

**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

Jan. 30	WWOW Women's Event Planning Team	Cathy
Jan. 30	Salem, Santiam District Pastors' Breakfast	Cathy
Jan. 28	Beaverton, Murray Hills	Cathy
Jan. 28	Terwilliger Plaza Vespers, Preaching	Doug
Jan. 25	Eugene Ministers' Lunch	Cathy
Jan. 24	Disciples Seminary Foundation, Portland	Doug
Jan. 24	Commission on Ministry	Doug
Jan. 23	College of Regional Ministers Ex. Cte.	Cathy
Jan. 22	Boise, Snake River District Ministers	Doug
Jan. 22	College of Regional Ministers Ex. Cte.	Cathy
Jan. 21	Boise, Red Rock, Pastoral Installation	Doug
Jan. 21	Meridian, Parkview, Worship	Doug
Jan. 21	Global Mission Congregation Webinar	Cathy
Jan. 21	Boise, Red Rock, Worship	Doug
Jan. 17	Regional Nominating Committee	Doug/Cathy
Jan. 14	McMinnville, Worship	Doug
Jan. 11	Murray Hills, By-Laws Committee	Cathy
Jan. 11	Columbia Gorge Ministers Meeting	Cathy
Jan. 7	Pacific Islands Family Church Worship	Doug
Jan. 7	Salem First, Worship	Cathy

News from our Congregations

Springfield / Glenwood: Worshipping jointly while construction goes forward at Springfield FCC.

Northwood: Outreach Sunday on Feb. 4, with focus on Disciples Mission Fund, Week of Compassion, and many more of the ministries supported by percentage giving from regular income receipts.

Pacific Islands Family Church: hosting national Easter Rally in Portland for Chuukese Disciples.

Ontario: Hosting 2018 Kids Camp.

Keizer/Escudo y Fortaleza/ Dallas/ Salem FCC: Shared a Christmas float in the Salem holiday parade.

Rio de Dios: Valentine dinner celebration coming soon.

Albany: Highlighted in recent local newspaper article about tiny houses movement.

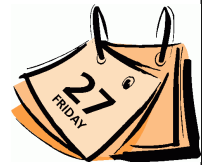
Peniel: Returned from annual Christmas trip to Nogales for Mision Sonora.

Parkview: Elders' held a Retreat, January 13.

Eugene First: Planning a spring break "Blue Theology" trip to Monterrey, CA

Save these dates!

- February 3**
Regional Board Portland
- February 17**
Pray & Play, Glenwood
- March 3**
Pray & Play, Medford
- March 10**
Pray & Play, Red Rock Boise
- March 17**
Pray & Play, La Grande
- March 24**
Pray & Play, Salem
- April 6-8**
WWOW Gathering for Disciple women in Arizona
- May 18-19**
Regional Assembly, Portland



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

Week of Compassion

For 80 years Disciples of Christ congregations throughout North America have received an annual Week of Compassion Ministry offering. In 2017 WOC responded to 87 North American appeals for assistance (20 of them in Texas after the recent flooding), and 49 responses were made outside of North America. You can read the entire list of responses on www.weekofcompassion.org.



New 2018 videos and resources are posted, including stories, meditations, bulletin inserts and more. Soon trips will be organized for Disciples to go to areas impacted this past year by flooding to do some rehabilitation work. Already a group from Northwood Christian Church in Springfield has been to Texas to work in one of the congregations affected by the rains.

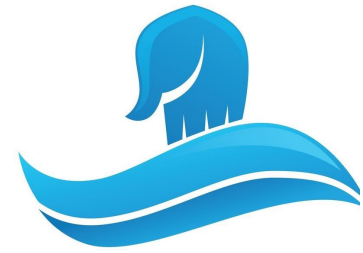
In 2018 Regional Minister Cathy Myers Wirt begins a term of service on the WOC Committee that sets policy and makes grants that involve our 19 partner agencies as we respond to natural disasters and the needs of refugees. Please give generously.

Disciples Certificate of Ministry taught in Spanish

In January 20 people from 5 of our 6 Spanish speaking congregations met in Portland with Xose Escamilla and Jon Berquist about a Ministry Certificate Program through Disciples Seminary Foundation. High interest was expressed in participating in this training. Stay tuned as details develop.



Volume 5 Issue 1



- On-line Newsletter!** 2
- Children Worship and Wonder Training** 3
- Upcoming Dates to Note** 4
- News from Congregations** 4

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

After two years of hard work by a 12 member Vision Team, multiple region wide conversations, and work with Consultant Rev. Dr. Dick Hamm, our regional church launched what we called a “Future Story” at the 2016 Regional Assembly in Springfield.



We are now half way through the three year future story period. Here are some of the ways your regional church is transitioning forward. You can find more on our website.

- ◆ Hired two new part time staff positions: a Communications Associate and a Leadership Development Associate.
- ◆ Launched a one year pilot program for Regional Elders (see more about this soon).
- ◆ Over two months and four sessions, trained a team of 10 Anti-Racism Trainers who led three training events reaching a majority of our pastors, with over 100 total participants.
- ◆ Our five districts created networks and events with one another as diverse as Facebook pages, Christmas parade floats, youth gatherings and meetings with Lori Tapia.
- ◆ Began on-line registration and on-line giving as well as a twice monthly on-line news service. We now hold many meetings using Zoom technology and have networking groups meeting regularly on-line for youth programming and sermon preparation.
- ◆ Held the first of many webinars in January. The first one was on being Global Mission Congregations and drew participants from 8 congregations and Tom Morse of Global Ministries as a resource person.

Continuing in hope, Cathy

On-line Regional News Service Up and Running

You are reading the regional church newsletter right now! But did you know there are other ways to get your regional news without waiting 4-5 weeks for the next newsletter?

We have a regional on-line news service called “Common Current”. You can sign up for Common Current by going to: <http://www.oidisciples.org/news-chds> and clicking the Common Current Sign up link. This service is managed by Rev. Stacy Shelton of Medford.

While you are on the website, explore and learn more about your regional church. The website is updated 1-2 times per week. On the homepage you can see pictures of your regional church in action.

You can also check out our Facebook Page for 2-3 stories per week:
www.facebook.com/CCOSWI/?ref=bookmarks

Let's stay in touch!!

Regional Assembly Registration opens in February



Rev. Dr. Timothy James of the National Convocation, Rev. Sandhya Jha of the Oakland Peace Center and Blanca Puma of FEDICE Ecuador will all be our guests for the May 18-19 Regional Assembly hosted by Portland First Christian Church. Registration and information will be launched in February on line and by mailing to congregations. For now save the dates as we gather under the theme: **“Through These Hands.”** Vice Moderator of our region, Brenda Mikota, and her teams are at work preparing for our attendance. Pastors of the Columbia Gorge District are planning worship.

Disciples Wild Women of the West Gather in April in Arizona

Women from the 7 western regional churches plan to gather April 6-8 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Information about the event can be found by going to www.oidisciples.org and following the link to *women's retreats 2018*. Caribbean guests, carry bags made by global sisters, wonderful speakers and inspiring worship will make this a weekend you will not want to miss. Mary Jacobs from Portland First Christian is planning the worship times. If you cannot go, help send someone from your congregation. Early discount registration ends February 15. Activities are planned for women and girls from birth to 90+. Check out the website for details!



Leadership Development Associate, Bernice Rivera

In keeping with the three year vision plan, the Oregon SW Idaho region has hired a part-time Leadership Development Associate. Bernice Rivera, member at Murray Hills Christian Church, has started in this position at an average of one day per week. She will visit new churches and Spanish speaking congregations. She has attended the Hispanic Ministries Institute at Lexington Theological Seminary and is a trainer in our Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation ministry. Bernice also serves on the New Church Team and the General Board of the Disciples of Christ.

Children Worship and Wonder Training May 2018

CW&W is a worship process for young children. Several of our regional churches have participated in CW&W for more than 15 years. The CW&W training assists the storyteller leaders to engage children in the stories of the Bible and integrate the stories into worshipful play and learning.



Murray Hills Christian Church is hosting a training the 2 days preceding Regional Assembly in May so that people can come to both events in one trip if they desire. Watch our website and newsletters for details and registration information.

Pray and Play Women's Events



The 2018 theme for our women's 3 hour mini-retreats is **Do the Math!**

The math we will pray and play about includes these equations:

Love X Blessing = Hope

Stuff ÷ People = Justice

Life—Hate = Grace

God + You = Abundance

Events are scheduled for: February 17, Glenwood March 3, Medford
March 10 Boise Red Rock March 17, LaGrande March 24, Salem

Registration forms may be downloaded from our website or you can register on line by going to <http://www.oidisciples.org/pray-and-play-days>. Cost for the day is \$15.00 and includes the full program and a gift for each participant. Call our office with questions: **503.226.7648**.