

Regional Minister's Report

1 Nov 2023 – 7 Mar 2024

The Post Office Box is now closed. Please note that the regional office mailing address is 245 S Bancroft Street, Portland, OR, 97239.

Boundary Training 2023, now 2024: Anti-Racism training is scheduled for May 18 at Albany First Christian Church and September 27 at First Christian Church in Portland. The second date is the day that Regional Assembly opens; we hope that pastors will find this convenient. This will fulfill the boundaries training requirement for clergy, and will be open to all interested parties.

Regional Assembly 2024: The 2024 Regional Assembly will take place on September 27-28 at First Christian Church, Portland, with GMP Terri Hord Owens will be our keynoter!!! Without adding pressure to the work of the Search Team, the Assembly Planning Team nevertheless recognizes that it might be possible to introduce the next Regional Minister at this Assembly. Watch for workshop information to be announced in April and registration to open soon thereafter.

Churches visited for worship:	Pendleton FCC 2	Junction City FCC	Rio de Dios
Salem 2, pastor installation	Dallas FCC	The View	Allison Park
Pacific Islands Family Church, 17 th anniversary celebration		Portsmouth Union Church	
Eugene FCC, and elder meeting afterward		Springfield FCC	Albany FCC
Centennial CC, 63 rd anniversary	Ione Community Ch	Glenwood CC, & pulpit committee	

Church/leader visits other than for worship:

Centennial	Ione CC leaders, 4	Glenwood CC	Dallas FCC 2
Albany FCC	Eugene FCC 2	Portsmouth Union	Other 5

Nueva Vida 4. This congregation has rented their meeting space for 7 years from the UCC Conference. The Conference is in the process of transferring ownership to the congregation in exchange for the rent paid over this time. The title search showed two liens related to the now-closed UCC congregation which was the previous owner. The conference is in the process of clearing the title. When the title transfers to the congregation, there will be a reverter clause in favor of the region. The reverter clause will help ensure that ministry continues in that neighborhood, and will smooth the way for any loans that the congregation may need as they address deferred maintenance. Bernice has worked many hours with the Nueva Vida leadership to help them with the internal documents they need, and I've spent much time with our attorney and with the UCC folks on the transfer documents.

Churches in search: Centennial CC has called Shari Eggleston to begin April 1; Glenwood CC has called Pete Todd, one of their members to serve as pastor and recommended him for commission status.

Funerals/Memorial services: Peter Revello, @ Salem FCC; Rollie Wirt, @ Portland FCC

College of Regional Ministers: 9 zooms with the full college or a subset thereof

Regional Elders: 3 meeting by zoom

Clergy Groups: Columbia Gorge, Santiam, Scenic Rivers North 2; Snake River 3 by zoom

Finance Committee, a.k.a. COFA: one meeting and several conversations

Commission on Ministry: two meetings, one leader conversation

Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Team: two planning meetings with the trainers.

New Church Ministry Team: 2 meeting by zoom

Oregon Disciples Foundation executive team

Regional Assembly Planning team: 4

InterChurch Center board

Regional Board

Events: EMO Breakfast; Anti-Bias Training

Continuing Education: I'm in a class this month for Regional Ministers, about understanding Intentional Interim Ministry and equipping us to walk with our congregations in their interims.

Office and Administration: Alex reporting went well this year; 25 of our 43 congregations had reported by March 6. We're grateful to Audre Bratcher for volunteering to help us organize the paper files. The room that formerly served as Cathy's office is now a small group meeting space; it also serves as workspace for Bernice, for file sorting, and for other temporary needs, and it's equipped for hybrid meetings. With this shift, we have gained a more open reception area for meeting guests. Come see us when you're in the area!

Stacy Shelton has completely ended her Communications work for the regional office, and those tasks have been merged into the work of Administrative Assistant Shari Eggleston. Shari normally works 16 hours/week, Tuesdays and Thursdays. She is authorized for up to 86 hours per month depending on the work needed. Stacy continues as our Camp Liaison and has already begun organizing for the summer session.

The next draft of our Regional Directory will be published sometime during the Easter Season, with corrections and additional information. If your cell phone number, email or postal address, or website is missing, please share. We want to include your church's Sunday schedule as well. Look for new information as we obtain it: clergy spouse names, clergy start dates, list of retired clergy, list of board members, and more. What information would make this a helpful reference for you?? Let us know!

Miles driven for the region, 3465 since November 1. So far I've worshiped with 26 of our 43 congregations, with repeat visits to 3 churches for various needs.

I've been with you 6 months and 3 weeks. I will be working from home in Escondido, California, next week, while tending to a series of medical appointments and visiting my family.