

Mission Statement of the Region	<i>On the Way with Doug and Cathy</i>
<p><i>Our mission is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To nurture members and congregations To establish and receive new congregations <p><i>While working together with the whole Church to do Christ's ministry in the world.</i></p> <p>Doug and Cathy Myers Wirt <i>Regional Ministers</i></p> <p>Audre Bratcher, <i>Administrative Assistant</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 26 Santiam Area Ministers Breakfast (Doug/Cathy) March 27 Women's Prayer Group (Cathy) March 31 Murray Hills Worship (Doug) March 31 Portland First Christian Worship (Cathy/Doug) April 3 Columbia Gorge Ministers (Doug) April 3-9 General Cabinet/Higher Education/Regional Ministers meeting; College of Regional Ministers; Administrative Committee of the General Board; General Board of the Christian Church, Indianapolis, 4 meetings (Cathy) April 6 Lynchwood memorial for Paul Stockwell (Doug) April 12 Financial Practice Workshop, Northwood, (Cathy/Doug) April 13 Why Reinvent the Wheel Event, Northwood Christian (Doug/Cathy) April 14 Northwood/Springfield, Glenwood/Eugene worship (Doug) April 14 Salem First worship (Cathy) April 14 Memorial for Victor Vaca, Salem First (Cathy/Doug) April 19-20 Camp Director meeting Suttle Lake (Doug/Cathy)

News from the Congregations

- Dallas:** Held a church spring clean up day.
- Escudo y Fortaleza Salem:** Held a women's retreat.
- Forest Grove:** CWF holding two day rummage sale in May.
- Grants Pass:** ROC food and resource center founded by the congregations served 3150 persons in February.
- Junction City:** Is selling hanging flower baskets as fund raiser.
- LaGrande:** Continues to collect food for children's backpack food program.
- Lebanon:** Thanks Nancy Prosa for 14 years of service on staff.
- North Bend:** Collecting food for Ecumenical Food Pantry.
- Northwood:** Gave amazing hospitality to the regional church April 12/13.
- Portland FCC:** Hosted the annual Portland CROP Walk.
- Salem FCC:** Honored Rick Ikeda, General Assembly Vice Moderator, with the "Fellowship of the Towel" Service Award.
- Springfield FCC:** Will dedicate their new building May 4, 4:00 p.m.

Save these dates!

- May 4**
Pray and Play for women, Murray Hills, Beaverton, 9:30-12:30
- May 4**
Dedication of Springfield First new facility, 4:00 p.m.
- May 18**
Pray and Play for women, Medford 9:30-12:30
- May 22**
Boise area ministers' lunch
- June 1**
Regional Board Meeting in Portland



Oregon Disciple

May 2013

www.ChristianChurchinOregon.org
503.226.7648

Pentecost Offering 2013

Disciples of Christ support new church ministries each year through the Pentecost Offering. This special offering provides funds for training and support as new ministries arise to reach out to bring new people into the body of Christ.



At the 2012 Regional Assembly in Albany, we as Oregon Disciples recognized three congregations that have started or joined their witness with Disciples in recent years. These are Iglesia Cristiana Escudo y Fortaleza de Salem, Peniel Ministries of Portland and the Trees of Righteousness Christian Church in Portland. Leaders from these congregations have been active in the regional church through women's retreats, the summer picnic, regional potlucks, assemblies and in other ways. Some have hosted or visited with international mission partners through Global Ministries. Most important, each ministry has reached out with the gospel of Christ to people in the local community.

The Pentecost offering in May each year is shared equally among new church ministries in Oregon and in the general church through North America.

Our most recent new church venture is the launching of Iglesia Cristiana Peniel in Hillsboro, sharing the space of the Aloha Christian Church. This is an outreach congregation start of Peniel Ministries that shares space with the Lynchwood Christian Church.

Most churches will receive the Pentecost offering on May 19 and 26. Pentecost gifts are also accepted gratefully throughout the year.

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Summer Camp 2013

High School & Middle School

July 28-August 2

Grade School

August 12-16

Suttle Lake Camp near Sisters, OR

Campsite pictures posted on regional website

We are still remembering with gratitude our *Why Reinvent the Wheel* Day on April 13, hosted by **Northwood Christian Church**. As we have compared notes with each other since the event, we have come up with many special snapshot moments of watching the Regional church weave community over the hours spent together holding lively conversations about the mission of the church in Oregon and far beyond.



Over **120 people from 29 Oregon congregations** gathered in ten different missional conversations on a wide range of topics: attracting new members, increasing stewardship, ministry with homeless neighbors, hands on missions in Mexico, global ministries partnerships, church governance structures, our new Idaho partnership, spiritual growth groups, and social media, plus hearing from Jerry Lang from Christian Church Foundation about planned giving. Some of these groups will be forming continuing conversation on ways that congregations can network resources together. Resources will begin to be posted on our regional website as follow up to these conversations.

In addition, we heard from **Associate General Minister and Vice President, Todd Adams**, about best financial practices for congregations in a shorter version of the presentation he gave for pastors and lay leaders the previous day.

Blanca Puma, Executive Director for FEDICE Ecuador, came and brought greetings from our partners in Ecuador and helped to interpret our new project with the community of Maca Atápulo. (see article on opposite page and our web site for more detail).

During lunch, a group of Moderators/Board Chairs from congregations met with Rebecca Smith, Regional Moderator, and members of six congregations shared lunch and talked about community gardens in churches with special guest Angela Boss of Foods Resource Bank, a ministry that does work with Week of Compassion around the globe around food security projects.

After lunch a special called Regional Assembly received proposed wording on changes to the geographical boundaries in the regional bylaws and a greeting from Pastor Joe Culley, of the South Idaho regional board. At our **May 2014 Regional Assembly in Hood River**, the Oregon Regional Church will receive a proposal to receive nine congregations of the South Idaho Regional Church.

In the called Regional Assembly we recognized special named funds established through the regional church, Christian Church Foundation and Oregon Disciple Foundation **AND** celebrated a **newly established named fund in honor of immediate past Regional Moderator Judy Meneghin for the benefit of Week of Compassion**.

We continue to be grateful to be in ministry with Christians so passionate and engaged in ministry at home and around the world.

Knowing ourselves blessed,

Doug and Cathy



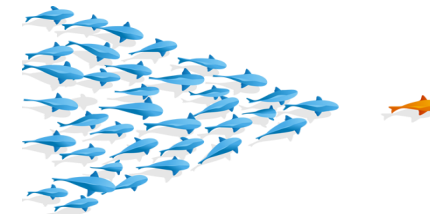
Launching New Ecuador Project

Blanca Puma, the new Executive Director for FEDICE, visited Oregon from April 12-19. At our special called Regional Assembly, Blanca shared information about the newest FEDICE project to be sponsored by Oregon Disciples.

The new project will be in the community of Maca Atápulo. Twenty-five families will receive small loans to improve the genetic strength of their sheep herds. FEDICE reports that \$400 will allow one family to begin their flock. For twenty-five families at \$400 apiece, this comes to a project goal of \$10,000. There's **GOOD NEWS!** At the April 13 assembly at Northwood, the **offering received over \$1,800**. With other gifts, we are already at 20% of the goal. This means we have enough support for five families, with twenty more (\$8,000) to go!

Women's Pray and Play Day 9:30—12:30 mini retreats

Oregon Disciple women and friends are invited to spend a 3 hour mini-retreat day together under the theme *"Who's Following You?"* Event includes a craft, getting a glimpse of our partner Christians in China, learning new ways of prayer, and living inside the Biblical Story of Esther. Each participant receives a Bible Study book about Esther and several other gifts. Cost for the day is \$15.00 per person — **this is down \$5 from last year!**



Dates include**May 4 at Murray Hills, May 18 in Medford, June 8 at Eugene FCC, and June 22 at Pendleton.**

Regional Community Garden — Help our Garden Grow!!

Funded by a grant from the Women's Endowment Fund of the Office of Disciples Women and offerings from Oregon regional women's events, a community project began this March. Our regional garden grows in containers and garden beds all around Oregon, but we say we have "One garden, multiple locations!" If you would like to participate in the Regional Garden project.....



- contact the regional church office to get a laminated card that looks like the logo to the left to put in your garden.
- Take a picture of your garden every two weeks to share on the regional web site.
- Give all the food that you grow to a food bank, community meal or shelter.