

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
Liz Cronin, Bookkeeper
Bernice Rivera, Leadership Dev.
Stacy Shelton, Communications

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

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|--------------|--|------------|
| • Sept. 25 | Commission on Ministry Meeting | Doug |
| • Sept. 19 | Portland, Lynchwood, CWF Speaker | Cathy |
| • Sept. 15 | Eugene FCC, Worship | Cathy |
| • Sept. 8 | LaGrande, 130th Anniversary | Cathy |
| • August 25 | Portland, Portsmouth Union, Preaching | Doug |
| • August 20 | John Day, Blue Mountain Rivers Clergy | Doug |
| • August 18 | Portland First, Preaching | Cathy |
| • August 13 | Portland, Lynchwood Meeting | Cathy |
| • August 11 | McMinnville, Worship | Doug |
| • August 4 | Portland First, Preaching | Doug |
| • August 1-2 | Sisters, Camp Visitation | Cathy |
| • July 28 | Portland First, Interim Farewell, Jacobs | Doug |
| • July 19-25 | General Assembly, Des Moines, IA | Cathy |
| • July 14 | Silverton, Preaching | Cathy |
| • July 12 | Disciples Seminary Foundation Finance Cte. | Doug |
| • July 10 | Disciples Seminary Foundation Ex. Cte. | Doug |
| • July 2 | Portland, Lynchwood Committee Meeting | Cathy |
| • June 30 | Interfaith Hate Crimes discussion with FBI | Doug |
| • June 30 | Portland First Christian, Preaching | Doug |
| • June 29 | Ordination, Giuseppe Amato | Doug/Cathy |
| • June 26 | Commission on Ministry Meeting | Doug |



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Women's Retreats 2019

The Snake River District Women's Retreat, **August 23-25**, will feature Rev. Erin Curtis, Pastor of Springfield First Christian Church and Glenwood Christian Church in Eugene, Oregon. Trinity Pines in Cascade, Idaho offers a beautiful retreat center setting for a relaxing time of prayer, community and rest.

The Western Districts' Women's Retreat is **October 11-12**, hosted again this year by Murry Hills Christian Church in Beaverton, is a 24 hour retreat with people staying in nearby hotels or homes. Cindy Kim-Hengst, President of the Board of Stewards of the Week of Compassion, will bring a message of hope and encouragement. You can download registration materials for these events or register on line by going to:

<http://www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s>



Salem First Christian Calls Senior Pastor

On June 30, Salem First Christian Church voted to call Dr. James Brooks as their new Senior Pastor. Dr. Brooks has served as Pastor of First Christian Church in Edwardsville, IL for the past eighteen years. He holds degrees from Purdue University, Lexington Theological Seminary, and Eden Theological Seminary. James Brooks has served in various regional, summer camp and area leadership positions. He has done extensive volunteer work as a police chaplain, with YMCA, Rotary and the local Chamber of Commerce. He has supervised seminary student interns through Eden Seminary. His new ministry will begin on October 1. We look forward to welcoming James and his wife Amy.

August
2019

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News from our Congregations

Northwood: Richard Russell is completing a 9 year ministry as Associate Pastor.

McMinnville: Visit from the Salem FCC youth to help with their City Outreach ministry.

Pacific Outreach Church, Boise: visit from regional new church chair David Eggleston.

Jehova-Nisi/Keizer: special time for both congregations to celebrate their shared building use.

Nampa: August Pie and Ice Cream Social.

Dallas: Hosted Dental Clinic for neighbors in their parking lot in July.

Murray Hills: Sandy Berry begins an Interim Ministry on August 15.

Lynchwood: Myrna Phillips begins as Interim Pastor on August 1.

Albany: Eric Eide begins as Interim Associate Minister this month.

Medford: Plans all church camp out for mid-August.

Eugene FCC: Celebrated worship in the park in July.

Pacific Islands Family Church Portland: Exploring outreach in Longview, Washington.

LaGrande: Preparing for 130th anniversary in September.

Save these dates!

August 2-6
High School
Camp, OR



August 23-25
Snake River
District
Women's Retreat
Cascade, Idaho

October 11-12
Western Districts'
Women's Retreat hosted by
Murry Hills, Beaverton

November 2
Regional Board Meeting
Interchurch Center
Portland

Regional
Assembly
May 15-16, 2020
Salem FCC
Rev. Sotello Long
President of Disciples
Home Missions

My Turn... The Regional Board recently formed a Property Committee to meet several times per year by telephone. Stewardship of church properties has become a larger part of regional ministry in the past decade. More than ten years ago, two Oregon congregations closed their ministry and extended their witness by transferring their titles to the regional church. Those two churches now provide more than 10% of the regional budget each year.

Occasionally a church that remains open also asks the regional church to become a partner in stewardship of their property. By bringing the skills of people from across the region, we can continue the mission of a congregation even when the number of members becomes small. In recent years, the regional church has worked with five congregations in property stewardship, each in a different way. Thanks be to God for varieties of gifts!

Doug

Ecuador Travelers 2019

Volunteers from four of our regional congregations plan to travel to visit with our partners in Ecuador in August. They will visit multiple projects, teach some classes, participate in a Vacation Bible School and worship with congregations. As a part of their trip, they will purchase suitcases full of arts and crafts from the markets there and bring them to sell in our region with proceeds going to the Maca Atapulo project that is our current focus for partnership. This project gives micro loans to people to raise crops and livestock. The loans are repaid a year later with proceeds then recycling into a new set of grants and savings. *Read more about FEDICE Ecuador at fedice.org.*



Regional Assembly May 15-16, 2020

The Regional Assembly Local Arrangements Team met with Regional Vice Moderator, Judy Meneghin, and Regional Minister, Cathy Myers Wirt, in mid-June to start the work of hospitality for the 2020 Regional Assembly.

Salem FCC has assembled a wonderful group of leaders to get us ready to join together in May of 2020. Save the date and watch our website for information about the assembly as the pieces come together. You can find that

information at:

<http://www.oidisciples.org/2020-regional-assembly>

2019 Church Camp Thank You Shout Outs

Thanks to our summer regional staff persons, Tammy Anderson in Idaho and Stacy Shelton in Oregon, our camp program has gone well this summer. Kid's Camp in Meridian and Junior Camp at Cascade have concluded at the time of this writing, and the five more camps will launch at the end of July and in early August.

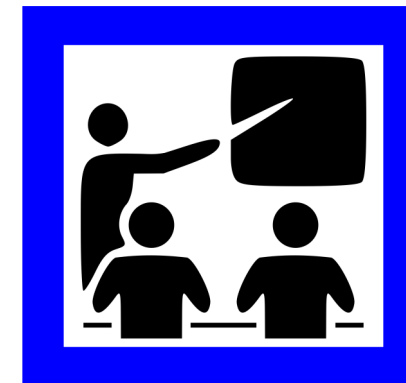
This program would not be possible without the Directors, Cooks, Counselors, Nurses and Craft persons that make it all happen. Thank you to the campers that participate and the Adults that come to share their faith.



Love your Selfie
as God Loves
you... and
others, too

Certificate of Ministry Studies

The Certificate of Ministry Studies program taught in Portland by the Disciples Seminary Foundation has completed the second of four semesters. Spring courses included classes taught on preaching by well known Disciples pastor, teacher and author Pablo Jimenez and a course on the history and practices of the Disciples of Christ. After a summer break, classes will start again in September. We're grateful to DSF, Oregon Disciple Foundation, the Verne Catt McDowell Corporation, local congregations and the Pentecost offering for supporting costs of these classes. Interchurch Center and Murray Hills Christian Church have donated space.



Annual Fund 19% of the Way to Goal of \$14,000

Each year the regional church invites individuals to consider participation in the annual fund. The Fund represents 6% of the Regional Budget. As we count the many blessings of our shared ministries the first six months of this year as a regional church, we include the following in that number in 2019:

- 1 person at a time, making a difference giving time and treasure
 - 2 new ministers ordained in Idaho and Oregon this year
 - 3 congregations in our region have called new pastors so far this year
 - 4 weekends of Regional Minister visits in Idaho so far
 - 5 seminary students preparing for ordination
 - 6 days of interviewing ministry candidates so far
 - 7 summer youth events in Oregon and Idaho
 - 8 regional women's events this year
 - 9 churches in formation or affiliating in 2019
 - 10 sermons by Regional Ministers in churches so far
- Some of the numbers are a little bigger:
- 25 years of ministry celebrated with our partner FEDICE in Ecuador
 - 26 people at the June Regional Board meeting
 - 27 regional videoconferences with numerous ministries so far in 2019
 - 32 students completing first year of Certificate of Ministry taught in Spanish with Disciples Seminary Foundation.
 - 46 Disciples congregations across Oregon and SW Idaho.

A few of the numbers are even larger:

\$ 14,000 in this year's Annual Fund goal

\$ 286,479 needed to serve Disciples congregations and advance the mission of Christ in Oregon and SW Idaho during 2019.

The last numbers make all the others possible. You can give online at

<http://www.oidisciples.org/annual-fund-2019> or send a check to the Regional Church Office.

