

**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

On the Way with Doug and Cat			
• May 5	Nampa, Associate Pastor Installation	Cathy	
• Apr. 30-May2	Scottscale, AZ, Week of Compassion	Cathy	
• Apr. 28	McMinnville FCC	Doug	
• Apr. 24	Portland, EMO Banquet	Doug	
• Apr. 14	Medford, Worship	Cathy	
• Apr. 13	Grants Pass, Pray and Play	Cathy	
• Apr. 9	Ione, Blue Mountain Rivers Pastor's Lunch	Cathy	
• Apr. 7	Boise, Pacific Outreach CC	Cathy	
• Apr. 7	Boise, Red Rock CC, Worship	Cathy	
• Apr. 6	Ontario, Faithful Planning Team	Cathy	
• Apr. 6	Nampa, Pray and Play	Cathy	
• Mar. 31	Regional Assembly Program Planning	Cathy	
• Mar. 31	Beaverton, Murray Hills CC	Cathy	
• Mar. 30	Corvallis Week of Compassion Training	Cathy	
• Mar. 29	Portland, Commission on Ministry	Doug	
• Mar. 28	Dallas, Faithful Planning Team Meeting	Cathy	
• Mar. 26	Salem, Santiam Ministers Breakfast	Cathy	
• Mar. 25	Portland First, Committee Meeting	Doug	
• Mar. 19-21	Portland, Western Regional Ministers	Cathy/Doug	
• Mar. 17	Glenwood, Worship	Doug	
• Mar. 17	Springfield, Northwood CC , Worship	Doug	

The Christian Church • La Iglesia Cristiana

**Oregon & South Idaho**

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*Giving it Forward*

A popular trend in the last few years has been “Paying it forward”. This happens when you give something randomly for someone you do not know and you don’t seek to take the credit for it...like paying the coffee bill in the drive through for the person behind you.

At the local grocery this week I explained I didn’t bring my own bags to the store since I liked their strong paper bags with handles because I could give them to the Murray Hills Casey’s corner food pantry. This caused the clerk to hand me the stack of paper bags from the counter with the words, “Here, take these to your church.”

When we engage in planned giving through the Christian Church Foundation we are doing something similar — we are “giving it forward” to people who we may never meet. When Cathy’s parents died, she set up a fund in their name with the interest going to support Global Ministries. There is a fund benefiting new churches in memory of Doug’s mother. When the region received a gift from Mallory Avenue Christian Church member, Beulah Smith, the region designated a fund in her name entitled the Beulah Smith blessing box fund, which yielded a check for \$234 this week. When Dan Stults from Lynchwood died several years back, his family created a fund that uses interest to provide camp scholarships to keep Dan’s love of camping ministry flowing. There are may such ways our ministries today benefit from people “giving it forward.” To learn more about how you and your church can promote planned gifts, you are invited to attend an event with Rev. Jerry Lang, from our Christian Church Foundation.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION**  
Helping Disciples Make a Difference

*May 18, from 9 am to 1 pm  
Hosted by Murray Hills  
Christian Church  
in Beaverton*

**April 2019**

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**Regional Assembly**  
**May 15-16, 2020**  
**Salem FCC**  
**Rev. Sotello Long**  
President of Disciples Home Missions

**News from our Congregations**

**Salem:** Hosting Historical novelist, Jane Kirkpatrick 1:00 p.m. May 4, Tickets \$10.00

**John Day:** Outreach ministry at Fox, Oregon has had a furnace donated by a local business!

**Portland FCC:** Lenten daily devotional study is *Leaning in, Letting Go*.

**Boise Pacific Outreach Christian Church:** Visit from Doug Wirt and Erik Free on Feb. 24.

**Portsmouth:** Had visit from the Western Regional Ministers annual gathering.

**Keizer:** Ash Wednesday service with Soup and Bread supper.

**Eugene FCC:** Bernice Rivera guest for Week of Compassion program on Puerto Rico.

**Caldwell:** Thank you for hosting Commission on Ministry interviews.

**Escudo y Fortaleza:** provided guest preachers for Keizer CC.

**Dallas/Ontario/Burley:** Doing Faithful Planning Process with Regional Minister.

**Murray Hills:** Pastor Larry Snow announced his retirement for June.

**Nampa:** Tammy Anderson is new Associate Minister.

**Save these dates!**

**Pray and Play Days April 13**  
*Grants Pass FCC*

**May 18**  
*Planned Giving Workshop with Jerry Lang of Christian Church Foundation, hosted by Murray Hills, Beaverton*

**See Website and Page 3 of this newsletter For Church Camp Dates**



At our Regional Assembly at Northwood in 2016, the Regional Church launched what we have called our “Future Story” using the images of wind and fire of Pentecost to guide us. This effort came following two years of conversations led by members of eleven congregations in a variety of settings seeking to discern a direction for our regional church. After almost three years living into these hopes and intentions we have seen several major steps forward in our regional church life.

- ◆ We now have a group of Regional Elders that keep in contact with our pastors who are retired and in specialized ministries
- ◆ We have reenergized our districts and have held events in many of them and watched as the districts took on projects they generated.
- ◆ We have trained a set of Anti-Racism Trainers who have offered training to our clergy and lay leaders, with all of the clergy required to be trained.
- ◆ We have received into affiliation process 5 new congregations since 2016.
- ◆ We have learned to use new technology in our governance and program life.
- ◆ We are engaged in a process of disaster preparedness with Week of Compassion
- ◆ We are learning about planned giving with assistance from Christian Church Foundation.
- ◆ We have continued to strengthen our relationship with FEDICE through visits and monetary contributions.
- ◆ We have begun to reshape our Regional Staff by hiring part time employees for camps, communications, leader development and New Church support.
- ◆ We have restructured regional office staffing and reduced the Regional Minister staffing level from 2 full time to 1 3/4 Regional Ministers.

**Stay tuned for the evaluations stage of this process in fall 2019.**

## Seeking Ecuador Travelers August 9-19, 2019

Planning continues for a regional church trip to Ecuador in August 2019. Costs per person will be \$2400 or less depending upon the airfare. Making plane reservations soon will help on the total cost.

This year’s trip will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the FEDICE ministry. FEDICE is our regional global mission partner through Global Ministries. Based in Quito, FEDICE works with indigenous families and churches in the Andes Mountains. The summer trip includes time for work and worship with people in the communities, sightseeing and a little shopping too.

Those interested in going to Ecuador this summer will have a meeting soon. If you would like more information, contact Neil Allen at 503.707.6689 or via email at [neilwallen@frontier.com](mailto:neilwallen@frontier.com). On the regional website, you can learn about our current mission project in the area of Maca Atapulo <http://www.oidisciples.org/fedice-updates>.

Right now your gift to the FEDICE project at Maca Atapulo can be matched by a friend of FEDICE, making your gift twice as big!

**We are currently 40% toward our project goal of \$22,000.**



## Easter Offering for General Church Ministries

When Disciples say “General Church Ministries,” we mean those ministries we do together that reach beyond local communities and individual regions. We say “general church” rather than “national church” because we’re a church of Disciples in Canada and the U.S. Besides, Disciples have ministries that reach around the world, such as Week of Compassion and Global Ministries.

Our general church ministries have a wide reach and help our local congregations, too. Disciples Church Extension Fund works beside local churches for repairs, improvements and construction. Disciples Home Missions helps churches find screened and qualified pastors through their Regional Ministers. Our racial/ethnic general church pastors support churches all across North America, including here in Idaho and Oregon. Pension Fund helps church employees prepare for retirement, and many of these contribute part of their Pension Fund income to support their local Disciples church! Give to the Easter offering this year, in your local church or online at <https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/easter/>

## One more Pray and Play Event in April

We have enjoyed five Pray and Play Day events for women already in March/April with one more to come in April.

### April 13—Grants Pass First Christian

You can learn more on our website at:

<http://www.oidisciples.org/pray-and-play-days>



## Camp Registration is Open



	Cascade Camp	Suttle Lake Camp
3-5 Grades	July 7-12	July 28-August 1
6-8 Grades	July 28-August 3	July 28-August 1
9-12 Grades	July 28-August 3	August 2-6
Kid's Camp Parkview/Meridian June 14-16		

For information contact...  
503.226.7648  
[www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org)

