

## 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

- |                  |                                      |            |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| • Nov.4          | Regional Clergy Anti Racism Training | Doug/Cathy |
| • Nov.3          | EMO Collins Lecture                  | Cathy/Doug |
| • Nov.1          | Albany, Committee Meeting            | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 31-Nov. 2 | Anti Racism Trainers Training        | Doug/Cathy |
| • Oct. 30        | Parkview, Worship                    | Doug       |
| • Oct. 30        | Nampa, Worship                       | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 27        | Albany, Committee Meeting            | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 27        | Reconciliation Steering Committee    | Doug       |
| • Oct. 25        | Anti Racism Trainers Training        | Cathy/Doug |
| • Oct. 25        | Salem, Santiam Ministers' Breakfast  | Doug/Cathy |
| • Oct. 23        | Ione, Preaching, Committee Meeting   | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 23        | LaGrande, Worship                    | Doug       |
| • Oct. 20        | Keizer, Committee Meeting            | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 19        | Mission Council Planning Committee   | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 18        | Anti-Racism Training                 | Cathy/Doug |
| • Oct. 17        | Albany, Committee Meeting            | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 16        | Murray Hills, Worship                | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 16        | Junction City, Worship               | Doug       |
| • Oct. 14-15     | Women's Retreat, Beaverton           | Doug/Cathy |
| • Oct. 13        | Columbia Gorge Clergy Gathering      | Cathy      |
| • Oct. 13        | EMO Bishops and Execs Lunch          | Doug       |



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## Regional Church Technology Updated

A part of our future story as a regional church is to engage technology in ways that further our ministry together. One way that this priority is moving forward is the use of a meeting program called Zoom. We have been using it for committee meetings and used it for the recent anti-racism training we have been doing this fall.

In addition, the regional church hired a contract worker to do the following things:

- Rebrand our website, Facebook page and Constant Contact news to make all the artwork consistent.
- The website has some improvements, with more to come. Check out the new Global Ministries section of our web page.
- We will roll out in the next few weeks our new capacity for Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.
- We have a new paypal account which will enable us to begin to accept donations online and do online registration.
- We will now have a "square" at events that will allow people to register at the door for events with debit/credit cards as well as give offerings with these cards.
- We will be experimenting with a system that allows us to create online coordinated informational postings on all platforms.
- The Regional Ministers will receive training in mid-November on a full range of Google applications and will begin using new individual email addresses and integrated calendars.
- A technology committee will be formed before the February Regional Board meeting to coordinate further transformations in the way we use technology together.

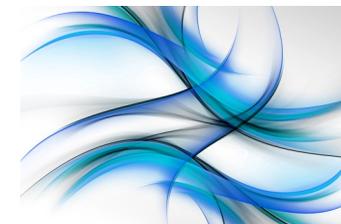
Watch our website and newsletter for the roll out of these new tools.

## Regional Office Email Changed

New email address for the regional office  
[office.oidisciples@gmail.com](mailto:office.oidisciples@gmail.com)

November  
2016

Volume 3 Issue 9



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Regional Assembly  
May 18-19, 2018  
Portland FCC  
Rev. Sandhya Jha &  
Dr. Timothy James

## News from our Congregations

**Grants Pass:** The church has called Greg Widener as their new pastor. Wayne Bell has completed his interim ministry.

**Keizer:** Michael Crouch has begun an interim ministry.

**Medford:** Celebrated 5th anniversary of community meal, complete with proclamation of Medford FCC Day by their city council.

**Ontario:** Women raised over \$2200 for building remodel with Spaghetti Dinner/Auction.

**Portland 1st, Eugene 1st & Red Rock Boise:** Hosted Mission First Events, Grateful!

**Principe de Paz, Portland:** Sent three people to Leadership Academy with Disciples' Hope Partnership in Indianapolis.

**Chuukese Fellowship Church of Christ, Salem:** Meeting at Salem FCC and now approved as an affiliating Disciples of Christ ministry.

**Parkview:** Studying *The Story* in worship and classes.

**Christ Church, Portland:** Faith and Housing Event, Oct. 25



## Save these dates!

**November 4, 2016**  
Clergy Anti-Racism Training  
Midway Christian Church

**November 5, 2016**  
Regional Board Meeting  
Interchurch Center Portland

**November 6 & 13, 2016**  
Thanksgiving Offering  
For Higher Education Ministry

**February 4, 2017**  
Regional Board Meeting  
Interchurch Center  
Portland



The annual special offering for Thanksgiving supports Disciples of Christ general church educational ministries. These include four year college programs and seminary



# THANKSGIVING OFFERING NOVEMBER 2016

education for future ministers. Currently, ministry students and ordained ministers from the Oregon-Southwest Idaho region attend five different Disciples seminary institutions. The scholarships, guidance and education they receive come in part from individual gifts to the Thanksgiving offering and from congregations' giving to Disciples Mission Fund.

Three Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples currently attend Claremont School of Theology, with support from Disciples Seminary Foundation. Much of their coursework can now be completed online while continuing involvement with congregations in Oregon and Idaho. Three other Master of Divinity students from this region are now studying with Lexington Theological Seminary, Brite Divinity School and the Disciples Divinity House in Chicago. Two local church pastors in the region have started Doctor of Ministry programs with seminaries of the Disciples of Christ.

Among our ministers throughout the regional church, you can find graduates from each of the Disciples related theological institutions. Previous giving to the Thanksgiving offering and Disciples Mission Fund have prepared these pastors to lead ministries today and for decades. Congregations will receive the Thanksgiving offering on November 6 and 13. You may also give online at <https://docgeneralassembly.webconnex.com/dmf>.

## News about Global Ministries

Bethany Waggoner, from Eugene First Christian, has been commissioned to a one year term of service at the Middle East Council of Churches in Beirut, Lebanon. She left Oregon on October 20. A service of commissioning for her was held at the recent western regional women's retreat in Beaverton.



Kim and Erik Free, recently returned from service in Mozambique, will be visiting congregations in January. Stay tuned for times and places. Watch our website [www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org).

*The Global Mission section of the website has undergone a major facelift. Check it out.*

## Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training for Pastors November 4

The Regional Commission on Ministry will conduct three one day workshops for Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation training. The first will be on Friday, November 4, 2016 from 10 am to 4 pm at Midway Christian Church in Portland. The second will be on Saturday, February 25, 2017 also from 10 am to 4 pm at Parkview Christian Church in Meridian, Idaho. The third will be determined at a future time and place in 2017.

The Commission on Ministry has selected this training to be a required event for active ministers with Disciples of Christ ministerial standing. Inactive, retired ministers not seeking a ministry are encouraged but not required to attend. Other Disciples leaders are welcome to participate as well. To register, simply email [office.disciples@gmail.com](mailto:office.disciples@gmail.com) and send \$10 to the regional office.

This training is part of the larger Regional Future Story Vision process launched at our May Regional Assembly. As a part of this training, Sandhya Jha and Nathan Hill came to Oregon and trained in person or by Zoom meeting ten persons to be a part of a group of Anti-Racism Trainers that will continue this work of Anti-Racism training into the next years. Part of their training is helping to lead the November 4 event while being supervised by Sandhya Jha, long time Anti-Racism Trainer.

In addition to the trainers, an Anti-Racism Committee will be formed to move the work forward with the help of these trainers and the coaches that are training them.

Regional Minister, Doug Wirt, is currently a member of the Reconciliation Ministries Steering Committee and has been newly elected as the College of Regional Ministers representative to the NAPAD (North American Pacific Asian Disciples) Board of Directors.



## RECONCILIATION MINISTRY

## Thank you Murray Hills for Hosting Fall Women's Retreat

Thank you is not big enough for the wonderful hospitality of the Murray Hills Christian Church which has once again played host to the western regional women's retreat in October. 77 people participated in the event and represented 17 different congregations, with 12 first time attendees. As a part of the event, Bethany Waggoner, from Eugene First, was commissioned as a global ministry intern to Beirut where she will be working with the Middle East Council of Churches. Erik and Kim Free were welcomed home from their service in Mozambique. Our speaker, Cathy Nichols, Vice President of Global Ministries, works with personnel for our global mission work, so her presence was timely. Her remarks on the theme, "Where is Home?" were on point. Thank you to Patty Evans for a wonderful worship experience on Saturday and fun gathering activities on Friday night. The men of Murray Hills took on the dinner and lunch with Julie Hanna and Janet Schaffer from Salem First serving a great Saturday



breakfast. Neva Clausen from Salem First hosted the One Fair World sale that sold \$3,132 of goods with a contribution coming back to our FEDICE project of \$470 from the receipts. The workshops were well attended and the offerings generous. An offering of \$1,208 will be divided in two portions of \$604 to be given to the Romerillos FEDICE project and \$604 to the Refugee Ministries of Week of Compassion.

Check out pictures on our web site.