrative Assistant

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

- Jan. 31 Keizer, Church Council Meeting Cathy
- Jan. 31 Santiam Area Ministers' Breakfast Cathy
- Jan. 31 Interchurch Center Steering Committee Doug
- Jan. 29 Junction City, Pastoral Installation Doug
- Jan. 29 Eugene First, Cathy
- Jan. 28 Salem, Bob Hanna Anniversary Cathy/Doug
- Jan. 26 McMinnville, Meeting Doug
- Jan. 25 Commission on Ministry Doug
- Jan 24 Reconciliation Steering Committee Doug
- Jan. 22 Keizer, Committee Meeting Cathy
- Jan 22 Portland Pacific Island Family Church Doug
- Jan. 22 Portland First, Worship Doug
- Jan. 21 Ordination Bonnie Vance, Murray Hills Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 17-20 San Diego, Development Conference Cathy/Doug
- Jan. 15 Grants Pass Greg Widener installation Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 12 Planning Meeting 2018 Women's Event Cathy
- Jan. 9 Medford, Committee Meeting Cathy
- Jan. 8 Portland, The View, Worship Cathy
- Jan. 5 Albany, Committee Meeting Cathy
- Jan. 5 Keizer, Committee Meeting Cathy
- Jan. 5 Planning Meeting 2018 Women's Event Cathy



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Week of Compassion

The Week of Compassion offering is received in February each year across the Disciples of Christ church community. These funds are on the ready for disaster relief and development work. Director of WOC, Vy Nguyen, was one of our speakers at last year's Regional Assembly. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold, Associate Director, will be speaking at the Allison Park, Eugene Women's event February 11 (see page 3 of this newsletter) and preaching at Murray Hills on February 12.

Stories and facts about Week of Compassion can be found on their website, www.weekofcompassion.org.

Week of Compassion responded to disasters in 39 countries last year, including responding to the earthquakes in Ecuador. While members from our own regional church were traveling in Ecuador last summer, they were part of the response of packing aid supplies for the earthquake zone. Week of Compassion joined forces with FEDICE to do this work by quickly and efficiently providing funds for FEDICE to purchase goods and take them to those in need.

WOC also responded in 2016 in North America in the aftermath of floods, fires and storms.

Please give generously to this annual appeal.

Regional Ministry Emails Change in February

New email addresses for the Regional Ministers

Doug: doug@oidisciples.org

Cathy: cathy@oidisciples.org



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**Regional Assembly
May 18-19, 2018
Portland FCC
Rev. Sandhya Jha
&
Dr. Timothy James**

News from our Congregations

Albany: Hosted the Ordination Service for Doug Collins in December.

Burley: Offered online Sunday worship service during heavy snow storm in January.

Lynchwood : Women gave 87 filled Christmas Stockings to local ministry.

Murray Hills: Shared pageant and breakfast on Christmas morning with families living in local shelter housing.

Parkview: On Dec. 29, Gene Hill completed his ministry. Gary Smith and Deral Schrom are serving as co-Interims.

Junction City: Pastor David Bondurant has started as the new Transitional Minister. Many thanks to Gary Ivey for serving as Interim Pastor.

Salem, Eugene, St. Johns: opened space for warming shelters during cold weather.

Corvallis: Eric Eide officiated a memorial service for his grandmother online when the inclement weather made travel unsafe.

McMinnville: Gave special gift to the regional Christmas offering from bequest.

Save these dates!

- February 4, 2017**
*Regional Board Meeting
Interchurch Center Portland*
- February 11, 2017**
*Allison Park, Eugene
Women's Pray and Play Day*
- February 18, 2017**
*Keizer Christian Church
Women's Pray and Play Day*
- February 18-19**
*Albany First Christian
Middle School Youth Event*
- March 4, 2017**
*Parkview,
Meridian
Women's Pray
and Play Day*





As a new year begins, electronic files of numbers will pass from computer to computer showing the giving of Disciples in 2016. Our Treasury Services staff in Indianapolis add up all the gifts from each congregation for each of the Disciples'

offerings. The numbers only hint at countless decisions to share dollars with the hope that they will bless somebody somewhere, and hopefully lots of people in lots of places.

As regional ministers, Cathy and I get to see the effects of your giving to Disciples causes. In 2016, for example, we saw your giving to Disciples Mission Fund do the following:

- ◆ Respond to ten congregations in the regional church going through change of pastors;
- ◆ Say "yes" to families on tight budgets with children who wanted to go to summer camp;
- ◆ Welcome Kim & Erik Free home after a sudden departure from Mozambique;
- ◆ Bless Bethany Waggoner to her next assignment with Global Ministries in Beirut;
- ◆ Celebrate the first anniversary of a new congregation and send their leaders to leadership training in Indianapolis;
- ◆ Host 200 Chuukese Disciples of Christ for an Easter Rally in Portland;
- ◆ Gather youth, children, men and women, at 15 retreats, camps and special events;
- ◆ Train 60 church leaders for ministries of Reconciliation in Idaho and Oregon;
- ◆ Assist the Regional Church to do a visioning process and launch a three year ministry plan;
- ◆ And many more expressions of faith, hope and love in the Northwest and around the world.

Your generous gifts to Disciples Mission Fund and our special offerings bless so many people in so many ways and places that we in regional and general church ministries can't begin to tell you all that you've done. Most of these come through congregational giving. It's also possible to give online to DMF and special offerings at disciplesmissionfund.org.

So for now, as one year concludes and another begins, we do want to say "thank you" for all you've done.

May your gifts plant seeds that fall on good soil, and produce thirty, sixty and even one hundred times as your hope, faith, and love is shared in 2017.

Doug



Ecuador Romerillos Goal Reaches 80%

Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples continue to move toward the goal of \$17,500 for our microloan project in Ecuador. Managed by our mission partner FEDICE, this ministry loans small amounts to families in the community of

Romerillos, Ecuador. Families use these short term loans to start a business raising onions or animals. Loans are repaid to a local women's organization which uses the money to help more families.

As of January 6, gifts came to \$14,044, or 80% of the project goal. Support has come from individuals, churches, women's ministries and the One Fair World craft sale at Fall Women's retreat.

Another \$3,456 will take us to the goal! Thanks to all who helped.

Middle School Event, February 18-19 in Albany

Registration materials are on our website www.oidisciples.org. Contact the regional office for details about registration and Albany First Christian about program details. Event includes a trip to the bowling alley and speaker Rev. April Oristano



Women's Pray and Play Events

This year's theme for Pray and Play events for women is "Use What Ya Got!" The events will introduce ways to explore how to use whatever we have to create a faithful life with prayer, witness, and spiritual practice.

A small book sale will be a part of the event and a fair trade sale of items from Ecuador, with all money collected from the crafts helping to move us closer to the goal with our FEDICE project (see article above on this page).

Pray and Play is a 3 hour mini-retreat for women and girls of all ages. Cost is \$10.00 and pays for supplies and a gift for you to take home. Registration form on website and in church offices. Hope to see you there.

Allison Park, Eugene, 2/11/17, Keizer Christian, 2.18/17

Parkview Meridian 3/4/17, Pendleton, 3/18/17.

Invite your friends!!