

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**
- Apr. 18 Eugene FCC Congregational Board Meeting
 - Apr. 17 Online Regional Disciples Women Event
 - Apr. 14 Columbia Gorge District Clergy Zoom
 - Apr. 13 Disciples Seminary Foundation Executive Cte.
 - Apr. 10-13 General Board of Christian Church (DOC)
 - Apr. 8 Silverton FCC Pastoral Search Committee
 - Apr. 8 Scenic Rivers District Clergy Zoom
 - Apr. 7 Pastoral Relations Committee
 - Mar. 30 Silverton FCC Pastoral Search Committee
 - Mar. 30 Santiam River District Clergy Zoom
 - Mar. 26 Disciples Seminary Foundation Finance Cte.
 - Mar. 26 Eugene FCC Transition Committee
 - Mar. 25 Murray Hills Pastoral Search Committee Eval
 - Mar. 24 College of Regional Ministers
 - Mar. 22 Silverton FCC Pastoral Search Committee
 - Mar. 19 Disciples Seminary Foundation Nominating Cte.
 - Mar. 17 College of Regional Ministers
 - Mar. 17 Blue Mountain Rivers District Clergy Zoom
 - Mar. 15 Oregon VOAD Webinar
 - Mar. 14 Glenwood CC Leaders Meeting
 - Mar. 11 Silverton FCC Pastoral Search Committee



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Online Women's Event April 17

Come join Disciples Women for a two hour gathering to explore how we can show up for others in difficult times to build resilience. This gathering is one in a series for Disciples Women to help to build up our strength by leaning into prayer, compassion and sisterhood with one another. We will hear from our speakers about the power of showing up for people in vulnerable seasons of their lives and spend some time in smaller groups sharing resources on how to show up for one another during vulnerable times in ways that build courage and capacity.

Our speakers are:
Rev. Tracia Deal, Chaplain from Kalispell, Montana and Ms. Anita Grace Paul from Southern India.

Tracia has been on the front lines of the COVID 19 Pandemic as a hospital chaplain in Idaho and now in Montana.

Anita Grace is Sponsorship Administrator for Family Village Farm in Southern India. Some of you met her at the WWOW event on Scottsdale in 2018.

You can learn more about our speakers and this event on our webpage: <https://www.oidisciples.org/on-line-women-s-events-sales>.

An **offering** will be received to be divided between our Regional Church Clergy Assistance Fund and the Family Village Farm in India.

Please sign up now on line to let us know you will be joining in for this two hour mini retreat on

April 17!!!



Volume 7 Issue 3

Regional Assembly May 2022

Thank you Salem First Christian Church for offering to host this event

News from our Congregations

La Grande: Called Archie Hook as their next pastor. He will begin in mid-May. Shari Eggleston completes her interim ministry on Mother's Day.

Northwood/Springfield: Youth did spring mission trip by helping build storage shed for people displaced from summer wildfires.

Lebanon: Legacy gift enabling congregation to upgrade video/sound technology.

Nampa FCC: Associate Pastor, Tammy Anderson, is completing her ministry with the congregation in mid-spring

Springfield FCC: Held food drive for FISH Food Pantry.

Lynchwood/Portland: Has scheduled a Pastoral Installation for Rev. Giuseppe Amato for May 16

Portsmouth Union Portland: Andy Goebel completed his pastorate on Easter Sunday.

McMinnville: Doing repairs after a break in.

Peniel/ Jehova Nisi: leaders participating in the Diploma of Ministry Studies online with Disciples Seminary Foundation.

Salem FCC: Search team reviewing candidates for a new Associate Minister.

Hashtag #oidisciples

Facebook Page

Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho

Common Current online news service

www.oidisciples.org/news-clh8s



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In this season when we look for signs of new life, I want to give thanks for all that Oregon and Idaho Disciples have done in the face of Covid-19. Over the past year, our churches, pastors, leaders and members have done great things to save lives. You have changed how to worship. You have shared food and given funds generously. You have showed your concern for the lives uprooted by wild fires and the pandemic. You have given to FEDICE to show love for our friends in Ecuador. Thank you for all of this and more.



Covid-19 has taken more than half a million lives in the United States alone, at a pace much more severe than in many other countries. Among these, we mourn the deaths of many beloved Disciples leaders and friends. In the Bible, we read of how God's people in many times and places responded to famine, plagues, exile, persecution and more. In Romans 8, Paul says that "nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Thank you for showing that same love in new ways over these last twelve months. **Doug**

Disaster Preparedness Pilot Program



June 26 is the proposed date for a training for leaders in our regional church to be trained to train others in how to do asset mapping in their congregations and communities in order to prepare for unforeseen and emergency events.

Associate Director for Domestic Disaster Response, Rev. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold, will train 2-3 persons from each of our five districts on how to prepare ahead of time for disasters such as fires, storms and floods. The vision of the pilot project is that then the trained leaders in asset mapping can create training and mentoring for their own and neighboring congregations.

If you are interested in being trained and have the time to give to the training and to training others, please contact our regional office to let that interest be known. We hope to recruit for this evening during April and May. You may know someone in your congregation that would have gifts for this. Please let them know of this opportunity.

Christian Church New Data System

The Christian Church (DOC) is continuing the process of launching a new data system for the church. To learn more about how to sign up your congregation and use the system to to:

<https://alex.disciples.org>



Online Whole Church Event August 7, 2021

Because of the COVID 19 Pandemic, the 2021 General Assembly schedule for this coming summer was cancelled. In its place, the General Church has created a one day, online gathering for our whole church. Watch www.disciples.org for details as they emerge.

For now, save the date!



News from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

Congratulations to Disciples of Christ Pastor Michael Grogan, who will become the next Chair of the Board of Directors for Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. He will begin his new responsibilities on April 21. Michael also serves as Pastor of the Congregational Church of Lincoln City. EMO brings together fifteen Christian communions from across the state of Oregon for community service, advocacy, education and dialogue. EMO's office is in the Interchurch Center in Portland, where our regional church has our office.

EMO President Jan Elfers has announced her retirement for this June. She has served as EMO's chief executive for five years. She first started at EMO eighteen years ago as an intern.

In 2015, Jan became the Interim Executive Director and then was asked to take the lead staff position. We give thanks for her service and pray God's blessings for the future.

FEDICE Update

Global Ministries has awarded two grants to the FEDICE ministry in Ecuador for 2021. One grant is for \$2,000, to be used in the community of Sua. Sua is in a different western province of Ecuador from most of FEDICE's projects. Work began there several years ago after an earthquake when FEIDCE used special funds coming from the Oregon SW Idaho region to provide emergency food. A second grant of \$3,000 will support the overall work of FEDICE in the Andes Mountains with indigenous communities.



FEDICE stands for the Ecumenical Foundation for Integrated Training, Development and Education. Blanca Puma is Executive Director.

Oregon Disciple Foundation Makes Annual Grants

Oregon Disciple Foundation held its Annual Meeting to approve grants for ministries and students related to the Oregon SW Idaho regional church. As in 2020, the ODF board will again give support to the Clergy Family Emergency Fund of the regional church. Other grants will support new churches, seminary students, youth ministry, ministry in Eastern Oregon, and costs to provide Boundary Training for pastors.

Ten board members from the five districts of the regional church serve three year terms with ODF. Zane Ridings, Pastor of Lebanon First Christian Church is board President. Raiza Spratt of Murray Hills Christian Church is the Vice President.

