

Mission Statement of the Regional Church		On the Way with Doug and Cathy	
Our mission is			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To nurture members and congregations</li><li>To establish and receive new congregations</li></ul>			
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"><li>April 29 Albany, Memorial Ray Lindley</li><li>April 28 Eugene, Memorial Gwen Hershiser</li><li>April 26 Eugene, Olive Plaza Board Meeting</li><li>April 26 Dallas, Santiam Area Ministers</li><li>April 24 Salem First Christian, Worship</li><li>April 24 St. John's Community Church Worship</li><li>April 18 Caldwell, Commission on Ministry</li><li>April 18 Boise, Snake River District Clergy</li><li>April 17 Burley, Worship</li><li>April 16 Mountain Home, Pray and Play</li><li>April 11 Pendleton, Blue River District Clergy Lunch</li><li>April 10 Beaverton, Murray Hills Worship</li><li>April 10 Vancouver, Trees of Righteousness 9th</li><li>April 9 Eugene 150th Anniversary</li><li>April 9 Hood River, Pray and Play</li><li>April 4-7 Indianapolis, College Regional Ministers</li><li>April 3 Albany, Worship and Meeting</li><li>April 3 Lebanon, Worship and Meeting</li><li>April 2 Medford, Pray and Play</li><li>Mar. 25-27 Chuukese Disciples Easter Rally</li><li>Mar. 27 Portland First, Easter Worship</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cathy</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Doug</li><li>Doug</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Doug</li><li>Doug</li><li>Doug/Cathy</li><li>Cathy/Doug</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Doug/Cathy</li><li>Doug</li><li>Cathy/Doug</li><li>Cathy/Doug</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Cathy</li><li>Doug</li><li>Cathy/Doug</li><li>Doug</li><li>Doug</li></ul>	

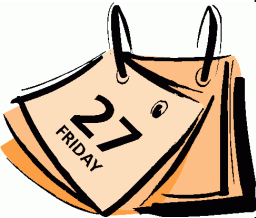
News from our Congregations

**Ione:** sponsoring monthly lunch for seniors.  
**Hood River, Mountain Home. Medford:** Thank you for hosting Women’s Pray and Play Events in April.  
**Keizer:** Bob Arnold completed his ministry in March. Patty Evans will be preaching during the next three months.  
**Trees of Righteousness:** plans for community training about preventing sexual exploitation of children, April 30.  
**St. Johns:** held a Rummage Sale in April.  
**Salem FCC:** served breakfast on Easter morning at the Union Gospel Mission.

**Parkview:** celebrating the citizenship of the church’s Maintenance Engineer *Haro Moo*, recently sworn in at a ceremony at Boise State.  
**Springfield FCC:** working on a ministry plan and through Disciples Church Extension Fund to enhance future witness.  
**Silverton FCC:** holding a garage sale to help pay for summer camp fees.  
**Burley:** beginning work on a vision for future ministries.  
**Eugene FCC:** Dick Hamm Preaching May 22 worship.  
**Red Rock Boise:** has received a grant and prepared the beds for a community garden.

Save these dates!

May 20-21	Springfield
	Regional Assembly
May 22	Boise
	Visit with Blanca Puma FEDICE
June 4	Portland
	Regional Board Meeting
June 9-20	Ecuador
	Global Mission Trip
August 19-21	Cascade
	Women’s Retreat
September 16, 17, 18, 24, 25	
	Mission First Events
	Visit of Jim and Jayanthi Wilson
October 14-15	
Beaverton	
	Women’s Retreat



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Regional Assembly  
May 20-21  
Northwood Christian  
Springfield



Final plans are taking shape for the Assembly. Big thanks to Northwood for all they are doing to be ready with such great hospitality.

Highlights include:

- Friday 1:30 p.m. Dick Hamm and vision team launching our Future Story for the regional church
- Friday 5:00 p.m. Clergy Family Dinner
- Friday 7:00 p.m. Worship, Vy Nguyen Preaching
- Saturday 7:15 a.m. Breakfast, Vy Nguyen telling stories of recent disaster responses by Week of Compassion
- Saturday 8:30 a.m. Blanca Puma, to speak, dedication of Ecuador travelers, highlighting of our global partnerships, offering received
- Saturday 10:15 a.m. Workshops about Future Story themes (see partial list of leaders on page 3 of this newsletter)
- Saturday 12:30 p.m. Gatherings by Districts for FREE LUNCH and conversations to meet others from similar geography
- Saturday 2:00 p.m. 45 minute business session to elect officers, vote on final name change for regional church, recognize leadership.
- Saturday 2:45 p.m. Closing worship and communion service, dedication of the future story and hearing from our Regional Pastors as we move forward.

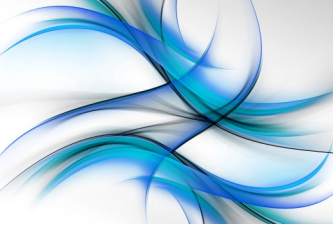
Programs for children and youth planned and nursery care available.

Displays of wide variety of ministries

See Website for Details



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Offering for  
New Churches

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FEDICE  
Update

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Calendar of  
Regional

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News from  
Congregations

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Camp Dates	
June 6-10	Juniors, ID
June 24-26	Kids Camp, ID
July 25-30	Chi Rho, ID
July 31-Aug 5	Chi Rho, OR
July 31-Aug 5	CYF, OR
August 1-6	CYF, ID
August 8-12	Juniors, OR

# New Congregations Enliven our Ministry

For years, I've believed that New Church Ministry is our best kept secret as Disciples of Christ. We celebrate that Disciples are now 85% of the way toward our goal of 1,000 new churches in twenty years. In the Oregon-SW Idaho region, more than 20% of our congregations have started in the twenty-first century. In this space, I'd like to share more details about that and encourage you to support the Pentecost Offering in May 2016.

Among current Oregon-SW Idaho churches, God has blessed us with four ministries that have become fully recognized congregations early in the twentieth-first century. These include *Iglesia Cristiana Escudo y Fortaleza* in Salem, and *Peniel Ministries, Trees of Righteousness Christian Church* and *The View Christian Church* in Portland. This year, we will acknowledge the *Ione Community Church*, a dual affiliated ministry of Disciples and the United Church of Christ, as a fully recognized congregation. Six more ministries are at different stages of the affiliating or the congregation in formation process. These include *Iglesia Cristiana Peniel de Hillsboro*, *Iglesia Nueva Vida*, *Christ Church*, *Pacific Islands Family Church*, and *Saint John's Community Church* in Portland, and *La Viña* in Troutdale. That's eleven congregations. One more, *Iglesia Cristiana Principe de Paz*, of Portland has just received a recommendation from the regional New Church Ministry Team, to become a Disciples related congregation in formation.

Without these ministries, the Oregon-SW Idaho region would number fewer than three dozen congregations. More importantly, with these ministries Disciples help to reach more people and places in a wider variety of languages, cultures and generations than would otherwise be possible. For those with eyes to see and ears to hear, there are other benefits. Individuals and congregations who have met each other, between new and established churches, have found great friendships and partnerships that build up the Body of Christ. Some have leaned on and learned from each other in ways that make obvious that God is in the plan. I myself have found inspiration, joy and encouragement many times in worship and friendship with Christian brothers and sisters in Disciples new church ministries.

All of the above has happened with fairly modest financial support from other Disciples. In this region, the annual Pentecost offering for new churches is usually around \$8,000-10,000, half of which we share with the general New Church Ministry in Indianapolis. *So this year, I'm asking you to lift up the Pentecost offering and lift up your thanks to God for pastors who start churches and people who respond, for congregations that offer space to meet and Disciples partners who catch the vision.* If your congregation does not observe the Pentecost offering, you can give online <https://docgeneralassembly.webconnex.com/dmf>.

Thanks to you and to God, who is always doing a new thing..... *Doug*



# Response to Needs Long Term and Short Term

Following the earthquakes in Ecuador, Week of Compassion and Global Ministries joined with FEDICE to respond to the needs of the Ecuadorian people. The Ecuadorian government response teams created a list of most needed items by persons in the affected area. Since FEDICE and the communities it serves were not in the earthquake zone, FEDICE mobilized to purchase and ship supplies to the affected areas using money provided by Week of Compassion and Global Ministries.

FEDICE, our mission partner presence in Ecuador for over 20 years, generally works with long term development. Romerillos is the site of a microloan project funded by the Oregon-SW Idaho region in 2014. FEDICE now has a plan to double the number of families participating in the project. Another 29 families can develop their own income sources with livestock and onion plants. The regional board has approved this Phase II of the Romerillos project, seeking to raise a total of \$17,500. Blanca Puma, Executive Director of the ministry, will share more about this project at the Regional Assembly, May 20-21 and at Parkview Christian May 22.

# General Church Leaders at Regional Assembly, May 20-21

Regional Assembly is often a great time to meet Disciples of Christ leaders visiting from other regions. This year will be no exception. General Church leaders planning to join us May 20-21 in Springfield will include:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Vy Nguyen, <i>Week of Compassion</i>                 | Jane Sullivan-Davis, <i>Global Ministries</i>  |
| Rosario Ibarra, <i>Disciples Church Extension</i>    | Jerry Lang, <i>Christian Church Foundation</i> |
| Ben Bohren, <i>National Benevolent Association</i>   | Matt Rosine, <i>Pension Fund</i>               |
| April Lewton, <i>National Benevolent Association</i> | Monica Wedlock Kilpatrick, <i>NBA</i>          |

Each of these leaders will be available to share with you about specific ministries and services made possible by our giving to Disciples Mission Fund. You can meet with these leaders in the display area, during workshop times, or email them ahead to set time for a conversation.



# Women's Pray and Play Day 2016

Thank you to the women of Salem First Christian, Eugene First Christian, LaGrande First Christian, Mountain Home Christian Baptist, Hood River Valley Christian, Medford First for hosting Pray and Play events this year. 193 women participated in the events this year from 27 congregations. Thanks go to the traveling team, Renee Windsor-White (Albany First), Liz Cronin (Portland First) and Debbie Harry (The View). Thanks to Debbie Harry for perfect attendance at all six events and for packing the supplies all six times.

The offering, totaling \$1582 for the six events, was divided evenly between the FEDICE Romerillos project (see article above) and the Disciples Mission Fund. The women also purchased over 40 books to give to the Lynchwood Christian Church school book project and 40 plus notebooks made by our mission partners in Mozambique to support the Goi Goi Farm and the work of Kim and Erik Free. The notebooks were made by a group of widows in Goi Goi. At the Hood River event, the women had the opportunity to shop at the thrift shop operated by the women of the congregation.

The group prayed in prayer forms both ancient and modern and explored the theme scripture, I Corinthians 13. Pray and Play events for 2017 are already in the works. Watch our website for dates to appear in the later part of summer. Set the time aside and invite your friends.