

**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

Online with Doug and Cathy

- Nov. 17 Regional Elders
- Nov. 17 College of Regional Ministers
- Nov. 16 Regional Ministers Pastoral Relations Committee
- Nov. 16 Blue Mountain Rivers District Clergy
- Nov. 15 Regional Elders
- Nov. 11 Ecumenical Ministries Bishops and Execs
- Nov. 11 Silverton Pastoral Search Committee
- Nov. 11 Scenic Rivers District Clergy
- Nov. 10-12/15-19 Virtual Pilgrimage with FEDICE Ecuador
- Nov. 6 Regional Board Meeting
- Nov. 3 Regional Assembly Planning Committee
- Nov. 1 Columbia Gorge District Pastors' online gathering
- Nov. 1 General Board Meeting Christian Church (DOC)
- Oct. 31 Eugene FCC, Jerri Handy Farewell (in person)
- Oct. 31 Salem FCC, Installation Matthew & Michelle Harris-Gloyer, Associate Pastors (in person)
- Oct. 28 Silverton FCC, Transition Committee
- Oct. 27 Commission on Ministry
- Oct. 27 Virtual Pilgrimage FEDICE Orientation
- Oct. 23 Murray Hills Christian, Installation of Troy Sybrant, Sr. Pastor, Preaching (in person)
- Oct. 20 National Benevolent Association on line event

News from our Congregations

Red Rock Boise: David Eggleston is serving as Interim Pastor.

Eugene FCC: Zane Ridings began serving as Co-Pastor November 21. EFCC dedicated a new space for the Helping Hearts ministry that day.

Pacific Outreach CC, Boise: celebrated anniversary in October.

McMinnville: Myrna Phillips and Steve Knox are providing pulpit supply ministry.

Mountain Home: Transitional Minister is Terry Barnett (American Baptist)

John Day: Regular ministry at assisted living center

Silverton: Sandy Berry starting ministry as "Grace Period Pastor" November 28.

Lebanon: Renee Windsor-White proving pulpit supply ministry.

The View: Annual "Drop Your Drawers" collecting socks and underwear for people living outdoors.

Springfield FCC: Starting new Zoom Bible Study.

Medford: Publishing a recipe book with favorites.

Portland First Christian: Continues to host feeding projects Home PDX and Clay Street Table

Hashtag #oidisciples

Facebook Page

Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho

Common Current online news service

www.oidisciples.org/news-clh8s



www.oidisciples.org 245 S Bancroft Suite F, Portland 97239



Volume 7 Issue 8

Advent Blessings...

**From your
Regional
Church
Staff**



Liz Cronin

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Stacy Shelton

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Christmas Offering for Regional Ministries Received in December
See page two or www.oidisciples.org



2021 Christmas Offering

In November, Cathy and I participated in a virtual pilgrimage to Ecuador. Global Ministries and FEDICE together created a great opportunity for building our mission partnerships. Even after two years with lots of Zoom meetings, I looked forward to seeing everyone each day from the FEDICE communities and staff, from our own regional church, United Church of Christ friends and Global Ministries.

I shared with the virtual travelers that the Zoom screens of twenty-five, fifty and sometimes more people from so many places reminded me of Romans 16. At the end of Paul's longest, most theological letter, the Apostle says "hi" to everyone. So Romans 16 gives a long list of people in the Roman church, people from different social and cultural backgrounds who have

different roles in the church. In greeting so many friends, Paul was also building them up for more effective service to Christ.

For years we have gathered as a regional church mostly in person. In the past two years, we have gathered much more online than in person. The best thing about this is that people still want to be together as Disciples in Oregon and SW Idaho. We join together for friendship and worship, and also so that we might serve Christ more effectively. As a regional church, we do this when we prepare, support and seek ministers, start new congregations, meet for women's, men's and youth events, train our lay leaders, connect with global mission partners, share our struggles, solutions, and ideas, do problem solving and much more.

In the first verse of Romans 16, Paul introduces Phoebe, a leader from a church in a different place. He knew that she could be a great resource to the church at Rome. We do this often today as partners in regional church ministries, sharing encouragement, personal presence and financial resources to give support to the ministries of the local church and to ministries around the world. Through the annual Christmas offering, Disciples in Oregon and SW Idaho support one another's ministries through their regional church. All gifts for this offering stay within our regional church. Disciples receive this special offering in 2021 on either December 12 or 19, or you can give online at www.oidisciples.org/christmas-offering-1 You may also mail your gift to 245 South Bancroft, Suite F, Portland, OR 97239.

Thank you for your faithful support of each other's ministries through giving to your regional church. Romans 16:25 assures us that God "is able to strengthen you." May your Advent and Christmas celebrations give you strength, peace and joy, and may we continue together to build up the church of Jesus Christ to show the love of God again and again in 2022.

Doug

2021 Ecuador Pilgrimage

Over twenty Oregon and Idaho Disciples from five congregations joined in the Global Ministries Virtual Pilgrimage to Ecuador with FEDICE in November. Meeting for 1-2 hours on nine days, the virtual pilgrims met online with people from many different indigenous communities to hear testimonies about projects done with FEDICE, with over fifty people online together at times. Christians from Ecuador shared worship music and thanksgiving to God and to their ministry partners. Watch for future virtual encounters through Global Ministries in the New Year.



January 29, 2022 Online with Disciples Women



Join your friends at our next virtual event for women. We will be online together for two hours starting at 10 Pacific and 11 Mountain.

Information can be found on our website <https://www.oidisciples.org/on-line-women-s-events-sales> and registration can be done online. You will need access to a Zoom platform to participate. If you have any questions about how to do that, email office@oidisciples.org and we will help you.

We look forward to seeing you. More information on the program will be posted shortly.

Fair Trade Sale profits to FEDICE USA

Want to do some Christmas shopping, but concerned about supply chains. Well.....all of the fair trade items listed in our online virtual store are all sitting in the home of one of our members ready to ship to you right away! And profits go to the artists.



Go to <https://oidisciples.square.site/>

and find what our fair trade store holds. These items come from One Fair World shop, the group we have used for fair trade sales for more than 2 decades. Thanks to Neva Clausen of Salem First Christian Church for doing our shopping and to Renee Windsor-White, Liz Cronin, and Stacy Shelton for keeping the sale going.

20% of all receipts beyond artists go to FEDICE USA to support the projects of FEDICE Ecuador.

Learn more about Fedice at www.fedice.org.

Report from Regional Board Meeting

At the November 6 regional board meeting online, 25 people participated from 19 congregations, representing all 5 of our districts and all 3 languages we speak in worship.

Highlights of the meeting included:

- ♦ Launching of the 2021 Regional Minister Staff Evaluation
- ♦ Receipt of the 2020 Audit
- ♦ Adoption of a balanced budget for 2022
- ♦ A revised Personnel Manual adopted
- ♦ Appointment of a nomination committee for 2022
- ♦ Review of current financial statements and balance sheets
- ♦ Receipt of reports from all staff and integrated ministries.

Learn more about Regional Board at www.oidisciples.org using pull down menu "about us".

