

**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

• Sept. 16	Junction City, Worship	Doug
• Sept. 14	McMinnville, First Christian, Meeting	Doug
• Sept. 13	Bishops and Executives, EMO, Lunch	Doug
• Sept. 13	Interchurch Center Steering Committee	Doug
• Sept. 11	Silverton, Vision Conversation	Cathy
• Sept. 10	Boise, Snake River Dist. Ministers Lunch	Cathy
• Sept. 9	Homedale, Preaching	Cathy
• Sept. 8	Cascade, Snake River Women's Retreat	Cathy
• Sept. 2	Salem, Escudo y Fortaleza, Worship	Doug
• Sept. 2	Portland, Portsmouth Union, Worship	Cathy
• August 28	College of Regional Ministers	Cathy
• August 28	Salem, Santiam District Pastors' Breakfast	Doug
• August 26	Fox, Worship	Doug
• August 26	John Day First Christian, Worship	Doug
• August 21	New Church Committee	Doug
• August 19	Forest Grove, Memorial Jim Bradford	Cathy
• August 19	Corvallis First Christian Worship	Cathy
• August 14	Ontario, Blue Mt. Rivers Pastors' Lunch	Cathy
• August 13	Ontario FCC, Faithful Planning Team	Cathy
• August 12	Murray Hills Worship/Board Mtg.	Cathy

News from our Congregations

Nueva Vida: Our National Hispanic Pastor Lori Tapia came to lead a youth retreat in September.

Hood River: April Lewton, Vice President for National Benevolent Association, special guest in August.

Lynchwood: community meeting on local pedestrian safety.

Parkview: Pastor Justin and Autumn McMurdie attended Disciples history class in Claremont, CA.

Northwood: New Worship Director Adam Rasmussen.

Junction City: Installed Rev. David Bonderant as pastor

Keizer: Congratulations to Don and Jane Slack upon their 60th Anniversary!

Springfield FCC: Dedicating their new sanctuary remodel, October 6, 2:00 –4:00 p.m.

North Bend: Choral group for worship is re-named as the "First Christian Singers."

Allison Park: Beginning study of "The Story," as focus for the coming months.


La Grande: 1/3 of the way to goal of 1/4 mile of dimes for Week of Compassion. Will raise \$2244 for WOC!

Dallas: Annual Block Party in August.

Save these dates!

October 12-13
*Women's Retreat,
Murray Hills Beaverton OR*

October 13
*SNAKE RIVER
District Event,
Transforming
Conflict,
hosted by
Red Rock CC, Boise, ID*



October 27
*Week of Compassion led
Disaster Preparedness
Workshop hosted by Portland
First Christian Church*

November 11-18
*Thanksgiving Offering for
Higher Education*



www.oidisciples.org 0245 SW Bancroft Suite F, Portland 97239

Opportunities

Transforming Conflict Workshop

Josh Johnsen of First Christian Church in Grants Pass will lead a four hour session on **Saturday, Oct. 13**. With the theme "Peace is Always Possible," this event at **Red Rock CC in Boise** will look at ways to address conflicts in congregations in positive and productive ways, using the resources of our faith. Cost is \$20 for a workbook and lunch. Register with Red Rock, office@redrockchristianchurch.org.



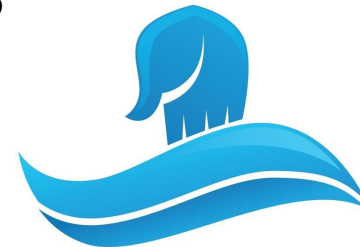
Disaster Preparedness Workshop

The question around disasters is not if something will happen here but when. Disasters, large and small, will happen in this region, and when they do, our congregations can offer vital care and resources for our members and communities. Advance preparation and planning can position Disciples to respond well. In this workshop, Josh Baird and Caroline Hamilton-Arnold will present about the denominational resources for disaster response and recovery and will guide conversations and activities for developing context-specific disaster plans. Join our Week of Compassion staff **Saturday, October 27 at Portland First Christian Church.**



**October
2018**

Volume 5 Issue 8



**Anti-Racism
Training in
Albany, Nov. 17**

**Camp Dates
for 2019**

**Upcoming
Dates to Note**

**News from
Congregations**

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

My Turn

This summer Doug and I began our 18th year as your Regional Ministers. One of my friends asked me, "What is it like to have the same job for so long?" I don't think I've had the same job for 17 years. This position changes every few years as the needs of the regional church change. When we came we were 32 congregations, all in Oregon, all spoke English. Today we are 45 congregations in two states that speak three languages. Camps have moved locations twice. Women's ministry has evolved into different forms. We have added 18 congregations and closed three and other congregations have chosen to move their ministry out of the Disciples of Christ movement. We have changed the shape and name of the regional church. In 2001 we had no FB page, website, or online anything. This is NOT the job I started in 2001.

Now, I find my work changing again as a part of the future story of our regional church and as a function of finishing some commitments. I have completed my terms as President of the College of Regional Ministers and member of the Board of the National Benevolent Association, so now I'm turning my attention back to more congregational visits and clergy care. In the summer I've enjoyed visits to Corvallis, Portsmouth and Silverton with more scheduled to see people on a regular Sunday. I've worked with Murray Hills, and soon a couple more congregations, to update governing documents. I've engaged Ontario, Silverton and soon to be one more congregation in some visioning conversation. I'm going to Burley for a "church tune up" event in to listen and think about mission together. I've spent more time with clergy one on one to hear about their lives. I'm looking forward to a season of being engaged in local congregational life again. See you on the road! In Hope, *Cathy*

Anti Racism Training in Albany, November 17

First Christian Church in Albany will host a regional Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation workshop on Saturday, November 17. This will be similar to the trainings offered in 2016-17 in Portland, Eugene and Boise. Our local training team will lead this event again. People who have not attended before, whether ministers or lay persons, are encouraged to come on

November 17 and participate. Start time is 10:00 a.m. and we will finish 4:00 p.m. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost of lunch and materials. Get a group together from your congregation and come to see what this is all about.



Certificate of Ministry Studies Program Started

The first semester of the Certificate of Ministry Studies program will go from September to December 2018. Taught in Spanish, in Portland, the classes are planned for four semesters over a two year period.

Disciples Seminary Foundation has offered the CMS program in previous years in San Diego and Claremont, CA. Xose Escamilla, Pastor of Casa de Oracion in San Diego, serves as Director for the CMS program.

Thanks to DSF, Oregon Disciple Foundation and Verne Catt McDowell Corporation for their financial support.



Fall Women's Retreats

In early September, 33 women traveled to Cascade, Idaho to the Trinity Pines Retreat Center to share a weekend of keynoting, hiking, great food, workshops, an in town service project, crafts, a school supplies shower, and worship. This was a new setting for the retreat this year. Thank you to the women's cabinet in Idaho's Snake River District for planning and leading this event.

In October, women in the western part of the regional church will gather together for a two day event hosting by the Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton. Keynoter, Lori Tapia, recently installed National Hispanic Pastor, is the first woman to ever hold this leadership position. This retreat will include keynote time with Lori, worship together, workshops ranging for our annual book group read, crafts, cooking, global ministry, and update on Week of Compassion work in Puerto Rico. Information about the event is on the website, with more items being added each week. You can register on line or by calling the regional church office and sending in a form downloadable from our web site. Our book this year is *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*. See website: <http://www.oidisciples.org/womens-fall-retreat-2018>



Cascade Camp

Juniors, July 7-12

Chi Rho/CYF July 28-August 3

Camp Dates for 2019

Suttle Lake

CYF, August 2-6

Juniors/Chi Rho, July 28-August 1

Fall Staffing in the Regional Church

The fall season brings a change in hours for regional church staff. Audre will be taking some unused vacation time on Wednesdays, so she will be in the office for short shifts on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In keeping with the three year vision plan, funding for the Regional Minister positions will go down from two full time positions to 1.75 positions. This means that for one week each month, either Cathy or Doug will have one week of unpaid leave. Doug will take these weeks in the months of September and October. Cathy will have an unpaid week off in November and again in December.



Ecuador Mission Project: \$5,000 in, \$17,000 To Go

Gifts in the amount of \$5,000 have come in for the special mission project with our partner FEDICE in Ecuador. The project will provide micro-loans for families in Maca Atápulo. This leaves \$17,000 to be raised to reach the goal of \$22,000. We are 22% of the way to the goal.