

**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**

• August 14	Ontario, Blue Mt. Rivers Pastors' Lunch	Cathy
• August 13	Ontario FCC, Faithful Planning Team	Cathy
• August 12	Murray Hills Worship/Board Mtg.	Cathy
• August 8-11	NAPAD Convocation	Doug/Cathy
• August 5	Portland First Worship/ Board Mtg.	Doug
• August 4	Verne Catt McDowell Interview	Doug
• July 30	Suttle Lake Camp, Check in/gear delivery	Cathy
• July 29	Silverton, Worship & Potluck	Cathy
• July 28	Portland First, Memorial Mae Jean Yu	Doug
• July 22	Portland, Principe de Paz	Doug
• July 22	Pacific Island Family Church, Preaching	Doug
• July 19-20	Birmingham, National Convocation	Cathy
• July 16-18	Birmingham, Regional Ministers/Moderators	Cathy
• July 15	Salem First, Worship	Doug
• July 14	Portland First, Women's Event, Speaker	Cathy
• July 10	Regional Reconciliation Team	Doug
• July 9	Keizer, Rock Painting Event	Cathy
• July 9	Salem, First Christian, Memorial	Cathy
• July 8	Boise, Red Rock, Trinity Service	Doug
• July 8	Meridian, Parkview, Installation of Pastor	Doug
• July 8	Meridian, Parkview, Morning Worship	Doug

**News from our Congregations**

**Eugene FCC:** New large mural of Dr. MLK, Jr. on outside south wall of church, and featured in local news.

**Rio de Dios:** Pastor and lay leader attending Leadership Academy in Indianapolis with Hope Partnership.

**Hood River:** All church Sunday afternoon outing at Trillium Lake

**Lebanon:** Sunday service outside at Waterloo Park

**Red Rock:** Tent Revival service together with Pacific Outreach Christian Church, Boise Chuukese ministry.

**Salem:** Helped Boys/Girls club stuff back to school backpacks

**Portland FCC:** Thank you for hosting North American Pacific Asian Disciples Convocation!

**Chuukese Fellowship Church of Christ and Pacific Islands Family Church:** participating in 2018 NAPAD Convocation.

**Escudo y Fortaleza:** picnic and baptism in the river at Sweet Home.

**John Day:** Three more people have completed the Ministry Foundations online course with Pastor Steve Wallace.

**Springfield:** Hymn sing for a Sunday during Pastor Erin's vacation.

**Ontario:** Getting started on a Faithful Planning Visioning Process with Regional Staff.

**Save these dates!**

**September 7-9**  
*Women's Retreat, Trinity Pines, Cascade, ID*

**September 30-October 7**  
*Reconciliation Offering*

**October 12-13**  
*Women's Retreat, Murray Hills Beaverton OR*

**October 13**  
*Snake River District Event, Transforming Conflict, hosted Red Rock, Boise, ID*

**October 27**  
*Week of Compassion led Disaster Preparedness Workshop hosted by Portland First Christian Church*




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

**Reconciliation Offering**

Disciples of Christ churches receive our Reconciliation Offering each year in the fall. This year, the emphasis falls on September 30 and on October 7.

The Reconciliation offering supports ministries that address the causes of racism in North America. In Acts 8, Phillip and a finance officer from Ethiopia share a moment of Bible study. The Ethiopian said to Phillip, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?' These two early Jesus followers crossed lines of culture and ethnicity to share a faith and future together.



Reconciliation Ministries works in our time to remove the social barriers of racism, prejudice and hatred that stand in the way of our full identity as the church and the children of God.

Reconciliation offerings support local ministries within the region and general church ministries across North America.

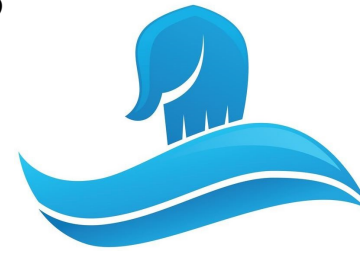
Some recent local uses include Yakama Christian Mission, the border ministry in Nogales done by Peniel Ministries of Portland, anti-racism and pro-reconciliation training in Oregon and Idaho, the Idaho Black History Museum, educational events by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, and an immigration lawyer who consults with Disciples pastors, members and Regional Ministers.

Over 100 people have taken part in anti-racism pro-reconciliation trainings in the Oregon SW Idaho region. Our local team of trainers recently led an event in the Spokane area as well.

**The next training event will be November 17 at First Christian Church in Albany. Thank you for your support of Reconciliation Ministries.**



**Volume 5 Issue 7**



<b>Disaster Preparedness Workshop</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Transforming Conflict Event In Boise</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Upcoming Dates to Note</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>News from Congregations</b>	<b>4</b>

**Regional Assembly  
May 15-16, 2020  
Salem FCC  
Rev. Sotello Long  
President of Disciples Home Missions**

## My Turn.....

I encourage all of our churches in or near SW Idaho to send some people to the workshop on “conflict transformation” in Boise on October 13. Our leader Josh Johnson, has trained with a nationally recognized organization, the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. The LMPC uses the resources of faith, Scripture and prayer, to teach ways of approaching differences that can lead to creative outcomes. We always need that option in the church, and it is sorely needed in the world around us. You don’t need to be in a conflict to come. So don’t go starting something!

We can find many times where the early church had conflicts. Many conflicts came from reaching out into a changing world of diverse cultures. In Acts 15, we read how the church addressed the cultural and religious conflicts that came about as Jewish and Gentile Christians lived out their calling to become one church.

Red Rock Christian Church will host the workshop, with support from the Oregon Disciple Foundation. Those of you who live farther from Boise are welcome to come, too. And you may want to know that a similar workshop could be offered in western Oregon in 2019. Thanks to Josh, Red Rock and Oregon Disciple Foundation for making this happen.

*Doug*

## Disaster Preparedness Training October 27 in Portland

The question around disasters is not if something will happen here but when something will happen here. Disasters, large and small, will happen in this region, and when they do, our congregations can offer vital care and resources for our members and communities.

Advance preparation and planning can position Disciples to respond well. In this workshop Josh Baird and Caroline Hamilton-Arnold from Week of Compassion will present information about denominational resources for disaster response and recovery and will guide conversations and activities for developing context-specific disaster plans. Week of Compassion responds to disaster relief situations well because of the wide spread set of relationships, both domestically and globally, in place before the events happen. This type of training helps to put into place networks that are ready and able to respond quickly.

*Watch our website with details about this upcoming training, and save the date now.*

## Certificate of Ministry Studies Program Starts in September

Thirty-one people have now registered for the Certificate of Ministry Studies program to be led by Disciples Seminary Foundation in Portland. The two year program will be taught in Spanish, with supervision by Rev. Xose Escamilla, Pastor of Casa de Oracion in San Diego. Bernice Rivera of Murray Hills Christian Church will be the coordinator locally on behalf of DSF.

Fall courses will include church administration, congregational leadership, boundary training, theology, church planting and bereavement. Six different instructors will lead the classes on selected Saturdays and weeknights from September through December.



## Upcoming Fall Women's Retreats

Our regional church holds two women's retreats each fall — one in Idaho and one in Oregon.

Registration materials and informational brochures can be downloaded from our web site at [www.oidisciples.org](http://www.oidisciples.org).

This year's retreat happen in September and October.

**September 7-9, Trinity Pines Conference Center, Cascade Idaho**

“My Reflection in God’s Mirror” with Val Drashner

**October 12-13, Murray Hills Christian Church, Beaverton, Oregon**

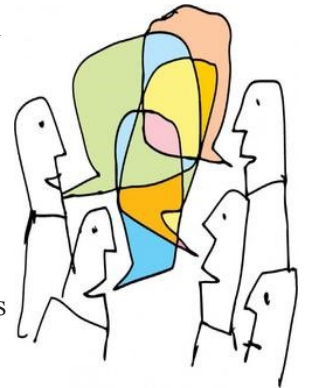
“New Beginnings” with Lori Tapia

## Transforming Conflict: Workshop in Boise on October 13

You are invited to a half day workshop on conflict transformation on Saturday, October 13 at Red Rock Christian Church in Boise. The time will be 9 am to 1 pm.

This event will discuss healthy ways to face differences of opinions in the church, placing our confidence in Christ and our faith to find a way forward. The title is “Peace is Always Possible: Growing a Conflict Transforming Culture in Your Congregation.” Leader will be Josh Johnsen, Parish Life Coordinator at First Christian Church in Grants Pass, Oregon.

Suggested contribution for the event is \$20 per person. This includes a workbook and the cost of lunch. Remember, you need not be in the midst of a conflict to attend. The idea is to take a proactive learning approach to the reality of conflict in the ongoing life of the church.



## Pentecost Offering Supports Disciples New Church Leadership

Every year in the spring, Disciples receive a Pentecost offering for new church ministries. The Pentecost offering helps send new church leaders for training with Disciples Hope Partnership in Indianapolis. These week long sessions cover many aspects of starting a church, Disciples of Christ practices and beliefs, and also establish ongoing relationships with coaches and peers who are starting churches in other places.

Established churches may also send leaders for another learning track at the same Leadership Academy. Participants meet other Disciples doing similar work and spend time with general church leaders of our various ministries. In 2018, two people from Rio de Dios in Hillsboro will attend Leadership Academy in mid September in Indianapolis.



*Thank you to all who give!*