

**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

- ◆ July 3 Hood River Valley CC Cathy
- ◆ July 7 Boise University Christian Preaching Doug
- ◆ July 7 Hood River Valley Christian Worship Cathy
- ◆ July 7 Boise Red Rock Christian, Trinity Doug
- ◆ July 13-18 General Assembly, Florida Doug/Cathy
- ◆ July 20 Regional Picnic Cathy/Doug
- ◆ July 21 Dallas FCC Preaching Doug
- ◆ July 21 Albany FCC Worship Cathy
- ◆ July 21 Iglesia Cristiana Escudo y Fortaleza, Salem Doug
- ◆ July 27– August 2 High School Camp Cathy
- ◆ July 27– August 2 Middle School Camp Doug
- ◆ August 4 Portland First Worship Cathy/Doug
- ◆ August 7 Boise University Christian Doug
- ◆ August 10 Fred Evans Memorial Service, Albany Doug/Cathy
- ◆ August 11-16 Grade School Camp Cathy
- ◆ August 18 Glenwood Christian Eugene Worship Doug
- ◆ August 18 Lynchwood Christian Portland Worship Cathy
- ◆ August 21 Women's Prayer Circle Cathy
- ◆ August 22 Hood River Valley CC Cathy



*Oregon
Disciple*

September 2013

www.ChristianChurchinOregon.org
503.226.7648

Fall Women's Retreat

Volume 63 Issue 7

“Speak More Slowly” October 4-5

Thanks to the Murray Hills Christian Church who will once again host the annual women's spiritual renewal retreat. This retreat is a time for women to gather, slow down, reflect, rest, and cultivate friendships.

Beginning with dinner at 6:00 Friday night, women will enjoy a slow paced evening of creating pots for growing flowers and herbs and celebrate the fall harvest season of the regional community garden. Come bring your artistic side and your joy of seeing long time friends and/or making new friends. *All ages welcome — from middle school to 90 plus.*



Summer Camp summary 2

Global Mission Summit 3

Calendar of Regional Events 4

News from Congregations 4

News from the Congregations

Keizer: Celebrating their 50th anniversary on October 6.

Lebanon: Thanks for storing and hauling the church camp gear again this year.

Lynchwood: Mike and Jan Crouch announced they will retire from church staff in December of this year.

Medford: A Korean congregation nesting at FCC served Korean food for the congregation's weekly community dinner.

McMinnville: Participated in Operation Backpack and helped to provide 419 coats and sweatshirts, as well as many other items.

Grants Pass: 125th year Celebration, Sept. 6-8

Salem and Pendleton: hosting September visits with Jim and Jayanthi Wilson, mission partners in Botswana.

Northwood: Launching both Financial Peace University and Alpha courses in September.

Eugene FCC: Part of a coalition constructing “Opportunity Village,” a set of bungalows being built to form a community for houseless Eugene residents.

Save these dates!

September 27-29

Children Worship and Wonder Training event hosted by Hood River Valley Christian

October 4-5

Women's Spiritual Renewal Retreat hosted by Murray Hills

October 12

South Idaho Regional Assembly

November 2

Regional Board Meeting Inter-church Center



Saturday *Mary Jacobs*, President of the International Disciples Women, will speak in the morning starting at 9:00, and *workshops* will follow. Workshops include the annual regional book group, this year reading *Hotel at the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, a wonderful novel of 1940s Seattle. A few more copies are available for \$5.00 each by calling the regional church office. Other *workshops* will explore topics of interest for personal growth, justice issues, prayer and creativity.

In the afternoon we will celebrate in worship together and enjoy another round of workshops. The listing of workshops and schedule are on our website. Cindy Pick, music director at Lynchwood Christian, will be our pianist, and she *can* play that piano! A free Italian *Soda bar*, the One Fair World *fair trade sale*, and a *book sale table* will be available.



Women are encouraged to *bring items for the Murray Hills food pantry* to thank the congregation for hosting our event. Information has been sent to congregations and women who attended in past years. Registration materials are also on our regional website.

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

What does your **Reconciliation** offering do here in Oregon and beyond? It goes far and wide to build positive understanding and stronger relationships between people of different cultures. Here are a few of the examples:

- **Gomer's House in NE Portland.** Sponsored by Trees of Righteousness Christian Church, Gomer's House provides a place of shelter and encouragement for people working their way through compulsive or addictive behaviors. Residents support each other in paths of recovery strengthened by their spiritual walk as followers of Jesus Christ.

-**Mission Sonora.** Peniel Ministries of Portland sends people each year from Oregon across the border to Nogales, Sonora, Mexico. Those who make the trip go at Christmas time to bring the witness of Jesus, clothes, toys and other presents to families living amidst the garbage dumps of Nogales. Recently, the visitors have also brought cooking stoves that can be used without need for electricity.

-**Yakama Christian Mission.** Located near White Swan, Washington, the Yakama Mission works in a multi-cultural setting within the Yakama Nation. The summer program is well known for working with local children and improving their reading ability and readiness for school.

-**Training Programs.** Reconciliation Ministries provide and support programs to train people for better interracial and cross cultural understanding. A recent effort, supported with Oregon giving, was a cultural awareness training done in Orlando, Florida, with youth from across the country including Oregon.

Disciples congregations receive the Reconciliation offering on Sunday, Sept. 29 and October 4. Some have made Reconciliation giving a regular part of their mission budget. Doug

Camp Thrives in New Setting

142 Campers and 48 staff enjoyed three sessions of regional summer church camp in a new location — Suttle Lake Camp owned by the United Methodist Church. Using the theme **Acts Like you Mean it!**, campers learned the stories of Pentecost, Cornelius and Peter, Saul and Ananias, and Peter's release from prison with Rhoda at the door. Campers learned about the doors that open in our lives of faith — doors to the future, doors we have kept closed, and doors that to new partners. We learned what the early Disciples knew: true community, based in a deep spirituality, leads to a passion for justice.

Special thanks to camp directors **Stacy Shelton (Ione)**, **Dan Stults (Lynchwood)**, **Linda Presley (Hood River Valley)**, and **Sara Staton (Albany)**. Their efforts before, during and after camp season contributed significantly to the great weeks of camp we experienced this year. They wrote curriculum; told stories and keynoted campfire times; recruited excellent staff members; chose craft projects; created schedules, small groups and cabin groups; made the trains run; and worked well with the Suttle Lake staff. We thank them for a job **WELL DONE!**

We will be scheduling camps for next year within the next few weeks, and you can find the dates posted on our website as soon as they are set.



Global Mission Summit, Save the date—October 19!



Leaders from Disciples Global Ministries plan a trip to Oregon in October to meet with a variety of persons about our shared global witness. On October 19 we invite Oregon Disciples to come and meet with our visitors to help craft a strategy for global ministry partners and Oregon Disciples. We will discuss mission trips, the Congo Initiative, special fund raising projects, work of global mission congregations and much more.

Nine Oregon Disciple congregations have done the work to become Global Mission Churches and each lives out their commitment in their own way — holding special events, including global mission in prayer during worship, and educating their congregations on global partnerships.

The Oregon Region is one of nineteen regions to declare itself a Global Mission Region. This means that whenever an event is planned/sponsored by the regional church, we have a global mission component. This October gathering will help us to work together more as congregations and region to support, promote and participate in the wider ministry of our whole worldwide church. We will meet in the upper Willamette Valley for three hours, place TBA.

Children Worship and Wonder Training September 27-29

Hood River Valley Christian Church plans to host a Children Worship and Wonder Storytellers Training. CWW is a method of being with young children in a form of worship that is geared to them developmentally. Based on the church year, CWW begins with the first Sunday of Advent and teaches the stories of the Bible using play, ritual, storytelling in a particular way that emphasizes wonder, and music. At least ten Oregon Disciple congregations have used or are using this process with children. You can learn more about it at:

<https://www.discipleshomeissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/family-and-childrens-ministries/children-worship-wonder/children-worship-wonder-what-why/>



Oregon/South Idaho Transition Update

Most of the formal approval has now been given for the Oregon Region to welcome nine congregations from the South Idaho Region, on January 1, 2014. Congregations, Regional Boards, the General Board and the General Assembly have all approved this change. Our Regional Assembly will vote on proposed language changes for our Covenant and Guidelines governing documents on May 3, 2014 at Hood River.

A regional Transition Team has met twice and will meet again in September. Soon we will have leaders from both regions working together on budgets, nominating and the Commission on Ministry. Please pray for these leaders as they continue their work.