

**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

Audre Bratcher,
Administrative Assistant

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

- Feb. 24 Boise, Red Rock Committee Meeting Doug
- Feb. 23 Meridian, Parkview Board Meeting Doug
- Feb. 19 Portland, St. Johns, morning/evening events Doug
- Feb. 19 Junction City, Preaching Cathy
- Feb. 18 Albany, Middle School Retreat Drop in Cathy
- Feb. 18 Keizer, Women's Pray and Play Cathy
- Feb. 16 National Benevolent Assn. Trustees Meeting Cathy
- Feb. 15 Portland, New Church Team Doug
- Feb. 15 Eugene Ministers' Lunch Doug
- Feb. 15 Women's Prayer Circle Cathy
- Feb. 13 Week of Compassion Coffee with Caroline Cathy
- Feb. 12 Portland, Week of Compassion Dinner Cathy
- Feb. 12 Lynchwood, Worship Cathy
- Feb. 11 Eugene, Allison Park, Pray and Play Cathy
- Feb. 9 Columbia Gorge Clergy Gathering Cathy
- Feb. 5 Salem, Chuukese Fellowship, worship Doug
- Feb. 5 Murray Hills, worship Doug
- Feb. 5 Keizer, Worship and Cong. Meeting Cathy
- Feb. 4 Regional Board Meeting Cathy/Doug
- Feb. 2 Executive Committee of Regional Bd. Doug/Cathy
- Feb. 2 Finance Committee of Regional Board Doug



www.oidisciples.org 0245 SW Bancroft Suite F, Portland 97239

Regional Minister Sabbatical

On February 4, the Regional Board approved a sabbatical leave for the Regional Ministers. The sabbatical leave will take place in the Spring of 2017, with the following schedule. Both Doug and Cathy will be on leave for six weeks from March 25-May 7. In addition, Doug will take two weeks of sabbatical from March 14-26 and Cathy will take two weeks from May 8-22. Their studies will focus upon reading the ethnic and racial histories of the Pacific Northwest and the changing forms of regional ministry in a number of denominations. They will share their learnings with the Regional Board meeting in November 2017. Emergency procedures and contacts will be made known to pastors and other regional leaders next month.

Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation Training

The date for the Snake River District Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation training for ministers has been rescheduled from February 25. The new dates will be September 22 in Springfield and October 21 in Boise,.

Regional Ministry Emails Change

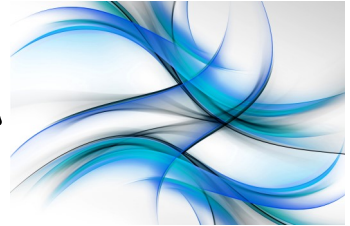
New email addresses for the Regional Ministers

Doug: doug@oidisciples.org

Cathy: cathy@oidisciples.org



Volume 4 Issue 2



New Pastors 3

Begin Ministries

Women's Pray and Play Events 3

FEDICE Project 4

News from Congregations 4

News from our Congregations

Red Rock: Seminary student Robbie Tulloch as guest preacher

Silverton: Session on Planned giving with Jerry Lang of Christian Church Foundation.

Pendleton: Prayer breakfast with Vision and Planning task force.

Ontario: Lots of digging out from heavy snowfall!

The View: meeting with Week of Compassion Assoc. Director Caroline Hamilton-Arnold at their worship time.

Rio de Dios: the Hillsboro ministry has a new name.

Hood River: Super Bowl of Caring youth fundraiser for local food bank.

Dallas: FCC has an app! Used for prayer concerns, Bible readings, sermons, online giving and the church Facebook page.

Allison Park/Keizer: Thank you for hosting Pray and Play!

Nueva Vida: 9th anniversary

Lebanon: starting new prayer shawl ministry

Pac. Islands Family Church: planning for Easter rally in TX.

Treasure Valley: Christmas gift to Romerillos project in honor of Larry and Janet Crist.

Save these dates!

March 4, 2017
*Parkview, Meridian
Women's Pray and Play Day*

March 18, 2017
*Pendleton First Christian
Women's Pray and Play Day*

April 9-16, 2017
*Easter Offering for Whole
Church Ministries*

May 28-June 4, 2017
*Pentecost
Offering for
New Church
Ministries*



Regional Assembly
May 18-19, 2018
Portland FCC
Rev. Sandhya Jha
&
Dr. Timothy James



“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; Extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another.” Rom 12:12-16

Twenty centuries ago, Paul wrote to Christians at the center of the empire. Some had been forced out of Rome by the Emperor’s hatred against Jews. With this climate, Paul encouraged all to live as a united people in Christ, shaped more by the love of Christ than anything else.

For almost fifty years, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has lived out a covenant of both unity and autonomy. Our primary witness rests in congregations. We don’t stop there however, as we advance the gospel in other parts of our region, continent and world. Since what we call “Restructure” in 1968, there have always been skeptics of any connections beyond the local congregation. Divisions in society have tested our unity many times. Even so, we have continued to find ways to pool our strengths to accomplish together what cannot be done alone.

For those with eyes to see, the value of Disciples partnerships still appears today. One recently ordained minister received for years non-stop encouragement from Sunday schools, camps, college, and seminary, from ecumenical and global partners.

Another recently ordained minister has a mentor who came to the NW from across the country. One church just called a young pastor who has learned from six ministries, four in the region, one in China and another in Mozambique! Local congregations gain much from these relationships.

The Church lives with the gospel in fragile and volatile times. The past few months have had some harsh winds and bitter climate. And you know, the winter’s been rough this year, too! One of our Regional Minister friends said recently that the ministry of each congregation is too precious to go it alone. The same is true for each Christian. So we give thanks for you and your support of Disciples ministry and mission.

Doug



New Romerillos Videos Available

Our friends at the FEDICE ministry in Ecuador have sent some new videos about our regional project in the village of Romerillos. The videos show a local pastor and community participants talking about the microloan program that helps people to raise their own animals and onions for sale in the market. You can find the Romerillos videos on YouTube or on the regional church website at www.oidisciples.org. There are more videos about FEDICE projects on the FEDICE website at www.fedice.org.

FEDICE continues to work in the coastal community of Sua, which had been hard hit by an earthquake. As in Romerillos after a shower of volcanic ash, FEDICE has worked with Week of Compassion and Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples to reach out and expand the ministry.

Congregations with new Pastors in early 2017

We celebrate with these congregations who have recently called their new ministers:

Grants Pass: Greg Widener Junction City: David Bondurant

Albany: Tim Graves Keizer: Erik Free

We give thanks for those who have served on pastoral search committees, and for our Search and Call office at Disciples Home Missions.



Women’s Pray and Play Events

This year’s theme for Pray and Play events for women is “Use What Ya Got!” The events introduce ways to explore using whatever we have to create a faithful life with prayer and witness.

A small book sale is part of the event and a fair trade sale of items from Ecuador, with all money collected from the crafts helping to move us closer to the goal with our FEDICE project (see article above on this page).

Pray and Play is a 3 hour mini-retreat for women and girls of all ages. Cost is \$10.00 and pays for supplies and a gift for you to take home. The registration form is on website and in church offices. The events in Eugene and Keizer included 55 women from 12 congregations. Women have purchased \$236 worth of Ecuadorian crafts and given a combined offering of \$758 to be equally divided between Week of Compassion and the Romerillos FEDICE project. We have two more events coming up in March.

Parkview Meridian 3/4/17,

Pendleton, 3/18/17.