

Mission Statement of the Region		On the Way with Doug and Cathy	
Our mission is			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr. 25-26 Suttle Lake Camp Directors Meeting Apr. 27 Portland First, Asst. Min. Farewell Apr. 27-29 Denver, DOC, UCC, Presby meeting Apr. 29 Salem, Santiam District Ministers Breakfast May 1 Ecumenical Ministries Ministry Tour May 2-3 Hood River, Regional Assembly May 4 Hood River Valley Christian, Worship May 4 Portland, Peniel Ministries, Worship May 6 Columbia River District Clergy with Blanca Puma presenting FEDICE May 7 College of Regional Ministers Cte. May 7 Women's Prayer Circle May 7 Junction City, Committee Meeting May 8 Lynchwood CWF with Blanca Puma May 10 Hood River Executive Cte. Meeting May 11 Hood River Valley, Pastors' Farewell May 11 Portland First, Worship May 12 LaGrande Committee Meeting May 14 Ecumenical Ministries Banquet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cathy/Doug Doug/Cathy Doug Cathy Doug Cathy/Doug Doug/Cathy Cathy/Doug Doug/Cathy Cathy Cathy Doug Cathy/Doug Cathy Cathy Doug Doug Doug/Cathy

News from our Congregations

Grants Pass: Has a new staff member, Josh Johnsen, who created a wonderful video about regional assembly. Check our Facebook page to see it.

Boise, Red Rock and Eugene First: Fielding softball teams this spring/summer.

Dallas: Raised over \$1,250 toward their new bus by holding a rummage sale.

Junction City: Preparing for a June youth Sunday and auction to raise funds for youth programming

North Bend: Preparing for 100th anniversary celebration June 22.

Portland First: Continuing listening sessions for formation of their new strategic plan.

Ione: Pastor Stacy Shelton traveled to Costa Rica in May with members of the Bethany Fellowship.

Springfield First: Installed a new sign to be more visible to passing traffic.

Allison Park: Held a plant and bake sale to raise camp funds.

Save these dates!	
June 7	Portland Regional Board Meeting
June 14	Boise God Rocks Concert for Camp
June 14	Phillips Home, Salem Specialized Ministries Picnic
June 16-20	Camp Cascade Junior Camp
June 21	LaGrande Women's Pray and Play Day
June 25-29	Atlanta, GA Quadrennial Assembly Women
July 7-12	Camp Cascade Chi Rho Camp
July 10-22	Ecuador Trip to FEDICE ministries



The Christian Church • La Iglesia Cristiana

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Stewardship Events

**CREATING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY, SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2014
PORTLAND AND NAMPA EVENTS**

Two prominent Disciples will lead a pair of stewardship events this September in Oregon and Idaho. Bruce Barkhauer, Director of the Center for Faith and Giving, and Jerry Lang, Vice President of Christian Church Foundation will be with us for the weekend of September 19-21.

The first event will take place at Portland FCC on Friday night and Saturday, September 19-20. On the afternoon of Sunday September 21, Bruce and Jerry will lead an event for area Disciples at First Christian Church in Nampa.

Bruce describes what will happen: “You will have the opportunity to address the challenges of talking about money and generosity in the church.” We will listen to Scripture and consider practical ideas that will encourage generosity in your church. Local churches “will have the opportunity to develop a plan of action for your congregation. A “doggie bag” take home set of resources will be provided.”

Plan now to bring a team from your congregation, either on September 19-20 or on September 21. The Center for Faith and Giving is a Disciples of Christ stewardship ministry based in Indianapolis. Bruce Barkhauer has served as the first director for the center since 2010. Jerry Lang is the Mountain West Zone representative for Christian Church Foundation, with a deployed position based in Denver, Colorado.

June 2014

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Stewardship Events

September 19-20
Portland
September 21
Nampa



CENTER FOR
Faith and Giving

My Turn

The Regional Assembly singing is still echoing in my heart. The Friday night spirited acapella singing of the spiritual “Down to the River to Pray” and the floating prayer banners accompanied the bringing in of the jars of water from 32 creeks, rivers and streams from around our regional church. As the blue and green jars found their places on the draped table in the front of the sanctuary, my heart rejoiced for the many places of ministry that these jars represented to us. On Saturday morning we poured portions of each jar of water into a common larger jar and then used this water to wash each other’s hands in humility for the service and ministry we do together in Oregon and Idaho. To the sounds of “Peace Like a River”, with resounding piano improvisation, we took jars of this remixed water out with us to remember that though we appear to be in separate congregations, we are one ministry in many places, bound by one Spirit.

This metaphor of a melding river was played out in workshops where people from multiple congregations danced, sang, planned, and prayed together; an offering of \$1,876 for our mission project with FEDICE in Ecuador; in the sales of One Fair Trade items of over \$1,850; in the choir that sang together on Saturday afternoon; in the technology that has emerged since the assembly on-line; in “the wave” moments enjoyed by worshippers; in the welcoming of nine new congregations into regional life; and in the conversations in prayer triads around the sanctuary with Dick Hamm on Friday afternoon with persons from our five districts intermingled.

Watching the Spirit flow through the assembly, I headed out with renewed hope for the possibilities ahead of us in shared ministry.

In hope, *Cathy*



West Side Regional Picnic August 9 Willamette Mission Park



This summer will mark the sixth annual regional picnic. We will meet at Willamette Mission State Park, north of Salem on Saturday, August 9. This annual gathering has become a favorite summer tradition of many on the west side of our regional church. Mark your calendar now, and watch this newsletter and our website for details as the time approaches. We’ll gather at 11 a.m. and eat at noon, followed by worship. We will provide the burgers and dogs, and you can bring desserts, salads, and smiles.

Women’s Retreats, Mark your calendar now!

August 15-17, Cascade Idaho, “Dance of Diversity”, with Retreat Speaker, Pat Donahoo, Executive Director for Disciples Women

October 17-18, Murray Hills Christian, Beaverton, Oregon, “Up the River”, with Susan McNeely, newly returned from three months teaching English with our partners in Congo.

Watch our website for details!!



Kim & Erik Free in Mozambique

The latest news from Kim and Erik Free is that they now have a vehicle they can use to visit in churches and run errands. Erik has preached his first sermon and the two of them continue to learn Portuguese.

Their Facebook page “The Frees in Mozambique” has videos and pictures you can enjoy. Especially wonderful is the Palm Sunday video.

They are keeping a blog which you can get delivered to you by email by going to this website and signing up

<http://thefreesinmoz.wordpress.com/about/>



God Rocks at Red Rock Christian in Boise

East side Disciples hold an annual music festival in the field on the Red Rock Christian Church property in Boise with proceeds going to help offer scholarship help for church camps at Camp Cascade. The event starts in the afternoon and goes in the evening with food, music and lots of fun. Put this on your calendar for June 14!!

West Side Church Camp Registrations due June 30

Suttle Lake camp registrations are due on June 30. Make sure and check with your congregation’s office or our web site for registration materials. This year’s theme is “Praying it Forward” and will look at the many ways prayer changes our lives of faith. Camp staffs are almost complete, the curriculum is outlined, and the directors have had their meeting at the camp to decide on new and creative ways to use the space. High school camp will include some exciting field trips and a new schedule to take better advantage of the area.



Pentecost Offering for New Church Ministries

Our annual offering for new church ministry will be received June 1 and June 8. Half the money received in this offering remains in our region to assist with building up new congregations in our region. The other half of the funds received are given to the New Church Ministry of our whole church. With these offerings New Church Ministry offering new church pastor training, coaching and support.

New congregations received in the last five years include:

- Trees of Righteousness Christian Church, Portland/Vancouver
- Escudo y Forteleza in Salem
- Peniel Ministries, Portland

Since 2001 the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have launched or received 786 new congregations. Praise be!!

