

## 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  
**Renee Windsor-White**,  
Administrative Assistant

## Online and In Person with Doug and Cathy

- Sept. 24 Stewardship Event online
- Sept. 23 Pastors' Boundary Training Event online
- Sept. 17 Commission on Ministry
- Sept. 15 New Church Ministries Team
- Sept. 14 College of Regional Ministers Zoom
- Sept. 8 Interchurch Center Steering Committee
- August 30 Anti Racism/Pro Reconciliation Team
- August 24 Western Regional Ministers Zoom
- August 22 Portsmouth Pastoral Search
- August 21 Northwood CC, all three worship services
- August 20 Specialized Ministries Pastors Picnic in Salem
- August 18 New Church Ministries Team
- August 10 College of Regional Ministers Zoom
- August 10 Asian American Pacific Islands Tulsa Talks
- August 9 Red Rock CC Transition Team Zoom
- August 7 Hood River Valley CC, Preaching guest
- July 27 Regional Elders Zoom
- July 26 Meeting with NBA Vice President
- July 26 Interim Support Team, Albany FCC
- July 25 Regional Assembly Evaluation Meeting
- July 22-23 College of Regional Ministers
- July 13 Eugene FCC Personnel Committee



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## Stewardship Events Online, September 23-24

Center for  
**faith & giving**

Bruce Barkhauer has a special calling to teach Disciples about Christian stewardship. During the weekend of September 23-25, Bruce will keynote events for ministers and other leaders in Oregon SW Idaho regional church.

Mark your calendar for these special events online on Friday and Saturday, September 23 and 24.

- Friday, Sept. 23: Financial Ethics and Best Practices.** This workshop will be *required for all active ordained and commissioned ministers* in the Oregon SW Idaho region. Lay leaders from congregations will also be welcome to attend. The time is 10-1 Pacific, 11-2 Mountain time.
- Saturday, Sept. 24: Growing a Culture of Stewardship.** This event will help us with ways to teach, preach and practice Christian stewardship with the Disciples' leading voice on this topic. Times are 10-1 Pacific, 11-2 Mountain.
- BONUS:** Bruce will provide a recorded stewardship sermon video for any congregations who would like to show this in their worship service in the Oregon SW Idaho regional church. The sermon may be shared at times chosen by each congregation at a worship service of your choosing.

You can sign up through a link on our website calendar  
<https://www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s>

These events are free of charge because of a grant from the Oregon Disciple Foundation.

September  
2022

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## News from our Congregations

**Pendleton & Red Rock:** Monica Myers Greenberg from Christian Church Foundation came as a guest preacher to Pendleton in July and Boise in August.

**Medford:** repairing the garden boxes in the Come-Unity Garden behind church building

**Pacific Islands Family Church:** accumulating supplies and funds to send a shipping container of needed supplies to Chuuk Islands.

**Northwood/Springfield:** broke ground for new church building.

**Hood River:** enjoyed a "sisters luncheon" after worship in August.

**Silverton:** Planning Installation for new Pastor, Eric Eide. Watch our website for an upcoming date.

**Grants Pass:** voted to call Aaron Larson as Pastor

**Albany:** appointing a pastoral search committee to begin to talk with pastoral candidates in the fall.

**Portland FCC, Lynchwood CC, Murray Hills CC,** and a local Episcopal congregation: working together to sponsor the resettlement of a refugee family.

## Upcoming Events

September 25-October 2  
Reconciliation Offering

October 7-8  
Women's Spiritual Renewal Retreat hosted by Murray Hills

Check Out

[www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org)

and

[facebook.com/CCOSWI](https://www.facebook.com/CCOSWI)

*Required  
Boundary  
Training for  
Pastors  
September  
23*



## RECONCILIATION MINISTRY

### Offering received 9/25 to 10/2

Reconciliation Ministry began in the Disciples in 1967. The Reconciliation Fund supports the anti racism and pro reconciling

ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Disciples receive the special Reconciliation offering each year in September and October.

Half of the funds received in the Oregon and SW Idaho Disciples congregations will be used here in this regional church. The other half will go to general church Reconciliation Ministries. Uses of our local funds have included support for local congregational projects, anti racism and pro reconciliation training for church leaders, the Peniel Ministries border ministry in Nogales, Yakama Christian Mission in White Swan, WA and legal advice on immigration issues.

The Oregon SW Idaho regional church has an Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation team that meets regularly. Brenda Mikota of Portland FCC is the Chairperson.

Currently the team is sponsoring a program called "Tulsa Talks," based on a major conference planned this spring by Disciples of Christ Historical Society at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa. The conference involved numerous presentations on the history of racism, anti-racism and racial ethnic ministries within the Disciples of Christ.

The next session for the Tulsa Talks will be online on Wednesday, October 12. The Oregon SW Idaho regional church has made a contribution to Disciples of Christ Historical Society in support of the special event at Tulsa.

You may give to Reconciliation Ministry through your local congregation, with a gift through the regional church or online at [www.reconciliationministry.org](http://www.reconciliationministry.org). We gives thanks to Eugene FCC which recently made a special gift to Reconciliation using funds from a bequest.

### Ordination of Chuck Varner, 10/30, hosted by Corvallis FCC

First Christian Church in Corvallis will host an ordination service for Chuck Varner on Sunday, October 30. The ordination will take place in the morning worship service, starting at 10:00 a.m.

Chuck graduated from Claremont School of Theology with the Master of Divinity degree in May 2022. During the time of his studies, he has served as a Chaplain's Assistant at the Federal Prison in Sheridan, OR. He will continue in ministry with the federal prison system.

Several Disciples related organizations have provided scholarship support for Chuck's studies. These include Disciples Seminary Foundation, Verne Catt McDowell Corporation and Oregon Disciple Foundation.

### Grants Pass FCC Calls New Pastor

On August 21 Grants Pass FCC called Aaron Larson to become their settled Pastor. Pastor Larson has been serving the congregation in an interim role since the retirement of Pastor Greg Widener.

Congratulations to this congregation and this pastor in coming together for ministry in Southern Oregon.



### October 7-8 Women's Retreat in Beaverton

Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton will once again host a fall retreat for women in the regional church. Under the theme, *Not What I Expected*, the program seeks to expand our vision to see the unexpected ways God blesses and calls us to service.

Keynote, **Rev. Dr. La Taunya Bynum**, is a sought after speaker. She holds degrees from Chapman University and Claremont School of Theology. Ordained in 1982, she has served as a local pastor in three congregations, Director for Women in Ministry for the whole church, Associate Regional Minister of Ohio and currently serves as Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Northern California/Nevada. In July she finished a term as the President of the College of Regional Ministers, and currently serves as President of the Board of the Disciples Seminary Foundation. Dr. Bynum has spoken in the church widely and represented the church in travel in places around the world including Zimbabwe and Cuba.

A wide variety of workshops will be offered on Saturday (watch email and web for details), including a book discussion of our annual book read. This year's novel is "Home of the Brave" by Katherine Applegate. You can obtain used copies for \$5.00 each by calling the regional church office (503.226.7648). The book is available wherever you borrow or purchase books. This is the story of a Sudanese young man who comes as a refugee to Minnesota. This story brings to life characters that are hard to forget once you put the book back on the shelf.

Registration materials and other information can be found on a link from our website calendar page: [www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s](http://www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s)

### Tulsa Talks 2 Learn about Hispanic Disciples Ministries 10/12

In August we held our first "Tulsa Talks" gathering on zoom. People from nine DOC congregations met to reflect on the history and current life of North American/Pacific Asian Disciples. NAPAD Executive Pastor, Chung Seong Kim and Kikuo Yerem, local Pastor of the Pacific Islands Family Church in Portland offered current information about ministries today. A recorded lecture by Dr. Tim Lee gave historical context. This gathering, led by Brenda Mikota and members of our regional Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation team, gave people time to share resources and learn about how to be engaged together in ministry. Our website has some helpful resources at [www.oidisciples.org/anti-racism-pro-reconciliation-reso](http://www.oidisciples.org/anti-racism-pro-reconciliation-reso)

On October 12, 6:30-8:00 Pacific and 7:30-9:00 Mountain, we will have the opportunity to learn about Hispanic ministries in the whole church and in our regional church. You can watch our website for information, view a youtube video by Rev. Lori Tapia, National Hispanic Pastor for Disciples, and find a sign up link to let us know that you plan to attend. [www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s](http://www.oidisciples.org/news-c1h8s)

