



## Regional Ministers' Report, February 2, 2019

Since the last Regional Board meeting in June, we have **visited in the following 17 congregations:** **Snake River District:** Treasure Valley/Caldwell, New Hope/Meridian, Nampa, Red Rock/Boise, Pacific Outreach Christian Church/Boise. **Columbia River Gorge District:** Portland FCC (3 times), Lynchwood/Portland (2 times), Murray Hills/Beaverton (2 times), Principe de Paz/Portland, Pacific Islands Family Church/Portland Installation, **Santiam River District:** Corvallis (2 times), Salem FCC (4 times), Dallas, Albany, McMinnville (3 times). **Scenic Rivers District:** North Bend, Eugene FCC.

Due to the time of year, only one of the district/area ministers groups met, Santiam District. Other **regular meetings** included **Finance Commission, Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation Team, Commission on Ministry, Interchurch Center board, and New Church Ministry Team.**

Cathy went to San Diego in November for the meeting of the College of Regional Ministers. She met in phone conferences with **Week of Compassion** Committee, and she has been asked to be Vice Moderator of the Week of Commission Board of Stewards. Doug presently serves on the boards for **Reconciliation Ministry, North American Pacific Asian Disciples** and **Disciples Seminary Foundation.** He visited Red Rock Christian Church in Boise on January 20 for the ordination of Rob Tulloch. Rob has received a call to serve as Associate Minister at Hillside Christian Church in Wichita, Kansas. On January 21, with a group from Salem FCC, Doug attended the Salem Coalition of Churches Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration with Dr. Darryl Tukufu of Salem FCC as the keynote speaker.

Six congregations in the region had **pastoral search processes underway since we last met.** These include Ione (Called Jeff Clabaugh as new pastor starting tomorrow), Portland FCC (search committee oriented), Lynchwood (Interim in place as of January 1, Sandy Berry), Nampa FCC (associate minister in final part of the search) and Salem FCC (Interim has begun, David Decker), McMinnville (short term pulpit supply in place).

We also have continuing involvements with several congregations that are not seeking a pastor. Cathy is working with several churches at different stages on **Faithful Planning processes** (Ontario, Dallas, Burley), assisting Lynchwood in the follow up of their New Beginnings process, and in reviewing of **governing documents** (Murray Hills, Keizer, Burley, John Day, and Dallas) with several others ready to start soon.

More than any previous year, we have seen the effects of the **three year vision plan** taking shape. The vision plan report at this meeting will give details about many of the things that have happened. One new detail is a **Planned Giving Workshop** with Jerry Lang of Christian Church Foundation on **May 18** at Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton.

One of the biggest changes you will notice right now is the retirement of Audre Bratcher after eighteen years of service as Administrative Assistant. Audre completed her staff role at the end of December 2018. She has generously helped with the transition of tasks on a volunteer basis during January, especially relating to ministers' data base and donor records. Stacy and Liz have been in touch with her several times regarding transfer of some duties. Stacy spent three days in the Portland office in January working with Audre, Cathy and Doug relating to data base maintenance and communications. In effect, we have lost two ¼ time positions from the staff for 2019, between the Administrative Assistant and the Regional Minister reductions. Over time, we will need to ask the board's help in interpreting that some things may take more time or not get done.

We continue to anticipate the relocation of Claremont School of Theology to the Willamette University campus in Salem. The seminary plans to start offering classes to incoming students in Salem this fall. Continuing students will still be able to take classes in southern California and online for the next two years before all operations have transferred to Salem. This move, the online Master of Divinity programs, the Certificate of Ministry Studies program in Spanish, and online ministry classes in English through the Ministry Training Program at Phillips Theological Seminary, provide Disciples in the Oregon SW Idaho region with a wide range of options for education in ministry and church leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

*Doug and Cathy Myers Wirt*