

## 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

- January 12 Jarid McCool Ordination, Eugene C/D
- January 15 Commission on Ministry D
- January 17 Ecumenical Ministries Finance Cte. D
- January 17-19 Hood River Snow Rally C
- January 19 Hood River Valley, preaching C
- January 19 Murray Hills, Portland First Worship D
- January 19 Regional Assembly Planning, Hood River C
- January 21 Olive Plaza Board Mtg., Eugene D
- January 22 Missionary Commissioning Planning C
- January 22 Women's Prayer Circle C
- January 24 Regional Nominating Committee C/D
- January 25 No. CA/NV Reg. Minister Search Cte C
- January 26 Nampa FCC, preaching 2 services C/D
- January 26 New Hope Christian preaching, Meridian C/D
- January 26 Parkview Christian Committee, Meridian C/D
- January 27 Snake River Ministers' Lunch, Boise C/D
- January 28 Santiam Ministers' Breakfast, Salem C/D
- January 30 Regional Finance Committee D
- January 30 Pray and Play Planning Group C
- January 30 New Church Ministry Team D
- January 31 Regional Nominating Committee C/D

## News from the Congregations

**Parkview, Boise:** Preparing to move location from Boise to Meridian in the spring.

**Junction City:** Pastor David DeBow has announced his retirement for May 2014.

**Albany:** Renee Windsor-White is leading Children's Ministries as interim staff.

**Hood River:** Hosted Snow Rally for high school youth in January. THANK YOU!!!

**Eugene FCC:** Hosted commissioning service for two young adults who will serve in Ecuador. With FEDICE.

**Burley:** Prepared a meal for Oasis

Community Outreach.

**Lynchwood:** Neil Allen began February 1 as Interim Pastor.

**Red Rock Boise:** Hosted gathering of Snake River District pastors.

**Keizer:** Holding classes in February for CPR and First Aid.

**Murray Hills:** Holding an auction to benefit youth mission trips.

**Multiple Congregations** have hosted Kim & Erik Free to talk about DOM Mozambique mission.

## Save these dates!

- February 15-16** Lynchwood Middle School Retreat
- February 16** Portland First Commissioning Service for Kim and Erik Free as mission Staff to Mozambique
- February 22** Lebanon Women's Pray and Play Day
- March 21-23** Murray Hills Children Worship & Wonder Training
- March 22** Burley Women's Event
- March 29** Red Rock Boise Women's Event
- April 5** Lynchwood Women's Pray and Play Day
- April 5-6** Silverton High School Regional Prom



# New Beginning...

Effective January 1, Disciples from the Oregon Region have now officially started a new partnership with nine congregations of the former South Idaho region. It didn't take long to see that this partnership already had deep roots before 2014. On the first Sunday in January, Dallas First Christian celebrated the arrival and installation of Darren Anderson, who grew up in Idaho and is now a pastor in Oregon. On the second Sunday in January, Springfield FCC and the regional church ordained Jarid McCool, who grew up in Oregon and now is a pastor in Idaho. This partnership has actually been going on for generations.

Those first two Sundays actually tell us something about people who follow Jesus as Disciples. While each church strives to do good things locally, we are also, together as Disciples, a *sending* church. Just look at the first three months of this year. Eric Eide of Corvallis began a new ministry in Virginia. Kelsey Hertel and Bethany Waggoner were commissioned in Eugene to go to Mexico and Ecuador. On February 16, at Portland FCC at 3 p.m., we will commission Kim and Erik Free to serve with our Global Ministries in Mozambique. Then our churches will send over 100 people on spring break to a mission in Mexico.

*"Here I am, Lord, send me."*

*Doug*

February  
2014

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*Regional  
Assembly*

*Hosted by  
Hood River  
Valley  
Christian*

*May 2-3, 2014*

## My Turn

Doug and I have been traveling a good deal in January. We enjoyed worship in congregations from Portland to Meridian to Eugene and points in between. We participated in installation of a pastor in Dallas, ordination of a pastor in Eugene/Springfield, commissioning of mission workers for FEDICE and Mexico, preaching with congregations in transition between pastors, and meetings of multiple committees.

In Idaho last week we preached together a sermon based on the calling by Jesus of the two sets of brothers by the sea who left their nets to follow Jesus. One set of brothers were casting nets to catch fish. The other set of brothers were mending nets to become more effective in their fishing. We talked about how today's disciples in our regional church are both casting and mending nets so that we can pull up a catch of joy, purpose and hope. The regional church helps congregations to cast their nets beyond their own communities by knowing themselves as part of a larger, global church with possibilities for partnership for compassion and outreach. The regional church also helps congregations to mend their nets and become more effective in mission by offering resources and skill based training.

As we move into our new regional church community, we have wonderful opportunities ahead.

Cathy



## Upcoming Youth Events

### Middle School water slide weekend, February 15-16, Lynchwood

Registration materials on line at  
[http://media.wix.com/ugd/0cb219\\_6ff55f1c15ad4f29b154b734b0c529f9.pdf](http://media.wix.com/ugd/0cb219_6ff55f1c15ad4f29b154b734b0c529f9.pdf)



### Regional Prom for High School Students, April 5-6, Silverton

Registration materials will soon be in congregational mailboxes and posted on regional website.

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!**

## Scholarships Available for Quadrennial, Atlanta

The regional budget for 2014 contains a line item for 8 scholarships remaining 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](http://www.christianchurchinoregon.org) in mid-February.

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.disciplesthomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/disciples-women/quadrennial-assembly-home-page/>.



## FEDICE Global Mission Intern

Bethany Waggoner has arrived in Ecuador and is living in Quito and working with FEDICE. Pictures of her visits to projects of FEDICE and her travels in Ecuador can be found on the regional Facebook Page — Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho. Like the page and see pictures. The pictures will also be linked to our new website which will launch in late February under the name [www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org).

## Women's Pray and Play Retreat Days

Pray and Play days are three hour mini-retreat experiences for Disciples Women.

**The first one is at Lebanon First Christian Church, February 22, from 9:30—12:30.**

Registration materials are available on website or by calling our office at 503.226.7648. **Cost is \$15.00.** The theme invites women into the Biblical book of Acts and explores ways that women can act out their faith in daily life and prayer.



## 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 about how to move forward in faith in our new partnership. Rebecca Hale 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 is with the National Benevolent Association and 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 **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 **mid-February**. 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 541.386.8719, 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.

**See you in Hood River!**