

**Mission Statement
of the Region**

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

- ◆ October 30 Springfield ByLaws Cte Cathy
- ◆ October 31 Western Regional Ministers Cathy/Doug
- ◆ October 31 Dinner with Global Ministries Staff Doug/Cathy
- ◆ November 2 Regional Board Meeting Doug/Cathy
- ◆ November 3 Murray Hills, Portland First, Peniel Doug
- ◆ November 3 Salem FCC 3 services Cathy
- ◆ November 4 Mattie Yonkin Board Doug
- ◆ November 6 Columbia Gorge District Clergy Cathy/Doug
- ◆ November 10 No CA/NV Regional Minister Search Cathy
- ◆ November 11 Ecumenical Ministries Finance Cte Doug
- ◆ November 13 Commission on Ministry Doug
- ◆ November 13 Women's Prayer Group Cathy
- ◆ November 14 History and Polity Class, Northwood Doug/Cathy
- ◆ November 17 Ione Community Church Cathy/Doug
- ◆ November 18 LaGrande Committee Meeting Doug/Cathy
- ◆ November 19 Lynchwood Tranistion Cte Cathy
- ◆ November 20 Ecumenical Ministries Board Mtg Doug
- ◆ November 20 Eugene Area Ministers' Lunch Cathy
- ◆ November 21 Transition Cte Oregon/SW Idaho Cathy/Doug
- ◆ November 24 North Bend First Christian, Worship Doug/Cathy
- ◆ November 26 Santiam Area Ministers' Breakfast Cathy/Doug

News from the Congregations

North Bend: celebrating 100th Anniversary on June 22, 2014!

Lynchwood: Honoring Mike and Jan Crouch on Dec. 30. Neil Allen will serve as Interim

Springfield FCC: Will host the ordination of Jarid McCool on January 12, 2014

Northwood: Thank you for hosting the Disciples history class!

Peniel: Annual Christmas mission to Nogales, Sonora

Midway: Party for neighborhood children on Halloween night

Pendleton/Salem FCC: Jim and Jayanthi Wilson of Global Ministries visit from Botswana

Albany: Surprised their pastor Patty Evans with a celebration honoring her tenth anniversary at the church.

Burley: new website and Facebook page. Women went to Pocatello to hear about China.

Dallas FCC: Installation of Darren Anderson on Jan 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Perseverance Christian Church in Dundas, VA: voted unanimously to call Eric Eide of Corvallis as their new pastor.

Save these dates!

- January 5 Dallas**
Installation of Darren Anderson
- January 12 Springfield**
Ordination of Jarid McCool
- January 17-19 Hood River**
High School Snow Rally
- February 1 Interchurch Center**
Regional Board Meeting
- February 22 Lebanon**
Women's Pray and Play Day
- March 22 Burley**
Women's Event
- March 29**
Red Rock Boise
Women's Event



*Oregon
Disciple*

**December
2013**

www.ChristianChurchinOregon.org
503.226.7648

Advent Blessings.....
....from your Regional Staff.



*Audre Bratcher
Liz Cronin
Cathy Myers Wirt
Douglas A. Wirt*

Volume 63 Issue 9

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***Regional
Assembly***

***Hosted by
Hood River
Valley
Christian***

May 2-3, 2014

Seasons Givings

Cathy and I recently had the good fortune to worship with First Christian Church in North Bend. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we heard Pastor Sharron Kay Womack preach a sermon about coming to the table with gratitude every time we share Communion. As much as Disciples come to the Lord's Table, it's good to hear anew what it can mean to be thankful as a way of life.

As we shared news about the regional church, I realized many reasons for giving thanks. Years ago, the North Bend church had encouraged someone who is now pastor at Ontario. Springfield FCC over many years has nurtured someone who is now the pastor at Burley. Disciples in South Idaho have ordained several pastors who now serve churches in Oregon. One pastor has just now returned from the Virginia region to serve an Oregon church, while another Virginia church has just called another Oregonian to serve as their new minister. Earlier in the month, the local Commission on ministry had the joy of approving two new candidates to begin preparations for ordination. One makes her home in Beaverton and the other makes her home in Boise. Most congregations who call a pastor have many other congregations to thank for preparing that pastor.

While we Disciples appear to be doing our own things in our own places, we are really working together in ways far deeper and more plentiful than usually meets the eye. If you look, you can see it as we prepare and call ministers, send and receive missionaries, enjoy camps and retreats, start and receive congregations, celebrate passages and problem solve in the church and in the world.

There's something else that we do in common. We give, not just as individuals or even as congregations. We give as one church. Your Disciples Mission Fund gifts do that. Your gifts to the Christmas offering will do that too. To build up the Disciples of Christ church here in the Pacific Northwest in ways that send blessings near and far. Cathy and I give thanks for you, and all of the loving, generous people we meet at the table every Sunday. Grace and peace, Doug

Women's Quadrennial Assembly Scholarships Available

The regional budget for 2014 contains a line item for 10 scholarships of \$200 each to women from the Oregon/SW Idaho Region that hope to attend the Quadrennial Assembly in Atlanta, Georgia June 25-29, 2014. An application for these scholarships will be posted at the women's link on www.christianchurchinoregon.org in January.

The Office of Disciples Women also has scholarship funds. The application for that scholarship is found at www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/disciples-women/quadrennial-assembly-home-page/qa-scholarships/

Quadrennial Assembly is a gathering of Disciples women from around the world scheduled every four years. The time is filled with wonderful worship, interesting workshops, and time to meet your sisters from around the church. If you are interested in going, contact our office or go to the home page for this event: <https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/disciples-women/quadrennial-assembly-home-page/>.



FEDICE Project and Global Mission Intern

The regional board has approved a new special project in partnership with the FEDICE ministry in Ecuador. This project will be in the community of Romarillos in the Cotopaxi area. A group of Oregon Disciples visited this community and worshiped with the church in 2010. There is already a child care center, also established through FEDICE.

The new project will involve small loans to families to allow them to raise dairy cattle and to plant onions. Our total goal will be \$15,000, which includes \$11,000 for cattle and onions plus \$4,000 to be used toward training and support from the FEDICE office.

In recent months, Oregon Disciples have raised special funds for FEDICE projects. Bev Ikeda of Salem FCC organized a quilt raffle that raised \$1,705 for The Little Angels of Victor Vaca child development center in San Francisco, Ecuador. Already over \$2,000 has been given that will go to the Romarillos project. Other gifts will support a new volunteer position for FEDICE. Blanca Puma, Executive Director of FEDICE has written, "my dear friends, thanks so much for your support and generosity with us. Please say thanks to the people who are helping us and helping our people in the communities. Blessings, Blanca."

Regional Assembly May 2-3, 2014



The Hood River Valley Congregation plans to offer you a wonderful weekend with Disciples from Oregon and SW Idaho as we come together around the theme, "Getting our Feet Wet." Participants will enjoy spirited worship, interesting workshops and the beauty and hospitality of Hood River Disciples.

As we celebrate our new regional life with expanded borders and new friends to meet, we will hear from **Rebecca Hale** as she addresses us two times about how to move forward in faith in our own lives, our congregational lives and as we form this new partnership. Rebecca Hale formerly served as the Transitional Regional Minister in the NW Region and later in the same role in the Florida Regional Church. Rev. Hale's current work with the National Benevolent Association includes launching new intentional communities for young adults and seeking ways for congregations to work in hands on mission.

Also with us at the assembly will be former General Minister and President **Dick Hamm** who will be leading participants in the beginning of an 18 month conversation in our regional church on how we will reframe or work and our structures to meet the opportunities of our new regional shape and leadership.

Registration materials for the May 2-3, 2014 Regional Assembly in Hood River will be on line and sent by postal service to congregations in **January**. In the meantime, we hope you will begin now reminding people to reserve the dates and plan to join with Oregon and SW Idaho Disciples for worship and some important conversations.

Hotels can fill up that time of year, so consider **making reservations now**. While we have no "headquarter" hotel, we do recommend to you Vagabond Lodge 877.386.2992; Comfort Suites 541.308.1000; Riverview Lodge 800.386.8719, or Best Western Plus Hood River Inn 541.386.2200. There are also comfortable hotels in The Dalles for lesser prices but with a 23 mile commute to Hood River.