

**Mission Statement
of the Region**

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

- September 15 Glenwood Christian Preaching Doug
- September 17 Lynchwood Faithful Planning Cte Cathy
- September 18 Ecumenical Ministries Board Doug
- September 18 Hood River, Regional Assm Planning Cathy
- September 19 College of Regional Ministers Call Doug/Cathy
- September 19 Lunch with Congolese Visitors Cathy/Doug
- September 21 Boise Regional Transition Cte. Doug/Cathy
- September 22 Boise Red Rock Christian Worship Cathy/Doug
- September 22 Boise University Christian Worship Doug/Cathy
- September 24 Salem Santiam Ministers' Breakfast Cathy/Doug
- September 25 Suttle Lake Camp meeting Doug/Cathy
- September 27 Retirement Party for Myrna Phillips Cathy/Doug
- September 29 Junction City, preaching Doug
- September 29 Murray Hills worship Cathy
- September 29 The View worship Doug/Cathy
- October 2 Portland Area Clergy Gathering Cathy/Doug
- October 4-5 Women's Spiritual Renewal Retreat Cathy
- October 5 Memorial Service Delvon Barrett Doug
- October 6 Portland FCC Global Mission Sunday Doug
- October 6 Preaching and teaching Sunday School
- October 6 Keizer Christian 50th Anniversary Doug/Cathy



*Oregon
Disciple*

**October November
2013**

www.ChristianChurchinOregon.org

503.226.7648

Thanksgiving Offering for Higher Education

Oregon Disciples plan to participate in the annual offering for higher education ministries of the Christian Church. Below is a graphic with the names of Disciples of Christ undergraduate and seminary schools. Oregon Disciples currently attend Disciples Divinity House in Chicago, Disciples Seminary Foundation in Claremont, CA, Lexington Theological Seminary online, Texas Christian University, Eureka College, and Chapman University.

Ten percent of the dollars given to Disciples Mission Fund also help to support this ministry to build up the leadership of our whole church.



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News from the Congregations

Trees of Rightousness: Back to school rally gave clothes and supplies to 78 kids & 18 haircuts.

Eugene FCC: Thanks for hosting the River Rally for youth!

Portland FCC: Congo emphasis for World Communion Sunday

Junction City: Pastor David DeBow on a sabbatical leave "following in the steps of Paul."

Ontario: 80th Anniversary events Oct. 25-27.

Iglesia Cristian Peniel: Youth group growing

Ione: Selling pumpkins to raise funds for a world hunger program.

Hood River: Thank you for hosting the Children Worship and Wonder training!

La Grande: Busy making noodles again for the women's Bazaar.

Murray Hills: Launched a Wednesday night worship.

Silverton: Served 455 people at community dinner one evening in September.

Boise University Christian: Tom Lobaugh, new Interim Minister.

Save these dates!

October 11-12
South Idaho Regional Assembly

October 19
Global Mission Summit
Salem First Christian

October 27
Columbia Gorge Music Festival
Portland First,
4:30 p.m. Potluck following

November 2
Regional Board Meeting
Interchurch Center
Portland



New Pastors in Oregon and South Idaho

We welcome new ministers in our area churches!
Darren Anderson has accepted a call to serve as the new Pastor at First Christian Church in Dallas, Oregon. He comes from Hampton Christian Church in Virginia.
Jarid McCool started as Pastor of First Christian Church in Burley, Idaho on October 1.

Regional Assembly Hosted by Hood River Valley Christian May 2-3, 2014

Recalculating...

During the meeting of the Idaho/Oregon transition committee, those of us in the room repeatedly heard new ideas and new directions. As we discussed youth ministry, we veered into budgeting. As we discussed women's ministry, we veered into event planning. As we discussed congregational support, we veered into pastoral care of church leaders. What we discovered together was that regional life is a deeply connected venture. We also learned that we bring to the table two regional church histories and sets of traditions and relationships.

Oregon has had long time relationships with Christians in Congo and Ecuador. South Idaho has had a long term relationship with Nicaragua and has an emerging relationship in Mexico. Idaho has a tradition of church camp in two campgrounds previously owned by their regional church. Oregon has been a renter for regional camping. Oregon Disciple women gather at a fall retreat in a church building over a 17 hour period. South Idaho women gather in August in a hotel for a full weekend retreat. South Idaho Disciples have belonged to a group of 14 congregations. Oregon Disciples have belonged to a group of 36 congregations. Oregon Disciples have had the same regional pastors for over a dozen years. South Idaho Disciples have been without a regional pastor for a couple of years.

During our meeting Geoff Speidel, from Medford First Christian, spoke into the room the word "recalculating" just as a GPS device announces when a driver takes a turn not on the route expected. That is what we are all doing, recalculating. I believe that as we weave this new community, we will discover God's invitation at each turn. *Cathy*

Thank You Murray Hills Christian!!

Over 90 women gathered the first weekend of October for a Friday/Saturday retreat for spiritual renewal, building relationships, and learning about mission. Women from as far away as Boise, Idaho to Blaine, Washington, to Oakland, California to congregations all around Oregon came together to renew relationships and meet new friends.

Thank you Murray Hills Christian for offering warm hospitality by sharing your gracious space. Women shopped at a fair trade display, buying over \$1,800 worth of items benefiting the artisans in our global community. Women gave over \$1,000 in an offering at worship to be divided between Disciples Mission Fund and our soon to be announced new project with FEDICE of Ecuador. In addition, over \$660 was received in blessing box offering — an offering divided between Disciples Mission Fund and Disciples Women's Ministry. A free Italian Soda bar received "tips" of about \$125 for camp scholarships. We heard our keynote speaker invite us to "speak more slowly."

Women attended workshops about slowing our lives, a book group, elder care, human trafficking in Oregon, Chinese Christians, Women's Ministries resources, and painting flower pots. Friday night participants celebrated the harvest of the Regional Community Garden. You can see pictures at www.ChristianChurchinOregon.org.

Global Mission Summit, October 19, 11 to 2, Salem FCC



Salem First Christian Church will host a gathering of Oregon and Idaho Disciples interested in deepening their ties to the global mission of the whole church. Cathy Nichols and Jane Sullivan-Davis, staff of Global Ministries, plan to share the resources for congregations to make global partnerships vital and real in their own congregational life. The group will explore how to use the tools of technology to be in touch with global mission staff and projects and how to use financial resources wisely.

Topics of interest will include mission trips, our partnership with FEDICE in Ecuador, how global staff are funded, learning about short term and long term mission opportunities, and learning to navigate the new, soon to be launched, global ministries web site to keep congregations up to the moment in partnerships.

Oregon currently has nine "Global Mission Congregations." You can learn more about this identity movement in Oregon Disciple congregations at <http://www.christianchurchinoregon.org/#/about/cyxc>

Regional Assembly Team Preparing for May 2014

The Hood River Valley Christian Church is planning for their Oregon and Idaho Disciple guests on **May 2-3, 2014**. Special guests include **Rev. Rebecca Hale**, from National Benevolent Association and **Rev. Dr. Dick Hamm**, our former General Minister, who is working with our regional church as we change shape over the next few years.

The theme: **Getting our Feet Wet**, will invite participants to explore the scriptures about crossing the Jordan to the promised land, the washing of feet by Jesus, and Peter walking on the water. A Bible Study about those scriptures will be available in the days leading up to the event. Assembly attendees will have time to meet each other, attend workshops, enjoy inspiring times of worship, and be a part of taking the next steps in the life of the Oregon/South Idaho regional story.

The details of the assembly will begin showing up on the regional web site later this year. For now, save the date and plan to come to Hood River in May 2014!

Camp Dates 2014 set at Suttle Lake Camp

Summer 2013 the Oregon Regional Church moved our camping program to a new location and experimented with holding two camps at the same time on opposite ends of a large camping space. The camps enjoyed a good experience with excellent camp facility staff, wonderful food and new activities to experience.

We learned what worked well and how we will shift schedules and plans for next year. We have committed to do our camps at Suttle Lake again next summer. Watch our website for details. **High School/Middle School Camps July 27—August 1**

Grade School Camp

August 11-15